

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

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

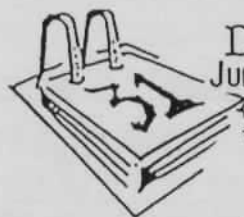
LYONS SCHOOL RESTORATION PROJECT

AN EXCITING TIME IS AHEAD. MAJOR FUNCTIONAL RENOVATION OF THE 115+ YEAR OLD LYONS SCHOOL IS NEAR COMPLETION. IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE TENACITY OF VOLUNTEERS DEDICATED TO THIS PROJECT OVER THE YEARS..... PRESENTLY A FRONT STOOP IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION, LIGHT FIXTURES ARE BEING INSTALLED, AIR CONDITIONING IS SOON TO BE ACTIVATED, RESTROOM FACILITIES ARE IN WORKING ORDER. WINDOW SHUTTERS NEED TO BE PAINTED (THESE ARE NOT LOUVERED), WINDOWS CLEANED AND THE ARCHIVES AREA CLEANING STARTED.

A NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS ARE MEETING EACH TUESDAY, 6 P.M., AT THE SCHOOL, 11455 BUNO ROAD, BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP, RESTORING THE DESKS WHICH HAVE BEEN STACKED IN THE BACK ROOM. IT TAKES ABOUT FOUR HOURS FOR ONE PERSON TO CLEAN UP A DESK. JIM DeJOHN AND JUDY, NANCY FREDENBURG, KEVIN ROACH, JOANNE SWONK, CHRIS WARD AND DICK WEAIRE HAVE BEEN JOINING US IN THIS TIME CONSUMING, BUT NOT DIFFICULT JOB. JOIN US NEXT TUESDAY AND YOU CAN SAY YOU'VE ALSO HELPED. SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP IS NOT A REQUIREMENT. EVERYONE CAN DO THIS.

THE COMMITTEE PLANNING THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SCHOOL, THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 6 P.M., IS MEETING REGULARLY. PUBLICITY, MUSIC, SPEAKERS, RIBBON CUTTING, BELL RINGING, REFRESHMENTS, PHOTOGRAPHERS, DECORATIONS ARE ALL ON THE AGENDA. THE UNVEILING OF THE HISTORIC MARKER AND THE DEDICATION OF THE PICTURE OF THE SCHOOL DONATED BY JOE MIKE WILL ALSO TAKE PLACE.

WANT TO HAVE A HAND IN THIS PROJECT? CONTACT CHAIRMAN CHRIS WARD, BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP CLERK, 810/229-0550. LET HIM KNOW WHAT ELSE SHOULD BE INCLUDED OR TO OFFER ASSISTANCE.



Dates to Remember:

- JULY 5, 12, 19, 26, 1-3 P.M. ARCHIVES FILING. CALL 810/229-6402 TO CONFIRM. WELCOME.
- ** 10, 17, 24, 31, 6 P.M. DESK CLEANING AND FINAL PREPARATION FOR LYONS SCHOOL OPENING. SEE ABOVE.
- ** 12, 7 P.M. LYONS SCHOOL DEDICATION COMMITTEE MEETING.
- * 23, 7 P.M. SOCIETY BOARD MEETING. WELCOME.
- ** 11455 BUNO ROAD, LYONS SCHOOL.

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JULY 2001
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MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: PHIL & JEANNE SMITH AND PETER & ANNE STRATIGOS .

COUPLES/INDIV: MIKE & SUE KELLY, BOB & SHIRLEY KNIGHT (02), BILL & BARB McCRIE (02), ROLAND & JANE OWENS, *THOMAS REINKE (FLRVL), BILL & JANE TOMLINSON (03), DENNIS & JOMARIE SOSYNSKI, PAUL ZURAWSKI.

*A HEARTY WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER THOMAS REINKE. NEW MEMBERS INFUSE NEW ENERGY TO THE SOCIETY. LONGER TIME MEMBERS ARE THOSE WHO ARE THE SUSTAINING VITAL FORCE.

IF YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER CONSIDER JOINING THIS SOCIETY OR MAKING A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION. IF THIS ISSUE IS STAMPED "COMPLEMENTARY COPY" - SOMEONE IS PAYING THE BILLS. YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...NORM CATRELL, JOHN & JANICE FIELD AND SHIRLEY RITTER FOR HELPING GET THE JUNE NEWSLETTER IN THE MAIL.

...BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP FOR DONATION UPON RECEIPT OF THE KENSINGTON CEMETERY TRANSCRIPTION.

...BOB WATSON WHO WILL BE TAKING PHOTOS OF LOCAL HISTORIC SITES. THESE WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY RECORDS.

...MILTON CHARBONEAU FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RE: THE QUICK FAMILY WHOSE FARM WAS FEATURED LAST MONTH.

...FRAN FICK WHO HAS STOCKED THE SOCIETY COVERLETS AT HER MAIN STREET APPAREL SHOP FOR SEVERAL YEARS. FRAN IS SELLING OUT.

...FAY HALL, DAUGHTER OF HENRY HALL, WHO BUILT BRIGHTON'S SKI JUMPS ON FLINT ROAD IN THE EARLY 1930s, FOR HER FINE ALBUM. HER FAMILY'S HISTORY AND A NUMBER OF PHOTOS ARE INCLUDED. THANKS ALSO TO TOM LEITH AND HORACE TAYLOR WHOM FAY INTERVIEWED.

...HAROLD SALOW FOR MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO MOVE A BOOKCASE FROM A CLOSED ONE ROOM SCHOOL IN CONWAY TOWNSHIP TO THE LYONS SCHOOL. ALSO TO CONWAY TOWNSHIP FOR THE DONATION.

...BILL & JANE TOMLINSON FOR INCLUDING A DONATION WITH THEIR DUES.

PRESERVATION/RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: THE RECENT ADDITION OF THE ALBUM OF HENRY HALL AND THE SKI JUMPS HE BUILT IN BRIGHTON IN THE 1930s IS MOST WELCOME. WE ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO CONSIDER DONATING SIMILAR RECORDS OF ANCESTORS' CONNECTION TO THE AREA.

HISTORY BOOK: CAROL McMACKEN, 231-2957, IS A DETERMINED AND RESOLUTE COMPILER OF THE AREA'S HISTORY. AN EXCELLENT BOOK WILL RESULT. CALL WITH YOUR OFFER OF HELP.

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY: BOB WATSON WILL BE PHOTOGRAPHING AREA SITES. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO FINE PICTURES OF EARLIER SITES; THESE WILL BE A TREASURE FOR FUTURE RESEARCHERS.

THE SOCIETY EXPRESSES SINCERE
SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF
HERBERT MUNZEL
HE WAS A LONG TIME
MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY

BRIGHTON ART FAIR - AUGUST 11 & 12

BRIGHTON'S ANNUAL ART FAIR, IN AUGUST, WILL BE THE SITE, AGAIN, FOR THE SOCIETY BOOTH. CONTACT NANCY FREDENBURG, 810/220-7934 AND OFFER YOUR HELP. THIS IS GOOD VISIBILITY FOR THE SOCIETY AND A LOT OF FUN FOR YOU.

YEAR 2001
BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

ADVANCE CRAFT HOME BUILDERS, INC., BRIGHTON BAR AND GRILL, THE FENCE SPOT, FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND THE YUM YUM TREE HAVE EXPRESSED SUPPORT OF THE SOCIETY'S MISSION. PLEASE SUPPORT THEM.

NEEDED NEEDED NEEDED

...BOX OF ADDRESS LABELS - AVERY #5351.

...BOOKS OF 1ST CLASS POSTAGE STAMPS, FOR ADMINISTRATION AND ARCHIVES MAILING.

...THREE HOLE NOTEBOOKS, 1 1/2" D RING; TO PROPERLY FILE ARCHIVAL INFORMATION.

...PEOPLE TO SERVE ON THE SOCIETY BOARD OR ON A PROJECT COMMITTEE.

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.; NOTE PAPER @ \$2.50; COPIES OF 1875 PLAT MAPS OF BRIGHTON, GENOA, GREEN OAK AND HAMBURG TOWNSHIPS AND A 1915 MAP OF BRIGHTON FOR \$1.; NEEDLEPOINT KITS \$8. SHOW THE OLD TOWN HALL AS DO MUGS @ \$5. AND TOTE BAGS @ \$15. COVERLETS, RED, GREEN OR BLUE HAVE NINE LOCAL SITES WOVEN IN. \$49.
ALL THE ABOVE AT 810/229-6402.

A NEW TAPESTRY PILLOW, \$30., DEPICTING THE BRIGHTON RAILROAD DEPOT AND TRAIN IS AVAILABLE. A FINE COMPANION TO THE COVERLETS ABOVE. 810/220-7934 TO ORDER.

THE SIGNATURE QUILT, ON WHICH ARE EMBROIDERED SIGNATURES FOR A DONATION OF \$10.00, HAS ROOM 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.

WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

JULY 28, 10-4. WATERLOO AREA FARM MUSEUM. QUILT & FIBER SHOW PLUS CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT. (ALSO JULY 29) BLACKSMITH AT THE MUSEUM FORGE EVERY SATURDAY DURING THE SUMMER. [HTTP://SCS.K12.MT.US/~WATERLOO](http://scs.k12.mt.us/~waterloo)

NOW THRU AUGUST 12, MIDLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MIDLAND. "WOVEN WARMTH, AMERICAN COVERLETS 1820-1880". 517/835-7801.

HOME TOURS ON THE CALENDAR

AUGUST 11, 12, MILFORD SOCIETY WILL HOST A HOME TOUR PLUS AN ICE CREAM SALE AND A FLEA MARKET. FARMINGTON SOCIETY WILL HAVE A HOME TOUR SEPTEMBER 15, 16. THESE EVENTS ARE GOOD FUND RAISERS AND RAISE AWARENESS OF PRESERVATION OF EARLY STRUCTURES. WE CAN DO THE SAME. CALL A BOARD MEMBER WITH YOUR OFFER TO HELP.

SEPT. 22-23. LIVONIA, GREENMEAD HISTORIC VILLAGE. "CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS RELIEF FAIR OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN." A REENACTMENT PRESENTED BY 17TH MICHIGAN CO. E. REENACTORS.

OCT. 5-7. HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN. OCTOBER HISTORY CONFERENCE. THE "DETROIT STORY: 300 YEARS OF OPPORTUNITY, DIVERSITY AND SUCCESS". 735/769-1828.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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AREA FARMS C. 1900

RESEARCH OF LOCAL FARMS AND FARMERS, LISTED IN THE BRIGHTON ARGUS, THEIR BACKGROUND AND LOCATION CONTINUES. R. B. ROBERT'S PINE GROVE FARM IS THIS ISSUE'S SUBJECT.

R. (RICHARD) B. ROBERTS' PINE GROVE FARM IS FOUND IN THE 1915 ATLAS IN BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP, SECTION 30, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$. THE GRAND RIVER ROAD CROSSES THE SOUTHEAST CORNER ON ITS WAY NORTH (AT THAT POINT). THIS PIECE COMPRISED 63 ACRES ON THE NORTH SIDE OF CROSS STREET. NEIGHBOR, HOLMES TUNIS, HAS A 63 ACRE PIECE DIRECTLY NORTH, BOUNDED BY CHALLIS ROAD. THIS WAS PART OF THE ORIGINAL C. 120 ACRES BOUGHT BY KINSLEY BINGHAM AND ROBERT WARDEN, IN 1833, FROM THE GOVERNMENT (BINGHAM WAS MICHIGAN'S GOVERNOR DURING THE MID 1850s.) WARDEN HAS TRANSFERRED HIS INTEREST BY 1835. ROBERTS ALSO OWNS A 10 ACRE PIECE ON THE WEST SIDE OF NORTH SECOND STREET, NORTH OF WALNUT, JUST OUTSIDE THE SMITH-McPHERSON ADDITION WHICH WAS PLATTED C. 1870.

IN THE 1859 ATLAS ROBERT AND FANNY CHARLES ARE OWNERS OF THE C. 120 ACRES. A STRUCTURE IS INDICATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF GRAND RIVER JUST NORTH OF CROSS STREET. FANNY IS THE DAUGHTER OF TRUMAN AND JANE N. WORDEN. TRUMAN IS NOTED AS ORIGINAL OWNER OF PROPERTY IN GENOA TOWNSHIP SECTION 25, WHICH IS ON THE BORDER OF BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP. NOW WE KNOW HOW WORDEN LAKE GOT ITS NAME. (TRUMAN HAS THE DUBIOUS DISTINCTION OF BEING THE FIRST PERSON BURIED IN THE OLD VILLAGE CEMETERY, 1837.)

INTERESTING QUESTIONS ARISE. ARE THE WORDENS AND THE WARDENS RELATED OR IS IT A TRANSCRIBER'S ERROR FROM THE HAND WRITTEN RECORDS? IT IS DIFFICULT TO ARRIVE AT A CLEAR RELATIONSHIP. BOTH SPELLINGS ARE FOUND IN EARLY RECORDS.

ALTHO' THE ROBERTS NAME IS FOUND IN EARLY LIVINGSTON COUNTY CENSUS RECORDS NONE IS RICHARD B. AND ALL ARE IN NEIGHBORING TOWNSHIPS. ONE RESOURCE INDICATES R.B. WAS BORN IN 1852 IN LYON TOWNSHIP, OAKLAND COUNTY. THE 1890 RESIDENTS OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY NOTES RICHARD B. AND WIFE, ETTA, BECAME PARENTS OF CLIFFORD DECEMBER 28, 1890. EARLY OBITUARIES INDICATE R. B. AND ETTA HAD BURIED AN INFANT THREE YEARS EARLIER. THIS SAME SOURCE LISTS R. B. AS A 'SALOON KEEPER' IN BRIGHTON. SON, CLIFF, IS THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BUILDING OF THE RIALTO THEATER ON W. MAIN, ACROSS FROM THE MILL POND IN 1918. THIS BUILDING WAS DEMOLISHED FOR A PARKING LOT AFTER WW II.

IT IS OF INTEREST TO NOTE THAT ROBERTS' 63 ACRES NOW HOLDS MEIJER'S INC., MEIJER SKATEBOARD PARK AND GM POWER TRAIN, ON THE WEST SIDE OF GRAND RIVER. IN THE AREA WHERE THE HOUSE STOOD ON THE EAST SIDE, AT ONE TIME UNCLE JOHN'S PANCAKES, THEN UM HEALTH CENTER WERE ON SITE AND MOST RECENTLY REAL ESTATE ONE. OTHER OWNERS OF PINE GROVE FARM INCLUDED E. BIDWELL AND RUDY BOWEN, OWNER OF MICHIGAN LANDSCAPE NURSERY. FOLLOWING A DISASTROUS GRASS FIRE IN MARCH, 1969, A FEW BIRCHES STOOD THERE UNTIL RECENTLY. (COMPILED FROM EARLY LAND OWNERS AND SETTLERS AND EARLY OBITUARIES COMPILED BY MILTON CHARBONEAU AND FROM LIVINGSTON COUNTY ATLAS AND PLAT MAPS. ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS? MARIEANNA BAIR, 810/229-6402.)