



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.11

Brighton, MI 48116
NOVEMBER, 1997

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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CHAIRPERSONS

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

ANNUAL MEETING NOVEMBER 24

BYLAWS OF THE SOCIETY STATE THAT THE ANNUAL MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE IN NOVEMBER. THIS 16TH WILL BE HELD AT 7 P.M. AT THE BRIGHTON DISTRICT LIBRARY, CHARLES ORNDORF DRIVE. SEVERAL MAJOR ISSUES REQUIRE MEMBERS' ATTENTION AND APPROVAL.

ELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL TAKE PLACE. ALL OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS ARE ELECTED FOR ONE YEAR TERMS. IT IS IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN A BOARD OF ACTIVE MEMBERS. OFFICERS HAVE THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES. DIRECTORS DIRECT THE AFFAIRS OF THIS ORGANIZATION. SEVERAL ARE INVOLVED WITH SPECIFIC PROJECTS. MANY ARE BEING HANDLED VERY WELL. MANY MORE NEED TO BE ASSUMED. TRY TO MAKE TIME TO OFFER YOUR HELP ON THE BOARD IN 1998.

CHANGES TO THE BYLAWS, MAINLY FOR CLARIFICATION AND GRAMMATICAL EDITING, ARE RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD. (IT IS DEEMED WISE FOR AN ORGANIZATION TO REVIEW ITS BYLAWS REGULARLY.)

ALSO RECOMMENDED IS AN ADDITION TO THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION. THIS ADDITION IS ADVOCATED BY PROFESSIONALS TO BE APPROPRIATE.

ANNUAL REPORTS WILL PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON SOCIETY ACTIVITIES.

YOUR PARTICIPATION IS IMPORTANT TO THE WELL-BEING OF THIS SOCIETY. CALL A BOARD MEMBER FOR MORE INFORMATION.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Nov. 6, 7 P.M. LIVINGSTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY. "ROUND TABLE MINI-SESSIONS". 227-1760.
- 8, MICHIGAN ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING, LANSING. 248/6566-4663 RO 810/229-6402.
- * 12, 5-8 P.M., AND NOV. 25, 1-5 P.M. GENEALOGICAL HELP.
- * 24, 7 P.M. SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING.
- ** 30, 6 P.M. STORY TELLER AT THE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING IN DOWNTOWN BRIGHTON.
- JAN 12, 1998 ** MEETING PROGRAM PLANNING.
- * BRIGHTON DIST. LIB., 200 CHAS. ORNDORF DR.
- **SEE RELATED ARTICLE.

MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: JOHN S. ALLEN (FL), TED & DORIS CARMACK (DRBRN. 98), PETER & ANNE STRATIGOS (98).

COUPLES/INDIV: JEFFREY & DIANA BARTON (98), JOSEPHINE HYNE (CHELSEA, (98), JEANETTE JOHNSON (98), CLIFF & SHIRLEY RITTER (99), SHERYL VIGMOSTAD.

THANKS TO ALL MEMBERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE SOCIETY AND ITS PURPOSES.

IN THE NEXT MONTH THE TRAIL TALES MAILING LIST WILL BE REVIEWED. PRINTING AND POSTAGE EXPENSES ARE RISING. THE BOARD BELIEVES IT IS IMPORTANT TO DISTRIBUTE THE NEWSLETTER SO OTHERS ARE AWARE OF ITS GOALS. IT GRIEVES THEM BUT IT DOESN'T SEEM FAIR TO CONTINUE SENDING TO THOSE WHOSE DUES ARE IN ARREARS (OR HAVE NEVER BECOME MEMBERS.) THEY'RE CAUGHT BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE. YOUR DUES CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...JOANNE CERU, JOHN & JANICE FIELD, JUNE KIMBLE AND MARILYN PETTIGROVE FOR THEIR EXPERT HELP IN PREPARING THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF TRAIL TALES FOR MAILING.

...THE FIELDS AND JERRY GENEREAU FOR SHARING THE JOB OF HAND DELIVERING THE NEWSLETTER TO BUSINESSES, BANKS, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, SEVERAL MEDICAL FACILITIES, REAL ESTATE OFFICES, ETC. ALTHO' NO CHARGE IS MADE FOR THESE IT IS BELIEVED TO BE GOOD P.R. FOR THE SOCIETY.

...ANNE STRATIGOS FOR DONATION OF ONE MONTH'S NEWSLETTER POSTAGE AND DELIVERY TO SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION, SOCIAL STUDIES AND HISTORY STUDIES TEACHERS.

...ALENE ANDERSON FOR DONATING MORE PICTURES.

...R.J. RICHTER FOR DONATION OF A COPY OF THE WINKELHAUS FAMILY GENEALOGY.

...ROSE PHILLIPS FOR EARLY ISSUES OF THE BRIGHTON ARGUS, EARLY RECORDS, ETC., ETC, FROM THE MARGARET GOLDSTEIN ESTATE.

...JUDY WYMER FAMILY AND LAURA SCHWASS AND SON FOR CONTRIBUTION MEMORIALIZING LILA ROBERTSON.

...PAT & MARGE WHITE FOR DRIVING THEIR 1976 CADILLAC ELDORADO RED CONVERTIBLE AS THE SOCIETY ENTRY IN THE BRIGHTON HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING PARADE; AND TO V.P. JOANNE CERU FOR DOING SUCH A GREAT JOB OF WAVING FROM THE BACK DECK.

PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: FROM A WW I SONGBOOK, LENT BY NANCY FREDENBURG, COPIES WERE MADE FOR SOCIETY FILES AND FOR THE LIBRARY REFERENCE FILES. COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO CONTINUING THE SORTING, INDEXING AND FILING OF EARLY PICTURES, RECORDS, AND INFORMATION OF THE AREA. UNTIL THIS IS DONE THE SHARING OF THESE DATA IS SEVERELY HANDICAPPED. HOWEVER THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE IN A STORAGE FACILITY. HOPEFULLY THIS SITUATION WILL BE REMEDIED SOON. CALL 229-6402 WITH YOUR OFFER OF HELP.

HISTORY BOOK: RESEARCH IS INDEGONE ON A REGULAR BASIS. CAROL McMACKEN, 231-2957, AND HER COMMITTEE ARE REVIEWING EARLY NEWSPAPERS, RECORDS, ETC., IN ORDER TO COMPILE A LOCAL HISTORY. YOUR INPUT IS SINCERELY WELCOMED.

LYONS SCHOOL: 11455 BUNO RD. AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED ON THE TEXT FOR THE HISTORIC SITE MARKER. AS SOON AS FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE THE MARKER CAN BE ORDERED. ALTHO' SOME FUNDS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM DONORS THERE IS STILL A NEED FOR MORE. THIS CAN BE SENT TO THE SOCIETY.

AGREEMENT NEAR

A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT IS BEING PREPARED BETWEEN THE BRIGHTON DISTRICT LIBRARY AND THE SOCIETY BOARD. THIS WILL ENABLE THE TRANSFER OF SOCIETY ARCHIVE MATERIALS TO A LOCATION MORE CONDUCIVE TO TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY CONTROL SO NECESSARY FOR LONGEVITY OF PICTURES, RECORDS, BOOKS, ETC., ETC. THE ARCHIVES COMMITTEE WILL BE ABLE TO RETURN TO THE WORK SO IMPORTANT TO THE PRESERVATION AND DISSEMINATION OF LOCAL HISTORY.

AS MATERIALS ARE ORGANIZED, FILED AND INDEXED INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE TO RESEARCHERS. AND THE SOCIETY CAN CONTINUE WORKING TOWARDS THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH IT WAS ORIGINALLY ORGANIZED.

HOWEVER MUCH OTHER 'STUFF', BOTH HISTORICAL AND THAT GEARED TO THE SOCIETY'S ACTIVITIES, MUST REMAIN IN THE STORAGE FACILITY. THERE IS STILL A REAL NEED FOR A DRYER SITE - ONE LESS SUSCEPTIBLE TO THE FREEZING/THAWING CYCLE OF A MICHIGAN WINTER. CALL A BOARD MEMBER IF YOU CAN HELP FIND PROPER STORAGE FOR THIS 'STUFF'.

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	

STORY TELLER HERE

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

IN COOPERATION WITH THE BRIGHTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, THE SOCIETY IS SPONSORING STORY TELLER, JACK HICKEY, AT THE TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY IN DOWNTOWN BRIGHTON. THE PROGRAM WILL BEGIN AT 6 P.M. THIS EVENT WILL BE GEARED TO THE YOUNGER SET FOR THEIR ENJOYMENT. (THEIR PARENTS WILL ALSO FIND IT ENTERTAINING.)

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING RECAP

THE PRESENTATION ON LINCOLN'S GETTYSBURG ADDRESS BY DR. WELDON PETZ WAS WELL RECEIVED. THANKS TO V.P. JOANNE CERU, WHO SCHEDULED THIS EVENT, WE ALL LEARNED A VARIETY OF LITTLE KNOWN DETAILS RE: THE DEDICATION OF THAT CEMETERY. IT WAS A REMINDER OF THE SACRIFICES MADE BY SO MANY FOR THE SAKE OF THE UNION. WE MUST NEVER FORGET.

1998 MEMBERSHIP MEETING PROGRAMS

JANUARY 12, 1998, A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD, AND ANY MEMBER INTERESTED, WILL BE HELD FOR SCHEDULING NEXT YEAR'S MEMBERSHIP MEETING PROGRAMS.

THE 1997 SCHEDULE INCLUDED TOURS OF THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE, THE GAGE HOUSE MUSEUM AND OF THE BRIGHTON VILLAGE CEMETERY. DR. WELDON PETZ' PROGRAM ON LINCOLN'S GETTYSBURG ADDRESS CONCLUDED THE YEAR'S ACTIVITIES.

SET THAT DATE ASIDE OR CALL JOANNE CERU, 229-7887, WITH SUGGESTIONS OF THE KINDS OF PROGRAMS THAT INTEREST YOU.

COVERLETS: NINE LOCAL HISTORICAL SITES ARE WOVEN INTO THESE RED OR GREEN COTTON COVERLETS. GREAT FOR BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY, HOLIDAY, OR HOSTESS GIFTS THESE CAN BE PURCHASED AT NAUGHTY 'N NICE, 412 W. MAIN, FOR \$49.00 TAX INCLUDED.

POST CARDS: LOCAL HISTORICAL SITES, INCLUDING STREET SCENES AND MODES OF TRANSPORTATION OF EARLY BRIGHTON, THESE CARDS ARE AT THE BOOK NOOK, 322 W. MAIN FOR \$3.00 A PACKET OF 6.

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

SIGNATURE QUILT: A \$10.00 DONATION ASSURES YOUR NAME, OR THAT OF ANOTHER IS EMBROIDERED ON THIS QUILT, WHICH WILL REMAIN IN THE SOCIETY'S ARCHIVES. MANY SIGNATURES OF EARLIER RESIDENTS OF THE AREA ARE IN SOCIETY FILES. THESE CAN BE REQUESTED. 810/229-6402.

TILES: 6" SQUARE WHITE CERAMIC TILES CAN BE PURCHASED AT NOSTALGIA ANTIQUES, 116 W. MAIN. \$8.00 OR 3 FOR \$21.

BICENTENNIAL BOOK

THE HOWELL AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY HAS A FEW COPIES OF THEIR BICENTENNIAL BOOK STILL AVAILABLE. THEY CAN BE PURCHASED AT ZEMPER'S STUDIO OR SPAG'S SPECIALTIES BOTH IN HOWELL.

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

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

AREA FARMS c. 1900

A c. 1900 NEWSPAPER CLIPPING HAS A LISTING OF NAMED FARMS AND THEIR OWNERS. RESEARCH IS CONTINUING TO FIND WHERE THEY WERE LOCATED, WHY THEY HAD THE NAME ASSIGNED AND SOME INFORMATION ABOUT THE OWNERS. IN THIS ISSUE SHADY NOOK, ON THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SPENCER AND KENSINGTON ROADS, IS THE SITE OF OUR RESEARCH. IN THE CLIPPING CHARLES S. FOOTE, IS LISTED AS THE OWNER.

FOUR YEARS AFTER HIS PARENTS, LINUS AND MARY (SMITH) FOOTE, CAME TO LYON TOWNSHIP, OAKLAND COUNTY FROM NEW YORK, CHARLES WAS BORN FEBRUARY 21, 1836. IN 1832 THERE WERE ONLY TWO OTHER CABINS IN THE AREA. THE CABIN LINUS BUILT WAS EIGHT FEET HIGH IN FRONT, SIX FEET IN THE REAR, AND ROOFED OVER WITH BARK. A CRUDE DWELLING WITH NO WINDOWS. IT PROBABLY HAD A DIRT FLOOR, A FIRE PLACE FOR HEAT AND LIGHT AND A HEAVY BLANKET FOR A DOOR. CHARLES WAS BORN IN THAT LITTLE CABIN AS WAS HIS SISTER, AMELIA, IN 1834 AND A YOUNGER BROTHER, ADELBERT, BORN c. 1838. (ADELBERT DIED IN THE CIVIL WAR.)

IN APRIL, 1849, LINUS BOUGHT 80 ACRES FROM ELIJAH JOHNSON (WHO HAD PURCHASED IT ORIGINALLY JULY 15, 1835) AND ANOTHER 80 FROM GARRET MARTIN (PURCHASED MAY 21, 1836). BOTH PIECES IN SECTION 25, BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP. (BOTH ORIGINAL PURCHASERS WERE FROM NEW YORK.) AN 80 ACRE PIECE, OWNED BY A.M. BROWN, LAY BETWEEN. (BY 1875 CHARLES S. FOOTE IS THE OWNER OF THAT PIECE AND THE 80 TO THE EAST WAS SOLD TO WILLIAM FULLER.) LINUS AGAIN FOUND HIMSELF A SETTLER ON UNDEVELOPED LAND WITH ONLY TWO OTHER HOUSES WITHIN A MILE RADIUS OF HIS OWN. THE PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM OF 1891 DESCRIBED, IN GLOWING TERMS, THE HOUSE AND 'HIS BARN, THE FARMER'S PRIDE, ARE LARGE AND SHOW CAREFUL ATTENTION.' (THAT HOUSE IS STILL STANDING.) A STREAM FLOWS THE LENGTH OF THE WEST 80 ENDING IN A SWAMP WEST OF KENSINGTON ROAD. IT MEETS WOODRUFF CREEK AND THEN FLOWS INTO THE HURON RIVER.

CHARLES, 13 ON THE MOVE TO BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP, HAD NOT MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION. HE ATTENDED THE LOG DISTRICT SCHOOL FOR ABOUT THREE MONTHS A YEAR. CLEARING LAND IN ORDER TO FARM TOOK A GREAT DEAL OF ENERGY AND TIME. ABLE-BODIED YOUNG MEN WERE HARD AT WORK AT AN EARLY AGE. ELIZABETH, THE SISTER OF WILLIAM FULLER, THE NEIGHBOR TO THE EAST, BECAME HIS BRIDE IN OCTOBER OF 1859. SON HERBERT AND DAUGHTER CARRIE WERE BORN TO THEM. CARRIE MARRIED E.A. VAN RIPER, OCTOBER 19, 1892; DYING IN 1893 OF CONSUMPTION. HERBERT MARRIED A SISTER OF JUDD BURT (WHO ALSO OWNED PROPERTY IN THE AREA.) THEIR DAUGHTER, FLORENCE, MARRIED EDWARD S. WHALEN NOVEMBER 29, 1911. TO THEM MILDRED AND GERALD (WHO DIED THIS YEAR) WERE BORN. (THE FOOTE NAME CEASES, THE WHALEN NAME WILL LIVE ON IN GERALD'S SIX CHILDREN.) (COMPILED FROM COUNTY ATLASES AND MRS. MYRON WEST'S SCRAPBOOKS DONATED BY EVA WHALEN. MARIEANNA BAIR, 810/229-6402, SEEKS MORE INFORMATION.)