



Grand River Trail

TRAIL TALES

P.O. Box 481 Brighton, Mi. 48116  
Vol.V. No. 12 December, 1986

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.

EDITORIAL

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pres. Zara Graham 229-2240  
V.P. Gary Cole 227-6116  
Sec. Gloria Spencer 229-5839  
Treas. Marieanna Bair 229-6402

DIRECTORS

Dick Davis 229-8356  
Floyd Fuller 231-2415  
Rudy Herrmann 229-7923  
Alice Krupa 227-2516  
Mae Schmaetke 227-7969  
Marieanna Bair, Imm. P.P. & Editor

RECAP ANNUAL MEETING NOV. 11

Annual reports from officers and directors were presented; the 1987 Budget was accepted; and elections were held with Pres. Zara Graham, Treas. Mr. Bair, and Directors: Shelagh Klein, Mary Mathias, Peg Siford and Mel Skeman being chosen.

Sincere thanks go to V.P. Gary Cole, Secretary Gloria Spencer, Directors Dick Davis, and Floyd Fuller for their help and service the past year.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Board Meetings: Thursday, Dec. 11, Jan. 8 and Feb. 12 at the Old Town Hall. Members welcome.

General Meeting: Tuesday, Jan. 11 at the Miller Community Center, 850 Spencer Rd., Public welcome.

Spaghetti Supper: Friday, Feb. 20 at the Fire Hall. Public Welcome.

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The sympathy of the Society is extended to the family of Al Cole, a charter member. Al displayed the responsibility he felt to the community with his services in many volunteer capacities. He is missed.

It is very nice to hear "The Society is doing a great job at..." one project or another. It's nice to hear how glad people are to see the Society involved in various activities in the community. Many also tell us of other tasks in which the Society should be involved. The Society if becoming a known entity in the community.

HOWEVER the Society is merely a word describing people with common interests and is composed of live people. Warm bodies are needed to reach the goals set. Nor are warm bodies always enough. Cold, hard cash is a vital necessity. (Note that the need for people was placed first.) New committees are being formed for 1987. Be sure you're doing all you can.

Cheers from the sidelines are appreciated; the people in the race really know what it's all about. Join those in the race to the extent you can.

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MEMBERSHIPS

Since the last issue John C. Curry has paid 1986 dues. 1987 dues have been paid by: Elizabeth Bindenagel\*\*, A.J. & Betty Boylan, Benjamin and Eula Clark, Robert Clark\*\*, Don & Lois Cole, John Curry, Dennis Dimoff, Merle & Loretta Farley, Floyd & Ial Fuller, Jack & Ethel Gebben, Jack Hathaway, Clara Healy, Dr. Donald & Carol Kerr, Carol King, Daniel & Jeanette Madigan, Alice Newcomb, Chet & Irene Paquette, Floyd & Lorena Pearson, Fritz Schwass, Lovisa Seger, Margaret Squire, Franc Stokes, Horace & Yvonne Taylor\*\*, Virginia Zureki.

\*\*Patron memberships. Welcome to all and thanks for your expression of support. Special thanks are in order to those who because of distance from the area or some other reason are unable to participate and so send patron dues.

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The organization of Livingston County was effected under an act of the Legislature, approved March 24, 1836. The name was given in honor of Edward Livingston, Secretary of State under President Jackson.

THANKS....THANKS....THANKS....THANKS....

...Rocking horse raffle ticket buyers and sellers.  
 ...Open House chairmen and Clayton Epley for his display of old farming toys.  
 ...Jarvis Men's Store, Ubers Drugs and DuQuets Jewelers for selling raffle tickets.  
 ...Mr. & Mrs. D.M. Doumanian for a donatin to fuel for the Lyons School and to the Quester Plank Road Chapter 236 for their donation.  
 ...Mr. & Mrs. James White for their donation.

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HELP....HELP....HELP....HELP....HELP....

we need...  
 ...people to sell rocking horse raffle tickets Dec. 6, 13 and 20 at the mall. There is a long way to go to reach a goal of \$500. Call Dick Davis, 229-8356 to help or to get a book of 10 or 20 to sell.  
 ...donations to the fuel bill at Lyons School.  
 ...someone to pay the monthly electric bill at Lyons School.  
 ...a publicity chairman.  
 ...a membership chairman.  
 ...a place to store donated items for auction.

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BUDGET 1987

11-12-85 ANNUAL MEETING TOTAL NET WORTH \$6047.37

RECEIPTS

Dues		\$2220.00	
Fund Raising:			
Antique Show	716.20		
Bake Sale	188.65		
Donations	145.00		
October sale	435.80		
Lyons Sch. Rest.	215.00		
Raffles	111.00		
Spaghetti Supper	225.75		
Stationery, etc.	69.15		
Tiles	2009.50	4116.05	
Misc.		79.32	
Interest		404.32	6819.69
			<u>\$12867.06</u>

DISBURSEMENTS

Administration		604.94	
Officers		136.87	
Newsletter		457.76	
Fund Raising			
Antique Show	124.22		
October Sale	7.50		
Spaghetti Supper	68.72		
Tiles	1957.42	2157.86	
Hist. Pres. & Rest. Projects			
Hist. Resource Survey		84.63	
Lyons School			
Utilities	155.87		
Restor.	4710.89		
		4866.76	
Old Town Hall	52.33	5003.72	
Misc.		17.00	8378.15
10-31-86 TOTAL NET WORTH			<u>\$4488.91</u>
" Sav. Acct. Bal.		4218.60	
" Chk. Acct. Bal.		270.31	<u>\$4488.91</u>

Savings Distribution:

Gen. Fund	\$1435.39	
HPR Fund	2783.21	4218.60

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For a more detailed report please contact the Treasurer.

RECEIPTS

Dues		\$2750.
Fund Raising Proj.		
Sales	100.	
Tiles	2100.	
Bake Sales	250.	
Flea Market	300.	
Antique Show	800.	
Spaghetti Din.	600.	
Raffles	200.	4350. \$7100.

DISBURSEMENTS

Administration		
P.O. Box	25.	
Mailing fee	60.	85.
Equipment	100.	
Memberships & fees, ref. material, etc.	80.	
Gen. Meetings	60.	
Officers	150.	
Newsletter	495.	970.
Fund Raising Proj.		
Sales Items	1200.	
Events	280.	
Promotion	200.	1680.
Historic Projects		
Lyons School		
Utilities	500.	
Ins.	700.	
Rest.	2000.	3200.
Old Town Hall	1000.	
Hist. Res. Sur.	200.	
Oral History	50.	4450. \$7100.

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For a more detailed report please contact the Treasurer.

AREA SOCIETIES MEET IN PLYMOUTH

The Plymouth Historical Society hosted representatives from historical societies of the Area in October at the Museum on Main Street. For what seemed like a very short hour both floors of the Museum were open to those attending. A street of shops including a millinery, post office, barber shop, dentist and doctor offices, plus dozens of others transported one to another time in the life of this area. Much praise is due the people of the Plymouth area for the manner in which they have supported the society and the museum.

The business meeting consisted of area society representatives describing the plans for the Sesquicentennial celebration in Michigan which are being organized in the various communities. It is regrettable the Brighton area has not been active in celebrating the 150th birthday of our state.

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FINANCE COMMITTEE is planning...

- ...a spaghetti supper
- ...an auction
- ...a home tour
- ...a book of Brighton Area history
- ...selling note cards and tiles at the Mall. These would make great Christmas gifts. Have you bought your raffle tickets yet? That rocking horse would be a nice gift too.

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LYONS SCHOOL RESTORATION

The roof is in place and work is proceeding on relocating bathroom facilities.

Donations to the Lyons School Restoration Fund may be made in honor or memory of a loved one. Send to the Society.

OLD TOWN HALL RESTORATION

The Old Town Hall Restoration committee and the Brighton City Council recently met to consider the feasibility of restoring the building. The Council expressed a positive interest and is seeking to pursue the matter, possibly as a Sesquicentennial project.

A good example of late 1800 architecture of the area, it is deemed desirable to retain the building as a focal point of the Brighton Area. Replacement of original details such as windows, balcony rail, bell tower, etc., are planned.

The early Michigan settlement atmosphere can be retained, making the area all the more a place in which one wishes to live and work. The restoration committee is to be highly commended for their hard work.

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SHAKERS AND MOVERS

Just half way through her first term as a Director of the Society, Alice Krupa has been making progress on the Brighton City Historic Resource Survey.

Alice and her husband, Phil, have raised four children in the area. She can't imagine herself living anywhere else and so feels a responsibility to return to the community some measure of herself. She has been active in the Livingston Players (most recently in "The Bad Seed"), has an interest in basket weaving, tinsmithing, quilts and old linens and historic research.

The Society is fortunate to have a board member so interested in its various projects. A deep desire to support its goals and see them to fruition encourages all members to do their best.

1987 BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM 1987

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

New ( ) Renewal ( ) Please send a copy of Society Bylaws ( )

Activities in which I'd like to participate:

- ( ) Bake Sale ( ) Meeting programs ( ) Photography ( ) Help with special events
- ( ) Board Member ( ) Membership Committee ( ) Publicity ( ) Video Taping
- ( ) Fund Raising ( ) Newsletter Publication ( ) Research ( ) Hospitality
- ( ) Genealogy ( ) Oral History ( ) Restoration ( ) Other work I'd be willing to do

Dues: \$ 8.00 per couple  
 5.00 per individual  
 25.00 patron  
 25.00 business/professional

Send to: Brighton Area Historical Society  
 P.O. Box 481  
 Brighton, Mi. 48116

## THE BRIGHTON AREA AND THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF MICHIGAN (Cont.)

Following the signing of the Treaty of Paris, 1763, and Chief Pontiac's realization that he could now no longer depend on his French allies, a relative peace settled in the midwest. During the next 30 years the British and Indians developed a cooperative relationship which stood the British in good stead, especially during the Revolutionary War and the years immediately following that conflict.

Using Detroit as a base of operations, Indian raids (encouraged by the British) were made into Kentucky and the area we now know as Indiana, Illinois and Ohio. These raids had a devastating emotional effect on the Continental soldier whose family was located in the territory and made it difficult for General George Washington to be able to depend on having sufficient troops when necessary. The raids continued until the consummation of the peacetreaty, signed in Paris in 1783, which signaled the end of the Revolutionary War.

Though Michigan was part of the territory ceded the U.S. in that treaty, the next 13 years were marked by British refusal to give up the still lucrative fur trade centered in this area. The infant U.S. government found it difficult to combat the British considering the great distances and the poor condition of the nation's treasury. It was 1794 before "Mad" Anthony Wayne, in the successful outcome of the Battle of Fallen Timers, finally convinced the British that Detroit could now be occupied by the Americans.

Not until the signing of the Jay Treaty of 1796 was the Union Jack replaced with the flag of the U.S. at Forts Detroit and Michilimackinac on Mackinac Island (built by the British in 1779-81). Michigan is finally, truly a part of the U.S.

During these 13 years, 1783/1796, the American Continental Congress was not idle. Two ordinances, passed in 1785 and 1787, significantly affected the future settlement and government of our Michigan. The first (Land Ordinance 1785) had to do with the division into township six miles square of western land (all lands west of the Ohio River were 'western'). The policy of surveying the land before sale and settlement is evident today in the orderly division of lands into neat rectangles throughout Michigan and states west; one township in 16 set aside for maintenance of public schools.

The second, that of 1787 (the North West Ordinance) determined how territories could become a state, and assured Americans from the north east states they would not have to surrender their rights as citizens of the U.S. by emigrating to the lands beyond the Ohio River.

First labeled the North West Territory, then Indiana Territory when Ohio became a state, 1803, it was Michigan Territory in 1805 when General Wm. Hull came into Detroit, as Territorial Governor, in early July shortly after the great fire which devastated the town. (To be continued. Condensed and edited from: "A Scrapbook of Michigan Memorabilia" by Wm. Pless, "A Short History of Michigan" by John Kern and "War 1812" by George S. May.)

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
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