

Brighton Area Historical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 481

Brighton, MI 48116

Trail Tales

March 2004
Vol. XXIII No. 3

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

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PROGRAM SCHEDULING

A schedule of public programs will be prepared Monday, March 22, 6 p.m., at the Lyon School.

Suggestion you might have, regarding the type of program you would attend, should be relayed to a board member. You are invited to that meeting also.

These programs could include a picnic, hot dog roast, ice cream social, show/tell, display and tell about your collection, cemetery tour, program with early photos. There is no point in the board scheduling programs/events if you wouldn't be interested.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS OF LOCAL PHOTOS AVAILABLE

The Society has a program of local photos of earlier times available for presentation to your organization. A donation has permitted the purchase of an overhead projector on which these can be shown. There is no charge for these programs. A donation to the Society helps expand its effectiveness.

Pictures of earlier times in the area would increase the enjoyment and the program's capabilities. Needed especially are photos connected to agriculture, medicine, the railroad, sawmills, fire department, local organizations, etc., etc.

VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY BICENTENNIAL

March 9, 1804, St. Louis; Meriwether Lewis and William Clark were on hand, as chief official witnesses, at ceremonies marking the formal transfer of Upper Louisiana to the United States. First a transfer from Spain to France took place. In a heartily endorsed, sympathetic acknowledgement of the French majority of the crowd, the Tricolor waved over St. Louis for one night. The next day ceremonies, including the signing of documents and speech making, ended with the raising of the Stars and Stripes. An unknown, unexplored, enormous territory became part of the United States of America. (cont. p. 3)



Dates to Remember:

- Mar. * 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: 7 p.m. School restoration/maintenance continues. Welcome.
* 4, 11, 18, 25: 1-3 p.m. Archives filing. Welcome. 810/229-6402 to confirm.
* 22: 6 p.m. Society board meets. Welcome.

*Lyon School, 11455 Buno Rd., Brighton.

MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: Steve & Kathleen Lowry.

COUPLES/INDIV: Larry & Janet Baldinger, Erwin & Dorothy Bandkau, Elaine Blight, Bill & Marianne Comiskey, Ron & Cathy Doughty, Duane & Thelma Duncan, Doris Fay, Barbara Folkman (Howell), Nancy Fredenburg (Walled Lake), Val & Kathy Jacoby (FL), Bob & Shirley Knight, John & Beverly LaBelle, Tom & Audrey Leith, Harold Leitz, Bill & Evelyn McConnell (SC), Greg Park (O), Tom Reinke (Westland), Bill & Gigi Valliencourt, Bob & Ruth Watson (Howell), Ed & Sherry Nyhus.

Thanks to you who respond to the Complementary Copy stamp on the newsletter and returning membership dues. Contact the Society if you believe an error has been made. The continued support of renewing and new members is absolutely vital to the continued existence of the Society and the continued pursuit of its mission.

To help assure members' address confidentiality, all expired membership lists are shredded except for a file copy.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...Bert Bair, John & Janice Field, and Jeanette Johnson for their help in mailing the February newsletter.

...Nancy Fredenburg for preparing the calendar sale project.

...Tom Reinke for making the plaque in appreciation to Noah Winchell for the fine Lyon School painting job.

...Janice Beach for the photo of W. Main and Third Street intersection pre round-a-bout. These kinds of pictures are a vital part of preserving the history of the area.

...Larry Lawrence for the copy of a clipping and of the program of the organization of the J.Cs. Also for the copy of the school children at the school on Rickett Road.

...Those who sent donations along with their dues: Erwin & Dorothy Bandkau, Duane & Thelma Duncan, Bob & Shirley Knight, Harold Leitz, Bob & Ruth Watson and Tom Reinke.

PRESERVATION/RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: How to file research material in such a manner it can be retrieved again is the ongoing project. Native Norma Jean Pless is always there to help when she's in town. Native Janice Field's continued work is invaluable.

You may have pictures, stories, atlases, booklets, abstracts, etc., which would make fine additions to the Society archives. These can be copied for filing. Students preparing papers or reports on a variety of subjects (preservation, commerce, structures, transportation, occupations, etc) contact the Society for assistance. It is part of the Society's purpose to help. The more reference material available the more students can benefit. Their reports are included in the archives.

LYON SCHOOL: After a winter of reduced activity work is beginning again. Painting of doors, windows, floor; gluing wood parts of desks and sand blasting metal parts; landscaping, developing an agricultural equipment display facility, etc., are a few of the jobs planned.

Contact 810/229-6402 or 810/229-3066 to help with either of the above.

HELP HELP HELP

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

...Docents to help host Lyon School events.

...Donations to heat and electric bills.

...volunteers for Farmers' Market or Art Fair booths, etc.

Sympathies of the Society are
extended to the family of
MARGARET MUIR
Descendent of early settlers
Remarkable teacher
Long-time member of the Society

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.

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.)QUES: \$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.

(cont. from p. 1) Upon their return to Wood River, the two leaders found some of the men had been disobedient to Sgt. Ordway, who had been put in charge. The four month sojourn had left the men with too much idle time. As Stephen Ambrose writes, "These young heroes were in great shape, strong as bulls, eager to get going, full of energy and testosterone and bored. So they fought and drank - and drank and fought." Those who had threatened the sergeant were properly punished - and then welcomed into the Corps.

With the Corps now complete and spring well on its way (as Clark recorded in his journal, "The Musketors are verry bad this evening."), all were determined, confident, fearless and anxious to get started. Plans were made to get going up the Missouri River April 18. Letters were written home by the men; their last opportunity for their families to have word from them for the next 18-24 months.

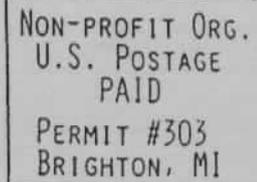
APRIL 2,3 - MICHIGAN IN PERSPECTIVE
46th ANNUAL LOCAL HISTORY CONFERENCE

Held at Wayne State University, workshops of interest to archivists, researchers, museum and school program developers, genealogists and those curious about oral history, local historical preservation, etc., are scheduled.

Anyone moved to develop their interest in preserving and promoting local history in a myriad of ways will make plans to attend. Registration is \$15. Lunch on Friday and/or Saturday is \$12. Reservation deadline is March 24. Society president, Marieanna Bair, has room for you in her van.

Congratulations to Northville Historical Society on their 40th Anniversary. Now on to the next 40.

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P O BOX 481
BRIGHTON MI 48116-0481



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

A BUNCH OF PEACHES COME TO GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP

Born in Cambridshire, England, Joseph, b. 1831 and James, b. 1833, Peach were the two older of the seven of the ten children of Charles, b. 1807, and Ann Ankar, b. 1812, who made the ocean voyage to America. (The others were Robert, Mary Ann, John, Sarah and Hannah.) Arriving in New York in 1854, the family immediately came to Ann Arbor. Edward was born in the United States. One can assume the family made the move from their ancestral home to take advantage of the opportunities for their children in this new country. Perhaps the encouragement of government agents from Michigan, and their glowing descriptions (who were anxious to populate the state) was a factor. (These agents had been sent to many countries in Europe.)

After working in Ann Arbor James came to Green Oak Township in 1861 and bought 80 acres in Sec. 8, on the east side of the Ann Arbor Road (old, old 23) north of the Huron River. Another 50 acres were acquired in Sec. 9 on Academy Drive. (More recently part of the Island Lake Recreation Area.) James was noted for the fine stock and sheep he raised. He became sufficiently wealthy to be able to make several visits to his home town in England. James did not marry.

Brother Joseph also bought in Sec. 8, 90 acres, north of James, on Bishop Road. He married Ermina Dodge January 7, 1853. They had eight children. By 1895, Joseph's son, Orange Phillip, also owns land in Green Oak; in Sec. 15, 80 acres, and in Sec. 21, 32 acres (across from the township hall) and 40 acres in Sec. 22 on Davis Creek.

Orange took Hattie Potter as his wife September 21, 1887. They and their three children, Flora, Lemuel and Ermina were very comfortable in their home on Silver Lake Road. Flora and Ermina married local boys, Frank Field and Ken Masak respectively. Lemuel married Edna Durbin, a native of North Dakota. They spent their married life in a hill-top home on Silver Side Drive. Edna, in 1974, believed strongly in proper recognition and celebration of the nation's upcoming Bicentennial and set about organizing the Green Oak Township Historical Society. She inspired others in the area to support her in this project. Her own memories, interviews of older residents, and her research all provided the impetus in the compiling of a book of Green Oak history. The Society now has new and younger members who also carry on Edna's work. They too believe one can learn from the past.

Take a tour of the Plains (Holden) Cemetery on Maltby Road and you will see the remarkable number of Peach family markers. Along with Charles and Ann, their children Joseph, George, Mary Ann and Robert are also buried in Plains, including grand and great grandchildren. The adventuresome genes of Charles and Ann encouraged several of their children to settle in Washington and California and in other parts of Michigan. (Compiled by Marieanna Bair from Census Records; 1891 Portrait and Biographical Album; Yesteryears of Green Oak; John & Janice Field's transcription of the Plains Cemetery; Census Records. Additions, corrections requested.)