



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. XVI No. 8

Brighton, MI 48116  
AUGUST, 1997

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OFFICERS

PRES. & EDITOR	MARIEANNA BAIR	229-6402
V.P.	JOANNE CERU	229-7887
SECR.	RON MOREY	227-7281
TREAS.	MARGE WHITE	227-3968

DIRECTORS

RICCI BANDKAU -	227-7664
DAVE BARTON - HIST. RES. SURV.	229-5213
LISA CAVE - " " "	229-0683
NANCY FREDENBURG - ORAL HISTORY	229-9100
CAROL McMACKEN - HISTORY BOOK	231-2957
JIM VICHICH - LYONS SCHOOL	227-4840
SHERYL VIGMOSTAD - PUBLICITY	227-7506

CHAIRPERSONS

TOM & AUDREY LEITH - MEMBERSHIP	229-6165
ANNE STRATIGOS - HOSPITALITY	229-5689
HERB WARNER - LYONS SCHOOL	229-6504

DATES TO REMEMBER

- \*Aug. 7: 7 P.M. LIVINGSTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, 227-1760 FOR INFO.
- 9-10: SOCIETY BOOTH AT THE ART FAIR.
- \* 13: 5-8 P.M. AND AUG 26, 1-5 P.M. GENEALOGICAL HELP.
- 16: 1-4 P.M. GREEN OAK DAY PICNIC. GAGE HOUSE MUSEUM, 6440 KENSINGTON ROAD. BEVERAGE, CAKE PROVIDED.
- \* 25: 7 P.M. BOARD MEETING, BRIGHTON ROOM. WELCOME.
- SEPT. 12: SOCIETY SPAGHETTI SUPPER. Y-ALL COME. 1ST PRESBYTERIAN.
- \* 17: 7-9 P.M. AMERICAN HOME LANDSCAPES 1800-1940. LANDSCAPE HISTORIAN AND PRESERVATIONIST, SCOTT KUNST. NO CHARGE.

\*MEET AT THE BRIGHTON DISTRICT LIBRARY. 200 CHARLES ORNDORF DRIVE.

THE SEARCH IS ON

A CONTINUING SEARCH FOR A SITE IN WHICH THE SOCIETY CAN BE HEADQUARTERED HAS PROVEN FRUITLESS THUS FAR.

THE SITE SHOULD BE ACCESSIBLE FOR MEETINGS, DRY AND HEATED. SPACE FOR FILE CABINETS, DESKS, CHAIRS, STORING OF FUND RAISING ITEMS, BOOKS, RESEARCH MATERIALS, EARLY NEWSPAPERS, ETC., IS NEEDED.

AN EARLY BUILDING, AN EXPANDING BUSINESS, A MUNICIPAL BUILDING, NEW CONSTRUCTION IN THE AREA; ALL COULD BE CONSIDERED.

THE SOCIETY HAS CONTRIBUTED IN MANY WAYS TO THE AREA AND CONTINUES TO DO SO. IT IS FELT ANY SITE SELECTED AS HEADQUARTERS SHOULD NOT MAKE A LARGE DEBIT TO THE SOCIETY'S BUDGET. THE SOCIETY HAS 501(c)3 STATUS - THE VALUE OF THE DONATION OF SPACE IS INCOME TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

CONTACT ANY BOARD MEMBER FOR INFORMATION OR TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITIES.

DATES (CONT.)

- 20: 6 P.M. BAS ALUMNI REUNION DINNER, PH 229-9373 FOR INFO.
- 26: 9-4 TEACHING AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION/SEPT. 27 9-11:30 A.M. WALK AROUND THE BLOCK WITH POLAROID. A WORKSHOP FOR EDUCATORS AND PRESERVATIONISTS. MICHIGAN HISTORIC CENTER, LANSING. REG. BY SEPT. 12.
- OCT. 4: SOCIETY HOME TOUR.

MICHIGAN HISTORIC CENTER WEB SITE  
WWW.SOS.STATE.MI.US/HISTORY/HISTORY.HTML

## MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: BILL & JACKIE ARMSTRONG AND JOHN PARK (FLINT).

COUPLES/INDIV.: WM & BETTY (HALL) FRANKLIN (AZ 98), TOM & EILEEN HERBST (NEW), TIM & HELEN HURST.

THANKS TO RENEWING MEMBERS AND WELCOME TO NEW ONES.

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO OVERLY STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF DUES PAYING MEMBERS.

THE SOCIETY IS A NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONS ONLY BECAUSE A LOT OF PEOPLE SPEND MANY HOURS ON AN UNDERTAKING THEY FEEL IS IMPORTANT TO THEM AND THE COMMUNITY: TO RESEARCH, PRESERVE AND MAKE AVAILABLE FOR RESEARCH, THE HISTORY OF THE BRIGHTON AREA.

HOWEVER, NO MATTER HOW MANY VOLUNTEER HOURS ARE DONATED THERE ARE EXPENSES INVOLVED. DUES RECEIPTS ARE HOW ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES ARE PAID. (TRAIL TALES PRINTING AND POSTAGE, MEETING PROGRAMS, WORKSHOPS, POSTAGE EXPENSES, ETC.)

THE ASSUMPTION IS MADE THAT ALL TRAIL TALE READERS WILL WANT TO SUPPORTS ITS EFFORTS. AS A DUES PAYING MEMBER YOU CAN BE CONFIDENT YOU ARE HELPING PROVIDE THAT SUPPORT.

THANKS

THANKS

THANKS

...NORM CATRELL, JOANNE CERU, JOHN AND JANICE FIELD AND MARILYN PETTIGROVE FOR THE HELP IN PREPARING TRAIL TALES FOR THE JULY ISSUE AND NORM CATRELL, JEANETTE JOHNSON AND JUNE KIMBLE FOR HELP WITH THE JUNE ISSUE.

...THOSE WHO SENT IN CHANGES OF ADDRESSES.

...THOMAS H. LEITH FOR MEMORABILIA RE: THOMAS S. LEITH, FORMER MAYOR OF BRIGHTON.

...DAVID BROWN, NORM CATRELL, MILT CHARBONEAU, GEORGIANA HARRINGTON, AND SHIRLEY HOOD FOR THEIR PRESENTATIONS DURING THE VILLAGE CEMETERY TOUR LAST MONTH. ALSO ST. PAUL'S CHURCH AND THE CITY FOR MAKING THE CHURCH AND CEMETERY AVAILABLE.

...YUM YUM TREE FOR SUPPLYING ICE CREAM CONES AT A DISCOUNT TO THE SOCIETY.

...DAVID PAULI, DISTRICT LIBRARY DIRECTOR, FOR EFFORTS TO HELP RELOCATE THE SOCIETY.

...DISTRICT LIBRARY BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION WITH THESE SAME EFFORTS.

...BRIGHTON CITY MANAGER AND COUNCIL FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

## PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: ALTHO' WORKING UNDER IMPOSSIBLE CONDITIONS (FILES ARE IN A STORAGE FACILITY) THIS COMMITTEE NEVERTHELESS STRUGGLES WITH THE SORTING, FILING AND INDEXING OF THE EPHEMERA SO FAR COLLECTED. MEETING SEVERAL TIMES A MONTH THEY WOULD WELCOME YOUR HELP. (A SEARCH FOR A HOME FOR THE ARCHIVES, AND THE SOCIETY, IS CONTINUING.) CALL MARIEANNA BAIR, 810-229-6402.

HISTORY BOOK: CAROL McMACKEN, 231-2957, IS CONTINUING RESEARCH ON THE MANY ASPECTS OF THE HISTORY OF THE AREA. SHE WELCOMES YOUR INPUT AND HELP.

LYONS SCHOOL: THE ANNUAL \$600.00+ INSURANCE BILL IS DUE. DONATIONS ARE WELCOME. (ALSO FOR THE \$180.00 ANNUAL UTILITY BILL.) CONTRACTORS IN VARIOUS FIELDS (HEATING, PLUMBING, ELECTRICAL, ETC.) NEED TO BE CONTACTED. CALL JIM VICHICH, 227-4840 WITH YOUR OFFER OF HELP.

NEEDED

NEEDED

NEEDED

...A TREASURER. OUR APOLOGIES TO MARGE WHITE AND A CORRECTION: SHE HAS SERVED AS TREASURER SINCE 1989 (NOT 1994 AS NOTED LAST MONTH). NOW! HOW ABOUT GIVING HER A WELL DESERVED BREAK?

...HELP AT THE ART FAIR BOOTH, AUG. 9 AND 10. CALL LISA CAVE, 229-0683.

...HELP WITH THE SPAGHETTI SUPPER, 9-12 & THE HOME TOUR, OCT. 4. CALL NANCY FREDENBURG, 229-9100.

...RAFFLE CHAIRPERSON - ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE, TICKET, SALES AND PUBLICITY NEEDED.

...DONATIONS TOWARD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER EXPENSES - \$200.00.

A CALL TO 229-6402 WILL PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE.

...ARTIST TO PREPARE THE SKETCH FROM WHICH THE 1997 TILE IS TO BE MADE. PHOTOS ARE AVAILABLE FROM WHICH TO WORK.

SYMPATHIES OF THE SOCIETY

TO THE FAMILY OF

PAUL ANDERSON

LONG TIME RESIDENT AND

SOCIETY CHARTER MEMBER

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE INCLUDE ZIP + 4 DIGIT)

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      Brighton Area Historical Society

      \$12. Couple      P.O. Box 481, Brighton, MI 48116-0481

      \$ 7. Individual

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

COVERLETS: WOVEN COTTON WITH NINE LOCAL HISTORICAL SITES, ARE AT NAUGHTY 'N NICE, 412 W. MAIN, FOR \$49.00.

POST CARDS: ARE AT THE BOOK NOOK, 322 W. MAIN. LOCAL HISTORICAL SCENES, 6-\$3.

TILES: 6"x6" WHITE CERAMIC TILES CAN BE PURCHASED AT NOSTALGIA ANTIQUES, 116 W. MAIN. \$8. OR 3/\$21. TILES FROM 1986 ON ARE IN STOCK.

SIGNATURE QUILT: A \$10. DONATION ASSURES YOUR NAME, OR THAT OF ANOTHER, IS EMBROIDERED ON THIS QUILT, WHICH WILL REMAIN IN THE SOCIETY'S ARCHIVES.

NEEDLEPOINT KIT OF THE OLD TOWN HALL, 10"x14" PICTURES OF THE MILL STREAM DAM AND PACKETS OF NOTEPAPER CAN BE ORDERED FROM 810/229-6402.

WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
GAGE HOUSE MUSEUM OPEN THRU AUGUST  
1-4 P.M. SATURDAY, SUNDAY.

AUG. 16, 1 P.M., GREEN OAK DAY, GAGE HOUSE MUSEUM, 6440 KENSINGTON ROAD.  
810/486-9113.

SEPT. 7: PRESERVATION CHELSEA WALKING TOUR OF HISTORIC DOWNTOWN AND OLDER HOMES.  
13/475-7396.

WATERLOO FARM MUSEUM: VICTORIAN CHILDREN ON THE FARM. MONTH OF AUGUST, TUESDAY THRU SUNDAY, 1-4 P.M. TOYS, GAMES, FARM WORK, SCHOOLING.

CORRECTION

THE JUNE ISSUE OF TRAIL TALES CONTAINED AN ARTICLE ON THE YEARS THE SOCIETY WAS HEADQUARTERED IN THE OLD TOWN HALL ON MAIN STREET. PROOFREADING NEGLECTED TO NOTE THAT A DATE IN THE FIRST LINE WAS NOT COMPLETE. THE SOCIETY HAD BEEN LOCATED THERE SINCE 1982. OUR APOLOGIES. (YOUR EDITOR IS WILLING TO ACCEPT ANY HELP IN PREPARATION OF THIS NEWSLETTER.)

HELPFUL MEMBERS

1997 IS THUS FAR PROVING TO BE A PERIOD DURING WHICH MORE AND MORE MEMBERS ARE STEPPING UP TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITIES

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY HAS LONG HAD A FAVORABLE IMPACT ON THE BRIGHTON AREA. MORE PEOPLE ARE CONVINCED THAT AN AWARENESS OF THOSE WHO PRECEDED US IS VITAL TO A FULLER EXPERIENCE OF TODAY.

BOARD MEMBERS AND CHAIRMEN OF EVENTS WILL BE GLAD FOR YOUR HELP. CALL THEM.

THE ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD IN NOVEMBER. AT THAT TIME ALL OFFICERS' AND DIRECTORS' POSITIONS WILL BE UP FOR VOTING. BE GIVING SOME THOUGHT TO CONTRIBUTING TIME TO SERVE IN SOME CAPACITY. WHEN THERE ARE MORE PEOPLE ON THE BOARD, ACTIVELY INVOLVED, THE TASKS AT HAND CAN BE WHITTLED DOWN TO SIZE. CALL A BOARD MEMBER AND OFFER YOUR ASSISTANCE. IT IS SATISFYING TO WORK WITH THOSE WHO ARE COMMITTED TO THE SOCIETY'S PURPOSES AND GOALS.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P O BOX 481  
BRIGHTON MI 48116-0481

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT #303  
BRIGHTON, MI

### AREA FARMS C. 1900

THE CRIPPEN SAGA CONTINUES. (SPRINGDALE FARM WAS NOTED IN THE JULY ISSUE OF TRAIL TALES.) WHEN ANSEL AND MARILLA (PADDOCK) CRIPPEN CAME TO BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP FROM PENFIELD, NEW YORK IN 1835, THEY BROUGHT WITH THEM TWO SONS: MILLARD FILLMORE (1832) AND HENRY L. (1835). ISAAC (1837), HARRISON (1839), ERNEST (1842) AND EMMA (1844) LATER JOINED THE GROWING FAMILY IN THE CRIPPEN HOME ON HACKER ROAD. (TAKE A LOOK WHEN YOU DRIVE BY.)

HIRAM PADDOCK (PERHAPS A BROTHER OF MARILLA) WITH HIS FAMILY, HAD JOINED THE CRIPPENS ON THEIR MOVE TO THIS WILD LAND IN THE WEST. OFTEN, WHEN COMING TO THE UNSETTLED, UNPEOPLED LANDS OF WOODS AND SWAMPS, WITH WOLVES AND BEARS AS NEIGHBORS, SEVERAL FAMILIES WOULD UNITE TO MAKE THE TRIP. CAN ONE IMAGINE THE COURAGE NEEDED TO MAKE THIS VENTURE? WITH THE NEAREST MERCHANT MANY MILES AWAY EVERYTHING A FAMILY NEEDED HAD TO BE BROUGHT ALONG IN THE WAGONS.

IN THE 1859 ATLAS HIRAM PADDOCK'S NAME IS ON PROPERTY JUST SOUTH OF HACKER ROAD ON BOTH SIDES OF THE GRAND RIVER TRAIL (A TRAIL IN EVERY SENSE OF THE WORD AT THAT TIME.) THIS OLD INDIAN TRAIL, FROM DETROIT TO THE WILDERNESS, LAY ALONG THE PROPERTY SELECTED BY MEMBERS OF THESE TWO FAMILIES WHEN THEY ARRIVED. (BY 1859, JOHN PADDOCK HAD 120 ACRES IN SEC. 11, MARION TOWNSHIP, SOUTH OF HOWELL; RICHARD HAD 40 ACRES IN SEC. 15, BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP [IN PLEASANT VALLEY]).

BY 1875 HENRY L. CRIPPEN HAD PURCHASED 40 ACRES ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE TRAIL, IN GENOA TOWNSHIP, FROM HIRAM PADDOCK. IT WAS THIS PIECE, LATER OWNED BY HENRY'S SON, BEN AND HIS WIFE GEORGIA, WHERE A HOUSE WAS BUILT AND THEY FARMED OAK RIDGE FARM. ANY OAKS THERE NOW?

WHEN HENRY L. BOUGHT THIS PIECE THE TRAIL WAS A TOLL ROAD, AND HAD BEEN PLANKED FOR A MORE DEPENDABLE THOROUGHFARE FOR TRAVELERS AND FREIGHT. HOWEVER THE COMPLETION OF THE RAIL ROAD BETWEEN DETROIT AND LANSING GREATLY REDUCED THESE NEEDS. IT MUST BE REMEMBERED THIS WAS NOW THE MAIN ROAD BETWEEN DETROIT AND THE STATE CAPITOL.

AT THE TIME WHEN BEN FARMED, C. 1900, THE TOLL HAD BEEN REMOVED AND MOST OF THE PLANKS REPLACED WITH GRAVEL. IT WOULD BE 1924 BEFORE M16 BECAME A HARD SURFACED ROAD. THE 1915 ATLAS INDICATES BEN OWNED LAND SOUTH FROM OAK RIDGE FARM TO CHALLIS ROAD. (COMPILED FROM MILT CHARBONEAU'S COLLECTIONS OF OBITUARIES, 1880 HISTORY OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY, ATLASES AND NORMAN CATRELL'S GENEALOGICAL RECORDS. MARIEANNA BAIR, 810/229-6402. CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ALWAYS WELCOME.)