

## BAHS Responsibility at COBACH Center



BAHS period kitchen display at CoBACH (see page 2 for details)

The Brighton City Council is making appropriate use of one of the most historic structures in the city, the Old Town Hall (now known as CoBACH Center). Three non-profit groups share the building and schedule when CoBACH is open to the public.

The Brighton Art Guild exhibits the work of its members. The Livingston Players provide stage productions. The Brighton Area Historical Soci-

ety prepares revolving exhibits of local history.

The BAHS is responsible to host on Wednesdays, 2pm - 8pm, with two (3) hour shifts, and Sundays from 2pm - 5pm. This schedule is in effect through April. We thank George Allen, Marieanna Bair, Ricci Bandkau, Nancy Carlson, Heidi Clausnitzer, Joe Collins, Jim DeJohn, Carolina DeLuca, Bob Knight, Nancy Freden-

burg, Larry Lawrence, Jim Miller, Carol McMacken, Tom Niemeyer, Peg Siford, Jim Vichich, and Dick Weaire, who have volunteered to staff CoBACH for us. Their donation of time is greatly appreciated!

Others who wish to volunteer for this opportunity will be most welcome. The rest-room and various exhibits are located on the first floor along with the volunteer desk. When not hosting visitors, you can read or bring a laptop to use the Internet.

Contact President Jim Vichich, 517-304-7722 to help. He will schedule a time convenient for you, meet you at CoBACH, provide instructions, make certain you are comfortable, and get you started.

This is a chance for those unable to participate in other BAHS activities to make a difference.

Marieanna Bair

### Special points of interest:

BRIGHTON'S DOWNTOWN FOUR CORNERS ARE DESCRIBED IN GREAT DETAIL IN THIS MONTH'S HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE ARTICLE.

SEE PAGE 4

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CURRENT EXHIBIT AT COBACH ALONG WITH UPCOMING EXHIBITS FOR APRIL.

SEE PAGE 2

*"History is a kind of introduction to more interesting people than we can possibly meet in our restricted lives; let us not neglect the opportunity."*

Dexter Perkins (1889-1984)  
Historian

## Dates to Remember

**March 4, 11, 18, 25**

**9 am - 12 nn**

We need your assistance with our archives. A willingness to help is all that's necessary.

Lyon School - 11455 Buno Rd

**March 24**

**6 pm**

BAHS board meeting. You are welcome to attend and help guide this organization. CoBACH Center - 202 W. Main (near the Mill Pond).

**March 3, 10, 17, 24**

**2 pm - 8 pm**

BAHS hosts at CoBACH.

**March 7, 14, 21, 28**

**5 pm - 8 pm**

BAHS hosts at CoBACH

### Inside this issue:

RECENT AND FUTURE HAPPENINGS	2
RECOGNITION AND THANKS	2
BAHS GIFT SHOP	3
BAHS LEADERSHIP	3
MORE ABOUT BAHS	3
HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE	4

## Recent and Future Happenings

### Addendum To Brighton Fire Dept Series

As a salute and tribute, and at the risk of missing a name, it seems fitting to note those that research has disclosed who have been the area's firefighters throughout the years.

Many names will be familiar as people who've made many contributions to the well-being of the area.

Members of the committee appointed to organize Hook & Ladder Company 1, 1876: George Smith, Chairman; Samuel H. Conely, Secretary (foreman in 1877); W.W. Lewis and R.J. Lyons, Jr., Constitution and Bylaws Committee.

First Members of Company 1: Gilbert Abrams, C.A. Birge (Asst. Keeper of Chemicals, 1879), George Carpenter,

Charles E. Cushing (Treas. 1878-79), C. DeWitt (Treas., Asst. Foreman), A. Giles, Robert Jolly, W.W. Lewis (Asst. Foreman, 1877), F. J. Lown, William Mann, George Ratz, A.A. Reed, August Schmidt, Eugene Slayton (Asst. Foreman 1878-79), H. Soule (Keeper of Chemicals, 1877, foreman 1878-79), William Sutherland, Gene W. Sweet, G.W. Thompson (Keeper of Chemicals 1878-79), Ira Thompson, James Van Loon.

Watch for more names next month.

### March Exhibit at COBACH

During March, visitors to CoBACH can remember a mother's or grandmother's kitchen. The porcelain finished gas

stove, the porcelain finished table, and accoutrements used by the homemaker may bring those memories to mind (One also rejoices the labor involved has been lessened). You'll spot items from pots to pot holders and pepper grinders on display. Even cookie cutters, cook books to Mom's best cup and saucer are presented.

### Brighton Antique Show

Saturday, Mar 6, 9pm-5pm

Old Hartland High School Gymnasium, 9525 E. Highland Rd. (M-59), one mile west of US-23. 58 Antique Dealers will be present. Sponsored by Brighton Masonic Lodge, F. & A.M. #247, \$3.00 admission / 586-214-3784

## Thanks and Recognition

### THANKS TO....

The BAHS recognizes the following people for volunteering their time and energy to support the BAHS.

- Bert Bair, Ida Bair, Judy Coebly, and Jackie Damm for help in mailing February Trail Tales.
- Sue Garcia, Tom Niemeyer, Anne Stratigos and Rev. Don Thomas for delivery of February's Trail Tales.
- Bill & Jacque Armstrong, Bob & Ruth Watson, Marge Wilcox and Gloria Winchell for donations to BAHS project fund, which support archiving, the Historic Resource Survey, Oral History, and CoBACH exhibits.
- Bill & Jacque Armstrong, John & Barbara Jacoby, Bob & Shirley Knight, Jim Pless and Bill & Jane Tomlinson for including an extra donation with dues to Friends of Lyon School. This helps with utilities, maintenance and promotion of the continued use of this structure.
- Joe Collins, Sue Garcia, Larry Lawrence, Jim Miller, Norma Pless and Jim Vichich for their help in the archive room.

- Jan Jagielky and Jim Miller for preparing the Society's Valentine exhibit at CoBACH for February.
- Marienna Bair, Jan Jagielkey, Mindy & Tom Kinsey, Jim Miller, and Jim & Vicki Vichich for preparing an "Early Brighton Kitchen" exhibit for March at CoBACH.

### Memberships

We would like to thank the following members for their annual memberships:

#### Patron:

- John & Barbara Jacoby (MN)
- Mindy Kinsey
- Jeff & Aimee Lawrence (Botsford)\*
- Gloria Winchel\*

#### Individual:

- Bill & Jacque Armstrong
- Charles & Janice Beach
- Dan & Karen Bierer
- Pete & Carol Black\*
- Dave and Norma Beauchamp \*
- Dale Borst\*
- Mr. & Mrs. Charles J. Brady\*
- Gabrielle Currin (WhtLk)\*
- Denise Daddino
- Janice Field

- Phil & Peggy Gage (St Ste M.)
- Kathy Hoard\*
- Bob & Shirley Knight
- Larry Lawrence
- Rich & Judy Parsons
- Jim Pless (Howell)\*
- Tom Reinke
- Harold Salow
- Bill & Jane Tomlinson
- Marge Wilcox
- Bob & Ruth Watson (Howell)
- Paul S. Zurawski

\*New Member—Welcome!

### 2010 Business Members

The support of our professional members is deeply appreciated. We encourage our members to patronize these local, independent businesses who are sustainers of the BAHS.

- Advance Craft
  - Archer-Huntley Financial Services\*
  - Jagielky Bookkeeping
  - Lawrence Autobody\*
  - Masonic Lodge #247\*
  - Patrick Financial Group, LLC\*
  - Promess\*
  - Yum Yum Tree
- \*Special thanks to these Life Members

## 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 member, please visit our web site at [www.brightonareahistorical.com](http://www.brightonareahistorical.com) or mail in the following form below.

**Mail check or money order payable to:**

Brighton Area Historical Society

P. O. Box 481

Brighton, MI 48116-0481

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** (     )     -     \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_

**State:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Plan:**

☐ New

☐ Business

☐ \$500 Life

☐ \$15 Individual

☐ Renewal

☐ Personal

☐ \$50 Patron

☐ \$2 Student

☐ \$25 Family

**Friend of Lyon School:**

☐ \$10

☐ \$100

☐ \$25

☐ \$250

☐ \$50

☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**BAHS Projects Fund:**

☐ \$10

☐ \$100

☐ \$25

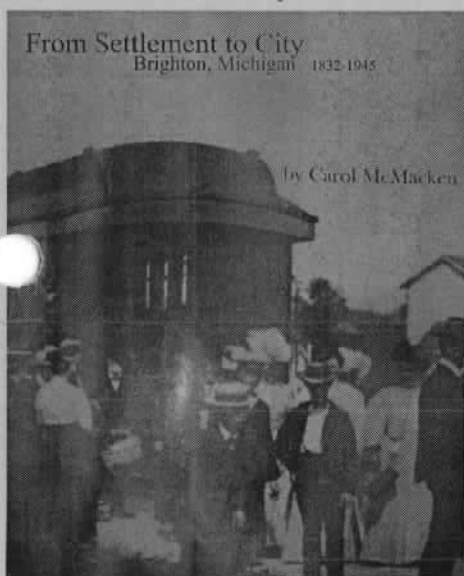
☐ \$250

☐ \$50

☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The Brighton Area Historical Society is a 501(c)3 Tax Deductible Organization

## BAHS Gift Shop



The Brighton Area Historical Society maintains an inventory of commemorative and Brighton history memorabilia for sale as society fund raisers. 100% of all sales proceeds go to fund ongoing organization budget needs of BAHS, including local history projects and Lyon School maintenance.

Our product offering includes BAHS apparel (shirts, hats, etc.), home décor (pewter items, afghans and pillows, decorative ceramic tiles, etc.), postcards, craft items, and the like. To see in detail our full offering, please visit our online gift shop on our web site at [www.brightonareahistorical.com](http://www.brightonareahistorical.com).

### Product Spotlight

**From Settlement to City**  
Brighton, Michigan 1832 - 1945  
by Carol McMacken  
450+ pages  
Over 300 pictures  
\$65.00

**Description:** This large volume hardcover book contains a beautifully detailed history of Brighton from its earliest days until the mid-1940s. It also contains over 300 pictures and illustrations. This item is a must for any book collection on Michigan and its rich history.

## BAHS Leadership

**Executive Board**

President

Jim Vichich

Vice President

Marieanna Bair

Secretary

Thomas Reinke

Treasurer

Mindy Kinsey

**Directors**

Dave Ball

Jim Miller

Sue Garcia

Larry Lawrence

Education Liaison

Judith Coebly

Education Liaison

Sue Skwarski

## More About BAHS

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

**E-Mail:**

[info@brightonareahistorical.com](mailto:info@brightonareahistorical.com)

**Phone:**

(810) 250-7276

**US Mail:**

Brighton Area Historical Society

P. O. Box 481

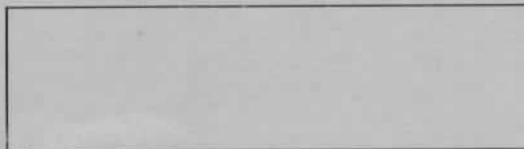
Brighton, MI 48116-0481

The Lyon School is located at 11455 Buno Road west of Pleasant Valley Road.

The BAHS is a 501(c)3 tax deductible organization. Help out the BAHS and yourself with a contribution.

The BAHS accepts monetary support and donations of historical artifacts.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## Brighton's Main Four Corners...

... have seen an untold number of changes. As soon as some semblance of a permanent settlement became evident around 1835, each corner became the site of a commercial enterprise. Benjamin Cushing built his Brighton House on the northeast corner in 1850.

A plank road had been constructed between Detroit and Lansing, the new State Capitol. A number of four-horse stage-coaches with 12-20 passengers made the daily trip in 12 hours by changing teams every 5-10 miles and driving at breakneck speed. Cushing's Brighton House and livery provided hay, grain, water and shelter for the teams. Brighton, the halfway point, became a place for travelers to also eat and rest.

After Cushing's death in 1860, various proprietors ran the Brighton House. Following construction of the railroad at the west end of town, the owners at the time renamed it the Eastern House. Their hackney was sent to the depot to bring salespeople and their samples to the hotel.

In early 1890, it was purchased by brothers Will (b.1860) and Fred (b. 1866) Stuhrlburg. These hardworking brothers kept the hotel in good repair for both the traveler and local patron. They built a windmill and an elevated water tank providing running water, a luxury of the day. A large livery barn was built where they not only dealt in horses, but stocked wagons, sleighs, cutters, buggies and carts. Harnesses, horse blankets and carriage robes were also for sale.

Leo J. McQuade (b. 1900), had a job at a 10¢ barn as a youngster. He described it as a huge structure with tall, wide doors. As many as 15 rigs could be accommodated. Along the wall

were mangers where one stabled the horse, which fed on the hay included in the 10¢ charge. In bad weather, this barn was a drive-in shelter for a team and wagon.

During the cold and wet winter, you didn't tie the horse at the hitching rail in front of the store while shopping on Saturday (90% of shopping was done on Saturday). It was Leo's job to bring the horse and rig to the departing driver, making sure the animal had a good drink of water from the trough first. The tips he received for his services, which included bringing the horse to the hotel door for the ladies, were his pay. A good Saturday meant about 75¢ in tips.

Rural students attending high school in town rode a horse or drove a buggy leaving them stabled in the 10¢ Barn for the day.

During the winter, a regular customer was an "old codger" who had his grocery and other shopping completed by noon. He left his horse and sleigh at the 10¢ barn. About 3 pm, the call came to bring the horse and sleigh to one of the local saloons. There, with help, the saloonkeeper put the "old codger" safely in the sleigh and get the horse headed for home. Shortly, the horse deposited his owner at the kitchen door where a patient (?) "Mrs. Codger" would help him inside.

The arrival of the Model T allowed for shopping on days other than Saturday. By the time the Eastern House burned in 1926, it and the 10¢ barn had outlived their usefulness.

*Compiled by Marieanna Bair from Bill Pless' writings and the Brighton Argus' Good Old Days column in 1975. Additions, corrections requested. 810-229-6402.*