



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
MARCH, 1995

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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HERB WARNER - LYONS SCHOOL 229-6504

DATES TO REMEMBER

MAR. 4, 5, 10, 11, 17, 18 SEE "COBB" AT THE MILLPOND THEATER.

8, 5-8 P.M. MARGE WILCOX AT THE LIBRARY TO ASSIST WITH GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH.

* 11, 9-11 A.M. ARCHIVES WORK. WELCOME.

** 14, 7:30 GENERAL MEETING. PUBLIC WELCOME.

19, 4-6 P.M. GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS PROGRAM ON THE FARMINGTON MUSEUM. FIRE STATION, 9384 WHITMORE LAKE RD.

* 27, 7:30 BOARD MEETING. WELCOME.

APRIL 2, 10-4:30 GENEALOGY & HISTORY BOOK FAIR, LANSING CENTER, LANSING. 517/332-0123.

* AT 202 W. MAIN, UPSTAIRS.

**SEE RELATED ARTICLE.

EDITORIAL

"REGRETTABLY, THERE LINGERS IN SOME QUARTERS A PERCEPTION OF PRESERVATION AS FRIVOLOUS AND EXPENSIVE, OF PRESERVATIONISTS AS ELITISTS CONCERNED SOLELY WITH AESTHETICS AND NOSTALGIA.

"CHALLENGING THE MISTAKEN NOTION THAT PRESERVATION IS A FRILL IS ONE OF OUR MOST IMPORTANT TASKS. WE MUST PERSUADE PEOPLE... THAT PRESERVATION MAKES GOOD SENSE IN TERMS OF ECONOMICS AS WELL AS AESTHETICS.

"THERE IS COMPELLING EVIDENCE OF PRESERVATION'S EFFECTIVENESS AS A TOOL FOR BUILDING ECONOMIC VITALITY. COMMERCE DEPARTMENT DATA SHOW THAT \$1 MILLION SPENT ON REHABBING AN OLDER BUILDING CREATES FIVE MORE CONSTRUCTION JOBS AND THREE MORE PERMANENT JOBS THAN \$1 MILLION SPENT ON NEW CONSTRUCTION.

"PRESERVED BUILDINGS AND NEIGHBORHOODS ARE IMPORTANT ELEMENTS IN HERITAGE TOURISM, THE FASTEST-GROWING PORTION OF THE HUGE TOURISM INDUSTRY. TRAVELERS DON'T SEEK OUT COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE TRANSFORMED THEMSELVES INTO A HODGEPODGE OF COOKIE-CUTTER HOUSING TRACTS, CLUTTERED COMMERCIAL STRIPS AND BLEAK DOWNTOWNS... COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE SAVED THEIR SOULS BY SAVING THEIR HERITAGE CONVEY A SENSE OF BEING SOMEPLACE, NOT JUST ANYPLACE." CONDENSED FROM AN EDITORIAL BY RICHARD MOE, PRES., NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION.

ETHEL GEBBEN

SINCERE SYMPATHIES OF THE SOCIETY ARE EXTENDED TO ETHEL'S FAMILY.

ETHEL HAS, FOR MANY YEARS, SERVED AS CIRCULATION MANAGER OF TRAIL TALES. FOLDING, LABELING, MAILING WERE ALWAYS CARRIED OUT PROMPTLY AND WITH A SMILE.

ETHEL, YOU ARE MISSED BY MANY.

BUS/PROF: DR. GERALD & EVA WHALEN (FRANKENMUTH).

PATRON: WHITNEY & JUNE KIMBLE, REP. SUSAN MUNSELL, BILL & ROSEMARY ULMER.

COUPLE/INDIV: BOB & DIANE ASSENMACHER, BERT & MARIEANNA BAIR, DAVID Z. BARTON, LEON & MARILYN BONNER (NORTHVILLE), JAIME GREEN, KATHRYN HAMPTON (NORTHVILLE), BOB & BETSY HERBST, BRENDA McCARTY, HELEN MICHAELS, MR. & MRS. GREG PARK (OH), GENE & DOROTHY SCHUTZ, ALICE SEGER (96).

ONLY BY CONTINUED MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT CAN THE SOCIETY CONTINUE TO EXIST. HOWEVER MERELY EXISTING IS NOT SUFFICIENT REASON FOR BEING. SOCIETY BOARD MEMBERS GIVE MUCH TIME AND ENERGY TO FULFILLING THE SOCIETY'S GOALS. FUND RAISING RECEIPTS ARE DELEGATED TO THE PRESERVATION FUND TO PAY FOR THE LYONS SCHOOL AND OLD TOWN HALL PROJECTS, THE EXPENSES OF ORAL HISTORY, ARCHIVES AND MICROFILMING PROJECTS. DUES MUST COVER ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES, INCLUDING: P.O. BOX FEE (\$40.), ANNUAL NONPROFIT MAILING PERMIT (\$75.), NEWSLETTER EXPENSES (\$200.+ PER MONTH), ETC.

DUES RECEIPTS ARE WHAT KEEP THE WHEELS OF THIS ORGANIZATION HUMMING. EXTRA CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GENERAL FUND ENABLE THE BOARD MEMBER TO CONCENTRATE ON THEIR SPECIAL PROJECTS.

PUBLIC INVITED TO GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 7:30

THOSE INTERESTED IN RESTORATION OF OLDER BUILDINGS WILL BE ESPECIALLY GLAD THEY ATTENDED. SOCIETY BOARD MEMBER JAIME GREEN, WHO HAS RECEIVED HER MASTER'S DEGREE IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION FROM EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY, WILL PRESENT A PROGRAM ON RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION.

LEARN WHAT CAN BE DONE TO KEEP AND/OR ENHANCE THE HISTORIC QUALITY OF YOUR BUILDINGS, WHETHER THEY BE YOUR BUSINESS OR HOME. SHE WILL TRY TO HELP YOU FIND ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS.

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE LARGE MOTOR ROOM AT MILLER INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER, 850 SPENCER ROAD, BRIGHTON.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED. BRING A FRIEND.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ARCHIVES: WITH THE HELP OF JOAN BROWN, JANICE FIELD AND ALICE NEWCOMB HISTORICAL REFERENCES OF EACH BUSINESS LOCATION ARE BEING COMPILED. DIRECTORIES (OLD AND NEW), ADS IN EARLY ISSUES OF THE ARGUS, PICTURES, LONG TIME RESIDENTS' MEMORIES ALL HELP TO PREPARE A DIRECTORY, AS COMPLETE AS POSSIBLE, OF THE AREA. RESEARCH IS PRESENTLY CENTERED ON THE CITY. YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED - DON'T WAIT TO BE CONTACTED. CONTACT MARIEANNA, 229-6402, IF THE SCHEDULED 2ND SATURDAY, 9-11, IS NOT CONVENIENT.

DONATIONS FOR THE MICROFILMING BILL ARE WELCOME. ALSO AN ATLAS OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY, 1875, 1895 OR 1915 IS NEEDED. PICTURES, MAPS, ABSTRACTS, AND OTHER PAPER-TYPE MEMORABILIA ARE WELCOME. THESE CAN BE COPIED.

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY: DAVE BARTON, PERSISTENT SEARCHER, HAS FERRETED OUT (WITH THANKS TO MILTON CHARBONEAU) THE PLAT OF THE VILLAGE OF LIVINGSTON. PREPARED BY SURVEYOR, J. FARNSWORTH, JUNE 11, 1836, IT WAS RECORDED MAY 12, 1837. LIVINGSTON WAS LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF PLEASANT VALLEY ROAD (NAMED THE ANN ARBOR AND SHIAWASSEE ROAD ON THE PLAT), JUST NORTH OF GRAND RIVER. THE 136 LOTS, 64' x 128', ARE DRAWN ALONG WITH THE SKETCHES OF THREE BUILDINGS. ONE WONDERS HOW MANY LOTS WERE SOLD BY SHERMAN DIX WHEN HE WENT BACK TO NEW YORK CITY WITH HIS PLAT OF LIVINGSTON.

THANKS.....THANKS.....THANKS

...FR. WALTER SHERMAN, OF ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, FOR ALLOWING COPIES OF VARIOUS HISTORICAL RECORDS AND MAPS. THESE ARE CONSIDERED A VALUABLE ADDITION TO THE ARCHIVES BEING DEVELOPED.

...COMENTS, NOTES, COOPERATION AND SUPPORT OF MANY FOR THE EFFORTS OF THE SOCIETY BOARD. THIS IS WELCOME ENCOURAGEMENT.

...BERT BAIR, NORMAN & MARIAN CATRELL, LIBBY EISENHARDT, JAIME GREEN, FLORENCE KEENAN, AND ROSEMARY ULMER FOR THEIR HELP IN MAILING OF THE NEWSLETTER. (IT IS HOPED YOU'LL SAY "YES" WHEN YOUR HELP IS NEEDED.)

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

AFGHAN: TEN COVERLETS, WITH LOCAL SCENES, ARE STILL AVAILABLE AT UBER'S DRUGS. THESE ARE CRANBERRY COLOR. IF YOU DIDN'T GET YOURS, CALL NANCY FREDENBURG, 229-9100. WHEN SUFFICIENT ORDERS ARE PLACED THE SOCIETY WILL ORDER MORE.

SIGNATURE QUILT: THIS QUILT, WHICH WILL REMAIN WITH THE SOCIETY, IS FILLING WITH EMBROIDERED NAMES. LINDBOM PTO PAID FOR CARL LONDBOM'S, HELEN IS INCLUDING HER HUSBAND FRANCIS MICHAELS' NAME AND DAVE BARTON HAS SELECTED GRANT BROADMORE, A MERCHANT ON WEST MAIN FOR MANY YEARS, WHO SOLD FURNITURE, PIANOS AND MONUMENTS. A \$10.00 DONATION WILL ASSURE THE NAME YOU SELECT, OR LET US SELECT ONE FOR YOU, WILL BE INCLUDED.

HBA BUILDING PERMIT ISSUED

THE PLANS FOR RESTORATION OF THE BUILDING AT 132 E. GRAND RIVER HAVE BEEN FOUND SATISFACTORY BY THE CITY OF BRIGHTON. IN EARLY MARCH IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT RENOVATIONS ON THE UPPER FLOOR WILL BEGIN.

MEMBERS OF THE HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY HAVE BEEN PLEDGING FUNDS AND THE DONATION OF MATERIALS AND LABOR. THESE CONTRIBUTIONS ARE MADE THROUGH THE SOCIETY WHICH ENCOURAGES RESTORATION OF THE FEW EARLY BUILDINGS REMAINING IN THE AREA. THE PUBLIC CAN ALSO CONTRIBUTE. CHECKS, PAYABLE TO THE SOCIETY, SHOULD BE SENT TO BOX 1605, BRIGHTON 48116-1605.

IN UBER'S DRUGS THE FOLLOWING FUND RAISING ITEMS OF THE SOCIETY MAY BE PURCHASED: COVERLETS, TILES, PICTURES OF THE MILL POND, AND POST CARDS. THE BOOK NOOK ALSO HAS THE POST CARDS. SOMEWHERE IN TIME ALSO HAS THE TILES AS DOES SOCIETY BANK. RECEIPTS FROM THESE ITEMS SUPPORT THE PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION PROJECTS OF THE SOCIETY. IF YOU WISH TO HAVE ANY SENT TO YOU, CONTACT A BOARD MEMBER.

NEEDED....NEEDED....NEEDED

...A CIRCULATION MANAGER. THIS PERSON PICKS UP THE NEWSLETTER FROM THE PRINTER, LABELS, STAMPS AND DELIVERS IT TO THE POST OFFICE. HELP IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE (2-4 PEOPLE) TO COMPLETE THIS TASK IN AN AFTERNOON.

...A TREASURER. THIS PERSON SHOULD HAVE SOME KNOWLEDGE OF FINANCIAL RECORDING (OR BE WILLING TO LEARN). MARG WHITE HAS FILLED THIS POSITION FOR YEARS AND DESERVES AN ACCOLADE AND A BREAK. WRITING CHECKS, RECEIPTS, DEPOSITING FUNDS, RECORDING THESE TRANSACTIONS AND PREPARING A MONTHLY REPORT INVOLVE SEVERAL HOURS EACH MONTH. IT IS CERTAIN A SOCIETY MEMBER CAN ASSUME THIS POSITION WITH LITTLE DIFFICULTY.

CALL MARIEANNA BAIR, 229-6402, TO VOLUNTEER FOR EITHER OF THESE POSITIONS OF IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.

LIFE IN AN OLDER HOME

DO YOU NEED HELP ON HOW-TO'S OR STYLES? CHARLENE KULL, 227-9393, AND RICCI BANDKAU, 227-7664, ARE ORGANIZING A GATHERING OF HOMEOWNERS OR INTERESTED PARTIES TO SHARE IDEAS, INFORMATION, ETC., INTERESTED? CONTACT EITHER OF THEM.

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.)

THE JUNE 24, 1911, ISSUE OF THE BRIGHTON ARGUS CARRIED THIS LIST (R.) OF TELEPHONE SUBSCRIBERS. GROWTH WAS NOT SLOW IN DEVELOPING. NOT LONG AFTER ESTABLISHING THE SWITCHBOARD IN THE ARGUS OFFICE THE GROWTH OF THE SYSTEM MADE A MOVE TO LARGER QUARTERS NECESSARY. IN 1911 LEASE ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE WITH THE BRIGHTON STATE BANK, WHICH WAS UNDER CONSTRUCTION, TO PLACE THE SWITCHBOARD ON THE SECOND FLOOR.

IN THAT LONG AGO TIME IT WAS ALWAYS LADIES WHO WERE ENGAGED IN WORKING THE SWITCHBOARD. JULIE BERGIN BRADY, PAULINE ALLEN CHENOWETH, PEARL DRAZIC, DOROTHY ROBERTS FOSTER, BEA JARVIS GOULD, MILDRED TAYLOR JARVIS, VIRGINIA POLKOW, CLARA SMITH SUTTON AND FLOSSIE WEST, WHO WORKED AT NIGHT, WERE AMONG THOSE WHO ANSWERED "CENTRAL".

WE QUOTE OLIVE SMITH GRIFFIN AS SHE RECALLS HER MEMORIES OF THOSE DAYS: "MY FATHER, GEORGE SMITH, SUPERVISED THE BRIGHTON FACILITY WHICH WAS LOCATED OVER THE BRIGHTON BANK JUST WEST OF THE MILLPOND ON MAIN STREET. HE DID ALL THE REPAIR WORK TRAVELING TO PINCKNEY, COHOCTAH AND SOMETIMES FOWLERVILLE. ALSO HE COVERED THE OFFICE, SENT OUT BILLS, HIRING AND PAYING THE SWITCHBOARD OPERATORS.... MY SISTER, CLARA,.... AND I ALSO LEARNED TO BE OPERATORS. THE SWITCHBOARD HAD 200 NUMBERS WITH TWO ROWS OF CORDS: ONE TO ANSWER 'NUMBER PLEASE' AND THE OTHER TO RING THE PARTY CALLED. OUR LONG DISTANCE CALLS WERE ROUTED THROUGH A TRUNK LINE IN HOWELL. ELVA SINGER WAS A TRUNK LINE OPERATOR IN HOWELL. THERE WERE RURAL PARTY LINES WITH MORE THAN ONE SUBSCRIBER. NUMBER 63F4 WOULD BE FOUR RINGS AND 63F11 WOULD BE ONE LONG AND ONE SHORT. WHEN THE FIRE SIREN RANG EVERYONE CALLED IN AND ALL THE OPERATOR COULD DO WAS PLUG IN AND SAY 'TAYLOR'S BARN' OR 'STEDMAN'S HOUSE'. NO TIME FOR 'NUMBER, PLEASE.'"

DURING THOSE EARLY DAYS MAUDE SEYMOUR WAS THE PERSON IN CHARGE. IN THE WINTER, TO KEEP THE NIGHT OPERATOR FROM FREEZING DURING A COLD SPELL ROY NEWCOMB, BANK CASHIER, WOULD SEE THAT THE FURNACE WAS PROPERLY FILLED FOR THE NIGHT. (BY MARIEANNA BAIR. TO BE CONTINUED. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND STORIES WOULD BE WELCOME.)

NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS

JAMES CORD	133
CHARLES MUSCH	72:21-2s
CHARLIE PRICE	136
CRYSTAL ICE CO.	89-2
REV. G.G.H. REIDE	103
FRANK KING	98-21-3s
EARL ANDERSON	139
WILL KNIGHT	91-1s-31
CLYDE SALKELD	70:3s
MRS. SAMUEL McCLEMENTS	20:3r
MARVIN MACOMBER	88:3s
VINCENT MAAS	74:21.1s
GEORGE BURGESS	134
REVE ODELL	63:3s
GEORGE PEACH	91:31
J.J. VANLEUVAN	88:21.1s
J.I. SUTHERLAND	22
P. VREELAND	132
JOHN HUNTER	108
FRED L. RUSSELL	88.11.1s
MILO BEACH	4
GEORGE GLASGOW	131
ROY McDONOUGH	90:3s
J.B. JONES	67:5s
CLARK RICKETT	135
JOHN INBAWY	24

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