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(It wasn’t long before the four sons built their own homes. Daughter Emma Mattfeld moved to Illinois with her husband. It seems likely she married before coming to the U.S.) In that area Genoa Township is quiet rolling. However cattle, of the best variety, horses, both plow and buggy, helped the Beurmanns get a good start, with lots of hard work. In a new country, one can only imagine their difficulties. Only a few acres were cleared for farming when they arrived.

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**MEMBERSHIPS**

**PATRON:** Erv & Dorothy Bandau, Bernie & Doris Corrigan, Dorothy Hartman, Marie O’Dell.  
**BUS/PROF.:** Paula Gardner (Nursing). *Peter McNulty.*  
**Couples (INDIV.):** Wayne & Sally Baldwin (Sr. KAP). *Becky Cartier (Howell), Lois Clark (Kielbasa), Joe & Irene Collins, Mark & Charlott Goodin, Helen Mae Michaels, Shannon Oak, John G. Park (Flint), Phil & Jeanne Smith, "Carnie Stevens, Wm & Georgiana Vallenbencourt, Larry Wagner, Wm & Charline Zink.*  
*Peter, Becky and Carmen are new members. WELCOME! Becky and Carmen’s dues were gifts. A membership in the society is a fine gift and provides support for the society and it’s projects. Mny thanks to all who renew. Administration expenses continue to rise. LITE STAFF RATES. The board must give consideration to an increase in the dues structure. Patron and Business/Professional memberships really help a lot.  

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**THANKS TO**  

• Norm Carter and John & Janice Field for their help in getting the January issue of Trail Tales mailed.  
• Donations from Jesse B. Cooley Post #235, American Legion and Mark & Charlott Goodin, and an anonymous donor.  
• Alene Anderson for a photo of Bill Pless and Katherine Sturiber Hampton.  
• Lee House Preservation Project donations from Louis & Phyllis Cimora, Michael & Renee Golec, Ron & Sue Kelly, John & Bev Lavelle, Mike & Jackie Perantoni, William Muesters, Phil & Jeanne Smith, Richard & Sara Lombardo, and Larry Mages.  
• Lyons School Restoration Project donations from Lois Clark of Midland, a descendent of Richard & Martha Lyons, and help from the River Area School in displaying the sign on the fence.  
• Piet Lindtouw Associates for their services.  

**SOCIETY SECRETARY NEEDED**  

Board meetings go slowly when the president has to take notes. Can you, for a year, record board meeting activities? Minutes and agendas should be properly prepared and mailed so that board members receive them several days before the next meeting. Call 810-229-6042 to volunteer.

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**HISTORY BOOK:** Carol McMacken, 231-2957. Has a lot of material put together. Want to help? Call her.  

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**OLD VILLAGE CEMETERY:** No word yet on the Historic Sign Register application. Tree and brush cutting will begin soon.  

**LEE HOUSE:** Phil Smith, 231-1178, and Lori Wagner, 231-5528, are continuing their search for a means of preserving the Lee/Sturiber/Rice House, 510 E. Grand River. It must now become known to avoid demolition. This is, of course, on private property on which it is located. One should continue to control one’s own property. However, this building brings mind to the very early settlers in the area and the efforts made to support its development. In that sense this building is a vital part of this community. Members of this community should be making every effort to preserve the structure.  

The demolition of this building will be one more example of how little this area appreciates those who came before us. The building of this structure, c. 1860, displays a confidence that this settlement would grow to be a substantial entity in the wilderness. Brighton is no ghost town. The loss of the Lee House would be one more example of life being sucked out of this community. Buildings like this are what contribute to the area’s livability. They and immeasurably to our quality-of-life. This building can be rehabilitated to continue to serve another 150 years. Are we willing to dig into our own pockets to keep Brighton A Livable community?  

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**TILES:** The Cook & Shannon Blacksmith shop on W. Main, c. 1900, will be shown on the 1998 tile. Reserve yours now to be sure you don’t miss out. This, and the other local scenes on tiles make fine Christmas, birthday, etc., gifts. The stock of earlier ones is steadily being reduced. Check which ones you need before they’re all gone. A limited number are made each year. The earlier ones are available at Nostalgia Antiques, 116 W. Main, each $8, or 3/521.00.  

**TOTE BAGS:** $15.00. Supplies.  
**WINDBLOW:** Post cards, pk $5.00. Early local street scenes.  
**NOTE PAPER:** $2.50; 11" x 14" photos of the mill pond and dam. c. 1900. $25. 810-229-6042.  

**WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**  

**Great Lakes Quilting Museum, MIU, E Lansing 48824-1045, for schedule of 1999 workshops.**  
**White Bluewater MI Chapter, National Railway History Society, PO Box 296, Royal Oak, MI 48068-0296 for info on planned trips.**  
**Waterloo Historical Society, PO Box 37, Stockbridge, MI 48885 for calendar.**

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**FUND RAISING PROJECTS**  
**Your support is vital**

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**TAPESTRY PILLOW:** 810-229-6100, to place your order. $28.00 will make a fine gift. It also goes well with the coverlets. There are at Nasty, N’ Nice, 412 W. Main in red, green or blue for $49.00.  
**SIGNATURE QUILT still has some room for your signature. $10.00 andlit’l be embroidered on the quilt. This will remain with the society. Signatures of others can be sent or use early residents’ signatures that are available.**

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**LYONS SCHOOL, cont. from P. 1**  
**INTERIOR RESTORATION, UTILITIES, FURNISH-INGS, etc., are needed. The construction of windows in the original style; a new bell tower and bell; a new roof, foundation repair, new siding, etc., have provided an impressive beginning. Some furnishings have been acquired: some need restoration. Contributions can be deducted to the bell and tower, the windows, siding, paint, etc. All donations, monetary and in-kind, will be permanently appreciated and recognized. Check out the Lyons School "RING THE BELL" sign at E Main and Spencer Road.
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BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

NAME:

PHONE:

ADDRESS:

Send membership card? (Yes) (No) ( ) New ( ) Renewal. Your help is needed with: *Historic Preservation Projects, *Fund Raising Projects, **Administration of the Society. (Please Circle One.)

DUES: $25.00 Patron $10.00 Couple $2.00 Student (5-12, College) $25.00 Bus/Prof. $7.00 Individual

DONATION: ( ) $10.00 ( ) $20.00 ( ) $50.00 ( ) $100.00 ( ) $1,000.00 ( ) Other

DUES and DONATIONS are deductible as an Income Tax Deduction. 501(c)(3)


Fund Raising Projects: Bake sale, Covelettes, Home tour, Hugs, Needlepoint Kit, Note and Post Cards, Signature quilt, Special events, Tote bags.

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

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Brighton Area Historical Society Newsletter
P.O. Box 481
Brighton, MI 48116

February, 1999
Vol. XVII No. 2

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Vice President
Joanne Swink
810/229-7687
Secretary
Treasurer
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CHAIRPERSONS
Tom & Audrey Leith
Membership
810/229-6165
Anne Stratigos
Hospitality
810/229-5999
Vera Warner
Lions School
810/229-6504

February 18, 1999
7-9 P.M.
Nostalgia Antiques and Coffee Boutique owner, Clarence Hines, will present a short program on “Today’s Collectibles.”

What’s ‘depression’ glass? Clarence can help us learn. He will try to answer your questions if possible. An in-store scavenger hunt is planned with a prize to the winner.

The Society invites the public to this informative event. Bring a friend. Refreshments will be served.

FUND RAISING FOR LYONS SCHOOL RESTORATION UNDERWAY

Clerk, Chris Ward, Brighton School Board member Joyce Powers, Lindhurst Associates V.P., Bob King and Society President Marieanna Bair, presented a program on the benefits to the community of the restoration of the Lyons School in Brighton Township.

Descriptive brochures were distributed. All those present, and certainly all in the community, are encouraged to make an income tax deductible contribution to this project. This restoration will give elementary children the opportunity to learn about education in early Michigan by spending a day, or several, as students at the turn of the century. A fitting commemoration as we near the end of the 20th century.

This frame structure, built in 1885 to replace the 1842 log school, has had several additions. A c. 1951 addition will serve as a museum: a c. 1962 concrete room in the back will be a fine storage facility for area archives. (See SCHOOL P.3)

Dates to Remember:
* Feb. 9, 16, 23, 1 P.M. Archives Filing
  810/229-6402 to confirm
  10-5-8 a.m. and 23, 1-5 p.m.
  Genealogical help. 227-1960 to confirm.
  18, 7-9 p.m. Public program. “Today’s Collectibles”, 116 W. Main. See above.
  22, 7-9 p.m. Society board meets. Welcome.
* "Brighton District Library, 200 Onondaga Dr."