

Ice Harvesting Exhibit at CoBACH, Jan 22 through Feb 27



There is a good chance that when you read this title "Ice Harvesting", you may begin to wonder: what does ice harvesting really mean? How or why would you harvest ice? Ice is found conveniently inside our refrigerators. If we need a big bag of ice for a party or picnic, we can get it at our local grocery store. How or why would anyone attempt to harvest ice?

As all school kids know, ice is simply frozen water. If we go back in time to the 1930s and 1940s, the term refrigerator was just coming into the American vocabulary. This modern piece of kitchen equipment started to replace the familiar wooden icebox that was found in most homes. These iceboxes typically used lake ice into the 1940s.

Before refrigeration, all ice came from lakes and rivers

that were located in the northern climates. The Brighton area with its fifty surrounding lakes became an important source for providing ice to the large commercial ice suppliers located in Detroit and Toledo. Railroads located next to lakes and rivers allowed huge blocks of ice weighing up to 300 pounds to be transported to the major cities.

The CoBACH Center exhibit will feature a media collection of old photos and vintage movie footage from the harvesting process in the early 1900s. The practice of ice harvesting relied on rugged men who would cut the ice into large slabs using handsaws and in later years horse-pulled ice sleds with saw mounted on the underside. The exhibit includes a variety of hand saws and horse-drawn saws that were used to score the ice with

parallel grooves prior to the ice cutting sleds that cut deep grooves which allow the workers to hand-fracture the ice.

This exhibit is a must see! You will not see this equipment or learn about the difficult job of ice harvesting when you visit Greenfield Village. Ice harvesting was one of the ten largest industries in the United States at one time. Most of this vintage equipment and media is on loan from the extensive collection of the Knowlton Ice Museum of North America located in Port Huron, Michigan.

Jim Vichich



Your Support

Your continued support for our mission in 2011 is both needed and appreciated. We need volunteers and financial donations to continue our many projects, including:

- Historic Resource Survey
- Archive digitization
- CoBACH Center programs
- Lyon School maintenance
- Historical exhibits

Every hour you volunteer and every dollar you donate goes toward these projects. Without the generosity of our members, none of this would be possible. Thank you and we look forward to your support in the coming year.

Special points of interest:

ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE IS A HOT POLITICAL TOPIC TODAY. IN BRIGHTON'S EARLY DAYS, IT WAS A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH.

SEE PAGE 4

WE HAVE MANY PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS TO THANK FOR THE DONATIONS, VOLUNTEERING AND NEW AND RENEWED BAHs MEMBERSHIPS.

SEE PAGE 2

"I thought it necessary to study history, even to study it deeply, in order to obtain a clear meaning of our immediate time."

Paul Valery
1871 - 1945
French Poet and
Philosopher

Inside this issue:

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

Recent and Future Happenings

Dates to Remember - January 2011

Jan 2, 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23, 26, 30:
5pm-8pm

BAHS hosts at CoBACH Center

Jan 6, 13, 20, 27: 9am-4pm

Archiving/Open House at Lyon School

Jan 26: 6pm

BAHS Board Meeting at CoBACH.

Jan 22 - Feb 27

CoBACH Winter Program: Display of Tools and Techniques of Ice Harvesting .

Tue-Fri: 5pm-8pm; Sat: 9am-8pm;

Sun: 12nn-8pm. Special presentations

Sat & Sun at 2pm. No charge for event.

Area Organizations

Jan 15: 8pm-5pm

Saline Antique Show. Visit salinehist.org

In Memoriam

The BAHS would like to extend sympathies to the families of :

Jack Jarvis

and

Sharon Kisak

Both were Brighton Area Historical Society members. Jack was a Brighton native and Sharon owned the Yum Yum Tree.

Thanks and Recognition

Thanks to...

The BAHS recognizes the following people for volunteering their time.

- Bert & Marieanna Bair, Judith Coebly, Gary Reutter and Jim Vichich for help in mailing the December Trail Tales.

- Marieanna Bair, Joe Collins, Mindy Kinsey, Larry Lawrence, Tammy Sexton, Candy Spiegel, Jim Vichich, Dick Weaire and Hank Winegar for serving as CoBACH hosts.

- Marieanna Bair, Mindy Kinsey, Tom Reinke, Tammy Sexton and Jim Vichich for conducting the holiday open house at Lyon School. Those attending enjoyed refreshments, made crafts, and visited with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

- Robert Wilkinson for use of 1967 Brighton Centennial photos. These were copied and added to the archive.

- Kathy Partridge for the 1960s Country Cupboard window display photo .

- Esther Jarvis and Mark & Carol McMacken for their donation in memory of Jack Jarvis.

- Margaret Bowland, Nancy Cardle, William and Margaret Dixon, Bill & Evelyn McConnell, Cleo Moran, Carole Scott and Lyla Spelbring for donations to the BAHS Project Fund.

- Bill & Jacque Armstrong, Lois Clark, Dr. Harry and Carol Davis, Dr. John & Barbara Jacoby, Cleo Moran, Lyla Spelbring and Willis Wolfe for donations to Friends of Lyon School Fund.

- David & Judith Bair, Paul & Kathy Bair, Seth & Shannon Lemke, and Gary & Kristal Unger for donations in Honor of Bert & Marieanna Bair.

- Tom Spillane of Swartz Creek for his donation of stereo viewer and slides of the Fisher Property on Rickett Rd.

Memberships

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

Life

- Marieanna Bair
- Douglas & Carol Rearick

Patron

- Margaret Bowland
- Dr. John & Margaret Jacoby (MN)
- Jere & Kay Michaels
- Ralph & Elizabeth Romano

Family

- Bill & Jacque Armstrong
- Pat Anderson
- Bert & Marieanna Bair
- David Ball
- Russell Bell (OH)*
- Dave & Joanne Bellmard
- Dale Borst, Brad Beal (CA)
- Doug Bidwell (FL)
- Bonnie Cirisan*
- Lois Clark (Midland)
- Denise Daddino
- Dr. Harry & Carol Davis
- Gerald Dilloway*
- William & Margaret Dixon
- Evelyn Dothager
- Nancy Fredenburg
- Lynnette Hawkins
- Whitney & June Kimble
- Michael Lenninger & Kathy Partridge*
- Jim Lauridsen*
- Susan M. Lanning

- Don & Edie Leith
- Harold Leitz
- John & Ruth LePatourel
- Steven & Kate Lowry
- Bill & Evelyn McConnell (Drbrn)
- Richard McElyea*
- Cleo Moran (Novi)
- Greg Park (OH)
- Tedd & Linda Potter
- Rich & Mary Kay Ray
- Dorothy Riley*
- David & Janice Schoewe
- Carole Scott
- Ralph & Suzanne Skwarski
- Lyla Spelbring
- Rev. Don & Pat Thomas
- Jim & Vicki Vichich
- Marge Wilcox
- Willis Wolfe (CA)

2010 Business / Professional Members

The support of our professional members is deeply appreciated. We encourage you to support these local businesses.

- Advance Craft Home Builders, Inc.
- Archer-Huntley Financial Services**
- Bagger Dave's Restaurant
- Susan Doyle, Realtor*
- Joe Agius/Burroughs Tavern
- Lawrence Autobody**
- Masonic Lodge #247**
- Michigan Commerce Bank*
- Patrick Financial Group, LLS**
- Promess**
- The Engravers Journal
- Yum Yum Tree

* Welcome new members

** Special thanks to these Life Members

BAHS Merchandise

We have many great items for sale that help us generate much needed funds to carry on our mission. This includes home décor (pewter items, afghans and pillows, decorative ceramic tiles, etc.), postcards, craft items, and the like. Presented below are just a few. To see our full gift shop offering, please contact us or visit our web site.



The Old Town Hall graces this framed needlepoint that would look good in any home décor.



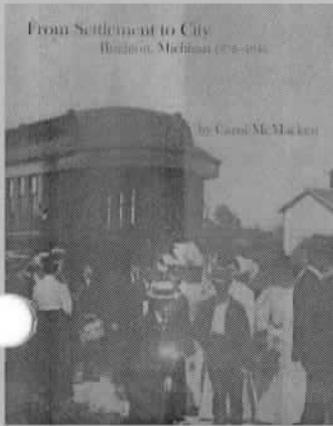
The beautiful afghans feature many local historical sites. Available in red, green and blue.



There are twelve different ceramic tiles, each with a different historical building.



This pewter plate contains a sunken relief impression of the Old Town Hall.



**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 contains over 300 pictures and illustrations and is a must for any book collection on Michigan and its rich history.



The BAHS tote bag is both sturdy and attractive, and features the Old Town Hall.



Our throw pillow is very colorful and contains a scene of the old train station.

BAHS Leadership

President
Jim Vichich

Vice President
Marieanna Bair

Secretary
Sue Garcia

Treasurer
Mindy Kinsey

Trail Tales Editor
Dave Ball

Directors
Dave Ball
Joe Collins
Nancy Fredenburg
Larry Lawrence
Thomas Reinke
Tammy Sexton
Dick Weaire

Education Liaison
Judith Coebly
Sue Skwarski

The BAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Help us out 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.

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

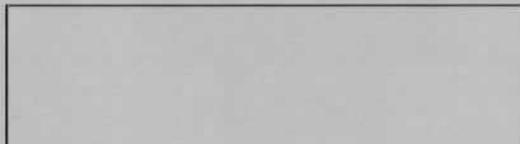
Lyon School
11455 Buno Road, west of Pleasant Valley Road. The 1885 Lyon School is a fully restored one-room schoolhouse and serves as our organization headquarters.

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.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 481
Brighton, MI 48116-0481

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #303
Brighton, MI

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Medicine in Early Brighton

Low land prices in the Northwest Territory during the 1830s were an incentive to hundreds in the eastern United States who packed their families on a boat in the Erie Canal to begin the first leg of their journey to a better life. These newly arrived settlers in Livingston County had left behind not only all educational, cultural and religious resources, but also family support and access to doctors.

What did a doctor's medical training consist of? Most 'doctors' got their medical education working with another doctor; not unlike a would-be attorney apprenticing with another to practice law. Some read medical books and then decided for themselves they were doctors.

In the Michigan Territory during the early 19th century, there was no 911 service in the event of an emergency. Any doctors were several hours away via Indian trails through forests and around swamps or by way of blazed trees.

Today, it is difficult to conceive the desperation, which settlers experienced, if an accident or illness befell a family member. Cutting trees or squaring logs for a cabin occasionally resulted in broken bones and deep flesh wounds. If gangrene occurred, it was usually a matter of amputating the limb or dying of blood poisoning. Cooking at a fireplace occasionally resulted in a garment catching fire. A tipped-over lamp or candle was the source of severe burns. A tourniquet applied to a snake bite to stop the spread of venom occasionally caused the inadvertent loss of limb.

Not until 1835, when Dr. Thomas Curtis moved to Kensington Village (just east of the county line), was any medical assistance available to the southeast quarter of the county. There, Curtis built a tavern, had an office and, probably, a drug store.

The Brighton area's first doctor was Wilbur Fisher from Ann

Arbor, who moved here in 1836. It is said his medicines were certainly given in sufficiently large doses to cure "... if quantity were the consideration."

Dr. Ira P. Bingham (brother of Governor Kinsley S. Bingham of Green Oak Township) was in the area in 1835. He located his practice in Brighton in 1841, where he practiced for 40 years, living in the Brighton (Eastern) House for a time. Dr. Bingham is buried in the Old Village Cemetery. In 1854, William J. McHench arrived to teach in local schools. Within a year, he began "reading" medicine with Dr. Bingham and in the fall of 1855 entered the medical department at University of Michigan, where he received his degree in 1858. Following service as U.S. Army Assistant Surgeon General during the Civil War, he continued studying to keep up with medical developments. He continued his practice in Brighton for 52 years after the war. His gravesite is in Fairview Cemetery.

Compiled by Marieanna Bair "Michigan Memorabilia" by William Pless, "1880 History of Livingston County" by Franklin Ellis, "From Settlement to City - Brighton, Michigan" by Carol McMacken and clippings. To be continued. Additions/corrections requested. 810/229-6402.



Online Historical Resources

There are many great resources online that make it easy for the serious historian and casual history buff to do research. One of my favorite is the Seeking Michigan site. This web site contains a large collection of stories, maps, photos, documents, oral histories and more. It is also easy to browse and search. I would highly recommend visiting this site to learn about Michigan's great history. - Dave Ball

Seeking Michigan online at: seekingmichigan.org