



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. XIV, No. 11

BRIGHTON, MI 48116-0481
NOVEMBER, 1995

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY		
BOARD OF DIRECTORS		
OFFICERS		
PRES. & EDITOR	MARIEANNA BAIR	229-6402
V.P.		
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HERB WARNER - LYONS SCHOOL		229-6504

SOCIETY NEEDS A
VICE PRESIDENT
AND A
TREASURER

THE SOCIETY HAS BEEN ABLE TO CONDUCT BUSINESS ONLY BECAUSE OF THE FAITHFULNESS OF ITS BOARD MEMBERS. THE TREASURER, MARGE WHITE, HAS CONTINUED IN THAT CAPACITY EVEN THO' SHE REQUESTED, SOME TIME AGO, THAT SHE BE REPLACED. THERE ARE MANY CAPABLE PERSONS RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER WHO CAN ACCEPT THIS POSITION. A FEW HOURS A MONTH AND ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETINGS ARE THE TIME REQUIREMENTS.

TO REMAIN A VIABLE ENTITY IN THE COMMUNITY REGULAR GENERAL MEETINGS, OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, ARE IMPORTANT. A VICE PRESIDENT, IN CHARGE OF PROGRAMS IS A CRITICAL POSITION THAT NEEDS TO BE FILED. WE REPEAT - THERE ARE MANY CAPABLE READERS WHO CAN TAKE THIS POSITION. FACILITIES AND PUBLICITY ARE AVAILABLE AND MANY FINE SUGGESTIONS FOR PROGRAMS. CONTACT PRESIDENT BAIR, 229-6402, OR ANY BOARD MEMBER.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Nov. 2, 7 P.M. LIVINGSTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY; L.D.S. CHURCH, 1041 W. GRAND RIVER, HOWELL.
- 8, 5-8 P.M. MARGE WILCOX AT THE BRIGHTON DISTRICT LIBRARY TO ASSIST WITH GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH.
- 9-11, MICHIGAN GENEALOGICAL COUNCIL SEMINAR, GAYLORD. P.O. BOX 89053, LANSING 48908-0953. "THEY DIDN'T ALL GO WEST".
- * 14, 10A.M./NOON. ARCHIVES WORK.
- * 16, 7:30 BOOK COMMITTEE.
- 17/19, SOUTHFIELD ANTIQUE SHOW & SALE. EVERGREEN @ 10 1/2 MILE ROAD, SOUTHFIELD.
- * 27, 7:30 P.M. BOARD MEETING.
- * 202 W. MAIN, UPSTAIRS; WELCOME.

BRIGHTON ARGUS - 1939

- APRIL - DR. MELLUS DIES
- MAY - BRIGHTON PRODUCE MARKET IS OPPOSITE GRAHAM HOTEL
- MAY - VAN CAMP CHEVROLET OPENS IN LORIMORE BUILDING
- JUNE - TORNADO DAMAGE REPORT
- JUNE - BHS ALUMNI BANQUET

PATRON: MARIAN CARNEY, STEVE & KATE LOWRY (96).

BUS/PROF: RICHARD K. GIENAPP, HALL FINANCIAL SERVICES, LINDHOUT ASSOCIATES, OLD KENT BANK, TOMZ OPTICAL, INC.

COUPLES/INDIV: PAT & JOSIE ARNOLD (96), NOMRAN & MARY ANN CATRELL (96), JOE & PAULINE CHENOWETH (96), WM & BETTY FRANKLIN (AZ), SHANNON OAK (96), ERIC & LISA PIEHL, ARLA STUHRBERG

MANY THANKS TO OUR READERS WHO ARE PATIENT WITH THE VOLUNTEERS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BUSINESS OF THE SOCIETY.

A VOLUNTEER GETS THE MAIL FROM THE POST OFFICE.

A VOLUNTEER RECORDS DUES PAYMENTS.

A VOLUNTEER RECORDS MEMBERSHIPS AND SENDS CARDS AND RECEIPTS.

A VOLUNTEER DEPOSITS RECEIPTS.

A VOLUNTEER PREPARES THE LIST OF MEMBERS FOR THE NEWSLETTER.

A VOLUNTEER PREPARES THE NEWSLETTER.

A VOLUNTEER KEEPS THE MAILING LABELS UP TO DATE, INCLUDING MEMBERSHIP YEAR AND ADDRESS CORRECTIONS.

VOLUNTEERS FOLD, LABEL, STAMP AND MAIL THE NEWSLETTER.

THE ABOVE RELATES MAINLY TO MEMBERSHIPS AND THE NEWSLETTER. OTHER VOLUNTEERS ARE INVOLVED IN THE MANY PROJECTS OF THE SOCIETY AS NOTED ELSEWHERE IN THE NEWSLETTER.

THESE VOLUNTEERS ALSO HAVE OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES (EVEN JOBS) WHICH DEMAND THEIR ATTENTION AND CAN DELAY PORTIONS OF THE VARIOUS PROCEDURES.

ANYONE WISHING TO ASSIST WITH ANY OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED TASKS WOULD BE VERY WELCOME.

S.O.S. FROM MEALS ON WHEELS

THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY SENIOR NUTRITION PROGRAM (MEALS ON WHEELS) IS IN DIRE NEED OF ASSISTANCE! WE ARE IN AN EMERGENCY STATUS WITH REGARD TO THE DELIVERY OF THE NOON TIME MEALS TO OUR HOMEBOUND SENIOR CITIZENS. IT IS VITAL THESE PEOPLE RECEIVE THIS ONE HOT MEAL EACH DAY. THE MEALS ARE PREPARED DAILY, BUT WE LACK A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF DRIVERS TO TAKE THEM TO THE INDIVIDUAL HOMES. WE PAY AN HOURLY WAGE. DONNA DARBE, NUTRITION PROGRAM DIRECTOR (313) 878-9380.

ARCHIVES: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 10 A.M.-NOON, WORK WILL BE DONE ON THE ARCHIVES BEING DEVELOPED BY THE SOCIETY. CARE TO GIVE A HAND? COME UPSTAIRS IN THE OLD TOWN HALL, 202 WEST MAIN.

BRIGHTON HISTORY BOOK: PICTURES, STORIES, ETC., ARE NEEDED TO PREPARE A LOCAL HISTORY WHICH WILL BE AS COMPLETE AS POSSIBLE. THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 7:30 THE BOOK GROUP WILL MEET AT THE OLD TOWN HALL, 200 W. MAIN. WANT TO SIT IN? CALL CAROL McMACKEN, 231-2957, AND LET HER KNOW OF YOUR INTEREST. YOUR SUGGESTIONS AND SUPPORT WILL BE APPRECIATED.

ORAL HISTORY: SEVERAL BOARD MEMBERS MET WITH IRA LAX, A TEACHER AT PHOENIX HIGH SCHOOL, TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE SCHOOL AND THE SOCIETY IN CONDUCTING ORAL HISTORIES. BESIDES THE RECORDING OF INTERVIEWS ON TAPE, INCLUDING THE USE OF VIDEO EQUIPMENT IS A LOGICAL EXTENSION. INFORMATION REGARDING THE PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED WHEN INTERVIEWING IS AVAILABLE. CONTACT MARIEANNA BAIR, 229-6402, IF YOU'D BE INTERESTED IN HELPING WITH THIS IMPORTANT MEANS OF RECORDING HISTORY.

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

..BETTY HALL FRANKLIN OF ARIZONA FOR A LYONS SCHOOL DONATION. (SHE ATTENDED SCHOOL IN THE ELEMENTARY GRADES.)

...BETSY CRAWFORD HERBST FOR TAKING BLACK/WHITE PICTURES OF SOME OF THE OLD HOMES ON PLEASANT VALLEY, VAN AMBERG AND BUND ROADS. SOME HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF EACH SITE WAS INCLUDED. (IF YOU HAVE PICTURES OF EARLY HOMES IN YOUR AREA, OR ARE WILLING TO PHOTOGRAPH THEM, SEND THEM TO THE SOCIETY TO MAKE THE ARCHIVES MORE COMPLETE.)

...UBER'S DRUGS FOR THEIR CONTINUED FINE SUPPORT OF THE SOCIETY'S SEVERAL FUND RAISING PROJECTS.

ALL RECEIPTS FROM FUND RAISING PROJECTS GO TO THE PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION EFFORTS OF THE SOCIETY. AS AN I.R.S. INCOME TAX DEDUCTIBLE ORGANIZATION, ALL DONATIONS ARE DEDUCTIBLE. REMEMBER THE SOCIETY AS 1995 ENDS.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

COVERLETS: LAST HOLIDAY SEASON MANY PEOPLE WERE GIVEN THESE BLUE COVERLETS, DISPLAYING LOCAL SCENES. THESE ARE THOUGHTFUL CHRISTMAS GIFTS. YOUR FRIENDS/FAMILY WILL BE HAPPY TO RECEIVE ONE OF THESE. OR GIVE YOURSELF A GIFT. YOU'LL BE HELPING SUPPORT THE SOCIETY PROJECTS ALSO. NANCY FREDENBURG, 229-9100, HAS THEM AND THEY ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT UBER'S DRUGS.

TILES: WON'T BE LONG NOW AND THE 1995 TILE, DEPICTING ST. GEORGE LUTHERAN CHURCH, WILL BE READY. THESE AND EARLIER TILES ARE AVAILABLE AT UBER'S DRUGS, SOMEWHERE IN TIME AND SOCIETY BANK.

SIGNATURE QUILT: TEN MORE SIGNATURES ARE BEING EMBROIDERED ON THE QUILT. A \$10. DONATION WILL RESULT IN YOUR SIGNATURE OR THAT OF ANOTHER (THE SOCIETY HAS MANY SIGNATURES OF EARLIER RESIDENTS WHICH SHOULD BE INCLUDED.) BEING STITCHED ON THE QUILT. THIS WILL REMAIN IN THE SOCIETY ARCHIVES. YOUR SUPPORT OF THE SOCIETY PROJECTS WILL DEMONSTRATE YOUR CARING. SEND THE SIGNATURE AND CHECK TO THE SOCIETY.

EARLY PICTURES OF THE MILL POND, AND POST CARDS OF LOCAL HISTORICAL SITES ARE AVAILABLE AT UBER'S DRUGS. THE BOOK NOOK ALSO STOCKS THE POSTCARDS.

BHS - 1911 - THE TEAM

THE PICTURE AT RIGHT, DONATED BY DORIS SINGER PETERSON, APPEARS TO BE THE BRIGHTON HIGH SCHOOL TEAM OF 1911. THE ONLY IDENTIFICATION IS OF PLAYER POSITIONS AND THE INITIALS OF THE PLAYERS. DORIS TELLS US THAT 3RD FROM LEFT, IN THE BACK IS HER FATHER, ERIC SINGER, LEFT FIELDER. LEFT TO RIGHT THE POSITIONS AND INITIALS ARE: BACK-2ND BASE, H.B.; 1ST BASE, E.B; LEFT FIELD, E. SINGER; PITCHER, J.D. FRONT-3RD BASE, M.C.; CENTER FIELD, R.S.; CATCHER, O.R.; RIGHT FIELD, L.S.; SHORT STOP, N.B. THIS IS A FINE ARTIFACT. CAN THE OTHERS BE IDENTIFIED ALSO?



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

IT'S FAIR TIME!!! (conc.)

WE CONTINUE WITH BILL PLESS' WRITINGS IN HIS MICHIGAN MEMORABILIA, AS HE REMINISCES ABOUT THE TIMES WHEN AN ANNUAL FAIR WAS HELD IN BRIGHTON. "OF COURSE, THERE WERE THE USUAL SIDE SHOWS AND GAMES OF CHANCE ON THE MIDWAY....A LOCAL MAN HAD A TENT AT THE BRIGHTON FAIR WITH A SIGN OVER THE ENTRANCE READING, "FOR MEN ONLY". HE HAD A GOOD LOOKING GIRL SELL TICKETS, AND DIRECTING CUSTOMERS TO MOVE THROUGH THE TENT SINGLE FILE AND LEAVE AT THE SIDE EXIT. ALL HE HAD INSIDE WAS A PAIR OF MEN'S SUSPENDERS DRAPED OVER A SAW HORSE AND A SIGN READING: 'NOW DON'T GET MAD. BE A GOOD SPORT. GO OUT AND TELL YOUR FRIENDS TO COME IN, SO THEY WILL GET STUNG LIKE YOU DID.'"

ANOTHER ANECDOTE: "A CON MAN HAD A LARGE BASKET FULL OF BARS OF SOAP AT THE OLD BRIGHTON FAIR. HE STOOD THERE UNWRAPPING THE SOAP AND APPARENTLY REWRAPPING WITH A DOLLAR OR FIVE DOLLAR BILL INSIDE WITH THE BARS. THEN HE OFFERED EVERYONE A CHOICE TO PICK OUT A BAR FOR A DOLLAR. AN OLD MAN WATCHED CLOSELY AND SELECTED SEVERAL BARS WITHOUT SUCCESS. THEN HE GOT MAD, AND HE AND HIS FRIENDS TOOK THE CON MAN TO OLD BILL PIPP, THE PRESIDENT OF THE FAIR ASSOCIATION THAT YEAR. THE OLD MAN TOLD MR. PIPP THAT THE MAN HAD CHEATED HIM. MR. PIPP ASKED THE CON MAN FOR HIS STORY. 'UNCLE, THIS MAN PLAYED MY GAME AND HE LOST.' MR. PIPP LAUGHED AND SAID, 'SOUNDS FAIR ENOUGH TO ME, BUT I'LL GIVE YOU JUST FIVE MINUTES TO TAKE YOUR BASKET AND GET OUT OF TOWN, AND DON'T EVER COME BACK.'"

ON THE MIDWAY ONE FOUND SEVERAL RIDES. A MERRY-GO-ROUND, A RIDE CALLED THE 'OCEAN WAVE', AND A FOUR SEAT FERRIS WHEEL OPERATED BY JOHN TANNER OF BRIGHTON. THEY WERE EACH DRIVEN BY A SMALL HORSE RUNNING AROUND IN A CIRCLE TO TURN THE POWER MECHANISM.

THE FAIR GROUNDS WERE USED FOR MORE THAN THE COUNTY FAIR. PLESS TELLS US "FROM AS FAR BACK AS I CAN REMEMBER TO ABOUT 1907, THE CHILDREN IN OUR COUNTRY SCHOOL LOOKED FORWARD EVERY SPRING TO SEE A HERD OF AS MANY AS 25-40 MUSTANGS BEING DRIVEN, LOOSE, BY FIVE OR SIX WRANGLERS TO AN AUCTION AT THE FAIRGROUNDS IN BRIGHTON. THE MUSTANGS WERE FINE LOOKING SPECIMENS; SOUND, SPIRITED AND TOUGH ANIMALS. EACH ONE HAD BEEN BRANDED WITH A HOT IRON. NONE HAD EVER HAD A STRAP ON THEM, BUT HAD BEEN LASSED WHEN CAPTURED, AND SEVERAL TIMES AFTER. THESE WOULD GIVE UP AND STAND 'COWED' WHEN THEY HAD A ROPE AROUND THEIR NECK." LOCAL YOUNG FARMERS BOUGHT THEM AND FOUND THEM TO BE QUITE AMENABLE TO WORKING IN THE HARNESS. (BY MARIEANNA BAIR. TO INCREASE THE SOCIETY'S KNOWLEDGE OF THIS SUBJECT, OR ANY OTHERS, PLEASE CONTACT HER, 810/229-6402, OR ANY MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY BOARD.)

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