

Brighton Area Historical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 481

Brighton, MI 48116

Trail Tales

February 2005
Vol. XXIV No. 2

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

FROM SETTLEMENT TO CITY - BRIGHTON MI - 1832-1945

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The definitive history of Brighton City is available. The almost 500 pages and over 300 photos include information on the city's beginnings, tracing its development via early settlers, government, education, commerce/agriculture, wars, the infrastructure, etc. You name it - it's there.

Carol McMacken, for the past 10 years, has devoted herself to compiling this story about the people who lived in the village/city. Carol is to be commended for this outstanding publication of which she can be justly proud. This was a major commitment to which she has devoted 1000s of hours. To describe her generous dedication as remarkable does not fully convey the depth of gratitude the Society feels to Carol.

The hard cover book can be purchased for \$65.00 + shipping. The charge to members of the Society is \$60. A check to the BAHS can be mailed to P.O. Box 481, Brighton, 48116 or call 810/229-6402.

VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY BICENTENNIAL

February, 1805, in Ft. Mandan, N.D. - The Missouri River was solidly frozen. Herds of buffalo crossed safely. Various attempts to pull the keelboat out of the grip of the ice were tried; chipping with axes, boiling water, hot stones and using iron spuds to cut it free were to no avail until February 25. (No explanation for not pulling it out before the river froze is recorded.)

Realizing the continued extreme cold could have a hibernating effect on the corps, the captains busied them with hard work: freeing the keelboat, regular drills, sentries posted (for ½ hour rotations), weapons inspected daily, etc.

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Dates to Remember:

- Feb. *3, 10, 17, 24: 1-3 p.m. Archives Filing.
Welcome. 810/229-6402 to confirm.
*16, 23, : 7-9 p.m. Lyon School maintenance.
You can help.
*28: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Board meeting.
Public welcome.
*Lyon School, 11455 Buno Rd., Brighton.

MEMBERSHIPS

LIFE: Lawrence Autobody.

BUS/PROF: *McCrie & Assoc. P.C.

PATRON: Bernie & Bonnie Corrigan, Lyle & Joyce Powers, Horace & Yvonne Taylor.

COUPLES/INDIV: Jim & Pat Anderson, Bill & Jackie Armstrong, Sally Baldwin (Gr Rapids), Erv & Dot Bandkau, Dan & Karen Bierer, John Curry (Lansing), Mike & Barb Emmorey, Doris Fay (OG), Janice Field, Barbara Folkman (Howell), Nancy Fredenburg (Wild Lk), Merrill Herbst, Doris Housner, Bob & Shirley Knight, Sue Lanning (Liv), John & Ruth LaPatourel, Stephen Leith (Frlnd), Charles McConnell (S.C.), Ted & Kay Miller (Rchster Hls), Ron & Jill Morey (Milan), Edwin & Sherry Nyhus (OG), John & Lisa Palermo (OG), Greg Park (OG), Rich & Mary Ray, Phyllis Schaefer (Fntn), Dave & Janice Schoewe, Doris Singer (Grnd Rapids), Florence Sullivan (FL), Lorry Wagner, Delores Yackley.

*Welcome to new member McCrie & Assoc. and, life member, Lawrence Autobody.

The Society's members are among the most generous and understanding for which any organization could wish. Memberships are paid, address corrections sent, forgiveness extended for errors on labels, volunteers show up, etc. All should realize this is very encouraging to those able to be active serving as board members, committee chairs and other efforts. Continued contributions of this nature enables the Society to promote its mission.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...Carol McMacken's husband Mark, son Patrick and grandchildren Catherine & Pat, Jr. for their help with preparation of 'From Settlement to City'.

...those who sent donations with dues: Erv & Dot Bandkau, Nancy Fredenburg, Merrill Herbst, Bob & Shirley Knight,

Charles McConnell, David & Janice Schoewe, Doris Singer and Florence Sullivan.

...donations to Archives: John Curry.

...donations to Friends of Lyon School: Bill & Jackie Armstrong, John & Lisa Palermo.

...donation from Mary Mudar.

...members of Questers Plank Road Chapter #236 for their hours of general house cleaning at Lyons School and in the archives.

PRESERVATION/RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: Thursdays, 1-3 p.m. finds the reference materials being filed so they are available to researchers. Much is being done much more needs doing. Join in.

BRIGHTON HISTORY BOOK: To order your copy of this new publication by Carol Mc Macken, send a check for \$65.00 + shpg, to the Society or call 810/229-6402. Members' price is \$60.00.

LYON SCHOOL: had a great cleaning last month thanks to local Questers. Regular 'Open' days are being scheduled for spring and summer. You can serve as a docent too. This building is available for groups to meet or tour. The Bear Cubs of St. Pat's visited last month. Call 810/229-6402.

ORAL HISTORY: The Michigan Oral History Assoc. will present a program on 'How to do Oral History' NOW! A minimum of 20 persons need to sign up. Call 810/229-6402 for info.

NEEDS NEEDS NEEDS

...A local business to stock Society items - pillows, coverlets, note paper, T-shirts, etc.

...people to take an active position as a director for a year.

...people to arrange for a monthly Society booth at Farmer's Market in Brighton this year.

...person to prepare application to the Michigan Historic Site Register of local sites. A historic site marker raises awareness of local history.

THANKS cont.

...Pine Creek Ridge development for the large white glass lamp shades from the club house at the former Howell Scout camp.

...Bruce Owens and Dick Weaire for clearing snow from the parking lot and the walk, respectively, at the Lyon School.

...Cleo Moran for "My Life as an Artist" by Joe Mike; an addition to the archives.

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS '05

LAWRENCE AUTOBODY and PROMESS both are life members. The continued support and confidence they exhibit is much appreciated. Give them your consideration please. The support of others in the commercial community is welcome.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

P O BOX 481, BRIGHTON MI 48115-0481

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____
 (Please include Zip + 4 digit)

Send membership card? () Yes () No () New () Renewal

DUES: () \$50.00 Patron () \$25.00 Couple () \$2.00 Student
 () \$50.00 Bus/Prof. () \$15.00 Individual () \$500.00 Life

Be a Friend of Lyon School: () \$10.00 () \$20.00 () \$25.00 () other \$ ____

DONATION: () \$10.00 () \$20.00 () \$50.00 () \$100.00 () other \$ ____

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

FUND RAISING PROJECTS

POST CARDS: early local scenes, pkg. 6/\$3. NOTE PAPER: pkg \$2.50; MUGS \$5; TOTE BAGS \$15.; NEEDLEPOINT KIT \$8.; PEWTER PLATES \$35.; all show the Old Town Hall.

1875 PLAT MAPS of Brighton, Conway, Genoa, Green Oak, Hamburg, Hartland, Howell, Iosco and Oceola Townships and 1915 of Brighton and Howell Cities @ \$1. AFGHANS: red, green or blue, woven with nine local sites \$49.;

TAPESTRY PILLOW with railroad depot and train, \$28.; 2004 CALENDAR with local scenes \$5. SOCIETY POLO SHIRTS: Navy, forest green and black with BAHS emblem. S/XL \$25., XXL \$26.50. To order any of the above, 810/229-6402.

Your signature, or that of another of your choice, embroidered on the SIGNATURE QUILT, \$10. An appropriate, simple way to support the Society. the quilt will remain in the Society's archives.

TILES: 13 local scenes on black/white 6"x6" ceramic tiles. Limited editions. Available at Main Street Cafe, 440 W. Main. \$8. or 3/\$21.00.

Brighton's own "FROM SETTLEMENT TO CITY... 1832-1945" history book. Almost 500 pages, over 300 pictures. \$60. to members, \$65. to non members plus shipping. Order yours now. 810/229-6402.

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Their close neighbors, the Mandans, probably wouldn't cause trouble but, security against the Hidatsas, Sioux and Arikaras was not to be neglected. A mid-February raid by 105 Sioux on a small hunting party stole some of the Corps' horses and equipment. "...men were not disposed to be Robed of all they had tamely." Clark records. Lewis took a party of 24 and retrieved one tomahawk, a horse and a sleigh.

Lewis, serving as a doctor, on February 11, 1805, assisted at the birth of Sacagawea's son, whom Clark promptly nicknamed 'Pomp'. To ease her labor he administered a small portion of the rattle of the snake in water to her and "...she had not taken it more than 10 minutes before she brought forth." The Corps was greatly dependent on Sacagawea's translating ability with the Shoshone Indians whose horses they would need. To have lost her now might have stop-ped the expedition in its tracks.

Nothing so needs reforming as other people's habits. ...Mark Twain

It's not how much but how well.

...W.J.Schuler

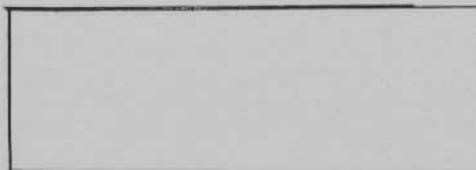
ANN ARBOR'S COBBLESTONE FARM
 TO HOST LOG CABIN DAY

Sunday, June 26, 2005, 2781 Packard Road
 734/994-2928

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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THE ACKERMANS FIND THEIR WAY TO GENOA TOWNSHIP

Four of Peter D. and Alieta Ackerman's five boys, John b. 1826, Abraham b. 1832, William b. 1838 and Peter b. 1838, were well on their way to maturity when they came with him in 1854; all single. Son David b. 1819, who was married, arrived about 15-20 years later. There were also two daughters: Jane b. 1828, and one identified only as Mrs. Reubin Chapin. (Chapin is not found in Livingston County census records. A brother's obituary mentions her as a survivor.) All the children had been born in New Jersey.

Jane married Richard May (b. 1822, N.Y.) in 1847 in the east. Their two children were both born in New York. May is found in the 1870 census having bought land in 1862. David had married Martha Lydaker (b. N.Y.). David and his two children, Martha b. 1864 and David b. 1866, both in New Jersey, are recorded in the 1870 census living with sister Jane. It appears that wife Martha may have died in the east. As a carpenter David finds ready employment.

Peter D. and Alieta settled on property originally bought by Alvin F. Benjamin, from the government in 1835; Genoa Section 4, SE SE (40 ac) and Section 12, SE (80 ac) on Hacker Road. Why leave New Jersey? Was it a lack of prospects for his sons' futures compared to the possibility they might have their own property that brought Peter D. to Michigan? The records available do not provide the answer.

John did not marry until February 23, 1888 at age 62, following his parents' passing. His bride was Mrs. Susan Martha White. She had a son at the time.

Abraham, who was working with neighbor Aaron Kelly, enlisted August 25, 1861, in Capt. John Gilluly's 5th Inf., Co. I. He died June 1, 1864, in the Civil War battle at New Market, VA.

William, is with his parents in 1860 but cannot be found in later censuses.

Peter, Jr., married Emma Crippen, daughter of Ansel Crippen, c. 1860. Peter joined his brothers-in-law Millard F., Henry L., Issac, Harrison and Ernest Crippen in service in the 9th Michigan Infantry, Co. I. under Sgt. Major Charles D. Coleman, of Pinckney. He enlisted August 15, 1861, and was mustered out October 14, 1864, poor in health, dying in 1865. His only child, Elmer, died as an infant two years earlier. After Peter's death Emma married Dr. A. D. Smith December 27, 1866. Their daughter, Cora Belle died at four years January 14, 1875.

After Peter D.'s death in 1885, the farm is in John's name. The 1921 atlas notes it is still in his name but by 1935, it has been purchased by others. Most recently the farm is devoted to providing homes for other immigrants to Livingston County. (Compiled by Marieanna Bair from: census records; Bill Pless' Supplement to Old Village Cemetery records; Land Owners and Settlers of Livingston County and obituaries compiled by Milton Charboneau. Comments welcome. 810/229-6402.)