



Brighton Area Historical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 481

Brighton, MI 48116

Trail Tales

MARCH, 1999
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Preserve, Advance and Disseminate Knowledge of the History of the Brighton Area

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LYONS SCHOOL RESTORATION PROJECT

BROCHURES DETAILING PLANS FOR THE BUILDING AND REQUESTING FINANCIAL HELP WILL BE IN THE MAIL SHORTLY. ALL DONATIONS WILL BE PROPERLY RECORDED AND RECOGNIZED.

THIS FRAME ONE ROOM SCHOOL, BUILT 1885, IS TO BE A RESOURCE TO EXPERIENCE AND UNDERSTAND THE HISTORY OF THE BRIGHTON AREA. THE SCHOOL MUSEUM WILL ENABLE STUDENTS TO LEARN FIRST HAND HOW RURAL CHILDREN WERE EDUCATED, HOW THEY LIVED, HOW THEY PLAYED, HOW THEY WORKED IN THAT PERIOD OF MICHIGAN'S PAST.

ONE OF THE ROOMS WILL BE DEVELOPED AS A SOURCE FOR ARCHIVAL RESEARCH. THE FIRE PROOF ROOM WILL BE IDEAL FOR PRESERVATION OF PAPER MATERIALS, PHOTOS, FABRIC, ETC. THE SOCIETY'S COLLECTION GROWS REGULARLY. LONG TIME RESIDENTS DONATE BOOKS, MAPS, ABSTRACTS, CEMETERY RECORDS, NEWSPAPERS, PHOTOS, ETC, ETC. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO HAVE A SAFE PLACE FOR THESE LINKS TO THE PAST. WITHOUT THEM THE ROOTS WE TRY TO PUT DOWN WILL FIND IT DIFFICULT TO TAKE HOLD.

NOT MANY EARLY BUILDINGS REMAIN IN THE AREA. IT IS IMPERATIVE THIS ONE BE SAVED AND PUT TO A GOOD USE. YOUR SUPPORT IS ABSOLUTELY VITAL.

ALTHO' MUCH EFFORT IS BEING DONATED BY THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN THIS PROJECT, COLD, HARD CASH IS STILL NEEDED. THE SOCIETY IS A 501(c)3 INCOME TAX DEDUCTIBLE ORGANIZATION. CONTRIBUTIONS CAN HELP YOU AS WELL AS TO PRESERVE AND DISSEMINATE THE HISTORY OF THE BRIGHTON AREA.



Dates to Remember:

- *MAR 9, 16, 23, 1 P.M. ARCHIVES FILING. CALL 810/229-6402 TO CONFIRM.
- * 10, 5-8 P.M. AND 23, 1-5 P.M. FOR GENEALOGICAL HELP. 227-1760 TO CONFIRM.
- * 22, 7-9 P.M. SOCIETY BOARD MEETS. WELCOME.

*BRIGHTON DISTRICT LIBRARY, 200 ORNDORF DR.

MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: MARGARET SQUIRE.

COUPLES/INDIV: BERT & MARIEANNA BAIR, RICHARD & ELAINE BLIGHT, DUANE & THELMA DUNCAN, DAVID & TERRIE FISHER (FENTON), FLOYD & IAL FULLER, FRED GRUEZKE (OO), TOM & AUDREY LEITH, *JOHN & LISA PALERMO, GREG & PAM PARK (O), MARTY & LEE PAWLAK (S. LYON), *KEVIN ROACH, ED & CONNIE SHERMAN, BILL & ROSEMARY ULMER, PAT & MARGE WHITE (OO)

*WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS: JOHN & LISA PALERMO AND KEVIN ROACH.

MANY THANKS TO THOSE WHO ACTIVELY SUPPORT THE SOCIETY BY BECOMING MEMBERS. DUES PAY THE BILLS RELATIVE TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SOCIETY, THE MAJOR EXPENSE (\$225 PER MONTH) BEING THE PRINTING AND MAILING OF THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER. FREE COPIES CAN BE FOUND AT VARIOUS SITES. IF YOU ARE READING A FREE COPY YOU ARE URGED TO CONSIDER A CONTRIBUTION TO ITS COST. THOSE WHO BELIEVE FEWER ISSUES SHOULD BE OFFERED, I.E. 4, 6 OR 8 TIMES A YEAR TO CUT EXPENSES, CAN CALL 810/229-6402. YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS VITAL.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...DON HOMAN, HORNUNG ELEMENTARY PTO AND JEANETTE JOHNSON FOR THEIR DONATIONS TO THE LYONS SCHOOL RESTORATION FUND.

...BONNIE CORRIGAN, JOHN & JANICE FIELD, JEANETTE JOHNSON, MARILYN PETTIGROVE, ROSEMARY ULMER, CHRIS WARD AND MARGE WHITE FOR HELPING STUFF, TAPE AND LABEL THE LYONS SCHOOL BROCHURE.

...JOHN & LISA PALERMO FOR THEIR DONATION TO THE LEE HOUSE PRESERVATION FUND.

...BOB KING, OF LINDHOUT ASSOCIATES FOR MEETING WITH THE BOARD TO REVIEW THE FIRST SPECIFICATION DRAWINGS. CHANGES IN THE ELECTRICAL AND HEATING LAYOUTS WERE CONSIDERED.

...BEV ZIZKA FOR HER MOTHER'S GIRL SCOUT SCRAPBOOK, FROM THE 1960s.

...BERT BAIR, JOHN & JANICE FIELD AND MARILYN PETTIGROVE FOR HELPING PREPARE THE FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER FOR MAILING.

...GENERAL MOTORS PROVING GROUND FOR THE CALENDAR COMMEMORATING THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY. BEST WISHES.

PRESERVATION/RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: JOHN AND JANICE FIELD ARE ASSISTING WITH LOCAL RESEARCH. SOMETIMES WE MEET AT A LOCATION OTHER THAN THE LIBRARY. CALL 229-6402 TO CONFIRM THE SITE. TUESDAYS 1-3 P.M. NOT GOOD? LET US KNOW WHEN IS.

HISTORY BOOK: CAROL McMACKEN, 231-2957, HAS A LOT OF MATERIAL PUT TOGETHER. WANT TO HELP? CALL HER.

OLD VILLAGE CEMETERY: NO WORD YET ON THE HISTORIC SITE REGISTER APPLICATION. TREE AND BRUSH CUTTING WILL BEGIN SOON.

LEE HOUSE: EFFORTS ARE CONTINUING TO FUND A MOVE OF THIS 1840 GREEK REVIVAL HOME BUILT BY DANIEL S. LEE. A SEARCH IS ALSO ON TO LOCATE A SITE WHERE THIS HOME CAN CONTINUE ITS EXISTENCE FOR ANOTHER 159 YEARS. CONTACT PHIL SMITH, 810/231-1178 OR HTTP://MEMBERS.TRIPOD.COM/~SAVELEEHOUSE

LYONS SCHOOL: THE SOCIETY BOARD MET WITH BOB KING OF LINDHOUT ASSOCIATES RECENTLY. THE PROPOSED SPECS RE: LIGHTING, HEATING, ETC., WERE REVIEWED. SUGGESTED CHANGES WILL BE INCORPORATED.

A LYONS SCHOOL CLEANUP DAY WILL BE SCHEDULED FOR A SATURDAY WHEN THE TEMPERATURES ARE NOT SO LOW. DESKS, CHAIRS, DISPLAY CASES, ETC., MUST BE MOVED TO THE BACK ROOM TO MAKE WAY FOR CONSTRUCTION CREWS IN THE MAIN PART OF THE STRUCTURE. LET US KNOW IF YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP. 810/229-6402. LYONS SCHOOL IS AT 11455 BUNO ROAD, BETWEEN VAN AMBURG AND PLEASANT VALLEY ROADS. A TOUR OF THE BUILDING CAN BE ARRANGED BY CALLING 810/229-6402.

NEED NEED NEED

COPY/TYPING PAPER. (CASE IS \$25.00)
BOX OF ADDRESS LABELS. AVERY #5351.
(\$27.00)

SOCIETY SECRETARY, ONE YEAR. (PRICELESS).

SOCIETY MEMBER WILLING TO CONDUCT ORAL HISTORIES, OR HELP WITH FUND RAISING, OR BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PUBLICITY, OR DEVELOP PROGRAMS FOR PUBLIC MEETINGS, OR HELP WITH LYONS SCHOOL/LEE HOUSE PROJECTS, OR CONDUCT RESEARCH, OR BE RESPONSIBLE THAT THE SOCIETY HAS AN ENTRY IN LOCAL PARADES, ETC., ETC. CONTACT A BOARD MEMBER OR CALL 810/229-6402. (THESE MEMBERS ARE ALSO PRICELESS.)

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 Individual

DONATION: () \$10.00 () \$20.00 () \$50.00 () \$100.00 () \$_____ Other.
Society is an Income Tax Deductible Organization. 501(c)3

*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

YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL

TILES: THE COOK & SHANNON BLACKSMITH SHOP ON W. MAIN, c. 1900, IS SHOWN ON THE 1998 TILE. THIS, AND THE OTHER LOCAL SCENES ON TILES, MAKE A FINE GIFT. THE STOCK OF EARLIER TILES IS STEADILY BEING REDUCED. CHECK WHICH ONES YOU NEED TO COMPLETE YOUR COLLECTION BEFORE THEY'RE GONE. A LIMITED NUMBER IS MADE EACH YEAR. TILES ARE AVAILABLE AT NOSTALGIA ANTIQUES, 116 W. MAIN. \$8.00 EACH OR 3/\$21.00.

TOTE BAGS @ \$15. AND MUGS @ \$5. ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY. THESE, AND NOTE PAPER @ 2.50 ALL FEATURE THE OLD TOWN HALL. POST CARDS OF EARLY LOCAL STREET SCENES, 6/\$3.00 AND 11"x14" PHOTOS OF THE MILL POND AND DAM, c. 1940 FOR \$25.00, CAN BE BOUGHT BY CALLING 810/229-6402.

TAPESTRY PILLOW: 810/229-9100, TO PLACE YOUR ORDER. \$28.00 WILL MAKE A FINE GIFT. IT ALSO GOES WELL WITH THE COVERLETS. THESE ARE AT NAUGHTY 'N NICE, 412 W. MAIN IN RED, GREEN OR BLUE FOR \$49.00.



SIGNATURE QUILT STILL HAS SOME ROOM FOR YOUR SIGNATURE. \$10.00 AND IT'LL 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.

WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

- MAR. 11, 7:30; CELEBRATE THE CENTURY-1930s, JAZZ NITE AND BREAD LINE. PLYMOUTH HIST. MUSEUM, PLYMOUTH.
- MAR 19, 10-2:30; GRANT WRITING FOR ARTS, CULTURE; LANSING. 810/229-6402.
- MAR. 19, 2-9 P.M.; 20, NOON-8 P.M.; 21, NOON-5 P.M. MICHIGAN HOME AND GARDEN ANTIQUES MARKET, SOUTHFIELD CIVIC CENTER, SOUTHFIELD, 810/465-9441.
- APRIL 8, 7:30 P.M. CELEBRATE THE CENTURY-1940s, WW II, THE JEEP, MUSIC OF THE ERA, ETC. PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM, PLYMOUTH.

MANY, MANY THANKS TO

...CLARENCE AND DARLENE HINES, OWNERS OF NOSTALGIA ANTIQUES, 116 W. MAIN, FOR HOSTING THE FEBRUARY 18, MEETING. A PROGRAM ON COLLECTIBLES AND DEPRESSION GLASS, DESCRIBING THEM AND WHAT MAKES THEM COLLECTIBLE FOLLOWED BY A SCAVENGER HUNT IN THE STORE MADE THE EVENING VERY INTERESTING. MANY THANKS TO CLARENCE AND DARLENE FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

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

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BRIGHTON, MI

AREA FARMS C. 1900

RESEARCH OF LOCAL FARMS AND FARMERS, LISTED IN THE BRIGHTON ARGUS, THEIR BACKGROUND AND LOCATION CONTINUES. MANUEL CROUT'S ROSELAND IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS ISSUE.

MAKING HIS HOME IN NEW YORK, LEWIS CROUT WAS KILLED (1863) WHILE SERVING IN THE CIVIL WAR. THIS LEFT HIS WIFE, HANNAH, WITH NINE SONS, THE OLDEST 15 YEARS, TO MAKE THEIR WAY IN THE WORLD. FIVE YEARS LATER (1868) THIS PLUCKY WIDOW MOVED HER FAMILY TO THE BRIGHTON AREA BY MEANS OF A LUMBER WAGON. (ONE CAN HARDLY IMAGINE WHAT PROMPTED THIS DECISION.) WITHIN WEEKS OF THEIR ARRIVAL SHE PASSED AWAY. HANNAH IS BURIED ON THE CHARLES DURFEE LOT IN THE PLEASANT VALLEY CEMETERY.

HOW WERE THE CHILDREN TO SURVIVE? IN 1870 THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY CENSUS RECORDS HER YOUNGEST, WALTER, 9 YEARS, WAS LIVING WITH NEWLY WEDS CHARLES AND MARY DURFEE IN BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP. WILLARD, 13, WAS WITH CHARLES' PARENTS, EDGAR AND MARGETTA AND THEIR TWO DAUGHTERS ALONG FLINT ROAD IN THE SKEMAN ROAD AREA. MANUEL, 14, IS WITH IRA AND LAURA WARNER ABOUT A MILE NORTH, WEST OF WARNER (SCHOOL) LAKE. EVERET, 16, WE FIND WITH JAMES AND PHYLANCY THURBER ABOUT 2.5 MILES NORTH. HENRY, 22, THE OLDEST, IS A LABORER ON CHARLES AND HANNAH HYNÉ'S FARM IN THAT SAME GENERAL VICINITY. WHERE THE FOUR OTHER CHILDREN WERE LOCATED WE'VE NOT FOUND. IT'S POSSIBLE THEY WERE IN OAKLAND OR WASHTENAW COUNTIES AT THE TIME OF THE 1870 CENSUS.

WITHOUT A HIGHLY ORGANIZED GOVERNMENTAL SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT THE FIVE NOTED ABOVE WERE ALL CARED FOR. IT'S CERTAIN THEY EARNED THEIR KEEP BUT ONE ASSUMES THEY WERE FED, CLOTHED AND SHELTERED. THEY PROBABLY ALL ATTENDED BITTEN SCHOOL AT SOME TIME. (THEIR BASIC NEEDS WERE PROVIDED.)

BY 1895 MANUEL IS SHOWN AS OWNER OF 80 ACRES IN SECTION 9, BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP, WITH THE FLINT ROAD RUNNING THROUGH THE MIDDLE. IN 1881 HE HAD MARRIED HIS NEIGHBOR'S DAUGHTER, EMMA THURBER. TO THEM THREE DAUGHTERS WERE BORN: EULA, BERNICE AND GERTRUDE; WHO PROBABLY ALSO ATTENDED THE ONE ROOM SCHOOL OF THEIR PARENTS.

THE CROUTS LIVED ON THE FARM UNTIL 1911 WHEN THEY MOVED INTO TOWN. THEIR HOME, AT 833 E. GRAND RIVER IS NOW THE SITE OF INDEPENDENCE VILLAGE. EIGHT YEARS LATER THE FARM WAS SOLD; THE 1935 ATLAS SHOWS ERNEST HICKS AS OWNER. BY THEN US 23 IS ROUTED TO THE WEST SIDE OF THE 80 ACRES. THE ORIGINAL ROAD IS NOW TAYLOR ROAD. MANUEL DIED JANUARY 8, 1924 OUTLIVING EMMA BY 3.5 YEARS. BOTH ARE BURIED IN FAIRVIEW, ON FLINT ROAD. HOW OFTEN THEY MUST HAVE TRAVELED PAST THE CEMETERY WHILE LIVING ON THE FARM.

IT IS HUMBLING TO CONSIDER THE TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS THROUGH WHICH THE CROUT BROTHERS SURVIVED AND THRIVED. MANUEL'S FARM'S NAME, ROSELAND, EVOKES A SENSE OF FRAGILITY, WHICH IS ALL THE MORE PARADOXICAL CONSIDERING THE STRENGTHS THEY EXHIBITED. (COMPILED BY MARIEANNA BAIR FROM EARLY ATLASSES, THE 1870 CENSUS OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY, ASSISTANCE OF JOHN AND JANICE FIELD AND OBITUARIES COMPILED BY MILTON CHARBONEAU. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS ALWAYS WELCOME.)