



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. XII No. 4

Brighton, MI 48116
April, 1993

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

Pres.	Marieanna Bair	229-6402
V.P.	Cathy Qualls	229-8656
Sec.	Ricci Bandkau	227-7664
Treas.	Marge White	227-3968

DIRECTORS

Dave Barton - Hist. Resource	229-5213
Chuck Beach	229-9678
Nancy Fredenburg - Membership	229-9100
Gary McCririe - Old Town Hall	229-2191
Ron Morey - Program Chairman	227-7281

Ethel Gebben - Cir. Mgr.	227-5375
John Linahan - Pers. Deliv.	229-8777
Heidi Newman - History Book	995-2613
Anne Stratigos - Oral History	229-5689
Herb Warner - Lyons School	229-6504

GENERAL MEETINGS

RECAP: Many attending the Antique Appraisal program at the March General Meeting were pleasantly surprised to learn the probably market value of some of the items they brought. We learned that condition of the item, historic significance, what's 'in', and the market for your item determined the cash value.

The May General Meeting will consider Victorian Gardening: garden plans, pest control, seed varieties and storage and preservation techniques are the items presently planned to receive attention.

??? DEWEYVILLE ???

At the turn of the century Deweyville was a post office name in Livingston County. Can a Trail Tales reader tell us where it was located? Contact Dave Barton, 229-5213. You will be acclaimed "Historian of the Month"!

DATES TO REMEMBER

- April 3, 9-11 a.m. Board workshop. Interested? Contact Marieanna, 229-6402.
- 8, 7 p.m. Board meeting, 202 W. Main, upstairs. Welcome.
- 10, 9-11 a.m. Archives Committee, 202 W. Main, upstairs. Welcome.
- 16-17, 35th Annual Conference on Local History. WSU, Detroit.
- 24, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Museum Planning Workshop, Hartland.
- May 1, 10-12:30 p.m. Michigan Oral History Council roundtable, Chelsea.
- 2, 10-5 p.m. Genealogy & History Book Fair, Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. P.O. Box 18144, Lansing 48901.
- 11, 7:30 p.m. General Meeting, 1st Presbyterian Church, 300 E. Grand River, Victorian Gardening.

SOCIETY BOARD WORKSHOP

April 3, 9-11 a.m., the third board workshop will be held, at Anne Stratigos' home. Fund raising will be the main topic of discussion. Board members, committee chairmen and any interested persons are invited.

LCGS AWARDED PIONEER CERTIFICATES

Were your ancestors residents of Livingston County in 1880 or earlier? The Livingston County Genealogical Society has a Pioneer Certificate for you if you qualify. Send a business size, self-addressed, stamped envelope to LCGS, Box 1973, Howell 48844 for the application.

Patron: Patrick & Marlene Fonseca (CA).

Couples/Indiv: Lorna & Bob Durand, Carol Hills, Ray & Linda Potter, Fred Schiller.

Since the Society was organized in 1981, dues paying members have been the main source of income for administering its affairs. Its financial base is rooted in the philanthropy of its members. The board recognizes your dues as confirmation of its efforts and continues to work in response to your endorsement. Your pride in this organization is important to its continued existence.

"MICHIGAN'S VICTORIAN SECRETS"

The annual Michigan Historic Commission Day, March 5, at the Michigan Historical Museum and Archives was attended by Dave Barton and Marieanna Bair. Celebrating its 80th birthday this year, the Commission replaced the Michigan Historical Pioneer Society which began, in 1874, to compile the early history of our state. Workshops were attended, state archives toured, local resources defined and a reception and preview tour of the latest permanent exhibit (Growing Up in Michigan, 1880-1895) in the museum visited.

By mid 1994 the museum will tell the entire story of Michigan through the late 20th century. Automotive, farming, urbanization, the Depression, workers and unions, war related and industrial type items are needed to complete the exhibits. Contact Rose Victory, 517/373-1509.

35th ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON LOCAL HISTORY

April 16 & 17 at the McGregor Memorial Conference Center, Wayne State University, Detroit. Topics relating to local history research, archives, architecture, oral history, genealogy and archaeology are among the many presented.

The sympathies of the Society are extended to the families of Jesse McDonnell and Velma Farmer on their recent deaths. Both these ladies were born in Brighton of early settlers in the area.

Judy Enright for a colored picture post card of "Fitch" (Main) Street pre 1900. any more out there? We have room in the archives. Needed is a picture of the Rialto Theater which was on Main Street.

Ron Morey, Chuck Beach, Cathy Qualls and Nancy Fredenberg for their help with the Society's booth at the Community Fair.

WE NEED.....

...someone to schedule members to man the Society booth at the Annual Folk Art Festival August 14-15. Publicity for the Society is the major result of our efforts.

CONFERENCE ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Saturday, April 24, 9:30 a.m., sponsored by the Genesee County Historical Society, at the Masonic Temple, 755 S. Saginaw Street, Flint.

Included are: a tour and presentation on the Temple; information on the "Michigan Historic Preservation Network" and the "Michigan State Historic Preservation Office"; "Restoring Historic Homes"; "Moving Historic Resources"; tours of St. Paul's Episcopal church and the Pater-son Office Building/Factory and Houses will precede a 3:30 p.m. reception. \$10 registration fee to Genesee County Historical Society, P.O. Box 453, Flint 48501. 313/767-7310.

ORAL HISTORY

May 1, 10-12:30, McKune Library, Chelsea; the fourth in a series of roundtable discussions hosted by the Michigan Oral History Council.

ARCHIVES: 9-11 a.m., 2nd Saturday of each month, upstairs, 202 W. Main. Sorting pictures and records, indexing publications, recording donations, etc., keeps this group busy. Come and help when you can.

1874 saw the beginning of the "Michigan Pioneer and Historical Collections" publication. In 1913 the Michigan Historical Commission took over this work and published a 6"x9" $\frac{1}{4}$ ly. In 1978 this publication took the form of an 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "x11' bi-monthly. Persons who have any of these publications are asked to donate them to the Society.

(For more information on items in this issue, please contact Marieanna Bair, 229-6402.)

RESOURCE COMMITTEE

From Where Come the Funds?

To continue the Society's restoration work on the Lyons School, the Old Town Hall, the buggy, etc., also developing an Oral History program and worth while archives, it is necessary that financial resources be available.

One means of accomplishing this is to accept direct donations. Others are the spaghetti supper, bake sales, raffles, etc. To conduct a raffle a worthwhile item is necessary. In the past members have donated hand made wooden toys, quilts, a doll house, etc. Give this some thought and contact Marieanna Bair 229-6402, if you can contribute.

Also needed is someone to be in charge of this project. The Board cannot do a good job of anything if asked to cover too many projects. If you can do one short term project (such as a raffle) it will make things better for all.

Signature Quilt: You'll find almost 150 signatures on the Quilt. Is your's there? Send it with a \$10 donation (income tax deductible) to the Society. Or let the Society select a signature of an early settler from its files.

Tiles: Since 1984 the Society has annually prepared a tile with a local scene. The 1992 tile, St. Paul's Episcopal Church is available at Society Bank and Uber's Drugs. Or call the Dick Davis' at 229-8494. Anyone have a picture of the Rialto for this year?

The Michigan Historic Preservation Network is dedicated to the preservation of our architectural heritage. This is done by revitalizing city neighborhoods, establishing rural districts, adapting existing buildings to uses for today. If you believe the Society should be a part of this Network, consider paying the \$35. annual dues. Thanks.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Treasurer's Report
Board Meeting - March 11, 1993

February 1, 1993	Beginning Balance				\$39614.93
RECEIPTS					
General Fund					
Dues: 1991	1 @ 7. = 7.				
1992			2@ 12. = 24.		
1993	2@ 2. = 4., 13 @ 7. = 91., 14@ 12. = 168,		9@ 25. = 225.		
1994	1 @ 7. = 7.,		2@ 12. = 24, 1@ 25. = 25.		
					Total = \$575.00
Historic Preservation and Restoration Fund					
Resource Committee					
	Signature Quilt (Rohrabacher)		\$ 10.00		
	Donations		3.00		
	Interest				
	Checking Account 1-31-93	2.63			
	Savings " 1-25-93	8.94			
	CDS 2-25-93	212.32			
			223.89	236.89	811.89
					40426.82
DISBURSEMENTS					
General Fund					
	Newsletter: postage	55.55			
	printing	155.00	210.55		
	Adm: Post Office Box Rent	35.00		245.55	
Historic Preservation and-Restoration Fund					
Resource Committee					
	Buggy restoration	2845.00			
	Tile shp. chg.	3.48		2848.48	
	Lyons School Utilities		12.01		3106.04
February 28, 1993	TOTAL NET WORTH				\$37320.78
	Check Acct. Bal. (2-28-93)	669.70			
	Sav. " " (2-28-93)	2651.08			
	Total in CDS (2-28-93)	34000.00			
	Marieanna Bair, Treas. Pro Tem				\$37320.78

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 \$2. Student (K-12, College)
- \$25. Business/Professional
- \$12. Couple
- \$ 7. Individual
- Brighton Area Historical Society
P.O. Box 481, Brighton, MI 48116

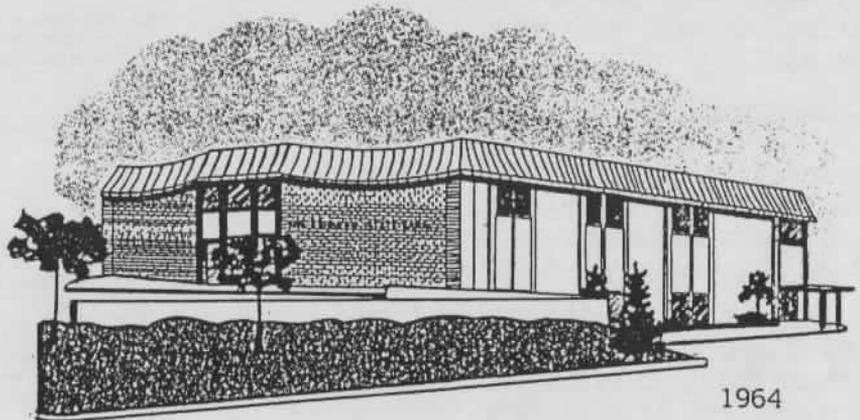
BANKING IN THE BRIGHTON AREA (Cont.)

In 1960 the Brighton State Bank's first annex, housing the Installment Loan Center, was opened across the street at 317 W. Main. The 1951 addition to the original building was already proving to be inadequate for housing the bank's business.

August, 1963, saw the first branch of the expanding bank opened in nearby Hamburg in a mobile office on M-36 in a shopping center. Also that year, prior to construction of a new banking facility, the original building was sold to the city of Brighton for use as a city hall and police department for \$20,000. After 53 years the main office was to be moved from its original site next to the mill pond. Construction of a new main office in 1964, at 300 W. North Street, continued the expansion program and ushered in other major changes. Located on the hill above the filled in valley, through which Ore Creek flows by way of a tube under the neighboring city parking lot, the building has been described as a 'contemporary brick and glass interpretation' with a 'flare of French Regency', 'capped with gold anodized aluminum'. Two drive in windows were a significant innovation of the times.

Other expansion changes included the opening of more branches: 1967, Highland; 1969, Island Lake (an A-frame); 1972, Brighton Mall; 1979, Pinckney (closed December, 1987); 1988 Clarkston and 1989, Ann Arbor.

In 1985 increased activity necessitated a significant enlargement of the main office. That year changes of a business nature included joining Pacesetter Financial Corporation, a merger with Old Kent Financial Corporation and a name change to Old Kent Bank of Brighton. That year's remodeling of the physical structure included the first ActionBank 24 Machine installed at the main office and their subsequent appearance at all branches. (By Marieanna Bair. To be continued.)



1964

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