



## 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

AUGUST 2000  
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Preserve, Advance and Disseminate Knowledge of the History of the Brighton Area

### LYONS SCHOOL RESTORATION PROJECT

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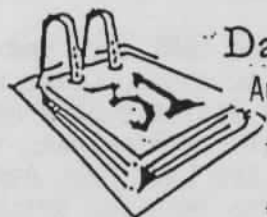
HERB WARNER  
LYONS SCHOOL  
810/229-6504

IN 1842 THE SETTLERS IN BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP, WITHIN ABOUT A MILE RADIUS OF RICHARD AND MARTHA LYONS' PROPERTY ON BUNO ROAD, ACCEPTED THEIR OFFER OF A SITE ON THEIR PROPERTY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SCHOOL. THE LOG STRUCTURE STOOD UNTIL 1885 WHEN THE BOARD OF DISTRICT #8 RECOMMENDED THAT A FRAME BUILDING BE ERECTED. AFTER MORE THAN 40 YEARS THE LOG SCHOOL HAD SERVED ITS PURPOSE WELL.

STILL LIGHTED BY WINDOWS AND OIL LAMPS, STILL HEATED BY A WOOD STOVE, STILL OBTAINING DRINKING WATER FROM THE NEIGHBOR'S WELL, STILL USING TWO OUTHOUSES AND STILL BEING TAUGHT BY VERY YOUNG TEACHERS, ABOUT 20 STUDENTS TOOK THEIR SEATS. NOW THERE WERE MORE DESKS, CHAIRS, A RECITATION BENCH, ROLL-UP WALL MAPS AND PICTURES OF PRESIDENTS WASHINGTON AND LINCOLN FOR INSPIRATION.

ABOUT 55 YEARS LATER AN ADDITION WAS BUILT, TOILETS WERE BROUGHT INDOORS, ELECTRICITY INSTALLED, A WELL DRILLED AND A MORE EFFICIENT HEATING UNIT PUT IN PLACE. THEY STILL BROUGHT LUNCH IN A TIN BUCKET, PLAYED BASEBALL, POM-POM-PULL AWAY, ANNIE-I-OVER, FOX AND GEESSE, MUSICAL CHAIRS, CHARADES AND TEASED EACH OTHER. THEY STILL HAD A COMMUNITY PICNIC ON THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL, PERFORMED A CHRISTMAS PROGRAM FOR THE PARENTS AND NEIGHBORS, HELD SPELLING BEES, AND YOUNGER STUDENTS STILL LISTENED AS THE OLDER ONES LEARNED THEIR MATH AND HISTORY.

AFTER WW II, AND IMPROVED HIGHWAYS MADE POSSIBLE THE MIGRATION OF MANY FAMILIES TO THE RURAL AREA FROM NEARBY CROWDED CITIES, SCHOOL DISTRICT #8 FOUND ITSELF (AS DID THE OTHER RURAL DISTRICTS) UNABLE TO CONTAIN AND EDUCATE THE GROWING NUMBERS OF STUDENTS. (PLEASE CONTINUE ON PAGE 3.)



#### Dates to Remember:

AUG. 10, 17, 24, 31, 1-3 P.M. ARCHIVE FILING.  
CALL 810/229-6402 TO CONFIRM.

- \* 9, 5-8 P.M. AND 22, 1-5 P.M. FOR GENEALOGICAL HELP. 227-1760 TO CONFIRM.
- \* 28, 7-9 P.M. SOCIETY BOARD MEETING. WELCOME!

\*BRIGHTON DISTRICT LIBRARY, 200 ORNDORF DR.

## MEMBERSHIPS

BUS/PROF: BOGAN AGENCY, INC.\*, LITTLE PROFESSOR BOOK CENTER OF BRIGHTON.

PATRON: M/M LAURENCE LUKE AZ\*, HORACE & YVONNE TAYLOR.

COUPLES/INDIV: PAT & JOSIE ARNOLD (02), JANET BALDINGER\*, RON, & CATHERINE DOUGHTY, BILL & BETTY FRANKLIN (01) YPSI, FREDERICK & PHYLLIS KERSLAKE, DENNIS & JOMARIE SOSZYNSKI\*, MAXINE TUCKER, AZ\*.

THANKS TO THE RENEWING MEMBERS AND WELCOME TO THE NEW: JANET BALDINGER, BOGAN AGENCY, M/M LAURENCE LUKE, DENNIS & JOMARIE SOSZYNSKI AND MAXINE TUCKER.

THANKS ALSO FOR SENDING CHANGES OF ADDRESS. IT'S JUST .33¢ WHEN YOUR ISSUE IS RETURNED, BUT THAT CAN BE USED TO BETTER PURPOSES.

COMPLEMENTARY COPIES OF TRAIL TALES CAN BE FOUND IN SEVERAL LOCATIONS IN THE AREA. CAN IT BE ASSUMED THAT IF YOU'RE NOT A MEMBER OR HAVE NOT CONTRIBUTED OTHERWISE YOU'LL SUPPORT THE VARIOUS PROJECTS IN SOME MANNER?

THANKS      THANKS      THANKS

...BERT BAIR, NORM CATRELL, AND JOHN & JANICE FIELD FOR THEIR HELP WITH THE MAILING OF THE JULY ISSUE OF TRAIL TALES.

...NANCY FREDENBURG FOR SETTING UP THE SOCIETY BOOTH AT A RECENT SUNDAY CONCERT.

...KIWANIS OF BRIGHTON FOR THEIR SUPPORT.

...BRIGHTON CITY FOR PLACING THE MICHIGAN HISTORIC SITE MARKER IN THE OLD VILLAGE CEMETERY.

...MILTON CHARBONEAU FOR MORE INFORMATION ON AREA CEMETERIES: KENSINGTON, OLD KENSINGTON, WOODRUFF AND BIRD.

...FULISSA SHEPHERD FOR COPIES OF PRESS CLIPPINGS CONCERNING EARLY AREA RESIDENTS, PHOTOS AND COUNTY DEATH RECORDS CONCERNING PLEASANT VALLEY, CALVARY, HOWELL'S LAKE VIEW AND PARSHALLVILLE VILLAGE CEMETERIES. THESE ADD TO OUR RECORDS.

...JOHN & JANICE FIELD FOR THE TRANSCRIPTION, MAP, AND SURVEY OF PLEASANT VALLEY CEMETERY.

...BOGAN AGENCY FOR THE DONATION ACCOMPANYING THEIR MEMBERSHIP.

## PRESERVATION/RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: INFORMATION OF EARLY RESIDENTS OF THE AREA, FROM PRESS CLIPPINGS, IS BEING PROPERLY FILED IN THE APPROPRIATE FOLDER. A HISTORY OF MANY OF THE PLACES OF BUSINESS IS BEING COMPILED. YOU'RE WELCOME TO HELP. 810/229-6402.

HISTORY BOOK: CAROL McMACKEN, 231-2957, IS CONTRIBUTING COUNTLESS HOURS TO THIS PROJECT.

OLD VILLAGE CEMETERY: THE MICHIGAN HISTORIC SITE MARKER HAS ARRIVED AND HAS BEEN INSTALLED. WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE ASSISTANCE OF DESCENDENTS OF THOSE INTERRED IN A DEDICATION CEREMONY. CALL A BOARD MEMBER.

ORAL HISTORY: ANOTHER INTERVIEW HAS BEEN COMPLETED. LORRY WAGNER, 231-3328, HAS PLACED HER MEETING WITH DON LEITH IN THE SOCIETY'S ARCHIVES. MORE INTERVIEWS WITH LONG TIME RESIDENTS ARE BEING SCHEDULED. CALL LORRY TO LEARN MORE.

CEMETERY TRANSCRIPTION: JOHN AND JANICE FIELD HAVE COMPLETED THE TRANSCRIPTION OF THE PLEASANT VALLEY CEMETERY. THE BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP BOARD WILL BE RECEIVING A SURVEY, INCLUDING NAMES, DATES AND LOCATIONS, AND A MAP OF THIS VERY EARLY CEMETERY. THE FIELDS ARE TO BE HEARTILY COMMENDED FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND METICULOUS ATTENTION TO DETAIL. THE HIGH QUALITY OF THEIR WORK GREATLY ENHANCES THE RESULTS OF HISTORICAL RESEARCHERS.

## GREEN OAK TWP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CONTINUING THE TRADITION OF "GREEN OAK DAY" THE PUBLIC IS INVITED, SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 2-4 P.M., TO THE TUTHILL FARM, 10505 TUTHILL ROAD. VAN TOURS OF THE FARM AND ITS OPERATION ARE OFFERED AND REFRESHMENT WILL BE SERVED. PH: 248/486-3578 OR 810/229-6402.

SINCE 1981 THIS ORGANIZATION HAS OPERATED, ON AN ANNUAL LEASE BASIS, A FARM MUSEUM AT THE HISTORIC GAGE HOUSE. OWNED BY THE STATE OF MICHIGAN, THE SITE IS IN THE ISLAND LAKE REC. AREA. IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT THE BUILDINGS ON THE SITE, HOUSE (C. 1836), GRANERY, BARN AND OTHER OUT BUILDINGS ARE TO BE REMOVED. VOLUNTEERS ARE MOVING ARTIFACTS INTO STORAGE. YOU CAN HELP. CALL THE NUMBERS ABOVE.

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.

YEAR 2000 BUS/PROF. MEMBERS

THE FOLLOWING HAVE PAID YEAR 2000 DUES. PLEASE RECOGNIZE THEM WITH YOUR PATRONAGE.

ADVANCE CRAFT HOME BUILDERS, BOGAN INSURANCE AGENCY, BRIGHTON BAR AND GRILL, FENCE SPOT, SUE HAMILTON, P.C., HERRMANN FUNERAL HOME, HOME TOWN NEWSPAPERS, LAWRENCE AUTOBODY, LITTLE PROFESSOR BOOK CENTER OF BRIGHTON, HERB AND RUTH MUNZEL, PDQ/BUS IMAGING GROUP AND PYRAMID CONCRETE.

THE SOCIETY EXTENDS SYMPATHY  
TO THE FAMILY OF  
ELSA STEGENGA

ELSA WAS A LONG-TIME RESIDENT OF  
THE AREA AND MEMBER OF THE  
SOCIETY AND A DEDICATED TEACHER.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.) CONSOLIDATION WITH BRIGHTON DISTRICT #5 AND THE BUSSING TO LARGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS LEFT THE BUILDING EMPTY. THE TOWNSHIP BOARD BOUGHT THE SCHOOL, REMODELED AND CONDUCTED TOWNSHIP BUSINESS UNTIL MOVING INTO A NEW HALL, 1984.

THE OLD SCHOOL WAS OFFERED TO THE SOCIETY WHICH DETERMINED ITS RESTORATION IN ORDER TO GIVE 21ST CENTURY STUDENTS A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE. RESTORATION HAS BEEN IN PROGRESS. COMMUNITY SUPPORT IS MAKING THIS VISION POSSIBLE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE SOCIETY AND HELP ASSURE THE REALIZATION OF THIS VISION. YOU CAN TAKE COMFORT IN HAVING HAD A HAND IN THIS WORTHY EFFORT.

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, THEIR BACKGROUND AND LOCATION CONTINUES. SAMUEL P. MOON'S ORE LAKE FARM IS THIS ISSUE'S SUBJECT.

AMROD AND CATHERINE MOON, OF NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK, ARRIVED IN HAMBURG TOWNSHIP C. 1837. THEY CAME WITH SONS LUTHER (B. 1824), ALFRED (B. 1827), SAMUEL P. (B. 1829), HIRAM (B. 1832) AND WILLIAM (B. 1836).

SAMUEL'S OBITUARY TELLS US THAT BY 1850, AT 21 YEARS, HE MADE HIS FIRST OF FOUR TRIPS ACROSS THE CONTINENT BY MULE TRAIN, ARRIVING IN HANGTOWN, CALIFORNIA, AUGUST 15, 1850. ONE HUNDRED FIFTY YEARS AGO. (HE MAY, PERHAPS, HAVE BEEN IN THE COMPANY OF EDWIN B. WINANS WHO MADE HIS FIRST TRIP IN 1850 ALSO, FINDING GOLD IN ROUGH AND READY, CALIFORNIA. WINANS MARRIED ELIZABETH GALWAY IN 1855, WHO JOINED HIM ON HIS VENTURES.)

LUTHER AND SAMUEL EACH BOUGHT PROPERTY IN SECTIONS 11 AND 12, HAMBURG TOWNSHIP, IN 1853. THE BROTHERS' PROPERTY STRADDLED HAMBURG ROAD  $\frac{1}{2}$  MILE SOUTH OF BAUER ROAD. THEIR COMBINED ACREAGE EQUALED OVER 300 ACRES, SOME OF IT ALONG THE NORTH SHORE OF ORE LAKE. ORE CREEK COURSES THROUGH BUT HERE IS SUFFICIENT HIGH, FAIRLY LEVEL LAND FOR FARMING. PERHAPS SAMUEL FOUND ENOUGH GOLD IN CALIFORNIA TO FUND HIS PURCHASE.

IN 1855, SAMUEL MARRIED DELPHINE ELTON. HER PARENTS ALSO WERE FROM NEW YORK AND OWNED LAND WITHIN A MILE OF SAMUEL AND LUTHER'S. TWO CHILDREN, FANNY AND FRED, WERE BORN. IN THE 1860 CENSUS DELPHINE AND CHILDREN ARE WITH HER PARENTS - PERHAPS WHILE SAMUEL IS OUT WEST, LEAVING THE FARMING TO LUTHER - IT WOULD APPEAR. TRAGICALLY, DELPHINE DIED IN 1869. LATER THAT YEAR SAMUEL MARRIED ISABELLE BUTLER WHOSE FATHER WAS ALSO FROM NEW YORK. THREE SONS WERE BORN - LOUIS, ROY AND EDWARD.

BY THE TIME SAMUEL DIED IN 1915 THE DEVELOPMENTAL POTENTIAL OF FRONTAGE ON ORE LAKE IS BEGINNING TO BE REALIZED. THAT AREA WAS NOT OVERLOOKED IN THE ENSUING YEARS WHICH HAVE SEEN THE POPULATION GROWTH OF THE AREA. (COMPILED BY MARIEANNA BAIR FROM CENSUS RECORDS AND ATLASSES OF HAMBURG TOWNSHIP. ALSO FROM FIRST LAND OWNERS, EARLY LAND OWNERS AND SETTLERS, COPIES OF LOCAL OBITUARIES AND CEMETERY TRANSCRIPTION RECORDS ALL BY MILTON CHARBONEAU; ELLIS' 1880 HISTORY OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY. CORRECTIONS/ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WELCOME. 810/229-6402.)