Inside this issue:

DATES TO REMEMBER 2
THANKS AND RECOGNITION 2
BAHS DIRECTOR BIO 3
BAHS LEADERSHIP 3
CONTACT BAHS 3
HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE 4

EXHIBITS at CoBACH
Sunday—Friday 5—8pm
Saturday 11am—5pm
Closed Monday

CoBACH Display
July—August
“Brighton’s 150th Birthday”
See large photos of Brighton before cars on Main St.
See Business memorabilia from the past
See special exhibit of Brighton’s Victorian Silhouettes.

CHECK OUT FACEBOOK
Daily postings regarding Brighton History.
Brighton Area Historical Society

BRIGHTON'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY!
SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 2017

Afternoon Events • 12-4pm
Community Picnic
$1.00 Hot Dogs, $0.50 Chips & $0.50 Water
$1.50 for all three!
Birthday Cake Pops at 3pm

Old Town Village
Blacksmith, trapper, farming equipment, carpentry, miniature timber frame barn, and domestic items from centuries past

Tours in the Old Village Cemetery
Historic Displays at the CoBACH Center
Carnival Midway Games
Performers
Michigan 5th Regiment Band in the Gazebo • 1-2pm
Dancers • Strolling Singers

Vintage Photo Booth

Car Show
Vintage cars & boats, a display of WW2 objects presented by the Warbirds of Glory, and more!

Quilt Show at St. Paul’s • 1-4pm

Evening Events • 5-10pm
Kiwanis Car Show • 5-10pm
Kiwanis Mill Pond Concert • 7-9:30pm
Featuring 50 AMP Fuse
Laser Light Show • 9:30pm
All Events on Main Street and Mill Pond Park Unless Noted
Thanks and Recognition

MEMBERSHIPS:
LIFE: Jack & Heide Clausnitzer

PATRON: Patrice Starkweather

IND/FAMILY: Nancy Cardle, Peter Clark*, Gerry Kelly*, Millie Quinn.

*Welcome new members: Peter Clark and Gerry Kelly.

THANKS TO:
- Marieanna Bair, Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Mindy Kinsey, Lin Millar, Norma Jean Pless, Lynn Strong, Peggy Van Sickle and Jim Vichich for preparing the June issue of Trail Tales for mailing.
- Bob and Lorraine Haas for their donation of a photo of Bergin Road Auto Sales at 411 W. Grand River, C. 1950.
- Jane Tomlinson for donating her wedding gown.
- Doris Singer for her donation to Friends of Lyon School, CoBACH Events and OVC with her due.
- Linda Wintermute for her donation to CoBACH Events and OVC.
- Jerry and Carole Damon for their donation to CoBACH Events.
- Dan and Anna Oginsky (2017) and the Brighton Masonic Lodge (2016) for their generosity in becoming $1000 Platinum Level Sponsors for Brighton Area Historical Society.
- David Doss for his donation of an Engel Farms of Hamburg brass name tag from an old milk can and an old school pamphlet from Parkers Corner School.
- Riutta family for their donation of books relating to wallpapers, fabrics, wall moldings, floor coverings and lighting for historical buildings.
- Need some historical information? Stop by the Lyon Schoolhouse on Thursday mornings and talk with the archivists from 9—12nn. The volunteers include: Marianna Bair, Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Mindy Kinsey, Larry Lawrence, Lin Millar, Norma Jean Pless, Lynn Strong, Peggy Van Sickle and Jim Vichich. We close promptly at noon and head for a fun talkative lunch at a local restaurant. You are welcome to join us!
- CoBACH volunteers for June include: Joe Collins, Nancy Fredenburg, Mindy Kinsey, Larry Lawrence, Lynn Strong, Peggy Van Sickle and Jim Vichich. These volunteers work as docents at the CoBACH Center from 5—8pm on Sundays and Wednesday. Additional volunteers are needed for Thursdays 5—8pm in September and October.
- Talented installation team for Brighton's Victorian Silhouettes: Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Bob Knight, Dave Pettigrove, Pat Smith and Jim Vichich.
- Volunteers of the BAHS Headstone Preservation Team for their May work in the Old Village Cemetery of updating the gravesites of our veterans: Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Dave Fuller, Bill Goodwin, Mindy Kinsey, Bob Knight, Dave Pettigrove, Pat Smith, Don Thomas, Ed Vitez, Dick Weaire, and Jim Vichich. The day's task was the installation of new easy-to-view numbered blue markers with the flag mounted in the top that are held into the ground with concrete. Also Bob Knight's help with boring 2.5" holes through concrete patio blocks that are a component of this installation.

Dates to Remember

CoBACH Center Exhibit — FREE!! July—August: Brighton’s 150th Birthday. (See Front Page of Trail Tales for additional information.)

July 4: Parade on Main Street — 10am—12nn
Duck Race at Millpond — 12nn—12:30pm

July 6,13,20,27; 9am—12nn: Archiving/Open House at Lyon Schoolhouse.

July 2,5,9,12,16,19,23,26,30; 5pm—8pm: BAHS hosts at CoBACH Center on Sunday and Wednesday.


July 26; 6pm: BAHS Board meeting at CoBACH Center.

August 13; 12 noon—10pm: Brighton 150th Anniversary Celebration. See Front Page of Trail Tales for information.

Life — Business — Professional Members

Life Members:
John & Deb Armstrong — Tom Archer — Paul & Kathryn Bair (Allen) — Marieanna Bair — Shirley Barton — Charles & Janice Beach
Donald & Shari Black (N.J.) — Marilyn Campbell (IN) — Jack & Heide Clausnitzer — John & Jenny Conely — Bernie & Bonnie Corrigan
Timothy & Giannine Corrigan — Jerry & Carole Damon — Emil Engel — Nancy Fredenburg — William & Lenore Harris — Betsy & Bob Herbst
Dr. John & Barbara Jacoby (MN) — Larry & Kate Lawrence — Seth & Shannon Lemke (TX) — Carol McMacken — Jere & Kay Michaels
Jim & Vicki Vichich — Linda (Skeman) Wintermute

Business/Professional Members: (** Indicates Life Members)
Brighton District Library ** — Brighton Veterans Memorial Comm.** — Buckley-Jolley Real Estate Team (2017) — Clark Eye Center (2017)
Davis Multimedia, Inc. (2017) — Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc. ** — Lindhout Associates** — Lawrence Autobody **
Preview Properties (2017) — Promess, Inc.** — Refrigeration Research **

2017 Sponsorships
Platinum Level: Masonic Lodge No. 247 — Dan & Anna Oginsky
Support BAHS: Become a Member or Donate

The BAHS relies on participation of its members and the generosity of its patrons. If you would like to make a donation or become a member, please mail to the address provided on the form below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Plan:</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Phone: ( ) —</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New</td>
<td>$2 Student</td>
<td>Phone:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renew</td>
<td>$25 Individual</td>
<td>Phone:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$50 Patron</td>
<td>Phone:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$60 Business/Professional</td>
<td>Phone:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$25 Family</td>
<td>Phone:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$500 Life</td>
<td>Phone:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donation to—Check One:</th>
<th>Amount of Donation:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friend of Lyon School</td>
<td>$10 $100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAHS CoBACH Events</td>
<td>$25 $250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Village Cemetery Fund</td>
<td>$50 $500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Brighton Area Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization. All donations are tax deductible.

BAHS Director—Thomas Reinke: Born in Detroit, Michigan. Moved to Livingston County in 2010. Hobbies are gardening, fishing, camping, motorcycles, skiing, snowmobiling, wood and metal working and exotic vacations.

In addition to 25 plus years in the automobile industry as a full-time employee, I also have been operating a home based business for 20 years and have been successful in property management and investing. Currently holding the position of VP, Secretary and Board of Director for Jordan Hills Property Owners Association (18 years).

I have been a board member of the Brighton Historical Society for 17 years. In addition, I am a certified Red Cross Volunteer, council member for Gerson Lehrman Group and a board member of the Michigan Area Renewable Energy Association.

In 2013, a new company was created “Self Reliant Energy” which does consultation, development and installation of renewable energy equipment. We continuously work with the U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Department of Agriculture, (HUD) Housing for Urban Development, Department of Tobacco and Firearms, Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association, American Wind Energy Association, Repower America, Clean Energy Coalition, Environment Michigan, National Wildlife Federation and Partners Green to promote a new industry in Michigan.

My belief is that history is a paved roadmap into our future.

BAHS Leadership 2017

President
Jim Vichich
Vice President
Marieanna Bair
Secretary
Carole Damon
Treasurer & Trail Tales Editor
Jerry Damon

Directors
Joe Collins
Nancy Fredenburg
Mindy Kinsey
Larry Lawrence
Lin Millar
Thomas Reinke
Lynn Strong
Education Liaison
Judith Coebly
Sue Skwarski

BAHS: How to Contact Us or Find Us

If you would like to contact us, please use the following options:

E-Mail: info@brightonareahistorical.com
Phone: (810) 250-7276
US Mail:
Brighton Area Historical Society
P. O. Box 481
Brighton, MI 48116-0481

Lyon School
11455 Buno Road, west of Pleasant Valley Road. The 1885 Lyon School is a fully restored, barrier-free one-room schoolhouse and serves as our organization headquarters.

CoBACH Center
202 W. Main Street, in downtown Brighton next to the Millpond. CoBACH is formally known as the City of Brighton, Arts, Culture and History Center. It is located in the historic 1879 two story brick building, also known as the Old Town Hall.

The BAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Please help us fund our mission while also helping yourself with a tax-deductible contribution.

The BAHS accepts monetary support and donations of historical artifacts. Please consider supporting us with your generosity.
Early Roads in Genoa Township — Grand River

Grand River travels diagonally through Genoa from just north of Brighton at Hacker Road, to the Tuscola and Saginaw Bay Railroad overpass just east of Howell. This is pretty much the route of the early Indian Grand River Trail to the headwaters of the Grand River. Considering the very real possibility that England may try to take back the land ceded at the Treaty in 1783, the Federal government scheduled a route to Michigan’s interior, promoting the settlement of Michigan Territory.

Leaving Detroit and heading west, the land looker crossed streams, rivers and swamps on foot or horseback watching for surveyors’ marks to identify the acreage selected. Then back to Detroit to record the selection. Now how does one transfer one’s family, needed tools, articles and shelter? With a great deal of hard work. A wagon following a horse trail needed trees cut (and stumps pulled). Oxen struggled through marshes to move the heavily loaded wagon; then cross many a river.

When Michigan became a state in 1837, the Federal government bowed out of the obligation to build roads for the state. How to fund a plank road for easier transportation?

At that time Michigan’s Capital was located in Detroit. In 1848 it was determined a more central location was necessary. After some searching, a site in the center of Ingham County, a wilderness, was selected. Entrepreneurs, many owning property along the trail, compiled funds, received a charter and set about building a plank road for which tolls for various categories (sheep, horses, cattle, buggies, wagons) were charged at varying amounts, at a toll gate about every six miles. Toll gatekeepers were hired. The plank road bed was 18 feet wide and the planks, three inches thick, placed on stringers. Many of the planks were cut from the trees in the way.

By the time the railroad came through the county, 1870, that plank road was well worn. Gravel was spread by local expense. Stagecoaches were able to make the trip from Detroit to Lansing, 90 miles, in 12 hours at the time. Being charged for a toll was not well received — “It’s just a pile of stones.”

With the turn of the 20th Century, a new mode of transportation arrived. By 1903, an occasional car was seen chugging its way on the Trail, now mostly gravel, maintained by local farmers. Hills, sand, clay, mud holes and ruts made a trip between towns a real adventure.

As more local people began buying cars, income from license plate sales and gasoline tax funds helped move road care responsibility from the farmer to the user.

Not long after Grand River was graveled, c. 1920, the State of Michigan, with Federal help took over paving Grand River and by 1926 it became Federal Highway U.S. 16. Circa 1945, maintenance reverted back to Michigan and it was designated M-16. Nearby Interstate 96 now moves a large percentage of travelers, and the old Indian Trail is known again as Grand River. Counties have the major responsibility of maintenance.

(Condensed and edited by Marieanna Bair from: writings of Bill Pless; “From Settlement to City” by Carol McMacken; “Yesteryears of Green Oak”, Green Oak Township Historical Society; plat maps. Additions/corrections requested 810-229-6402.)

The Brighton Area Historical Society extends sympathy to the family of

Yvonne Taylor
a long-time member of the Society.