



Brighton Area Historical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 481

Brighton, MI 48116

Trail Tales

MAY, 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

THE BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS COMMITTED TO THE PRESERVATION OF LOCAL HISTORIC SITES. THE PRESERVATION/RESTORATION OF THE LYONS SCHOOL IS A MAJOR GOAL. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN VISITING THE SITE, EXPERIENCING EARLY MICHIGAN EDUCATION, WILL HAVE ANOTHER MEANS TO BETTER EVALUATE THE PAST; BETTER UNDERSTAND THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE.

THE SOCIETY IS COMMITTED TO THE COLLECTING OF KNOWLEDGE OF LOCAL HISTORY WHICH SAYS SO MUCH ABOUT THE EVERYDAY PEOPLE, THEIR STRUGGLES, SUCCESSES AND FAILURES. UNDERSTANDING THAT THEIR DESIRES, SORROWS, FEARS, ARE NOT SO MUCH DIFFERENT FROM OUR OWN, GIVES COURAGE FOR OUR DAY.

THE SOCIETY IS COMMITTED TO THE DISSEMINATION OF THAT KNOWLEDGE IN VARIOUS WAYS. AN EFFECTIVE DOCUMENTATION OF THIS AREA'S HISTORY CAN BE EXHIBITED IN THE PRESERVATION OF THIS STRUCTURE AND ALL FOR WHICH IT STANDS.

LINDHOUT ASSOCIATES HAVE BEEN MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS PRESERVATION. ALREADY INDIVIDUALS AND OTHER BUSINESSES HAVE CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY. SOCIETY MEMBERS, LOCAL EDUCATORS AND OTHERS HAVE BEEN DONATING COUNTLESS HOURS AND LABOR TO ACCOMPLISH THIS PRESERVATION PROJECT.

ENSURING THE SUCCESS OF THIS COMMITMENT CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED BY THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF EACH OF US. DONATIONS TO THIS PROJECT CAN BE MADE TO THE SOCIETY, A 501(c)3 INCOME TAX DEDUCTIBLE ORGANIZATION. SEND TO P.O. Box 481, BRIGHTON 48116.



Dates to Remember:

- *MAY 4, 11, 18, 25, 1-3 P.M. ARCHIVES FILING. CALL 810/229-6402 TO CONFIRM.
- * 12, 5-8 P.M. AND 25, 1-5 P.M. FOR GENEALOGICAL HELP. 227-1760 TO CONFIRM.
- * 24, 7 P.M. SOCIETY BOARD MEETS. WELCOME.

*BRIGHTON DISTRICT LIBRARY, 200 ORNDORF DR.

MEMBERSHIPS

BUSINESS/PROF: *ANN ARBOR NEWS, *BRIAN LAVAN ATTORNEY AT LAW, *BRIGHTON CHRYSLER, *MCKENNA ASSOCIATES (FARMINGTON HILLS), *MCNAMEE, PORTER AND SEELEY.

PATRON: LINDBOM ELEMENTARY PTO, STEVE & KATE LOWRY, HUGH & REBECCA MUNCE, CHARLES & NORMA JEAN PLESS (ROSCOMMON Y2K).

COUPLES/INDIVIDUALS: *MR & MRS GEORGE BACALIS, *TED CARMACK, JOHN CURRY (LANSING), **LAURA DORSEY, LIBBY EISENHART, BETTY HERBST (HOWELL Y2K), *BRIAN & JEAN PETERSBERG, TEDD & LINDA POTTER, *LYLE & JOYCE POWERS, *RICH & MARY RAY, *DOUG & CAROL REARICK, **SUSAN REUTER, DELORES YACKLEY, ERIC & SHERYL VIGMOSTAD, *HERB & ARLENE WARNER.

*MEMBERSHIPS VIA LYONS SCHOOL RESTORATION PROJECT'S SETTLER'S/PIONEER'S/ FOUNDER'S GROUP DONATIONS. WELCOME!!!

**OTHER NEW MEMBERS. AGAIN, WELCOME!!!

THE SOCIETY'S ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES ARE PAID BY MEMBERSHIPS. PATRON AND BUS/PROF DUES KEEPS YOUR SOCIETY VIABLE AND THE GENERAL FUND IN THE BLACK. THANKS!!!

PLEASE CONTACT US, 810/229-6402, IF YOU FIND ERRORS IN ANY OF THE ABOVE.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...LIBBY EISENHARDT, AND MARGE WHITE FOR HELPING GET THE APRIL NEWSLETTER MAILED.

...AUDREY JACOBY FOR THE 1951 AERIAL VIEW OF A PORTION OF BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP.

.. LAURA DORSEY, BETTY HERBST, STEVE & KATE LOWRY, ERIC & SHERYL VIGMOSTAD, AND DELORES YACKLEY FOR DONATIONS IN ADDITION TO DUES.

...DONATIONS TO THE LYONS SCHOOL RESTORATION PROJECT: HARRY DAVIS, MICHAEL K. HEGARTY, TOM & DONNA NELSON, TEDD & LINDA POTTER.

MAY 15, BEA PAINTS THE LYONS SCHOOL, 11455 BUNO ROAD. YOUR HELP IS WELCOME. CHARLOTTE MARCOTTE, 229-1482.

MAY 15, 10-4 VG'S FOOD STORE. LISA CAVE, MEMBER SOCIETY BOARD, WILL BE HELPING BAG GROCERIES FOR YOUR DONATION TO SPECIAL OLYMPICS.

PRESERVATION/RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: PHOTOS, CLIPPINGS, ETC., ARE BEING COPIED AND PLACED IN THE SOCIETY SCRAP BOOK. IT'S APPROPRIATE THAT AN ORGANIZATION CONCERNED WITH PRESERVATION OF HISTORY SHOULD KEEP TRACK OF ITS OWN HISTORY.

WE ARE ABLE TO ASSIST WITH AN ALL DAY PROGRAM ON LOCAL HISTORY BEING PREPARED FOR STUDENTS OF HORNUNG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, MAY 12.

OLD VILLAGE CEMETERY: BRUSH, WEED TREES AND DAMAGED OR DEAD TREES ARE BEING CUT AND REMOVED. ALREADY ONE CAN ENVISION THE QUIET CHARM INHERENT IN THE SITE. IT WILL BE MUCH EASIER TO KEEP THE AREA MOWED AND IN GOOD REPAIR. AFTER THE TREE CREW IS FINISHED THE INSTALLATION OF LIGHTING CAN PROCEED.

THE INSTALLATION OF A GATE FROM THE TRIDGE WOULD ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBLE PERSONS TO TOUR THE CEMETERY AND THEREBY REDUCE THE VANDALISM WHICH HAS TAKEN PLACE IN THE PAST. CALL BRIGHTON POLICE, 227-2700, IF YOU SEE VANDALISM OCCURRING. IF EACH OF US ACCEPTS RESPONSIBILITY THE NONSENSE OF THE PAST CAN BE DIMINISHED.

LYONS SCHOOL: DID YOU RECEIVE YOUR BROCHURE DESCRIBING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS TO SPEND TIME AT A ONE ROOM SCHOOL? IT IS HOPED YOU WILL CONSIDER THIS PROJECT WORTHY OF A DONATION. THE STRUCTURE WILL ALSO FUNCTION AS A MEETING SITE AND A RESEARCH FACILITY. CALL 810/229-6402 FOR A BROCHURE DETAILING THE PURPOSES AND PLANS FOR THIS 1885 STRUCTURE IN BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP. THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE AND THE RESTORATION COMMITTEE ARE ACTIVELY WORKING TO COMPLETE THIS PROJECT. YOUR HELP IS INVALUABLE AND MOST NECESSARY.

NEEDED NEEDED NEEDED

...SOMEONE TO SERVE AS SOCIETY SECRETARY. THE JOB ENTAILS THE RECORDING OF BOARD DECISIONS AND CHAIRMAN REPORTS, AND DISTRIBUTION OF THESE MINUTES TO BOARD MEMBERS ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE NEXT MEETING.

...SOMEONE TO ORGANIZE THE SOCIETY BOOTH AT THE ART FAIR IN AUGUST. PREVIOUS CHAIRMEN WILL BE GLAD TO HELP.

...SOMEONE TO ORGANIZE A SOCIETY ENTRY IN THE JULY 4TH PARADE.

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

- MAY 14: 8 A.M./3 P.M. MICHIGAN ONE ROOM SCHOOL ASSOC. "TALKING WITH THE EXPERTS" AT CELERY FLATS HISTORIC AREA, PORTAGE, MI REG. \$45. WEB SITE: [HTTP://WWW.ONE-ROOMSCHOOLS.ORG/](http://www.one-roomschools.org/) PH: 616/385-1582.
- MAY 16: GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY WILL TOUR HISTORIC SITES IN HAMBURG. 248/486-9113.
- MAY 25: 2-5 P.M. WASHTENAW COUNTY HIST. SOCIETY. SNEAK PREVIEW OF MUSEUM ON MAIN ST., 500 N. MAIN. ANN ARBOR.
- JUNE/AUGUST, SUNDAYS, 1-4 P.M. GAGE HOUSE MUSEUM, 6440 KENSINGTON ROAD OPEN. 248-486-9113.

- SEPT. 25: MICHIGAN HISTORICAL PRESERVATION NETWORK WORKSHOP: "THE NEW MICHIGAN PRESERVATION TAX CREDITS. ARE THEY FOR YOU?" MICHIGAN HISTORY CENTER, LANSING. 248/625-8181.
- MAY 21: 7-9 P.M. NOSTALGIA ANTIQUE WILL OFFER A CLASS ON FURNITURE. 810/229-4710 FOR RESERVATIONS.
- 2ND THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM, PLYMOUTH, "CELEBRATE THE CENTURY.

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

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

AREA FARMS C. 1900

RESEARCH OF LOCAL FARMS AND FARMERS, LISTED IN THE BRIGHTON ARGUS, THEIR BACKGROUND AND LOCATION CONTINUES. AMOS E. HILTON'S HAZEL DELL IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS ISSUE.

THOMAS S. HILTON, BORN IN ENGLAND IN 1822, CAME TO THE U.S. IN 1849; SETTLING IN BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP SHORTLY AFTER. BY 1852 HE AND ADELINE ROGERS, NEIGHBORS ACROSS THE ROAD, MARRIED. ADELINE, BORN IN 1834 IN NEW JERSEY, CAME WITH HER PARENTS, AMOS AND PERMELIA ROGERS IN 1836. (THE 1859 ATLAS SHOWS ROGERS OWNED 50 ACRES IN THE SW $\frac{1}{4}$ OF SECTION 20, SOUTH SIDE OF HILTON ROAD, EAST OF HUNTER; BOUGHT IN 1846.)

THOMAS AND ADELINE, BY 1859, PURCHASED 120 ACRES IN SECTION 20 ON THE NORTH SIDE OF HILTON ROAD.

THE 1875 ATLAS NOTES THOMAS HILTON'S PROPERTY INCREASED TO 160 ACRES, BORDERED BY HUNTER AND HILTON ROADS. (TODAY'S CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SITE.) THIS INCLUDED A PORTION OF PALMER (HOPE) LAKE. BY THEN AMOS ROGERS' HOLDINGS HAVE INCREASED TO 80 ACRES INCLUDING A PORTION OF LYON LAKE. 1895 HAS MRS. AMOS ROGERS (AMOS DIED IN 1882) AS OWNER OF THAT 80.

DURING THIS PERIOD THOMAS AND ADELINE RAISED A FAMILY. JOSEPHINE ISABELL DIED AS AN INFANT. (IT SEEMS AS IF EVERY FAMILY LOST INFANTS IN THOSE DAYS.) JOHN W. MARRIED NELLIE WESLEY, A NEIGHBOR NORTHEAST OF SCHOOL LAKE. WILLIAM HERBERT BECAME A MINISTER BUT SUFFERED FROM A BAD HEART DYING AT 45 YEARS. AMOS E., THE SUBJECT WHOSE FARM IS IN THE ARGUS LISTING AS HAZEL DELL, FARMED THE WEST 65 ACRES OF HIS FATHER'S 160. PERHAPS HE NAMED IT HAZEL DELL FOR HIS OLDEST DAUGHTER, HAZEL.

THOMAS HILTON'S OBITUARY NOTES THAT ALTHO' HE HAD LITTLE FORMAL EDUCATION HE "...WAS A MAN OF SOUND JUDGEMENT AND WHOSE INFLUENCE HAS ALWAYS BEEN FELT IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION." HE REMAINED ACTIVE ALMOST UNTIL THE DAY HE DIED IN 1906.

BY 1935 AMOS HILTON'S NAME IS NOT ON THAT 65; HE WAS 76 YEARS OLD BY THEN. (HE DIED IN 1939.) IN 1961 THERE IS STILL A HILTON DESCENDANT'S NAME ON A PORTION OF THE 160 ACRES. HOPE LAKE PARK SUB IS NOTED THERE ON THE ATLAS OF 1979.

WHEN IT BECAME NECESSARY TO ADD ROAD NAMES TO MAPS ONE CAN SEE WHY HILTON WAS SELECTED FOR THAT ROAD BETWEEN OLD 23 AND GRAND RIVER.

AMOS HILTON'S GRANDPARENTS ROGERS ARE BURIED IN THE PLEASANT VALLEY CEMETERY ON PLEASANT VALLEY ROAD. THE HILTONS ARE AT FAIRVIEW ON FLINT ROAD. (COMPILED BY MARIEANNA BAIR FROM EARLY ATLASSES AND OBITUARIES COMPILED BY MILTON CHARBONEAU. ADDITION INFORMATION IS ALWAYS WELCOME.)