



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. 7

Brighton, MI 48116
JULY, 1997

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OFFICERS

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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

HISTORICAL SOCIETY MOVES
OUT OF THE OLD TOWN HALL
TO ?

JUNE 16, 1997, 7:30 A.M., ENDED THE SOCIETY'S 15 YEAR SOJOURN AT THE OLD TOWN HALL ON WEST MAIN. ALTHO' ONLY A SMALL PORTION OF THE UPSTAIRS WAS USED IT SERVED AS A CONVENIENT HEADQUARTERS.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS WERE HELD THERE AS WERE MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS TO WHICH THE PUBLIC WAS INVITED. ARCHIVAL FILES WERE DEVELOPED AND LOCATED IN THAT PLACE. EQUIPMENT FOR USE AT VARIOUS EVENTS (SPAGHETTI SUPPERS, HOME TOURS, ART FAIR, JULY 4 PARADE, ETC) WAS LOCATED THERE. ALSO FUND RAISING ITEMS: TILES, COVERLETS, POST CARDS, NOTE PAPER, ETC.

IT WAS A DRY, COMFORTABLE SITE FOR THE MANY ITEMS RELATED TO THE AREA'S HISTORY WHICH WERE DONATED AND COLLECTED BY THE SOCIETY.

WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE BRIGHTON CITY MANAGER, FOLLOWING THE DIRECTIVE OF THE CITY COUNCIL, HELP IN MOVING WAS PROVIDED. A STORAGE LOCKER HAS BEEN RENTED FOR A SHORT TIME.

THANKS TO THE LABORS OF JOHN AND JANICE FIELD AND JOANNE CERU, MUCH OF THE MATERIAL HAD BEEN PACKAGED IN STRONG, COVERED BOXES, CONTENTS IDENTIFIED AND TAPED IN PREPARATION FOR THE MOVE.

WHILE MOST FILES AND ARCHIVES ARE IN THE STORAGE LOCKER, THOSE ITEMS RELATED TO VARIOUS PROJECTS ARE WITH THE SEVERAL CHAIRMEN. LISA CAVE IS STORING ART FAIR EQUIPMENT AND NANCY FREDENBURG IS STORING SPAGHETTI SUPPER MATERIALS. HISTORY BOOK CHAIRMAN, CAROL McMACKEN, HAS THE MICRO-FILM AND READER.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- JULY 3: 7 P.M. LIVINGSTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, 227-1760 FOR INFO.
- 4: 10 A.M. INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE.
- 9: 5-8 P.M. AND JULY 22, 1-5 P.M., GENEALOGICAL HELP AT THE LIBRARY.
- * 15: 1-3 P.M. ARCHIVING GROUP. JOIN IN.
- 19: 10-4 P.M. QUILT/CRAFT SHOW, WATERLOO HIST. SOC. FARM MUSEUM 517/655-3089.
- 24: 7 P.M. GENERAL MEETING. TOUR VILLAGE CEMETERY. EVERYONE WELCOME.
- 26: 7:30 P.M. BOARD MEETING. WELCOME.
- JULY/AUGUST, SUNDAY NIGHTS, 7:30 CONCERTS AT THE MILL POND. SPONSORED BY BRIGHTON KIWANIS.

*CALL TO CONFIRM MEETING SITE. 810/229-6402.

(PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 3)

MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: TED & DORIS CARMACK (DRBRN).

BUS/PROF: LITTLE PROFESSOR BOOK CENTER.

COUPLES/INDIV: LOIS KRAUSMAN (FL 1998, '99), RUDY & DOREEN MEFFERT, DOROTHY A. O'JACK, (ANN ARBOR), RICK & JUDY PARSONS, LURA WADMAN (CA).

LITTLE PROFESSOR, DOROTHY AND LURA ARE NEW MEMBERS. WELCOME!!!

PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT PLUS FINANCIAL SUPPORT WILL KEEP THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY STRONG. IF THERE IS A 97, OR HIGHER, NUMBER ON THE MAILING LABEL YOU ARE UP TO DATE WITH YOUR DUES. IF NOT, WHEN PAYING BILLS INCLUDE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP. YOUR ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS IS GREAT BUT FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS VITAL ALSO.

WHILE YOU'RE AT IT CONSIDER GIVING A MEMBERSHIP TO A FRIEND ALSO.

IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT CHECK OUT THE FOLLOWING. YOU'LL FIND SOMETHING TO DO.

...SERVE AS TREASURER. SINCE 1994 MARGE WHITE HAS ABLE SERVED IN THIS CAPACITY. HOW ABOUT GIVING HER SOME WELL DESERVED TIME OFF AND VOLUNTEER YOUR SERVICES?
...LISA CAVE, 229-0683, CAN USE SOME HELP WITH THE SOCIETY'S ART FAIR BOOTH, AUG. 9&10.
...NANCY FREDENBURG, 229-9100, HAS A JOB FOR YOU FOR THE SPAGHETTI SUPPER, SEPT. 12.
...AND ALSO FOR THE HOME TOUR, OCT. 4.
...EXTRA COPIES OF THE NEWSLETTER ARE DELIVERED TO VARIOUS BUSINESSES, ETC., TO PUBLICIZE THE SOCIETY AND INCREASE AWARENESS, IN THE GENERAL PUBLIC, OF THE ORGANIZATIONS GOALS AND PURPOSES. JACK LINAHAN HAS HANDLED THIS JOB FOR SEVERAL YEARS. JERRY GENEREAU (BRIGHTON BARBER SHOP) HAS OFFERED TO DELIVER THOSE ADDRESSED TO DOWNTOWN BUSINESSES (27). TWENTY-ONE ADDRESSES OUTSIDE OF TOWN NEED TRAIL TALES DELIVERED TO THEM ALSO. CALL MARIEANNA BAIR, 229-6402, AND TELL HER YOU'LL TAKE THIS JOB OFF HER HANDS.
...SEVERAL ITEMS HAVE BEEN DONATED TO BE USED AS RAFFLE PRIZES. A CHAIRPERSON IS NEEDED TO GET TICKETS PRINTED, PROMOTE THEIR SALE AND HELP WITH PUBLICITY.
...DONATIONS TOWARD NEWSLETTER PRINTING, \$160.00 AND POSTAGE, \$48.00 PER MONTH ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

CALL 810/229-6402 FOR INFORMATION ON ANY OF THE ABOVE.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ARCHIVES: THE SORTING, IDENTIFYING, INDEXING, FILING, COPYING, ETC., OF PICTURES, WRITTEN MATERIAL, MAPS, DIRECTORIES, ETC. CONTINUES, WHETHER THE SOCIETY HAS A HOME OR NOT. (THIS IS A DEDICATED GROUP.) YOUR HELP, INTEREST, INFORMATION, AND CONCERN FOR PRESERVATION IS NECESSARY. CALL 229-6402 FOR LOCATION.

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY: TAKING PICTURES OF LOCAL SITES AND RESEARCHING THEIR HISTORY IS A MAJOR PURPOSE OF THIS COMMITTEE. CALL DAVE BARTON, 229-5213 OR LISA CAVE, 229-0683 TO HELP.

HISTORY BOOK: THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE SEPTEMBER 25. CONTACT CAROL McMACKEN, 231-2957 IF YOU HAVE LETTERS, PICTURES, STORIES, ETC., TO MAKE THIS BOOK AS COMPLETE AS POSSIBLE.

LYONS SCHOOL: JIM VICHICH, 227-4840, WILL SCHEDULE CARPENTERS, PLUMBERS, ELECTRICIANS, ETC, TO CONTINUE WORK ON THIS BUILDING. CALL HIM WITH YOUR HELP.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...DANA FOSTER, BRIGHTON CITY MANAGER; MARY JANE BENNER, DAVID PAULI AND GLORIA OSBORN, OF THE BRIGHTON DISTRICT LIBRARY; JOHN AND JANICE FIELD, GARY MCCRIE AND CAROL McMACKEN OF THE SOCIETY WHO MET LAST MONTH TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF THE SOCIETY BECAUSE OF ITS DEPARTURE FROM THE OLD TOWN HALL NECESSITATED BY THE LEASING OF THE ENTIRE BUILDING BY THE BRIGHTON ARGUS.

...THE FIELDS, LISA CAVE, NANCY FREDENBURG OF THE SOCIETY AND DAVE BLACKMAR, MIKE ARCHINAL AND OTHER CITY WORKERS FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE IN REGARDS TO THE VACATING NOTED ABOVE.

...ALENE & PAUL ANDERSON FOR PICTURE WITH I.D. OF THE WILLIAM WINKELHAUS FAMILY.

...KATHERINE STURBERG FOR THE QUILT TO BE USED FOR A RAFFLE.

...LISA CAVE FOR RECHARGING A COPIER CARTRIDGE.

SYMPATHIES OF THE SOCIETY
TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS
OF MARGARET GOLDSTEIN
A LONG TIME RESIDENT OF BRIGHTON
AND MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

(PLEASE INCLUDE ZIP + 4 DIGIT)

NEW () RENEWAL ()

Activities in which I would like to participate:

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bake Sale | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with Spec. events | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Research |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality | <input type="checkbox"/> Oral History | <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising | <input type="checkbox"/> Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography | <input type="checkbox"/> Video Taping |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Genealogy | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity | <input type="checkbox"/> 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.

JULY 4 PARADE

BOARD MEMBERS ARE COORDINATING THE BUGGY, THE HORSE, THE DRIVER, THE PARADE COMMITTEE, THE WEATHER (!?) IN ORDER THAT THE SOCIETY WILL HAVE A PRESENCE IN THE ANNUAL PARADE IN BRIGHTON.

RESTORATION OF THE BUGGY PUT A DENT IN THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION/RESTORATION FUND NOT TOO LONG AGO; A \$2845.00 DENT. IF 28 PERSONS DONATED \$100.00 IT WOULD JUST ABOUT COMPLETELY REPAIR THAT DENT. (ALL DONATIONS ARE INCOME TAX DEDUCTIBLE. THE SOCIETY IS A 501(c)3 ORGANIZATION.)

BRIGHTON VILLAGE CEMETERY TOUR

THURSDAY, JULY 24, 7 P.M.

FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS THE SOCIETY HAS CONDUCTED A HISTORIC TOUR IN JULY. THESE HAVE BEEN WELL ATTENDED GENERAL MEETINGS. THIS YEAR WE'LL TOUR THE VILLAGE CEMETERY BEHIND ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

YOU'LL HEAR A SHORT HISTORY OF ST. PAUL'S CONGREGATION AND THE VILLAGE CEMETERY. YOU'LL LEARN OF THE SEVERAL TYPES OF TOMBSTONES, THE MATERIALS OF WHICH THEY ARE MADE AND THE SPECIAL PROBLEMS THAT COME WITH CEMETERY CARE. WE'LL HEAR FROM SEVERAL PEOPLE WHO ARE DESCENDED FROM EARLY LOCAL SETTLERS WHO ARE BURIED THERE. WE WILL VISIT THE SITE OF THE COUNTRY'S FIRST REPUBLICAN GOVERNOR'S GRAVE AND THAT OF A FORMER NEGRO SLAVE.

MEET DOWNSTAIRS IN THE ST. PAUL PARISH HALL ON W. ST PAUL STREET AT 7 P.M. TO LEARN OF THE BACKGROUND OF THE CONGREGATION AND CEMETERY. IN CASE OF RAIN WEAR RAINGEAR.

OH YES, PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE A TICKET FOR A SINGLE DIP ICE CREAM CONE FROM THE YUM YUM TREE COURTESY OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. BRING A FRIEND. THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

HOWEVER THE SOCIETY CANNOT CONTINUE TO WORK OUT OF A STORAGE LOCKER. A HEAD-QUARTERS IS NEEDED. IT IS IMPERATIVE!

MARIEANNA BAIR, PRESIDENT

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.
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BRIGHTON, MI

AREA FARMS C. 1900

THIS SECOND OF A SERIES OF NOTES ON FARMS AND THE NAMES GIVEN THEM, WILL BE CONCERNED WITH THE ERNEST M. CRIPPEN FARM, SPRINGDALE FARM. LOCATED JUST NORTH OF THE CHARLES JACOBS FARM, WHICH WAS DESCRIBED LAST MONTH, IT WAS ALSO ON ORE CREEK.

ERNEST WAS BORN IN THE HOME ON HACKER ROAD, 1/8 MILE NORTH OF GRAND RIVER, APRIL 14, 1842, THE YOUNGEST SON OF ANSEL AND MARILLA CRIPPEN. HIS PARENTS HAD SETTLED IN THAT SW $\frac{1}{4}$ OF SECTION 18 IN BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP A FEW YEARS EARLIER. BY THE TIME HE REACHED MATURITY HE HAD SERVED IN THE CIVIL WAR - 9TH MICHIGAN VOLUNTEERS, CO. I. ERNIE MARRIED HELEN LUCE JULY 4, 1870. (127 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH.) THEY FARMED THERE UNTIL MOVING INTO BRIGHTON IN 1904. ERNEST CRIPPEN DIED IN BRIGHTON MARCH 15, 1920. (HELEN DIED IN 1912.)

HOW MIGHT THE FARM HAVE ACQUIRED THE NAME SPRINGDALE FARM? THE BARN WAS LOCATED AT THE TOP OF A STEEP HILL ABOVE ORE CREEK. A SMALL SHALLOW POND (LOCALLY CALLED MOSS LAKE) LAY JUST NORTH. ONE NIGHT, DURING AN UNUSUALLY HEAVY RAINFALL, AN ENORMOUS GULLY WAS FORMED IN THE HILL BELOW THE BARN. THE NEXT DAY A LARGE SPRING WAS DISCOVERED FLOWING FROM THE GULLY. THIS SPRING, UNDOUBTEDLY, WAS THE SOURCE OF MOSS LAKE. THE LAKE'S WATER LEVEL WAS GREATLY LOWERED AND NEVER RESUMED ITS FORMER SIZE. THE SPRING RAN STRONGLY FOR YEARS PROVIDING AN ABUNDANT SUPPLY OF WATER FOR THE LIVE STOCK AND FOR COOLING CANS OF MILK IN PREPARATION FOR SHIPMENT TO THE DAIRY FOR BOTTLING. THE DAM ON ORE CREEK, WHICH FORMED WOODLAND LAKE, HAS OBLITERATED ALL EVIDENCE OF THE SPRING.

AT THAT TIME GRAND RIVER CONTINUED NORTH ON HACKER ROAD, MAKING A SHARP LEFT TURN (AT BENDIX) TO SKIRT A LARGE HILL, BEFORE CONTINUING WEST TOWARD HOWELL. MORE RESEARCH IS NECESSARY TO NOTE WHEN THE CUT WAS MADE THROUGH THE HILL PROVIDING AN EASY CURVE INSTEAD OF THE ORIGINAL SHARP TURN. (SURELY SOME OF OUR READERS CAN HELP WITH THIS DATE.)

DURING THE '30s, PERHAPS EARLIER, CRIPPEN'S BARN BECAME A CLUBHOUSE FOR A REAL ESTATE VENTURE. HIGH SCHOOL PROMS AND OTHER PARTIES WERE HELD THERE. THE BARN BURNED IN THE MID 1950s (?). THE HOUSE STILL STANDS.

ORE CREEK NOW QUIETLY FLOWS UNDER I-96, UNDER GRAND RIVER (SOUTH OF CROSS STREET) AND INTO BRIGHTON'S DOWNTOWN WHERE ANOTHER DAM FORMS THE MILL POND. (COMPILED FROM (BILL PLESS' MEMORIES, MRS. MYRON WEST'S SCRAPBOOK, 1915 LIVINGSTON COUNTY ATLAS. MARIEANNA BAIR, 810/229-6402)