



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 BRIGHTON, MI 48116
Vol. XVII No. 1 JANUARY, 1998

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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BUSINESS SUPPORT APPRECIATED

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES WHO HAVE SUPPORTED THE SOCIETY WITH MEMBERSHIPS OR OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:

MIRO ANDERSON PHOTOGRAPHER, ANN ARBOR NEWS, JOHN AYAUB, BOOK NOOK, BRIGHTON BARBER SHOP, BRIGHTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, BRIGHTON CITY, BRIGHTON DISTRICT LIBRARY, PROFESSIONAL TAX SERVICES, FENCE SPOT, HEARTLAND HOUSE, LIL' PROFESSOR BOOK CENTER, PIET LINDHOUT ASSOCIATES, BILL MC CRIRIE, MEXICAN JONES RESTAURANTE, LINDA NEFF OF BRIGHTON ARGUS, NOSTALGIA DAYS GONE BY ANTIQUES, PDQ/BUS IMAGING GROUP, PREMIER PLUS, ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SINGER PRESS.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- *TUESDAYS, 1 P.M. ARCHIVES COMMITTEE. 810/229-6402.
- THURSDAYS, 1 P.M. HISTORY BOOK COMMITTEE. 810/231-2957.
- *2ND WEDNESDAY, 5-8 P.M. AND 4TH TUESDAY, 1-5 P.M. GENEALOGICAL HELP. 810/227-1760.
- JAN. 8, 7 P.M. LIVINGSTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY. CIVIL WAR LEGACY WITH DAVID FINNEY. LDS CHURCH, 1041 W. GRAND RIVER, HOWELL.
- *JAN. 12, 7 P.M. MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM PLANNING MEETING. 810/229-7887.
- JAN. 24, STATEHOOD DAY, MICHIGAN HISTORY MUSEUM, LANSING 517/373-3559.
- *JAN. 26, 7 P.M. BOARD MEETING. 229-6402.
- *BRIGHTON ROOM, BRIGHTON DISTRICT LIBRARY, CHAS. ORNDORF DRIVE.

WITH OTHER GROUPS

- HOWELL AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY; BICENTENNIAL BOOKS AVAILABLE AT ZEMPER'S STUDIO OR SPAG'S SPECIALITIES.
- MICHIGAN HISTORIC PRESERVATION NETWORK 8TH ANNUAL PRESERVATION CONFERENCE, LANSING 517/353-3121 EXT 283. APRIL 3-4.
- MICHIGAN ONE ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING, LIVONIA, 248/477-7375, MAY 7-8.
- SPANISH/AMERICAN WAR MILITARY ENCAMPMENT, ISLAND LAKE, 248/486-9113. BRIGHTON AREA AND GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETIES. JUNE 13-14. COMMEMORATING THE CENTENNIAL OF THIS EVENT THE ENCAMPMENT WILL TAKE PLACE AT CAMP EATON, NOW PART OF ISLAND LAKE STATE RECREATION AREA. ANN ARBOR NEWS FUNDING NEW HISTORIC SITE MARKER.

MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: MARK & CHARLOTTE GODIN, BOB & BETSY HERBST, JERE, & KAY MICHAELS, MARIE O'DELL, RICHARD & BARBARA SMITH. (99), BILL & JANE TOMLINSON.

BUS/PROF: PDQ/BUS IMAGING GROUP.

COUPLES/INDIV: LISA AAGESON & STEVE SCOTT, LOIS CLARK (MIDLAND), MERRILL & RUTH HERBST, DR. GARY & FRANCES HUGHES, CLIFF & SHIRLEY RITTER, (2000), TOM & BONNIE RIUTTA, DAN & EMMA JEAN SCHMIDT, BUD STEDMAN (FL, 99), GENE & DOROTHY SCHUTZ, BILL & ROSEMARY ULMER.

AAGESON, SCOTT AND HUGHES ARE NEW MEMBERS. WELCOME!

IN DECEMBER A REVIEW OF THE NEWSLETTER ADDRESS LIST WAS IN ORDER. THE POST OFFICE WAS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE ADDRESS CORRECTIONS FOR UNDELIVERABLE PIECES ABOUT 20 WERE RETURNED WITH CHANGES OR "UNABLE TO FORWARD". THESE COST THE SOCIETY .32¢ EACH PLUS THE ORIGINAL POSTAGE.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE SOCIETY IS AMONG THOSE NOTIFIED WHEN YOUR ADDRESS CHANGES. IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO RECEIVE TRAIL TALES PLEASE LET US KNOW.

YOUR LABEL, IF YOU ARE A MEMBER, WILL NOTE THE YEAR FOR WHICH DUES HAVE BEEN PAID. IF THE YEAR IS NOT 98 OR LATER (SOME HAVE PREPAID SEVERAL YEARS) CONSIDER RENEWING AND BRINGING YOUR MEMBERSHIP UP TO DATE. WITHOUT YOU THERE IS NO SOCIETY.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...NORM CATRELL, LISA CAVE, JOHN & JANICE FIELD AND ROSEMARY ULMER FOR THEIR HELP IN PREPARING THE NEWSLETTER FOR MAILING.

...DAVE LEHMAN FOR PHOTOS OF MEMORIAL DAY 1957 (?) AND THE 1957 TEEN AGE RODEO.

...LOIS CLARK AND RICHARD AND BARBARA SMITH FOR LYONS SCHOOL DONATIONS.

...JERRY CAVE FOR COPY CARTRIDGE REFILL.

...MARIE O'DELL AND GENE AND DOROTHY SCHUTZ AND BUD STEDMAN FOR GENERAL FUND DONATIONS.

...STANLEY HOME BUILDERS FOR SERVING AS DROP OFF SITE FOR THE LYONS SCHOOL HISTORIC SITE MARKER.

...CITY OF BRIGHTON FOR THE NEW FILE CABINET DELIVERED TO THE LIBRARY FOR ARCHIVAL INDEXING.

PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: WITH THE DELIVERY OF A NEW FILE CABINET TO THE BRIGHTON ROOM AT THE LIBRARY HEAVY DUTY SORTING OF ARCHIVAL MATERIAL WILL BEGIN. IT IS PLANNED TO MEET EACH TUESDAY AT 1 P.M. YOUR HELP OR DONATIONS OF PICTURES, RECORDS, ABSTRACTS, ETC., WILL NOT ONLY DEVELOP THE ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY OF THE AREA BUT ALSO THE POLITICAL, COMMERCIAL, CULTURAL AND SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS THAT DEFINE THE PEOPLE OF THE AREA IN AN EARLIER DAY. CALL 810/229-6402 AND LET THEM YOU'LL BE THERE.

HISTORY BOOK COMMITTEE: NOW THAT 1998 IS HERE REGULAR MEETINGS WILL COMMENCE. DONATED/LENT PICTURES, LETTERS, NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS, RECORDS, ETC., ARE BEING REVIEWED IN ORDER TO PROVIDE AS COMPREHENSIVE HISTORY AS POSSIBLE OF THE AREA. BEFORE GOING TO PRESS YOU WILL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO RESERVE YOUR COPY(S). CALL CAROL McMACKEN, 810/231-2957, TO OFFER YOUR CONTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS OR HELP IN THIS PROJECT.

LYONS SCHOOL: THE PRELIMINARY SKETCH OF THE PLANNED RESTORATION, PREPARED BY PIET LINDHOUT ASSOCIATES, IS BEING REVIEWED. ONCE THE NEXT SKETCH IS PREPARED SOME LARGE SCALE FUND RAISING WILL BE UNDERTAKEN. THE SOCIETY HAS 501(C)3 STATUS WITH THE I.R.S. ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE INCOME TAX DEDUCTIBLE. IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR THIS MAJOR FUND RAISING EFFORT CALL A BOARD MEMBER. PLEASE!!!

THE HISTORIC SITE MARKER HAS BEEN ORDERED. IT WILL SHORTLY BE DELIVERED TO STANLEY HOME BUILDERS WHO OFFERED TO SERVE AS THE DELIVER SITE. THE SOCIETY IS MOST GRATEFUL FOR THEIR HELP. AGAIN, DONATIONS TO THE COST OF THE MARKER ARE INCOME TAX DEDUCTIBLE AND WOULD BE VERY WELCOME.

SYMPATHIES FROM THE SOCIETY

TO THE FAMILY OF

DON KEEHN

LONG TIME MEMBER AND ARDENT BELIEVER
IN THE SOCIETY'S GOALS

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

NEED NEED NEED

...THE GENERAL FUND BILL FOR NEWSLETTER EXPENSES IS C. \$225.00 PER MONTH. OTHER EXPENSES RELATED TO THE CONDUCT OF SOCIETY BUSINESS INCLUDE: SUPPLIES, MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS, OFFICER BONDING, POST OFFICE EXPENSES SUCH AS BOX RENT, ETC. ONLY WITH MEMBERSHIP FEES AND DONATIONS OF CASH, LABOR, MATERIALS, ETC., CAN THE SOCIETY CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS AT KEEPING YOU, AND THE COMMUNITY, INFORMED OF ITS ACTIVITIES.

...THE PRESERVATION/RESTORATION FUND, I.E. ARCHIVES, HISTORY BOOK, LYONS SCHOOL, ORAL HISTORY, HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY, SITE REGISTRATION AND MARKER PROJECTS, IS ALWAYS IN NEED OF FUNDS. IT IS ASSUMED MEMBERS ARE IN AGREEMENT WITH THESE PROJECTS AND GOALS. (ANY OTHER SUGGESTIONS?)

...TRANSCRIBING MACHINE TO GET ORAL HISTORY ON PAPER.

...VIDEO CAMERA TO RECORD TODAY'S EVENTS WHICH WILL BE TOMORROW'S HISTORY.

...NEWSLETTER SUPPLIES: ADDRESS LABELS, PAPER, POSTAGE, PRINTING EXPENSE.

YOU ARE OUT OF TOWN SEVERAL MONTHS OF THE YEAR? YOUR NEWSLETTER CAN BE SENT DIRECTLY TO YOU IF YOU NOTIFY US. THE LIST OF SOCIETY MEMBERS IS ONLY FOR SOCIETY USE. IT IS NOT DISTRIBUTED TO ANY OTHER GROUP OR BUSINESS.

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

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

TILES: 6" SQUARE WHITE CERAMIC TILES DEPICTING 11 DIFFERENT SITES IN THE AREA CAN BE PURCHASED AT NOSTALGIA ANTIQUES, 116 W. MAIN FOR \$8.00 OR 3 FOR \$21.00.

NEEDLEPOINT KIT OF THE OLD TOWN HALL, TOTE BAGS (\$15.00), 10"x 14" PICTURES OF THE FIRST MILL STREAM DAM (\$15.00 & \$25.00), PACKETS OF NOTE PAPER (\$2.50), MUGS (\$5.00), AND GETTING YOUR SIGNATURE EMBROIDERED ON THE SIGNATURE QUILT (\$10.00) CAN BE ORDERED FROM 810/229-6402.

WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT THE SOCIETY COULD NOT EXIST NOR COMPLETE ITS PURPOSE. THANKS.

THE MANY ITEMS LISTED ARE WELL WORTH YOUR PURCHASE. IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS FOR FUND RAISING PROJECTS, CONTACT A BOARD MEMBER PLEASE!!!

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 CONTAINS A LIST OF 41 FARMS, ALMOST ALL IN BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP. THE LIST CONSISTS OF OWNERS' NAMES AND NAMES GIVEN THEIR FARMS. RESEARCH INTO THE LOCATIONS, TYPES OF FARM AND FAMILY HISTORY WILL, HOPEFULLY, REVEAL BACKGROUND ON WHAT THE AREA WAS LIKE AT THAT TIME. THE LAMART HICKS FARM ON SKEMAN ROAD IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS ISSUE.

LAMART'S PARENTS, WHEATON AND SALLIE, CAME FROM CAYAHOGA, NEW YORK, IN 1859, WITH NINE YEAR OLD LAMART AND HIS SIBLINGS: EUGENE, 15, LOIS, 13, ROSS, 10 AND SARAH, 7. FOR MANY YEARS WHEATON SERVED THE TOWNSHIP AS J.P., SCHOOL INSPECTOR, AND SUPERVISOR. HIS SONS CONTINUED THIS TRADITION.

THE FIRST OWNER OF NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SECTION 21 WAS CORNELIUS MEISSE OF ORANGE, N.Y. A ROAD ANGLES THROUGH THE 160 ACRES WHICH BORDER ON WARNER LAKE. THE 1859 ATLAS HAS WM. BROWN AS OWNER; WHEATON PROBABLY BOUGHT FROM HIM. THE SYMBOL OF A BUILDING, PROBABLY A HOUSE, SHOWS, ALONG THE ROAD, ON THE 1875 ATLAS. BY NOW DAN SKEMAN OWNS 80 ACRES IN SEC. 16, FROM WHICH WE CAN ASSUME THE ROAD GETS ITS NAME. (THE LAKE HAS CHANGED NAMES: WARNER TO HICKS TO SCHOOL, THE SITE OF WHICH SHOWS ON THE 1895 ATLAS.) WHEATON DIED IN 1899 AND LAMART'S NAME APPEARS AS OWNER.

LAMART'S FARM WAS NAMED LAKESIDE STOCK FARM. A STREAM (CARTER'S DRAIN), DRAINING THE CENTRAL NORTHERN PART OF THE TOWNSHIP RAN THROUGH A CORNER OF HIS PROPERTY. THAT, AND THE LAKE ACROSS THE ROAD, WOULD PROVIDE SUFFICIENT WATER FOR PLENTY OF LIVESTOCK. ALTHO' SOME OF IT WAS VERY ROLLING, SUFFICIENT LAND WAS FLAT ENOUGH FOR CROPS.

BY 1935 THE OLD HOUSE IS GONE, THE LAND ACROSS THE ROAD IS BECOMING A SUBDIVISION WITH COTTAGES SPRINGING UP ALONG THE SHORE. IN THE 1961 ATLAS ONE LEARNS A RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION HAS DEVELOPED A CAMPGROUND ON THE ENTIRE QUARTER SECTION. 1998 FINDS THE COTTAGES ARE BECOMING YEAR ROUND HOMES AND DEVELOPMENTS CALLED SAND POINTE AND PINE CREEK HAVE FILLED THOSE ONCE PRODUCTIVE AGRICULTURAL ACRES WITH HOME SITES FOR LATER SETTLERS.

(COMPILED FROM ATLASSES, CHARBONEAU'S OBITUARIES, WEST'S SCRAPBOOKS, 1880 HISTORY OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY AND PAULINE CHENOWETH. ANY CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS WILL BE HAPPILY RECEIVED. MARIEANNA BAIR, 810/229-6402)