



TRAIL TALES

Grand River Trail

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 and should be promoted.

P.O. Box 481 Brighton, Mi. 48116
Vd. VI, No. 7 July, 1987

EDITORIAL

Why did (and do) people come to the Brighton Area? We can conclude from historical research that when the first settlers arrived and stayed in 1832, they were looking for a place where they could grow as a family and as individuals. Isn't that why people still move to the area?

The Brighton Area didn't just suddenly appear - it is a result of people who got out and worked to make it happen. Today it's our turn to make it happen.

Yes, the early settlers lived somewhat differently than we do. We've never shorn sheep or ridden a wagon for miles over rutted trails in order to buy flour, lamp fuel, or coverals. (And there is no great desire to return to those ways.) The basic yearning for permanence and stability in our lives can be filled by being aware of the fact that others have preceded us.

Can we pass this feeling of permanence and stability on to our precious children? Not if there is nothing from past years from which to learn. It seems we better put down the TV guide, stop running in so many different directions and start making it happen. (Ed. M. Bair)

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1987 MEMBERSHIPS 1987

Patron: Harry & Mary Griffith, Harold & Beryl Wilt

Bus/Prof: Dr. Robert Chesky

Couple & Individual: Eric Astrup, Sally Baldwin, Steve & Sandy Bansbach, Leon & Marilyn Bonner, Jim & Polly Buchanan, Ken & Bernice Chappel, Esther Clark, Hazel Cole, Bernie & Bonnie Corrigan, Gene & Judy Dahlin, Harold & Elenor Davis, Al Dunk, Jim Dwyer, Nancy Fredenburg, Ellouise Gibson, Bob & Betsy Herbst, Mike & Jennie Hill,
(Please turn to page 2.)

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pres.	Zara Graham	229-2240
V.P.	Alice Krupa	227-2516
Sec.	Shelagh Klein	229-6571
Treas.	Marieanna Bair	229-6402

DIRECTORS

Rudy Herrmann	229-7923
Mary Mathias	229-6900
Peg Siford	227-6056
Mel Skeman	229-6351
Editor	Marieanna Bair 229-6402

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES SALE

In cooperation with Brighton's Sidewalk Sales, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. August 1, Saturday, at the Chamber of Commerce parking lot, 131 Hyne, donations of antiques and collectibles will be for sale.

Please check out your antiques and collectibles and consider giving to this sale. All proceeds will be placed in the Historic Preservation and Restoration Fund.

If you need transportation for your items please call Alice Krupa, 227-2516.

Can you spend a few hours that day and give a hand? Call Dick Davis, 229-8356 so he'll know he can count on you. (And you'll have a lot of fun.) It will be a beautiful day.

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If you want to preserve a bit of nature, you simply leave it alone. If you want to preserve an old building, your work has just begun.

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Next Board Meeting: Thursday, July 9, 7 p.m., Old Town Hall, 202 W. Main

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

...Old Kent Bank for the printing of this newsletter.

...Donors and workers at the bake sale.
...Old Town Hall restoration donors: Steve & Sandy Bansbach, Fred & Bonnie Corrigan, Citizens' Trust, Dr. Harry Davis, Phil & Alice Krupa, Oak Pointe Development Co., Joan Rice, Mel & Ila Skeman, Yum, Yum Tree.

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MEMBERSHIPS: (Cont. from page 1)

John & Marilyn Homan, David & Shirley Hood, Don & Shirley Jenks (88), Wally & Marilyn Jollitz, Bob & Shirley Knight, Jack & Beverly LaBelle, Eleanor Linsensmeyer, Landy Linstid, Tom & Evelyn Longsworth, Leota Mason, Joe & Toni Mullany, Max & Dorothy Musch, Bruce & Janet Owens, Lyle & Joyce Powers, George Prieskorn, Lucille Prieskorn, Sherrrel Rutter, Mel & Ila Skeman, A.J. & Dorothy Southwell, Jim & Penny Szczechowski, Maude Tunis, Cliff & Shirley Ritter.

Response to Membership Chairman Audrey Leith's reminder letter to members who hadn't renewed for 1987 was great. The support of each one of you is really needed. Board members and committee chairmen spend hours at their jobs. Having a supportive membership is encouraging. (If you don't have an 87 or 88 on the address label of this issue, It means your dues haven't been received.) The extra support of those paying patron dues is sincerely appreciated.

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ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR AUGUST 8 & 9

The Society will sponsor a booth at which tiles of the Pere Marquette Depot and the Union School will be available for a \$7. donation.

Also for sale will be stationery, the Michigan History magazine issue highlighting the Livingston County Courthouse restoration and REFRESHMENTS!

Helpers will be needed - Can you help for two hours one of those days? Call Dick Davis, 229-8356, and tell him when you can help.

The Society will be selling homemade cookies, lemonade and iced tea. If six people make five dozen each (oatmeal, peanut butter, molasses) we'll have plenty. Call Jane Tomlinson, 229-6435, and tell her which kind you want to make. The Society booth will be located by the Old Town Hall, by the Mill Pond.

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HELP.....HELP.....HELP.....HELP.....HELP
we need....

...someone to repair the buggy.
...people to get their tickets to the "It's Grown In Michigan" drawing.
...donations to the Society's Antique and Collectibles Sale August 1.
...people willing to serve as Board members in 88/89.
...people to help with the fund raising quilts.

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TREASURER'S REPORT

5-1-87	TOTAL NET WORTH	\$7280.24	
RECEIPTS			
Dues		109.00	
Fund Raising: raffle 117.,			
Spaghetti Supper, 20.,			
Sales 3.		140.00	
Friends of the Society		11073.00	
Undesignated		6.00	
Reimb. for flag purch.		114.18	
Interest		<u>30.06</u>	<u>11472.24</u>
			18752.48

DISBURSEMENTS

Adm: Flags	157.69		
Misc.	<u>26.05</u>	183.74	
Newsletter	<u>49.34</u>		233.08
Officers			16.94
HPR: Lyons School			
Utilities		11.05	
Old Town Hall			
contri. incen-			
tives		1274.46	
Brkfst	<u>68.64</u>	<u>1354.15</u>	<u>1604.17</u>

5-31-87	TOTAL NET WORTH	17148.31
"	Sav. Acct. Bal.	16363.31
"	Chk. Acct. Bal.	<u>785.00</u> <u>17148.31</u>

M. Bair, Treasurer.(For a more detailed report, please contact the Treasurer.)

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FRIENDS OF THE SOCIETY

Included in this issue you will again find the "Friends of the society" donation sheet. All donations are directed to the projects listed. Memberships (and careful spending) pay for all Society Administration costs (including Trail Tales' postage.)

Donors to the Old Town Hall Restoration project will be receiving a gift relative to the value of the donation made. \$25 = a mug; \$50. = a tote bag; \$75. = a set of leather coasters; \$100. = a pewter candy dish. These are all on display at the Brighton City Library. Those donating \$100 or more will be listed on a plaque which will be permanently placed in the hall.

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"IT'S GROWN IN MICHIGAN" DRAWING

The drawing is still set for July 4. Tickets are available at Jarvis' Men's Store (where the items are on display) and at the Brighton City Library.

Additional donors since the report in the June issue include: A & P Food Stores = 5# sugar, two 6 packs Faygo, 12 oz. Great Northern beans, 24 oz. green split peas, and 24 oz. navy beans. Brighton Country Deli = a certificate for two fresh fruit pies. Bryan's Market = a case of vinegar. Meijer's Thrifty Acres = six boxes Kellogg's Cereal. Many thanks for these merchants' generous support.

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TRASH AND TREASURES SALE

Saturday, October 24, from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., at the Farmer's Market in Brighton, the second Annual Trash and Treasures Sale is planned. Garage Sale leftovers, etc., can be used at that time.

It will be a great Indian Summer day so plan to spend a few hours helping. More details coming but start thinking about the things you want to donate. Proceeds will go to the Historic Preservation and Restoration Fund.

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Note re: Friends of the Society article, page 2. The Finance Committee is delivering these gifts to those who have already donated in the past.

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DETROIT EDISON MATCHING GIFTS PLAN

Employees of the Detroit Edison Co. may make donations to the Society which will be matched by their employer. The donor must have been a full time employee for Edison for at least one year. The Plan has a minimum of \$25 - \$5000 maximum. Retirees are not eligible.

For more information write Detroit Edison, Community and Governmental Affairs, 2000 Second Ave., Detroit, 48226 or call 237-9253 to request the form.

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LYONS SCHOOL INSURANCE

Next month the bill will be coming for the insurance bill for Lyons School. At approximately \$600.....HELP!!!!!!!!!!

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QUILTS PLANNED

Two quilts are in the preliminary planning stage. One is to be pieced and will be raffled.

The other will be a signature quilt. Area residents will have the opportunity to buy a space for their signature (or an entire family) which will be embroidered. This quilt will remain with the Society for historical evidence of today's Area citizens.

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Memorials and gifts in honor of friends and relatives are a thoughtful way to remember someone special as well as be a tremendous help to the Society with its projects.

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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 () Help with spec. events () Newsletter Publication () Research
- () Board Members () Hospitality () Oral History () Restoration
- () Fund Raising () Meeting Programs () Photography () Video Taping
- () Genealogy () Membership Committee () Publicity () Other work

I'd be willing to do: _____

Dues: \$25.00 Patron
25.00 Business/Professional
8.00 Couple
5.00 Individual

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

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

Formed in 1836, Livingston County was typical of incorporated areas. The settlers' political heritage was brought from New York and New England, organizing as townships with the various Clerks, Supervisors, Treasurers, etc.

During the time of Governor of Michigan Territory Lewis Cass' administration, Michigan changed from a land of Indians and fur traders. The southern tiers of counties became frontier farms and villages. Michigan was well on its way to statehood when the reins of leadership were transferred to 19 year old Stevens T. Mason. Many of Michigan's leaders doubted his ability but it wasn't long before they were convinced he was a very capable 'boy governor.' During his eight years of administration, population increased five fold to 86,000; much more than the 60,000 required for statehood by the Ordinance of 1787. By 1835, a constitution had been prepared; the Toledo War had been survived and by 1837, Michigan became the 26th state to join the Union.

With the preparation of the constitution a representative and two senators were elected and sent to Washington demanding statehood. Instead of seating the three Michigan legislators the Congress insisted upon the settlement of the disputed Michigan/Ohio boundary. When Ohio became a state in 1803, a proviso was included that its northern boundary would be from the southern point of Lake Michigan, but instead of running straight east it would end north of the Maumee River. Since the Michigan Territory southern line followed the 1787 Ordinance line, due east from the southern point of Lake Michigan, there was a piece of land 70 miles long by five miles wide at the Indiana border and eight miles wide at Lake Erie, the Toledo Strip.

Because Ohio, Indiana and Illinois were already populous states with representation in the Congress they had more 'pull' than Michigan Territory's three legislators. President Jackson, not wishing to jeopardize the votes of those three states offered a compromise to Michigan - Give Ohio the Strip and instead acquire a large portion of the western Upper Peninsula.

Upon learning that Ohio intended forming counties of the disputed strip, Gov. Mason called out the militia and ordered the arrest of all Ohio officials who tried to accomplish political jurisdiction over the Strip. President Jackson removed Mason from office because of his military activities but before leaving Mason directed about 1000 militia to prevent Ohio from conducting official business in the Strip. The Ohio jurists held a midnight court and were out of harm's way by the time Michigan's militia arrived. Not wishing to risk further disobedience to the President, Mason and the soldiers returned to Monroe and disbanded. (Condensed and edited from "A Short History of Michigan" by John Kern. To be continued.)

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 481
Brighton, Mi. 48116

Printed courtesy:
OLD KENT BANK
300 W. North St.
Brighton, Mi. 48116

ADDRESS
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REQUESTED