



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. 5

Brighton, MI 48116
May, 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
NANCY FREDENBURG - ORAL HISTORY	229-9100
CAROL McMACKEN - HISTORY BOOK	231-2957
JIM VICHICH - LYONS SCHOOL	227-4840

CHAIRPERSONS

SHERYL VIGMOSTAD - PUBLICITY	227-7506
JACK LINAHAN - PERSONAL DELIVERY	229-8777
TOM & AUDREY LEITH - MEMBERSHIP	229-6165
ANNE STRATIGOS - HOSPITALITY	229-5689
HERB WARNER - LYONS SCHOOL	229-6504

DATES TO REMEMBER

- MAY 1, 7 P.M. LIVINGSTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY: PHOTOGRAPHY BY DUANE ZEMPER. PH 227-1760.
- 3, 9 A.M. COLLECTING ORAL HISTORY. 810/684-0650.
- * 13, 1-3 P.M. ARCHIVES. WELCOME.
- * 14, 7 P.M. HOME TOUR COMM. WELCOME.
- 14, 5-8P.M. AND MY 27, 1-5 P.M. GENEALOGICAL HELP AT THE LIBRARY.
- * 22, 7:30 P.M. BOOK COMM. 231-2957
- * 26, 7:30 P.M. NO BOARD MEETING.
- * 27, 1-3 P.M. ARCHIVES. WELCOME.
- ** 29, 7 P.M. GENERAL MEETING AT GAGE HOUSE MUSEUM.
- JUNE 5, 7 P.M. LIVINGSTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY. 227-1760.

*AT OLD TOWN HALL, 202 W. MAIN. WELCOME.

** SEE RELATED ARTICLE.

GENERAL MEETING, MAY 29, 7 P.M.

THE GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY WILL OPEN THE GAGE HOUSE MUSEUM FOR OUR TOUR. LOCATED AT 6440 KENSINGTON ROAD, SOUTH OF GRAND RIVER, THIS 160 YEAR OLD HOUSE IS A TYPICAL EXAMPLE OF THE EVOLUTION OF A TWO STORY UPRIGHT BUILT BY THE EARLY SETTLERS IN GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP.

THE GAGE FAMILY WAS AMONG THE EARLIEST. AS AGRICULTURE CHANGED SO DID THE HOME. ROOMS WERE ADDED, UTILITIES INSTALLED, INTERIOR DECO CHANGED, EXTERIOR STRUCTURES WERE MODIFIED; ALL CREATING A TYPICAL MICHIGAN FARMSTEAD.

HUNDRED OF ARTIFACTS REVEAL HOW THESE SETTLERS LIVED AND WORKED IN THE 'GOOD OLD DAYS' TO RAISE THEIR FAMILIES. FARM TOOLS, HOUSEHOLD OBJECTS, FURNITURE, MAPS, OTHER PAPER EPHEMERA AND GARMENTS ARE ON DISPLAY. HAVE QUESTIONS AS TO HOW THIS CENTENNIAL FARM DEVELOPED? THE ANSWERS WILL PROBABLY BE FOUND HERE.

A SPECIAL EXHIBIT THIS YEAR IS ONE OF EDUCATION IN THE TOWNSHIP. A BOOK FOR EACH OF THE EIGHT ONE ROOM SCHOOLS IS BEING PREPARED FOR VISITORS' SCRUTINY. THE CELLAR, COMPLETE WITH EXTERIOR DOOR, IS CHOCK FULL OF TOOLS, ETC., ALL IDENTIFIED.

THE GROUNDS GIVE EVIDENCE OF EARLY LANDSCAPING. GOOD WEATHER SHOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO COME BY 6 P.M. FOR A WALK ON A FARMSTEAD. AT 7 P.M. A SHORT BUSINESS MEETING WILL BE HELD TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE TOUR.

AMPLE PARKING IS AVAILABLE. CHILDREN AND THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED.

MEMBERSHIPS

INDIVIDUAL: BERNICE CHAPPEL, LIBBY EISENHARDT, BETTY HERBST (98) AND SHANNON OAK (98).

THE DATE ON YOUR MAILING LABEL WILL TELL YOU THE YEAR FOR WHICH YOUR DUES ARE PAID. IF EARLIER THAN 97, OR THERE IS NO DATE, PLEASE CONSIDER BRINGING MEMBERSHIP UP TO DATE OR BECOMING A MEMBER. (OR MAKING A CONTRIBUTION TO THE GENERAL FUND.) IF YOU BELIEVE THE DATE IS INCORRECT PLEASE CONTACT MARIEANNA BAIR, 810/229-6402.

SUPPORT SUCH AS THAT HELPS VERIFY TO THE BOARD AND COMMITTEE PERSONS THEY ARE ON THE RIGHT PATH. WHAT THEY ARE DOING IS IMPORTANT TO THEM - IT IS HOPED IT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU TOO.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...BETTY HERBST FOR HER CASH DONATION TO THE GENERAL FUND.

...PENNY AND JIM SZCZECHOWSKI FOR THEIR DONATION OF A DISPLAY CASE.

...JIM VICHICH FOR HELPING GETTING IT INTO STORAGE.

...BERT BAIR, LIBBY EISENHARDT, JUNE KIMBLE FOR THEIR HELP IN MAILING THE APRIL ISSUE OF TRAIL TALES.

...NOSTALGIA ANTIQUES, 116 W. MAIN FOR STOCKING SOCIETY TILES.

...NAUGHTY 'N NICE AND HEARTLAND HOUSE, 412 W. MAIN AND 124 W. MAIN, RESPECTIVELY, AND WOOD 'N THINGS, 200 HYNÉ STREET FOR STOCKING THE SOCIETY COVERLETS.

NEEDS NEEDS NEEDS

...HELP WITH GENERAL FUND EXPENSES. I.E. COPY MACHINE CARTRIDGE (125.), PAPER (4.), NEWSLETTER POSTAGE (48.) OR PRINTING (160.).

...SOMEONE TO DESIGN A BROCHURE.

...SOMEONE TO CHAIR THE ART FAIR BOOTH.

...SOMEONE TO CHAIR A RAFFLE.

...HELP WITH THE HOME TOUR EVENT (OCT. 4).

...HELP WITH THE SPAGHETTI SUPPER EVENT (SEPT. 12).

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ARCHIVES: TO PROMOTE THE ONGOING CATALOGING OF THE SOCIETY ARCHIVAL MATERIALS IT WAS DECIDED TO MEET MORE THAN ONCE A MONTH. MAY 13 AND 27, 1 P.M., WILL GIVE YOU AN OPPORTUNITY TO ASSIST. BE ASSURED YOUR HELP IS NEEDED. UPSTAIRS IN THE OLD TOWN HALL, 202 W. MAIN.

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

ORAL HISTORY: SHERYL VIGMOSTAD HAS BEEN TRANSCRIBING SEVERAL TAPES OF EARLY INTERVIEWS AND MEETING SPEAKERS. MANY LONG TIME RESIDENTS OF THE AREA HAVE MEMORIES WHICH SHOULD BE RECORDED. CALL A BOARD MEMBER IF YOU'D CONSIDER BEING INTERVIEWED OR IF YOU'D CONDUCT AN ORAL HISTORY.

SOCIETY HISTORY SCRAP BOOK: JOAN CERU AND MARIEANNA BAIR HAVE BEEN ORGANIZING THE MATERIALS CHRONOLOGICALLY. IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO VIEW THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SOCIETY. MATERIALS OF ARCHIVAL QUALITY ARE BEING USED: PAGES, SLEEVE PROTECTORS, MOUNTING CORNERS, ETC. THIS WILL PERMIT EASY VIEWING WITHOUT FEAR OF DAMAGE FROM HANDLING.

SOME YEARS HAVE SEVERAL ITEMS, IN OTHERS THERE IS A SCARCITY. BLANK SPACES CAN BE FILLED IF YOU HAVE PICTURES, ARTICLES, ETC., OF PROJECTS AND EVENTS. CALL JOANNE, 229-8778 OR MARIEANNA, 229-6402 .

STAMP IMPRINT PERMIT

PERHAPS YOU NOTICED AN IMPRINT WAS USED ON THE NEWS LETTER IN PLACE OF A STAMP. THIS WILL REDUCE THE TIME AND EFFORT NECESSARY TO PREPARE THE NEWSLETTER FOR MAILING. THE VOLUNTEERS WHO DO THIS JOB ONCE A MONTH WILL BE GRATEFUL.

THE ONE TIME CHARGE FOR THIS PERMIT IS \$85. IF EIGHT PEOPLE CONTRIBUTED \$10. ALMOST THE ENTIRE COST CAN BE DEFRAYED.

THIS ISSUE CONCLUDES THE "BOOK OF POEMS" BY FRED A BUSH (SEE PAGE 4). FOR THE 1898 HOLIDAY SEASON THE BRIGHTON ARGUS COMMISSIONED HIM TO WRITE A POEM ABOUT MANY OF THE MERCHANTS AND BUSINESSES IN BRIGHTON. IT HAS NOT BEEN POSSIBLE TO DETERMINE THE LOCATIONS OF MANY OF THEM. FURTHER RESEARCH IS NEEDED. WOULD ONE OF OUR READERS ASSUME THIS RESPONSIBILITY? THE HISTORY OF THE AREA WOULD BECOME MORE REAL. CONTACT THE EDITOR WITH ANY COMMENTS YOU HAVE. (WHAT TOPIC SHALL BE RESEARCHED NEXT?)

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

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

VERLETS: WOVEN COTTON WITH NINE LOCAL HISTORICAL SITES, ARE AT NAUGHTY 'N NICE, WOOD 'N THINGS, AND HEARTLAND HOUSE FOR \$49.

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

SIGNATURE QUILT: AUNT HELEN MAE MICHAELS' NAME WILL BE EMBROIDERED ON THE QUILT, THANKS TO RICCI BANDKAU. FOR \$10. ONE MAKES A TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION AND GAINS A BIT OF IMMORTALITY FOR ONESELF OR ANOTHER. THE QUILT IS SLOWLY FILLING. YOUR SIGNATURE SHOULDN'T BE MISSING.

NEEDLEPOINT KIT OF THE OLD TOWN HALL AND 10"x14" PICTURES OF THE MILL STREAM DAM, OR TO ORDER ANY OF THE ABOVE ITEMS, CALL 810/229-6402.



MEMORIAL DAY, MAY 30, 1910

SOME THINGS STAY THE SAME - SOME THINGS CHANGE. RESIDENTS OF THE AREA CONTINUE TO COMMEMORATE MEMORIAL DAY (DECORATION DAY IN 1910); THE VETERANS STILL MARCH (CIVIL WAR VETERANS, ABOVE); GROUPS OF YOUNG PEOPLE JOIN THEM; SPECTATORS STILL OBSERVE AND HONOR THOSE WHO SACRIFICED.

CHANGES ARE OBVIOUS; TRANSPORTATION, CLOTHING, STRUCTURES, LANDSCAPING (NOTICE THOSE ELMS), ETC. NOT MANY IN THE AREA CAN REMEMBER WHEN BRIGHTON LOOKED LIKE THIS.

BY OBSERVING THE SHADOWS, ETC., IT IS BELIEVED IT IS EARLY MORNING AND THE MARCHERS ARE ON GRAND RIVER (BEFORE PAVING) MARCHING SOUTH. OR ARE THEY PARADING WEST ON MAIN?

OTHER THINGS THAT DON'T CHANGE? ONLOOKERS STILL RESPECT THE FLAG AS IT PASSES BY STANDING, REMOVAL OF HATS AND PLACING THE RIGHT HAND OVER THE HEART. THE VOICES OF MANY JOINING IN THE NATIONAL ANTHEM IS STILL THRILLING.

SOME MEMORABILIA RELATING TO DECO--MEMORIAL DAY IS IN THE SOCIETY'S ARCHIVES. THERE IS ALWAYS ROOM FOR MORE. COPIES CAN BE MADE OF PICTURES, ARTICLES, ETC., AND RETURNED. FOLLOWING WW II SEVERAL PUBLICATIONS WERE PREPARED. NOT ALL OF THESE ARE IN THE ARCHIVES. ANY CONTRIBUTIONS YOU CAN MAKE TO THE ARCHIVES WOULD BE WELCOME. CONTACT MARIEANNA BAIR, 229-6402. THANKS TO DORIS PETERSEN FOR THE PICTURE.

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

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

"HOLIDAY GREETINGS": FROM THE BRIGHTON ARGUS, 1898

FROM A BOOK OF POEMS BY FRED A. BUSH

BRIGHTON (CONCLUSION)

NO FAIRER SPOT HAS NATURE EVER GIVEN
TO BUILD A HOME AND DWELL NEAR HEAVEN;
FOR HERE BOTH QUIET AND ORDER DO PREVAIL,
FRIENDS NE'ER FORSAKE YOU, OR VILE FOES ASSAIL.
WHILE CHURCHES STAND WHOSE SPIRES TO HEAVEN ASCEND,
AND POINT THE SINNER TO THE LATTER END:
THEIR MERRY BELLS FLOAT MUSIC ON THE AIR,
AND CALL THE PEOPLE TO THE HOUSE OF PRAYER.

HERE, SCHOOLS THE VERY FINEST MAY BE FOUND,
IN WHICH THE TREE OF KNOWLEDGE DOTH ABOUND.
WHILE MERRY CHILDREN, ROBED IN GARMENTS FAIR,
ATTEND THE SCHOOLS, WITH HEARTS SO FREE FROM CARE.
BETWEEN THE SETTING AND THE RISING SUN,
ELECTRIC LIGHTS ARE VIEWED BY EVERY ONE:
AND HOUSES AND STORES STRIVE WITH ALL THEIR MIGHT,
TO LIGHT YOUR PATHS WITH HEAVEN'S ELECTRIC LIGHT.

A RAILROAD JOINS IN DOING WELL ITS PARTS
TO MAKE OF BRIGHTON, QUITE A BUSINESS MART:
WHILE WATER POWER, FROM MANY A DISTANT HILL,
GRINDS UP THE GRAIN THE FARMERS BRING TO MILL.
THE BUSINESS MEN ALL STRIVE WITH MIGHT AND MAIN
TO USE YOU SO THAT YOU WILL CALL AGAIN:
THEY DO THEIR BEST, IN DEALING WITH THEIR TRADE,
TO PLACE OTHER COMPETITION IN THE SHADE.

FROM EAST AND WEST AND FROM THE NORTH AND SOUTH,
THE VILLAGE NAME IS HEARD IN EVERY MOUTH:
AND PEOPLE COME FROM VERY FAR AND NEAR
TO SELL THEIR PRODUCE AND DO TRADING HERE.
SO IF YOU WISH A PLACE TO CALL A HOME,
TO SETTLE DOWN AND NEVER LONGER ROAM,
TO DWELL IN VILLAGE, CITY OR IN TOWN,
JUST PAUSE IN BRIGHTON, FRIEND, AND SETTLE DOWN.