"HOLIDAY GREETINGS"; FROM THE BRIGHTON ARGUS, 1898

MORE FROM A BOOK OF POEMS BY FRED A. BUSH

Brighton Public School

For Education

There is a saying true to all mankind
That education forms the common mind.
And knowledge, whereas 'er it be attained,
Is far the best of jewels ever gained.
And as our children soon must feel the strife
That's bound to come to most of us in life;
There's not a better gift in all the nation
Than a first-class and finished education.
To those who dwell near Brighton I would say
We have a school to offer you to-day
That ranks among the best in Michigan,
In education on the more enlightened plan.
The child is taught from lower grades to higher,
Along life's way at all times to aspire
To higher walks; and learns the lesson well,
That in future years will surely tell.
Give to the child a well-developed brain
And it will live to battle every strain,
And in the voyage all must travel here
Among the better classes will appear.
Professor E. D. Watkins, in whose care is placed
The interests of all, his name has graced
With a degree on which we place reliance.
The high degree of Bachelor of Science.

And Mary Stewart Seymour, the
Preceptress too,
Among the teachers ranks among the best 'tis true.
Lovina Westphal has the Grammar
Grade
And as a teacher has her record made.
While little ones can learn
Their A. B. C.
Through Etta Abrams and Ella Kennedy.
The country school can start the
Germ of thought,
But higher aims at higher schools are bought.
Just send your boys and girls to
Such a school as this
And the cost of tuition you will scarcely miss.
And Ptolemy, Clark, and Ratz,
Placeway and Boylan too.
The board of education will do
What they can for you.

BOARD MEMBERS AND/OR CHAIRMEN NEEDED

TO BECOME A MORE VIABLE ENTITY IN THE COMMUNITY IN 1997, SEVERAL POSITIONS NEED TO BE FILLED IN THE SOCIETY:

FUND RAISING CHAIRMAN: RESPONSIBLE FOR PROMOTION OF VARIOUS MEANS OF RAISING FUNDS FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROJECTS OF THE SOCIETY. THIS WOULD INCLUDE APPOINTING CHAIRMEN FOR THE SPAGHETTI DINNER, HOME TOURS, ART FAIR, RAFFLES, SALES, ETC. ALSO TO FOLLOW UP ON DISTRIBUTION OF INVENTORY AND TRANSFER OF PROCEEDS TO THE TREASURER.

THE SOCIETY HAS A FINE MEMBERSHIP OF PEOPLE WILLING TO HELP WHEN ASKED. WHAT IS NEEDED IS SOMEBODY TO COORDINATE THE VARIOUS PROJECTS ESTABLISHED AND TO PROMOTE OTHERS.

PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN: RESPONSIBLE FOR ADVERTISING SOCIETY ACTIVITIES ON A REGULAR BASIS, E.G. ART FAIR, TOURS, GENERAL MEETINGS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROJECTS, WORK WITH THE FUND RAISING CHAIRMAN WITH THOSE PROJECTS. EVERYTHING WHICH WILL HELP THE PUBLIC BECOME AWARE OF THE SOCIETY AND ITS GOALS.

NEWSLETTER CHAIRMAN: GET INFORMATION RE THE SOCIETY PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES TO THE MEMBERSHIP ON A MONTHLY BASIS. CONTACT THE VARIOUS CHAIRMEN FOR REPORTS. PREPARE MATERIAL READY FOR PRINTING.

ALL OF THE ABOVE SHOULD PLAN TO ATTEND BOARD MEETINGS REGULARLY OR SEE THAT A REPORT IS AVAILABLE. THEY CAN SERVE AS A BOARD MEMBER OF AS A CHAIRMAN.

TREASURER: IS A BOARD MEMBER, WILL ATTEND BOARD MEETINGS, RECORD RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS, PREPARE MONTHLY AND ANNUAL REPORTS. THE SOCIETY BODIES THIS OFFICER.

DATES TO REMEMBER

* Jan. 6: 7 p.m. Program Planning for 1997.
  8-9 p.m. Jan. 8th, 1-5 p.m., Genealogical help at library.
  21, 1-5 p.m. Work in Archives.
  25, 7:30 p.m. History Book Committee
  27, 7:30 p.m. Board meeting.

* Feb. 6: 7 p.m. Livingston County Genealogical Society, 1041 W. Grand River, Howell.
  "Let's Check the Internet".

* Mar. 6: 7 p.m. LCGS, Livingston County Register of Deeds Office, Available records and how to use.

* Apr. 11: 7 p.m. Livingston County Register of Deeds Office, Available records and how to use.
  17th Annual Preservation Conference, Bay City, 513/998-6248.

* 202 W. MAIN, UPSTAIRS. WELCOME.
MEMBERSHIPS 1997

PATRON: Jere & Kay Michaels.
Couples/INDIV.: Homer & Evelyn Douthager (1C), Emil & Joan Engel, Katherine Hampton (Harbor Springs), Ed & Elaine Klinsky, Helen Michael, Joe & Irene Mike (98).

The members listed above are among the many in the area showing approval of the Society's goals and objectives. Board members are encouraged by this kind of support.

About $3000. must be budgeted each year for Trail Tales. Dues fees and special contributions are designated to that expense ($250 per mo.). Memberships barely cover this (other administration expenses come from dues also).

Your membership should be considered an investment in the preservation of the rich resources we've inherited from the pioneers. If you are not a member but wish to remain on the mailing list a contribution would be appreciated.

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

...Bill McCrillie for volunteering to keep the Chimney Master, installed by the Society into the Old Town Hall, in good working order.
...Norm Cattrell, Joanne Ceru, June Kimele, and Shirley Kittler for help in newsletter mailing.
...Naughty 'N Nice and Wood 'N Things for stocking the coverlet for the Society.
...Nostalgia Antiques for stocking the tiles for the Society.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

COVERLETS (red, green, and blue) Woven Cotton, with nine historic Brighton sites, centered by the mill pond and the Old Town Hall, c. 1920, can be purchased at Naughty 'N Nice, 412 W. Main and at Wood 'N Things, 200 Byrne St.

POSTCARDS of early local scenes are at The Book Nook, 322 W. Main.

SIGNATURE QUILT: a signature, with a $10 donation, (or a signature of an early resident of the area, furnished by the Society) will be embroidered on the quilt, which will be retained by the Society.

ARCHIVES: Working for two hours each third Tuesday (1-5) is barely making a dent in the task of archiving and indexing the evidence of the area's past. Your help is needed! If other days or hours would be better call 229-6402.

HISTORY BOOK: Much of the work is being completed by chairman Carol McMahan. Pictures, letters, memories, etc., all contribute to a more comprehensive book of the history of the Brighton area. Yours will be welcome. Join in at the Old Town Hall, 202 W. Main, 4th Thursdays.

HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION: Work is continuing on the restoration of this building. 132 E. Grand River, to make it a viable place of business. Offices can be leased. Donations can be made through the Historical Society and are income tax deductible.

LYONS SCHOOL: The exterior painting was completed. Chairman Jim Vichich, dedicated himself to finishing this job before winter. Located at 11455 Bunn Road the challenge of preparing this building for use by school children will be in full swing this spring.

ORAL HISTORY: Janice Field and Marieanna Faer attended the Michigan Oral History Association workshop in Walloon Lake. Preservation of family history, asking good questions, use of equipment, etc., were among the subjects covered. Interested in conducting oral histories? Let us get the information to you.

PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION

NEEDLEPOINT KITS OF THE OLD TOWN HALL.
$8, or 10X14 pictures of the mill stream dam (before it was covered by the parking lot) are available at 810-229-6402, $15.

SOCIETY TILES: Can be purchased at Nostalgia Antiques, 410 W. Main. The $196 tile of the Rialto Theater is also here. $8, or any three for $21.00.

Proceeds from these items are designated to the several Historic Preservation projects of the Society, i.e., Lyons School, Oral History, Archives, etc.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME ________________________ PHONE ________________________

ADDRESS ________________________ ADDRESSEE ________________________

( ) New ( ) Renewal ( )

( ) 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


Brighton Area Historical Society
P. O. Box 401, Brighton, MI 48116-0401.

For the past 15 months excerpts from "A Book of Poems" by Fred A Bush (1898) have been highlighted on the back page of Trail Tales. This book was a special supplement to the Brighton Argus for that long ago holiday season.

This pamphlet memorialized many of the stores and merchants in the area at the time. Addresses of these sites were not included. It would add a great deal to the local history to have this information. We know that the site relative to this month's poem would have been the Union School. Opened in 1868 the first high school class was graduated in 1889. This 100th anniversary was commemorated in 1985 with a three-day celebration which hundreds of alumni attended.

When constructed this building contained all the elementary classes and the high school. It served the community for 60 years. It was removed in 1957 to make way for the St. Patrick's Catholic Church School, located at 710 Rickett Road. The Historical Society prepared a tile portraying the Union School.

CORRECTION: Bob Watson, who recently donated copies of Sandborn Maps, reminds us they were prepared for use exclusively by insurance companies. Accurate, current and detailed information about the buildings they insured was needed. Again, thank you Bob.

ANOTHER DATE OF INTEREST: April 6, 10-4:30, Eighth Annual Genealogy and History Book Fair, Lansing Center, 555 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517/332-0123.
Finacial Resources

Coverlets (Red, green, and blue) woven cotton, with nine historic Brighton sites, centered by the mill pond and the Old Town Hall. c. 1920, can be purchased at Naughty ‘n Nice. 412 W. Main and at Wood ‘n Things, 200 Hyne Street.

Post cards of early local scenes are at the Book Nook. 322 W. Main.

Signature quilt: a signature, with a $10 donation, (or a signature of an early resident of the area, furnished by the Society) will be embroidered on the quilt, which will be retained by the Society.

Needlepoint kits of the Old Town Hall, $8, or 10x14 pictures of the mill stream dam (before it was covered by the parking lot) are available at 810/229-6402, $15.

Society tiles; can be purchased at Nostalgia Antiques. 416 W. Main. The 1956 tile of the Rialto Theater is also here, $8, or any three for $21.00.

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Brighton Public School

There is a saying true to all mankind
That education forms the common mind,
And knowledge, whereas' e'er it be attained,
Is far the best of jewels ever gained.
And as our children soon must feel the strife
That's bound to come to most of us in life;
There's not a better gift in all the nation
Than a first-class and finished education.

To those who dwell near Brighton I would say
We have a school to offer you to-day
That ranks among the best in Michigan,
In education on the more enlightened plan.
The child is taught from lower grades to higher,
Along life's way at all times to aspire
To higher walks; and learns the lesson well,
That in future years will surely tell.
Give to the child a well-developed brain
And it will live to battle every strain.
And in the voyage all must travel here
Among the better classes will appear.
Professor E. D. Watkins, in whose care is placed
The interests of all, his name has graced,
With a degree on which we place reliance,
The high degree of Bachelor of Science.

And Mary Stewart Seymour, the
Preceptoress too,
Among the teachers ranks among the best 'tis true.
Lovina Westphal has the Grammar
Grade
And as a teacher has her record made.
While little ones can learn
Their A. B. C.
Through Etta Abrams and Ella
Kennedy.

The country school can start the
Germs of thought,
But higher aims at higher schools are
Bought.
Just send your boys and girls to
Such a school as this
And the cost of tuition you
Will scarcely miss.
And Ptolemy, Clark, and Ratz
Placeway and Boylan too.
The board of education will do
What they can for you.

BOARD MEMBERS AND/OR CHAIRMEN NEEDED

TO BECOME A MORE VIABLE ENTITY IN THE COMMUNITY IN 1997 SEVERAL POSITIONS NEED TO BE FILLED IN THE SOCIETY:

Fund Raising Chairman: Responsible for promotion of various means of raising funds for historic preservation projects of the Society. This would include appointment of chairmen for the spaghetti dinner, home tours, Art Fair, raffles, sales, etc. Also to follow up on distribution of inventory and transfer of proceeds to the treasurer.

The Society has a fine membership of people willing to help when asked. What is needed is someone to coordinate the various projects established and to promote others.

Publicity Chairman: Responsible for advertising Society activities on a regular basis, e.g. Art Fair, tours, general meetings, historic preservation projects, work with the Fund Raising chairman with those projects. Everything which will help the public become aware of the Society and its goals.

Newsletter Chairman: Get information re the Society projects and activities to the membership on a monthly basis. Contact the various chairmen for reports. Prepare material ready for printing.

All of the above should plan to attend board meetings regularly or see that a report is available. They can serve as a board member of as a chairman.

Treasurer: Is a board member, will attend board meetings, record receipts and disbursements, prepare monthly and annual reports. The Society binds this officer.