Thank You to All !!

The new 2019 Board of Directors for the Brighton Area Historical Society is seen above. Their leadership and action will continue the hard work and dedication that was demonstrated by the 2018 board. The Society is truly blessed to have the volunteers that serve on the board who work tirelessly to preserve Brighton’s past and provide programming that shares that information.

The generosity of the Brighton area community and the value they place on local history has been the guiding attribute since the community established the historical society in 1981. The continuous growth of the membership is evidence that the society’s work is valued and appreciated. Thank you to all members for your generosity with dues and donations. All monies received are dedicated 100% to operations and programs. The key areas that use the funds are the 1885 Lyon One-Room Schoolhouse, restoration of the Old Village Cemetery and its broken headstones and programming for the CoBACH Center.

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.

If you would like a written receipt for a donation you made to the Society in 2018, please let us know.

Contact
Jerry Damon
248-345-4080

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

Vintage Jewelry Sale Fundraiser in April 2019

Please donate your jewelry that you no longer enjoy wearing. Check your jewelry boxes for those unused items that have been passed down from family and friends.

Contact Jim at 517-304-7722 for pickup or donation questions.

Left to right: Nancy Fredenburg, Jim Vichich, Lynn Strong, Mindy Kinsey, Marieanna Bair, Joe Collins, Carole Damon, Jerry Damon, Tom Reinke, John Rawcliffe. Absent: Peggy Van Sickle
Thanks and Recognition

MEMBERSHIPS:
PATRON: Eddie Cord, Ph.D., Robert Johnson, Phyllis Kerslake
BUS/PROF: Clark Eye Center, Davis Multimedia
SPONSORSHIPS: Platinum: City of Brighton, Bronze: Frank & Jo (DeLuca) Del Vero
*Welcome to new member: Don Boyer

THANKS:
- 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.
- City of Brighton and Val & Kathy Jacoby for their generous 2019 Platinum Sponsorships.
- David & Judith Bair, Paul & Kathy Bair and Seth & Shannon Lemke for their donations to the Society in honor of Marieanna Bair and in memory of Bert Bair.
- Mary Ann Catrell, Eddie Cord and Sandra Everett for their donations to Friend of Lyon School along with their dues.
- Janice Field for her monetary donation to the Society in memory of John Field, along with her donation of historical items collected by her late husband, John.
- Frank & Jo (DeLuca) Del Vero for their 2019 Bronze Sponsorship.
- Robert Wilkinson for his donation to CoBACH events along with his dues.
- Robert & Ruth Watson for their donation to the Society.
- Joyce Powers for her donation to the Society for a new silhouette.
- Bob & Shirley Knight and Marsha Luetjen for their donations to Old Village Cemetery along with their dues.
- Jacquie Armstrong for her donation/sponsorship to the Suffrage Program.
- Robert Johnson for his donation to Friend of Lyon School, CoBACH Events and Old Village Cemetery along with his dues.
- Marieanna Bair, Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Mindy Kinsey, Norma Pless, Lynn Strong, Peggy Van Sickle, Jim Vichich and Lucille Weaire for preparing the January issue of Trail Tales for mailing.
- Carole & Jerry Damon who edit and prepare each issue of our Trail Tales publication.

If you have not renewed your dues for 2019 or would like to become a member of the Society, please see the form on Page Three of the newsletter.

Dates to Remember

CoBACH Center is CLOSED but is expected to reopen in February. The contractor interior work is nearly complete. Thank you City of Brighton for being a responsible steward and repairing Brighton’s most iconic and historical building.

February 7,14,21,28; 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.

February 27; 6pm: BAHS Board Meeting. Location might be at CoBACH or Lyon School. Follow Facebook for update.

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)
Tom & Bonnie Riutta — Robert & Pauline Schaffer — Bruce & Betty Schuman — Anne Stratigos — Jim & Vicki Vichich — Linda (Skeman) Wintertime

Business/Professional Members: (** Indicates Life Members)
Weld Mold Company (2019)

2019 Sponsorships
Platinum Level: City of Brighton, Val & Kathy Jacoby
Bronze Level: Frank & Jo (DeLuca) Del Vero, 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.

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.

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

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 Leadership 2019

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 — Emeritus
John Rawcliffe
Thomas Reinke
Lynn Strong
Peggy Van Sickle

Education Liaison
Judith Coebly
Brighton Township was formed in 1837 as part of the surveying of Livingston County. Township board officers met in board officers’ homes, schools and other sites for meetings. Official documents remained in the officers’ homes. Township Board officials determined the rules and regulations for the entire township.

The construction of the Maltby Saw Mill and the Quackenbush Grain Mill on Ore Creek in Section 30, heralded the arrival of merchants, doctors, blacksmiths, attorneys, craftsmen, etc. Hotels with stables for settlers’ and travelers’ horses were built. In turn, farmers and others were drawn to the settlement for needed materials and services.

Before long the residents of Sections 30 and 31 of Brighton Township began to be displeased with the lack of power to make their own decisions running counter to those in the rural area surrounding them.

In 1867, these folks voted to become a village with its own government. Again, officers of the village met in a variety of facilities and each officer was responsible for the documents in their possession related to the office held.

In 1871, the arrival of the Detroit, Lansing and Lake Michigan Railroad meant more people with business to be conducted in the village. It was soon obvious a more secure central location for village meetings, proper repositories for various documents, housing for fire department equipment, a site to hold miscreants, etc., had to be available. A village hall had to come into being.

Where to build it? The site of a store on Main Street next to the mill pond became available. Godfrey Westphal’s hardware had burned on October 28, 1875. That location, suitable to both sides of town would work well.

The Village bought the Westphal property for $350.00, but no building was begun; it was felt the estimates of $1,673.00 and $1,850.00 were too high.

By 1876, Brighton citizens petitioned again. William Pipp bid $2,460.00. James Collett’s bid of $1,950.00, with completion the next year was successful. Collett then found a $200.00 error in his bid. Council cooperated and granted the extra funds. February, 1880, was probably the first time the building was put to use.

This was the site of local government until 1981, when a new civic structure, with a library, was built.

In 2009, the city council determined the structure would serve Brighton well as the City of Brighton Arts, Culture and History Center. The Brighton Art Guild, the Livingston Players and the Brighton Area Historical Society have combined resources and offer exhibits and events. CoBACH is a vital presence in Brighton’s downtown.

Recent flooding, with related damage, makes it imperative that remedial work be conducted which the City Council is in the process of accomplishing. Those resident entities involved appreciate the city’s caring of this local landmark, realizing how rare it is to still have such a landmark.

(Marieanna Bair, 810-229-6402)