LAWRENCE EULER AND THE 'DUTCHE' GROCERY

In 1835, John Euler, Sr., sons Peter and John Jr., and nephew Jacob, took up land in Sections 11 and 12 in Genoa Township. Sons Lawrence and Henry arrived the next year from the east. All had immigrated to the U.S. in 1828 from Hanover, Germany. John Sr. and Peter moved to near Byron in Shiawassee County in 1836.

The Grand River Trail, a major route for pioneers, ran diagonally through Sections 11, 13, 14. By the time the Euler Family arrived the cholera epidemic in Detroit and the Black Hawk War had subsided. They were among the flood of settlers seeking to buy governmen land. Many were of German nationality as were the Eulers. These included von Flatbecke, Martin, Conrads, Hartman Dorn, Ransens, and Baetke. The comfort of others nearby, speaking one's mother tongue, meant a great deal.

In 1837, Thomas and Abigail Pinsky sold an acre of land on the south side of the Trail to Lawrence Euler for $10.00 (at the end of Euler Road). Here he built a log store and tavern, one of the first business ventures in Genoa. He also built a frame barn close by to stable travelers' horses and the teams which drew freight wagons and stage coaches. These kinds of stage stops, 10-15 miles apart usually also provided lodging, food and liquid refreshment to the travelers and teamsters. Other enterprising settlers also built similar businesses along the Trail but the 'Dutch' Grocery persisted into the mid 1970s.

About 1840 John Weiseler became the proprietor. As postmaster he located the post office in the Dutch Grocery. Township elections were held there for many years. Shortly after the original log store burned, 1860s, Ferdinand and Augusta Krebs purchased the site and built a two story frame store with living quarters at the rear and above. Until Rural Free Delivery of mail, the Dutch Grocery was the place to pick up and deliver letters, hear the news, read a newspaper, etc. Krebs had a card table and in the evenings or on rainy days men gathered to play, visit and smoke. Krebs also sold wine and hard cider. Augusta could tell a young mother how to care for a sick child and how to make a doll go three times as far. The arrival of the stage, changing of the horses, or unloading of freight was exciting to see. Altho' water was available at the pump, thirsty travelers had to come into the store for the dipper and might also buy something in appreciation.

About 1920 John Gage and George Russell bought it and added a gas station and small service garage. Angus Coulter leased the property in 1925/1926. Then Elmer Gage took over the store and Al Zimmerman ran the gas station. When the 18th amendment was repealed, Elmer obtained a license and operated a beer garden for a year before selling to Edward Koch. About 1940 Jacob Rinkle and Andrew Neizer purchased the site. February 19, 1947, saw the old 'Dutch Inn' leveled by fire. (Compiled from stories and writings of Bill Pliss. The Society would appreciate copies of photos connected to the site.)
MEMBERSHIPS
BUS/PROF: The Fence Spot.

PATRON: Phyllis Karslake.

INDIV: John Curry (LANSING).

Renewing members realize their dues are what makes the Society go. They realize the Society is an important part of the community and is making a significant contribution. By renewing their dues the Society assures all donations are designated to the preservation/restoration projects: archives, oral history, erecting markers at historic sites, Lyons School, transcribing local cemeteries, public programs, displays, etc., etc.

New members are always welcome.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...jert Bar and John S Janice Field for their help in mailing the July newsletter.

John Curry of Lansing for donating to the shelving in the Archives Center at Lyons School.

Janice Field, Jim DeJohn, and Dick Westra for their continued help with developing the archives and maintaining the Lyons School.

NEEDS NEEDS NEEDS

...postage stamps.
...ticket purchasing for the rocking chair, a restored oak desk, choice of five tiles or an afghan. Tickets are $1 each, $5 for six. Upon receipt of your check tickets will be mailed. All proceeds are designated to the preservation/restoration fund.

...archival boxes, 10"x15"x6", to properly and safely store documents and photos. These run $6. + ship.

...shelving and other items are being purchased for the Archives Research Center. Contributions for their cost, $80.00, are welcome.

...windows need painting on the inside at the Lyons School.

PRESERVATION/RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: Thursdays 1-3, an inventory is being conducted to properly file the Society's holdings. With the acquisition of shelving and other storage equipment an attempt is being made to file in such a manner that items can be located for research.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORY BOOK: Still in the works.

LYONS SCHOOL: The restoration bench has been cleaned prior to applying a new finish. Then the legs will be attached to it and the other completed desks. The "Friends of the Society" welcomes new members. Contact Joanne Swock, 229-2787, to help with scheduling and curriculum, and Jim DeJohn 229-5790, or Dick Westra, 229-3066, to help with maintenance and preservation.

ORAL HISTORY: A kit with guidelines for a "Veterans History Project," prepared by the Library of Congress and the American Folk life Center, has been received. Created by the U.S. Congress in 2000, this project is to collect and preserve audio- and video-taped oral histories of those who served during the 20th century. Contact the Society or email thepiloc.gov.loc.gov/folklife/etsa/ for more information.

Sympathies of the Society are extended to the family and friends of ALICE NEUMANN

A charter member of the Society, life long resident of the area and a person of which one could ask questions about the area's history.

MORE NEEDS

...booth help at the Art Fair, August 10, 11, on Main Street. This is an opportunity to promote the Society. It can be made known that the Society is a part of what makes this community the desirable place in which to live.

You're new to the area? You'll need a home at the booth, help is needed at the booth. Your help is needed to schedule your time.

FUND RAISING PROJECTS

Your support is vital.

POST CARDS with early local scenes, pkg of 6/$3; NOTE PAPER @ $2.50 pkg; copies of 1875 PLAT MAPS of Brighton, plus Historic District Maps, Green Oak and Hamburg Townships, a 1915 map of Brighton, for $1. ea; TOTE BAGS @ $10, NEEDLEPOINT KITS @ $6, AND MUGS @ $5, all show the Old Town Hall. A new TAPESTRY PILLOW, $30, depicting the Brighton Railroad depot and train, is available. A fine companion to the afghan below. 810-229-6402 to order any of the above.

AFGHANS, red, green or blue, with nine Local sites woven in @ $49.00 is at The Nature Preserver, 320 W. Main.

WITH OTHER PRESERVATION/RESTORATION ORGANIZATIONS

Milford Historical Society Museum, 124 E. Comstock St., Milford. Open Wed. & Sat. 1-4 p.m. thru December.

Waterloos Area Farm Museum - Log Cabin Day/Education Day/Blacksmith Festival June 30, 1-5 p.m. 517/851-8247.

Workshop: Fading Photos - Identifying and preserving of historic photos. October 12, 9:30 a.m./12:30 p.m., the Town Hall, Ann Arbor, $45.00 includes lunch and handouts. Historical Society of Michigan, 1305 Abbott, E. Lansing 48823 to register.

Mulling Over Michigan - Statewide Conference For Education, Macomb Community College, Hal Miller, 4401 Greenfield Rd., Clinton Township 48038. An opportunity to attend plenary sessions and work in small groups. To register, call (313) 870-4400.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

NAME
ADDRESS (Please include Zip + 4 digit)
PHONE

Donation: $ 20.00 ($ 50.00) ($ 100.00) ($ 200.00)

Sustaining and Life Memberships are available. For $100.00 your signature or that of another of your choice will be embroidered on the Signature Quilt. A file of signatures of early residents is available. Your donation is an appropriate and simple way to support the Society's activities. This quilt will stay in the Society's archives.

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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.

Advance Craft Home Builders, Inc., Brighton Commerce Bank, First Presbyterian Church, Lawrances Autobody, The Fence Post. The support of these local businesses is much appreciated. Give them your consideration, please.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

NAME
ADDRESS
PHONE

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Thank you for your support and for helping to make our community a better place to live.

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Fund raising projects

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With other preservation/restoration organizations

Brighton Area Schools Alumni Association - An all alumni dinner, September 30, 6 p.m., high school cafeteria, 7875 Brighton Road, P.O. Box 1163 for reservation.

Business/Professional Members

Advance Draft Home Builders, Inc., Brighton Commerce Bank, First Presbyterian Church, Lawman's Autobody, The Fence Post. The support of these local businesses is most appreciated. Give these your consideration, please.
In 1836, John Euler, Sr., sons Peter and John Jr., and nephew Jacob, took up land in Sections 11 and 12 in Genoa Township. Sons Lawrence and Henry arrived the next year from the east. All had immigrated to the U.S. in 1828 from Hanover, Germany. John Sr. and Peter moved to near Byron in Shiawassee County in 1836.

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