



CoBACH In September:
Centennial of Brighton Gardens Subdivision

Did you know that Brighton has had an African American community off Old 23 north of Spencer Road since 1920? Check out the early photos that show the cottages that came first and learn the early history of these families desiring a quiet remote location on a lake.

These Detroiters purchased property on Lyon Lake located about 1/4 mile north of Spencer Road on the west side of today's Old 23. At first these cottages were summer homes, but in later years many were converted to year round homes. New construction is found here as in all areas of Brighton.

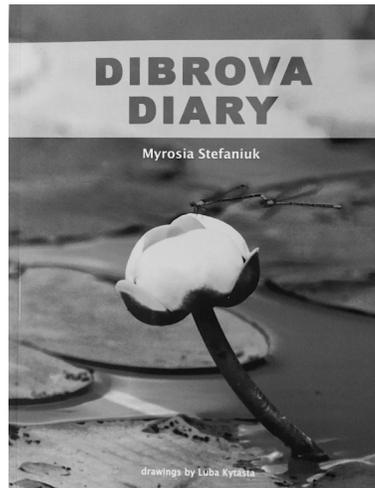
This informative exhibit will provide you with yet another story of the desirability of Brighton lake living.

Eagle Scout Project



The above is a photo of the Eagle Scout project by Collin Faeth who built a gated enclosure to protect the air conditioning units at the Lyon Schoolhouse.

Jim Vichich— 810.250.7276
President, Brighton Area Historical Society
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Special Free Presentation on
DIBROVA in the Woods

Most people that travel Maltby Road have passed the gated area that says "DIBROVA" and wondered what it is?

Located west of Scranton Middle school on the south side surrounding Thomas Lake you will see a Trident mounted on the access gate. No reason to wonder anymore.

Myrosia Stefaniuk has spent summers there over the past 50+ years and has written a book, Dibrova Diary. This details life behind the gates of this beautiful rustic woodlands. You will learn the history of this special place hidden under the canopy of mature oaks that is the summer retreat for many Ukrainians of metro Detroit.

Mira's presentation on DIBROVA will be at the CoBACH Center **Sunday, September 29th from 1 to 2:15pm. Seating is limited to (45) guests.**

CoBACH Hours

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

September
CoBACH Display

Centennial of Brighton
Gardens Subdivision

Free Exhibit

CHECK OUT FACEBOOK

Daily postings regarding
Brighton History.

Brighton Area Historical
Society

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Thanks and Recognition

MEMBERSHIPS:

IND/FAMILY: Edmund Case, Barbara Smith (2020)

PATRON: Jane Tomlinson (2020).

Membership dues contribute to the viability of the Society.

THANKS:

- City of Brighton and Val & Kathy Jacoby for their generous 2019 Platinum Sponsorships.
- Marieanna Bair, Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Mindy Kinsey, Norma Pless, and Jim Vichich who prepared the August issue of Trail Tales for mailing.
- Jane Tomlinson for her donation to Friend of Lyon School along with her dues.
- The team of people who planned, installed and volunteered for the Women's Suffrage Program that ran from June through August at the CoBACH Center: Jerry & Carole Damon, Caitlyn Perry-Dial, PhD, Nancy Fredenburg, Sheryl James, Mindy Kinsey, Norma Pless, Lynn Strong, Susan Tucker, Peggy Van Sickle and Jim Vichich.
- Congrats to Brian and Jamie Coykendall who won the drawing of Brightonopolis from the BAHS at the Wine, Arts and Music Festival.
- The donation of the scale replica of Brighton's original grist mill that was built in the late 1830s. This awesome work of Michael Berendt will be on display at the CoBACH Center in late Fall.
- To the following who helped setup, teardown and volunteered in our booth at the Wine, Arts and Music Festival: Marieanna Bair, Joanne Bellmard, Howard Bisoski, Joe Collins, Jerry & Carole Damon, Jim DeJohn, Nancy Fredenburg, Betsy Herbst, Richard, Hyne, Jeanette Johnson, Mindy Kinsey, Judy Kline, Shirley & Bob Knight, Norma Pless, John Rawcliffe, Tom Reinke, Bonnie Ruita, Pauline Schaffer, Pat Smith, Ralph Steinberger, Bob Triffo, Jim Vichich, Shirley Warren, Luicille Weaire and Mike & Sherri Wisser.

Dates to Remember

September Exhibit; CoBACH Center: FREE—Sun—Fri; 5-8pm; Saturday 11-5pm; Closed Monday

The September exhibit celebrates the Centennial of Brighton Gardens Subdivision, located west of Old 23 and north of Spencer Road. This African American community started in 1920. Learn the history of this rural retreat and the folks from Detroit that started it.

September 5,12,19,26; 9am—11:59am: Visit the archivists and the 1855 refurbished Lyon Schoolhouse. See the school that local children used for their education. The original log school opened in 1842 and was replaced by the frame school in 1885. The school closed in 1955.

September 23; 9am—2:30pm: OVC Headstone Team workday. Additional 2019 date: October 28.

September 25; 6pm: BAHS Board Meeting at CoBACH Center.

September 29; 1—2:15pm CoBACH Center: FREE Presentation on Camp Dibrova located on Maltby Road by Myrosia Stefaniuk. Learn about the quiet campgrounds under the canopy of oak trees that has been a summer retreat for many metro area families of Ukrainian descent for over 60 years.

October 24; 6—9pm: Cluster meeting of Historical and Genealogical Societies and Libraries at Hartland's Cromaine Library. Presentation by Glenn Fisher on using new technologies at the libraries.

Life — Business — Professional Members

Life Members:

Tom Archer — John & Deb Armstrong — 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 & Giannine Corrigan Jerry & Carole Damon — Joan Engel — Nancy Fredenburg — Stephen & Marilyn Harrington — William & Lenore Harris — Betsy & Bob Herbst Dr. John & Barbara Jacoby (MN) — Kate Lawrence — Seth & Shannon Lemke (TX) — Ray & Bessie Maltby — 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 — Lynn Brady Strong — Jim & Vicki Vichich — Linda (Skeman) Wintermute

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

Advance Craft Builders (2019) — Archer Huntley Financial Services ** — Brighton Area Women's History Roll of Honor** Brighton District Library ** — Brighton Veterans Memorial Comm.** — Buckley-Jolley Real Estate Team (2019) — Clark Eye Center (2019) Concord Mortgage (2018) — Davis Multimedia, Inc. (2019) — 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 (2019) — Promess, Inc.** — Refrigeration Research ** Tee-Bone'z Tavern (2019) — Weld Mold Company (2019)

2019 Sponsorships

Platinum Level: City of Brighton, Val & Kathy Jacoby

Bronze Level: Carolina DeLuca, 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:		Name: _____	Phone: () _____
Brighton Area Historical Society		Address: _____	
P. O. Box 481		City: _____	State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Brighton, MI 48116-0481		E-Mail: _____	

Membership Plan:			Additional Donation to—Check One:		Amount of Donation:	
<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 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	Directors Joe Collins
Vice President Marieanna Bair	Nancy Fredenburg
Secretary Carole Damon	Mindy Kinsey
Treasurer & Trail Tales Editor Jerry Damon	John Rawcliffe
Webmaster Debbie Armstrong	Thomas Reinke
	Lynn Strong
	Peggy Van Sickle
	Education Liaison Judith Coebly

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.

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.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 481

Brighton, MI 48116-0481

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Brighton Gardens — A Community within a Community — Conclusion
Submitted by: Suzanne (Campbell) Conerway

I am proud of growing up in Brighton Gardens. It was then known as Brighton’s “Black community.” But life in Brighton was not always easy. Until the late 50’s, I was the only child in the Gardens, except during the summers when a few families with children would come to their summer homes. In school, I was called the “N” word, and some teachers were not sure how to teach a “Negro” child. When I was in the sixth grade my teacher went to Mr. Gordon Hawkins, the superintendent, and told him I was “retarded,” so I was put on the side of the room with the challenged students even though I had always been an ‘A’ student. In my senior year, I was told by my counselor that I “was not qualified to attend the University of Michigan,” and that I should “go to the Canopy Hotel and get a job.” Well, challenges only make one stronger!

I graduated from the University of Michigan with a Bachelors and Master’s degree and became percussionist for the Detroit Women’s Symphony Orchestra. I became Brighton’s first African American teacher, teaching choir at the junior high and high schools, served twelve years as president of the BHS Alumni Association and I was an active member, lay minister and choir director at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church. In 2006 I was honored to become a member of the Brighton Area Women’s History Roll of Honor.

Brighton will always be an important part of my history! My hometown has changed and so has Brighton Gardens! Uncle Birney eventually built a home on the land where the pavilion was located, and he lived there after his retirement in 1955 until his death in 1976 at the age of 92. Our homes are among the only original homes built that remain a part of the Gar-

dens. In her later years, my mom was blind, and we sold our home to the Watkins, a white family in 1983. Although the community at that time was not happy with our selling to the Watkins, Brighton Gardens became integrated, and today it remains the peaceful and welcoming community Uncle Birney envisioned 100 years ago!



**The childhood home of Suzanne (Campbell) Conerway
on Larchmoor Drive in Brighton Gardens**