



## Brighton Area Historical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 481

Brighton, MI 48116

[HTTP://COMMUNITY.MLIVE.COM/CC/BAHS](http://community.mlive.com/cc/BAHS)

# Trail Tales

APRIL 2000  
VOL. XIX No. 4

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

### LYONS SCHOOL RESTORATION PROJECT

OVER \$1062.00 WAS RECENTLY EARNED FOR THIS PROJECT. THE MANY WHO BROUGHT RETURNABLE BEVERAGE CONTAINERS TO THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ARE SINCERELY THANKED. RONNI POWERS AND THE ELEMENTARY CAUCAS HAVE CONDUCTED SEVERAL OF THESE DRIVES. ANOTHER DRIVE IS PLANNED BEFORE THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.

LYLE POWERS DESERVES SPECIAL THANKS. HE RETURNED THE CONTAINERS TO FARMER JACK, KROGER, MEIJER'S AND V.G.'S FOR THE DEPOSITS. IN CONSIDERATION FOR A PRESENTATION TO LINDBOM THIRD GRADERS BY MARIEANNA BAIR, THE LINDBOM P.T.O. SENT A DONATION. THANKS ALSO TO JEANNE AND PHIL SMITH FOR THEIR DONATION.

THE GAS IS CONNECTED TO THE FURNACES (WHICH TRANSLATES INTO ANOTHER MONTHLY EXPENSE), SOME FURRING STRIPS ARE ON THE WALLS, AN INTERIOR WALL IS UP, AND ELECTRIC WIRING IS IN. CONNECTIONS FROM THE NEW WELL WILL SOON BE INSTALLED. STAN SCHAFFER (SCHAFFER CONSTRUCTION), ED BOTTUM AND LANDRY ELECTRIC ARE MAKING IMPRESSIVE HEADWAY ON THIS PROJECT. KELLER WELL DRILLING INSTALLED THE NEW WELL. WATER SOON WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE BUILDING. REMEMBER THESE VOLUNTEERS WHEN YOU NEED THIS SORT OF WORK DONE.

THE COMPLETION OF THE RESTORATION OF THIS 1875 ONE ROOM SCHOOL WILL BE A PROJECT OF WHICH EVERYONE WHO HAS HAD A HAND IN IT CAN BE PROUD. NOT MANY OF THESE IMPORTANT EARLY STRUCTURES REMAIN. TO HAVE ONE, PUT TO ITS ORIGINAL USE, IS WORTHY OF ALL THE EFFORTS EXPENDED. IN ADDITION A SMALL DISPLAY AREA AND A LARGE ARCHIVAL RESEARCH FACILITY PROMISE EFFECTIVE USE.

YOUR CURIOSITY ABOUT THE BUILDING (11455 BUNO RD), ITS RESTORATION AND FUTURE CAN BE SATISFIED BY CONTACTING CHRIS WARD, CHAIRMAN, 229-0560 OR MARIEANNA BAIR, 810/229-6402. THE SOCIETY IS A 501(c)3 ORGANIZATION. DONATIONS ARE INCOME TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

#### OFFICERS

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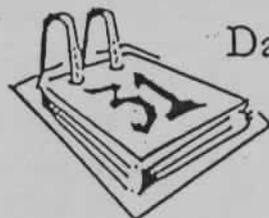
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LYONS SCHOOL  
810/229-0560

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810/229-5689

HERB WARNER  
LYONS SCHOOL  
810/229-6504



### Dates to Remember:

- APR. 13, 20, 1-3 P.M. ARCHIVES FILING.  
CALL 810/229-6402 TO CONFIRM.
- \* 12, 5-8 P.M. AND 18, 1-5 P.M. FOR  
GENEALOGICAL HELP. 227-1760 TO CONFIRM.
- \* 27, 7 P.M. SOCIETY BOARD MEETING.  
WELCOME.

\*BRIGHTON DISTRICT LIBRARY, 200 ORNDORF DR.

## MEMBERSHIPS

BUS/PROF: \*HERRMANN FUNERAL HOME, AND PYRAMID CONCRETE, INC.

PATRON: STEVE & KATE LOWRY AND PHIL & JEANNE SMITH.

COUPLES/INDIV: JOHN ALLEN (FL), DAVID APPS (01), SALLY BALDWIN, CHUCK & JANICE BEACH, JOE & PAULINE CHENOWETH, BILL & MARIANNE COMISKEY, JOHN CURRY (LANSING), CATHERINE McMACKEN, MARK & CAROL McMACKEN, PAT McMACKEN, RUDY & DOREEN MEFFERT, RICH & JUDITH PARSONS, SUVCW GILLULY-KINGSLEY CAMP #120 (FOWLerville), PHYLISS SCHAEFER (FENTON), BILL & ROSEMARY ULMER, LORRY WAGNER AND PAUL ZURAWSKI.

\*WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER HERRMANN FUNERAL HOME. RENEWING MEMBERS ARE THOSE ON WHOM THE ENTIRE ORGANIZATION DEPENDS. NEW MEMBERS HELP IT GROW.

THANKS TO THOSE WHO NOTIFY THE SOCIETY OF A CHANGE OF ADDRESS. IT'S NOT MUCH BUT IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE FOR THE SOCIETY TO SPEND .33¢ FOR EACH PIECE RETURNED.

TRAIL TALES REACHES 800 INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES, CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS, EDUCATORS, GOVERNING OFFICIALS, ETC. THE RECEIPT OF ANNUAL DUES WOULD BE MOST APPROPRIATE.

THANKS      THANKS      THANKS

...LIBBY EISENHARDT, JUNE KIMBLE AND SHIRLEY RITTER FOR THEIR HELP IN PREPARING THE MARCH ISSUE OF TRAIL TALES FOR MAILING.

...JOE & PAULINE CHENOWETH WHO INCLUDED A DONATION WITH THEIR DUES.

...EUGENIA ANDERSON FOR A CHARTER MEMBERSHIP LIST OF "LIVINGSTON PLAYERS", 1962.

...LORRY WAGNER FOR DONATING "EARLIEST SETTLERS OF PUTNAM TOWNSHIP" BY MILTON CHARBONEAU.

...JEANETTE JOHNSON FOR A RATZ HARDWARE RECORD BOOK.

...SUVCW GILLULY-KINGSLEY CAMP #120 FOR \$25.00 DONATION TOWARD THE PLANNED VETERANS MARKER FOR THE VILLAGE CEMETERY.

...MARGARET SQUIRE FOR A CASH DONATION.

...HERB WARNER FOR IDENTIFYING MOST OF THE LYONS SCHOOL STUDENTS OF 70 YEARS AGO. AND FRANCIS YOUNG FOR LENDING THE PHOTOS.

...TINY RICHTER FOR A COPY OF THE WINKELHAUS REUNION COOK BOOK. CALL 231-4297 IF YOU'D LIKE A COPY.

## PRESERVATION/RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: DONATED ITEMS FROM EUGENIA ANDERSON, JEANETTE JOHNSON AND LORRY WAGNER (SEE THANKS COLUMN) ARE IMPORTANT ADDITIONS TO THE ARCHIVES. COLLECTIONS OF NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS ARE BEING CATEGORIZED ACCORDING TO SUBJECT MATTER IN ORDER THAT RESEARCHERS WILL HAVE ACCESS. (I.E. BANKING, CEMETERIES, FARMING, MILLS, ETC.) YOUR HELP IS WELCOME. 810/229-6402.

VILLAGE CEMETERY: APPROVAL OF THE TEXT FOR SIDE TWO OF THE HISTORIC SITE MARKER HAS BEEN DELAYED. IT HAD BEEN HOPED THE MARKER COULD BE IN PLACE WHEN THE MILL POND WALK WAS COMPLETED. MUCH RESTORATION IS NEEDED IN THE CEMETERY FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF THE WALK BECAUSE OF THE EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS INVOLVED WITH THE WALK'S CONSTRUCTION.

HISTORY BOOK: WORK IS CONTINUING. TO LEND ASSISTANCE CONTACT CAROL McMACKEN, 231-2957.

ORAL HISTORY: INTERVIEWS ARE BEING SCHEDULED. LONG TIME RESIDENTS OF THE AREA HAVE STORIES TO TELL. WILL YOU TELL YOURS? CALL LORRY WAGNER, 231-3328 OR MARIEANNA BAIR, 229-6402. THANKS TO ALENE ANDERSON AND ARLA STUHRBURG FOR ALLOWING THE TAPING OF THEIR MEMORIES.

MANY HISTORICAL SOCIETIES CONDUCT PUBLIC MEETINGS WITH INTERESTING PROGRAMS. WE'VE NOT HAD REGULAR GENERAL MEETINGS FOR SOME TIME. THERE ARE MANY PROGRAMS WHICH WOULD BE OF INTEREST.

SOMEONE IS NEEDED TO MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS. THE BOARD MEMBERS ARE ALREADY OCCUPIED WITH DUTIES. THEIR SUPPORT CAN BE DEPENDED ON. JUST ASK.

CALL 810/229-6402 WITH YOUR OFFER TO TAKE ON THIS RESPONSIBILITY.

OF COURSE, ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME AT BOARD MEETINGS. FOURTH MONDAY, 7 P.M., BRIGHTON ROOM IN THE LIBRARY.

CONGRATULATIONS TO  
CHRIS AND NICOLE WARD  
ON THE BIRTH OF  
EMMA.

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: ( ) \$50.00 PATRON ( ) \$25.00 COUPLE ( ) \$2.00 STUDENT (K-12, COLLEGE)  
( ) \$50.00 BUS/PROF. ( ) \$15.00 INDIVIDUAL ( ) \$500.00 LIFE

DONATION: ( ) \$10.00 ( ) \$20.00 ( ) \$50.00 ( ) \$100.00 ( ) \$ OTHER.

THE SOCIETY IS A 501(C)3 INCOME TAX DEDUCTIBLE ORGANIZATION.

\*HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROJECTS: ARCHIVES, HISTORY BOOK, HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY, HISTORIC SITE RESTORATION/REGISTRATION/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, PILLOW.

\*\*\*ADMINISTRATION OF THE SOCIETY: BOARD/OFFICER/COMMITTEE MEMBER, NEWSLETTER, PUBLICITY.

FUND RAISING PROJECTS

YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL

POST CARDS WITH EARLY LOCAL SCENES, PKG OF 6/\$3.; MUGS @ \$5.; TOTE BAGS @ \$15.; NOTE PAPER @ \$2.50; 11x14 PHOTOS OF THE MILL POND AND DAM @ \$25.; COPIES OF 1875 PLAT MAPS OF BRIGHTON, GENOA, GREEN OAK AND HAMBURG TOWNSHIP AND A 1915 MAP OF BRIGHTON FOR \$1. MAKE AN INTERESTING DISPLAY; NEEDLEPOINT KITS \$8. SHOW THE OLD TOWN HALL. ALL THE ABOVE AT 810/229-6402.

COVERLETS, RED, GREEN OR BLUE HAVE NINE LOCAL SITES WOVEN IN. \$49. AT NAUGHTY 'N NICE, 412 W. MAIN.

A TAPESTRY PILLOW, \$28., GOES WELL WITH THE COVERLETS. 810/229-9100 TO ORDER.

THE SIGNATURE QUILT, ON WHICH ARE EMBROIDERED SIGNATURES FOR A DONATION OF \$10.00, HAS SPACE FOR YOURS. SEND IN YOUR SIGNATURE OR THAT OF A RELATIVE. A FILE OF SIGNATURES OF EARLY RESIDENTS IS AVAILABLE. YOUR DONATION IS AN APPROPRIATE AND SIMPLE WAY TO SUPPORT THE SOCIETY'S ACTIVITIES.

TILES: 13 DIFFERENT LOCAL SITES, ARE SHOWN ON BLACK/WHITE 6" SQUARE CERAMIC TILES. THESE ARE ALL LIMITED EDITIONS. NOSTALGIA ANTIQUES, 116 W. MAIN, HAS THEM IN STOCK AT \$8.00 OR 3/\$21.00.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

1. TO DEVELOP A SALES STRATEGY FOR TILES, PILLOWS, COVERLETS, ETC.
2. TO ORGANIZE A CRAFT/ART SHOW.
3. TO SET UP, STAFF, ETC., THE SOCIETY BOOTH AT THE FARMERS' MARKET, ART FAIR, ETC.
4. TO ASSURE THE SOCIETY IS REPRESENTED IN THE JULY 4TH PARADE.
5. TO SERVE ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. (YOU NEED TO CARE THE SOCIETY CONTINUES ITS WORK; MEET ONCE A MONTH FOR TWO HOURS; BRING YOUR IDEAS, INSIGHT, INPUT.)

WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

WATERLOO AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY. JUNE 25, 2 P.M. MICHIGAN LOG CABIN DAY.

GABRIEL RICHARD HISTORICAL SOCIETY. LOOKING FOR DESCENDANTS OF STE. ANNE DE DETROIT PARISH FOR JUNE 26, 2001, 300TH ANNIVERSARY. JUDY WILLIS 313/963-1888.

HOWELL AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY DEPOT MUSEUM OPEN THURSDAY AND SATURDAY. 517/548-6876.

SINCERE SYMPATHIES  
OF THE SOCIETY  
TO THE FAMILIES OF  
ELSA MARTEN STEGENGA  
AND  
GENE SCHUTZ

BOTH WERE LONG TIME MEMBERS OF THE  
SOCIETY AND THE COMMUNITY  
THEY WILL BE MISSED

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT #303  
BRIGHTON, MI

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### AREA FARMS C. 1900

RESEARCH OF LOCAL FARMS AND FARMERS, LISTED IN THE BRIGHTON ARGUS, CONTINUES. THE WILLOWDALE FARM OF C.H. MORGAN IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS ISSUE.

AMONG THE PRESS OF PIONEERS FROM THE EAST CYRENUS MORGAN AND BROTHERS, NATHANIEL G. SR. AND BENJAMIN, CAME FROM NEW YORK TO MICHIGAN TO FIND NEW HOMES, 1835-37. THE OPENING OF THE ERIE CANAL, IN 1825, GREATLY REDUCED THE LABOR, TIME, DANGER AND EXPENSE OF THE JOURNEY.

C.H. AND WIFE, MARTHA, ALSO BORN IN N.Y. HAD SIX CHILDREN; FIVE DAUGHTERS AND ONE SON. (SCANT RESEARCH INFORMATION INDICATES SHE WAS BORN IN 1827.) IT WOULD APPEAR MARTHA BECAME A MOTHER AT 15 YEARS OF AGE. DAUGHTER, ELECTA, WAS BORN IN 1842. WITH THE BIRTH OF CYRENUS, JR., IN 1851, WE LOSE TRACK OF MARTHA.

BY C. 1855 CYRENUS, SR. IS MARRIED TO MARGARET. FIVE CHILDREN WERE BORN TO THIS UNION; THREE DAUGHTERS AND TWO SONS. AS WITH MANY OTHER EARLY SETTLERS, THE CHILDREN OFTEN MARRIED CHILDREN OF NEIGHBORS. AS FARMERS, TEACHERS, LABORERS, ORCHARDISTS, BUTCHERS, MILLINERS, AND RAISERS OF SHEEP, CATTLE AND HORSES THEY WERE AN ACTIVE INFLUENCE IN THE AFFAIRS OF BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP. A VARIETY OF VITAL TASKS WERE CARRIED OUT.

CYRENUS' EARLY LAND ACQUISITIONS IN THE TOWNSHIP INCLUDED 80 ACRES IN SECTION 27 ON WHICH A RESIDENCE WAS BUILT. WITH MANN CREEK FLOWING THROUGH AND WILLOWS GROWING ALONG THE WATER, THE NAME IS APPROPRIATE. THIRTY ACRES, IMMEDIATELY TO THE WEST WERE ADDED. BUNO ROAD IS ON THE NORTH AND SPENCER ROAD ON THE EAST. BY 1895 THE SOUTH HALF OF THIS IS IN CYRENUS, JR.'S NAME. A VERY HILLY 40 ACRES IN SECTION 14 IS ALSO IN SR'S. NAME. THIS IS ON KENSINGTON ROAD, WEST OF THE GM PROVING GROUND.

C.H. MORGAN'S WILLOWDALE FARM HAD A MILFORD ADDRESS. WHEN RURAL FREE DELIVER WAS INSTITUTED IN 1896 THE FAR EASTERN PORTION OF BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP RECEIVED ITS MAIL FROM THE MILFORD POST OFFICE.

TODAY'S LIFE STYLE MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO COMPREHEND THE DIFFICULTIES OF THAT DAY. A TRIP TO TOWN ENTAILED THE HARNESSING OF THE HORSE, HITCHING TO THE WAGON, SLEIGH OR BUGGY; KEEPING WARM IN THE WINTER; DRIVING THROUGH FIELDS IN ORDER TO AVOID SNOW DRIFTS, FORDING SWOLLEN STREAMS IN THE SPRING. WITH THAT MUCH EFFORT INVOLVED ONE DID NOT LEAVE THE SHOPPING LIST AT HOME. A TRIP TO DETROIT WAS OFTEN A TWO DAY AFFAIR. IT WAS THE MID 1920S BEFORE GRAND RIVER WAS PAVED. AH-H-H THE GOOD OLD DAYS. (COMPILED BY MARIEANNA BAIR FROM EARLY CENSUS RECORDS, 1880 HISTORY OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY; EARLY LANDOWNERS AND SETTLERS OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY AND OBITUARIES COMPILED BY MILTON CHARBONEAU. ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED.)