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BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 481
BRIGHTON, MI. 48116

EDITORS

Support of the Society in the form of memberships, donations of pictures and artifacts, raffle prizes, labor and merchandise is most heartening and these contributors are to be commended.

Everyone should be aware that this continued support is needed and that it must assuredly increase.

The railroad depot is gone, the Union School is gone. Many old barns and homes have been dismantled. The Almao Theater is gone. Almost all the area's school houses have disappeared. Does anyone remember the Grand (Washington) Theater? Will the Ricketts School go also? The Union School will not be restored with help for sure. Lack of response has caused the Brighton City Council to believe the community doesn't really care if the Old Town Hall (Library) is restored.

Yes, more people have to expend some energy in order to accomplish our goals. (E. M. Bair) ++ ++ ++ ++ ++

MEMBERSHIPS 1985
Persons paying their dues after October 1, will be considered as having paid for the following year.

At present these are Bert & Marleanna Bair, Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Boylan, Earle Campbell, Mr. Robert Chensky, Citizen's Trust, Robert Clark, George Hacker, Barton & Catherine Hellmuth, Kathryn Hodgson, Don & Shirley Jenkins, Ray & Jean Lanning, L. Mark Linstedt, Leota Mason, Fred & Mary Neumann, Judy Peck, Norma & Charles Pless, Gerald & Judy Forman, Ed & Connie Sherman, Bill & June Tomlinson and John & Virginia Zureke. WELCOME.

If you'd like to help with the Society's goals please use the form you find in this newsletter. Your membership is essential.
THANKS THANKS THANKS THANKS

Brighton State Bank for the printing of this newsletter. This saves the Society a great deal and allows the funds to be used for restoration, etc. purposes.

....Duquet Jewelers for the donation of a watch as first prize for the drawing.

....Chamber of Commerce for copying and use of the building for the Christmas Open House.

....Ben Bishwill for the pictures of early residents of Brighton.

....Burger King for framed reproductions of pictures of early Brighton

....St. Paul's for the use of the hall.

....Bill Fless for his encouragement and contributions of his memorabilia.

....Ethel Gubben and committee for conducting the Open House. And Ethel also for folding and labeling this newsletter.

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AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS
MEET IN NOVEMBER

Three board members attended this recent meeting. The ideas exchanged make this semi-annual meeting very worthwhile.

Several societies displayed scrapbooks of the activities of their organization. These are very important for members of which a society can be proud.

It is time for the Brighton Area Historical Society to begin the process of making a scrapbook of its activities.

Needed are newspaper clippings, pictures, etc., of what we've been doing. Also very necessary is someone to take on this project. Please don't leave this job up to someone else to do.

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LES AMIE CLUB

The article on Perris Cook in the November issue has prompted long time residents of Brighton to add names to the list of those in the 'Les Amie Club.' Included were Louise Finney, Zelma Newman, Gladys Clark, Ethel Leith, Jean Edmonds, Carrie Francisco, Majorie Garwood, Lorene Fless, Mildred Mallum, Edith Prosser, Delta Newcomb, Bernice Taylor and Grant.

Now, does anyone have pictures of these members? Can anyone give us more information regarding the Les Amie? When did they begin? Where, why, and who did they meet? Questions. Questions. Questions.

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HELP HELP HELP HELP HELP

We need...

....someone to develop a cross stitch kit of a local site. We feel this could be a valuable fund raiser.

....item to include in this newsletter.

....Publicity Chairman.

....ideas for next year's program.

....someone to do research on the history of the Old Town Hall, its bell and the Lyons Lyons School. Also Brighton High School history. Also other local sites, mills, merchants, medical and legal professions, Mellis Hospital, etc.

....a scrap book chairman.

....someone to open their home for a tour, exhibit a hobby or collection, etc., as a fund raiser.

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RICKETT SCHOOL FOR SALE

With the move to the former Miller Elementary School of the Brighton Senior Citizens' Center, the Rickett School is now for sale by the Brighton Area Schools. (Was it always named 'Rickett School'?)

Not many major changes have been made in its outward architectural design. It seems a fine example of public building construction of the era. It would be unfortunate for the community if this building were to be destroyed or major architectural changes made as has been done to so many of the area's older buildings.

Can we hear from anyone willing to put in some time to preserve this evidence of our past before it's gone also? There are many purposes to which it could be put and remain a community-owned building.

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BOOK OF 100 YEAR OLD BUILDINGS

In the area are a number of homes and buildings which were built over 100 years ago. Would you be interested in a book showing these and giving some details as to their history?

Would you be willing to take pictures, do research and generally help with a project such as this? Let us know.

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THINGS TO DO

At the First United Methodist Church in Howell, Dr. Weldon Getz, a nationally known authority on Abraham Lincoln, will be giving a presentation on his life. The date is January 11, 1985.

The Archives at Howell Carnegie Library are open from 1-5 on Wednesdays. Special arrangements can be made with a member of the Archives Committee.

In honor of or in memory of a favorite person, it is suggested that literature books be given to the local library or to the Historical Society.

....Take some time this winter to begin or catch up on writing your family's history. Your experiences and your life have validity. They are worth preserving for those who follow.

....There is an excellent supply of genealogy material at the Community Newscenter at the Promoter Shopping Center in Lansing.

The Hartland Players will present the musical "Scrooge" December 6, 7, 8 at 8 p.m. and December 9 at 2 p.m. at the Music Hall in Hartland. Reduced prices are available to groups of 15 or more. Call 632-6189, evenings.

...CERAMIC TILES TO BE SOLD

The order has been placed with the manufacturer for the tiles with a picture of the Old Town Hall. We hope to have these available in time for Christmas. Several have already placed their orders.

It is planned to develop a series of these. This should be a good source of income.

Also for sale at all General Meetings, or call Ethel Gubben, 227-3375, are Society cards and stationery and the Michigan History Magazine issue relating to the Court House restoration.

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BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME

ADDRESS

Activities in which I'd like to participate:

....Meeting Programs

....Photography

....Newsletter

....Fund Raising

....Interior Decoration

....Genealogy

....Publicity

....Bake Sale

....Help with special events

....Restoration

....Hospitality

....Board member

....Cleaning

....Membership

....Oral History

....Video taping

....Other work I'd be willing to do

Dues: $8.00 per couple

5.00 per individual

25.00 business/professional

25.00 patron

Send to: Brighton Area Historical Society

P.O. Box 481

Brighton, MI 48116

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FROM THE PRESIDENT....

For the past 10 months the opportunity to serve as President has confirmed the belief that there are a lot of people in the area who care about the present and dissemination of the knowledge of the history of the area. The support is truly heartening.

This organization is to be commended for the high level of dedicated service of its Board and Chairman. It has been very encouraging to work with them in our attempts to reach the goals of the Society. Goals which include the preservation and restoration not only of the material heritage but also the aesthetic and human values.

1981 is on its way. There will be many opportunities to continue growing. There will be many opportunities for more to join us in our belief that unless we preserve our history there can be no future of which we would want to be a part.

...... Marieanna Bair

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( ) Interior Decoration    ( ) Genealogy    ( ) Publicity    ( ) Bake Sale
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( ) Board member    ( ) Cleaning    ( ) Membership    ( ) Oral History
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NOVEMBER 13, MEETING RECAP
Following a great pot luck dinner at St. Paul's fellowship hall, the business meeting included the presentation of annual reports and the election of directors. Serving for the next two years will be Mae Schmidtke (welcome Mae) and Gary Cole (thanks for serving again, Gary). Judy Forrest’s program on campaign memorabilia was eagerly received. Some of the group also brought several fine examples.

Names of those who might find this newsletter of interest may be given to any member of the board...we’ll add them to the mailing list.

EDITH LEONARD
BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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