

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 2002

Vol. XXI No. 8

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

OFFICERS

President & Editor
Marieanna Bair
810/229-6402

Vice President
Sheryl Vigmostad
810/227-7506

Secretary
Thomas Reinke
313/295-9326

Treasurer
Mindy Kinsey
248/684-0340

DIRECTORS

Nancy Fredenburg
810/229-9100

Carol McMacken
History Book
810/231-2957

Jim Vichich
Membership
810/227-4840

CHAIRPERSONS

Jim DeJohn
810/229-9797
Joanne Swonk
810/229-7887
Dick Weaire
810/229-3066
Friends of the
Lyons School

Lorry Wagner
Oral History
810/231-3328

John & Janice
Field
Cemeteries/
Archives
734/449-4535

Ann Stratigos
Hospitality
Newsletter Dist.

VILLAGE CEMETERY MARKER DEDICATION

Sunday, August 25, 6 p.m., the marker, designating the Old Village Cemetery as a Michigan historical site, will be dedicated. Representatives from the state, city and historical society will be present for this historic event.

The community is invited to gather at the St. Paul's Episcopal Church on St. Paul Street, by the mill pond, in downtown Brighton. Following a walk through the cemetery gate and to the marker at the north end, the ceremony will take place.

This will be an opportunity to memorialize the generosity of the Clark family to the community. Rev. William Clark, DD, arrived in Brighton Township in 1837. He can be credited with many 'firsts' in his new home. He brought pure bred sheep from Ohio and planted an orchard on the many acres he farmed. A small sawmill was erected at the north end of Ore Creek. To accomodate his workers, and the neighborhood, he constructed a small store. Religious services, the first in the area, were conducted in his orchard. He purchased the flour and grist mill at the northwest corner of North and West Streets, from Orson Quackenbush who had recently built it. Within the year Rev. Clark died and now rests in this very place. His children and grandchildren never gave up the dream of building a church in his honor on the adjacent land.

The first burial is that of Truman Worden in 1837, among the earliest of settlers. Here one also finds other family names, enriching the history of the area: Appleton, Bidwell, Case, Conely, Fonda, Goucher, Hacker, Hyne, Jacobs, Lee, Placeway, Stuhrberg, Taylor and Warner. It would be appropriate for you to join the Society on this occasion.



Dates to Remember:

- Aug. *7,14,21,28: 7 p.m. Lyons School restoration. Wear your working duds. 10 and 11: 10-5 p.m. Art Fair. Help needed.
- *15,22,29: 1-3 p.m. Archives filing. Welcome.
- 25: 6 p.m. Dedication of Historic Site marker; Old Village Cemetery.
- *26, 7 p.m. Society board meets. Welcome.
- *Lyons School, 11455 Buno Rd., Brighton.

MEMBERSHIPS

BUS/PROF: The Fence Spot.

PATRON: Phyllis Kerslake.

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 receiving 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

...Bert Bair and John & 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 Weaire for their continued help with developing the archives and maintaining the Lyons School.

NEEDS NEEDS NEEDS

...postage stamps.

...ticket purchasers for the rocking motorcycle, 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"x15¼"x5", to properly and safely store documents and photos. These run \$8. + shpg.

...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 recitation bench has been cleaned prior to applying a new finish. Then the legs will be attached to it and the several other completed desks. The "Friends of the Society" welcomes new members. Contact Joanne Swonk, 229-7887, to help with scheduling and curriculum, and Jim DeJohn 229-9797, or Dick Weaire, 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 Folklife 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: vohp@loc.gov or www.loc.gov/folklife/vets/ for more information.

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

ALICE NEWCOMB

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 not be alone at the booth. Your help is needed. Call 810/229-6402, to schedule your time.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

P O BOX 481, BRIGHTON MI 48116-0481

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

(Please include Zip + 4 digit)

Send membership card? Yes No

New Renewal. Your help is needed with: *Historic Preservation Projects, **Fund Raising Projects, ***Administration of the Society. (Please circle your preference)

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 Marker/Restoration, 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, Pillows.

***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 pkg; copies of 1875 PLAT MAPS of Brighton, Genoa, Green Oak and Hamburg Townships and a 1915 map of Brighton for \$1. ea; TOTE BAGS @ \$15., NEEDLEPOINT KITS @ \$8. 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 Preserve, 420 W. Main.

For \$10.00 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.

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 PRESERVATION/RESTORATION ORGANIZATIONS

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

Waterloo 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./2:30 p.m., the Toumy House, Ann Arbor. \$45.00 includes lunch and handouts. Historical Society of Michigan, 1305 Abbott, E. Lansing 48823 to register.

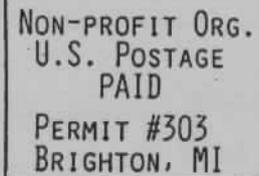
Mulling Over Michigan - Statewide Conference for Education, Macomb Community College. Mel Miller, 44001 Garfield Rd., Clinton Township 48308. An opportunity to share teaching ideas, learn of new methodologies, promote integration of Michigan history within U.S. history courses, etc.

Brighton Area Schools Alumni Association - An all alumni dinner, September 21, 6 p.m., high school cafeteria, 7878 Brighton Road. P O Box 1163 for reservation.

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

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

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P O BOX 481
BRIGHTON MI 48116-0481



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

LAWRENCE EULER AND THE 'DUTCH' 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 Hessen, Germany. John Sr. and Peter moved to near Byron in Shiawassee County in 1838.

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 government land. Many were of German nationality as were the Eulers. These included the Fishbecks, Martins, Conrads, Hartmans, Dorrs, Ranschers and Baetckes. The comfort of others nearby, speaking one's mother tongue, meant a great deal.

In 1837, Thomas and Abigail Pinckney 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 1848 John Weimeister 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, 1880s, 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 mail 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 dollar 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 1928/1933. 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 1945 Jacob Rindle and Andrew Welzer purchased the site. February 19, 1947, saw the old 'Dutch Inn' leveled by fire. (Compiled from atlases and writings of Bill Pless. The Society would appreciate copies of photos connected to the site.)