

Help Preserve Your Family and Community Heritage



Marianne Comiskey shares photos with Jim for scanning

The digital electronics age has significantly altered the landscape of televisions, computers, cell phones and cameras. Who knew just 10 years ago the incredible transformations that would take place with our home electronics.

This digital age is quickly making paper documents an item of the past. Unfortunately, these vanishing paper documents have preserved the memories of the past 140 years. What will become of old family photographs stored on the hard, crumbling paper of the 1800s and early 1900s?

The younger generation of today has little if any desire to store paper products. Digital storage is fine, but those old family papers and photographs are destined to be thrown out as the older generations pass away. Frequently, the significance of the old photos or family history is not realized until after the older family

members are gone and their memories are forever lost.

The BAHS is concerned about preserving those family and community memories of today and the past. Those early photos are especially important as there is no one alive who can tell the first hand story behind those images. Such photos are destined for the trash.

To help preserve the pictorial family heritage of Brighton area families, we are working to scan old images of the community in order to save those significant historical pictures. Scanning does not affect the quality of your photo. You will get the same photo back with no changes to it. Think of this scanning process as today's digital equivalent of making a photo copy. This digital copy can be preserved, and copied to make an exact duplicate of your original picture.

Please contact us if you have old family photos from the

Brighton area. This is the best investment you can make in preserving your family's heritage. There is no cost for scanning your photos and it takes a short time to perform this important task. Every family deserves a place in history and this is your chance to protect and preserve your heritage!

By Jim Vichich, BAHS President



The History of Labor Day

For most Americans, Labor Day represents the symbolic end of summer and return to the routine. Children go back to school, home owners start making ready their property for winter, and farmers are preparing for the fall harvest. The day itself is usually marked with festivities. However, its origin is very different.

In 1894, the workers from the Pullman Palace Car Company in Chicago organized a strike which shut down the factories. In support, the American Railway Union (ARU), led a boycott by their 125,000 members on twenty-nine railroads, who refused to handle trains which pulled Pullman train cars. The strike was in response to wage reductions and unfair treatment in relation to workers who lived in the Pullman company town and were indebted to the company store.

As with many early organized labor efforts, violence was not far off. Striking workers vandalized company...(cont. pg. 2)

Special points of interest:

THIS HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN LABOR DAY IS EXPLORED IN THIS MONTH'S TRAIL TALES.

SEE PAGE 1

THE STORY OF CIVIL WAR VETERANS BURIED IN OLD VILLAGE CEMETERY CONTINUES IN THIS ISSUE'S HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE.

SEE PAGE 4

"Yesterday the greatest question was decided which ever was debated in America; and a greater perhaps never was, nor will be, decided among men. A resolution was passed without one dissenting colony, "that these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States."

John Adams

(1735 - 1826)

Letter to Abigail Adams

dated 3 July 1776

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Date to Remember

Sep 1, 4, 7, 8, 11, 14, 15, 18, 21, 22, 25, 28, 29: 5pm-8pm

BAHS volunteers at CoBACH Center on Mon, Wed, Thurs for Sept and Oct

Sep 3, 10, 17, 24: 8am-1pm

BAHS booth at Brighton's Farmers' Market

Sep 1, 8, 15, 22, 29: 9am-12nn

Archiving/Open House at Lyon School

Sep 18: 1pm-4pm

Open House at Lyon School

Sep 24, Oct 22: 11am

Old Village Cemetery Tours: Open to the Public and Free of Charge. Meet at OVC entrance gate behind millpond gazebo

Sep 28: 6pm

BAHS Board meeting at CoBACH Center

All Month at Cobach

Tue-Sun: 5pm-8pm / Sat: 9am-12nn

"125 Years of Brighton Schools" display of photos and memorabilia sponsored By Brighton Alumni Association.

Area Organizations

Saline Area Historical Society

Visit sahshistory.org for details.

Sep 9: 7pm-10pm

Barn/Square Dance

Sep 17: 10am-4pm

Annual Country Fair and Flea Market

Sep 22: 2pm

Presentation: *Michigan In The Civil War With John Gibney*

Milford Historical Society

Visit milfordhistory.org for details.

Sep 17, 18:

Local historic home tour

Thanks and Recognition

Member Renewals / New Members

Thanks to our existing and new members for their annual memberships:

Family / Individual

- Harry & Carol Davis (2012)
- Ester Jarvis (2013)
- Rudy & Doreen Meffert
- Robert W. Phillips (Ann Arbor)
- Barbara Smith (2012, Howell)
- Linda Wintermute (WI)*

Business / Professional Members

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

- Acorn Deck Accessories Inc.
- Advance Craft Home Builders
- Archer-Huntley Financial Services**
- Bagger Dave's Restaurant
- Davis Multimedia, Inc.
- Dr. Bonine Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
- Susan Doyle, Realtor
- Greater Brighton Area Chamber of Commerce*
- Hands on Mind and Body Wellness Center
- Joe Agius / Burroughs Tavern
- Lawrence Autobody**
- Masonic Lodge #247**
- Michigan Commerce Bank
- Patrick Financial Group**
- Promess**
- Refrigeration Research **
- Yum Yum Tree

* Welcome new members

** Special thanks to these Life Members

Thanks to...

The BAHS recognizes the following people for volunteering their time. (next column)

- Marieanna Bair, Bert Bair, Ida Bair, Sue Garcia and Jim Vichich for help with the August Trail Tales mailing.
- Donald & Doris Bluhm for their donation in memory of Shirley Jenks.
- Esther Jarvis and Robert W. Phillips for donations to the BAHS Project Fund.
- Harry and Carol Davis and Barbara Smith for their donation to the Friends of Lyon School fund.
- The many long-time members who've contributed to the BAHS and its projects throughout the years. Their expressions of confidence in the board members' decisions is inspiring.
- Larry Lawrence, Marieanna Bair, Tammy Sexton, Sue Garcia, Jerry Damon, Caren Bierman, Joe Collins, Jim Vichich and Dick Weaire for the Thursday archiving work and the exterior painting of the Lyon School siding.
- Dave Ball and Genal Pratt for article contributions to Trail Tales.
- Larry Lawrence for maintaining fresh photos and information on the BAHS Facebook site.

BAHS on Facebook

Are you on Facebook? We are! Look us up on Facebook and visit our page. Photos of Brighton's past are posted frequently, as our news and important announcements. Plus, you will meet other Facebook members who want to discuss and reminisce about Brighton. And while you are there, don't forget to "Like" us! To date, more than 250 Facebook users like us and the number continues to grow. With your help, we can push that number to 500 or even 1,000!

 Like Us on Facebook!



In Memoriam

The Brighton Area Historical Society extends its sympathies to the family of:

Ronni Powers

Ronni has always been supportive of the Lyon School educational program. She was also an active participant in the re-dedication of the Lyon School following its restoration.

The History of Labor Day (continued from page 1)

property. Other workers across the country showed their support by refusing to deliver goods and blocking trains.

The company fanned the flames by hiring strikebreaking workers. Their lobby groups also succeeded in securing government intervention. First, there were court injunctions, which the strikers ignored. Next, President Grover Cleveland intervened by sending the U.S. Marshalls and 12,000 U.S. Army troops to break the strike, on the premise they were interfering with mail delivery.

Eventually, the strike ended and the Illinois Supreme Court forced the Pullman to divest its ownership of the town, which became part of Chicago.

Even with life returning to normal, the message was clear to Washington that organized labor was a force with which to be reckoned. In an offer of appeasement, the President and Congress quickly acted to declare Labor Day a federal holiday honoring workers everywhere.

By Dave Ball, Trail Tales Editor

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 visit our web site at www.brightonareahistorical.com or mail in the following form below.

Mail check or money order payable to:		Name: _____	Phone: () _____
Brighton Area Historical Society		Address: _____	
P. O. Box 481		City: _____	State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Brighton, MI 48116-0481		E-Mail: _____	
Membership Plan:		Friend of Lyon School:	BAHS Projects Fund:
<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> Business	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Individual
<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Patron	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2 Student
		<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Family	
		<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
		<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250
		<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____
		<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
		<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250
		<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____

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

BAHS Merchandise

We have many great items for sale that help us generate much needed funds to carry on our mission.

These include home décor items (pewter items, afghans and pillows, decorative ceramic tiles, etc.), postcards, craft items, and the like.

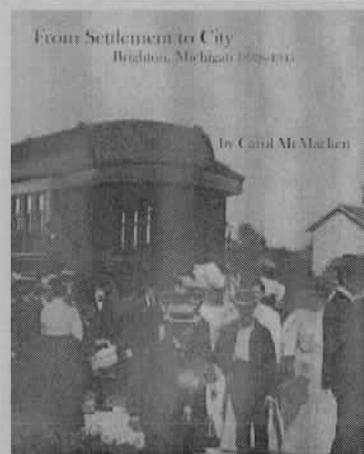
To see our full gift shop offering, please contact us, visit CoBACH Center or the Lyon School, or see our web site.

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 of wilderness settlement through to the growing community of the mid-1940s.

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



BAHS Leadership

President

Jim Vichich

Vice President

Marieanna Bair

Secretary

Sue Garcia

Treasurer

Mindy Kinsey

Trail Tales Editor

Dave Ball

Directors

Joe Collins

Nancy Fredenburg

Larry Lawrence

Thomas Reinke

Tammy Sexton

Dick Weaire

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.

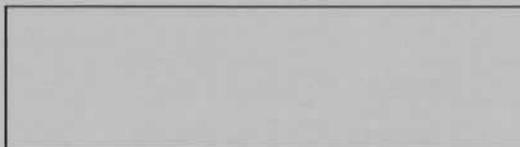
The BAHS accepts monetary support and donations of historical artifacts. Please consider supporting us with your generosity.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 481
Brighton, MI 48116-0481

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Civil War Veterans Resting At Old Village Cemetery (Part 5)

Joseph Placeway (b. 1804), of Vermont with wife, Ann Maria (b. 1814) of New Jersey, arrived in Livingston County in 1836. They had purchased 200 acres in Section 2 of Genoa Township, sight unseen as was not unusual for the time. This was about one mile northeast of Lake Chemung.

With them came their two daughters, Mary, 17 and Matilda, 15. Their sons Joseph Edward, George, and John, were all born in Genoa Township, between 1837 and 1843. In 1846, they purchased property in Brighton Village, in the Gales Addition B-9, lots 1 and 2, (currently the southeast corner of Grand River and Church Street). Joseph Placeway died in 1853.

At the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861, their son Joseph Edward Placeway, with his wife Emily Jane (Smith) and son Charles (b. 1861) were living in Hamburg Township, not far from his uncle, William Placeway. They later had two children; Jennie born in 1863, and William born in 1865.

Joseph Edward enlisted February 16, 1864, in the 3rd Michigan Cavalry, Co. G, joining them at their winter quarters in La-Grange, Tennessee. Before leaving there, his regiment did two months provost duty waiting for horses and equipment. Still dismounted, the regiment went to Arkansas under General Frederick Steele on May 18, 1864. Having been issued horse and gear, they began scouting and outpost duty on August 1, 1864 until moving to winter quarters at Brownsville Station, Arkansas, later that year.

On March 14, 1865, they transferred from Arkansas to the Military Division of West Mississippi under General E. R. S. Canby, to move against Mobile, Alabama. After the fall of Mobile, the regiment was on outpost duty until the surrender of General Richard Taylor and the Army of Tennessee on May 8, 1865. Leaving Mobile, they arrived in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on May 23, 1865. Under General Phil Sheridan, they joined troops in

Texas, leaving June 10, 1865, for San Antonio on garrison and scouting duty until February 15, 1866. James Edward was mustered out of service on September 20, 1865, returning to his home in Brighton.

In 1870, the Placeway family was living in Brighton Village just before the coming of the railroad. Having been brought up as a farmer, he found plenty of opportunity working in town. The town was growing; carpenters, masons, blacksmiths, millers, and coopers were all busy. And the railroad was coming!

Joseph Edward did not neglect his civic responsibilities after his return from serving his country. In 1868-69 and 1872-73, Placeway served as Brighton Township Treasurer. Following the organization of the Village of Brighton in 1867, he took part in its governing as Village Marshall in 1868 and as Deputy Marshall in 1882. In 1879 he is noted as Village Assessor. Joseph Edward Placeway died in 1899. At a reunion of Civil War veterans in 1905, he is memorialized with a photo placed alongside other members of the Grand Army of the Republic veterans' organization.

Of Placeway's children, his son Charles became owner and publisher of the Brighton Argus. Charles died February 8, 1919. His daughter Jennie was a teacher, and died in 1945. She and Charles are buried at Calvary Cemetery. His son William died young at in 1881. Joseph Edward, along with his wife Emily (d. January 29, 1914), son William and his father Joseph, are interred at Old Village Cemetery. Eleven other Placeways can be found in the Placeway Cemetery in Putnam Township.

Compiled by Marieanna Bair from census records; 1880 History of Livingston County; writings of Bill Pless; "Early Landowners of Livingston County" by Milt Charboneau; "From Settlement to City" by Carol McMacken. Additions, corrections requested. 810-229-6402.