



Brighton Area Historical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 481

Brighton, MI 48116

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Trail Tales

JANUARY 2000
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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 RESTORATION OF THIS ONE ROOM SCHOOL, 11455 BUNO ROAD, WILL HAVE MANY BENEFICIAL RESULTS. IT WILL SERVE AS A MEANS OF CONVEYING TO OUR CHILDREN THE MANNER OF EARLY MICHIGAN EDUCATION. THERE WILL ALSO BE ROOM FOR ARCHIVAL RESEARCH AND THE DISPLAY OF ARTIFACTS OF EARLY LOCAL LIFE.

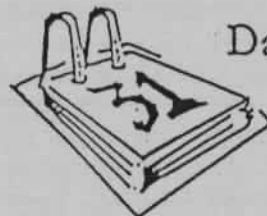
ALTHO' IT'S WINTER, WORK IS PROGRESSING ON THE RESTORATION OF THIS PIECE OF LOCAL HISTORY. THIS PROJECT IS HARD WORK BUT IT WAS HARDER FOR THOSE WHO ORIGINALLY BUILT IT.

THIS BUILDING IS PART OF THE AREA'S EARLY ARCHITECTURE. THE ACCUMULATION OF THE PAST IS APTLY REPRESENTED IN THIS STRUCTURE. ITS RESTORATION WILL HELP US UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE AND VALUE IT HELD FOR ITS BUILDERS. NOT ONLY THE STRUCTURE BUT THE CONCEPT OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVERYONE.

WE DARE NOT DISRESPECT THIS IDEAL, HELD SO DEAR TO ALL OF US. LOCAL FARMERS, ALL OVER THIS AREA, MADE CERTAIN THEIR CHILDREN HAD THE CHANCE OF AN EDUCATION. PRESERVATION OF THIS STRUCTURE WILL EMPHASIZE THE STRONG COMMUNITY TRADITION OF THE VALUE OF EDUCATION FOR ALL. WE SEND A MESSAGE (OF RESPECT OR DISRESPECT) TO OUR CHILDREN BY WHETHER OR NOT WE PRESERVE THIS IDEAL.

THIS PAST MONTH FINANCIAL DONATIONS TO THIS PROJECT HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM CHARLES AND JANICE BEACH, LOIS CLARK, BOB AND BETSY HERBST, RON AND JILL MOREY, AND JIM AND JOANNE SWONK.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, OF ANY AMOUNT, ARE NEEDED TO REACH THIS GOAL. THE SOCIETY IS A FEDERAL 501(3)C ORGANIZATION - ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE INCOME TAX DEDUCTIBLE.



Dates to Remember:

- JAN. 6, 13, 20, 27, 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

BUS/PROF: LAWRENCE AUTO BODY, HERB & RUTH MUNZEL (01).

PATRON: RON & JILL MOREY (MILAN).

COUPLES/INDIV: LOIS CLARK (MIDLAND), JOE & IRENE ELLIS, JANICE FIELD, FLOYD & IAL FULLER, *RON & SUE KELLY (MLFD), JACK & BEV LABELLE, JACK & RUTH LEPATOUREL, HELEN MICHAELS, JERE & KAY MICHAELS, JOE & IRENE MIKE (01), DAVE & MARILYN PETTIGROVE, DAN & JEAN SCHMIDT, DORIS SINGER (GR. RAP.), WILLIAM & GEORGIANA VAILLIENCOURT.

*WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS, RON & SUE KELLY
NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS A VITAL PART OF ANY ORGANIZATION. THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE BEEN RENEWING. ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO JOIN THE SOCIETY, A NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION. THE RESTORATION OF LYONS SCHOOL AND THE CONTINUATION OF THE OTHER PROJECTS DEPENDS ON THE MEMBERSHIP TO ACCOMPLISH AND EXPAND ITS GOALS.

THE DATE IN THE UPPER RIGHT CORNER OF THE ADDRESS LABEL ON YOUR NEWSLETTER IS THE YEAR FOR WHICH DUES HAVE BEEN PAID. IF THERE IS NO DATE IT IS HOPED YOU'D LIKE TO JOIN; OR SEND A CONTRIBUTION TOWARD THE EXPENSE INVOLVED.

SINCE WE ARE FALLIBLE PLEASE CALL IF YOU BELIEVE AN ERROR HAS BEEN MADE ON THE DATE ON THE MAILING LABEL. 810/229-6402.

THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS/PROFESSIONALS HAVE PAID Y2K DUES. THEY SHOULD BE PATRONIZED.

LAWRENCE AUTO BODY, HERB AND RUTH MUNZEL.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...NORM CATRELL, JOHN & JANICE FIELD AND LISA PALERMO FOR HELP IN PREPARING THE DECEMBER ISSUE FOR MAILING.

...DAVE & MARILYN PETTIGROVE, HELEN MICHAELS AND LAWRENCE AUTO BODY FOR THE DONATION THEY ADDED WITH THEIR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2000.

...ADDITIONAL BOARD MEMBERS.

...INTERVIEWERS FOR ORAL HISTORY RECORDING AND PEOPLE WILLING TO BE INTERVIEWED.

...WORKERS TO HELP AT LYONS SCHOOL.

...PROMOTION OF FUND RAISING ITEMS THE SOCIETY HAS FOR SALE. DEVELOPMENT OF OTHER FUND RAISING PROJECTS.

PRESERVATION/RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: MANY ITEMS OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE HAVE BEEN CLIPPED FROM 1950-60 ISSUES OF THE BRIGHTON ARGUS. THESE WILL BE REVIEWED FOR PROPER FILING AND INDEXING. THIS GROUP MEETS THURSDAYS, 1-3 P.M. YOUR HELP WOULD BE WELCOME. 810/229-6402 TO CONFIRM TIME AND PLACE. IF YOU HAVE ISSUES OF THE LOCAL PRESS CONSIDER DONATING THEM TO THE SOCIETY. THE COMMUNITY'S HISTORY IS VITAL WHEN CONSIDERING FUTURE PLANNING. SEVERAL CALLS A MONTH, WITH INQUIRIES OF LOCAL HISTORY, ARE RECEIVED. TO BE OF SERVICE THE SOCIETY NEEDS EXTENSIVE ARCHIVAL RECORDS.

OLD VILLAGE CEMETERY: NEW MARKERS FOR VETERANS' GRAVES ARE IN PLACE. MUCH OF THE WALK ALONG ORE CREEK AND AROUND THE CEMETERY, CULMINATING AT GRAND RIVER, IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION. SECURITY LIGHTING IS ALSO BEING INSTALLED.

THE CITY GOVERNMENT IS SHOWING GOOD SENSE IN SUPPORTING THE PRESERVATION OF THIS SITE. NOT MANY COMMUNITIES HAVE A STREAM, MILL POND, HISTORIC CEMETERY, HISTORIC OLD TOWN HALL, ANNUAL FARMERS' MARKET, CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA, SUMMER CONCERTS, ETC., ALL WITHIN PLEASANT WALKING DISTANCE. ONE WILL SOON BE ABLE TO WALK TO THE POST OFFICE, LIBRARY, SKATE PARK, ETC., FROM ANYWHERE IN TOWN.

BRIGHTON HISTORY BOOK: BEFORE LONG CAROL McMACKEN, 810/231-2957, AND THE BOOK COMMITTEE WILL BE COMPLETING RESEARCH FOR THIS OFT REQUESTED LOCAL HISTORY BOOK. THEN IT'S OFF TO THE PRINTER. ANY CONTRIBUTION YOU WISH TO MAKE? CONTACT CAROL IMMEDIATELY.

ORAL HISTORY: THIS PROJECT IS GAINING MOMENTUM. TRANSCRIBERS ARE NEEDED. CALL 810/229-6402.

NEEDED NEEDED NEEDED

...SOMEONE TO HAND DELIVER NEWSLETTERS TO 40 BUSINESSES IN BRIGHTON CITY. THIS IS A 1.5 HOUR WALK THROUGH DOWNTOWN BRIGHTON, ONCE A MONTH. TWO/THREE ISSUES ARE LEFT AT EACH SITE FOR PERUSAL BY THEIR CUSTOMERS/CLIENTS. \$\$\$ ARE SAVED DELIVERING THESE BY HAND. THE SOCIETY BOARD BELIEVES THIS IS A GOOD PUBLIC RELATIONS EFFORT. YOUR CONTRIBUTION OF 1.5 HOURS PER MONTH (AND THE EXERCISE WILL BE GOOD FOR YOU) WILL BE A SIGNIFICANT HELP. CALL 810/229-6402 TO HELP.

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 OF 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.

ANNUAL MEETING HELD

AT THE NOVEMBER ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY ELECTIONS TO THE BOARD FOR 2000 WERE HELD AND ANNUAL REPORTS SUBMITTED.

THESE REFERRED TO THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE VARIOUS PROJECTS OF THE SOCIETY AND FUTURE GOALS: THE COMPLETION OF THE RESTORATION OF THE LYONS SCHOOL BEING IN THE FOREFRONT. CONTINUED OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION WILL BE OFFERED.

THE ORAL HISTORY PROJECT IS PROGRESSING, COGNIZANT OF THE VERY URGENT NEED TO RECORD LONG TIME LOCAL RESIDENTS' MEMORIES. THE FORTHCOMING HISTORY BOOK WILL BE COMPLETED AND SPONSORS FOR ITS PRINTING RECRUITED. IDENTIFICATION AND REGISTRATION OF LOCAL HISTORIC SITES MUST BE UNDERTAKEN WHILE THEY ARE STILL IN EXISTENCE. THE INSTALLATION OF A HISTORIC SITE MARKER FOR THE OLD VILLAGE CEMETERY IS ON THE DOCKET. 1999 SAW THE TRANSCRIPTION OF THIS CEMETERY AND THE GREEN OAK PLAINS CEMETERY. THE TRANSCRIPTION OF THE PLEASANT VALLEY AND KENSINGTON CEMETERIES

WILL COMMENCE. THE PROMOTION TO THE PUBLIC OF THE SOCIETY AND ITS GOALS MUST BE IMPROVED. THE CREATION OF A WEB PAGE BRINGS THE SOCIETY TO THE WORLD. FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF ARCHIVAL RESOURCES WILL CONTINUE AND DONATIONS PROMOTED.

ALL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND COMMITTEE PERSONS ARE TO BE HEARTILY COMMENDED FOR THEIR DEDICATION, BELIEF IN AND PERSEVERANCE TOWARD THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE SOCIETY'S GOALS AND PROJECTS. THE SOCIETY IS IN GOOD HANDS. HOWEVER YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL.

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. HENRY MALTBY'S OAKWOOD STOCK FARM IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS ISSUE.

HENRY'S FARM HAS ITS ORIGIN IN THE VERY EARLY DAYS OF THE SETTLING OF BRIGHTON, GENOA AND GREEN OAK TOWNSHIPS. HIS FATHER, ALMON, AND UNCLE MAYNARD (BOTH TEACHERS) WERE AMONG HE FIRST TO TAKE UP LAND IN THESE TOWNSHIPS. BORN IN NEW YORK, THEY CAME TO THE AREA IN 1832. WITHIN TWO YEARS THEY HAD BUILT A SAW MILL ON ORE CREEK SOUTHWEST OF TOWN ON WHAT BECAME LATER KNOWN AS THE 'OLD PENTLIN FARM' AT THE HEAD OF BRIGHTON LAKE. MANY EARLY STRUCTURES WERE BUILT OF LUMBER SAWN AT THE MALTBY MILL. THE BROTHERS' FIRST HOUSE, OF LOGS, SERVED OFTEN AS A REFUGE FOR SETTLERS.

MAYNARD, WHO HAD MARRIED SARAH IN NEW YORK IN 1834, HAD TWO CHILDREN. HE WAS THE FIRST JUSTICE OF THE PEACE AND PERFORMED THE FIRST MARRIAGE IN BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP. HE WAS ALSO THE FIRST DIRECTOR IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT. HE DIED IN 1840.

BY 1875, ALMON OWNES OVER 400 ACRES, SEC. 7 GREEN OAK, WEST OF RICKETT, SOUTH OF MALTBY ROADS. THIS BECAME THE FAMILY FARM. SIX OF HIS CHILDREN GREW UP THERE. BOTH OF HENRY'S OLDER BROTHERS, RICHARD AND ALBERT (SONS OF ALMON'S FIRST WIFE, ELIZA JANE), ENLISTED TO SERVE IN THE CIVIL WAR MARCH 18, 1865; 11TH CAV., CO. I. ALBERT DIED OF DISEASE IN A TENNESSEE HOSPITAL ABOUT SIX WEEKS LATER. HE HAD TWO YOUNGER BROTHERS, GEORGE AND EVERETT J, AND A SISTER, CYNTHIA, WHO MARRIED WILSON ABRAMS, A BRIGHTON BOY.

HENRY, AFTER ATTENDING A COMMERCIAL COLLEGE IN CHICAGO IN 1866, MANAGED HIS PARENTS' FARM FOR SEVERAL YEARS. JANUARY 19, 1876, HE MARRIED MARY J. KNABB, WHO HAD COME TO MICHIGAN WITH HER PARENTS FROM PENNSYLVANIA SEVERAL YEARS EARLIER. THEY HAD TWO SONS, ALMON H. AND ROBERT D. WHO WERE A BIG HELP ON THE FARM. HENRY IS NOTED AS HAVING A "...FINE FARM, A GOOD HOUSE AND BARNS....AND HE TAKES GREAT INTEREST IN RAISING GOOD GRADES OF STOCK. HE HAS A FINE FLOCK OF REGISTERED SHROPSHIRE SHEEP, AND A VERY FINE HERD OF JERSEY CATTLE, WHICH IS CONSIDERED ONE OF THE BEST SPECIMENS OF THAT POPULAR BREED IN THIS VICINITY..."

HENRY DIED JULY 23, 1927. BOTH HE AND MARY ARE BURIED IN THE GREEN OAK PLAINS CEMETERY AS ARE HIS PARENTS. THE 1961 ATLAS NOTES E. F. FISHER AS THE OWNER OF MOST OF THE MALTBY LAND. HE RAISED CHAMPIONSHIP STOCK, CONTINUING THE TRADITION. THE 1979 ATLAS RECORDS THE HURON CLINTON METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY AS OWNER OF ALL, INCLUDING THE OLD FARM HOUSE, BUT ABOUT 50 ACRES IN RAY AND BETTY MALTBY'S NAME. (COMPILED BY MARIEANNA BAIR FROM LIVINGSTON COUNTY ATLASSES AND CENSUS RECORDS; EARLY LAND OWNERS AND SETTLERS IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY AND OBITUARIES COMPILED BY MILTON CHARBONEAU; THE 1891 PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM AND THE 1880 HISTORY OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY. ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS ARE WELCOME.)