

## Brighton Area Historical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 481

Brighton, MI 48116

# Trail Tales

January 2005  
Vol. XXIV No. 1

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

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John & Janice  
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Cemeteries/  
Archives  
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### 2005 HOLDS MUCH PROMISE

That the community becomes aware of the Society, and its value to the community, is a major project for 2005. A Public Relations person is needed to publicize the Society via the media, or schedule regular open hours at the Lyon School, or schedule a Society booth at Farmers' Market, Art Fair, etc.

Representation in other organizations (service, government, education etc.) will promote knowledge of the Society and its benefits to the community.

The restoration of the Lyon School was the result of much volunteer aid - both labor and materials. This facility should be available to the community. Visits of elementary classes, scouts, etc., need to be encouraged and scheduled.

Arranging for exhibits both at the Lyon School, and/or other sites, and presented to students will inform them of the area's past. Local walking tours, cemetery tours, etc., provide a connection, to the public, with the area's past.

Developing proper preservation techniques for the many mementos of local history make it possible to envision the area's past.

To chair or to be on a committee for any of the above, to learn more of the Society's needs and benefits, to suggest other programs, etc., contact a board member or call 810/229-6402.

### VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY BICENTENNIAL

New Year's Day, 1805, for the Corps of Discovery was fittingly observed at Ft. Mandan (N.D.). Two cannon shots ushered in the day. Accepting the invitation of the Mandan chief of the nearby

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### Dates to Remember:

- Jan. \*6, 13, 20,21: 1-3 p.m. Archives filing.  
Welcome. 810/229-6402 to confirm  
\*13: 9 a.m. - noon. Training/cleaning day.  
\*24: 6:30 p.m. Board meeting.  
Public welcome.

\*Lyon School, 11455 Buno Rd., Brighton.

## MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: Tillie Bitten, \*Stephen & Kathy Davis, Whitney & June Kimble.

COUPLES/INDIV: Evelyn Dothager, Pat & Marlene Fonseca (AZ), Dorothy Roberts (CA), Mark & Charlotte Godin, Helen Leitz (Orbrn), Don Thomas (Mio), Don & Alice Wyland.

\*Welcome to Stephen & Kathy Davis, new members. The Society continues to grow.

Thanks to the many who have already renewed membership for 2005. The date through which membership is paid is noted on the address label. If '05' or higher is not on the label, payment is necessary to continue receipt of Trail Tales. It would be irresponsible for the Society to mail to the uninterested. The membership/ mailing list must reflect interest shown.

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THANKS      THANKS      THANKS

...John & Janice Field, June Kimble for help in mailing December's newsletter.

...Bruce Owens, Lyon School neighbor, for moving snow to make access to parking off the road.

...Tillie Bitten, Helen Leitz and Don Thomas for including contributions with their dues.

...Pat & Marlene Fonseca and Helen Leitz for Friends of Lyon School donations with their dues.

..Whitney Kimble for the sample of a share of stock dated Sept. 1, 1928.

...Nancy Schlagel for making arrangements with the Pine Ridge Homes Association for the donation of eight 15" white light globes, plus hanging fixtures. These are from the former club house of the Howell Scout building on the south end of Brighton Lake. These types of fixtures were often used in schools, etc. When a price is determined these will be for sale.

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### ARE YOU STORING LOCAL HISTORY?

Attics, closets and drawers may be a treasure trove of family documents, photographs, antiques or artifacts that have historical value. If so the Society wants to hear from you. Donations as well as loans of items to copy for archival storage or to in-

## PRESERVATION/RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: Albums of photos of Senior Center activities of the past 20+ years have been received. Selected photos can be picked up if you wish. 810/229-6402.

HISTORY BOOK: 'From Settlement to City - Brighton, 1832-1945' delivery from the publisher is expected any day. Prepaid orders will be contacted a.s.a.p. and delivery arranged.

LYON SCHOOL: A docent training, cleaning day is scheduled for Thursday, January 13. The school will be open at 9 a.m. Learn what you can do to help this building meet its potential. You may 'brown bag' it. Info: 810/229-6402.

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NEEDED      NEEDED      NEEDED

...mailing labels, Avery #5351, c. \$30.

...people to serve as a Director or a Chairman of a project. Here is an opportunity for members to really have a say in the future effectiveness of the Society's mission. Satisfaction will be your only reward.

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

...someone to direct the construction of a building in the style of an early barn. A display of agricultural tools could be arranged, enhancing any visitor's experience to the Lyon School.

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### BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

Advance Craft Home Builders, The Fence Spot, Brian Jones, Lawrence Autobody and Promess, Inc. (Life). The continued support and confidence of these folks is much appreciated. Give them your consideration please. The support of others in the commercial community is welcome.

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The Society is a 501(c)3 Income Tax deductible organization. Help out the Society and yourself with a contribution.

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clude in rotating displays are of great interest. Your involvement can help preserve the area's heritage. You will receive much pleasure in seeing your history enjoyed by all. Call 810/229-6402.

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

FUNDRAISING 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. Reserve yours.

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village, half the detachment attended, bringing their musical instruments (tambourine, sounding horn and Pvt. Criuzette's fiddle). By noon, when Clark and his slave York arrived, merry-making was in full swing. The Mandans were surprised that a man of York's size was so agile in his dancing.

January 2, Lewis, the rest of the detachment, along with the musicians, took his turn at the festivities. In order to encourage the wide-ranging buffalo to come near, the buffalo dance was performed. The buffalo dance was a Mandan conviction that an old hunter's power could be transferred to another through relations with the same woman. The great hunting powers attributed to the whites, motivated the Mandans to encourage this transfer. Sgt. Ordway noted the 'frolicking' in his journal. By the end of the week the arrival of many buffalo proved the Mandan faith.

Lewis' weather diary was the first data recorded west of the Mississippi. The average temperature for January, 1805, was -3.4°F. January 10, Clark writes "...a Cold Day Thermometer at 21 below 0". Also "...Customs & habits of those people has ancered to beare more Cold than I thought it possible for man to endure." January 27, 1805, Clark continues "I Bleed the man with the Pluris to day & Swet him. Capt. Lewis took off the toes of one foot of the (Indian) Boy who got frost bit Some time ago." Many other examples of the Captains' medical attentions to the Indians during that winter are recorded.

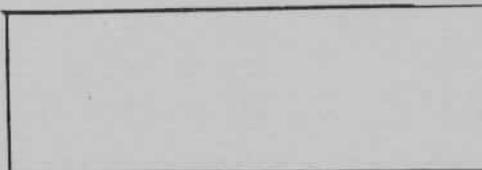
Ben Franklin:

You may  
delay  
but  
time  
will not.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
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BRIGHTON MI 48116-0481

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#### THE THOMPSONS - FROM SCOTLAND TO GREEN OAK

It was 1716 when Archibald Thompson, with two brothers, landed in Amboy, New Jersey from Scotland. It is surmised he was a child at the time since he did not marry until 1741, 25 years later. His wife "...was of Holland stock" and bore many children. One of their sons, John Thompson, served in the Revolutionary War as a Captain, who "...was taken prisoner by the British and held by them until the close of the war."

To John, a son Phillip K., was born in New Brunswick, N.J., in 1778, growing up in Fonda, N.Y. After age 21, c.1800, he married Eunice Gaylord and became a farmer in Livingston County, N.Y., prior to moving to Ohio in 1846. From 1848-49 he was a representative in the Ohio legislature, later moving to Oberlin, O. He had seven children by his first wife and three by the second. Which was the mother of John, born June 22, 1819, in New York, we've not been able to determine. Young John worked as a farm laborer earning \$12.00 per month, taking an academical course at Nunda Academy in Nunda, N.Y., from which he added teaching to his income. By 25 years of age John came to Michigan (1844) teaching in Washtenaw County. His teaching took him from Minnesota to Mississippi, always on the lookout for a place to settle. However, in February, 1853, he'd returned to Michigan and purchased 230 acres in Section 1 of Green Oak Township, through which the Huron River flows; east of Kensington Road on the south side of the Grand River Trail.

He and 26 year old Annie E. Glover, whom he'd married October 9, 1851, settled on their farm and raised a family of six. The eldest, Phillip, graduated from Michigan State Normal School (EMU) and became a farmer in 'Dakota'. Sarah graduated from Oberlin, O.; she died c. 1880. Mary G., after graduating from Michigan State Normal (EMU), became a doctor at Michigan University (UM), taking her practice to Boulder, CO. Gaylord graduated from State Agricultural College (MSU) becoming a 'prosperous' attorney in West Superior, Wisconsin. John, Jr., became a pharmacist in Adrian after receiving his degree at the University (UM). Baby Eunice graduated from Ann Arbor High School c. 1880.

Evidenced by the fact they educated their daughters, as well as their sons, John and Annie well knew the value of "...a thorough and comprehensive education." They provided an atmosphere conducive to that end.

By 1890 John had 312 acres upon which he raised a fine flock of sheep, along with grain and stock. John and Annie died within four days of each other (John February 22, 1893 at 75 years and Annie February 18, 1893 at 68 years). They are buried in the Old Kensington Cemetery (south side of Grand River) not far from their home on the Grand River Trail. In 1895 Eunice owns 40 acres of the original farm, just inside the county line, immediately west of the site of the former Village of Kensington; now owned by the Island Lake Recreation Area. (Compiled by Marieanna Bair from Atlas and census records; Old Kensington Cemetery records; 1891 Portrait and Biographical Album. Comments welcomed. 810/229-5402.)