

Trail Tales

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

ORAL HISTORY TRAINING WORKSHOP

Did your Dad or Grandpa ever tell stories of his experiences in World War II. How about the funny tales of Uncle Herman catching a 'big one' at the lake? Remember all the family stories Grandma used to tell at holiday gatherings? This is family history to be passed on to your descendants.

Brighton District Library and the Brighton Area Historical Society is offering a 'how-to' workshop to learn interviewing skills and oral history preservation methods for recording memories of family and friends for future generations. The Michigan Oral History Association (MOHA) will be presenting a program on Oral History at the library on Saturday, June 24, from 9:30 to 4 p.m. The cost is \$30.00 per person, which includes printed materials and luncheon. This workshop is open to the public. Registration forms are available at the library or online at the library's website at www.brightonlibrary.info. Registration deadline is June 21. For further questions contact the library at 810/229-6571 or the Society at 810/229-6402.

VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY BICENTENNIAL

Early June, 1806, found the Corps still with the Nez Perce'who convinced the Captains the creeks were too full, there would be no grass for the horses because of the deep snow and the trail would be snow-filled and slippery.

By June 10, despite the warnings, the Captains resumed the march. Everyone had a horse to ride. At the Weippe Prairie they waited for several days for the promised two Indian guides. The usually patient Captain Meriwether Lewis and Captain William Clark decided to continue without the guides. "...even now I shudder (in expectation of the) great difiiculties in passing those mountains."

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Open House
810/231-9327



Dates to Remember:

- * 4: 1-4 p.m. Lyon School Open House. Quilt display.
- * 6, 13, 20, 27: 1-3 p.m. Archives filing. Your help is welcome. 810/229-6402 to confirm.
- 10: 8-1 p.m. Society booth at Farmers' Market.
- * 26: 6:30 p.m. Board meeting. Welcome.
- 1: 8-1 p.m. Society booth at Farmers' Market.
- * 2: 1-4 p.m. Lyon School Open House. Woodworking display.

*Lyon School, 11455 Buno Road, Brighton

MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Gilluly-Kingsley Camp #120.

COUPLES/INDIV: Ed & Pat Convery, Ted Miller (Rochester), Tom & Trish Reinke, (Westland), Carol Scott and Barbara Smith (07).

Thanks to all who have noted the Complementary Copy stamp on the front of Trail Tales and remitted dues. The nine members of the board can't meet for nothing. Support in the form of memberships, donations and labor keeps them convinced others also want this organization to continue. Encouraged by its community an organization can make a contribution to the quality of life desired by that community.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...John S Janice Field for help in mailing the May issue of Trail Tales.

...Ray Bidwell (OH) for a letter written to his father, Henry, by Robert Hodge in 1917 while Hodge was in the Army in Texas. He writes also of Jesse Cooley, the first soldier of Brighton to die in WW I.

...Mindy Kinsey for raking and disposing of the leaves around Lyon School.

...Lucille Weaire for conducting the Society booth at the Farmers' Market.

...Karen Froats (PA) for genealogical information, pictures, etc., of the Bird Family; among first settlers in Brighton Township.

...Bob Watson (Howell) for more contributions to the local history archives.

...The Manooch family for donating a case of typing paper and a scanner.

...John Park for information re: the Standlick research as reported in May Trail Tales. The final paragraph should have noted the names of many early settlers could be found in this family's 'extended' genealogical records.

...Bruce Owens for the hand made rocking bear as a fund raiser.

PRESERVATION/RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: Research re the copying of the 1955 75th anniversary edition of the Brighton Argus is ongoing. Donations to this project are welcome. Because donations of genealogical records, clippings, photos, etc., each workday at the archives is a busy one. Check the 'Dates...' on page 1 to come and help.

LYON SCHOOL: Thanks to Sue Walters-Steinacker for arrangements for an authors' day May 7 with Carol McMacken (Brighton history book) and Jennifer Dziekan (of Kidstory Press) at the May 7, First Sunday Open House. A quilt display and demonstration is scheduled for June 4. The Library bookmobile is also on site each time.

FARMERS' MARKET: June 10 and July 1, the Society booth will be set up due to the efforts of Lucille Weaire. Society sales items are available including the Brighton history book. A limited number of early books which have been donated are also available for a donation.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS: A 20 minute program on local history is available to your organization. A meeting at the Lyon School to tour and learn of its history, or tours of downtown can be arranged. 810/229-6402. There is no charge - a donation may be made.

ORAL HISTORY: A workshop will be held June 24, 9:30-4 at the Brighton Library. A check for \$30.00 should be sent to the Library by June 21. See Page 1.

NEEDED NEEDED NEEDED

...Postage stamps, Lyon School rest room supplies.

...attendees to the Oral History workshop, June 24, Farmers' Market booth.

...Donations to the Friends of Lyon School for roof repairs needed in the near future.

...Researchers of the history of the area's agricultural beginnings, education, businesses, professions, etc.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

P O BOX 481, BRIGHTON MI 48116-0481

www.brightonareahistorical.com

NAME _____ PHONE _____

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)

June 15, 1806. A cold, driving rain added to the misery of the fallen timber and treacherous path. After marching two days, the deep snow, no grass and lack of a guide, they were forced to return to a place where there'd be grass for the horses.

June 18, two men were sent back to the Indian camp to hire guides. Five anxious days later the two returned with three guides. June 16, found them on Bald Mountain with good grass.

By June 30, they'd marched beyond Lolo Pass. Continuing along Traveler's Rest Creek Lewis' horse lost his footing on the narrow trail and both slid down the mountain for about 40', his horse almost falling on him before coming to rest.

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

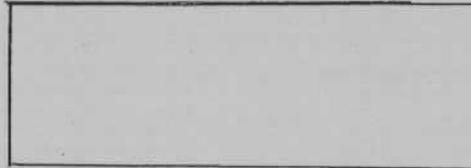
June 10, 11: "The First Americans, by the Waterloo Area Farm Museum. Farm tools and artifacts. 517/596-2254.

June 24,25: Log Cabin and Education day. 100 years of Colt Revolver Exhibits and Blacksmith Festival. 517/851-8788.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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BRIGHTON MI 48116-0481

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TRUEMAN B. WORDEN - BLACKSMITH

Residing in Wayne County, Truman (or Freeman) B. Worden purchased 80 acres in Brighton Township, Section 31, June 1, 1835. (E. of Grand River, both sides of Spencer Road.) Living in Brighton by January 25, 1837, 80 acres, was purchased in Section 30. January 21, 1837 and April 5, 1837, two 40 acre pieces in Genoa Township Section 25 were recorded. These three, purchased in 1837, extended from Cross Street to Challis Road, west from Ore Creek into Genoa Township. (Meijers, Brighton Mall, Mt. Brighton, etc.) The lake on the Genoa property became known as Worden Lake from which much ice was harvested over the years. When the railroad came in 1871, a portion of the eastern side was filled resulting in Big and Little Worden.

As an early settler however, to him also goes the distinction of the first resident of Brighton (Ore Creek at the time) to die, November 29, 1837. He is the first buried in the Village Cemetery site. Truman's wife, Jane, was left with two children: Minerva, 13 and Fanny, 12, in a log house on the site of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 300 E. Grand River. It came to be called the Worden House. Jane appears to have sold the land in Section 31, by 1859, when it is owned by M.S. Smith and J. B. Lee, according to the atlas.

Minerva married Erastus A. Pratt c. 1846. At 26 years he had come to Brighton in 1844. In 1850 they are located in town and he is working in his blacksmith shop, on the south side of E. North St., middle of the block. He worked his trade for 22 years making most of the plow irons used by the surrounding farmers. Their daughter, Florence, married Leslie Styles. In 1855 Erastus is recorded as school board moderator. Early in the Civil War Erastus joined the 15th Michigan Infantry Regiment as 1st Lt. of Co. D, October 22, 1861. Within the year he was promoted to captain. This regiment of 102 Livingston County men fought at Shiloh, Vicksburg, Decatur, Atlanta and Jonesboro in Georgia. They 'marched to the sea' with General Sherman. A total of 35 did not come home alive: 11 were killed, one died at Andersonville Prison, and 23 died of wounds or disease. Returning home, Erastus bought a farm near Silver Lake in Green Oak Township. He served as J.P. in 1868, 1872.

In 1855, Fanny and husband Robert Charles are noted as owners of property (Brighton Section 30 and the Genoa acres) where they made their home. In 1870 daughter, Adella, and husband Richard S. Hartshorne, farmer, are with her parents on that site. The 1880 census indicates Fanny and her mother, Jane, are neighbors to Fanny's son Frank in the Pleasant Valley area. Fanny is recorded as a widow and Jane as divorced. However, since Robert is still alive (d., 1891) and Truman died in 1837, it seems likely the marital status of these two women is reversed. Frank married Carrie DeWitt October 5, 1874. Sister, Isabella married Daniel Hathaway and sister Blance married Bartaw I. Case. (Compiled by Marieanna Bair from Census records; 1880 History of Livingston County; Early Landowners and Settlers and obituaries copied by Milton Charboneau; Old Village Cemetery transcription by John & Janice Field; and Stephen Leith's Case Family History. Additions/corrections welcome. 810/229-6402.)