

Brighton Area Historical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 481

Brighton, MI 48116

www.brightonareahistorical.com

Trail Tales

November 2007
Vol. XXVI No. 11

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President/Editor

Marieanna Bair
810/229-6402

Vice President

Jim Vichich
810/227-4840

Secretary

Thomas Reinke
313/295-9326

Treasurer

Mindy Kinsey
248/684-0340

DIRECTORS

John Fillicaro
810/231-6521

Susan Walters-
Stainacker
810/229-4483

Dick Weaire
810/229-3066

CHAIR PERSONS

John & Janice Field
Archives/Cemeteries
810/599-6195

Questers #236

Lyon School
Open House Hosts
810/231-3067

Education Liaison

Judith Coebly
810/229-4608

Sue Skwarski
810/225-0908

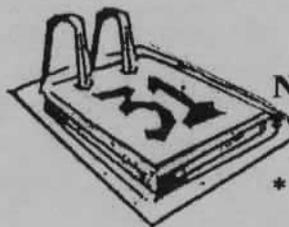
26th ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, NOVEMBER 11

The Brighton Area Historical Society will hold its Annual Membership Meeting on Sunday, November 11, 1-4 p.m. at the Lyon School, 11455 Buno Road. The public is welcome. A potluck dinner will be served at 1 p.m. The Society will provide tableware and liquid libation; please bring a dish to pass. The school can be toured, displays and photos viewed, and various scrapbooks (area barns, WWII, Lyon School, cemetery transcription, 1967 Brighton Centennial, Masons, Girl Scouts, family genealogies, etc.) will be displayed.

The business meeting will follow dinner. The nominations committee provides the following candidates for the board of directors for 2008: President – Jim Vichich; Vice President – Sue Walters-Steinacker; Secretary – Tom Reinke; Treasurer – Mindy Kinsey; Directors – Marieanna Bair, John Fillicaro and Dick Weaire. These folks believe it is important to serve. Nominations from the floor will be accepted.

An annual financial report will be presented, as will summaries on the various activities in which the Society has been involved. Among these are Open House and the hosting of various groups at the Lyon School. The development of the archives and the monthly newsletter are ongoing. Research on computerizing Society holdings is progressing and the web site maintained.

Because a number of people volunteered their time, these activities have taken place. It's time for you to step up and give a hand.



Dates to Remember

November

- 1, 8, 15, 29: 9-noon. Work in Society archives. You can help. 810/229-6402 to confirm.
- * 11 1-4 p.m. 25th Annual Meeting, potluck and elections.
- * 26: 6:30 p.m. Society Board meets. You are welcome

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

MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: Dr. Harry & Carol Davis and Whitney & June Kimble.

COUPLES/INDIV: Pat Anderson, Harold Leitz, Cleo Moran (Novi), Norma Jean Pless (Roscommon), Dan Schmidt, Ralph & Suzanne Skwarski.

Through the years, so many members have been so caring and responsible with their financial responsibility to the Society. If this issue has a 'Complementary Copy' stamp, consider renewing membership (or become a member), or making a contribution to the Society expenses. These are Income Tax deductible.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

..... Ida Bair, John & Janice Field and June Kimble for help in mailing the October newsletter.

..... Karen Frost (Ohio) for photos and information on the early settlers, the Bird family photos of three early local homes. We've identified one of them; need help with the others.

.....Bob Triffo for items found while metal detecting and to Bill Armstrong for their donation.

..... Toni Tubbs (of Mill Town Questers), for her display for Halloween decorations for the October Lyon School open house, and to Mindy Kinsey for the set-up of these, and her own decorations.

..... Mindy Kinsey, Tom Reinke and Sue Walters-Steinacker for the great costumes they wore to the Open House. And the hot cocoa was really great!

The Society is a 501(c)3 Income Tax deductible organization. Help out the Society and yourself with a contribution

PRESERVATION / RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: The copying of the 1967 Brighton Centennial scrapbook has been completed. Additions to the archives are being filed and fine-tunes.

BRIGHTON HISTORY BOOK: Available through the Society or at Parent-Teacher Tech, 117 E. Grand River. Consider this as a most welcome Christmas gift.

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY - needs 1930s, etc., phone directories. Improving knowledge of history of a site helps with research and would make for an interesting walking tour of downtown.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS: Looking for a program for your organization? Presenters, with or without photos are available. There is no charge; a donation would be appropriate.

SHOPPING FOR THE HOLIDAYS?

Consider a pillow with the Brighton Depot; a coverlet with nine local sites woven in; tiles - 13 black/white 6" square tiles with local sites; the book "From Settlement to City - Brighton, MI - 1832-1945" would be very welcome; Lyon School T-shirts, S to XXL in grey/tan; a set of 1875 township maps ready for framing; a pewter plate with the Old Town Hall and the mill pond; Tote Bags with the Old Town Hall, an outside pocket and sturdy straps. Contact a board member or 810/229/6402.

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

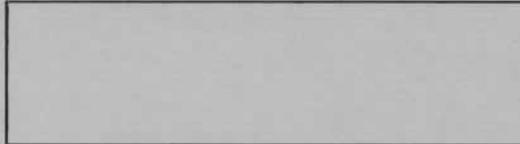
#####

To provide a more varied approach to items in the newsletter, readers are solicited to contribute any article related to the collecting, preservation and dissemination of local history. Mail to the Society P.O. Box 481, Brighton 48116

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 481
Brighton, MI 48116-0481

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #303
Brighton, MI

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



AMERICA WELCOMES THE BRADY BROTHERS

In the 1820s, three brothers named Brady came to the United States from Longford, Ireland: Matthew – born 1797, Patrick – born 1810, and Thomas – born 1814.

The oldest, Matthew, brought wife Mary along with daughter Bridget – born 1825, and son Phillip – born 1827. Family tradition says Matthew came to work on the Erie Canal. The family lived in New York. By the time of son Joseph's birth in 1838, they were living in Section 9, Green Oak Township, on Placeway Road. Bridget married Daniel Miles c. 1850 and moved to Merritt, Michigan. Joseph married Ann Elizabeth Lavey, is a farmer in Green Oak in 1870, and a saloonkeeper in Brighton in the 1880 census. Neighbor to brother Joseph, Phillip – who married Mary Ann Barron October 4, 1863, fathers nine children: seven girls, two boys: Joseph Aloysius, the youngest. In 1911, Joseph A, in partnership with Paul Brogan, operated the grocery at Chilson. A store had been there since shortly after the Ann Arbor Railroad was built through there to Howell. The many fishermen and campers at Crooked Lake in Genoa Township made Chilson a thriving railroad station.

In 1897, the store was operated by Laughlin and Henderson. Historian William Pless described the store as a "large double structure". Later, owner Albert Smith established a several-times-weekly delivery route with a wagon stocked with groceries, drawn by two horses. The small bell notified the farmers the 'Chilson' wagon was on the way. In 1911, owners Brogan and Brady continued the delivery service, taking turns on the road and tending the store. The wagon was well stocked with groceries and empty egg crates. When they returned, the wagon had butter, vegetables, etc., and crates full of eggs in exchange for the groceries. The wagon also carried soap, needles, pins, thread, tobacco, matches, salves, liniment, work gloves and, in season, a variety of wide-brimmed straw hats worn by everyone working in the fields. The scent of coffee and spices always sparked memories of the wagon for Pless.

In 1914, Joe and Julia A. Bergin were married. The following March 6, Julia died. By 1916, Brady sold his interest to Brogan, moved to Brighton and opened Brady's Market at 431 W. Main. During the next 35 years, before retiring, Joe had married Haidee Judson in 1920 and raised a family of five. Joe, Heidee, two sisters, his brother and parents are resting in Calvary Cemetery on Brighton Lake Road, as is Julia.

The middle brother, Patrick, and wife Betsy, appear to have been the first to arrive in the U.S., purchasing property in Green Oak Township October 11, 1834, c. 160 acres. This couple appears to not have had children but took in youngsters that needed support.

Third brother, Thomas, married Ellen c. 1840. She was born in New Jersey as was daughter Edith; but the other children were born in Michigan. By 1845, he owned 360 acres in Green Oak Township. He was a hard working farmer for the next 40 years. Many of Thomas' family are at rest with him in the Holden (Plains) Cemetery on Maltby Road.

(Compiled by Marieanna Bair from census records; Yesteryears of Green Oak; From Settlement to City – Brighton; Early Landowners and Settlers, obituaries, and cemetery records compiled by Milton Charboneau; cemetery records compiled by John and Janice Field; conversations with Pat Brady Convery and Phyllis Brady Wenzel. Additions/corrections requested - 810/229-6402.)