DOCTORS MC HENCH AND BROWN PRACTICE IN THE AREA

William McHen ch arrived in Green Oak Township in 1853 from New York, aged 22. He taught school in Green Oak Township for a year and then Brighton Township a year. In 1854 he began "reading medicine" with Dr. Ira P. Bingham. In the fall of 1855 he attended the medical department at the "State University in Ann Arbor," graduating in 1856. He practiced with Bingham 1857-1859. After a short stay in New Hudson, he arrived, September, 1859, in Philadelphia for a year. Returning to Brighton in 1860, he never ceased studying medicine. More experience was gained in Baltimore where, July 1, 1864, he became acting assistant surgeon covering four wards in the hospital.

It was back to his practice in Brighton after the Civil War. A local girl, Margaret E. Bowle, became McHen ch's bride November 10, 1868. Shortly after, we found him in New York to study eye, ear, heart and lung diseases in 1870. Ten years later he left Brighton for New York again to study throat problems. When he came back to Brighton in 1871, he brought his 24 year old nephew, Dr. Willard C. Brown, back with him. When Dr. McHen ch died January 1, 1910, he was the oldest practitioner in the county - fifty years in one locality. All businesses closed during his funeral. He, his wife, daughter Gertrude, and son-in-law, Dr. R. T. Ward are all interred in Fairview Cemetery.

Dr. Willard C. Brown, son of Rev. Henry Brown and Nancy McHen ch, was born in New York state July 26, 1857. He began "reading medicine" under Dr. O. M. Leonard of Baronne Center, Schoharie County, New York. Following graduation after a year at University of New York medical department in 1861, he accompanied his uncle, Dr. McHen ch, to Brighton to join him in his practice.

A local girl, Louisa Becker, daughter of John Becker of Pipp and Becker Hardware (92 corner W. Main/Hyde St.) became his bride in October, 1882. He and Louisa lived in South Lyon until 1888, where he was the Health Officer responsible for sanitary law and regulations. Conscious of the need for more study, especially in surgery, he spent a year in New York. 1889 saw his back in Brighton until 1903 when he moved to Detroit. Prior to this he had served as post master in Brighton for six years. He attended to his practice in Detroit until 3-4 days before his death, October 18, 1889. He is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Detroit. Before the end of the year his widow endured the accidental death by fire of their only grandson in November and then their only son died two days after Christmas from pneumonia.

In Brighton Dr. Brown's office was on the second floor over Pipp and Becker's Hardware. As late as 1940, the green window shades of his office still read "Office of W. C. Brown, M.D." [Compiled by Marleneane Bair from the 1860 History of Livingston County, The 1891 Portrait/Biographical Album and Brighton Argus obituaries collected by Milton Charbonneau. Corrections/additions are most welcome. 810/229-6402]
MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: Phyllis Keralake.

BUSINESS: The Fence Spot.

COUPLES/INDIV: Lois Clark (Midland), Queens & Thelma Duncan, Barbara Folkman, Mrs. & Mr. Charles McConnell (S.C.), Nora Miller, Tom Reinke, Tom & Bonnie Rutten, Sherrill Rutte (4), Phyllis Schaefer (Holly), Jim & Joanne Swank, Gary Townsand (Flirv), Bob & Ruth Watson (Hill), Willis Wolfe (CA), Noah Winchell, Delores Yeckley.

Noah Winchell is welcomed as a new member. It’s important the Society continue to grow. If this edition of Trail Tales is a ‘Complimentary Copy’ it would be good for you to consider membership for 2003. We are members because it is believed that what the Society is about is important. The collection, preservation and dissemination of the history of the area ensures all may form a more secure sense of place. The essence of those who have preceded we encourage us as we strive to contribute what we can.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...Pete Rail, Ide Rail, John and Janice Field for their help in getting the February issue ready for distribution.

...Quene & Thelma Duncan, Mr. & Mrs. E. W. McConnell, Bob & Ruth Watson, and Willis Wolfe for their extra contribution with their work.

...Mindy Kinney and Tom Reinke for their help with review of the bylaws.

...Dr. Harry Davis for pictures of Scout Camp NewKink, Dexter, of 60+ years ago. Many local scouts identified. The Society is always pleased to add pictures to its archives.

...Norma Jean Pless for her donation to the overhead projector.

...Bruce Owen for his help in keeping parking area clean at the Lyman School.

PRESERVATION/RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: The history of many early businesses is being compiled. Also that of organizations, events, families, etc. The Society is in dire need of pictures to better complete these efforts. Your photos can be copied if you wish. The purchase of an overhead projector (via Norma Jean Pless’ donation) makes possible a new project. Programs, c. 30 minutes, will be offered to local organizations. A “Tour of W. Main” is already available. Contact a board member to donate/lend a photo or to schedule a program for your group.

HISTORY BOOK: Editing is continuing and publication being pursued.

LYONS SCHOOL: D-o-o-o-Pal! the drain is frozen. As with most drains this one is not handy either, Thawing will not be easy. Will we wait for spring or hire a plumber? And a means of reattaching the rope to the bell needs to be devised. During the latest visit from Tiger Cubs, each gets to try the bell, the rope came loose. Sounds like another spring job. There are no specific visiting hours at the school. Please call 810/239-6402 to schedule a time for you or your group. Someone to prepare displays in the cases is needed. A lot of memorabilia is available.

WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS


March 18, 2-4 p.m. The Pre-hist of Green Oak by Ann Zinn, with slides, etc. 1895 Green Oak Township Hall, 10789 Silver Lake Road, Green Oak Township Historical Society. 248/437-9451 or E-mail: cwilliams46MSN.com.

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

Advance Draft Home Builders, Inc., Brighton Commerce Bank, First Presbyterian Church, Lawrence Autobody (3), The Fence Spot (3). The support and confidence of these noted is much appreciated. Give them your consideration, please.

TILE DISPLAY IDEA

In the Dink Noule household they are employed in the kitchen tile surround. They look great!

Send us your suggestions.

FUND RAISING PROJECTS

POST CARDS with early local scenes, pkg of 6/$1.17; NOTE PAPER B $2.50 pkg; MAGS A $1.50; DUEB BAGS $15; NEEDLEPOINT KITS $8.91; all show the Old Town Hall. PLAT MAPS of Brighton, Genoa, Green Oak and Hamburg Townships, 1875 and a 1945 map of Brighton $1.00. A TAPES TRY PULLION, depicting the railroad depot and train $30.00. AFGHANES red, green and blue, with nine local sites woven in @ $25.00, 810/239-6402 to order amount of the above.

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. This quilt will remain 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, 116W. Main and Main Street Cafe 350 W. Main have them in stock. $8.00 or $3/$21.00.

The Sympathies of the Society to the family of
HELEN GOUDENS MILHAELS
An area native and long-time member of the Society

NEEDED

...FARMSTEAD SURVEY PROJECT VOLUNTEERS. 'How to' help is available.

...CAFfEE items as fund raisers.

...POSTAGE STAMPS AND BUSINESS ENVELOPES for administration needs.

...SOMEBODY to serve as Fund Raising Chairman.
MEMBERSHIPS

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BUS/PROF.: The Fence Spot.

COUPLES/INDIV.: Lois Clark (Midland), Clarence & Thelma Duncan, Barbara Folkman, Mr. & Mrs. Charles McConnell (S.C.), Nora Miller, Tom Reinke, Tom & Bonnie Rietz, Sherrel Rut- ter (4), Phyllis Scharf (Holly), Jim & Joanne Swank, Gary Townsand (Firville), Bob & Ruth Watson (Halls), Willis Wolfe (CA), Noah Whinney, Delores Yeckley.

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HELEN SCHODENHALL MICHAELS
An area native and long-time member of the Society

NEEDED

... Farmstead Survey Project Volunteers, "How to" help is available.

... caffeine items as fund raisers.

... Postage Stamps and Business Envelopes for administration needs.

... Someone to serve as Fund Raising Chairman.

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POST CARDS with early local scenes, pkg of 6/$3.75; NOTE PAPER @ $2.50 pkg; MUGS A $5.10; cts. BASKETS @ $15; NEEDLEPOINT KITS @ $9.; all 1895 map of Brighton @ $1.00. A TAPES- TRY PILLOW depicting the railroad depot and train 8 $30.00. AFGHAN red, green and blue, with nine local sites woven in @ $45.00, 810/299-6402 to order any of the above.

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