

*“Best Wishes for Good Health and a Prosperous 2019”*

## **OLD TOWN HALL: 140 Years Young!!**

Old Town Hall is Brighton’s most iconic landmark. The two-story red brick building located next to the millpond was built in 1879. This is believed to be the village’s first building where community taxes were collected for its construction. The main floor was the fire hall where the fire wagon was stored. Up the long flight of stairs to the second floor you would find a large room used for daily village business such as payment of taxes, voting and where court was held. This large community room was available to organizations for socials and other events in the off hours.

A major structural change was required several years after opening. A new pitched roof replaced the leaky flat roof in 1881. Improvements and repairs have been required through time for safety and preservation. Imagine several wood burning stoves providing the heat on each floor. No electricity, candles or lanterns for light. No indoor plumbing or water fixtures. As technology improved through time, the council dedicated funds for improving Brighton’s city hall and community center.

In 2010, the City Manager and Council took a major step to preserve the building and create a Main Street Cultural Center known as the City of Brighton Arts, Culture and History (CoBACH) Center. In exchange for rent, the Brighton Area Historical Society, Brighton Art Guild and the Livingston Players staff the building daily, create exhibits, plays and presentations that showcase the community and its history.

As we enter 2019, the town hall needs some repairs in the basement. This past fall was one of the wettest and with all the rain there were several times where water entered the basement. The consequence being damage to some contents and the creation of conditions favorable for mold growth. The three groups have emptied their contents from the basement. Council is assessing ways to mitigate the mold, make existing floor drains functional, prevent future water intrusions and get the building open for programming once again.

The Old Town Hall is the anchor building of Brighton’s classic downtown. The needed remediation being evaluated by the council is appreciated by all. Preservation of this historical community asset that serves as the focal point of the downtown is of paramount action today!

Jim Vichich 810.250.7276  
President, Brighton Area Historical Society  
Jvichich@comcast.net

## **CoBACH Center is Closed**

Please see Page 2 for details on the closing.

**Enjoying Trail Tales?  
Consider becoming a member of the Society.**

**See the Membership Form on Page 3**

**Already a member?  
Make sure you have renewed your membership for 2019.**

## **CHECK OUT FACEBOOK**

Daily postings regarding Brighton History.

**Brighton Area Historical Society**

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## Thanks and Recognition

### MEMBERSHIPS:

**IND/FAMILY:** Joanne Bellmard, Tim Bennett, Howard & Syndy Bisoski, Richard & Barb Briggs, Bob & Nancy Carlson, Bill & Jackie Damm, Tony & Beth Ferreyra (2020), Janice Field, Marlene Fonseca, James Franklin, Pat Franklin, Jim & Lisa Hartman, George & Pamela Hicks, Bob Hill, Richard Hyne, Jeanette Johnson, Cheryl Krueger, Dennis & Maria Littleworth, Richard & Kathy McKinnie, Nora Miller (2020), Ralph T. Miller, Margaret Mitschelen, Patricia Mrozek, Ernie & Mary Lou Nagy, Robert & Cathy Padget (2020), Stephanie Popoff, Tedd & Linda Potter, John & Linda Rawcliffe, Dave & Karen Rebiger, Paul & Cindy Sawallich, Dave & Jan Schoewe, George & Fritzie Seger, Barbara Smith, Pat & Sally Smith, Richard & Letitia Smith, Robert Veik\*, Ed Vitez, Hank & Mary Lou Winegar, Mike & Sherri Wisser, Al & Karen Wirth, Alice Wyland, Richard & Doris Young

**PATRON:** Margaret Bowland, Phil Gage, Joyce Hubbs, Val & Kathy Jacoby, Tom & Mindy Kinsey, Brenda Ochodnicki, Kathy Pearson, Bob & Priscilla Pettengill, Lois Tobias

**BUS/PROF:** Neighbors Magazine, Power House Electric

**SPONSORSHIPS:** **Platinum:** Val & Kathy Jacoby; **Bronze:** Bob Hill

**\*Welcome to new member:** Robert Veik

### THANKS:

- Val & Kathy Jacoby for their generous Platinum Sponsorship in memory of their grandparents Jennie E. and Jerry N. Jacoby along with their dues.
- Bob Hill for his Bronze Sponsorship along with his dues.
- Neighbors Magazine and Kathy Pearson for their donations to CoBACH Events along with their dues.
- Joanne Bellmard, Marlene Fonseca, Pat Franklin, Margaret

Mitschelen and Tedd & Linda Potter for their donations to Friend of Lyon School along with their dues.

- Richard & Barb Briggs, Bill & Jackie Damm, Jim & Lisa Hartman, Jeanette Johnson, Richard & Kathy McKinnie, Stephanie Popoff, Dave & Karen Rebiger, Dave & Jan Schoewe, Pat & Sally Smith, Richard & Letitia Smith, Hank & Mary Lou Winegar, Al & Karen Wirth and Richard & Doris Young for their donations to Old Village Cemetery along with their dues.
- Joyce Hubbs for her donation to Friend of Lyon School, CoBACH Events and Old Village Cemetery along with her dues.
- Bob & Priscilla Pettengill and John & Linda Rawcliffe for their donations to the Society along with their dues.
- Vicki Vichich for donated ingredients and hours of baking cookies for Lyon School Santa visit.
- Volunteers setting up/taking down and helping during Santa's visit: Joe Collins, Jerry & Carole Damon, Nancy Fredenburg, Mindy & Tom Kinsey, Genal Pratt, Mary Posuniak, Tammy Sexton, Lynn Strong, Peggy Van Sickle, and Jim Vichich.
- Marieanna Bair, Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Mindy Kinsey, Norma Pless, Lynn Strong and Jim Vichich for preparing the December issue of Trail Tales for mailing.
- To the many new and existing families for 2019 who support local Brighton history preservation with their annual membership dues and donations. Your generosity is appreciated by all today and those in the future who will be looking back in time to learn about Brighton businesses and families.

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## Dates to Remember

**CoBACH Center is CLOSED** for mold remediation by the city. The CoBACH Center has been closed since late September. The BAHS, Art Guild and Livingston Players have been asked to empty this building of their contents.

Date for reopening is unknown.

**January 3,10,17,24,31; 9am—12nn:** Archiving/Open House at Lyon School House. Check out the schoolhouse or bring historical materials from your family's past to share with the archivists.

**January 23; 6pm:** BAHS Board Meeting at Lyon Schoolhouse due to CoBACH closing.

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## 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  
Stephen & Marilyn Harrington — 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 (2019) — Archer Huntley Financial Services \*\* — Brighton Art Guild (2017)  
Brighton District Library \*\* — Brighton Veterans Memorial Comm.\*\* — Buckley-Jolley Real Estate Team (2019) — Clark Eye Center (2018)  
Concord Mortgage (2018) — Davis Multimedia, Inc. (2018) — Golfview Painting (2019) — Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc.\*\* — Lindhout Associates\*\*  
Lawrence Autobody \*\* — Masonic Lodge No. 247 \*\* — MI Backyard (2018) — Neighbors Magazine (2019) — Patrick Financial Group, LLC \*\*  
Precision Vinyl Group (2018) — Power House Electric, Inc. (2019) — Preview Properties (2018) — Promess, Inc.\*\* — Refrigeration Research \*\*  
Tee-Bone'z Tavern (2019) — Weld Mold Company (2019)

## 2019 Sponsorships

**Platinum Level:** Val & Kathy Jacoby

**Bronze Level:** Bob Hill

## 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.

<b>Mail check or money order payable to:</b> Brighton Area Historical Society P. O. Box 481 Brighton, MI 48116-0481	<b>Name:</b> _____ <b>Address:</b> _____ <b>City:</b> _____ <b>State:</b> _____ <b>Zip Code:</b> _____ <b>E-Mail:</b> _____	<b>Phone:</b> ( ) _____
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<b>Membership Plan:</b>	<b>Additional Donation to—Check One:</b>	<b>Amount of Donation:</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2 Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Patron	<input type="checkbox"/> Friend of Lyon School	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Renew	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60 Business/Professional	<input type="checkbox"/> BAHS CoBACH Events	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Life	<input type="checkbox"/> Old Village Cemetery Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____

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

### 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](mailto:jvichich@comcast.net)

### BAHS Leadership 2019

President <b>Jim Vichich</b>	Directors <b>Joe Collins</b> <b>Nancy Fredenburg</b> <b>Mindy Kinsey</b> <b>Larry Lawrence — Emeritus</b> <b>John Rawcliffe</b> <b>Thomas Reinke</b> <b>Lynn Strong</b> <b>Peggy Van Sickle</b>
Vice President <b>Marieanna Bair</b>	
Secretary <b>Carole Damon</b>	
Treasurer & Trail Tales Editor <b>Jerry Damon</b>	
Webmaster <b>Debbie Armstrong</b>	Education Liaison <b>Judith Coebly</b>

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](mailto: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

Non-Profit Org.  
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**PLEASANT VALLEY SOCIAL CLUB (PVSC) — Conclusion**

The club became like a big family with each member interested in each other's children and welfare. During World War II, they bolstered each other's courage as the sons left for service and all deeply mourned the loss Ray Carmack and Melbourne Morgan. Just the kind act of sending the service men \$1.00 for Christmas was acknowledged by the thank you letters from servicemen. Another project was making mattresses for servicemen.

The years brought many memories of mother and daughter banquets, card games, dining out parties, picnics and even quilting parties. Each meeting had a formal meeting then the rest of the meeting was filled with some sort of entertainment.

At the time of the 90th Anniversary of this wonderful organization in 2018, there are currently 22 members of the Pleasant Valley Social Club, which still meets every third Wednesday of each month. Even though we no longer have the isolation that drew the initial group together, the current members are very proud to be a part of such an organization, some 3rd and 4th generations. We are looking forward to celebrating the 100th Anniversary and beyond.

(Submitted by Mindy Kinsey, from the PVSC archives.)

(Correction to December article, "Rosina Boice was also at the initial meeting on October 16, 1926.")



**2018 Current Members:** Jacque Armstrong, Marieanna Bair, Joanne Bellmard, Bonnie Corrigan, Denise Daddino, Floice Frazer, Betsy Herbst, Nancy Hollis, Phyllis Kerslake, Mindy Kinsey, Shirley Knight, Carol Marrie, Lin Millar, Loretta Murray, Norma Pless, Mary Lou Smith, Lynn Strong, Jane Tomlinson, Margaret Vogel, Donna Warner, Luanne Wilson, Mary Young