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 BOATING 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. CONLEY WERE RICHARD LYON’S TRAVELING COMPANIONS AND MEMBERS OF THE SAME SOCIETY. AS EARLY AS 1854, 100 ACRES OF LAND IN BRIGHTON AND SURROUNDING TOWNSHIP WERE REGISTERED IN THEIR NAMES AND OTHERS OF THE SAME 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 NW1/4 SECTION 22. AT ONE TIME 22 PEOPLE LIVED IN THIS HOUSE UNTIL THEIR OWN LOG HOMES COULD BE CONSTRUCTED. GOOD NEIGHBORS THE VALENTINES.


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 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 CHARBONNEAU’S FIRST LANDOWNERS AND EARLY LANDOWNERS AND SETTLERS; AND ATLASSES. THANKS TO ARLENE WARNER, IRENE ELLIS AND LARRY Young. CORRECTIONS AND COMMENTS WELCOME: 810/229-6402.)

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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 51ST, 52ND, 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 EN-CAMPMENT ON THE SITE. WE CAN LEARN ABOUT THE WAR AND HOW THE VOLUNTEERS PREPARED. A NUMBER OF TENTS WILL BE RAISED AND WE CAN ADEPT THE "SOLDIER" ABOUT LIFE AT CAMP EATON.

ON DISPLAY WILL BE MUSEUM QUALITY MILITARY EXHIBITS AND DEMONSTRATIONS. NAVY AND MILITARY 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 MILITARY SALUTES TO COMMEMORATE. YOU’LL BE GLAD YOU WERE THERE. BE SURE TO bring the CHILDREN.

**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.