



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  
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Brighton, MI 48116  
JUNE, 1997

SOCIETY LEAVING OLD TOWN HALL

SINCE 198 , THE SOCIETY HAS BEEN CONDUCTING ITS BUSINESS AT THE HISTORIC OLD TOWN HALL, 202 W. MAIN. HOWEVER, THE BRIGHTON ARGUS IS LEASING THE ENTIRE BUILDING FOR USE AS THEIR OFFICE IN BRIGHTON. AFTER JUNE 16, THERE WILL NOT BE ROOM AT THAT SITE FOR THE SOCIETY'S FILES, ARCHIVES, OFFICE EQUIPMENT, FUND RAISING STOCK AND MEETING SITE. A NEW LOCATION MUST BE FOUND.

THE BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HAS DIRECTED THE CITY MANAGER TO ASSIST THE SOCIETY IN ITS SEARCH FOR A MOVE TO ANOTHER SITE; THE LOCATION OF WHICH IS STILL TO BE DETERMINED. THE SOCIETY APPRECIATES THE SUPPORT OF THE CITY COUNCIL IN THIS SEARCH.

THE LYONS SCHOOL, PRESENTLY UNDER RESTORATION IN BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP, MAY AFFORD A PERMANENT SITE IN THE FUTURE. HOWEVER ITS COMPLETION IS STILL SEVERAL MONTHS DOWN THE ROAD.

PROPER STORAGE OF ARCHIVAL MATERIALS AND THEIR INDEXING IS THE WORK OF THE SOCIETY'S ARCHIVES, ORAL HISTORY AND HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY COMMITTEES. MANY BOXES OF HISTORICAL MATERIAL (RELATIVE TO THE AREA) NEED TO BE ACCESSIBLE FOR INCORPORATION INTO THE BRIGHTON AREA ARCHIVES. THE SOCIETY'S GOAL OF COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION OF LOCAL HISTORY, REQUIRES THIS WORK TO CONTINUE.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DISTRICT LIBRARY, THE CITY AND THE SOCIETY HAVE MET TO EXPLORE SOLUTIONS AND DISCUSS A POSSIBLE INTERIM LOCATION UNTIL A PERMANENT SITE CAN BE ACQUIRED. NO DEFINITE CONCLUSION HAS BEEN REACHED AT THIS TIME. HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS MAY BE RELAYED TO THE CITY, A SOCIETY BOARD MEMBER OR SOCIETY PRESIDENT, MARIEANNA BAIR, 810/229-6402.

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	227-4840

CHAIRPERSONS

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

DATES TO REMEMBER

- JUNE 5, 7 P.M. LIVINGSTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY. 227-1760 FOR INFO.
- \* 10, 17, 24, 1-3 P.M. WORK IN ARCHIVES.
- \* 11, 7 P.M. HOME TOUR COMMITTEE.
- 11, 5-8 P.M. AND JUNE 24, 1-5 P.M., GENEALOGICAL HELP AT THE LIBRARY.
- 14, REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR 1ST ANNUAL MICHIGAN UNDERGROUND RAIL ROAD SUMMIT, LANSING. 616/245-3815. JUNE 21.
- 16, 17, MICHIGAN ARCHIVAL ASSOC. ANNUAL MEETING AT CRANBROOK, AT BLOOMFIELD HILLS. 248/645-3583.
- \* 23, 7:30 P.M. SOCIETY BOARD MEETING.
- 26, 7:30 P.M. BOOK COMMITTEE. 231-2957.
- JULY 4 SOCIETY FLOAT IN PARADE (?).
- JULY/AUGUST, SUNDAY NIGHTS, 7:30 CONCERTS AT THE MILL POND. SPONSORED BY BRIGHTON KIWANIS.

\*CALL 229-6402 TO CONFIRM MEETING SITE.

## MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: FRED & BONNIE CORRIGAN AND DAVID & SHIRLEY HOOD.

COUPLES/INDIV: EUGENIA ANDERSON (ST. CLAIRE SHORES), DOROTHY FOSTER (CA '98), ELEANOR HORNUNG, LOIS KRAUSMAN (FL), GAY DEAN LUNDIN, GREG & PAM PARK (O, '98), DORIS PETERSEN (WIXOM), CHUCK & NORMA JEAN PLESS (ROSCOMMON '98), MEL SKEMAN ('98), FLORENCE SULLIVAN ('98), JACK & ROXIE THOMAS, DELORES A. YACKLEY. (THE LAST TWO NAMES ARE NEW MEMBERS.)

SUPPORT FROM ALL INTERESTED IN THE PRESERVATION OF THE HISTORY OF THE BRIGHTON AREA IS A CONTINUAL NEED. PATRON AND BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS GO A LONG WAY TOWARD GENERAL FUND EXPENSES (NEWSLETTER PRINTING/POSTAGE, OFFICE SUPPLIES [PAPER, COPY MACHINE CARTRIDGE], STATIONERY, OTHER POSTAGE, OFFICERS/CHAIRMEN EXPENSES).

ALL PROCEEDS FROM FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES ARE DESIGNATED TO THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND (LYONS SCHOOL, ORAL HISTORY, ARCHIVES, HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY, ETC.).

THANKS      THANKS      THANKS

...ALENE AND PAUL ANDERSON OF CHARLEVOIX, FORMER LONG TIME RESIDENTS OF THE AREA, FOR PICTURES OF: MOTHER'S CLUB FLOATS IN PARADES OF 1941 AND 1943; E. MAIN STREET, PRE SEFA'S (PRE FARMER JACK, PRE KROGER); EMMA PROUT ROGERS; THOMAS ANDERSON FAMILY, 1965; BERTHA KOURT WINKELHAUS, MARY WINKELHAUS STUHRBERG AND MARY KOURT, MAIDS AT THE EASTERN HOTEL; 1906 PICTURE OF CHILDREN OF FRED & MARY (WINKELHAUS) STUHRBERG; FRED, CARL, LEWIS, KATHERINE, ALL BORN IN THE EASTERN HOTEL; MARY STUHRBERG WHO MANAGED THE EASTERN HOTEL AFTER DEATH OF HUSBAND, FRED; ONE OF THE EARLIEST PICTURES OF THE EASTERN HOTEL (N.E. CORNER GRAND RIVER AND MAIN STREET).

...DONNA NELSON, JANE TOMLINSON AND NORMA JEAN PLESS FOR HELP IN PICTURE IDENTIFICATION.

...NORMAN CATRELL AND JUNE KIMBLE FOR HELP GETTING NEWSLETTER READY FOR MAILING.

...NORMA JEAN PLESS FOR DONATION TO LYONS SCHOOL EXPENSES.

...BOB FOSTER, MEL SKEMAN AND OTHERS WHO DONATED SUBSTANTIALLY TO THE GENERAL FUND.

...LISA CAVE FOR ABLY REPRESENTING THE SOCIETY AT THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS FUND RAISER SPONSORED BY V.G.S.

...JACK LINAHAN FOR HIS YEARS OF PERSONALLY DELIVERING TRAIL TALES TO LOCAL BUSINESSES.

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ARCHIVES: THIS COMMITTEE HAS BEEN PREPARING MATERIALS FOR MOVING FROM THE OLD TOWN HALL LOCATION. CONTACT MARIEANNA BAIR, 229-6402 OR JOANNE CERU, 229-8778, WITH YOUR OFFER TO HELP. REGULAR TUESDAY, 1-3 P.M. MEETINGS HAVE BEEN PRODUCTIVE.

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

HISTORY BOOK: MEETINGS ARE 4TH THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. CONTACT CAROL McMACKEN, 231-2957, IF YOU HAVE LETTERS, PICTURES, STORIES, ETC., TO MAKE THIS BOOK AS COMPLETE AS POSSIBLE.

HOME BUILDERS ASSOC: THE AGREEMENT THE SOCIETY HAD WITH HBA HAS CONCLUDED WITH MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RESULTS. YOUR INSPECTION OF THE RESTORATION OF 132 E. GRAND RIVER IS INVITED. OFFICE SPACE IS AVAILABLE FOR LEASE.

LYONS SCHOOL: CARPENTERS, PLUMBERS, AND ELECTRICIANS ARE BEING CONTACTED TO WORK ON THIS RESTORATION PROJECT. CALL JIM VICHICH, 227-4840 WITH YOUR OFFER OF HELP.

### TWO JOIN BOARD

DURING THE APRIL BOARD MEETING SHERYL VIGMOSTAD AND LISA CAVE WERE OFFICIALLY APPOINTED TO THE BOARD. BOTH ARE ALREADY ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN SOCIETY FUNCTIONS. SHERYL IS PUBLICITY CHAIR AND LISA IS ANXIOUS TO PHOTOGRAPH LOCAL SITES. SHE ALSO REPRESENTED THE SOCIETY AT V.G.S RECENTLY AND IS MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SOCIETY BOOTH AT THE ART FAIR. IT IS HEARTENING TO GAIN WILLING PARTICIPANTS AS THESE.

NEEDS      NEEDS      NEEDS

...SOMEONE TO SERVE AS SOCIETY TREASURER.

...A NEWSLETTER DELIVERY PERSON.

...HOME TOUR HELP (OCT. 4).

...SPAGHETTI SUPPER HELP (SEPT. 12)

...ART FAIR HELP. (AUG. 9-10).

...SOMEONE TO CHAIR A RAFFLE.

...HELP WITH GENERAL FUND EXPENSES; COPY MACHINE CARTRIDGE \$125., PAPER \$4., NEWSLETTER POSTAGE \$48. OR PRINTING \$160.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE INCLUDE ZIP + 4 DIGIT)

W ( ) 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

RECAP OF MAY GENERAL MEETING

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.

SYMPATHIES FROM THE SOCIETY  
 TO THE FAMILY OF  
 DR. GERALD E. WHALEN  
 BORN AND RAISED IN BRIGHTON  
 MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY

MEMBERS OF THE GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY SERVED AS TOUR GUIDES TO THE VISITORS AT THE GAGE HOUSE MUSEUM LAST MONTH.

FROM THE BASEMENT (WITH ITS UNIQUE DISPLAY OF EARLY FARM TOOLS AND IMPLEMENTS) TO THE KITCHEN (FILLED WITH EARLY MEAL PREPARATION ARTIFACTS, INCLUDING A WOOD BURNING STOVE), THE ENTRY (WHICH HELD EARLY DAIRY FARM EQUIPMENT), THE BEDROOM (DISPLAYING MUCH EARLY WEARING APPAREL), THE LIVING ROOM (EXHIBITING A ONE ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE REPRESENTATION), THE NORTH PORCH (WITH AN ARRAY OF MILITARY MEMORABILIA), THE UPSTAIRS - ONE ROOM A DOCUMENT ROOM, ANOTHER A SEWING ROOM AND THE THIRD A CHILD'S ROOM - ALL RECEIVED EXCLAMATIONS OF AWE AND APPROVAL.

A SHORT BUSINESS MEETING AT 7 WAS FOLLOWED WITH MORE TOURING AND REFRESHMENTS.

RAIN PREVENTED WALKING THE GROUNDS OF THIS 160+ YEAR OLD FARMSTEAD. VISITS CAN BE MADE EACH SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, 1-4 P.M. DURING JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST. MUSEUM DOCENTS WILL BE ON HAND.

MANY THANKS TO THE GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR THEIR OBVIOUS DEDICATION TO THE GAGE HOUSE MUSEUM. THEIR EFFORTS ENABLE US TO VIEW THE AREA'S EARLY DAYS.

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

MUCH HELP IS NEEDED TO INDEX MICROFILM OF EARLY ISSUES OF THE BRIGHTON ARGUS. PLAN TO SCHEDULE SEVERAL HOURS EACH WEEK. CALL GLORIA OSBORN AT THE LIBRARY.

BLUEWATER MICHIGAN CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORY SOCIETY SCHEDULES TRIPS THROUGHOUT 1997. 810/399-7963 FOR MORE INFO.

Nov. 1, MICHIGAN RAILROAD HISTORY CONFERENCE, ADRIAN. 313/499-3466.

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

AS THE LOGICAL REPOSITORY OF ITEMS OF HISTORICAL VALUE THE SOCIETY HAS ACQUIRED A LISTING OF LOCAL FARMS AND THE NAMES GIVEN THEM. THE LISTING GIVES NO CLUE AS TO DATE OF ORIGIN, COMPILER, REASON FOR COMPILING OR HOW THESE NAMES WERE DETERMINED OR BESTOWED.

OTHER QUESTIONS ARISE. HOW WERE FARMS SELECTED FOR INCLUSION? MANY MAJOR FARMERS ARE NOT LISTED. WHY ARE MOST OF THOSE LISTED IN BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP WITH ONLY A FEW FROM GENOA AND GREEN OAK TOWNSHIPS? WITH NO INFORMATION AS TO LOCATION OUR ONLY CLUE IS "CHARLES JACOBS - PLEASANT VIEW FARM, BRIGHTON". SOME OF OUR SENIOR RESIDENTS MAY KNOW BUT NOT MANY HAVE THAT INFORMATION UNLESS THEY GREW UP IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF THE JACOBS' FARM.

RESEARCH OF THE 1915 LIVINGSTON COUNTY ATLAS HAS LOCATED MOST OF THOSE LISTED. THE ATLAS' INDEX OF NAMES INCLUDES THE SECTION IN WHICH PROPERTY IS OWNED. KNOWLEDGE OF CONTEMPORARY ROAD NAMES IS VITAL - NO ROADS CARRY NAMES IN THE ATLAS. ONE KNEW WHERE THE CRIPPEN PLACE WAS, OR THE KELLY, OR THE HACKER FARM. EVEN WHEN RURAL FREE DELIVER WAS INAUGURATED, OCTOBER 1, 1896, ROAD NAMES WERE NOT NECESSARY. MAIL MERELY REQUIRED YOUR NAME AND POST OFFICE. THE ADVENT OF ELECTRICITY, WITH EDISON'S NEED TO PROPERLY BILL CUSTOMERS, BROUGHT ABOUT DESIGNATED ROAD NAMES AND NUMBERS FOR STRUCTURES.

THE INDEX OF 1915 ATLAS RECORDS THAT CHARLES JACOBS OWNED 80 ACRES IN SECTION 19 OF BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP. FROM THIS IT CAN BE DEDUCED THAT PLEASANT VIEW FARM WAS LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF HILTON ROAD EAST OF GRAND RIVER, ABOUT 1/4 MILE WEST OF ORE CREEK WHERE HILTON ROAD CROSSES IT. FACING NORTH ONE SEES THE DAM ACROSS THE STREAM AND WOODLAND LAKE NORTH OF IT. (BY THE WAY, WHEN WAS THE DAM CONSTRUCTED?)

FROM CHARLES JACOBS' OBITUARY IT CAN BE LEARNED HE WAS BORN IN 1846 IN BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP AND DIED IN 1924 IN BRIGHTON VILLAGE. HE AND HIS WIFE, EUNICE BIDWELL, WHOM HE MARRIED IN 1868, HAD MOVED INTO TOWN A FEW YEARS EARLIER. A LEG WOUND, RECEIVED DURING THE CIVIL WAR BATTLE OF THE WILDERNESS, PLAGUED HIM FOR MANY YEARS. THREE CHILDREN WERE BORN TO THEM: SETH B., PUBLISHER OF THE BRIGHTON ARGUS AT THE TIME OF HIS FATHER'S DEATH, AND TWO DAUGHTERS, MRS. J. L. TAYLOR AND MRS. W. J. DONALDSON, ALL OF BRIGHTON. EUNICE DIED IN 1931. (INFO FROM: NEWSPAPER CLIPPING, 1915 ATLAS LIVINGSTON COUNTY AND OBITUARY LISTINGS BOOK COMPILED BY MILTON CHARBONEAU. MARIEANNA BAIR, 810/229-6402.)