



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.

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BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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DATES TO REMEMBER

- *APR. 9, 9-11 A.M. ARCHIVES.
- ** 16, STAINED GLASS TOUR.
- * 25, 7:30 P.M. SOCIETY BOARD MEETING. MEMBERS WELCOME.
- MAY 13. 2ND ANNUAL MICHIGAN ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE CONFERENCE. IONIA.
- ** 23,24: MICHIGAN ARCHIVAL ASSOCIATION MEETING AND WORKSHOPS.
- 21-28: MICHIGAN WEEK
- * AT OLD TOWN HALL, 202 W. MAIN ST.
- ** SEE RELATED ARTICLE. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANY OF THE ABOVE, CALL M. BAIR, 229-6402.

EDITORIAL

ALTHO' THE SOCIETY ENJOYS AN ACTIVE BOARD, VOLUNTEERS ARE NECESSARY TO FULFILL THE PURPOSES OF THE ORGANIZATION. A MEMBERSHIP PERSON TO KEEP RECORDS IN ORDER; A PUBLICITY PERSON TO PROMOTE THE VARIOUS PROJECTS AND EVENTS; NEWSLETTER EDITOR OR CO EDITOR; A FUND RAISING CHAIRMAN; LYONS SCHOOL HELPERS, ETC., ARE JUST SOME OF THE PLACES YOU CAN FILL. CONTACT PRES. BAIR OR ANY BOARD MEMBER. YOU'LL FIND IT SATISFYING AND REWARDING.

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MICHIGAN STAINED GLASS SURVEY

THE SURVEY OF ARCHITECTURAL STAINED GLASS, SPONSORED BY THE MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY MUSEUM, IS PRESENTING TWO PROGRAMS AND TOURS APRIL 16, DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM, MAY 7, IN CLINTON.

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MICHIGAN HISTORICAL MUSEUM SEEKS YOUR HOME MOVIES

LOOKING FOR A LARGER AUDIENCE TO SCREEN YOUR HOME MOVIES? THE MICHIGAN HISTORICAL MUSEUM IN LANSING IS SEARCHING FOR CERTAIN OLDER HOME MOVIES TO INCLUDE IN ITS 20TH CENTURY EXHIBITS. HOME MOVIES, PORTRAYING LIFE IN THE 1920S HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO MAKE THE 1920S MORE PERSONAL AND THE MUSEUM EXHIBITS MORE ENGAGING FOR VISITORS. OPENING IN JANUARY, 1995, THIS EXHIBIT WILL COMPLETE THE STORY OF MICHIGAN FROM THE ICE AGE TO THE PRESENT. MOVIES SHOWING TOWNS, VEHICULAR TRAFFIC, VARIOUS ACTIVITIES AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS, THE ARRIVAL OF IMMIGRANTS, DELIVERY VEHICLES, ETC., ARE ESPECIALLY DESIRABLE. CONTACT: DENISE YOCKEY, 517/373-2520

1994 MEMBERSHIPS 1994

PATRON: BERNIE & BONNIE CORRIGAN, WHITNEY & JUNE KIMBLE, TOM & AUDREY LEITH, JOAN RICE (CA).

COUPLES/INDIV: DON & RICCI BANDKAU, HEATHER BANDKAU, HEIDI BANDKAU, FLORENCE CHASE (FLVL), HOMER & EVELYN DOTHAGER (IL), NANCY FREDENBERG (95), DOROTHY HARTMAN, ROYDEN & DOROTHY JONES, MERRILL & RUTH HERBST, BILL & BARBARA MCCRIE, RON & JILL MOREY, DOROTHY MUSCH, ALICE NEWCOMB (95), IRENE PAQUETTE, JOHN PARK (BERKLEY, 96), FRED SCHILLER, MARGARET SIFORD (95).

THE FINE RECORD OF RENEWAL OF ANNUAL DUES MAKES THE SOCIETY BOARD FEEL THEY'RE DOING SOMETHING RIGHT.

PAYMENT OF PATRON DUES HELPS ASSURE THE SOCIETY'S CONTINUED EXISTENCE. DUES PAY THE ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES OF THE SOCIETY - THEREFORE ALL DONATIONS CAN GO INTO THE PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION FUND.

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MICHIGAN ARCHIVAL ASSOCIATION MEETING AND WORKSHOPS

MEETING AT MACKINAC ISLAND, WORKSHOPS WILL INCLUDE:

1. INTRODUCTION TO ARCHIVES.
2. AUDIO RECORDINGS IN ARCHIVES.
3. ARCHITECTURAL RECORDS.

CONTACT M. BAIR, 229-6402, FOR MORE INFORMATION. REG. DEADLINE IS MAY 5.

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CENTER FOR TEACHING MICHIGAN HISTORY

THE BEST OF TEACHING MICHIGAN CONTEST RESULTED IN THE PUBLICATION OF "IMMEDIATELY MICHIGAN" A 100 PAGE COLLECTION OF OVER 30 K-12 LESSON PLANS. AVAILABLE FROM THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN FOR \$18. 313/769-2490 FOR ORDERING INFO. ALSO THE 94 EDITION OF "RESOURCES FOR TEACHING MICHIGAN HISTORY" FOR \$7.80.

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APOLOGIES FOR THE LATENESS OF THIS MONTH'S TRAIL TALES. YOUR EDITOR HAS BEEN WINNING THE BATTLE AGAINST PNEUMONIA. SHE'S WELL ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY. THANKS TO ALL WELL WISHERS. MARIEANNA BAIR

PRESERVATION & RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: EACH 2ND SATURDAY, 9-11 A.M., AND SEVERAL OTHER DAYS DURING THE MONTH, YOU'LL FIND US REVIEWING AND DECIDING HOW BEST TO FILE THE LETTERS, BOOKS, PICTURES AND SIMILAR MEMORABILIA. ARCHIVAL FILING MATERIALS HAVE BEEN PURCHASED. JOIN THE GROUP OR CALL MARIEANNA BAIR, 229-6402, IF YOU'D LIKE TO COME AT ANOTHER TIME.

MICRO FILMING OF 1-3-1900/12-25-1918 AND 1-7-1920/12-11-1929 ISSUES OF THE BRIGHTON ARGUS IS COMPLETED. THE BILL WAS \$816.18. DONATIONS CAN BE MADE TO COVER THIS COST. NEWSPAPER DOES NOT HAVE A LONG STORAGE LIFE. IT IS APPROPRIATE FOR THE SOCIETY TO CREATE THIS ARCHIVAL RESOURCE.

THANKS TO ANNE STRATIGOS FOR HER DONATIONS OF PICTURE AND PAPER MEMORABILIA.

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY: YEARS AGO THE BAPTIST CHURCH WAS LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF MADISON AND 2ND STREET IN TOWN. CONTACT DAVE BARTON, 229-5213, OR MARIEANNA IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT HELP. OR TO GET STARTED ON A SURVEY OF YOUR ROAD OR AREA.

LYONS SCHOOL: NEIGHBOR JIM VICHICH HAS ACCEPTED THE POSITION OF "SUPERVISOR" REGARDING THE MANY PHYSICAL PHASES OF RESTORATION ON THE SCHOOL, 11455 BUNO RD. JIM IS CHECKING WITH CONTRACTORS REGARDING GETTING BIDS ON PROVIDING HEAT, PLUMBING, ELECTRICITY, ETC. TO PROVIDE SECURITY FOR THE NEW WINDOWS EXTERIOR SHUTTERS ARE PLANNED. ESTIMATED COSTS EXCEED \$2000. HERB WARNER IS THE HISTORIC RESOURCE PERSON WHO IS ADVISING ON THE RESTORATION. FREE PHYSICAL LABOR WILL HELP CONTAIN COSTS. CONTACT MARIEANNA BAIR, 229-6402, WITH YOUR OFFER.

WORDING FOR THE MARKER IS FINALIZED. IT'S ON ITS WAY ALONG THE PROPER MICHIGAN HISTORY DIVISION CHANNELS PRIOR TO THE CASTING OF THE MARKER. A WALL MOUNTED MARKER IS BEING CONSIDERED - APPROX \$1200. A DEDICATION PROGRAM IS PLANNED. WOULDN'T IT BE NICE TO HOLD A REUNION OF ALUMNI AT THAT TIME? DONATIONS TO THE MARKER FUND CAN STILL BE SENT TO THE SOCIETY. ALSO DONATIONS TO THE RESTORATION. WISH LIST: EARLY STYLE DESKS, RECITATION BENCH, LIGHTING FIXTURES, ETC.

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TRIVIA

The area's first bank was organized in Kensington, December 12, 1837.

Brighton's first bank was organized by B.H. Lawson, 1871

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

NEEDLEPOINT KITS: PATTERN ONLY OR WITH YARN, OF THE OLD TOWN HALL, CAN BE PURCHASED FROM THE QUILTER'S SHOPPE, 213 W. MAIN AT \$3 & \$8.

PICTURES: ENLARGED, MOUNTED PHOTOS OF THE MILL POND, ONE FROM THE NORTH C.1940, ONE OF THE MILL RACE C. 1935, ARE AT UBER'S DRUGS. WHEN YOU SEE THEM YOU'LL WANT ONE OF EACH.

POST CARDS: PACKETS OF 6, TWO SETS, OF EARLY BRIGHTON SCENES, ARE ALSO AT UBER'S AND AT THE BOOK NOOK, 322 W. MAIN.

SALE: A SPRING YARD SALE IS PLANNED AT LYONS SCHOOL. ITEMS OF AN HISTORICAL TYPE ARE MOST WANTED. WE CAN'T ACCEPT CLOTHING OR BOOKS. ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARD THE SCHOOL RESTORATION FUND. DONATIONS ARE INCOME TAX DEDUCTIBLE. CALL RICCI BANDKAU, 227-7664, WITH YOUR QUESTIONS, NEED OF TRANSPORTATION, ETC. THE DATE WILL BE SET SOON. KEEP THE SOCIETY IN MIND WHEN CLEANING OR MOVING.

SIGNATURE QUILT: IS ONE SIGNATURE RICHER. DAVE BARTON HAS INCLUDED HIS FRIEND, ANDY ROBERTSON, AS A MEMORIAL. SIGNATURES OF OTHER EARLY BRIGHTON RESIDENTS ARE AVAILABLE IF YOU DON'T HAVE ONE OF YOUR OWN. ALL RECEIPTS, \$10., GO INTO THE RESTORATION FUND FOR PRESERVATION PURPOSES.

TILES: OFFERED BY THE SOCIETY AT UBER'S DRUGS, SOCIETY BANK AND SOMEWHERE IN TIME, 316 W. MAIN; 1986 UNION SCHOOL, 1987 WESTERN HOUSE, 1988 LYONS SCHOOL, 1989 EASTERN HOUSE, 1990 MELLUS HOSPITAL, 1991, STATE POLICE POST, 1992 ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1993 BRIGHTON MILLS. \$8. EACH, 3/\$21.



Located on the hill overlooking the mill pond, St. Paul's Episcopal Church was built in 1881, patterned after a church in England. Worship services, conducted by Rev. Wm. A. Clark, D.D., of New York, have been held since 1837, making St. Paul's one of the earliest congregations. Meetings were held in members' homes. A Parish Hall has been added as well as major renovation in 1991-1992.

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
 \$2. Student (K-12, College)
 Brighton Area Historical Society
 P.O. Box 481, Brighton, MI 48116-0481

BRIGHTON AREA FARMERS: FROM BEEF TO DAIRY c. 1960 (CONCLUDED)

DEPENDING ON THE NUMBER OF MILKING COWS IN A HERD AT A GIVEN TIME, A STAINLESS STEEL TANKER IS DRIVEN TO THE DAIRY FARM EACH 24-48 HOURS AND, AFTER TESTING FOR PURITY, DRAWS OFF THE MILK WHICH HAS BEEN ACCUMULATED BY THE FARMER. THESE TANKERS, RANGING IN SIZE FROM 15,000 TO 20,000 GALLONS (8.8# PER GALLON), TRANSPORT THE MILK TO A DISTANT MILK PROCESSING FACILITY. MUCH OF THE MILK PRODUCED IN THE COUNTY IS DELIVERED TO THE MICHIGAN MILK DEPOT IN PLYMOUTH.

IT IS OBVIOUS MANY CHANGES HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THE FARMING BUSINESS IN THE COUNTY. IN 1967 THERE WERE 284 DAIRY FARMERS, BY 1971, 191. IN 1994 THAT TOTAL IS DOWN TO 32. ALREADY IN 1967 THERE WERE NO DAIRY FARMS IN GREEN OAK AND BRIGHTON TOWNSHIPS. MOST DAIRY FARMS ARE NOW FOUND IN THE NORTHERN TIER OF TOWNSHIPS. HERD SIZE HAS ALSO CHANGED. RANGING FROM 20-500 HEAD THEY AVERAGE 96 HEAD OF CATTLE - UP FROM AN AVERAGE OF 30 IN 1960. THE NEED OF COSTLY EQUIPMENT IS THERE WHETHER FOR 30, 60 OR 100. SIMPLE ECONOMICS DECREES THAT THE MORE CATTLE THE LOWER THE UNIT COST. THE CAPITAL INVESTMENT INVOLVED IN STARTING ANY FARMING BUSINESS PRECLUDES ALL BUT THOSE WHO ARE BEQUEATHED A FARM BY PARENTS. AS MORE PEOPLE MOVE INTO THE AREA THE FARMER FINDS HIS LAND ASSESSED AT HIGHER RATES. MOST FIND IT FINANCIALLY UNFEASIBLE TO CONTINUE.

PERHAPS TO ENSURE THAT A FARMER'S LIFE IS NOT WITHOUT A FEW DISTURBING FEATURES, MOTHER NATURE STIRS THE POT. ONE SUCH TIME WAS MARCH, 1973. A SEVERE SNOW STORM CLOSED ROADS FOR DAYS AND CAUSED SOME TO LOSE ELECTRICAL POWER. UNLESS ONE HAD A GENERATOR HANDY, THIS WAS A DOUBLE WHAMMY. WITHOUT ELECTRICITY COWS HAD TO BE MILKED BY HAND (THEY MUST BE MILKED REGULARLY); DOZENS OF THEM. HOWEVER, AFTER ALL THAT WORK, THE MILK HAD TO BE DUMPED FOR SEVERAL DAYS UNTIL THE TANKER COULD GET THROUGH TO PICK IT UP. NCR COULD THE MILK BE PROPERLY COOLED OR PUMPED FROM THE BULK TANK TO THE MILK TRUCK. EVEN THOSE WHO HAD POWER TO CONTINUE NORMAL MILKINGS (2-3 TIMES DAILY) ALSO HAD TO DUMP SEVERAL MILKINGS DOWN THE DRAIN BECAUSE OF THE SNOW BLOCKED ROADS.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE; THE STORY IS TOLD OF THE OLD FARMER WHO HOARDED HIS MILK CHECKS, NOT CASHING THEM FOR SEVERAL MONTHS. THIS BOTHERED THE BOOKKEEPER AT THE MILK FACTORY WHEN HE BALANCED HIS ACCOUNTS, BUT THE FARMER WOULDN'T RESPOND TO HIS APPEALS. A NEIGHBOR HEARD ABOUT IT AND TOLD THE BOOKKEEPER HE COULD GET HIM TO CASH THEM BECAUSE THE FARMER LISTENED IN ON THE PARTY TELEPHONE LINE. THAT NEIGHBOR AND ANOTHER FEIGNED A CONVERSATION. "HAVE YOU CASHED YOUR MILK CHECK YET?" "No." "YOU BETTER NOT WASTE TIME, BECAUSE I HEARD IN TOWN THAT THE FACTORY MIGHT NOT HAVE THE MONEY IN THE BANK FOR ALL THE CHECKS." THE OLD FARMER WAS WAITING AT THE BANK DOOR BEFORE IT OPENED THE NEXT MORNING. (COMPILED FROM: "MICHIGAN MEMORABILIA" BY BILL PLESS; "PRACTICAL HOME VETERINARIAN, 1913, DAVID ROBERTS, DVS; INTERVIEWS WITH MARY TAYLOR, CLARENCE TAYLOR, A.J. SOUTHWELL, ALICE NEWCOMB, FRED CATRELL AND JOHN LEECH, COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENT. ALSO NEWSPAPER ARTICLES BY ANDREW AND CLAUDINE JACKSON AND DUANE GIRBACH.)

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