AREA FARMS C. 1900

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January 23, 1886, George married Ellen Pearson from Putnam Township. George and Ellen were dairy and poultry farmers on 80 acres in Section 15 and the adjoining 40 in Section 22. Other pieces they owned brought the total acreage, OAKWOOD FARM, to 175. Much of this was later mined by American Aggregates and is now part of the Island Lake Recreation Area. Nine children were born to them.

Charles and Ann, Joseph and Ermina, George and Ellen are all resting in Green Oak Plains Cemetery on Melby Road as are some of their progeny. (Compiled by Marieanna Bair from “Early Land Owners and Settlers” and obituaries by Milton Charbonneau; “Yesteryears of Green Oak,” 1830-1950” by Green Oak Township Historical Society; Plains Cemetery transcription by John and Janice Field and from Livingston County census records and atlases. Please contact us with additions and/or corrections 810/229-6402.)
MEMBERSHIPS
COMPLETES/INDIV: Norm and MaryAnn Catrell (02), Joe & Pauline Chowneth, Dr. Harry & Carol Davis, *Robert H. Davis (A2), Emil Jr. & Joan Engel, Dorothy Foster (CA), Marlene & Pat Foster (CA), Bill & Helen Hyn (Chelsea), Charles McConnell (SC), Helen MacMichaels, Jere & Kay Michaels, *Ralph & Elizabeth Romano, Bob & Pauline Schaffer, Doris Singer (Grand Rapids), Bill & Rosemary Ulmer (Whitmore Lake) and Don & Alice Wyland.

*Welcome to Robert Davis (his membership a gift from his Aunt Pauline) and to Ralph and Elizabeth Romano. Membership renewals are the life blood of an organization – new members indicate growth.

It takes lots of people to document and preserve the area’s history. This documentation and preservation helps us evaluate the past and better prepare for the challenges of the future.

To get the most benefit from belonging to the Society, try your hand at helping with the Lyons School restoration: learn how to conduct an Oral History with a long time resident of the area (even your own family); take the Historical Society Survey; compile and organize the material in the Archives; publicize the Society to the community; develop fund raising projects; etc., etc., etc. Contact any board member.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...Norm Catrell, June Kimble and Marge White for help getting the December news letter in the mail.

...Wildie Derksen, Merrill & Ruth Herbst, Ralph and Elizabeth Romano and Doris Singer for including donations with their dues.

...Brighton Commerce Bank, Pat & Marlene Fonseca (A2), Larry Wagner, and Station WML for their donations to the Lyons School Restoration project.

...Bob Stedman for his donation. Bud is with son, Robert, in New Jersey and sends best wishes to all his long time Brighton friends.

...Larry Wagner for a copy of her research, and slides, of the Western House (500 W. Main) proving historic structures can be preserved and restored.

ARCHIVES: After a holiday lull, it’s back to the sorting and filing of items and articles related to the history of the area. The collection of mainly paper items (alb., oral history, film, etc.) focuses on the social, economic, religious, commercial, governmental and cultural development of the Brighton area. Donations of diaries, abstracts, directories, etc. can be made to the Society. Call 810/229-6402 for information or if you’ve something to contribute.

HISTORY BOOK: The continued diligent efforts of Carol McMacken, 810/251-2957, assure the excellence of this history of the area. A list of those wishing to order this book is being compiled.

ORAL HISTORY: Larry Wagner 810/251-3328, and Sheryl Vignostad 810/227-7506, are continuing recording the memories of long-time residents. Time is of the essence. Contact either of these ladies to learn how to help.

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY: C. 1870 the area west of the tracks in Brighton was developed as a subdivision of homes. Much work has been done on recording this story. However pictures need to be taken preferably before trees are in leaf. Other projects in the works include the Elmwood cupboard and the Michigan Historic Site Register.

ADAPTED FOR REUSE while retaining a place in the component parts that make this a desirable place in which to live. This piece of our heritage should be protected. Larry has also donated a copy of her research for submission of the Burman house (Brighton Road) to the Michigan Historic Site Register.

...EVERYONE who is making this organization work.

HAPPY 2001!!!!

FUND RAISING PROJECTS YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL

Post cards with early local scenes, pkg. of 6/13, Hugs & K5.; Tote bags $11.50; Note paper $2.50; 11/24 photos of the Mill Pond and Dam $5.00; 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 of needlepoint kits $8. Show the Old Town Hall, all the above at 810/229-6402.

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.

COVERLETS: $49.50 red, green or blue have nine local scenes woven in. At Naughton’s Nice, 412 W. Main.

A NEW TAPES STUFFED PILLOW, $30, depicting the Brighton railroad depot and train is available. A fine companion to the coverlets above. 810/229-9100 to order.

The Signature Quilt, on which are embroidered signatures for a donation of $10.00. Has space for 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.

YEAR 2000 BUS/PROF. MEMBERS
THE FOLLOWING HAVE PAID YEAR 2000 DUES. PLEASE RECOGNIZE THEM WITH YOUR PATRONAGE.


HISTORIC PRESERVATION CLASS OFFERED
Beginning Tuesday, January 16, 7:30-9, a six week class on historic preservation will be presented by Phillips Smith (EMU Historic Preservation grad) in cooperation with Community Education at the High School.

The Society extends sympathy to the family of Eleanor Hornung, a life-time resident of the area and long time member of the Society.
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To get the most benefit from belonging to the Society, try your hand at helping with the Lyons School restoration: learn how to conduct an Oral History with a long time resident of the area (even your own family); serve as a director or a project chairman; take photos for the Historic Resource Survey; compile and organize the material in the Archives; publicize the Society to the community: develop fund raising projects; etc., etc., etc. Contact any board member.

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