



# Brighton Area Historical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 481

Brighton, MI 48116

[www.brightonareahistorical.com](http://www.brightonareahistorical.com)

# Trail Tales

April 2006

Vol. XXV No. 4

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

## CAN SOMETHING BE LEARNED FROM AN OLD BUILDING?

A lot can be hidden in an old building when one first encounters it. Besides actual stuff in a wall, one also gains respect for the long period of time it represents; longer than one's own life time.

It inspires participation in the longer scheme of things and to take history seriously. This is an impossible expectation of a new building.

As Stewart Brand, founder of the Whole Earth Catalog and author, notes when recognizing the preservation movement: "The crucial thing that preservationists have done is to put effective controls on the enormous power of real estate, the enormous arrogance of architects, and the sometimes desperately wrong theories of urban planners. Like, "Let's just erase this part of the city."" Preservationists say "No, you can do it better, and we'll help."

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Questers #236

Lyon School  
Open House  
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## VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY BICENTENNIAL

The recrossing of the Bitterroot Mountains, which they knew only too well, preyed on the mind of each Corps member, especially Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. Lewis, who saw to the final preparations had to constantly guard against the thievery of the Indians. Even while dragging the canoes through the rapids or the portage the Indians were quick to grab an unguarded item. Each village they passed was a repeat of the thievery of the previous. Nor was Lewis' dog safe. The three soldiers sent to retrieve him were ordered to shoot if necessary. Were the Captains to give in to their anger it surely would have endangered them all; even the completion of the entire expedition. Only the discussion Lewis had with the chief and the continual guarding of their possessions kept the dangerous situation under control.

(cont. p.3)



## Dates to Remember:

Apr. \*2: 1-4 p.m. Open House.

\*13: 1-3 p.m. Archive filing.

Welcome. 810/229-6402 to confirm.

\*12: 7 p.m. Lyon School maintenance.

\*24: 6:30 p.m. Society Board meeting. Welcome.

May \*7: 1-4 p.m. Open House. Authors' Day.

Welcome.

\* Lyon School, 11455 Buno Road, Brighton

## MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: Dr. John & Barbara Jacoby (MN).

COUPLES/INDIV: Don & Ricci Bandkau, Bradley Beal (Howell), Mary Ann Cattrell, Lois Clark (Midland), Bill & Jackie Damm, Barbara Folkman (Howell), Steve & Kathy Lowry, Margo Metzger, Nora Miller (Howell), Ruth Munzel (S. Lyon), Rich & Judy Parsons, Tedd & Linda Potter, Harold Salow, Sue Walters-Steinacker, Noah Winchell and Delores Yackley.

A 'Complementary Copy' stamp on this issue of Trail Tales indicates dues have not been paid for 2006. The Society does not produce a product; dues and donations are its revenue. A hard working board appreciates the moral support of your membership. And all other evidence of your belief the mission of the Society is important. An error? Contact the Society.

### FRIENDS OF LYON SCHOOL 2006

Don & Ricci Bandkau, Mary Ann Cattrell, Lois Clark, Margo Metzger, Tedd & Linda Potter and Harold Salow. Friends members help pay utility expenses, yard mowing, painting, etc.

### THANKS THANKS THANKS

...Ida Bair and John & Janice Field for help in mailing the March issue of Trail Tales.

...Pat Anderson for a quart milk bottle from Brighton Dairy, two elementary school books from '37,'38; copies of local photos c. 40s/50s.

...Ginny Lambert for seven McGuffey Readers - Primer/Sixth grade for use by visiting classes.

...Copies of oral history interview videos with Mel Skeman by Marianne Comiskey, Shirley Knight and Carol McMacken.

...Donation with dues Margo Metzger and Delores Yackley.

...Mindy Kinsey for typing some of Bill Pless' writings and her notebook of Brighton Township barns.

## PRESERVATION/RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: Each page of the 100+ year old scrapbook is in an archival sleeve. Now they can be viewed with minimal damage. Donations help fund these kinds of archival preservation supplies. Many thanks to Norma Jean Pless and Janice Field who help with sorting and filing in the development of the archives. Welcome to John Fillicaro who is contributing his preservation expertise to the Society. Your photos, clippings, maps, etc., will improve the collection.

LYON SCHOOL: Squeaky clean is how the school appears since spring cleaning by Plank Road Questers and Norma Jean Pless. An overload of box elder and lady bugs still requires regular sweeping. First Sunday Open House will be held again this year. To make this event special two first-time authors will be on hand to visit and autograph any books one purchases. Carol McMacken, who authored 'From Settlement to City, 1832-1945, Brighton' and Jennifer Dziekan who wrote 'The Wishing Bear', have agreed to attend. The Brighton District Bookmobile will be there.

ORAL HISTORY: June 24, 10-3 p.m., the Michigan Oral History Association will present a workshop demonstrating the 'how to' of recording interviews. Family members, long time residents, veterans are all on the list of those who have a story from which much can be learned. This workshop is open to the public and will be held at the Brighton District Library. The charge of \$30.00 includes lunch. Reservations are necessary. Call 810/229-6402 or pick up your reservation at the library.

### BRIGHTON WOMEN'S ROLL OF HONOR

Congratulations to the appointees to the Roll of Honor for 2006. This list will inspire other women to become aware of and to accomplish the best abilities they have.

Ricci Bandkau, Suzanne Conerway, Joyce Ewing, Martha Carson, Carol McMacken, Cindy Snyder and the Girls' Cross Country teams of '79, '80 and '83. Nomination forms for 2007 are available at the Brighton District Library or Joyce Powers 810/229-2149.

Sincere sympathies of the Society  
to the Family of  
Virginia Herrmann  
Long time resident and  
member of the Society

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

P O BOX 481, BRIGHTON MI 48116-0481

www.brightonareahistorical.com

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ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

New( ) Renew( ) Send Membership Card yes( ) no( ) (Please include Zip and 4 digit)

Dues: ( ) \$500.00 Life ( ) \$25.00 Couple ( ) \$50.00 Bus/Professional  
 ( ) \$ 50.00 Patron ( ) \$15.00 Individual ( ) \$ 2.00 Student

Friend of Lyon School: ( ) \$10.00 ( ) \$20.00 ( ) \$25.00 ( ) Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

\$\$\$ FUND RAISING PROJECTS \$\$\$

Book: FROM SETTLEMENT TO CITY - Brighton, MI 1832-1945, by Carol McMacken. Brighton's own history. Almost 500 pages, over 300 pictures. Members, \$60.00. Non-members \$65.00, + shpg. Available at Parent-Teacher Tech, 117 E. Grand River. Or 810/229-6402.

TILES: 6" square, ceramic tiles. 13 local scenes in black/white. \$8.00, 3/\$21.00.

1875 TOWNSHIP PLAT MAPS: Brighton, Conway, Genoa, Green Oak, Hamburg, Hartland, Iosco, Howell and Oceola \$1.00. 1915 city maps of Brighton and Howell.

LYON SCHOOL T-SHIRTS, S/XL \$12.00.

NOTE PAPER \$2.50 pkg.

TOTEBAG \$15.00. PEWTER PLATE \$35.00 All with the Old Town hall and millpond.

WOVEN AFGHAN \$49.00, red, green, blue with nine local sites.

TAPESTRY PILLOW \$28.00 shows depot and train.

SIGNATURE QUILT \$10.00. Your signature or another's to be embroidered on the quilt to remain in Society archives.

2004 CALENDAR \$5.00 with local scenes.

MORE INFO? 810/229-6402.

(cont. fr. p. 1)

The Captains were in need of horses and the Indians knew they had the upper hand. Finally, unwillingly, Lewis paid for four horses with two large kettles. It was determined to quit the river and march overland. In vengeance for the misery he'd endured Lewis had poles, paddles and canoes burned. April 27, the Corps was greeted by the chief of the Nez Percé, and six of his men, on horseback, who invited them into the village with the promise of food and horses.

April 29, 1806, the Corps took the recommended short cut - saving about 80 miles to reach the Snake River. They were headed east!

THE BRIGHTON GARDEN CLUB

Thursday, May 11, 10/4 p.m., at the Brighton Community Center, 555 Brighton Street, will hold their annual Wild-flower Sale. They'll have native wild flowers, perennials and herbs, honey and garden accessories.

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

Advance Craft Homebuilders, Inc.; Ameri-Construction; William P. Horal, DDS; \*\*Lawrence Autobody; Matthew Matuszak, DDS, PC; Carol McCririe & Associates; Lindhout Associates; \*\*Promess, Inc.; The Fence Spot. Be sure to patronize these local, independent sustainers of the Society.

\*\*Life Member

OTHERS' EVENTS

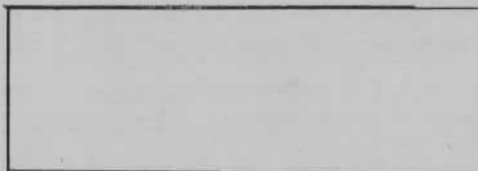
April 21, 22, Wayne State University, Michigan in Perspective - 48th Annual Conference on Local History. Info? 810/229-6402

Ypsilanti Historical Society, 482-4990 or www.ypsilantihistoricalsociety.org for info about upcoming events, and great exhibits.

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#### THE BOYLANS MOVE WEST

Early censuses record a number of settlers to Michigan Territory by the name of Boylan. Several came from Pennsylvania, including Moses M. Boylan. Born November 30, 1805, Moses brought his family to the Territory at an early date. He must have bought a substantial number of acres in Washtenaw County. It is believed he donated land in Ann Arbor as a site for the first courthouse and is noted as serving as the first sheriff of that county. A photo shows a thin face, and wide, white goatee. Moses died July 11, 1876; his wife in May, 1888 in Ann Arbor. A son, Charles, who was born in 1832, in Ann Arbor when it was a small cluster of cabins, seems to have lived most of his life in Ann Arbor, dying there in 1903.

Moses' second son, Arthur E, was born in Ann Arbor August 4, 1835. Growing up in Ann Arbor it was logical for Arthur E. to 'learn' medicine at the University of Michigan. During the Civil War, at age 29, he served as a teamster with the 2M Department; March 26/October 12, 1864, 7 months, 13 days. He probably served out of Washtenaw County; he is not found in Livingston County Civil War records. However he does appear with other Brighton area veterans in pictures of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Arthur met Katie Norton, who had been born December 23, 1837, in Madison, Hamilton County, New York. She had moved to Hamburg in 1864. They married in 1865, moving to Brighton shortly after. Doc, in 1873, served a term as trustee in the six-year old Village of Brighton. A daughter, Mary Louise, was born to them in 1866. She married William R. Bitten, April 11, 1888, a local boy who had a variety of occupations: among them saloon keeper, butcher and well digger. A photo of their children, Bernice, Thelma and Arthur Burchard with Grandfather Arthur E. in a buggy with the horse 'Faithful John' is winsome.

A son, Arthur M. born December 2, 1868, married local girl Lydia Avis. They had a son Arthur J. in 1916. Arthur M. and Frank Cline had a mens' clothing store at the corner of W. Main and First Street, which appears to have been started in the early 1920s. Their partnership continued until 1934, when Cline had the business himself. (Cline was murdered in his store by the Andrus brothers, April, 1949.)

Doc Boylan died April 19, 1907. Katie came to a tragic end February 2, 1913. Son Arthur M., with her since Doc died, "...was away for a short time and on return found his mother on the kitchen floor dead. Her clothing and hair nearly all burned off. She had managed to get a paper a fire...It is probable death was a result of suffocation." (obituary) Both Doc and Katie are buried in Fairview Cemetery. (Compiled by Marieanna Bair from obituaries copied from the Brighton Argus and the Fairview Cemetery transcription by Milton Charboneau; the 1880 History of Livingston County and census records. Call 810/229-6402 with corrections and additions.)