Inside this issue:

Trail Tales

TWO UPCOMING EVENTS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST

Special Free Presentation on DIBROVA in the Woods.
Most people that travel Maltby Road have passed the gated area that says “DIBROVA” and wondered what is it? Located west of Scranton Middle School on the south side surrounding Thomas Lake you will see a Trident mounted on the access gate. No reason to wonder anymore. Myrosia Stefaniuk has spent summers there over the past 50+ years and has written a book. Dibrova Diary. This details life behind the gates of this beautiful rustic woodlands. You will learn the history of this special place hidden under the canopy of mature oaks that is the summer retreat for many Ukrainians of metro Detroit. Mira’s presentation on DIBROVA will be at the CoBACH Center Sunday, October 28 from 1—2:15pm. Seating is limited to (45) guests.

Politics as Usual
The Livingston Players will present “Politics As Usual” by Brighton’s Mark Twain and Will Rogers. This performance will lighten up the CoBACH Center for several weekends in October. You will enjoy the humor as these two famous American satirists jab at each other on the issues seen in current politics. You will discover that the politics from over 100 years ago is little different from concerns of today. Tickets are $10 and available on line, www.LivPlayers.org or at the CoBACH Center.

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
October through Mid November
Free Exhibit
“WW1 Armistice Centennial”

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:
DATES TO REMEMBER 2
THANKS AND RECOGNITION 2
SPONSORSHIP FORM 3
BAHS LEADERSHIP 3
CONTACT BAHS 3
HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE 4
Thanks and Recognition

MEMBERSHIPS:
*Welcome to new member: Weld Mold Company

THANKS:
- Carole Damon, Mindy Kinsey and Lynn Strong for taking down the previous exhibit at CoBACH and putting up the current display.
- Bill Zink for the loan of his WWI military items for our current exhibit at CoBACH Center, “WWI Armistice Centennial.”
- Pat Cole for donating a Mortgage document dated July 17, 1884 between the James McDonald Family and the Baetcke & Fry Business of Brighton for Beaubien Farm outlots in Detroit.
- Jerry and Carole Damon for donating a Civil War book titled Howell Goes to War, 1861-1865.
- Anna and Dan Oginsky, City of Brighton and the Brighton’s Masonic Lodge No. 247 for their generous Platinum Level sponsorships.
- Marieanna Bair, Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Mindy Kinsey, Norma Pless, Lynn Strong and Jim Vichich for preparing the September issue of Trail Tales for mailing.
- Jerry and Carole Damon in preparing the September Trail Tales newsletter for publication.

Dates to Remember

CoBACH Center Exhibit — FREE!! October—mid November: “WWI Armistice Centennial”

October 3,4,7,10,11,14,17,18,21,24,25,28,31; Sunday, Wed. and Thurs., 5pm—8pm: BAHS Volunteers at CoBACH Center.

October 4,11,18,25; 9am—12nn: Archiving/Open House at Lyon Schoolhouse. Speak with archivists and visit the 1900s classroom. Closes promptly at 12nn.

October 13, 19 & 20; 7:30pm

October 14 & 21; 3pm


October 22; 9am—2pm: Last Old Village Cemetery Headstone Workday for 2018.

October 24; 6pm, CoBACH Center: Historical Society monthly board meeting.

October 28; 1:00—2:30pm, CoBACH Center: Special FREE presentation on DIBROVA located on Maltby Road. Enjoy memories of Mira Stefaniak as she relates stories of the summer haven where five generations of Ukrainians cherished the rustic woodland near Brighton. Her book, Dibrova Diary, will be available for purchase.

November 10; 11:45am—12:10pm: BAHS and Sons of Union Veterans sponsors Veterans’ Day Observance at Old Village Cemetery. Special rededication ceremony on restored headstone for Civil War Soldier, Pvt. Charles Pease.

Life — Business — Professional Members

Life Members:
John & Deb Armstrong — Muriel (Jacque) Armstrong — Tom Archer — Paul & Kathryn Bair (Allen) — Marieanna Bair — Shirley Barton
Charles & Janice Beach — Donald & Shari Black (N.J.) — Marilyn Campbell (IN) — Jack & Heide Clausnitzer — John & Jenny Conely
Bernie & Bonnie Corrigan — Timothy & Giannine Corrigan — Jerry & Carole Damon — Emil Engel — Nancy Fredenburg — William & Lenore Harris
Betsy & Bob Herbst — Dr. John & Barbara Jacoby (MN) — Larry & Kate Lawrence — Seth & Shannon Lemke (TX) — Carol McMacken
Anne Stratigos — Jim & Vicki Vichich — Linda (Skeman) Wintermute

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

2018 Sponsorships

Platinum Level: Brighton Masonic Lodge No. 247 — City of Brighton — Dan & Anna Oginsky
Bronze Level: Frank & Jo Del Vero
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.

| Mail check or money order payable to: | Name: __________________________ | Phone: (____) ___-____ |
| Brighten Area Historical Society | Address: __________________________ |
| P. O. Box 481 | City: __________________________ | State: ___ | Zip Code: ________ |
| Brighton, MI 48116-0481 | E-Mail: __________________________ |

How would you prefer to receive Trail Tales: [ ] Email [ ] US mail

| Membership Plan: | Donation to—Check One: | Amount of Donation: |
| New | $2 Student | $50 Patron | $10 $100 |
| Renew | $15 Individual | $60 Business/Professional | $25 $250 |
| | $25 Family | $500 Life | $50 Other $_______ |

The BAHS Sponsorship Program

The BAHS sponsorship program has the following levels with the associated annual funding gifts. Sponsors will receive recognition through the Trail Tales newsletter and through sponsorship placards located at the City of Brighton Arts, Culture and History (CoBACH) Center (aka Old Town Hall) and the Lyon One-room Schoolhouse.

Annual Sponsor levels are:

Platinum — $1,000+; Gold — $500+; Silver — $250+; Bronze — $100+

If you would like to become a sponsor or have a question, please contact:
Jim Vichich, President
Brighton Area Historical Society
810-250-7276 or jvichich@comcast.net

BAHS Leadership 2018

President
Jim Vichich
Vice President
Marieanna Bair
Secretary
Carole Damon
Treasurer & Trail Tales Editor
Jerry Damon
Webmaster
Debbie Armstrong

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.

The BAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Please help us fund our mission while also helping yourself with a tax-deductible contribution.

The BAHS accepts monetary support and donations of historical artifacts. Please consider supporting us with your generosity.
Michigan’s unofficial poet laureate, Will Carleton, was born in a pioneer farmer’s cabin in Lenawee County, Hudson, Michigan October 21, 1845. Of English ancestry (to America in 1600s) his family had, in 1837, moved from a comfortable village home in New Hampshire, to Michigan where land was $1.25 an acre.

His father, John H., born October 16, 1801, decided to follow the call to “Go west” and get some of that inexpensive fertile land. With the fertile land came the usual wolves, bears, mosquitoes, etc. Any settler who delivered to the county office one dead wolf, would receive $5. A good shot could earn some cash.

Will’s education was acquired in nearby Hillsdale, where he attended school. At 17 he entered Hillsdale College for a year, then began teaching, later graduating in 1869. Utilizing his rare ability to paint pictures with words he began writing newspaper articles and poems. Lecturing opportunities about everyday scenes of life of that day, took him throughout the country; also Canada and Great Britain.

WILL CARLETON ??

The Bard of Michigan wrote of life in early rural Michigan, late 19th century, employing the rural manner of speaking. His poem “Over the Hills to the Poor House” was inspired when he saw a 70 year old woman actually trudging her way to the Hillsdale Poor House. Widely published, this poem is credited with a nationwide movement to improve conditions in homes for the elderly.

Michigan State legislature passed a law, in 1919, memorializing the birthdate of Michigan’s “Pioneer Poet” as a special day dedicated to the recognition of all literature in all Michigan schools. Without any penalty involved, the law was disobeyed and is now forgotten.

Brighton historian Bill Pless, writes that had Will Carleton known about the law, he’d not care about being forgotten. His many writings tell us that.

(Compiled by Marieanna Bair from: Bill Pless writings; “Will Carleton—Poet of the People” by Jerome A. Fallon and data from Judy Bair. Additions/corrections requested: 810-229-6402.)

Over The Hill to the Poor House (1872)
Over the hill to the poor-house I’m trudgin’ my weary way -
I, a woman of seventy, and only a trifle gray -
I, who am smart an’ chipper, for the years I’ve told,
As many another woman that’s only half as old.