AREA FARMS C. 1900

Research of local farms and farmers listed in the Brighton Argus, their background and location continues. Adam Weber's MAPLE AVENUE FARM is this issue's subject.

In 1872, Henry and Margaret (Buler) Weber came to the United States from Germany. By the 1890 census they were in Genoa Township with their three sons, John, Adam (b. 1865), and Conrad. Their three daughters, Catherine, Elizabeth, and one who married R. E. Baetscke, were born in Michigan, according to Margaret's obituary. (Early obituaries did not list wives' given names only the husband's.)

Genoa and Brighton Townships were being populated at a relatively fast clip in the 1830/1840s. (Nothing's changed.) Among the earliest were the Conrads, Dorrs, Bulers, Behrens, etc. When the Webers came to the area neighbors were still a mile or more apart. Travel was not a simple matter so, as is often found, children of neighbors married. These children might meet at church functions, school events or while working on a neighbor's farm. Just over 100 years ago, Adam Weber and Maria Catherine Conrad (b. 1863, Genoa) married, April 30, 1891. They had two children, both of which, sadly, died as infants. Prior to this time, the 1880 census finds Adam, 15, working as a farm laborer at the Henry Herbst farm in Genoa. His older brother, John Henry, 20, is employed on the Lewis Pless farm. (John also married a neighbor, Margaret Buler.)

Not long after their marriage, on the 1895 atlas, Adam Weber's name is found on 68 acres on the south side of Grand River, bordered on the east by Whitmore Lake Road. (Brighton Township, E3 SM, section 32.) At the time, brother Conrad owns 240 acres on the south side of Grand River, directly across from Adam's. This had originally been purchased by a speculator, Jacob Leroy of Genesee, New York, August 11, 1835. It is doubtful he ever saw the land since he sold while still in New York. In 1836, Jacob H. Coe recorded the purchase of this piece December 6, 1845, of Livingston County. He sold it in 1848, but his name is still on the map as owner in 1875. Many brief periods of ownership are recorded. People often over-extended themselves and were unable to pay real estate taxes. Even as today much property was bought and lost. Before the end of the 20th century v.o.'s and Kroger shopping centers and a myriad of other businesses are now located on Adam's MAPLE AVENUE FARM. (Compiled by Marianne Bair from census records and early atlases. Also Early Landowners and Settlers of Livingston County' by Milton Charboneau and obituaries copied by Charboneau. Additions/corrections gratefully accepted. 810/229-6402)
MEMBERSHIPS

PATRONS: Tillie Bitten, Val & Kathy Jacoby (FL), Whitney & June Kimble, Steven & Kathleen Lowry, Jere & Kay Michaels.

COUPLES/INDIV: Charles & Janice Beach, Harlan Carney, Evelyn Dohrager (IL), Emil & Joan Engel, Merrill & Ruth Herbst, Tom & Audrey Leith, Helen & M. Michaels, Clee Moran, Brenda McCarty, Doris Singer (Grand Rapids), Paul & Carol Spangler.

The newsletter mailing list is being reviewed. It is financially irresponsible for the Society to continue distribution of the newsletter to those unwilling to support it financially. (Many members include an extra donation.) It seems rather unjust to not pay one's way yet take advantage of others' sense of responsibility and commitment.

If the number on the mailing label is not '02 (or '03, '04, etc) or if it is marked 'Complimentary Copy' no financial support has been received from you.

THANKS Thanks Thanks Thanks

...Jeanette Johnson, Marilyn Pettigrove, and Rosemary Dinger for their help in preparing the December issue of Trail Tales for mailing.

...Tillie Bitten for her donation in memory of husband Bob.

...Marion Carney, Merrill & Ruth Herbst, Helen Michaels, Clee Moran and Doris Singer for the donations made with dues payment.

...Val & Kathy Jacoby (FL) for their donation in memory of Florence Warner Chase and to Helen Leits for her donation in memory of husband Richard, to the Lyons School Project. Both Florence and Dick were alumni of the one-room school.

...Jim & Joanne Swank for their donation of books, readers, etc., for use at the Lyons School.

...Jim DeJohn and Dick Weaire for their continued interest and work at the Lyons School. The future archives center has walls and ceilings painted, walls added to the windows and floor cleaned and ready for painting.

...Ore Creek Quilter Chapter #262 for their donation toward purchase of framed slates for use at the Lyons School.

PRESEVATION AND RESTORATION

BRIGHTON HISTORY BOOK: Final compiling and editing is underway. Carol McKenna has put in uncounted hours on this project. It is heartily recommended for her work. She has one concern - someone must come forward to consider compiling the area's history from c. 1945 onward. It would not be good to wait another 100 years before embarking on this project. History is being made today.

LYONS SCHOOL: Weekly work hours are being scheduled. Call us at 810/229-6402 to let us know when would be good for you to help.

Friends of the Lyons School is being formed. Co-chair Joanne Swank will head up the operation (administration, curriculum, policies, etc.) of the project. Co-chair Jim DeJohn and Dick Weaire will see to the continued restoration and maintenance of the facility. Rest assured, your help will be welcomed by the co-chairs.

Sincere sympathies of the Society are extended to the family of

NORMAN CATHC HILL

A long time resident of the area and devoted member.

Also to the family of

VIRGINIA DE LUCA

A long time respected merchant of Brighton and member of the family of

JONATHAN FIELD

His parents, John and Janice, are dedicated members.

Also to the family of

MARGARET SQUIRE

A long time resident and member of the Society.

...Marsha Strong, Brighton Township Manager. Members of the Society are active members of the preservation of local history and the sense of place it provides residents. The Society has been invited to prepare displays in the township hall lobby. Offer your help in the preparation of these exhibits.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

NAME: ____________

ADDRESS: ____________

(PLEASE INCLUDE ZIP + 4 DIGITS)

( ) Yes ( ) No

REV. Your help is needed with: "Historic Preservation Projects.

"Fund Raising Projects. "Administration of the Society. (Please circle one.)

DUES: ( ) $25.00 PATRON ( ) $75.00 A. LIFE ( ) $12.00 STUDENT ( ) $15.00 INDIAN VILLAGE ( ) $50.00 LIFE

DONATION: ( ) $100.00 ( ) $200.00 ( ) $500.00 ( ) $1000.00 ( ) $5000.00 ( ) $10000.00

The Society is a 501(c)3 Income Tax Deductible Organization.


"Fund Raising Projects: Bake Sale, Coverletters, Home Tours, Post, Needlepoint Kit, Note and Post Cards, Signature Quilt, Special Events, Bake Sale, Followup.

"Administration of the Society: Board/Officers/Committee-Roster, Newsletter, Publicity.

FUND RAISING PROJECTS

YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL


A NEW TAPESTRY PILLOW, $30., DEPICTING THE BRIGHTON RAILROAD DEPOT AND TRAIN IS AVAILABLE. A FINE COMPANION TO THE COVERLETS ABOVE. 810/229-9100 TO ORDER.

WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Saline Area Historical Society is sponsoring its 15th Annual Antigue Show, Jan. 18, 11-7 p.m., and Jan. 19, 9-5 pm. Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, Saline.

Livingston County Genealogical Society is presenting its 20th anniversary seminar Apr. 29, 7-30 am. to 3:30 pm. Lake Pointe Manor, 5768 E. Grand River, Howell. Curt B. Hitcher, manager, Historical Genealogical Society Allen County Library, Ft. Wayne, IN. Topics will include Doing Effective Research in Libraries; Passenger and Immigration Research; Using Church Records in Genealogy Research Effective Use of the Allen County Library with an Emphasis on PERSIT.


BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

Advance Craft Home Builders, Inc. - Brighton Bar and Grill, Brighton Commerce Bank, The Fence Spot, First Presbyterian Church, Lawrence Auto Body, Yum Yum Tree. These are local businesses whose support is much appreciated. Give them your consideration, please.
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BRIGH TON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

P.O. BOX 881, BRIGHTON, MI 48117-0881

NAME

ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE ZIP + 4 DIGIT)

( ) Yes ( ) No

DUES: $50.00 Personal

$75.00 Couple

$100.00 Student (K-12, College)

$150.00 Business

$250.00 Individual

$500.00 Life

DONATION: $50.00

$100.00

$200.00

$500.00

$1,000.00

THE SOCIETY IS A 501(c)3 INCOME TAX DEDUCTIBLE ORGANIZATION.

*HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROJECTS: CHRONICLES, HISTORY BOOK, HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY, HISTORIC SITE RESTORATION/REGISTRATION/SAVER,LYONS SCHOOL, LOCAL HISTORY/VIDEO, PHOTOGRAPHY.

*FUND RAISING PROJECTS: BAKE SALE, COVERETS, HOMEMADE BOOK, COVERETS/Filepoint Kit, raffle and Post Cards, Signature Quilt, Special Events, Tote Bags, Postcards.

*ADMINISTRATION OF THE SOCIETY: Board/Officers/Committee-Roger, Newsletter, Publicity.

FUND RAISING PROJECTS:

YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL

POST CARDS WITH EARLY LOCAL SCENES, PKG OF 5;
TOTE BAG, $5;
TOTE PAPER, $2.50;
PLAT MAPS OF BRIGHTON, GENEVA, GREEN OAK AND HAMPSHIRE TOWNSHIPS AND A 1915 MAP OF BRIGH TON FOR $1;
NEEDLEPOINT KIT $35. SHOW THE OLD TOWN HALL AS DO MUS B &5. AND TOTE BAGS $5. COVERETS: RED, GREEN OR BLUE HAVING LOCAL SITES WORN IN $4.35. ALL THE ABOVE AT 810/229-2402.

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Registration fee 4-14-02 = $30. post 4-15-02 = $40 (boxed lunch included).

Checks to LGHS, send to Cindy Groestick, 507 Joncs St., Lansing 48912-1717.

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

ADVANCE CRAFT HOME BUILDERS, INC.; BRIGH TON BAR AND GRILL, BRIGHTON CLOTHING BANK, THE FENCE SPOT, FIRST PREVOSTERIAN CHURCH, LAWRENCE AUTO BODY, YUM YUM TREE. THESE ARE LOCAL BUSINESSES WHOSE SUPPORT IS MUCH APPRECIATED. GIVE THEM YOUR CONSIDERATION, PLEASE.
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