



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. 5 MAY, 1998

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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DATES TO REMEMBER

- MAY 3, 8-5 P.M. YARD SALE AT PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM, PLYMOUTH.
- 7, 7 P.M. LIVINGSTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY; ORAL HISTORIES. HOW TO CREATE AN ORAL HISTORY OF YOUR FAMILY. POT LUCK SUPPER. 227-1760.
- 7,8, MICHIGAN ONE ROOM SCHOOL ASSOCIATION MEETING AT GREENMEAD, LIVONIA. SUE DANIEL, 248/477-7375.
- * 5,12,19,26, 1 P.M. INDEX/FILE ARCHIVES., BRIGHTON ROOM, LIBRARY.
- * 13, 5-8 P.M. AND MAY 26, 1-5 P.M. GENEALOGICAL HELP AT THE LIBRARY. 227-1760.
- ** 17, 4-6 P.M. SPANISH/AMERICAN WAR, THE LOCAL SCENE.
- * JUNE 1, 7 P.M. BAHS BOARD MEETING. WELCOME.

SPANISH/AMERICAN WAR PROGRAM

MAY 17, 1998, 4-6 P.M.

TRY NOT TO MISS THE PROGRAM JOHN FIELD IS PLANNING FOR THE MEETING OF THE GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY. HE WILL PROVIDE A LOCAL VIEW OF THE NATIONAL GUARD'S ANNUAL ENCAMPMENTS AT ISLAND LAKE DURING THE 1890s.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, AND THE PUBLIC HAS BEEN CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THIS PROGRAM. IT WILL BE HELD AT THE FIRE HALL, 9384 WHITMORE LAKE ROAD. JOHN IS INCLUDING PICTURES, MUSIC, ECT., OF THAT PERIOD. PARKING IN FRONT OF THE FIRE HALL IS FOR FIREFIGHTERS.

JOHN FIELD IS PLANNING TO HELP US BECOME AWARE OF HOW LOCAL LIFE WAS AFFECTED UPON THE ARRIVAL OF 1000s OF MEN OF THE MICHIGAN NATIONAL GUARD FOR TRAINING AT THE SITE AT ISLAND LAKE. THE ARRIVAL OF THESE MEN EVOKED A SPIRIT OF WELCOME BY THE LOCAL SHOPKEEPERS. HOWEVER THERE WERE THOSE IN THE COMMUNITY WHO FELT THE GUARD WAS AN INTRUSION.

- JUNE 6,7, 1-4 P.M. GAGE HOUSE MUSEUM, 6440 KENSINGTON ROAD OPEN.
- 13,14, ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION OF SPANISH/AMERICAN WAR CENTENNIAL. ISLAND LAKE STATE PARK.
- 13, 2 P.M. VICTORIAN TEA, PLYMOUTH; RESERVATIONS \$12. 313/455-8940.
- 29, ORAL HISTORY METHODOLOGY COURSE, WAYNE STATE UNIV., 313/577-8042.

*BRIGHTON ROOM, LIBRARY.

**SEE RELATED ARTICLE.

MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: BILL & JACKIE ARMSTRONG, RICHARD & BARBARA SMITH (2000), PAUL & KAY SPANGLER.

COUPLES/INDIV: W. CHARLES & JOAN BROWN, JOHN C.W. CURRY (LANSING), DAVID & TERRIE FISHER (FENTON), MARY JANKE, JACKIE LILEY*, BOB & RUTH WATSON (HOWELL).

*THANKS TO A FRIEND, JACKIE IS A NEW MEMBER. A THOUGHTFUL GIFT. PERHAPS OTHERS' FRIENDS MIGHT LIKE TO BE REMEMBERED IN THAT MANNER.

REMEMBER, WITHOUT YOU THE SOCIETY IS NOT AN ORGANIZATION. WITH YOU ATTEMPTS AT RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION CAN CONTINUE.

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.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP FOR EARLY TAX ROLL RECORDS. 1927/1940. THESE MAKE VALUABLE ADDITIONS TO THE ARCHIVES.

...BERT BAIR, JOANNE CERU, NORM CATRELL, JOHN & JANICE FIELD FOR HELPING PREPARE THE APRIL NEWSLETTER FOR MAILING.

...ALICE NEWCOMB FOR PHOTOS OF LOCAL SITES AND RESIDENTS FOR COPYING.

...JOHN AND JANICE FIELD FOR ASSISTANCE IN PREPARATION OF APPLICATION OF THE VILLAGE CEMETERY TO THE MICHIGAN HISTORIC SITE REGISTER.

...JERRY AND LISA CAVE FOR PROVIDING YET ANOTHER CARTRIDGE FOR THE COPIER. THIS IS A SIGNIFICANT DONATION TOWARDS THE SOCIETY'S EXPENSES.

...EVA WHALEN FOR A BHS ALUMNI DIRECTORY AND A 100TH ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM FROM 1986. SHE ALSO SENT A BRIGHTON CENTENNIAL BOOKLET FROM 1967. IMPORTANT ARCHIVE ADDITIONS.

...THOSE WHO ADD SEVERAL DOLLARS TO THEIR DUES PAYMENTS.

...THE MANY BUSINESSES WHICH ALLOW TRAIL TALES TO BE SET OUT FOR THE PUBLIC.

...PIET LINDHOUT ASSOCIATES FOR THEIR HELP WITH LYONS SCHOOL RESTORATION PLANS.

...NOSTALGIA ANTIQUES, 116 W. MAIN, FOR STOCKING THE TILES AND NAUGHTY 'N NICE FOR STOCKING THE COVERLETS, 412 W. MAIN. THESE ITEMS ARE \$8. EACH (3-\$21.) AND \$49. RESPECTIVELY. BOTH ARE COLLECTIBLES.

PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: JOHN AND JANICE FIELD ARE RESEARCHING RECORDS OF THE VILLAGE CEMETERY TO CONFIRM LOCATIONS OF VETERANS GRAVES, HOPING TO HAVE MANY FLAGS MEMORIALIZING THEM IN TIME FOR MEMORIAL DAY. THEY ARE ALSO SPENDING MUCH TIME AND EFFORT TO COMPILE A CORRECT LISTING OF LOCAL SPANISH/AMERICAN WAR VETS BY THE JUNE 13, 14 COMMEMORATION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THAT WAR. EACH TUESDAY AT 1 P.M. FINDS THEM HELPING WITH ARCHIVING AT THE BRIGHTON ROOM AT THE LIBRARY. YOUR HELP IS WELCOME. 229-6402.

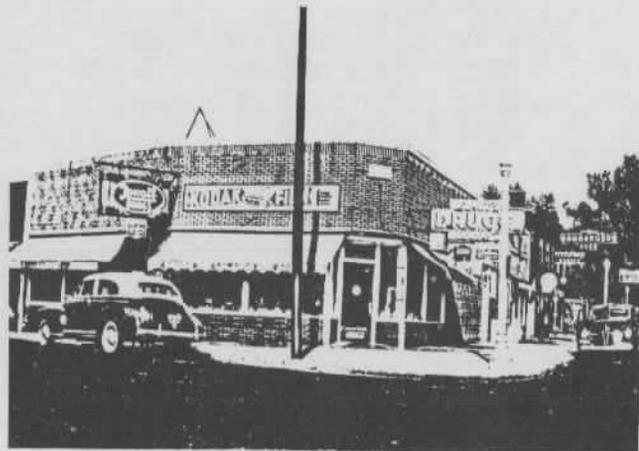
LOCAL HISTORY BOOK: THE GENEROSITY OF MANY WITH THE LENDING OF PHOTOS, ARTICLES AND OTHER INFORMATION IS HELPING CAROL McMACKEN, 810/231-2957, KEEP THIS PROJECT MOVING ALONG. SHE'S ALWAYS ANXIOUS FOR ANY MATERIAL OR MEMORIES YOU HAVE.

LYONS SCHOOL: THE SKETCH OF RESTORATION PLANS IS UNDER REVIEW. MANY THANKS TO PIET LINDHOUT ASSOCIATES FOR THEIR WILLING ASSISTANCE.

IT'S BEEN A LONG WAIT TO FINALLY NOW HAVE THE HISTORIC SITE MARKER IN HAND. IT DESERVES MORE THAN A PERFUNCTORY INSTALLATION. NEEDED IS SOMEONE, OR A GROUP OF SOMEONES, TO PLAN A PROPER DEDICATION. SUGGESTED PROCEDURE AND PROGRAMS ARE AVAILABLE. PERHAPS A REUNION OF ALUMNI COULD BE PART OF THE DAY. NO DATE HAS BEEN SET. THE COMMITTEE WILL MAKE THAT DECISION. CONTACT JIM VICHICH, 227-4840 OR MARIEANNA BAIR, 810/229-6402, FOR INFORMATION.

REMEMBER WHEN???

THE 'MAIN FOUR', c. 1943



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

FUND RAISING PROJECTS/EVENTS

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.

JUNE 13,14 COMMEMORATION PLANNED

A COMMEMORATION OF THE CENTENNIAL OF THE SPANISH/AMERICAN WAR WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE SITE OF THE TRAINING AND MUSTERING OF THE MICHIGAN NATIONAL GUARD AT ISLAND LAKE STATE PARK. THE DEDICATION OF A NEW HISTORIC SITE MARKER IS INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM. THE MICHIGAN 5TH REGIMENTAL BAND WILL PROVIDE MUSIC OF THE DAY. MEMBERS OF THE GREAT LAKES LIVING HISTORY SOCIETY WILL BE IN PROPER DRESS PROVIDING DISPLAYS OF MEMORABILIA AND WILL EXHIBIT VARIOUS TRAINING PROCEDURES.

REMEMBER THE MAINES!



VOLUNTEERS TO HELP SEVERAL HOURS EITHER DAY AS GUIDES, DIRECTING PARKING, ETC., ARE NEEDED. CALL 810/229-6402 OR 248/486-9113 A.S.A.P.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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BRIGHTON MI 48116-0481

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AREA FARMS c. 1900

RESEARCH IS CONTINUING INTO THE LOCATION, TYPE OF FARMING AND FAMILY HISTORY OF FARMS LISTED IN THE BRIGHTON ARGUS c. 1900. THE "OLD HOMESTEAD", OWNED BY S. BERT APPLETON, WAS LOCATED IN SECTION 2, HAMBURG TOWNSHIP ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF CUNNINGHAM LAKE ROAD.

AMONG THE VERY FIRST SETTLERS IN THE AREA WERE ISAAC W. AND LYDIA (BROWER) APPLETON. HE AND BROTHER DANIEL, BOTH FROM TOMPKINS, N.Y., SCOUTED LAND IN THE SE $\frac{1}{4}$ OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY IN 1830 (WHEN IT WAS YET A PART OF WASHTENAW COUNTY). BY 1831 BOTH ARE LISTED AS ORIGINAL OWNERS IN GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP. ALTHO' THEY BEGAN AT ONCE TO CLEAR LAND AND BUILD A LOG CABIN, NEITHER MOVED IN. THE PERCEIVED THREAT OF INDIAN ATTACK BECAUSE OF THE BLACK HAWK WAR PROMPTED THEM, AND MANY OTHERS IN THE AREA, TO MOVE TO NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP FOR A TIME WHERE THEY HOPED TO FIND SAFETY IN NUMBERS.

IN THE SPRING OF 1845 ISAAC WAS A FIRST LAND OWNER IN HAMBURG TOWNSHIP, SECTION 2. BY 1854 HIS HOLDINGS HAD GROWN TO 140 ACRES. ALTHO' MUCH OF THE AREA WAS HILLY AND SWAMPY, AN ORCHARD WAS PLANTED AND FARMING COMMENCED. HE IS LISTED AS A CHARTER MEMBER OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, FORMED FEBRUARY 24, 1853.

ISAAC AND LYDIA HAD FIVE CHILDREN. THE FIRST, SARAH ELIZABETH, 1833, WAS THE FIRST WHITE GIRL BORN IN GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP. WITHIN THE NEXT 12 YEARS TWO MORE DAUGHTERS AND TWO SONS WERE BORN. SAMUEL B. ENLISTED IN CO. E, 26TH MICH. INF. AND WAS KILLED MAY 16, 1865 AT SPOTTSYLVANIA. BROTHER HENRY B. (18), ENLISTED IN CO. K, 9TH INF. SEVERAL MONTHS BEFORE HIS BROTHER'S DEATH. AFTER BEING MUSTERED OUT, SEPTEMBER 15, 1865, HENRY UNDERTOOK "...THE MANAGEMENT OF HIS FATHER'S FARM ON SHARES AND SOON PURCHASED 40 ACRES, AND AFTERWARD THE REMAINDER OF THE FARM, AND MADE A HOME FOR HIS PARENTS FROM THAT TIME ON". (UPON HIS DEATH DECEMBER 29, 1937, HE WAS THE LAST REMAINING CIVIL WAR VETERAN IN BRIGHTON.)

JANUARY 1, 1868, HENRY AND DELIA BABCOCK (17) WERE MARRIED. TO THEM WERE BORN FOUR CHILDREN: CARRIE, FRANKIE, S. BERT AND EARL WHO DIED AN INFANT. BERT JOINED HIS FATHER MAKING A LIVING ON THE FARM. HE MARRIED NEIGHBOR GRACE NASH AND RAISED THREE CHILDREN ON THE FARM (H.B., JAMES F. AND LAWRENCE) WHICH, BY 1915, HAS GROWN TO 251 ACRES. IN 1935, WE FIND CUNNINGHAMS ARE OWNERS. IN 1961, A SUBDIVISION COMPRIZES 30 OF THE 200 ACRES OWNED BY EVELYN CUNNINGHAM.

TODAY THE HILLY TERRAIN HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED, AS HAD ISAAC, HENRY AND BERT, AS A FINE SCENIC AND RESTFUL SITE FOR RAISING FAMILIES. A TOUR THROUGH STONEGATE DEVELOPMENT PROVES MANY OTHERS APPRECIATE THIS ATTRIBUTE ALSO. WITH SUCH A LONG HISTORY, IT'S EASY TO UNDERSTAND WHY S. BERT'S FARM IS NAMED THE "OLD HOMESTEAD." (BY MARIEANNA BAIR. COMPILED FROM ATLASES, 1880 HISTORY OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY, 1891 PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM OF LIVINGSTON AND INGHAM COUNTIES, MILTON CHARBONEAU'S "FIRST LANDOWNERS", FAIRVIEW CEMETERY TRANSCRIPTION AND COPIES OF OBITUARIES, AND THANKS TO JIM APPLETON. COMMENTS, CORRECTIONS, ADDITIONS ARE WELCOME.)