



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.

MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF BAHS

P.O. Box 481 BRIGHTON, MI 48116  
VOL. XVII No. 7 JULY, 1998

### BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

- \* July 7, 14, 21, 28: 1 p.m. Indexing and filing archival materials.
- \* 8: 5-8 p.m. and July 28, 1-5 p.m. genealogical help. 227-1760.
- \*\* 27, 7 p.m. Kate Otto will speak to restoration of one room schools and curriculum development. Public welcome.

Most any Saturday this summer you'll find Nancy Fredenburg at the Society table at the Brighton Farmers' Market. She will have coverlets, tote bags, mugs, tiles, memberships, etc., available.

Aug. 8: 7 p.m. Livingston County Genealogical Society, 227-1760.  
15; 1-4 p.m. Green Oak Days at Gage Farm Museum, 6440 Kensington Rd.

\* AT BRIGHTON DISTRICT LIBRARY

\*\*SEE RELATED ARTICLE

### LYONS SCHOOL RESTORATION

#### KATE OTTO TO SPEAK, JULY 27

Monday, 7 p.m., Brighton District Library, Kate Otto will share her experiences in the restoration of a one room school in Plymouth. The development of an appropriate curriculum, a vital necessity, will also be considered.

As a long time educator, Kate can offer the benefit of her background and make recommendations.

Everyone from the area, including school administrators and educators, are urged to become involved with this project. Ideas, direction, curriculum development, fund raising, grant application are a few of the myriad opportunities for involvement.

With some preliminary architectural plans drawn for us by Piet Lindhout Associates, a serious effort is underway to bring about the functional restoration of the Lyons School for the students of this and neighboring communities.

On its original site, the Lyons School serves as a link to the area's past. The 114 year old building, on Buno Road between Van Amberg and Pleasant Valley Roads, is a typical structure of its time.

Unable to attend but want to be involved? Call Joanne (Ceru) Swonk, 810/229-7887, or Marieanna Bair, 810/229-6402.

## MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: Hugh & Rebecca Munce.

BUS/PROF: AUTOBODY (Larry & Kate Lawrence).

COUPLES/INDIV.: Bob & Diane Assenmacher, Ed & Elaine Klinske.

The above are renewals, the likes of which keep the Society viable.

If you don't find a date on your mailing label, you receive Trail Tales at no charge. If you are unable to participate actively your Patron membership will help pay administration bills. If the date on your label is not 98 or a higher number be aware your renewal is important. If you think the date is not correct call 810/229-6402. If you are picking up the newsletter at the Post Office, Library or a bank it is hoped you will assume responsibility and make a donation. The Society is a 501(c)3 organization. Donations are income tax deductible.

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THANKS      THANKS      THANKS

...Alene Anderson's donation of several snapshots of July 4th parade floats of 1940, 41, 42. Children on the floats include: Jim and Tom Anderson, Duncan Cameron, Jim Wilson, Mary Hampton and Charles Pless. Band Boosters, Mother's Club and World Peace were some of the sponsors. Alene's continued contributions help assure more complete archives.

...John and Janice Field, June Kimble and Marilyn Pettigrove for their help in getting the June newsletter in the mail.

...Bert Bair, Norm Catrell, Lisa Cave, John and Janice Field, Nancy Fredenburg, Suprv. Jack LaBelle, Sen. Mike Rogers, Joanne Swonk, Sheryl Vicmostad, Suprv. Andrew Wardach, and Marqe White for their help. The Spanish-American War Centennial Commemoration was an exceptional occasion because of them. Thanks also to Green Oak Township Historical Society and the Great Lakes Living History Society and the Historical Society of Michigan.

...Donation from Assenmachers which accompanied their membership renewal.

...Nancy Fredenburg for setting up a Society table at Brighton Farmers' Market. Call when you can give her some help.

...Brighton Chamber of Commerce for their cooperation.

## PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: Little by little the regular Tuesday workdays in the Brighton Room at the Library are paying off. Indexing of materials will make it possible to know where to find a picture, article, book, etc., quickly.

BOOK COMMITTEE: Carol McMacken, 810/231-2957, can still use your photos, clippings of other items of local history. Contact her. Your help will make this a complete history book of the area.

LYONS SCHOOL: Monday, July 27, 7 p.m., at the Library, the Society will host Kate Otto. She will share her experiences in the restoration of a one room school and the development of an appropriate curriculum, in Plymouth. Her comments will be valuable whether you will join the Steering Committee or only wish more information.

VILLAGE CEMETERY: If you see evidence of vandalism (or persons behaving suspiciously) in the cemetery be sure to call the Brighton City police a.s.a.p.

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NEEDED      NEEDED      NEEDED

...Sponsors for Trail Tales expenses.

...donations for a box of mailing labels. c. \$30.00.

...suggestion for updating the format of the newsletter.

...a more appropriate logo for the Society; incorporating the area's history (settlers, mills, agriculture, recreation, growth) and looking to the future.

...funds to cover copying of newspaper pictures and articles to include in the files. The acid content of newsprint is damaging to other materials. A \$25.00 donation will enable use of professional copying equipment.

...PERSON TO SERVE ON LYONS SCHOOL HISTORIC SITE MARKER DEDICATION THIS SUMMER.

...SPONSORS FOR TRAIL TALES.

...A SOCIETY MEMBER TO SERVE AS TREASURER.

...NEW LOGO FOR SOCIETY.

## BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

P O BOX 481, BRIGHTON MI 48116-0481

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

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

SEND MEMBERSHIP CARD? (YES) (NO) (Please include Zip + 4 digit)

( ) New ( ) Renewal. Your help is needed with: \*Historic Preservation Projects, \*\*Fund Raising Projects, \*\*\*Administration of the Society. (Please Circle One.)

DUES: \$25.00 Patron \$12.00 Couple \$2.00 Student (K-12, College)  
\$25.00 Bus/Prof. \$ 7.00 IndividualDONATION: ( ) \$10.00 ( ) \$20.00 ( ) \$50.00 ( ) \$100.00 ( ) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other.  
Society is an Income Tax Deductible Organization. 501(c)3 IRS #38 2524892

\*Historic Preservation Projects: Archives, History Book, Historic Resource Survey, Historic Site Registration/Restoration/Marker, Lyons School, Oral History/Video, Photography.

\*\*Fund Raising Projects: Bake sale, Coverlets, Home tour, Mugs, Needlepoint Kit, Note and Post Cards, Signature quilt, Special events, Tote bags.

\*\*\*Administration of the Society: Board/Officer/Committee members, Newsletter, Publicity.

## FUND RAISING PROJECTS

TILES DEPICTING 12 SITES OF LOCAL HISTORICAL INTEREST ARE AVAILABLE AT NOSTALGIA ANTIQUES, 116 W. MAIN. THE UNION SCHOOL, WESTERN HOUSE, LYONS SCHOOL, EASTERN HOUSE, MELLUS HOSPITAL, STATE POLICE POST, ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, BRIGHTON MILLS, BRIGHTON HIGH SCHOOL, ST. GEORGE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, RIALTO THEATER AND THE LINCOLN HOTEL-FIRST NATIONAL BANK-CANOPY HOTEL ARE IN STOCK. \$8.00 EACH OR 3 FOR \$21.00. YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS AND OTHER FUND RAISERS IS VITAL TO SOCIETY PROJECTS.

## OTHER ITEMS INCLUDE:

POST CARDS OF LOCAL EARLY STREET SCENES, \$3. FOR A PACKET OF 6, AT THE BOOK NOOK.  
COVERLETS, RED OR GREEN, NINE LOCAL SITES WOVEN IN, \$49. AT NAUGHTY 'N NICE.

MUGS @ \$5., TOTE BAGS @ \$15., NOTE PAPER @ \$2.50, 11x14 PHOTOS OF THE MILL POND AND DAM @ \$25. 810/229-6402.

THE SIGNATURE QUILT, ON WHICH ARE EMBROIDERED SIGNATURES OF PEOPLE DONATING \$10., HAS SPACE FOR YOURS. SEND YOUR SIGNATURE OR THAT OF A RELATIVE. SIGNATURES OF EARLY RESIDENTS ARE AVAILABLE ALSO. YOUR DONATION CAN INCLUDE THEM. AN APPROPRIATE AND SIMPLE WAY TO SUPPORT THE SOCIETY'S PRESERVATION/RESTORATION ACTIVITIES.

## SOCIETY BOOTH AT ART FAIR

August 8 and 9, the Society will have its annual booth on West Main St. The various items for sale will be on hand.

Helpers will be needed to man the booth. 2-3 hour schedules are being set up. Call Lisa Cave, 229-0683 or Mariëanna Bair, 229-6402. Let them know which times are convenient for you. Make it unnecessary for them to spend time calling you.

## WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Green Oak Township Historical Society. June, July, August weekends, 1-4 p.m. Tour Tour Gage Farm Museum, 6440 Kensington Road. Spanish-American War Centennial special exhibit in addition to early Michigan farming displays.

Historical Society of Michigan. "Mulling Over Michigan", workshop for teachers of Michigan history. November 9, Macomb Community College. Mel Miller, 810/228-3465.

## SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

## CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION

IF YOU WERE AT ISLAND LAKE STATE PARK LAST JUNE 13 AND 14, YOU SAW: SUFFRAGETS, MAGNIFICENT DISPLAY OF MEMORABILIA, DISPLAY AND DESCRIPTION OF THE VARIOUS UNIFORMS OF THE TIME, UNVEILING OF A NEW HISTORIC SITE MARKER COMMEMORATING THE NATIONAL GUARD WHO TRAINED ON THE SITE DURING THE 1890s, MARCHING AND TRAINING DEMONSTRATIONS, TENTS AND EQUIPMENT. YOU HEARD THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY COMMUNITY BAND AND THE MICHIGAN FIFTH REGIMENT BAND. IF YOU WEREN'T THERE.....

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

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### AREA FARMS c. 1900

THE BRIGHTON ARGUS, c. 1900, LISTED A NUMBER OF FARMS, WITH A NAME AND THE NAME OF THE OWNER. RESEARCH INTO LOCATION, TYPE OF FARMING AND A BIT OF FAMILY BACKGROUND IS UNDERTAKEN. THIS STUDY IS AN ATTEMPT TO PROVIDE AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE EARLY DAYS OF THE AREA AND ITS RESIDENTS. YOUR WRITER WELCOMES ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

IT IS 1840 AND GODFREY AND MARY HYNE ARRIVE IN NEW YORK FROM GERMANY. FOUR OF THEIR CHILDREN, CHARLES T. 16, FREDERICK C. 15, ANNIE AND GODFREY, JR., MADE THE THREE MONTH LONG OCEAN VOYAGE WITH THEM. TRAGICALLY, ANNIE AND GODFREY, JR., DIED SOON AFTER. WITHIN A SHORT TIME THE FAMILY MOVED TO 160 ACRES OF VIRGIN LAND IN BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP. BY 1845, THE FAMILY WAS LISTED AMONG THE CHARTER MEMBERS OF ST. GEORGE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, GENOA.

UPON REACHING THE AGE OF MATURITY, CHARLES T. MARRIED HENNE L. WESTPHAL, IN 1846. BY THEN HE HAD PURCHASED LAND IN SEC. 8, BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP. THE 1875 ATLAS SHOWS OVER 700 ACRES IN HIS NAME INCLUDING LAND IN BRIGHTON. ONE FINDS THE CHARLES T. RESIDENCE ON HYNE ROAD, KNOWN AS MAPLE CREEK STOCK FARM. FIVE DAUGHTERS AND THREE SONS WERE BORN.

FREDERICK C. MARRIED HARRIETT SHEFIELD c. 1847. THEY SETTLED ON PROPERTY IN COHOCTAH TOWNSHIP. 1865 FOUND THEM IN FOWLerville IN A BUSINESS ENTERPRISE.

AT THE TIME THE RAILROAD CAME THROUGH BRIGHTON, 1871, MOST OF THE LAND ON THE WEST SIDE OF TOWN WAS IN CHARLES T.'S NAME. HE SOLD IT TO SMITH/McPHERSON WHO SUBDIVIDED IT. HE BUILT A GRAIN ELEVATOR ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF MAIN STREET, EAST OF THE TRACKS AND SOON ADDED A COAL AND A LUMBER YARD. HE BUILT A FINE HOUSE ON THE NE CORNER OF SECOND AND WALNUT WHERE HE LIVED OUT HIS LIFE.

CHAS' FIRST SON, WILLIAM F., JOINED HIS BROTHER FREDERICK T. IN AN 18 YEAR PARTNERSHIP. BREEDING STOCK, FAST HORSES AND TOP QUALITY SHEEP WERE THEIR MAJOR RESOURCES. ORE CREEK STOCK FARM WAS, BY 1900, IN FRED'S NAME. WILLIAM F. MARRIED MAY DURFEE IN 1870. AFTER MAY'S DEATH IN 1881 HE MARRIED LOIS HICKS, FROM NEW YORK, IN 1882.

FREDERICK T. WAS ASSOCIATED WITH HIS FATHER, CHARLES, IN THE ELEVATOR, LUMBER AND COAL BUSINESS FOR MANY YEARS. FRED MARRIED SARAH HICKS c. 1870. OF THEIR SIX CHILDREN FOUR DIED IN EARLY CHILDHOOD. THEY ARE BURIED IN THE VILLAGE CEMETERY.

THIRD SON, FRANKLIN L., MARRIED ELIZABETH SULLIVAN. THE FARM WAS NAMED CLOVERDALE. HE OPERATED A GROCERY ON W. MAIN FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND ENGAGED IN LAND AND LIVESTOCK SPECULATION BEFORE RETIRING TO HIS FATHER'S FARM ON HYNE ROAD.

A PARTNERSHIP OF CHARLES T.'S SONS, WILLIAM F., FREDERICK T. AND FRANKLIN L., OPERATED THE BRIGHTON FLOUR AND GRIST MILL FOR SEVERAL YEARS. (COMPILED BY MARIEANNA BAIR FROM: FIRST LANDOWNERS OF LIV. CO., EARLY LANDOWNERS OF LIV. CO., FAIRVIEW CEMETERY TRANSCRIPTIONS AND BRIGHTON ARGUS OBITUARIES ALL BY MILT CHARBONEAU; 1880 HISTORY OF LIVINSTON COUNTY; AND 1891 PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM.)