



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

February 2004
Vol. XXIII No. 2

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

THE NAME OF THE GAME? VOLUNTEERS

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
248/926-2371

Carol McMacken
810/231-2957

Joanne Swonk
810/229-7887

Jim Vichich
810/227-4840

Dick Weaire
810/229-3066

CHAIRPERSONS

John S Janice
Field:
Cemeteries/
Archives
810/599-6195

How does one appraise the value of volunteers? They are a significant resource on which the Society depends. The entire budget of the Society is based on membership, sales, donations and the work of volunteers. Dollars can be maximized by the work of volunteers.

The sale of tiles, afghans, pillows, maps, etc., goes a long way to paying the utility, insurance and maintenance expenses of the Lyon School, the Society headquarters. In 2003 cash donations, sales, dues and volunteers' efforts kept up with these expenditures. Just as your utility bills have gone up.....

How can you help? A weekly or monthly booth at the Brighton Farmers' Market is a fine way to promote the Society and the mission it espouses. The Art Fair, etc., booth can use your help also.

Volunteers are also needed at the Lyon School: the transport of metal desk components to a sand blasting facility and the job itself costs money; a steel door for the school's rear entrance will be purchased and installed; foundation tuck pointing will be undertaken; a window cleaning business shouldn't have to be hired; a landscaping charge could be eliminated; all if volunteers participate. Donated labor makes the difference. Contact the Society with your support. A tax deductible acknowledgement of your services can be provided.

VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY BICENTENNIAL

Not all Federal politicians agreed with Jefferson's plan to explore the Missouri and beyond. To placate the opposition the rationale of elevating the religious beliefs of the Indians was given. Also to learn whether the soil, timber, water, etc., could support farmers. To Jefferson the most important was to put exploration and commerce in the forefront. The public, informed

(cont. p. 3)



Dates to Remember:

- Feb. * 5, 12, 19, 26: 1-3 p.m. Archives filing. Welcome. 810/229-6402 to confirm.
*11, 18, 25: 7-9 p.m. School restoration/maintenance continues. Welcome.
*23: 7-9 p.m. Society board meets. Welcome.

*Lyon School, 11455 Buno Rd., Brighton.

MEMBERSHIPS

BUS/PROF: Advance Craft and Lawrence Autobody.

PATRON: Emil & Joan Engel, Phyllis Kerslake, Roland & Jane Owens, Douglas & Carol Rearick, and Horace & Yvonne Taylor.

COUPLE/INDIV: Alene Anderson, Bert & Marieanna Bair, Sally Baldwin (Grand Rapids), Dan & Karen Bierer, Joe & Pauline Chenoweth, Lois Clark (Midland), Dr. Harry Davis, Libby Eisenhardt (OS), Irene Ellis, Pat & Marlene Fonseca (AZ), Janice Field, Mark & Charlotte Godin, Fred Gruezke, Merrill Herbst, Susan Lanning (Livonia), Dave Lehman (OS), Stephen Leith (Free-land) John & Ruth LePatourel, Mark & Carol McMacken, Rudy & Doreen Meffert, Ted & Kay Miller (Rochester Hills), Bob & Judy Orlando (WA), Tedd & Linda Potter, Harold Salow, Mr & Mrs David Schoewe, Ed & Connie Sherman, Florence Sullivan (FL), Arlene Warner, Bill & Charmaine Zink.

The continued support of renewing members is vital to the mission of the Society. Many have been long time members and many contribute additional funds or volunteer labor.

The membership list is kept confidential and used only for Society purposes. Please contact the Society if any inaccuracies are found.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...Andrea Bair, Bert Bair and John & Janice Field for their help in the mailing of the January newsletter.

...Lois Clark (Midland) and Pat & Marlene Fonseca (AZ) for their donation to Lyon School with their dues.

...Dr. Harry Davis, Libby Eisenhardt, Merrill Herbst, Lawrence Autobody, Dave Lehman, Harold Salow, Mr & Mrs David Schoewe, Florence Sullivan (FL), and Arlene Warner for their donations with their dues payment.

...Bruce Owens for plowing snow from the parking area at the Lyon School.

...Dick Weaire for shoveling snow from the walk at the Lyon School.

...Nancy Fredenburg for compiling the Society's 2004 calendar with Brighton scenes.

PRESERVATION/RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: To inventory research materials is a major task. To be able to locate these resources is of prime importance when information is requested. Thursdays, 1-3 p.m finds volunteers at the Lyon School. You will be welcome. The originals or copies of items of local historical interest are most welcome and will make the archives more complete.

LYON SCHOOL: Medium sized, see-through boxes will be purchased to transport sale items to sell at the Farmers' Market, Art Fair, etc. Spring cleaning will be done (when spring arrives).

ORAL HISTORY: A workshop can be scheduled when a minimum of 20 express their interest.

NEEDED NEEDED NEEDED

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

...41.5 wide steel door for the rear entrance to the archives room.

...donations to any of the above or to the picnic tables or utility suppliers.

...renewing and new members.

...suggestions for public programs.

...docents to help host Lyon School events. Information will be provided. Call Marieanna Bair, 810/229-6402 for the above.

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

Advance Craft Home Builders and Lawrence Autobody have renewed for 2004. 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.

Eternal Truths from the Highland Township Historical Society:

1. Once over the hill, you pick up speed.
2. If it weren't for STRESS I'd have no energy at all.
3. Whatever hits the fan will not be evenly distributed.
4. Everyone has a photographic memory. Some just don't have film.
5. If the shoe fits...buy it in every color.
6. If you're too open minded, your brains will fall out.
7. If you look like your passport picture, you probably need the trip.

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 LIFEDONATION: \$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, 810/229-6402.

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, 115 W. Main. \$8. or 3/\$21.00.

WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

(cont. fr. p.1) through newspaper accounts, were well aware of the long term value of the expedition, thereby thwarting those in the government who had opposed the entire undertaking.

In early February, 1804, Clark, upon Lewis' return to the camp at Wood River, spent some time in St. Louis. There he selected voyagers to paddle the pirogues keeping the rest of the Corps working together on the keel boat.

February 20, Lewis crossed over to St. Louis, putting Sgt. John Ordway in charge. On his return Ordway recited a long list of disobedient behavior. Lewis read the riot act including his disappointment in the men's behavior. Several of the most flagrant were confined to quarters for 10 days. The long months at Wood River were beginning to tell on the Corps. The daily ration of a gill of whiskey was not considered sufficient by many of the men.

Ypsilanti Museum, 220 N. Huron St., Ypsi. Open Thursday, Saturday, Sunday, 2-4 p.m. 734/482-4990.

Novi Civic Center hosting the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit "Barn Again! Celebrating an American Icon". Sponsored by Michigan Humanities Council, now through March 7.

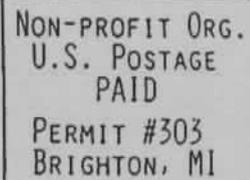
Livingston County Genealogical Society (P O Box 1073, Howell 48844-1073) meets each 1st Thursday, 7 p.m. at LDS Church, 1041 W. Grand River, Howell.

February 16, 7:30, Wixom City Hall, Wixom Historical Society hosts Dr. Weldon Petz.

Saline Railroad Depot Museum open Saturdays, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

April 2-3. Local History Conference at Wayne State University. Genealogy, research, how-to, oral history. Michigan Oral History Association guide \$15.00. MOHA, 5580 W. State Rd., Lansing 48906-9325

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



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

EDWIN B. WINANS - SETTLER, 1834; MICHIGAN GOVERNOR, 1891

It is a given that early settlers in Livingston County were an adventurous, hardy lot. (Of course, those that returned to their former homes in the east are rarely noted in local history resources. "This life did not agree with him," is the statement made.) Among them is found the John C. and Eliza Winans family from New York. John was of German ancestry and Eliza was of Puritan background. With them came son, Edwin B. Winans (b. May 16, 1826, Livingston County, New York) at the age of eight. By 1836 John has built a log house in Unadilla Township and commenced farming. In later years Edwin would write nostalgically of the "...one room log house of my father in Unadilla" where he slept listening to wolves at night, birds in the morning and rain drops on the wood shingles above his head.

His early education was obtained in the local district school until his 18th year. A year after the death of his father he settled in Pettysville with his mother in 1844. There he contracted with Seth Pettys to work in his woolen mill for three years (April, 1845/April '48) for \$10.00 a month and board with Pettys' family. When he and his mother later moved into their own log home in Hamburg Township he was paid \$14.00 a month minus room/board. In 1846 and '47 he taught school in the Hamburg district. During this period he attended Albion College from which he graduated in 1850.

Perhaps caught up in the gold fever, which was still strong, Winans traveled to California to try his hand that year. Leaving in March, 1850, it was a four month overland trip to Placerville. Perhaps he panned sufficient gold, or had funds with him, he was soon one of the owners of the Randolph Hill Mining Company at Rough and Ready, California. Shortly he is principal stockholder in the Rough and Ready Ditch Company. Following his marriage to Elizabeth Galloway in 1855, daughter of one of the first settlers in Hamburg Township, they both returned to California, probably by coach or wagon; a brave young bride of 19. In 1858, they sold out and came back to Hamburg, with their son George, and bought a total of 400 acres, much of it on the south shore of Pleasant (Winans) Lake.

A perception of one's obligation to the community in which one lives impelled him to public service. Altho' a Democrat in a staunchly Republican community he served in the State Legislature from 1860-65. In 1867 he was a member of the constitutional convention. He was the state's representative to the 48th and 49th Congress. In 1891 he became Michigan's 19th governor. Locally he was Supervisor of Hamburg Township in 1872-73; President of the Livingston County Agriculture Society, 1873-74; Livingston County Probate Judge, 1876-80. As a charter member of the county Pioneer Association he prepared his memories of early Hamburg for inclusion in the 1880 History of the county. Edwin B. Winans died July 4, 1894. He is buried in the Hamburg Cemetery. A state historic site marker is erected at the cemetery. (Compiled by Marieanna Bair from Ellis' 1880 History of Livingston County; Early Land Owners and Settlers and obituaries copied by Milton Charboneau; 1891 Portrait and Biographical Album; and census records. 810/229-6402 to correct or add to the above.)