THE RUSSELS AND THE GRAND RIVER ROAD

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Brighton Area Historical Society Newsletter
P.O. Box 481
Brighton, MI 48115
www.brightonareahistorical.com

March 2006 Vol. XXV No. 3

Trail Tales

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

81B FAMILY CEMETERY RESTORED

Application to the Michigan Historic Site Register is being made for the 81B Cemetery on Pleasant Valley Road in Brighton Township. The township board is to be commended for their recognition of the value of identifying local sites; bringing to the fore knowledge of the pioneers who built homes and families in the area. (The Birds resting here were among the first families in Brighton Township.) The iron fence and gate have been restored and an identifying sign placed. A special program will be held when the marker is installed.

These markers make one aware of the history that lies hidden in our community. Why remember? To help understand and interpret the past and what we can learn from it. How it has shaped our lives. History is never completed. One must ask, where do I fit in? We would encourage Brighton and all townships to remember, honor and properly care for the last resting places of these very early settlers.

VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY BICENTENNIAL

March 20, 1805, the day set for departure from Ft. Clatsop where the Corps lived since December 7, 1804, was one of such strong winds that the canoes could not be launched. Altho' all, Captms. Meriwether Lewis and William Clark included, were eager to leave, it was not until 1 p.m. March 23, when the rain ceased. The expedition's appearance as it set out from the Fort down to the Columbia, was a marked contrast from a year ago. They had spent 96% of their trading goods and had 3000 miles to go. The men were still not all well from the lack of proper food and the constant rain over the past 3 months. Remarkably only one man had died thus far.

(cont. p.3)

Dates to Remember:
Mar. 95, 15, 23: 1-3 p.m. Archive Filing. Welcome. 810/329-6402 to confirm.
15, 22, 23: 7 p.m. Lyon School maintenance.
22: 10 a.m. Spring cleaning at Lyon School. Welcome.
22: 6:30 p.m. Society board meeting. Welcome.
Apr. 21-4 p.m. Open House at Lyon School.
Lyon School, 4400 Gun Road, Brighton
BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM
P O BOX 481, BRIGHTON, MI 48116-0481
www.brightonareahistorical.com

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New! ( ) Renew! ( ) Send Membership Card yes ( ) no ( ) (Please include Zip and 4 digit)
Dues: ( ) $50.00 Life ( ) $25.00 Couple ( ) $50.00 Bus/Professional ( ) $15.00 Individual ( ) $10.00 Patron ( ) $25.00 ( ) Other $
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$$ FUND RAISING PROJECTS $$

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

Cont. from p. 1

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GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY
A neighboring historical society will be meeting Sunday, March 19, 2-5 p.m. Pot Luck at 4, program at 5. The Driver Family in its Green Oak, tour the 1856 township hall to see the exhibits and the progress on the hall's restoration. Public is most welcome.

THANKS THANKS THANKS
...Bart Bair, Ida Bair for help in redying the February Trail Tales for mailing...
...John & Janice Field and Anne Stratigos for the task of delivering teas...
...Ester Luttermeier Jarvis for a copy of the Luttermeier Family genealogy to the Society archives...
...Bob & Ruth Watson for their donation with their dues.

LONG-LIVED MEMBERS

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MEMBERSHIPS
PATRON: Bernie & Bonnie Corrigan and Doug & Carol Heimpnik.
COUPLES/INDIV: Sally Baldwin (Gr-Rsp), Charles & Janice Beach, Steve, S & Kathy Davis, Jenice Field, Dorothy Foster (CA), Bill Franklin (AE), Merrill Herbst, Shirley Janss (Howell), Bob S & Shirley Knight, Susan Lanning (Liv), Stephen Leath (Jackson), Helen Leitz (Orton), Mark & Carol McMacken, Carl Miller (Mt Hope), Virginia Miller, Sue Newman (Saline), Ralph S & Elizabeeth Romano, Paul S & Carol Spangler, Florence Sullivan (FL), Ruth Watson (Howell), Henry S & Mary Lou Winegar, and Willis H. Wolfe (CA).

Welcome Virginia Miller and thanks to all who renewed for the year.

How to determine when memberships are due? The year for which dues are paid is noted on the address label. OBS or更高 - you're set for 2006. Mailers will stamp 'Complementary Copy in the return address area if dues have not been paid for the present year. Thanks for noting the stamp. This saves the Society the expense of notification. (The recorder of dues payments is not infallible. Contact the Society if an error has been made.)

FRIENDS OF LYON SCHOOL 2006
Advance Craft Home Builders, Bernie & Bonnie Corrigan, Bill Franklin (AE), Bob S & Shirley Knight, Helen Leitz (Orient), Sue Newman (Saline), Ralph S & Elizabeth Romano, Florence Sullivan (FL) and Willis Wolfe (CA) \( Floods \) funds are dedicated to maintenance of the Lyon School. The annual contribution to 'Friends' helps cover utility expenses, painting, yard mowing, etc., just as at your home.

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ARCHIVES: How to preserve a 100+ year scrapbook in such a way that it can be enjoyed by others? Large size archival sleeves have been ordered. After insertion each page will be reconstructed as a scrapbook and can be safely viewed. Ephemera of local history are being filed for preservation and research. Photos, clippings, abstracts, etc., can be donated or copied to increase the value of these holdings.

LYON SCHOOL: April 2, 1-4 p.m., begins the season of Open House Sundays to visit the School site, Exhibits and Displays, tours of the site, lots of early photos of the area and a chance to ring the old school bell are planned. Susan Walters-Steinacker has a special Feature planned for each Sunday this summer. Members of Questors Plank Road Chapter #365 will again host these 1st Sundays. You are welcome to join in. March 25, 10 a.m. roll up your sleeves and pitch in with spring cleaning at Lyon School. ??? 810/229-6402.

BRIGHTON HISTORY BOOK: Carol McMacken's 'From Settlement to City - Brighton, Michigan - 1632-1945' is a best seller. Available at Parent-Teacher Tech, 117 E. Grand River or 810/229-6402.

ORAL HISTORY: Reservations are being taken for an Oral History workshop later this spring. A team of experienced presenters volunteer their expertise, time and energy. They will be demonstrating comprehensive procedures.

ETERNAL TRUTHS From Hyltand Twp Hist. Society I love cooking with wine. Sometimes I even put it in the food. Bills travel through the mail at twice the speed of c. Men are from Earth. Women Deal with it.

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STUFF TO DO AT THE MICHIGAN HISTORICAL CENTER
April 1, 11-3. Explore Michigan's Civil War Battle Flag Collection, their stories and care.
April 19: 5-7 p.m. an exhibit - A Soldier’s Life. A free concert by USAF Stellar Brass. RSVP 517/373-0510 or museumsinfo@ michigan.gov. Also presenting 'Summer Sizzles' sessions. 6-day camp designed for children 8-12. Also shorter sessions for 13-17 year olds. 517/373-1905 or www.michiganhistory.org.

AND AT WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
April 21-22: Local History Conference. 313/577-4003.
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