



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

December 2003
Vol. XXII No. 12

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

2003 WAS A GOOD YEAR

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The Brighton Area Historical Society has reached hundreds this year. Students, scouts, local organizations and individuals have been served by the educational programs, newsletter, local historical research and many other ways.

Some specifics: elementary students at the rural Lyon School experienced a day in the life of the student a century ago; elementary and middle school students viewed pictures of early local scenes and learned the part the subjects played to make the area we call home; scout groups visited and learned the differences/samenesses of education; local organizations met and were impressed with the examples of community cooperation which enabled the preservation/restoration of the 118 year old school, the artifacts, programs and archives; individuals, preparing papers, reports, etc., make use of the materials assembled.

The 'Friends of Lyon School' are providing needed funding to its continuing restoration/maintenance and expansion of its programs. Open houses, held at the school, have become popular.

The Society is continuing in its mission of collection, preservation and dissemination of the history of the Brighton area.

The Society must continue to rely on the active and financial support of those who believe this mission has worth and should be promoted. Your contribution is income tax deductible.

VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY BICENTENNIAL

Upon reaching the junction of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, the Lewis and Clark party made very slow progress upstream. It was November 28, 1803 when they reached the army post at Kaskaskia, Illinois, half way to St. Louis.

From there, December 4, William Clark, with the boat party, headed for the mouth of the Wood River, opposite the mouth of the Missouri. The site would serve his needs well. Plenty of game and plenty of timber for making needed changes to the keel-boat. A settlement of pioneers was nearby.

Meanwhile Meriwether Lewis paralleled by horseback on the Illinois side. December 7 saw him at Cahokia just across from St. Louis. His meeting with the Spanish Lt. Governor of Upper Louisiana, Col. Carlos Dehault Delassus, did not go well. Until the official transfer of Louisiana to the U.S. had taken place, Delassus would not allow the party to continue up the Missouri. By that time the plan to start up the Missouri before winter has been abandoned and winter camp, 1803-04, was made. (Cont.P.3)

MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: Tillie Bitten and Jere & Kay Michaels.

COUPLES/INDIV: Gene & Judy Dahlin, Mike & Barb Emmorey, Bill Franklin, *James & Christina Miller, Jim & Vicci Vichich, Dick & Lucille Weaire, Randy & Kyle Wilson, Don & Alice Wyland.

*A warm welcome to new members Jim & Christina Miller. We appreciate renewing members. Their support is most encouraging. Administration expenses, including newsletter printing, are taken care of by dues receipts. The 2004 mailing list is being prepared. Please let us know if you don't wish to receive the newsletter. Address corrections/changes save .37¢. Tell us if you are/have been moving.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...Bert Bair, Ida Bair and John & Janice Field for helping put the November newsletter in the mail.

...Members of Mill Town Questers #831. Jerl Preston, Lynn Straub, Toni Tubbs, Diane Allen, Jane Senia, Karen Kramer and others lent of their collections making a delightful display, assuring the success of the Lyon School open house last month. Dozens of children made an ornament to add to decorations at home. Santa's visit brought a lot of smiles. Hot cider and cookies disappeared. The holiday decorations and winter sports equipment of a half century ago transformed the school into a genuine feast of memories. Holiday music was donated by Alabar - Bill Preston and Al Sutterfield. Joe and Andrew Pomerville also donated their share of musical entertainment. Mere thanks seem insufficient. These folks again displayed the community support provided the historical society in its efforts to create a historical awareness in the area.

...Stephen Leith for two copies of 'Some Descendents of Joseph Woodward'; One for the archives and one for the Brighton District Library.

...Tillie Bitten for her donation with her dues.

...Jerry & Lisa Cave for the purchase of a copier cartridge.

...The unheralded members of the Society board for their continued unselfish dedication to the Society's mission.

PRESERVATION/RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: The filing system is taking shape. Thursdays, 1-3 p.m. are scheduled for 2004. Properly filing the Society's paper holdings and other research material is never ending. People have been generous with contributions of pictures, clippings, etc. Interested in this task? Call 810/229-6402 to help.

Lyon School: The wood components for 11 desks have been cleaned. Sand blasting the cast iron metal parts is next. Where? How? Who? need to be answered. Contact Dick Weaire, 229-3066 to help. A contract has been signed for the pointing of the foundation.

Visits from elementary age children are being scheduled by Joanne Swonk, 229-7887 for info. Visits of other groups to tour the school, learn its history plus the restoration story can be scheduled with Marieanna Bair 810/229-6402.

NEEDS NEEDS NEEDS

...The picnic tables are here. Your donation of \$125. will help pay the bill.

...The heating and electricity suppliers to the Lyon School want to be paid each month. A contribution to that would be appropriate (even if not glamorous).

...People to provide their time, expertise, energy, etc., to promoting the Society mission. You are needed as a board member, committee member, museum display setter-upper, landscape helper (delineating lot corners, prepare a farm implement display, etc.).

...You to purchase your Christmas gifts from the Society. The afghans, tote bags, pillows, tiles are all welcomed by recipients. An annual membership would also be welcome.

...The Society can help you with your year-end tax strategy. Your donation can be a tribute or in memory of someone or to a Society project.

...41.5" wide steel door for the rear entrance to the archives room. (or the funds.)

...Avery #5351 address labels, 1st class postage stamps for administration expenses.

The sympathies of the Society
are extended to the family of
RAY WILCOX

Ray conducted a local business
The Fence Spot, and was a long
time member of the Society.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

P O BOX 481, BRIGHTON MI 48116-0481

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____
(Please include Zip + 4 digit)

Sent membership card? () Yes () No

() New () Renewal Your help is needed with *Preservation/Restoration Projects, ***Fund Raising 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/Restoration Projects: Archives, Publications, Historic Resource Survey, Historic Site Markers, Lyon School, Oral History/Video, Photography, etc.

**Fund Raising Projects: Signature Quilt, Bake Sale, Art Fair, Home Tour, Harvest Fest, etc.

***Administration of the Society: Board/Committee Member, Newsletter, Publicity, etc.

FUND RAISING PROJECTS

POST CARDS with early local scenes, pkg. of 6/\$3.; NOTE PAPER, pkg \$2.50; MUGS \$5.; TOTE BAGS \$15.; NEEDLEPOINT KIT \$8.; all show the Old Town Hall.

PLAT MAPS of Brighton, Conway, Genoa, Green Oak, Hamburg, Hartland, Howell, Iosco and Oceola Townships, 1875 and Brighton and Howell cities, \$1.00. AFGHANS red, green and blue, with nine local sites woven in, \$49.; TAPESTRY PILLOW depicting the rail road depot and train, \$28.; 2004 CALENDAR with pictures of Brighton scenes. To order any of the above, 801/229-6402.

For \$10. donation your signature, or that of another of your choice will be embroidered on the SIGNATURE QUILT. A collection of signatures of early residents is available. This is an appropriate, simple way to support the Society. The quilt will remain in the Society's Archives.

TILES: 13 different local sites depicted on black/white 6"x6" ceramic tiles. All limited editions. Available at Main Street Cafe, 440 W. Main and Nostalgia Antiques, 116 W. Main. \$8. or 3/\$21.00.

(Cont. fr. P. 1) It was a busy time for both Lewis and Clark. Three times the original number of men had to be hired. Lewis purchased the extra supplies which would be needed and Clark trained the men and worked on modifying the keelboat.

Besides dealing with the merchants of St. Louis, Lewis also researched the Purchase: population, imports/exports via St. Louis and acquisition of available, very sketchy, maps of the Missouri and Upper Louisiana. December 16, of the eight soldiers brought by George Drouillard from Tennessee, only four passed muster.

Correspondence with Jefferson said the transfer of Louisiana would take place December 20, 1803. A month later this was confirmed to Lewis.

A HAPPY, HEALTHY
HOLIDAY SEASON

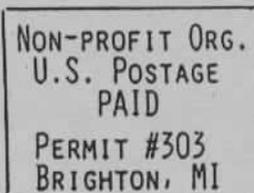
TO ALL!



BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

Advance Craft Home Builders, The Fence Spot, Lawrence Autobody. The continued support and confidence of these local businesses is much appreciated. Give them your consideration, please. The support of others in the community is most welcome.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THE DYKES RELOCATE TO GENOA TOWNSHIP FROM NEW YORK

Christmas Day, 1842, is when Joel H. Dykes was born to Joseph (b. 1807, Genoa, N.Y.) and Jane O'Neal (b. 1814, New Jersey) Dykes in Steuben County, N.Y. Joseph was a farmer, of German descent, and a shoemaker. Six of Joel's nine siblings survived to maturity.

A log cabin was their home in 1844, upon arriving in the Michigan wilderness. The 1850 census finds them on their farm in Genoa Township consisting of 80 acres in Section 26 and 80 in Section 25, on both sides of Bauer Road. Many homes and Mt. Brighton now occupy those hills.

Joel Dykes' education was obtained in log schoolhouses where students sat on log slabs supported by stick legs. The writing class prominently featured quill pens. (Probably more easily obtained than pencils - quills came from the feathers of their geese and ink could be made from walnut husks and/or berry juices.)

At 21 he was working for himself but the Civil War was raging so he left agricultural pursuits and enlisted in Co. A, 22nd Michigan Infantry, serving from January 6, 1861 through September 15, 1865. He fought in the Chattanooga, Tennessee, Kenesaw Mt., Georgia, battles and the Atlanta Campaign. Then to Murfreesboro, Tennessee through June, 1865, coming from Provost duty in Chattanooga just prior to that. Much of his time in Chattanooga was spent in the hospital combating measles. (His resulting poor health provided him a veteran's pension of \$6.00 per month.) He is included in the 1921 picture of living members of the local GAR.

After the war he bought out the other heirs in the home farm and returned to farming. Amelia Morgan of Dundee, Michigan, became his bride July 18, 1867. Four daughters came along - Lois who died at two years; Edna, who married Seth Jacobs (descendents still in the area); Etta, who married Irving Gilbert; and Ida, who married Edwin W. Towne. All of them local men.

In 1900 he sold the farm to Charles Bauer and, with Amelia, moved into Brighton; to the southeast corner of Washington and S. Second Street with Etta and Irving. Joel died November 8, 1931. The location of two year old daughter, Lois', burial has not been found. Joel, Amelia, the three younger daughters, their husbands and two grand children are laid to rest in Fairview Cemetery. His parents, and six siblings are buried in the Village Cemetery. (Compiled by Marieanna Bair from 1891 Portrait and Biographical Album; Brighton Village Cemetery transcription of John and Janice Field; early atlases and census records; Fairview Cemetery transcriptions and obituaries compiled by Milton Charboneau. Additions/corrections invited. 810/229-6402.)