

Brighton Area Historical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 481

Brighton, MI 48116

www.brightonareahistorical.com

Trail Tales

August 2007
Vol. XXVI No. 8

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

WHERE WILL YOU BE WHEN THE DECISION IS MADE?

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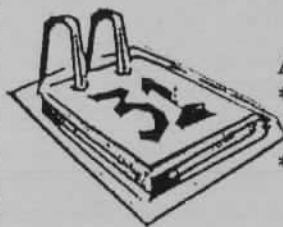
Sue Skwarski
810/225-0908

When the Western House (aka Pink Hotel), on Main at First Street, opened in 1873, it was to provide a room for sales people, among others, who could now more easily travel from village to village by train with their wares. The depot was built a few 100 feet north along the tracks. (That's already been gone a long time.)

The Western House provided shelter, meals and drink to many besides salespeople. When farmers brought cattle, sheep, hogs and horses to the stockyards by the tracks, they stayed at the Western House. When orchardists brought fruits to be shipped to market, they stopped at the Western House. When growers of grain came with wagons full of wheat, corn and oats, they knew they'd find 'room at the inn' and a chance to relax with fellow farmers. It provided a site for the town's merchants to learn from these farmers what kinds of merchandise should be stocked.

From the beginning, the Western House appeared as a sturdy, no-nonsense, secure structure. It was one of the first brick structures, which was recognized as confirmation of a 'We are going to make it' atmosphere to a growing village. It became an instant landmark. The Eastern House pretty much hosted those traveling the Grand River Trail. The Western House satisfied the needs of the railroad traveler.

It isn't necessary for one to reside in Brighton City to make one's feelings known in regard to the destruction of a structure, which is important to many in the surrounding community. It **IS** necessary for the governing body of the city to realize the preservation of early structures is important to all of us, especially one in a good state of repair. The Society can only urge your participation in this building's preservation. The rest is up to you.



Dates to Remember

August

- * 2, 16, 23, 30: 9-noon. Archives filing. Your help is needed. 810/229-6402 to confirm.
- * 5: 1-4 p.m. Lyon School Open House and Antique Vehicle Show
- 11 & 12: 10 a.m. Society booth at Art Fair
- * 27: 6:30 p.m. Society Board meets. Welcome.

*Lyon School, 11455 Buno Rd., Brighton Twp.
A Michigan Registered Historic Site

MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: ***Lisa Garvey**, Brooklyn, N.Y.

COUPLES/INDIV: **Cheryl Chidester, Jim DeJohn, Esther Jarvis (08), Shirley Ritter, Phyllis Shelters (08), Bill & Gigi Vaillencourt.**

*Welcome to new member Lisa Garvey. She is connecting with ancestors in this area. The continued growth of members is the lifeblood of the Society. It is good to hear favorable comments of the mission of the organization, but material and corporeal support make the difference.

When should dues be paid? If a 'Complementary Copy' stamp is noted - now!

THANKS THANKS THANKS

..... **Ida Bair, John & Janice Field, and Rosemary Ulmer** for help in getting the July Trail Tales mailed.

..... **Parent-Teacher Tech**, 117 E. Grand River, for stocking the Society's history book, 'From Settlement to City - Brighton - 1832-1945.'

..... **Milton Charboneau** for a copy of obituaries re. Brighton from the 1883 Pinckney Dispatch.

..... **Carole McCririe Associates** for keeping Society Financial records in good order.

..... **Lee Garcia** for a copy of early records of the Brighton Masonic Lodge for the Society archives.

..... **Jim DeJohn**, a Friend of Lyon School.

..... **Esther Jarvis, Shirley Ritter and The Rebecca Circle**, First United Methodist Church for their donations.

..... **Sandra Everett** for 1909 Homecoming plate.

..... **Jim Vichich** and **Dick Weaire** for their prompt cleaning job at the Lyon School following the paint ball deed.

..... **Lucille Weaire** for arranging folks to attend the Society booth at the Summerfest in Brighton. She, **Dick Weaire, Hank Winegar** and **Jim Vichich** set up the booth.

..... All the above mentioned, plus **Mindy Kinsey, Judy Parsons** and **Carol McMacken** for tending the booth.

PRESERVATION / RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: It is planned to have the reproduced scrapbook of the 1967 Brighton Centennial ready for the Sunday, August 5, open house at the Lyon School, 1-4 p.m. A recent addition to the archives is a copy of the early Brighton Masonic Lodge records.

LYON SCHOOL:

Persons with too much time on their hands recently decided to re-decorate the exterior of the Lyon School. Anyone who knows those who like to play with paint balls are asked to remind them to decorate their own property. The Society will contact them if their help is needed to enhance one of the few remaining one-room schools in the state. The historic site marker should have been a clue.

LYON SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE, 8/5, 1-4 P.M.

Come and enjoy the antique cars, boats, and bikes, which will be displayed. One may also tour the school, learn of its history and visit the archives.

ANNUAL ART FAIR, AUGUST 11 & 12

The Art Fair will be along Main Street in Brighton. The Society booth will again be located across from C.W. Interiors. If you can help tend the booth, call Lucille Weaire, 810/229-3066. Even if you can't help, stop at the booth; photos of early Brighton, a notebook of early local barns and a notebook of WWII Brighton soldiers will be displayed for your viewing.

Sympathies of the Society
are extended to the family of

DOROTHY ROBERTS FOSTER

A native of Brighton and a long-time
Society member, she lived in California.

NEEDED NEEDED NEEDED

..... Letterhead for Society business correspondence (or funds to have printing done).

..... Funds for archival preservation material to prevent deterioration.

..... Those willing to help with the administration of the Society's reason for being. One can serve on the board or a chairperson of a project.

..... Those willing to work on the maintenance and preservation of the Lyon School.

..... The Society's annual meeting will be held in November. Board members will be elected and projects needing a chairperson announced. Consider how you can improve the Society's efforts. (It's not necessary for you to wait 'til November.)

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY: Research in early issues of the Brighton Argus brings the history of local business sites to light. Help in reviewing these issues would be welcome.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP / DONATION FORM

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

NAME: PHONE:

ADDRESS:

(Include Zip and 4 digit)

New () Renew () Send Membership Card yes () no ()

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 \$

Donation to Society Project Needs : () \$

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, plus shipping. Second edition at Parent-Teacher Tech, 117 E. Grand River, Brighton.

TILES: 6" sq. ceramic tiles, black/white. 13 local scenes. \$8, 3 for \$21.

LYON SCHOOL T-SHIRTS: S / XL - \$12.

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

For more information, call 810/229-6402

NOTE PAPER: \$2.50/pkg. TOTE BAG: \$15.00
PEWTER PLATE: \$35. All designed with the Old Town Hall and millpond.

WOVEN AFGHAN: \$49 - red, green, blue with nine local sites. Washable.

TAPESTRY PILLOW: \$14 - shows Pere Marquette depot and engine, ca. 1910.

SIGNATURE QUILT: \$10 - Your signature, or another's, to be embroidered on the quilt to remain in Society archives.

2004 CALENDAR: \$4 with local scenes.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS: Using pictures of early Brighton area and a presentation can make an interesting program for your group. Contact the Society for scheduling.

WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

August 19, 2-4 p.m. - Green Oak Township Historical Society is hosting annual Green Oak Day at the 1856 Township Hall, 10987 Silver Lake Road.

August 25, 2-5 p.m. - Pittsfield Township - Barn dedication, 797 W. Textile Road, Ann Arbor.

September 15, 6 p.m. - Brighton Area Schools Alumni Association annual dinner at the High School cafeteria, 7878 Brighton Road. Have you ever attended Brighton Schools, were an employee or are a spouse/friend of one who has? You will be welcome at the Alumni dinner. Reservations due September 1. \$30

each, payable to the Brighton Area Schools Alumni Association, P.O. Box 1163, Brighton 48116. Donations to the scholarship fund may be included. Newsletters are in the mail. For questions, e-mail: suzion320@yahoo.com or call Cless Greenfield, 810/229-6147

Sept. 12, An Oakland County Heritage Conference is planned. This conference will include planning with preservation. Local governmental entities have been supplied with this information. Contact the Society for more information,

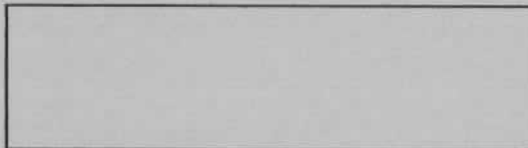
Congratulations to Lindhout Associates On their 50th anniversary!

2007 BUSINESS / PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS
Advance Craft Home Builders; **Lawrence Autobody; **Patrick Financial Group, LLS; **Promess, Inc. You are encouraged to patronize these local, independent sustainers of the Society
** Life Member

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 481
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EARLY VERMONTERS, THE VANDERLIP FAMILY ARRIVES IN GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP

Although, not with the wave of settlers from the eastern United States to Michigan in the 1830s, the Truman C. Vanderlip (b. 1812) family came from Vermont in 1867.

Truman's first wife, Mrs. Becker, had three children when they married: Edwin H. (b. 1839), and two daughters, one of whom married a Blakely and the other a Sibley. Edwin H. married Martha Bebee April 30, 1862. Their son Edward D. was born 1863 in New York and daughter Elizabeth was born in Michigan in 1869. She married William Standlick, September 14, 1881

After his first wife's death, Truman married Olive M. about 1840 to whom six children were born. Two died at a young age. Two of her sons, John, who lived in Oregon and died in Colorado February, 1905, and Harrison, who lived in Iowa at the time of his father's death in Detroit in 1900, possibly did not come to Michigan at that time with Truman, Sr. In 1852, twins, Truman C. Jr. and Caroline were born; they were 15 at the time of the move to Michigan. The younger T.C. was usually referred to as the Colonel during adulthood.

The family settled on a farm at the south end of Island Lake in Green Oak Township: Section 4, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ -NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ -SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - SW $\frac{1}{4}$. On November 27, 1867, a total of 160 acres was recorded. A two-story Greek Revival home with a single-story wing on each side was built. Within five years the Detroit, Lansing and Northern Railroad to Brighton from points south was constructed just north of the house. The 1870 census indicates Truman, Sr., was a prosperous farmer whose holdings were valued at \$10,000.

The Col. married fellow Green Oak resident Isabelle Peach in 1878. A daughter, Elba, was born January 21, 1880, and in 1898 she was elected president of the Brighton High School senior class. Not long after she married Dr. W. K. Wood, who practiced in Virginia. Dr. Wood died December 10, 1907, leaving Elba with a young son.

On July 12, 1882, the Brighton Argus reported, "Officers of the State Militia were here and completed arrangements with Mr. Vanderlip for the State Militia encampment at Island Lake." This news engendered a great deal of optimism for the local economy. "This town, it must be said, went nearly wild with excitement." This first encampment was called Camp Jerome.

Around 1910, Isabella's health deteriorated. She moved to California to live with daughter Elba. July 7, 1921, she died in Los Angeles. Around 1911, the Col. and Isabella's relationship appears to have come to a parting. He relocated and purchased property near Rygate, Montana, and remarried. His second wife died c. 1921. He was wintering with daughter Elba in Los Angeles in 1924, when he was injured in an auto accident and died two hours later, January 11. It is surmised both the Col. and Isabelle are interred in a Los Angeles cemetery. They'd crossed the continent during their lifetime.

Caroline Vanderlip stayed in the area, married a Corrigan, and lived until 1944.

(Compiled by Marieanne Bair from census records; and obituaries and cemetery transcriptions prepared by Milton Charboneau. Additions/corrections 810/229-6402.)