Merry Christmas to All!

Are you looking for a unique present for that special friend? Give them the gift of Brighton History. The first two books present many photos and brief descriptions of the Brighton Area. The third book presents many researched articles on the history of people and places in Brighton’s early days. These interesting and informative books help the Society to continue with preserving the past. The City just celebrated 150 years since the citizens’ referendum passed, allowing the residents independence from Brighton Township. These books present an interesting past on Brighton’s earliest days. Books are available at CoBACH Center and Lawrence Autobody.

*From Settlement to City* by Carol McMacken was researched for 10 years prior to printing. Great in-depth articles summarized from information gleaned from early Brighton families and Argus newspapers. Nearly 500 pages and about 300 photos grace this coffee table style history book. Published in 2004 and is available for $65.

*The Brighton Area* by Genal Pratt presents the past with over 190 old photos with captions. The captions detail the photo and provide the current setting by business name and address. Published in 2012, soft cover with 128 pages and is available for $20.

*Page Four* by Marieanna Bair, has researched articles with photos that have been compiled from multiple sources over the past 30 years. The articles share unique perspectives of Brighton families and those places that were integral parts of their daily lives. Great summary of Brighton’s past that details our village as a whole community. Soft cover with 183 pages, published in 2016 and is available for $20.

Jim Vichich (810-250-7276)
President, Brighton Area Historical Society
Jvichich@comcast.net

EXHIBITS at CoBACH
Sunday—Friday 5—8pm
Saturday 11am—5pm
Closed Monday

CoBACH Display December
“Christmas in Brighton”
HAPPY HOLIDAYS
From your Brighton Historical Society

CHECK OUT FACEBOOK
Daily postings regarding Brighton History.
Brighton Area Historical Society

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:
- DATES TO REMEMBER 2
- THANKS AND RECOGNITION 2
- THANK YOU NOTES CONT’D 3
- BAHS LEADERSHIP 3
- CONTACT BAHS 3
- HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE 4
Thanks and Recognition

MEMBERSHIPS:
PATRON: Mike Arnold*, Val & Kathy Jacoby, Judith Coebly and Gary Reuter, Phil Gage, Joyce Hubbs, Phyllis Kerslake, Richard & Mary Ray, Margaret Siford, Dianne Taeckens.
BUS/PROF: Advanced Craft Builders, Tee-Bone’z Tavern*.

THANKS TO:
- Marieanna Bair, Joe Collins, Carole Damon, Jeanette Johnson, Lynn Strong and Jim Vichich for preparing the November issue of Trail Tales for mailing.
- Special thanks again to the DeLuca family for the loan of the Sweet Shop materials for the CoBACH display.
- Joe Collins, Jerry & Carole Damon, Nancy Fredenburg, Mindy & Tom Kinsley and Lynn Strong for breaking down the CoBACH display and returning materials to the DeLuca family. Also set up of the Veterans’ Day display at CoBACH.
- Carole Damon, Mindy Kinsey and Lin Millar for setting up the Christmas display at CoBACH.
- CoBACH volunteers for November include: Joe Collins, Nancy Fredenburg, Mindy Kinsey, Lynn Strong and Jim Vichich.
- Members of the Sons of the Union Veterans’ Camp 120 for their solemn dedication program in the Old Village Cemetery on November 11, Veterans’ Day. Also the Hartland High School History Club for their support while attending the service. Their Civil War era outfits really added style to this program. Special thanks to Bill Dixon, Dick Hutchins, Dave Pettigrove and Paul Scheidler from Camp 120.
- The volunteers that helped to disassemble the Silhouettes for winter storage indoors: Joe Collins, Bob Hill, Bob Knight, Bob Pettengill, Dave Pettigrove and Jim Vichich.
- Four times each month the archivists of BAHs meet from 9am until 12nn at the Lyon Schoolhouse to preserve historical information of our community. Feel free to stop by and meet any Thursday morning with Marieanna Bair, Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Mindy Kinsey, Larry Lawrence, Lin Millar, Norma Pless, Priscilla Pettengill, Peggy Van Sickle and Jim Vichich.
- Additional “Thank You” notes on Page Three

Dates to Remember

CoBACH Center Exhibit — FREE!! Through Dec 23: “Christmas in Brighton”
Dec 3,6,10,13,17,20; 5pm—8pm: BAHS hosts at CoBACH Center on Sunday and Wednesday. CoBACH CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS 12/23—1/1.
Dec 7,14,21; 9am—12nn: Archiving/Open House at Lyon Schoolhouse. Join us and share your Brighton memories or old photos. LYON SCHOOLHOUSE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS 12/22—1/3.

Life — Business — Professional Members

Life Members:

Business/Professional Members: (** Indicates Life Members)

2017 Sponsorships
Platinum Level: Masonic Lodge No. 247 — Dan & Anna Oginsky
Support BAHS: Become a Member or Donate

The BAHS relies on participation of its members and the generosity of its patrons. If you would like to make a donation or become a member, please mail to the address provided on the form below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Plan:</th>
<th>$2 Student</th>
<th>$15 Individual</th>
<th>$50 Patron</th>
<th>$60 Business/Professional</th>
<th>$25 Family</th>
<th>$500 Life</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renew</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donation to—Check One:</th>
<th>Amount of Donation:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friend of Lyon School</td>
<td>$10 $100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAHS CoBACH Events</td>
<td>$25 $250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Village Cemetery Fund</td>
<td>$50 Other $_____</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Area Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization. All donations are tax deductible.

Thank You Notes Continued from Page Two

- All members who support the society with memberships and donations. $12k in two new furnaces were installed last month as part of the capital improvement program. The old furnaces were used when donated to the Society for the 1999 Lyon School Restoration Program and have been in service up to now.
- Advanced Craft Builders, Elaine Blight and Jeanette Johnson for their donation along with their dues.
- Judith Coebly and Gary Reutter for their donation to Friends of Lyon School and Old Village Cemetery along with their dues.
- Joyce Hubbs, Val & Kathy Jacoby for their donation to Friends of Lyon School, CoBACH Events and Old Village Cemetery along with their dues.
- Jim Lauridsen, Richard & Kathleen McKinnie, Nora Miller, Dave & Karen Rebiger, David & Janice Schoewe, Patrick & Sally Smith and Dianne Taekens for their donation to Old Village Cemetery along with their dues.

- Mary Jo Comiskey, Sandra Everett, Patrick & Mary Fonseca, Judy Parsons, Ralph & Elizabeth Romano, Suzanne Skwarski for their donation to Friends of Lyon School along with their dues.
- Robert & Nancy Carlson for their donation to CoBACH events with their dues.
- Bob & Pauline Schaffer for their donation to Friends of Lyon School, CoBACH Events and Old Village Cemetery.
- Members that update the Society with their winter addresses so that Trail Tales is sent directly to their warmer southern climate. USPS will not forward Trail Tales. They return item to BAHS and the Society has to pay $.49.

Jerry Damon and Mindy Kinsey for establishing the new layout in the archive room that resulted from the furnace removal.

BAHS Leadership 2017

President
Jim Vichich

Vice President
Marieanna Bair

Secretary
Carole Damon

Treasurer & Trail Tales Editor
Jerry Damon

Webmaster
Debbie Armstrong

Directors
Joe Collins
Nancy Fredenburg
Mindy Kinsey
Larry Lawrence
Lin Millar
Thomas Reinke
Lynn Strong
Judith Coebly
Sue Skwarski

BAHS: How to Contact Us or Find Us

If you would like to contact us, please use the following options:

E-Mail:
info@brightonareahistorical.com

Phone:
(810) 250-7276

US Mail:
Brighton Area Historical Society
P. O. Box 481
Brighton, MI 48116-0481

Lyon School
11455 Buno Road, west of Pleasant Valley Road. The 1885 Lyon School is a fully restored, barrier-free one-room schoolhouse and serves as our organization headquarters.

CoBACH Center
202 W. Main Street, in downtown Brighton next to the Millpond. CoBACH is formally known as the City of Brighton, Arts, Culture and History Center. It is located in the historic 1879 two story brick building, also known as the Old Town Hall.
To bring order and conformity to rural school construction, the State Board of Education prescribed construction design standards. Including lighting, heating, eating accommodations, the rectangular shape, entrances, the gable roof line, clapboard siding, etc. The front entrance was to be on the north or south, with windows on the east and west sides. Students sat at desks not on benches. Good ventilation, built-in bookcases, cloak rooms, etc., were promoted by the Federal Works Progress Administration (WPA) in the 1930s. Electricity was being extended to rural areas. Unable to conform to these new standards, most new construction of rural schools ended in the late 1920s.

By hearing older students reciting, the younger students were exposed to the same lessons several times over the years. Upon successful completion of eight grades, and the receipt of a diploma from the County Superintendent of Instruction at the local county seat, students looked to a nearby district with a high school. A majority of Brighton Township rural students expected to attend the high school in District 5. Most of the time, those who were able to attend the local high school, were well able to keep up with the curricula offered. Tuition and transportation were the parents’ responsibility. Students often lived in town with a relative.

Rural districts’ boards took pride in their teachers, the condition of the building and the ‘community’ which formed around school activities: pot lucks, end of school picnic, Christmas play, elections, etc. However, it was soon realized none of this mattered when rural graduates had no high school in their district, nor was there always a nearby district high school which had room for them. Resident taxpayers of a high school district did not expect to cover the cost of out of district students, including the new structures necessary.

In 1837, in District 5, a one-room school was built in Brighton Village on Grand River at the northeast corner of Hope Street, which served for ten years. The next three years temporary buildings, including houses were used. Finally, at the northeast corner of East Street and Spencer Road, a new school was built for $350 and occupied in the fall of 1850, which served until 1868. By 1863, the board of Brighton Village District 5 had started planning for a school to be built on “...land west of the Ann Arbor Road”; which later can be identified as on the west side of Rickett Road north of the railroad tracks. A rough rectangular structure with a lower level and two floors above, was constructed at a cost of $140,000 and opened the first Monday in December 1868, known as Union School. By 1904, an elementary school was built just north of the Union School. (Later known as Rickett School.) These served well for K-10 and later K-12 students until 1928. (The Union School was sold to St. Patrick Parish in 1947, where it served as a parochial school for a number of years.)

By 1927, the board of District 5 realized the Union School was not able to meet the needs of the growing enrollment in all grades.

To be continued...

(Compiled by Marieanna Bair from: Bill Pless writings; “Michigan — A History of the Wolverine State” by Willis F. Dunbar and George S. May. Additions/corrections requested 810-229-6402.)