



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. XIII, No. 3

Brighton, MI 48116
March, 1994

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

Pres.	Marieanna Bair	229-6402
V.P.	Cathy Qualls	229-8656
Sec.	Ron Morey	227-7281
Treas.	Marge White	227-3968

DIRECTORS

Dave Barton - Hist. Res. Survey	229-5213
Chuck Beach	229-9678
Chris Fazekas - Oral History	229-8772
Nancy Fredenburg - Oral History	229-9100
Gary McCririe - Old Town Hall	229-2191

Ricci Bandkau - Home Tour	227-7664
Ethel Gebben - Cir. Mgr.	227-5375
John Linahan - Pers. Deliv.	229-8777
Heidi Newman - History Book	995-2613
Anne Stratigos - Hospitality	229-5689
Herb Warner - Lyons School	229-6504

GENERAL MEETING MARCH 8

The Society will meet March 8, 7:30p.m., at the Miller Intergenerational Center, 850 Spencer Road.

The Michigan Capitol Committee and the Friends of the Capitol, Inc., began the process of restoration of Michigan's historic state capitol building over 10 years ago.

An award-winning video was produced at the beginning of the three year project which explores the history of the building and why the restoration was important. Rarely-seen historic photos and how the restoration was undertaken are included. Photos and other memorabilia will be available.

The public is welcome. Bring a friend.

+ + + + +

HAPPY 160th BIRTHDAY BRIGHTON!

In 1834 the Maltby brothers built a saw mill on Ore Creek in the vicinity of Third Street. (There was no Third Street at the time, of course.) By 1838 the name of Brighton was recorded in the records for the area in Section 31 of Brighton Township.

In the depths of the Depression a 100th anniversary was celebrated. In 1967 a 100th anniversary observed the chartering of the Village. 1994 marks the 160th anniversary of the Maltby's enterprising efforts.

+ + + + +

DATES TO REMEMBER

- **Mar. 5, 9-1 p.m. Community Fair at Brighton
- ** 8, 7:30 p.m. General Meeting at Miller School, 850 Spencer.
- * 12, 9-11 a.m. Work at Archives.
- ** 19-20, 1-4 p.m. Quilt Show, Ann Arbor.
- ** 20, 4-6 p.m. Green oak Township Historical Society General Meeting.
- ** 27, Michigan Antiquarian Book and Paper Show, Lansing.
- * 28, 7:30 p.m. Society Board Meeting.
- *Apr. 6, 7:30 Regional Historical Societies meeting, Canton

*At Old Town Hall, 202 W. Main. Members welcome.

**See related article.

Bus/Prof: The Book Nook.

Patron: Erv & Dot Bandkau, Dr. Harry & Carol Davis, Val & Kathy Jacoby (FL), Bob & Ruth Watson (Howell).

Couple/Indiv: Bill & Jacque Armstrong, Bert & Marieanna Bair, Wayne & Sally Baldwin (Gr. Rapids, 95), Dave Barton, B.T.O. Clark (Shepard), Bill & Marianne Comiskey, Libby Eisenhardt, Joe & Irene Ellis, Bob & Betsy Herbst, Ronald & Jane Owens, Scott Owens, Marty & Lee Pawlak (S. Lyon), John & Dorothy Pennala, Betty Polaske, Celia Schaffer, Alice Seger (FL), Ed & Connie Sherman, Margaret Squire (94/95), Dr. Gerald & Eva Whalen (Frankenmuth), Bill & Charmaine Zink.

Your patience with the membership and labeling people, also newsletter editor, is gratefully received. If an error occurs please do not hesitate to contact a board member to make the correction.

Trail Tales should be sent to those interested in the history of the area. Send us the address of someone you think might care to receive the newsletter.

If you've been receiving the newsletter for a year or more consider sending in dues to help with expenses. Periodically the mailing list must be reviewed with an eye to send it to persons who are truly interested in supporting the Society and its efforts and goals.

+ + + + +

SPRING MEETING, APRIL 6

Local Teachers Especially Take Note!

The Regional Historical Societies will meet in Canton. The Canton Historical Society will be our hosts. A 6-7:15 p.m. tour of the Museum on Cherry Hill will be available. At 7:30, sharp, the meeting will begin at the restored Cherry Hill School house on Canton Center Road. Virginia Parker will present "Hooked on History"; the need to develop programs for public schools on local history.

Then Joan Palmer: "How to Make a Book".

Society representatives attend these meetings and learn from each other. Join us.

+ + + + +

TRIVIA

Brighton's Main Street was paved in 1924.

ARCHIVES: Microfilming Completed.

Twenty-three years of early Brighton Arguses have been recorded on micro film. The originals were donated to the Society by Milton Charboneau. When that bill has been paid we'll be ready for another 20 years of issues. Donations anyone? Now we'll need a microfilm reader. Until then the originals will be available for reference to those conducting research.

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY: Highway construction and interchanges, malls and commercial construction, G.M. Proving Grounds, school acreage, aggregate mining, parkland, subdivisions, etc., have all contributed to the loss of early area homes, one room schools, barns, etc.

Many of those remaining are in various states of remodeling or restoration. Some of this work has severely affected the exterior architectural integrity of the structure, i.e. windows of incorrect size and number of lights, loss of window and door trim due to installation of aluminum or vinyl siding. Additions of an incompatible style, finish or color; a roof of inappropriate color, poor exterior color choice and landscaping of a modern design all detract from the original appearance of the building.

A survey of remaining early structures, including pictures, location, etc., should be undertaken a.s.a.p. Contact Dave Barton, 229-5213 or Marieanna Bair, 229-6402, and take responsibility for those along, perhaps, one road. Brighton-born, Betsy Herbst, has volunteered to begin surveying Pleasant Valley Road in Brighton Township. You should consider helping with this project also.

Trail Tale readers who have an abstract are encouraged to share this material with the Society. Copies can be made.

+ + + + +

SOCIETY ADDRESS CHANGE

"To ensure accurate and timely delivery" the Post Office has added a four digit number to the Society's zip code - 0481. It should be noted the last three digits are the same as the Society box number. Shouldn't be too difficult to remember.

+ + + + +

TILES: 1993 and earlier tiles are available at Uber's Drugs, Society Bank and Somewhere in Time. Shortly a scene for the 1994 tile will be determined. Call a Board member with your suggestion.

POST CARDS: Available at the Book Nook and Uber's these cards are pictures of early Brighton scenes.

SIGNATURE QUILT: There's still room for signatures to be embroidered on the quilt fund raiser Send your, or someone else's, with a \$10. donation and it'll be included.

!!! HELP NEEDED !!!

A person to handle publicity for the events and projects of the Society is needed.

Writing press releases and contacting the various area media are the main responsibilities.

Also a membership person. Record dues, send receipts and cards are the main tasks.

Your reward? A lot of grateful people and knowing you've filled an important position. Contact Pres. Bair, 229-6402.

MICHIGAN HISTORICAL MUSEUM NEEDS YOU

Scheduled to open in 1995 the museum still needs items to complete its 1960s and 1970s galleries.

A Kmart blue light, Peace Corps-related items, tie-dyed shirts, love beads, Green Beret items etc., etc.; would help complete the 1960s gallery.

The 1970s gallery could use deer camp items, books by Robt. Traver and Fred Baer, Michigan Outdoors magazines, duck stamp artwork, Chris Craft and Gar Wood classic boat artifacts.

To donate these items or learn other needs write Museum Collections, 717 W. Allegan, Lansing, MI 48910-1800 or call 517/373-1559

BRIGHTON COMMUNITY FAIR

The Society will again have a booth at the Fair. held at the high school it is an opportunity for the public to become acquainted with the many organizations in the area. These all make a contribution to the quality of life.

GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEETS MARCH 20, 1994

A program on the Ore Creek Settlement will be presented by Marieanna Bair. The meeting, 4-6 p.m., will be at the Green oak Township Hall, 10789 Silver Lake Road. Early pictures of the area will be on display. The public is welcome.

GENEALOGY & HISTORY BOOK FAIR

Sunday, March 27, 10-5 p.m., at the Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. A must for researchers, collectors, instructors, librarians, history buffs, etc. Military histories, cook books, research/reference guides, genealogy/family histories, biographies, foreign language dictionaries, atlases, maps, charts, etc., will be available.

QUILT SHOW IN ANN ARBOR

March 19-20, 1-4 p.m., a benefit quilt show in and for historic 1853 Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Forty antique and modern quilts will be displayed by the Faculty Women's Quilt Section. \$2. at the door.

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 Brighton Area Historical Society

 \$ 7. Individual P.O. Box 481, Brighton, MI 48116

BRIGHTON AREA FARMERS: FROM BEEF TO DAIRY c. 1900 (CONT.)

SIXTY AND MORE YEARS AGO FARMS HAD LESS ACREAGE AND A MORE DIVERSIFIED PRODUCT: GRAINS, HAY, LIVESTOCK, BEANS, POTATOES, WOOL, APPLES AND MILK PROVIDED THE INCOME. THE ECONOMY OF THE AREA WAS ENTIRELY DEPENDENT ON THE 'OUTSIDE MONEY' FARMERS EARNED. IT USED TO BE SAID "IF YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING ELSE, FARM." HOWEVER FARMS ARE NOW SEVERAL HUNDRED ACRES IN SIZE. MOST ARE SPECIALIZED AND THE EQUIPMENT USED MUCH MORE SOPHISTICATED AND EXPENSIVE. WHATEVER HIS SPECIALTY THE FARMER NOW MUST HAVE A GOOD KNOWLEDGE OF CHEMISTRY, ANIMAL GENETICS, ANIMAL AND PLANT DISEASE, AND BE AN AMATEUR METEOROLOGIST. THE WISDOM REQUIRED BY THE FINANCIER, AGRONOMIST AND MECHANIC IS NO STRANGER TO A SUCCESSFUL FARMER. THE CONSIDERATION OF DIVERSIFICATION INTO OTHER PROFIT MAKING VENTURE, TO CREATE ADDITIONAL INCOME, AND SOIL CONSERVATION ARE ALSO CONTEMPLATED BY TODAY'S FARMER.

FOR A DAIRY FARMER BULK MILK TANKS BECAME THE WAY TO GO DURING THE 1950s. DISCARDING THE MILK CANS, WHICH HAD BEEN IN USE FOR OVER 50 YEARS, LIVINGSTON COUNTY FARMERS WERE INSTALLING HUGE STAINLESS STEEL CONTAINERS. THE MILK NOW FLOWS DIRECTLY FROM THE MILKING MACHINE ON THE COW INTO THE TANKS WHERE IT IS QUICKLY COOLED. THE CLEANLINESS OF THE PRODUCT IS INCREASED SINCE THERE IS NO EXPOSURE TO THE AIR.

THE SPREAD OF UNDULANT FEVER (*a long-persisting bacterial disease characterized by an undulating, or remittant, fever, profuse perspiration, pain and swelling in the joints and an enlarged spleen; transmitted especially through milk...Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, fifth edition.*) HAS BEEN REDUCED TO AN ALMOST NON EXISTENT LEVEL BECAUSE OF PASTEURIZATION AND AN IMPROVED CRITERION OF CLEANLINESS IN THE DAIRY PROCESS. C. 1940 THIS DISEASE WAS WIPED OUT OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY WHEN THE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT, AFTER PERSISTENT LOBBYING BY FRED CATRELL, PASSED AN ORDNANCE WHICH REQUIRED THE PASTEURIZATION OF ALL MILK SOLD IN HOWELL. (EVERYONE SELLING MILK SOLD IT IN HOWELL.) PRESENTLY ALL MILK PRODUCTS, SOLD COMMERCIALY, CAN BE CONSUMED WITHOUT RISK TO ONE'S HEALTH FROM UNDULANT FEVER, RHEUMATIC FEVER, T.B. ETC., BECAUSE OF THE STRICT REGULATIONS WHICH MUST NOW BE OBSERVED.

ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION, PRACTICED BY MOST DAIRY FARMERS IN THE COUNTY, ALSO REDUCES SPREAD OF DISEASE WHICH MIGHT BE PRESENT IN A BARN YARD SINCE COWS AND BULLS ARE NOT MOVED FROM ONE FARM TO ANOTHER FOR BREEDING. (COMPILED BY MARIEANNA BAIR. TO BE CONCLUDED NEXT MONTH.)

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 481
BRIGHTON, MI 48116-0481