



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

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BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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SPANISH/AMERICAN WAR CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE WEEKEND

JUNE 13 & 14, 1998

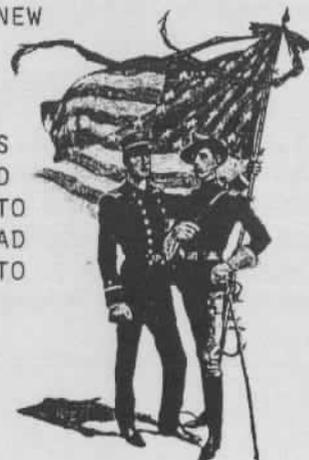
100 YEARS AGO 5000 MEN CAME, AS CIVILIAN VOLUNTEERS, TO CAMP EATON AT ISLAND LAKE. HERE THEY TRAINED BRIEFLY, WERE MUSTERED IN AND DEPARTED ON THE TRAIN TO SERVE THE U.S. IN THE SPANISH/AMERICAN WAR. MICHIGAN WAS THE ONLY STATE TO OFFER FIVE REGIMENTS: THE 31ST, 32ND, 33RD, 34TH AND 35TH.

COME AND HELP AS THE "BOYS OF '98 ARE REMEMBERED.

THE GREAT LAKES LIVING HISTORY SOCIETY WILL PARTICIPATE IN A LIVING HISTORY ENCAMPMENT ON THE SITE. WE CAN LEARN ABOUT THE WAR AND HOW THE VOLUNTEERS PREPARED. A NUMBER OF TENTS WILL BE RAISED AND WE CAN SPEAK WITH THE 'SOLDIER' ABOUT LIFE AT CAMP EATON.

ON DISPLAY WILL BE MUSEUM QUALITY MILITARIA EXHIBITS AND DEMONSTRATIONS. MARCHING AND ARTILLERY DEMONSTRATIONS WILL MIX WITH MUSIC OF THE 1890s.

AT 2 P.M. SATURDAY, THE NEW HISTORIC SITE MARKER, FUNDED BY THE ANN ARBOR NEWS, WILL BE DEDICATED. THERE'LL BE LOTS OF FLAGS A BIT OF SPEECHIFYING AND AUTHENTIC RIFLE SALUTES TO EXPERIENCE. YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU WERE THERE. BE SURE TO BRING THE CHILDREN.



DATES TO REMEMBER

- * JUNE 9, 16, 23, 30, 1 P.M. INDEXING AND FILING ARCHIVAL MATERIALS.
- * 10: 5-8 P.M. AND JUNE 23: 1-5 P.M. GENEALOGICAL HELP. 227-1760.
- ** 13, 14: 9-5 P.M. SPANISH/AMERICAN WAR CENTENNIAL AND MARKER DEDICATION. ISLAND LAKE STATE PARK.
- * 29: 7 P.M. BAHS BOARD MEETING. WELCOME.
- JULY 2: 7 P.M. LIVINGSTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY. 227-1760.

* AT BRIGHTON DISTRICT LIBRARY

**SEE RELATED ARTICLE

MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: HAROLD & ESTHER JARVIS, BONNIE WARNER MATHISON *(CA), CHRIS WARD.*

COUPLES/INDIV: EUGENIA ANDERSON (ST. CLARE SHORES), JAIME GREEN (OKEMOS, 2000), VIRGINIA HOUSTON, RICH & JUDY PARSONS, ALICE SPRAGUE (FL, 99), BILL & CHARMAIN ZINK.

IT IS GOOD THAT LONG TIME MEMBERS RENEW SO FAITHFULLY. BONNIE AND CHRIS ARE NEW MEMBERS; WE WELCOME THEM. *BONNIE IS A DESCENDANT OF IRA WARNER, BURIED IN THE VILLAGE CEMETERY, AND WILL BE GRATEFUL FOR MORE INFORMATION.

*CHRIS HAS OFFERED TO HELP WITH THE RESTORATION OF LYONS SCHOOL.

THE MEMBERSHIP FORM LISTS MANY AREAS WHERE HELP IS NEEDED. YOUR HELP IS NEEDED. NOT QUITE SURE WHERE/HOW YOU CAN HELP? PRES. BAIR, OR ANY BOARD MEMBER, WILL BE GLAD TO HEAR FROM YOU. READING THIS NEWSLETTER SHOULD GIVE YOU SOME IDEAS.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...BRIGHTON CITY COUNCIL HAS INCLUDED THE RESTORATION OF THE VILLAGE CEMETERY IN THE BUDGET FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR. THIS FALL WE CAN EXPECT TO SEE SOME REAL ACTIVITY.

...JERRY GENEREAU (BRIGHTON BARBER SHOP) FOR AN ALBUM OF PHOTOS OF THE AREA C. 1940-1950. THESE MAKE A VALUABLE ADDITION TO SOCIETY ARCHIVES. GERRY ALSO, EACH MONTH, HAND DELIVERS TRAIL TALES TO MERCHANTS IN THE CITY.

...JOHN AND JANICE FIELD FOR HELPING FOLD, SORT AND MAIL THE MAY ISSUE OF TRAIL TALES. AND THEN HAND DELIVERING MANY TO LOCAL BUSINESSES OUTSIDE OF DOWNTOWN. THEY ALSO SAW TO THE PLACING OF THE MANY FLAGS AT THE VILLAGE CEMETERY IN TIME FOR MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES.

...SHERYL VIGMOSTAD FOR HELPING WITH PUBLICITY ABOUT THE SOCIETY AND ITS ACTIVITIES. SHE WILL CONTINUE IN THIS POSITION BUT FINDS SHE CANNOT ATTEND BOARD MEETINGS REGULARLY. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT A QUORUM BE PRESENT TO CONDUCT BUSINESS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO HER RETURN AS AN OFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE BOARD.

PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: PICTURES, DISCARDED BY THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY PRESS AND BRIGHTON ARGUS ARE BEING SORTED. MANY FIND A PLACE IN THE ARCHIVES. THE OTHERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR YOU TO MAKE A SELECTION. THEY'LL BE AMONG THE OFFERINGS AT THE SOCIETY STAND JUNE 13 AND 14 - DURING THE SPANISH/AMERICAN WAR CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION AT ISLAND LAKE STATE PARK.

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: SUMMER IS APPROACHING AND A DATE FOR DEDICATION OF THE HISTORIC SITE MARKER IS STILL TO BE SET. IN FACT, PEOPLE INTERESTED IN ARRANGING FOR THIS EVENT MUST STILL COME FORWARD. BOARD MEMBERS, ALREADY VERY INVOLVED IN OTHER ASPECTS OF THE SOCIETY, CANNOT BE ASKED TO TAKE THIS ON ALSO. CALL 810/229-6402 FOR INFORMATION AND/OR TO OFFER HELP.

VILLAGE CEMETERY: IT WILL BE GOOD WHEN WORK BEGINS ON THE RESTORATION. EACH TIME ONE VISITS ONE SEES ANOTHER MARKER BROKEN. IT IS EXPECTED THAT RESTORATION WILL MAKE US MORE AWARE OF THIS HISTORIC SITE AND, THEREFORE, MORE RESPECTFUL. VANDALISM SHOULD BE REPORTED TO THE BRIGHTON CITY POLICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

SOCIETY DISPLAY TABLE AT THE SPANISH/AMERICAN WAR COMMEMORATION: TWO HOUR PERIODS ARE SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 13, 14, 9-5. THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE FUNDS AND HELP PUBLICIZE THE SOCIETY. CALL MARIEANNA BAIR, 810/229-6402.

NEEDED NEEDED NEEDED

...A SOCIETY MEMBER TO SERVE AS TREASURER.
...PERSON TO SERVE ON LYONS SCHOOL HISTORIC SITE MARKER DEDICATION THIS SUMMER.
...SPONSORS FOR TRAIL TALES.
...HELPERS AT SOCIETY TABLE OF SALES ITEMS JUNE 13, 14, SPANISH/AMERICAN WAR CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION.
...NEW LOGO FOR SOCIETY.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM
P O BOX 481, BRIGHTON MI 48116-0481

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

(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 Individual

DONATION: () \$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.

WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

BLUEWATER MICHIGAN CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY. SUMMER/FALL RAIL TRIPS. P O Box 296, ROYAL OAK 48068-0296.

GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
JUNE, JULY, AUGUST WEEKENDS, 1-4 P.M. TOUR
GAGE FARM MUSEUM, 6440 KENSINGTON ROAD.

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY, 313/577-8042.
ORAL HISTORY METHODOLOGY COURSE, JUNE 29.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN. "MULLING
OVER MICHIGAN", WORKSHOP FOR TEACHERS OF
MICHIGAN HISTORY. MACOMB COMMUNITY COLLEGE
810/228-3465.

SPONSORS ARE NEEDED FOR TRAIL TALE EXPENSES.
\$100. TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION WILL ASSURE
YOUR RECOGNITION FOR 12 ISSUES.

SYMPATHY OF THE SOCIETY

TO THE FAMILY OF

PHYLLIS GRUEZKE

LONG TIME SUPPORTER OF THE SOCIETY

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

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AREA FARMS c.1900

RESEARCH OF LOCAL FARMS AND FARMERS, NAMED IN THE BRIGHTON ARGUS, THEIR BACKGROUND AND LOCATION CONTINUED. EVERGREEN LODGE, IN MRS. GEORGE W. (ALICE) CONLEY'S NAME, IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS ISSUE.

IN THE DAYS BEFORE MICHIGAN BECAME A STATE MANY FROM THE EAST TRAVELED THE ERIE CANAL OVER THE ADIRONDACK MOUNTAINS; MANY BOARDING A BOAT AT BUFFALO TO CROSS LAKE ERIE, TO FINALLY ARRIVE IN DETROIT. TO RESERVE ACRES OF LAND IN MICHIGAN TERRITORY, NOW MORE EASILY REACHED, GROUPS OF PEOPLE POOLED RESOURCES, GIVING THE FUNDS TO TRUSTED MEMBERS TO MAKE THE ARDUOUS JOURNEY. ONE SUCH PERSON WAS RICHARD LYON, A MEMBER OF A CARVERS/GILDERS SOCIETY IN NEW YORK CITY. BROTHERS SAMUEL M. AND WILLIAM S. CONELY WERE RICHARD LYON'S TRAVELING COMPANIONS AND MEMBERS OF THE SAME SOCIETY. AS EARLY AS 1834, 100s OF ACRES IN BRIGHTON AND SURROUNDING TOWNSHIP WERE REGISTERED IN THEIR NAMES AND OTHERS OF THE SOCIETY.

AT THE AGE OF NINE, GEORGE W. CONLEY CAME TO BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP WITH HIS PARENTS, SAMUEL M AND REBECCA, AND THREE SIBLINGS; TRAVELING IN AN OX CART. THE CONLEYS AND THE RICHARD LYON FAMILY STAYED WITH WILLIAM HENRY AND MARYETTE VALENTINE IN A 22'x22' LOG HOUSE, LOCATED IN THE NW $\frac{1}{4}$ OF SECTION 22. AT ONE TIME 22 PEOPLE LIVED IN THIS HOUSE UNTIL THEIR OWN LOG HOMES COULD BE CONSTRUCTED. GOOD NEIGHBORS, THE VALENTINES.

GEORGE W. WORKED ON HIS FATHER'S FARM UNTIL HE WAS 21. THEN FOR \$11. PER MONTH THE FIRST YEAR, \$12. A MONTH FOR TWO MORE, WORKED ON NEARBY FARMS. OCTOBER 25, 1853, HE AND ELIZA M. WARNER, DAUGHTER OF REV. IRA WARNER (ANOTHER EARLY SETTLER) WERE MARRIED. SHORTLY AFTER THEY PURCHASED THE W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SECTION 15 (80 AC.). A NEIGHBORING 48 ACRES WERE SOON ACQUIRED, TOTALING 128, A GOOD SIZED FARM. AFTER FIVE CHILDREN AND 23 YEARS OF MARRIAGE ELIZA DIED. MARCH 12, 1878, GEORGE W. MARRIED MRS. ALICE (WILTSE) LAMONION, BRINGING A SON WITH HER.

NO CLEARING OF LAND HAD BEEN DONE WHEN GEORGE W. ORIGINALLY BOUGHT HIS FARM IN 1854. "...BUT THE LAPSE OF 25 YEARS HAS WITNESSED ITS TRANSITION INTO A PRODUCTIVE AND FINELY IMPROVED HOMESTEAD." LOCATED ON NEWMAN ROAD, JUST AROUND THE CORNER FROM VAN AMBURG ROAD, THE HOUSE AND BARN WERE SHADED BY BIG PINE TREES. HENCE THE NAME EVERGREEN LODGE OWNED BY MRS. ALICE CONLEY c. 1900.

BY THE MID 1930s THE HOUSE STOOD VACANT. IN THIS CHILD'S IMAGINATION GHOSTLY FACES AND UNEXPLAINED LIGHTS COULD BE SEEN IN THE WINDOWS. IT TOOK COURAGE TO STEP ON THE PORCH, EVEN IN DAYLIGHT. ONE NIGHT, IN THE EARLY 1940s, A BRIGHT GLOW IN THE SKY GAVE EVIDENCE THE "OLD CONLEY PLACE" WOULD BE SEEN NO MORE NOR BE THE SOURCE OF THRILLING FANTASIES. TODAY THAT 40 IS IN 10 ACRE STRIPS, THE SITE OF COMFORTABLE HOMES FOR NEW, LIVE FAMILIES, NOT GHOSTS. (RESEARCHED BY MARIEANNA BAIR. COMPILED FROM 1880 HISTORY LIVINGSTON COUNTY, MILT CHARBONEAU'S FIRST LANDOWNERS AND EARLY LANDOWNERS AND SETTLERS, AND ATLASSES. WITH THANKS TO ARLENE WARNER, IRENE ELLIS AND LARRY YOUNG. CORRECTIONS AND COMMENTS WELCOME. 810/229-6402.)