



Grand River Trail

TRAIL TALES

Brighton Area Preservation News

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 this purpose is worthwhile and should be promoted.

P.O. Box 481
Vol. XI No. 10

Brighton, MI 48116
October, 1992

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

Pres.	Marieanna Bair	229-6402
V.P.	Cathy Qualls	229-8656
Sec.	Anne Stratigos	229-5689
Treas.	Marge White	227-3968

DIRECTORS

Ricci Bandkau - Oral History	227-7664
Dave Barton - Historic Resource	229-5213
Michael Cuthbert - Art Fair	229-6728
Gary McCririe - Old Town Hall	229-2191
Doris Petersen - Oral History	960-1723
Penny Szczechowski - Editor	229-7324
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Ethel Gebben - Cir. Mgr.	227-5375
Nancy Fredenburg - Membership	229-9100
Herb Warner - Lyons School	229-6504

Slate of Officers

The Brighton Area Historical Society is currently forming the Slate of Officers for 1993.

The Society is looking for people who would like to run for one of the offices or for the Board of Directors.

The Society need dedicated people who are willing to work for the preservation of Brighton's history.

If you are one of those people, please contact an officer or board member soon.

DID YOU KNOW?

Brighton Historical Facts

The year is 1899. New electric lights shine on Main Street.

The first bank was organized in 1871.

In 1908 F.H. Miller and Sons sold groceries and drygoods in their store on Fitch Street, now called Main Street.

Brighton House was located at the east end of Main Street where at the turn of the century the hotel was well known for Nanny Stuhrberg's german pancakes and noodle soup. The name of Brighton House was changed to Eastern House when Western House was built.

Emil Keehn brought the first hearse to Brighton in 1922. His buick was also used as the ambulance.

The first frame schoolhouse in Brighton was built in 1950 on the northeast corner of Grand river and North Street. The first school in Brighton was a log cabin built in 1837. In 1868 a brick "Union School" was built on Rickett Road.

...taken from BRIGHTON AREA .
CENTENNIAL book, 1967.

MEMBERSHIP

MICHIGAN HISTORICAL MUSEUM

PATRON AND BUSINESS DUES:

The Fence Spot

INDIVIDUALS AND COUPLES DUES:

Joe and Irene Mike (92,93)
 Judy and Jerry Porman (92,93)
 Eleanor Hornung; Mrs. Ann
 Stuhrberg; Genevieve Kampe;
 Charles and Norma Pless (92,93);
 Ronald R. Morey; Rudolph and
 Virginia Kerrmann (92,93);
 Don and Sherley Jenks (91,92);
 A.J. and Helen Southwell;
 William and Betty Amrhein;
 Elnora Knaus (92,93); Kenneth
 Graham Sr.; Kendall Foley;
 Bill and Jane Tomlinson;
 Floyd and Ial Fuller; Steve
 and Kathy Grove;

Call Anne

The Michigan Historical Museum was established in 1879 and located in two rooms on the fourth floor of the "new" State Capital in Lansing. It was operated by the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society until 1913 when it came under the jurisdiction of the Michigan Historical Commission and became part of state government.

In 1985, construction of the new Michigan Library and Historical Center which houses the Michigan Historical Museum was begun.

The museum building, located behind the Capital is open to the public weekdays from 9:00 to 4:30, Saturdays from 10:00 to 5:00 and Sundays from 1:00 to 5:00. Admission is free.

Brighton Area Historical Society
 Board Meeting September 10, 1992
 Beginning Balance

40942.05

August 1992

General Fund

Receipts

Dues

3@ 7.00- 21.00

4@12.00- 48.00

69.00

Hist. Pres. & Rest. Fund

Receipts

Resource Comm.

Folk Art Fair 284.45

Signature Quilt 40.00

Advertising Spag. Sup. 390.00

714.45

Interest

Savings 43.00

Checking 4.13

C.D. 42.35

Kemper 39.94

129.42

912.37

41854.92

Disbursements

General Fund

Newsletter 145.00

Postage 50.96

195.96

Hist. Pres. & Rest. Fund

Resource Comm.

Spaghetti Supper 8.50

Lyons School Electric 11.58

Archives-Seminar 50.00

70.08

266.04

41589.38

----- Total Net Worth Marge White Treasurer -----

Brighton, Michigan Dec. 1937

Henry B. Appleton age 92, Brighton's sole surviving Civil War Veteran died. He served with the 9th Michigan Infantry.

Hamburg, Michigan 1930

The airport laid out last fall in the center of the golf course of the Lakeland Golf and Country Club at Wenans Lake, under the supervision of Lt. Eugene Searles is in fine condition. There are four runways.

Brighton, Michigan 1942

In Brighton the old Civil War cannon and the old fire engine were given to the scrap drive.

Livingston County 1920

Livingston County had 2542 male farmers and 90 female farmers.

...taken from research from Dave Barton, Historic Resource chairman.

ANTIQUE APPRAISAL CLINIC

The Hartland Area Historical Society is sponsoring an ANTIQUE APPRAISAL CLINIC featuring appraisers from DuMouchelle Galleries

on Saturday, October 24, 1992 from 10:00 until 4:00 p.m.

at Cromaine Library in Hartland

Two miles northeast of M-59 and US 23

Oral appraisals are \$5.00
Written appraisals are \$7.00,
\$10.00 for items of \$1,000
value or more

Hand carried objects and photographs of furniture are accepted.

Appointments preferred but walk-ins are welcomed

Call (313) 632-5200

All proceeds benefit the Florence B. Dearing Museum in Hartland.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

NEW () RENEWAL ()

Activities in which I would like to participate:

- () Bake Sale () Help with Spec. events () Newsletter () Research
- () Board Member () Hospitality () Oral History () Restoration
- () Fund Raising () Programs () Photography () Video Taping
- () Genealogy () Membership Committee () Publicity () Other

work I would be willing to do: _____

DUES: \$25. Patron
\$25. Business/Professional
\$12. Couple
\$ 7. Individual

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

BANKING IN THE BRIGHTON AREA (Cont.)

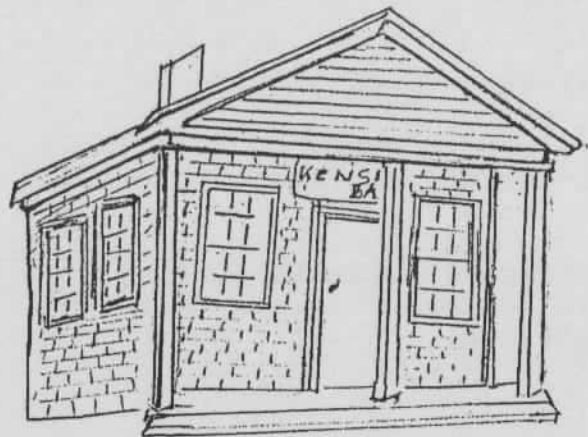
After being certified by the Farmers and Mechanics Bank of Detroit the Kensington Bank Directors began to issue notes. "They obtained a good supply of bank note blanks that were soon properly signed and put in circulation. Let it be recorded that the Bank of Kensington issued as nice bills to look upon as any bank ever issued." (1880 quote Sylvester Calkins of Lyons Township, Oakland County.)

When Kensington Bank note sales had not proceeded as well as expected, Sherman Dix and Alfred Dwight (unknown to the remaining stockholders) left for Milwaukee and disposed of several thousand bank notes, keeping the proceeds.

At that time the Michigan Legislature passed laws requiring banking corporations to show real estate security. The Kensington Bank was ordered to close since only two of the original holders owned land: N.F. Butterfield and Chauncy Crouse. The remaining holders had conveniently recorded their land titles to their wives' names. (Not all went to Milwaukee to hold on to their assets.) Kinsley Bingham was appointed receiver of Kensington Bank. He found that liabilities were many times the value of the assets. The bank notes were worthless.

Dix and Dwight were later arrested in Milwaukee and returned to Kensington. This writer has found no record of legal proceedings against any of those connected to the bank. Not all researchers malign Dix and Dwight for their actions. Some historians believe they were making a last ditch attempt to salvage the bank if possible with new assets from other areas.

Prior to the closing of the bank construction had begun for a small brick building, with white columns supporting the portico at the front, for the use of this banking company. This building was used by the Wesleyan Methodist Church until 1920. For some time farm tools were put up in the building and a local postmaster used it as a storage shed for a while. In September, 1931, the remaining walls were leveled. In August, 1946, the ground breaking ceremony was held for the Kensington Metro Park. Travelers on I-96 unknowingly pass the site each day in 1992. (By Marieanna Bair. To be continued.)



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