ROLLISON S - EARLY RESIDENTS OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY

David M. Rollison, son of John and Rebecca of New Jersey, is recorded in the 1850 census of Livingston County. He was born August 22, 1813, David and wife, Mary, with son Jacob, b. 1826, made the trip to Michigan. In 1848, Henry was born in Michigan, as are three sons David and daughter Prudence, b. 1850 and 1852 respectively. They settled in the northern part of Hamburg Township to farm. Prudence married Charles Swather. In the 1860 census David and Mary are with Prudence.

It is 1880 before other Rollisons are recorded in the census. At that time we find Charles L. Rollison b. January 28, 1852 in Michigan, a son of Lewis b. 1830. (Charles may be a nephew of David M.) November 20, 1878, Charles L. and Laura Swarthout are married. Laura's parents are Gorham and Fanny, members of the Swarthout, Swather in Hamburg and Putnam Townships. Charles and Laura had two children; Claude L. b. January 18, 1880 and Fannabelle b. December 21, 1880. In 1909 Charles is noted as the owner of one of eight Bulkis in Brighton Village. Liberty Bond sales for Livingston County, during WW I were under his direction. It was a very successful campaign.

Claude L. married Lucy May Pitkin in 1906. Lucy was an accomplished pianist. She provided music, including the wedding march, at the wedding ceremony of Geneva Hilton and Guy E. Pitkin at the home of the bride's parents in the Village, October 21, 1914. Guy was a cousin of Lucy. When Claude and Lucy married he hired her father, David Pitkin a local builder, to construct a Queen Anne style house on lot 319 of the Smith-McPherson Addition to Brighton. An elevator was installed to avoid having to use stairs to the basement. At some time Claude added a music room to the house. (This land, south of Main, west of Or Creek was part of a tract purchased by Elijah Fisher in 1835. With the coming of the railroad Hiram Smith bought it and platted it as part of the Addition. After the railroad construction this part of the Village rather quickly developed.) Claude was a businessman in Brighton. In 1911 he and his helpers set up the telephone switch board on the 2nd Floor of the new Brighton State Bank building on Main Street by the mill pond. In 1914 he resigned from the Brighton Exchange Mutual Telephone Company and purchased Gembel and Low Hardware on the west side and in 1924 Rollison's Hardware was moved to the east side. In 1914, his father, Charles L., was the local representative of the International Harvester Company with offices at the store. Son, Merle, was born to them in 1910. He graduated from the Brighton High School with the class of 1928, the last to graduate from the Union School. There were 15 in the class. In the early 1940s he was a member of the Brighton Fire Department. Merle’s sister Garnet was born on October 9, 1920.

Claude's sister, Fannabelle, married Royal Schoenhals June 17, 1908, and had two daughters, Violet L. and Helen Mae. A brother, LeGrand, b. 1894 died at the age of two. Violet L. married Harold A. Jacobs, and Helen Mae married Francis L. Michaels. Several members of generations of descendants of Charles L. Rollison still live in the area. (Compiled by Marisanna Bair from: Census Records; Early Land Owners and Settlers and obituaries prepared by Hilton Charboneau; From Settlements to City, Brighton, Michigan, 1832-1945 by Carol McMeeken and conversations with Kay Michaels. Additions/corrections welcomed. 810/229-6402)
MEMBERSHIPS

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...Ids Girl, John S. Jonas Field and June Kimbie for help with mailing the September newsletter...

...John Park for his donation with dues through 2010...

...Anne Schutz-Zeke for '50s, '60s, etc., issues of the Brighton Argus, County Press...

...Ruth Munzel for her husband's, Herb, 1977 Brightonian...

...Gary Ozicsan for his fine display and information of early radios at the October Open House at Lyon School...

...Whitney & June Kimmel for bonds re: construction of the 1926 Church Street School; 1955 Argus anniversary edition; 1955 Chamber of Commerce ministerial show program; December, 1960 proposed mill pond development plan; 1961 Brighton Homecoming publication; photo of 1970 Rotary Club Day Nineties party at Waldeneadows with Bernice Hymes, Ed Evix and June Kimmel; Chamber of Commerce brochure pre 1975; 1980 Barbershop Quartet program; 1986 children's activity booklet...

...Lucille Weare for arranging for Farmers' Market and Harvest Fest booth. She, Dick Weare, Mindy Kinsey and Mariagne Bair hosted. Yes, It rained but they stuck it out...

ARCHIVES: Work continuing on preservation of the Brighton Centennial Scrap Book. The Society has determined to microfilm the local newspapers recently donated. It is necessary to place them in chronological order. Note archive dates, page 1, or call to work another day.

HISTORY BOOK: Reservations are being accepted for the second edition. Member price: $50.00, non members $65.00. Shipping is $3.00. A check may be sent the Society. Proceeds are designated to the Preservation/Restoration Fund, for the barn.

FRIENDS OF LYON SCHOOL: Members make annual donations to help cover cost of utilities and maintenance.

LYON SCHOOL: October 26, 27, students from Spencer Elementary will be visiting. Research re: the barn and for electrical repairs is ongoing.

FARMERS' MARKET BOOK: Lucille Weare will be at the market October 14: 8-11 a.m. She can use assistance. Call: 810-229-3068.

ROCKING BEAR SILENT AUCTION

Conducted by Bruce Owens, this rocking bear is right, and safe, for a child to use. (It makes a great decoration in the house also.) Bids are being received. Send in your bid. If you are outbid you'll be notified so you can raise yours. At the November 5, 25th anniversary party, the highest bidder gets the bear.

ARE YOU COUNTING CALORIES?

Activity # per hour

Batting around the bush 75
Jumping to conclusions 100
Climbing the walls 150
Swallowing your pride 200
Passing the buck 25
Throwing your weight around 50-300
Drugging your heels 100
Pushing your luck 250
Making mountains from molehills 500
Maddening through the paperwork 300
Hitting the wall on the head 50
Bending over backwards 75
Balancing the books 23
Running around in circles 350
Estaly Crow 225
Climbing the ladder of success 750
Touting your own horn 25
Adding fuel to the fire 150

WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

October 14, 2006: The Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame will be holding its Hall of Fame Induction Gala in Denver. Included in the list of inductees will be Henry Christian Hall. He was the builder of the ski jump on Flin Road in the 1920s. We are delighted to have his daughter, Fay Hall, for sending us the invitation, announcement and brochure. These are filed in Society Archives.

November 2, 7 p.m. Livingston County Genealogical Society will meet. The program, 'Newspapers - a valuable research tool' will be presented by Shirley Hodges. The LGIS meets each 1st Thursday at the Letter Day Saints Church, 1041 W. Brand River, Howell.

October 6: noon - 5 p.m. Waterloo Historical Society Pioneer Day at Waterloo Farm Museum, Oct. 14: 7 p.m. Stockbridge Area Genealogical Historical Society, Tour of Oak Lawn Cemetery, stockbridgearea@hotma il.com
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Activity          # per hour

Bathing around the bush                  75
Jumping to conclusions                   100
Climbing the walls                       150
Swallowing your pride                     50
Passing the buck                         25
Throwing your weight around              50-300
Dragging your heels                       100
Pushing your luck                         250
Making mountains from molehills          500
Making water from paper                  300
Hitting the wall on the head             50
Bending over backwoods                    75
Balancing the books                      25
Running around in circles                350
Eating Crow                              225
Climbing the ladder of success            750
Touting your own gun                      25
Adding fuel to the fire                  150

WILLIAM M. HODGES, PUBLISHER

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

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

P O BOX 481, BRIGHTON MI 48116-0481
www.brightonareahistorical.com

NAME                        PHONE

ADDRESS

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

Due: ( ) $50.00 Life ( ) $25.00 Couple ( ) $50.00 Bus/Professional

( ) $ 50 Patron ( ) $15 Individual ( ) $ 2.00 Student

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

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$ $ $ FUND RAISING PROJECTS $ $ $

Book: FROM SETTLEMENT TO CITY - Brighton, #1 1832-1945, by Carol McKeehan. Brighton's own history. Almost 500 pages, over 300 pictures. Members, $50.00, Non-members $55.00, shipped. Reservations for 2nd edition being accepted.

TILES: 6" square, ceramic tiles, 13 local scenes in black/white. $6.00, 3/20.00.

1875 TOWNSHIP MAP MAPS: Brighton, Conway, Genoa, Green Oak, Hamburg, Hartland, Inman, Howell, and Otsego $5.00. 1915 city maps of Brighton and Howell.

LYON SCHOOL T-SHIRTS, $12.00.

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-business/Professional Members

Advance Craft Homebuilders Inc.; Ameri-Construction; William P. Horal, DDS; Lawrence Autobody; Livingston County Woodcraft Guild; Mathew Matuzak, DDS, PC; Carol McCrie & Associates; Linkhouse Associates; 82Process, Inc.

The Fence Spot. Be sure to patronize these local, independent supporters of the Society.

LIFE MEMBER

John Ruskin, the influential English critic who held a healthy disregard for the kind of unsatisfactory architectural restoration practiced in the late-nineteenth century, wrote with poetic logic in 1853..."you waste the best of the time of the dead when you destroy the works they have left you; for to those works they gave the best of their time, intending them for immortality." Historic Preservation magazine.

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