Old Village Cemetery, Annual Clean-up
May 4, 2019 — 9am—12nn

Please join the Brighton Area Historical Society and the Brighton community for a morning of “civic pride” at the Old Village Cemetery. The debris from winter including broken branches and leaves are being removed to prepare the cemetery for the upcoming Memorial Day. There are (47) soldier graves and about (550) graves of the early fathers and mothers of Brighton. Each grave deserves a respectful appearance and your help is critical.

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

Vintage Jewelry Sale Fundraiser
April 27—May 4

Is your jewelry box overflowing? Never worn hand-me-downs from your late parents? Time for spring cleaning! We need new, used, fine, costume or broken jewelry. All funds for these cleaned and repaired items will contribute to funding Brighton area preservation and restoration projects of the society. Please make contributions by April 15th.

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

CoBACH Reopens
April 2
Sunday—Friday 5—8pm
Saturday 11am—5pm
Closed Monday

Beginning April 2
CoBACH Display
“My Hometown”
Free Exhibit

CHECK OUT FACEBOOK

Daily postings regarding
Brighton History.
Brighton Area Historical Society

CLOSED APRIL 1

VINTAGE JEWELRY SALE
April 27 - May 4
Weekdays 5-8PM, Weekends 1-8PM
Fund Raiser for Brighton Area Historical Society 501c(3)

LOCATION: COBACH CENTER (Brighton Old Town Hall)
200 W Main St
Brighton, Next to the Mill Pond
100% of funds raised will be used for restoration of Old Village Cemetery,
Lyons Schoolhouse operation and historic programs & preservation.
Donations of jewelry are being collected now,
Call Jim Vichich, 517-304-7722 to donate jewelry new, old or broken for fundraiser.
Thanks and Recognition

MEMBERSHIPS:

IND/FAMILY: Caren Biermann, Judith Coebly & Gary Reutter, Gabriel-C. Currin, Michael & Helen Ewing, Dave & Jacques Fuller, Sylvia Lawing, Clark & Lin Millar, Thomas Reinke, Doris Singer, Paul Weber*, Sandra Willhide, Susan Zimmermann
LIFE: Ray & Bessie Maltby
*Welcome new member: Paul Weber

We thank our members for their membership dues and donations that contribute to the viability of the Society.

THANKS:
- City of Brighton and Val & Kathy Jacoby for their generous 2019 Platinum Sponsorships.
- Caren Biermann for her donation to Friend of Lyon School along with her dues.
- Sandra Willhide and Paul Weber for their donations to the Society along with their dues.
- Doris Singer for her donation to Friend of Lyon School, Old Village Cemetery and CoBACH Events along with her dues.
- Judith Coebly and Gary Reutter for their donation to Friend of Lyon School and Old Village Cemetery along with their dues.
- Marieanna Bair, Joe Collins, Mindy Kinsey, Norma Pless, Lynn Strong and Jim Vichich for preparing the March issue of Trail Tales for mailing.
- Carole Damon, Mindy Kinsey, and Lynn Strong for painting and decorating he alcove area of CoBACH and Jerry Damon for making a new display hanging system used in the alcove.
- Brighton City Council for funding the repair of CoBACH’s roof drainage around the foundation and basement cleanup following water infiltration in September.
- Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Dave Fuller, John Murray and Jim Vichich for delivering stored exhibit materials back to the CoBACH Center.
- Brighton City Council members for allocating financial resources to mitigate issues of air quality inside the CoBACH Center.

The Brighton Area Historical Society extends its sympathy to the family of

WHITNEY ROBERT KIMBLE
Whitney was a long-time member and supporter of the Society and its projects.

Dates to Remember

April 2: CoBACH reopens for 2019. Free Exhibit: “My Hometown”.
April 4, 11, 18, 25; 9am—12nn: Archiving/Open House at Lyon School House. Tour the refurbished one-room schoolhouse that educated area children from 1885—1955. Talk to archivists who preserve the history of Brighton.
April 24; 6pm: Board Meeting at CoBACH Center.
April 25; 6:30—9pm Lyon One-room Schoolhouse: Spring cluster meeting of area historical, library and genealogy societies. Please share date and location with your membership.
April 26—May 4; Vintage Used Jewelry Sale Fundraiser: CoBACH Center. April 26: 5—6pm Society Members Only; 6—8pm Public. Great time to donate those never worn items. See page 1.
May 2: Ladies Night in downtown Brighton.
May 4; 9—12nn: 11th Annual Spring Cleanup of Brighton’s Old Village Cemetery located next to the downtown millpond. Enter & register from parking lot behind St. Paul’s Episcopal Church.

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) — John & Jenny Conely — Bonnie Corrigan
Timothy & Ginnine Corrigan — Jerry & Carole Damon — Joan Engel — Nancy Fredenburg — Stephen & Marilyn Harrington
William & Lenore Harris — Betsy & Bob Herbst — Dr. John & Barbara Jacoby (MN) — Larry & Kate Lawrence — Seth & Shannon Lemke (TX)
Tom & Bonnie Riutta — Robert & Pauline Schaffer — Bruce & Betty Schuman — Anne Stratigos — Lynn Brady Strong
Jim & Vicki Vichich — Linda (Skeman) Wintemute

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.

Mail check or money order payable to:
Brighton Area Historical Society
P. O. Box 481
Brighton, MI 48116-0481

Name: ______________________ Phone: (___) ___-_____
Address: ___________________________________________
City: ___________________ State: _______ Zip Code: _______
E-Mail: __________________________

Membership Plan:  
[ ] New  $2 Student  $50 Patron  
[ ] Renew  $15 Individual  $60 Business/Professional  
[ ]  $25 Family  $500 Life

Additional Donation to—Check One:  
[ ] Friend of Lyon School  $10  $100  
[ ] BAHS CoBACH Events  $25  $250  
[ ] Old Village Cemetery Fund  $50  Other $______

The 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

BAHS Leadership 2019

President  
Jim Vichich

Vice President  
Marianna 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

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.
WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE IN BRIGHTON — Part 2

The second of the first two women to vote in Brighton was Charlotte Mellus, a nurse and wife of Dr. Horace P. Mellus, who in 1931 built Brighton’s first hospital — today the home of the Greater Brighton Area Chamber of Commerce. As well-regarded as was Dr. Mellus, his wife enjoyed equal respect and affection.

Originally from Cass City, Michigan, Charlotte Mellus moved to Pontiac to work at the Eastern Michigan Asylum, earning her nursing certificate in December 1912. She helped her husband establish his medical practice in Brighton while also supporting many community and church activities: she also served as Rebekah Lodge treasurer, chaperoned high school student programs and in 1921, helped run a summer camp for nearly 60 girls at Silver Lake.

It would be nice to report that Charlotte lived a long, full life. But that was not to be. In her era, now-eradicated diseases were ever-present menaces. Dr. Mellus fell ill with typhoid fever in 1924. As Charlotte nursed him, she contracted typhoid fever as well. She was hospitalized and died March 3, 1925 at just 35 years old. The Brighton Argus reported. “…Seldom has there come to this community a sorrow which has been felt so personally in the hearts and homes of all.”

CHARLOTTE HAIGHT MELLUS

To be continued...

(Compiled and written by Sheryl James Vigmostad, BAHS Member. 810-227-7506)

Both Haidee Judson Brady (who was featured in the Page 4 story last month) and Charlotte Haight Mellus were 2019 Honorees into the Brighton Area Women’s History Roll of Honor.