



A Self-Guided Walking Tour Booklet of Civil War Soldiers' Graves in Brighton's Old Village Cemetery

The past teaches much, and a cemetery is an unlikely but abundant wealth of information. Every grave stone is a story. Judith Coebly looked at the Old Village Cemetery and saw a vast amount of stories that need to be told. Judith is a retired educator and serves as the 2018 President of the Michigan State Organization of The Questers. A 2016 grant from the Michigan State Organization of The Questers funded this booklet. You will find biographical information, pictures of some veterans, pictures of grave stones, and a self-guided walking tour of the cemetery gravesites. Each veteran's gravesite is marked with a short blue post with an accompanying number that corresponds to the number used in the walking tour booklet.

This Old Village Cemetery (first burial 1838) serves as a record of the historical development of the City of Brighton as it holds the grave markers of prominent local and state leaders, noted political figures and (45) Civil War and (2) WWII veterans.

You will enjoy borrowing this booklet while you take a journey through time visiting gravesites. Booklets are available in the drop box outside the main entrance into the cemetery. Please return them at the completion of your tour. (FYI: The main entrance into the cemetery is closed until early August due to construction of the new pavilion and seating area.)

A well deserved thank you to Judith for her more than 1,000 hours of research over the course of two years in documenting the life stories of these Civil War veterans!

Thank you to Sue Skwarski for the above summary.

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President, Brighton Area Historical Society
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"An Evening with Mark Twain"
Mark Twain returns to CoBACH with a complete new program
June 8, 15: Friday 7:30pm
June 9, 16: Saturday 7:30pm
June 10, 17 Sunday 3pm
Tickets — \$10 at CoBACH also at LivPlayers.org

EXHIBITS at CoBACH

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

CoBACH Display June — August

Free Exhibit

"Wedding Dresses"
(1930s — 1950s)

CHECK OUT FACEBOOK

Daily postings regarding
Brighton History.

**Brighton Area Historical
Society**

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Thanks and Recognition

MEMBERSHIPS:

IND/FAMILY: Pam McConeghy*

PATRON: Jackie Gillman*

BUS/PROF: Neighbors Magazine*, Precision Vinyl Corp.*

*Welcome to new members: Jackie Gillman, Pam McConeghy, Neighbors Magazine, Precision Vinyl Corp.

THANKS:

- City of Brighton, Brighton's Masonic Lodge and Dan and Anna Oginsky for their generous Platinum Level sponsorships.
- Dave Doss for his donations of history of Brighton and Livingston County.
- The CoBACH volunteers who assisted visitors during May: Joe Collins, Nancy Fredenburg, Mindy Kinsey, Lin Millar, Norma Pless and Jim Vichich.
- Marieanna Bair, Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Mindy Kinsey, Lin Millar, Norma Pless, Lynn Strong and Jim Vichich for preparing the May issue of Trail Tales for mailing.
- Two awesome private Civil War collections displaying uniforms, swords, pistols, rifles, and ordnance at the CoBACH Center on Memorial Day by Don and Mike.
- All the volunteers and DPW workers that did an outstanding job at the spring cleanup of the Old Village Cemetery. A special thank you to Nancy Fredenburg, Lynn Strong and Vicki Vichich for the lunch they prepared for all. Thanks to Father Dion for making St. Paul's available for our use.
- Warren Carah for his special presentation May 21 at CoBACH Center on the WWII story of his father Lt. Carah, a B17 pilot and his crew who crashed in France and their story of evasion and survival.
- Volunteers who organized and prepared jewelry for the April 28th Jewelry Sale at CoBACH: Judith Coebly, Christine Sarazin, Vicki Vichich and Sue Zimmerman.
- Volunteers who helped setup, sell and take down the jewelry show: Sally Bender, Judith Coebly, Joe Collins, Jerry & Carole Damon, Patty Dombeki, Jenny & Nancy Fredenburg, Jeanette Johnson, Mindy Kinsey, Shirley Knight, Norma Pless, Christine Sarazin, Lynn Strong, Vicki, Sara and Jim Vichich and Sue Zimmermann.
- Lawrence Autobody for their generous offer to sand blast and powder coat the GAR iron medallion from the late 1800s that was found buried in the Old Village Cemetery. The medallion is a five pointed star about 6" in diameter, mounted on an 18"x5/16" diameter staff with the following information "G.A.R. VETERAN 1861-1865" surrounded by (12) raised stars.

Dates to Remember

CoBACH Center Exhibit — FREE!! June—August:
"Wedding Dresses"(1930s—1950s).

June 3,6,10,13,17,20,24,27; Sunday & Wednesday, 5pm—8pm:
BAHS Volunteers at CoBACH Center

June 7,14,21,28; 9am—12nn: Archiving/Open House at Lyon Schoolhouse. Stop by and visit the 1900s classroom. Closes promptly at 12nn.

CoBACH Center — "An Evening with Mark Twain" — See Page 1 for dates and ticket information.

June 25; 9am—2pm: Headstone Preservation Team meets to kick-off the 2018 season of 4th Monday Work Sessions. Additional Summer dates: July 23, Aug. 27, Sept 24 and Oct. 22.

June 27; 6pm: Historical Society monthly board meeting at CoBACH Center.

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 (2018) Concord Mortgage (2018) — Davis Multimedia, Inc. (2018) — Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc.** — Lindhout Associates** — Lawrence Autobody ** Masonic Lodge No. 247 ** — MI Backyard (2018) — Neighbors Magazine (2018) — Patrick Financial Group, LLC ** — Precision Vinyl Group (2018) Power House Electric, Inc. (2018) — Preview Properties (2018) — Promess, Inc.** — Refrigeration Research ** — Tee-Bone's Tavern (2018)

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: Brighton Area Historical Society P. O. Box 481 Brighton, MI 48116-0481	Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ E-Mail: _____	Phone: () _____
Membership Plan: <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> \$2 Student <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Patron <input type="checkbox"/> Renew <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Individual <input type="checkbox"/> \$60 Business/Professional <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Family <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Life		
Donation to—Check One: <input type="checkbox"/> Friend of Lyon School <input type="checkbox"/> BAHS CoBACH Events <input type="checkbox"/> Old Village Cemetery Fund		
Amount of Donation: <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____		
How would you prefer to receive Trail Tales: <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> US mail		
<small>The Area Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization . All donations are tax deductible.</small>		

BAHS Sponsorship Program

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:

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

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

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U.S. Postage
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Brighton, MI

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



The Library in Brighton (Part 1)

Residents of the Brighton area have proven, many times, their appreciation of the useful benefits gained by the acquisition of knowledge. This translates largely into achieving the ability to read. For that, suitable facilities, teachers and literary materials had to be available.

Upon arriving in the area, c. 1830-35, after providing shelter and provisions, these pioneers' thoughts turned to the means for their children's education. School districts were organized, school houses built and teachers, desks, seating, slates, etc., were provided. In addition, local organizations evolved to which books were donated and a library of sorts eventually emerged.

A January 18, 1928 clipping indicates the presence of a library in town c. 1912. At that time the Village Council had voted to start a library in the Village Hall, 202 W. Main, books to be lent at no charge. The council annually voted to buy books (or not). This policy was discontinued in 1922, and the books were 'locked up' at the hall.

In November 1927, the Brighton PTA, Mrs. Andrew Davis, President "...voted to sponsor a library". The Secretary, Mrs. Donald G. Dearing, requested information on the proper procedure to organize a library from the Detroit Public Library. The PTA believed it was vital to the community to provide an opportunity for adults and students to have such a facility available.

These members approached the Village Council, requesting support in this endeavor. The Council approved, appropriated \$200 and the same site of the earlier library used. This was a small front room upstairs, where the Village Council met, overlooking the mill pond. This room was cleaned and redecorated in 1928. Books were retrieved from the 'locked' storage. The earlier library had hosted the Russell Foundation Library, plus "...more modern authors." Miss Alma E. Sharpe, County Superintendent of Schools,

donated travelogues and a magazine subscription to the American Magazine. Residents answered the call with more donations. A Library Commission, two women, one man, under Council authority, was appointed and a librarian selected. The library would be open Tuesdays and Saturdays for about three hours. Membership cards were free; if lost, one paid a fee of 5-cents for a replacement. The April 4, 1928 issue of the Brighton Argus announced the grand opening for April 7 with "...over 400 books are on the shelves ready for use." Soon 84 memberships had been issued.

City finances in 1934, the Great Depression period, dictated the probable closing of the library. Per Council minutes, 1934, the council, "Moved by Pipp and supported by Kourt that we allow the library fund ten dollars per month, when funds are available. Carried."

The PTA again came to the rescue. Students and friends of the PTA held a Tag Day which furnished additional funds. A petition to the city, from the President of the Library Board, Mrs. Louise Pinney, proposed a vote of the people for a 1/5 mil tax for the library, be placed on the September ballot. This passed in 1935. The PTA was at that time, advised by the State Library to relinquish their sponsorship of the library to the people.

By 1950, that little library upstairs outgrew its location. The City Council and the Library Board were faced with a dilemma as would often be repeated in the future.

To be continued...

(Compiled by Marieanna Bair from: Newspaper clippings, Brighton Area Historical Society archives.)