

Trail Tales

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

May
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COMPLEMENTARY
COPY

A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

While reading "From Settlement To City" by Carol McMacken, I have reflected upon the many stories that have been compiled by Carol as she researched the history of Brighton from 1832 to 1945. Over 10 years of research provides the basis of the reflections into our community's past. These anecdotes allow the reader to visualize the personalities of our early settlers.

This book has multitudes of photos that show the early days of Brighton. The faces, clothing and setting allow us to interpret the stories frozen in the camera shots from the past.

As time passes, we start to lose these valuable memories of our past. Anecdotes fall silent if not collected. Photos disappear if not preserved.

As a society, we must try to preserve our past. The Brighton Area Historical Society is starting a new project to preserve those old photos in our archives by digitalization of those images. Our images of the past will be present for future generations to study. We need your old family photos that document the themes of the past.

We will only need your photos for a few minutes while they are scanned into the computer. You can bring your photo albums for us to scan while you wait. Once scanned, your family photos will become a permanent record in the archives for everyone to eventually access.

Our goal is to have all this information available on-line so that anyone can search our database and learn about the families of Brighton. Initially, we are focusing on the pictures from the past. I hope that in the near future, we can focus on Brighton's current families.

Please contact me by phone or email to start this process. We are looking for old photos and volunteers to scan this information. Your participation will help preserve those images of the past, which are indeed worth a thousand words!

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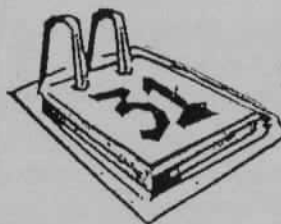
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Dates to Remember

May

- * 1, 15, 22, 29: 9-noon. Archives at Lyon School. Your help is welcome
- 3, 17, 24: 8-1 p.m. Booth at Farmers' Market. Join us.
- * 10: 1-4 p.m. Open House at Lyon School. Mom Day flowers.
- 17: 10:00 a.m. Cemetery survey. Join us.
- * 19: 6:30 p.m. Society Board meets. Welcome

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

MEMBERSHIPS

COUPLES/INDIV: *Susan Foster (CA), Bill & Barbara McCririe (09), Ted Miller (Rochester Hills), Shirley Ritter (Howell), and *Lois Tobias (NE).

*Welcome to Susan and Lois. The confidence expressed in the Society's mission is encouraging.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

..... Bert Bair, Ida Bair, Judy Coebly, June Kimble and Sue Skwarski for their help in mailing the April Newsletter.

.....Jason Huntly, of Archer-Huntly Financial Services, 2140 Grand River Annex, for the donation, and instruction on the use, of a computer and scanner for the digitizing of the Society's archive collection. Also to Don Bowen, Ron Cleveland and George Moses. These local business owners give 3-4 hours of their time several times a month to assist with this process.

.....Bill & Jackie Damm and Tom Leith for their presentations at the Second Sunday Open House at Lyon School in April. Mindy Kinsey saw to the video taping of this storytelling event.

.....Helen Singer for making two dresses as costumes for Lyon School docents.

.....Susan Foster for her donation with dues to Friends of Lyon School and administrative expenses.

....Whitney Kimble for a 1965 four-page ad extolling the virtues of Brighton and why your business should be located here.

.....Parent-Teacher Tech, 117 E. Grand River, for continuing to stock the local history book by Carol McMacken, the compiling of which she donated, 'From Settlement to City, Brighton, MI, 1832-1945.' You will enjoy your copy, and they make great Mother's Day gifts.

.....Hugh Gurney for his help at the recent cluster meeting.

.....Peg Siford for indexing 100s of collected obituaries of county residents.

PRESERVATION / RESTORATION

ARCHIVES: Review and filing of 1970s Arguses help improve the archives. You can help with this.

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY: Sue Garcia's work is making these records much more accessible.

LYON SCHOOL: The next Open House, Saturday, May 10, is Plant Day! Come and have the kids pot up a flower for Mom for Mothers' Day. 1-4 p.m. Information about plants will also be available.

HORNUNG ELEMENTARY TO VISIT

May 6-9 – third grades from Hornung Elementary School will spend a day learning about early Michigan education.

The Society promotes these kinds of visits. Contact Judy Coebly 810/229-4608 or Sue Skwarski 810/225-0908 for information and to make reservations.

Seventeen Brownies from St. Patrick's School, with their leader Kristen Carney and parents, rang the school bell and sat in early school desks last month.

SURVEY OF CEMETERIES

Prior to making recommendations to the township board, a tour/survey of Kensington Cemetery will be made Saturday, May 17, 10 a.m. Location is the corner of Grand River and Kensington Roads. Pleasant Valley and Bird Cemeteries will also be visited. The public is invited to assist with this project.

FARMERS' MARKET DATES

The Society booth will be open at the Brighton Farmers' Market May 3, 17, and 24. This is a fine opportunity to promote the Society and its mission. Show up to help out for an hour or two or three

CLUSTER MEETING HELD

Representatives from Highland, Howell, Hamburg, South Lyon and Green Oak Township Historical Societies met with the Brighton Society to discuss promotion of better P.R. and the increase of membership. Hugh Gurney, a Historical Society of Michigan volunteer, spoke on the Michigan History Day Project competition in the schools.

2008 BUSINESS / PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

Advance Craft Home Builders; **Lawrence Autobody; **Patrick Financial Group, LLS; **Promess, Inc.; Bonnie M. Corrigan. You are encouraged to patronize these local, independent sustainers of the Society.

** Life Member

Sympathies to the family of

Robert Foster
Of California

A long-time Society member

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP / DONATION FORM

P.O. BOX 481, BRIGHTON MI 48116-0481

www.brightonareahistorical.com

NAME: _____ **PHONE:** _____

ADDRESS: _____ **E-MAIL 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.

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 -- Size 48" x 60".

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

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

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

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

MEMBERSHIP 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.

2004 CALENDAR: \$4 with local scenes.

For more information, call 810/229-6402

WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

Summer/Fall Saturdays: 11:00-3 p.m. - **Rentschler Farm Museum**, Saline. 735/769-2219 or salinehistory@verizon.net, also salinehistory.org.

May 17: **Howell** - **Howell Historical Society**. Home tours, classic car show. WALLY commuter train at the depot, 128 Wetmore Street. 517/548-6876.

May 17, 9 a.m. - **Michigan One Room Schoolhouse Association** Annual Conference, Livonia. 248/477-7375.

May 17, 18, - **Greater West Bloomfield Historical Society** Apple Island tours at Orchard Lake. www.gwbhs.com.

May 18 1-4 p.m. - **Wixom Historical Society**. Ice cream social - old autos, penny candy, bake sale, tours, games, etc. 248/624-4557.

May 21, 6 p.m. - **Livonia Historical Society**. Banquet featuring two WW II history authors. 248/447-7375.

June 27-29: 59th Annual Upper Peninsula History Conference, Gwinn. 1-800/692-1828.

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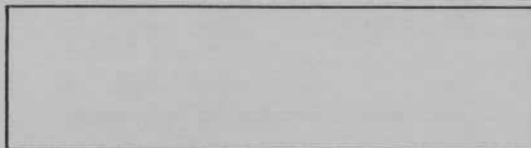
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THE CIVIL WAR HITS THE BRIGHTON AREA

One of the major ways we are still affected by the Civil War, 1861/1865, a war that threatened to divide the nation, is in our commemoration of Memorial Day. In the period immediately following the end of that war, women and children were observed placing spring flowers on soldiers' graves; Confederate and Union. The grieving love of the widowed and fatherless never-the-less moved them also to forgive. By 1868, General John A. Logan, commander-in-chief of the GAR designated May 30 as Decoration Day. The first national recognition was in 1868. One hundred years later, the date was officially set at May 30, and it became Memorial Day. In 1971, the date was set at the Monday in May.

In Livingston County, hundreds of families felt the pain. Some had more than one of its sons volunteer to keep the United States as one country. As examples, we provide the Crippen and Paddock families.

Already related by marriage in New York, they came in the mid 1930s to the Brighton area. Henry Paddock had served in Dutchess County, New York, Militia during the Revolutionary War. His 47-year-old son, George W., and wife Lydia, came with their family of seven, of which one daughter, Marilla, had married Ansel Crippen. Ansel also brought his young family of two boys. Five more children would be born to Ansel in Michigan. His five boys, Millard F., Henry L., Isaac, Harrison and Ernest M., all served in Co.I, 9th Michigan Infantry Regiment. Along with them was their sister Emma's husband, Peter Ackerman, Jr.

Of the George W. Paddock family, son-in-law Alanson P. Dickinson served as 2nd Lt. in the same unit of the 9th Michigan Infantry. Killed was George Rose, daughter Orzilla's husband. As Capt. in the 5th Michigan Infantry, he was killed in the Wilderness, 1861. George's grandson, Henry C., is also a veteran. Wanting only to be able to work and care for their families, they still put aside this responsibility to answer the call of their nation.

Thirty-three veterans from Brighton are buried in the Old Village Cemetery by the Mill Pond, including Millard and Ernest Crippen, Alanson Dickinson and George Rose. The flags fluttering there, as in all cemeteries, serve as a grim reminder of those who served and are serving. Dare we not gratefully remember?

(Compiled by Marieanna Bair from Bill Pless' writings; Field's transcription of the Old Village Cemetery; census records and the 1880 History of Livingston County. Additions/corrections requested, 810/229-6402.).