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ISSUE NO. 15, MARCH, 1985

The purpose of the Brighton Area Historical Society is to preserve, advance and disseminate knowledge of the history of the Brighton Area.

The membership is composed of people who feel the above purpose is worthwhile and should be promoted.

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BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pres. Marleanna Bair 229-0402
V.P. Gary Cole 227-6116
Treas. Wally Jolitz 229-9832
Sec. Judith Peck 227-6491

DIRECTORS

Bert Bair 229-0402
Dick Davis 229-8366
Floyd Fuller 229-9703
Jack Gebben 227-5375
Mae Schmidtke 227-7969

GENERAL MEETING, TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1985

The General Meeting of the Society will meet as its speaker, David D. Finney, Civil War Historian and Lecturer. He will speak on The History of Early Photography-1840-1900. Included in his presentation will be information on daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, wet-plate (collodion) processes, albuminized paper and tin photographs. He will also speak about the early photographers, their studios and techniques. In addition a selection of slides of early 19th century personalities, events and locations will be shown.

Mr. Finney holds both B.A. and M.A. degrees from Indiana Univ. and the Education Specialist degree from Wayne State University, Michigan. He is chairman of the history department at North Farmington High School, where he has taught since 1969, and also teaches evening classes at Oakland Community College, Farmington Hills.

The Michigan Historical Marker Program is one of the several Michigan historically oriented boards on which he has served. He has published articles in the Michigan History Magazine and the Michigan Antique Arms Collectors Journal.

(cont. next column, please.)

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EDITORIAL

Local business owners and professional persons have been most generous with donations of articles when asked.

An invitation was recently extended to many to become corporate members of the Society. Their continued support is most necessary to the expansion of the activities of the Society in accomplishing its goals. Readers are encouraged to remember these businesses which are shopping or in need of services.

Those attending are encouraged to bring old photographs. Mr. Finney will provide information regarding methods of identifying and dating artifacts of this nature.

The public is sincerely encouraged to attend. The meeting will be held at the former Miller Elementary School, 850 Spencer Rd. Refreshments will be served.

MEMBERSHIPS 1985

Since the last issue the following have paid 1985 dues:


If your mailing label has an 85 on it your 85 dues are paid. The Society cannot exist without members. Thanks for your support.

(cont. page 2, please.)

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MEMBERSHIPS (cont. from page 1)

By virtue of their extensive donations the Board of Directors has bestowed membership to Rita Altengberg and Domino Planz. Mill Pless has a life time membership. We welcome E.D. Dining Furniture as Corporate Member. Many thanks.

The Budget committee anticipates dues payments to cover Society administrative costs. Thus everything earned at fund raising events can be designated to various projects undertaken by the Society.

+ + + + + + + +

RECAP, GENERAL MEETING FEB. 12

The winter weather did not cooperate but those who braved it were well rewarded for their efforts. Susie Braun, local quilt maker and collector brought dozens of quilts for display.

Very few quilts of Colonial days remain. They were usually made and purposely made of used materials. The evolution of quiltmaking in America covered the changes from using scraps in a hodge-podge fashion (basically for warmth) to pieced quilts, appliqued, embroidered, and the crazy quilt. Now to date a quilt and the significance of the patterns were also part of her presentation.

We learned that when Susie makes quilts she intends them to become heirlooms; they are created with great care and attention to detail.

+ + + + + + + +

UPDATE ON THE LES AMIS CLUB

In the November issue, page 4 was devoted to Perrie Cook. In the article was a listing of members of this bridge club. Other names have been added. The list now reads: Fae Burkenstock, Sylvia Bitter, Maldee Brady, Ruth Carter, Gladys Clark, Jean Edmunds, Carrie Francisco, Marjorie Garwood, Grant, Ethel Leith, Mildred Melling, Coll Newcomb, Zelma Norman, Hazel Phillips, Wavel Phillips, Geneva Pitkin, Louise Pinney, Loren Prater, Edith Prosser, Mae Rolison, Mary Ross, Mary Snow, Bernice Taylor, Angie Weeks.

Are there more names to be added? Is it possible there might be a picture? Is there descendant of these ladies who might like to be on the Society mailing list? In what other groups did the residents of the Area congregate? Let us know.

+ + + + + + + +

THANKS

...Caroline Wilson for her donation of support to the Society.

...those who expressed their opinion re: the Brighton City Council decision on the tax abatement allowed the planned renovations of the Brighton Hotel.

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HELP

we need...

...a means for mixing and drawing tickets when a raffle is held. Anyone have a "squirrel cage" for us?

...someone to get us started with a publication(s).

...someone to compile a Society History book.

...someone to do some research into the Lyons School (Brighton Township) history.

...a contact person for those wishing to donate pictures, etc.

...folding tables and chairs. The City Library is using those which the Society was using for meetings.

...a person to help with publicity of Society activities.

+ + + + + + + +

MEADOW BROOK PERFORMING ARTS PRESENTATION COMING TO BRIGHTON

Friday, April 19, 7:30, the Meadow Brook Performing Arts group will present "Taking Steps" by Alan Ayckbourn at the High School Auditorium.

The Brighton Senior Citizens and the Society will be cooperating in the selling of the tickets. This can be a profitable fund raiser for the Society. If everyone sells all of the tickets there will be S.R.O. Please set aside that evening and plan on a good time. More information on the ticket sales in the April newsletter.

+ + + + + + + +

CENTENNIAL HOUSES IN THE AREA?

Do you know of a centennial house in the S.E. quarter of Livingston County? One which has been in the same family for 100 years? Pictures and the history of these homes should be recorded. Is this a project you'd like to help organize? Contact a board member or write, P.O. Box 481.

+ + + + + + + +

TILES STILL AVAILABLE

Black and white, these six inch ceramic tiles picturing the Old Town Hall as it appeared originally are available for $5.00. Janice Pless stands on Main Street, The Gift Shop at the Senior Citizen's Center, and Citizen's Trust Bank have them for you. Those who have already purchased their tile are anxious to purchase the next in this series, the railroad depot. The tiles are also available at General Meetings.

+ + + + + + + +

SHAKERS AND MOVERS

Charles and Janice Beach are listed as charter members of the Society. Both were instrumental in its organization and give time and energy to its continued existence. Both have served in various positions on the board and assisted with activities planned by the Society.

Both graduated from Brighton High School in 1951. Chuck came to Brighton from Detroit in the mid '40s. Janice has roots in the Brighton Area which go back to 1875 when her great grandfather D. Pitkin, a builder, came from New York State. Several Brighton businesses were operated by descendants of his. Her father was Post Master of Brighton in the 1930s. Her mother's (Lucile Paddock) ancestors arrived even earlier in the area; 1830s.

A tough year, Chuck will graduate from Brighton High School in 1996. Janice's parents graduated in 1926.

+ + + + + + + +

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE

New ( ) Renewal ( )

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 ( ) Research ( ) Hospitality
( ) Board member ( ) Cleaning ( ) Video taping ( ) Oral History
( ) Membership Committee ( ) Other work I'd be willing to do

Dues: $ 8.00 per couple send to: Brighton Area Historical Society
5.00 per individual
25.00 business/professional
25.00 patron

LONG-TIME LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Many local organizations presently in existence have a substantial history in the Area. It is hoped there is some written record of their activities. We'd be privileged to publish these histories.

For one, the Fire Department has been in existence a long time in this Area. Also the Masons, Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis, Garden Clubs; the list is long.

Several publications of years ago give glimpses of their activities and the people involved. A publication of the volunteer organizations of the Brighton Area could be prepared. It would be a record of which we could all be proud.

If you are a member or know of such an organization which served the Area in the past, please make certain this sort of record is compiled. Also needed is someone to get the information organized. Is this something you'd like to do?

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FREEBIE - The Society has been given a Savin 200 copier which needs repair. It does not make the type of copy the Society can use. Can anyone take it off our hands?

+ + + + + + + +

EDSEL FOR TOURNY - Anyone with questions about their reservation may contact Mary Messerschmidt, 227-7433.

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