

# **Trail Tales**

**BRIGHTONAREAHISTORICAL.COM** 

Volume XXXVII No. 3 March 2018

## Quality Spring Recycled Jewelry Sale at CoBACH April 28, 2018–1pm–5pm

Is your jewelry box overflowing? Never worn jewelry from your late mom, grandmother or aunt? Time for spring cleaning! It doesn't matter if new or used, fine, costume or broken. The Society is having a spring sale where 100% of the funds received will be used to fund Brighton area preservation and restoration projects of the Society.



# Thank You to Brighton Masonic Lodge 247

The Brighton Area Historical Society is the proud recipient of the 2018 Platinum Level Sponsorship from Brighton's Masonic Lodge 247! The Lodge provides funding for programs within our community. Students' college scholarships and children's personal identification to parents in case of emergency are two of their dedicated programs. Help support the volunteer work of the Brighton Masonic Lodge! Their upcoming fundraiser is:

#### 13th Annual Masonic Lodge Antique Show

Saturday, March 10, 9am-4pm **OLD Hartland High School** 9525 E. Highland Road (M59) (One mile west of US 23) Free Parking, Admission \$5

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

**EXHIBITS at CoBACH New Hours for Sunday** 2—5pm Jan thru Mar

Tuesday—Friday 5—8pm Saturday 11am—5pm Closed Monday

## CoBACH Display March — April

Free Exhibit

"General Motors Proving Ground" Featuring old photos and documents.

## CHECK OUT FACEBOOK

Daily postings regarding Brighton History.

**Brighton Area Historical** Society

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# **Thanks and Recognition**

#### **MEMBERSHIPS:**

IND/FAMILY: Jim Birney Family, Ellen Gleason\*, Frank & Monica Ninteman

PATRON: Mr. & Mrs. G. Mitsopoulos, Jane Tomlinson

#### BUS/PROF: MI Backyard\*

\* Welcome to new members: Ellen Gleason and MI Backyard

- Marieanna Bair, Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Mindy Kinsey, ٠ Priscilla Pettengill, Norma Pless, Lynn Strong and Jim Vichich for preparing the February issue of Trail Tales for mailing.
- Jane Tomlinson for her donation to Lyon School and Old Village Cemetery along with her dues.
- The Brighton Masonic Lodge, Dan and Anna Oginsky and the City of Brighton for their generous Platinum Level sponsorships for 2018. These sponsorships allow the Society to preserve and share local history. The main projects for 2017/2018 • are: Restoration of Old Village Cemetery, Brighton's Victorian Silhouettes, Operation of the 1885 Lyon Schoolhouse and programming at the 1879 CoBACH Center.
- The CoBACH volunteers who assisted visitors during February: Joe Collins, Nancy Fredenburg, Bob Hill, Mindy Kinsey, Norma Pless, Lynn Strong and Jim Vichich.

- City of Brighton for their wisdom in helping to preserve the true asset of the community, the 1879 Old Town Hall located next to the Millpond Park. The Brighton Area Historical Society is proud to have rotating exhibits about the community here Tuesday through Sunday.
- The General Motors Proving Grounds and the retired staff who are establishing the history of the Grounds and sharing these memories with the BAHS for the March-April GMPG Exhibit at the CoBACH Center.
- Marieanna Bair, Vice-President, for her non-stop research and writing of monthly history articles on the people and stories of Brighton. These writings started in 1982 and continue through 2018. Many of these stories can be found in Marieanna's new book: "Page Four." Contact the Society of get your own personal copy.
- Community members and businesses for their support in 2018 through membership dues and donations.
- Debby Armstrong for her heroic effort at getting the 300 plus issues of Trail Tales on the BAHS website.

## Dates to Remember

CoBACH Center Exhibit — FREE!! March—April: Visit the General Mo- March 10; 9am—4pm: Masonic Lodge Antique Show (See Page One) tors Proving Grounds exhibit featuring old photos and documents that show the past of the world's largest automotive test facility.

March 7,14,21,28; Wed 5pm-8pm March 4,11,18,25; Sun 2pm-5pm \* \*SPECIAL WINTER SUNDAY HOURS THROUGH MARCH BAHS hosts at CoBACH Center on Sunday and Wednesday.

March 1,8,15,22,29; 9am—12nn: Archiving/Open House at Lyon Schoolhouse. Visit the archivists and share information. Closes promptly at 12nn.

March 28; 6pm at CoBACH Center: Historical Society Board Meeting.

April 28; 1pm—5pm at CoBACH Center: Spring Quality Recycled Jewelry Sale.

May 5; 9am-12nn at Old Village Cemetery: 10th Annual Cleanup of Brighton's oldest cemetery. Bring your gloves and a rake and take in the history and beauty of downtown's scenic 1838 burial ground.

May 28; 9am—1pm at CoBACH Center: Memorial Day FREE Civil War Exhibit. Enjoy seeing museum quality memorabilia including uniforms, various rifles, handguns and much more.

# 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 — Jere & Kay Michaels — James & Janis Miller — Greg & Pamela Park (OH) — John G. Park & Madeline Kingston-Park Richard Park (IL) — Bob & Donna Phillips — Joyce Powers — Douglas & Carole Rearick — Tom & Bonnie Riutta — Robert & Pauline Schaffer Bruce & Betty Schuman — Anne Stratigos — Jim & Vicki Vichich — Linda (Skeman) Wintermute

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

Acorn Deck Accessories (2018) — Advance Craft Builders (2018) — Archer Huntley Financial Services \*\* — Brighton Art Guild (2017) Brighton District Library \*\* — Brighton Veterans Memorial Comm.\*\* — Buckley-Jolley Real Estate Team (2018) — Clark Eye Center (2017) Concord Mortgage (2018) — Davis Multimedia, Inc. (2018) — Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc.\*\* — Lindhout Associates\*\* — Lawrence Autobody \*\* Masonic Lodge No. 247 \*\* — MI Backyard (2018) — Patrick Financial Group, LLC \*\* — Power House Electric, Inc. (2018) Preview Properties (2018) — Promess, Inc.\*\* — Refrigeration Research \*\* — Tee-Bone'z Tavern (2018)

## **2018** Sponsorships

Platinum Level: Brighton Masonic Lodge No. 247 – City of Brighton – 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.

Mail check or money order payable to: Brighton Area Historical Society P. O. Box 481 Brighton, MI 48116-0481	Name: Address: City: E-Mail: How would you prefer to receive Trail Tales:	Phone: ()	
Membership Plan: Donation toCheck One: Amount of Donation:   New \$2 Student \$50 Patron \$10 \$100   Renew \$15 Individual \$60 Business/Professional BAHS CoBACH Events \$25 \$250   \$25 Family \$500 Life Old Village Cemetery Fund \$50 Other \$   The Area Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization . All donations are tax deductible.			
<b>BAHS Sponsorship Program</b> The BAHS sponsorship program has the following levels with the associated annual funding gifts. Sponsors will receive recognition through the Trail Tails 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:			
-	ld — \$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	BAHS: How to Contac	t Us or Find Us	

President Jim Vichich	Directors Joe Collins	
Vice President Marieanna Bair	Nancy Fredenburg Mindy Kinsey Larry Lawrence Lin Millar Thomas Reinke	
Secretary Carole Damon		
Treasurer & Trail Tales Editor Jerry Damon Webmaster Debbie Armstrong	Lynn Strong Education Liaison Judith Coebly Sue Skwarski	

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.

# 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.

## **BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 481 Brighton, MI 48116-0481

#### **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



## **Crooked Lake**

(Reprint of the article that appeared in the April 1985 Trails Tales Issue. This and other articles researched and compiled by Marieanna Bair can be found in the "Page Four" book. Contact the Society to purchase your copy.)

tion of Michigan, begins about 30,000 years ago when the last glacier slowly retreated, leaving in huge heaps the enormous amount of material it has scoured off the Laurentian Range in Canada. These heaps left hit or miss over this area, penned up the farms of Genoa were owned by second and third generawater from the melted ice and formed the hundreds of lakes tion descendants of the pioneers. Many had married the offthat dot the entire area of the county.

Thousands of years later these raw, barren heaps of rock material were covered with trees and other vegetation. The Sauk World War I, changing economic conditions, the auto industry, and Onottoway tribes had their permanent villages mostly in the forests of the Saginaw Valley, but came here in the summer to hunt and fish and plant some of their meager crops. Following their attack which completely wiped out these tribes, the dous interest in the lake as sites for summer homes. Lake front-Ojibways also came to the area in the summer. Crooked Lake was, as it is today, a summer resort.

In the eyes of early settlers any lake in the sections 'taken up' from the government was just worthless acreage. It could grow In 1927 the Burroughs Adding Machine Company purchased no wheat and could pasture no cattle or sheep. Its fish were appreciated for a change of diet, but there was little time for fishing and anyhow, one could fish anywhere without having to have continued the recreational appeal of the "Farms" and is own the waters.

A lake was pretty to look at, but almost none of the early settlers built a home on the shores of the lake. Fever and ague were rife all through the newly settled regions. Settlers believed this sickness came from the miasma and vapors of the lakes and marshes, so early homes were built usually on high ground.

The history of Crooked Lake, along with that of all the SE sec- Around the turn of the century sparse frame structures called 'camps' began to be built by various owners of land around the lake. The train brought parties of young people for a week or so of camping. Duly chaperoned by their elders. By that time, spring of the farmer whose land joined theirs. Everyone seemed to be related.

> roads being graveled to meet the demands of the thousands of new auto owners who wanted to get out of the cities and go places at breakneck speeds of 25-30 mph; all created a tremenage was platted and soon most of the property was sold to 'outsiders.' As shore property was sold, this meant the end of camping at the old swimming hole.

> the property on Brighton Road as a place of recreation for their employees. This has since been purchased by a group which planning construction of facilities which will enable hundreds more to take advantage of the pleasant surroundings of Crooked Lake.

> (Condensed from "A Scrap Book of Michigan Memories" by William Pless. Additions/corrections requested 810-229-6402.)