



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, MI 48116-0481
JUNE, 1995

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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HISTORY BOOK COMMITTEE FORMED

AT A MAY 1 MEETING IT WAS DECIDED TO CONSIDER THE PREPARATION OF A BOOK DETAILING THE HISTORY OF THE BRIGHTON AREA.

CAROL McMACKEN VOLUNTEERED TO BE CHAIRMAN; SHIRLEY KNIGHT WILL BE HER ASSISTANT.

HOWEVER, MUCH MORE HELP WILL BE NEEDED, MANY COMMITTEES TO BE FORMED, MUCH RESEARCH TO BE DONE, ETC., ETC.

THE FOURTH THURSDAY OF THE MONTH HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AS A MEETING DATE OF THE BOOK COMMITTEE. PERSONS WISHING TO OFFER HELP, PICTURES, DOCUMENTS, ETC., SHOULD CALL CAROL, 231-2957, OR MARIEANNA BAIR, 229-6402.

A NAME FOR THIS BOOK WILL BE NEEDED. ANY SUGGESTIONS?

E. REED FLETCHER WAS AN AVID LOCAL HISTORIAN OF THE AREA IN THE 50s AND 60s. IS A COLLECTION OF HIS WRITINGS AVAILABLE?

DATES TO REMEMBER

- *JUNE 10, 9-11 A.M. ARCHIVES WORK.
- 16-17: MICHIGAN ARCHIVAL ASSOCIATION MEETING, HOPE COLLEGE, HOLLAND, MI. 229-6402 FOR INFO.
- 22, HISTORY BOOK COMMITTEE. 229-6402 FOR INFO.
- 23-24, 46TH ANNUAL U.P. HISTORY CONFERENCE, NEWBERRY. RESV. BY JUNE 9. 313/769-1828.
- * 26, 7:30 P.M., BOARD MEETING.
- JULY 22, 9 A.M./3 P.M., ORAL HISTORY WORKSHOP, BAY VIEW. 517/321-1746.
- SEPT. 16-17, 121ST ANNUAL MEETING AND STATE HISTORY CONFERENCE, MEADOW BROOK HALL, ROCHESTER. HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN, 2117 WASHTENAW AVE., ANN ARBOR 48104.

INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE FLOAT?

THE SOCIETY SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED AS A VIABLE ORGANIZATION IN THE COMMUNITY WITH REPRESENTATION IN THE PARADE.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP? CALL A BOARD MEMBER.

- SEPT. 16-17, MILFORD HOME TOUR.
- 23-24, QUILT SHOW/FOLK ART FAIR, RICHARDSON CENTER AT OAKLEY PARK AND S. COMMERCE RD., COMMERCE TWP. 810/363-0934.
- OCT 14, MICHIGAN ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION FALL CONV., MICHIGAN HISTORY CENTER, 717W. ALLEGAN, LANSING. 517/321-1746

*AT 202 W. MAIN, UPSTAIRS. WELCOME.

PATRON: HAROLD & ESTHER JARVIS (96), TOM & AUDREY LEITH, HUGH & REBECCA MUNCE.

COUPLE/INDIV.: LOIS CLARK (MIDLAND), CAROLINA DELUCA, PAUL & VIRGINIA DELUCA, WALLY & MERILYN JOLLITZ, JACK & BEV LABELLE, DAVE LEHMAN (97), FRED SCHILLER.

THIS SOCIETY HAS A STRONG MEMBERSHIP BASE OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE CONVINCED THE GOALS OF THIS ORGANIZATION ARE IMPORTANT.

MANY BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONAL OFFICES RECEIVE TRAIL TALES. IT IS SENT TO THEM IN THE BELIEF THEY, THEIR CUSTOMERS AND PATIENTS CARE ABOUT THE AREA'S HISTORY AND THE PRESERVATION OF THAT HISTORY. THEIR MEMBERSHIP IS ALSO NECESSARY TO COVER ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES, MAINLY THE PRINTING AND MAILING OF THIS NEWSLETTER. IT IS HOPED THEY WILL CONSIDER THE SOCIETY'S EFFORTS WORTHY OF SUPPORT.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...NORTHVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR DONATION OF A MICROFILM READER. THEY'VE ACQUIRED A READER WITH PRINTING CAPABILITY.

...JOHN FIELD FOR PICKING UP THE MICROFILM READER FROM NORTHVILLE.

...THERESA SWIECICKI, PRESIDENT OF LIVINGSTON CHAPTER EMBROIDERERS GUILD, FOR VOLUNTEERING TO DO EMBROIDERING OF NAMES ON THE SIGNATURE QUILT.

...ANNE STRATIGOS' 6TH GRADE CLASS AT MALTBY MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR PREPARING THE MAY NEWSLETTER FOR MAILING.



6TH GRADE CLASS, MALTBY MIDDLE SCHOOL

ARCHIVES: WITH HELP FROM LONG TERM RESIDENTS, JANICE FIELD, JO HYNE AND ALICE NEWCOMB, MANY PHOTOS ARE BEING IDENTIFIED. (BE SURE THIS IS DONE WITH YOUR OWN PICTURES.) NOTEBOOKS COVERING EARLY ROADS AND STREETS OF THE AREA ARE BEING COMPILED RECORDING THE STRUCTURES WHICH HAVE BEEN LOCATED THERE.

ON A SHEET OF PAPER TRACE YOUR STREET/ROAD NOTING THE STRUCTURES WITH ADDRESSES AND DATES, IF POSSIBLE. SEND TO THE SOCIETY. IT WILL BE A BIG HELP. EARLY DIRECTORIES ARE ALSO IMPORTANT.

132 E. GRAND RIVER, HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION BUILDING: JAIME GREEN REPORTS WORK IS PROGRESSING ON BOTH FLOORS. HBA MEMBERS HAVE BEEN GENEROUS IN THEIR SUPPORT. DONATIONS TO THIS PROJECT ARE MADE THROUGH THE SOCIETY. (5% OF CASH DONATIONS ARE DEDICATED TO THE SOCIETY'S LYONS SCHOOL RESTORATION PROJECT.)

LYONS SCHOOL: JIM VICHICH IS ARRANGING FOR GRASS MOWING FOR THE YEAR. WILL BE WORKING ON GETTING THE FURNACE IN AND TOILET FACILITIES HOOKED UP. NEW GATES HAVE PADLOCKS.

75TH ANNIVERSARY WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

THE 19TH AMENDMENT TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTION GRANTING WOMEN THE RIGHT TO VOTE WAS CERTIFIED AUGUST 26, 1920. THE CAMPAIGN TO SECURE THIS RIGHT TOOK 72 YEARS AND TRULY WAS THE FIRST NONVIOLENT, GRASSROOTS CRUSADE OF THE NEW DEMOCRACY. NONVIOLENCE, UNWAVERING PERSISTENCE AND MULTIFACETED ACTIVITIES WERE THE IMPORTANT CAMPAIGN STRATEGIES. (SHARON MILLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MICHIGAN WOMEN'S COMMISSION)

THE COMMISSION IS A SPONSOR OF "HOW THE SUFFRAGISTS CHANGED MICHIGAN" EXHIBIT AT THE MICHIGAN WOMEN'S HISTORICAL CENTER AND HALL OF FAME, 213 W. MAIN, LANSING. 517/484-1880.

REPRINT COMING

THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS REPRINTING THE "BICENTENNIAL BOOK OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY" NEXT YEAR. IT WILL BE COMPLETELY INDEXED AND A NEW CHAPTER OF EVENTS OF THE PAST 20 YEARS WILL BE INCLUDED. WATCH FOR IT.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

SIGNATURE QUILT: THE SIGNATURES OF SETH B. JACOBS AND HERB TAYLOR WILL BE ADDED COURTESY OF GRAND NIECE MARIAN CARNEY AND CAROLINA IS ADDING HER PARENTS, PAUL AND VIRGINIA DELUCA. A \$10. CONTRIBUTION WILL ENSURE THAT YOUR SIGNATURE OR ANOTHER OF YOUR SELECTION WILL BE ADDED. FUNDS RAISED ARE DESIGNATED TO THE SOCIETY'S PRESERVATION PROJECTS. LET'S KEEP OUR NEW EMBROIDERER, THERESE SWIECICKI, BUSY.

Coverlets, tiles, early pictures of the mill pond, post cards are all available at Uber's Drugs. Post cards may also be purchased at the Book Nook. Somewhere in Time and Society Bank have the tiles on hand. The Society sincerely appreciates the cooperation of these merchants. Write the Society to have these items sent to you.

BRIGHTON AREA TEACHERS

THE CENTER FOR MICHIGAN HISTORY OFFERS A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION, "THE MICHIGAN TEACHER", WHICH IS DEDICATED TO PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN MICHIGAN HERITAGE EDUCATION. WRITE CENTER FOR TEACHING MICHIGAN HISTORY, HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN, 2117 WASHTENAW AVE., ANN ARBOR 48104-4599, FOR MORE INFORMATION. MARIEANNA BAIR HAS THE SPRING 1995 ISSUE FOR YOUR PERUSAL; 229-6402.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER SET

THE BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY INVITES YOU TO ENJOY AN EVENING IN ITALY.

GENERAL CHAIRMAN CAROLINA DELUCA, 546-4518, HAS BEEN ORGANIZING THE VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THIS EVENT. THE DATE IS SEPTEMBER 29, AT THE 1ST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 300 E GRAND RIVER.

DECORATIONS, ENTERTAINMENT, TICKETS, COOKS SERVERS, OH YES, FOOD, ARE AMONG THE MANY DETAILS TO BE HANDLED. GIVE CAROLINA A CALL AND TELL HER YOU WANT TO HELP.

THIS WILL BE A TIME FOR FUN, FOOD AND A FINANCIAL BOOST TO THE SOCIETY'S RESTORATION PROJECTS. VENITE A MANGIARE!

GRAND RAPIDS MUSEUM OPENS

THE NEW WORLD CLASS VAN ANDEL MUSEUM CENTER, 272 PEARL ST., N.W., GRAND RAPIDS, IS READY FOR VISITORS.

SEE AN EARLY 20TH CENTURY FURNITURE FACTORY; NATURAL ENVIRONMENT OF MICHIGAN WITH HANDS ON EXHIBITS FOR ALL AGES; DOWNTOWN GRAND RAPIDS 1890s UNION DEPOT AND ON TO MAIN STREET WITH ELEVEN SHOPS.

ENJOY THE FULLY OPERATIONAL ANTIQUE SPILLMAN ENGINEERING COMPANY CAROUSEL IN ITS GLASS ENCLOSED PAVILION OVER THE GRAND RIVER. 616/456-3977 FOR INFO.

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

HELLO! CENTRAL! (Cont.)

In the 30 years, since direct distance dialing (DDD) was established, communication needs forced a change in area codes, locally, from 313 to 810 December 1, 1993. So we've come from a single phone in the Judson Brothers grocery store, to the exchange in the Argus printing office, to the switchboard on the second floor of the Brighton State Bank, to large windowless structures with apparently magical functions going on with little fanfare or our notice. The telephone has developed from turning a crank to having multiple means of communication in one's home, office or vehicle. The directory has grown from a list in the local newspaper to one that weighs over 2½ pounds. (A valid criterion indicating change?) The business directory pages were instituted with the first printed directory. The 1921 issue was half full of the 'yellow' pages, altho' they weren't yellow. These have become a means by which one may locate a needed product or service.

Before WW II Dick Tracy wore a wrist radio. (Surely the writer is not alone in remembering that cartoon.) Many felt the cartoonist's imagination was quite erratic. Today personal 'beepers' have replaced Dick's wrist radio. This writer's grandchildren make light of the study necessary for her to fully utilize the many possibilities of her telephone. Touch one button to converse, another to relay recorded messages, another instantly connects with an often called number without dialing, etc., etc. A recently purchased piece of telephone equipment is near obsolescence by the time it's installed.

Late local historian Bill Pless writes of several anecdotes concerning early telephone use such as the farmer living on his father's farm. The father didn't want the telephone installed and complained mightily when the son and wife had one put in. Thinking to quiet his complaint they finally got him to call his friend, Seth, who lived about a mile away. After shouting, "Hello, Seth!" the old man stepped back. The son encouraged him to continue. "I'm just waiting for that hello to get down to Seth's."

Another story concerns a self-made successful farmer and his sister who were enjoying the fruits of their labor and wanted everyone to know. A telephone and a furnace were installed and a car purchased; at a time when few had such luxuries. He came to town and called his sister from several stores where other customers could overhear his part of the conversation. "Did the telephone ring loud enough?" he asked. "Is the furnace operating all right? Did you adjust the chains to the draft and damper? Is the house warm enough?" Then he'd tell her the car was running splendidly and made every hill in high gear. Frequently seen wiping dust off the windshield and fenders and openly admiring the vehicle, neighbors would often cause him some concern by deliberately parking close to his car. (By Marieanna Bair with thanks to Bill Pless' writings, clippings from the Brighton Argus and Livingston County Press, Olive Smith Griffin, Alice Newcomb, Jane Tomlinson, Janice Field and Theresa Swiecicki.)

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