



### **Brighton's Victorian Silhouettes Return — Visit the Millpond!**

Brighton's Victorian Silhouettes is a multi-year local historical program directed to individuals of all ages. There are (13) unique silhouettes that present a historical aspect about the person or family and their life in Brighton. The Old Village Cemetery is summer home to (5) silhouettes including two very different ones known as Duke the Hereford and Bessie the Holstein. Visit the cemetery adjacent to the Millpond and learn why these cows are found in this most unusual location. Each silhouette has its own attached biographical board that relates the story of the characters with the development of Brighton and is set in the 1860—1925 period.

Artwork for the silhouettes was done by artists that are members of the Brighton Art Guild. The graphics for the characters was printed by W4 Graphics. Construction of the silhouettes from sign board including installation and fall removal was completed through the talented workers that are members of the Brighton Area Historical Society and Old Village Cemetery Headstone Restoration Team.

Jim Vichich — 810.250.7276  
BAHS President  
jvichich@comcast.net

### **Michigan One-room Schoolhouse Association Fall Conference, September 25**

Visit the relocated and restored Hicks One-room Schoolhouse located at the Warner Farm where Pleasant Valley and Buno Road cross in Brighton Township. Also a session will be held at the Lyon Schoolhouse at 11455 Buno Road, just 1/2 mile to the west. Learn about the headstone restoration project taking place at the Old Village Cemetery in Brighton. Over 160 headstones have been carefully restored from being broken and laying on the ground. Another 240+ that were leaning were removed and reinstalled vertical. Details will be shared on restoration techniques. Bring your questions on repairing those family headstones. Members and anyone interested can attend but must have a paid registration.

(Registration form available at <https://www.miorsa.org>)

Additional details will be included in future newsletters.

### **CoBACH HOURS**

Tuesday—Friday 5—8pm

Saturday 11—5pm

Sunday 2—5pm

Closed Monday

Current **FREE** Exhibit  
"Music in the Air"

**Archiving at Lyon School  
at Lyon Schoolhouse  
Every Thursday  
9 to 12nn**

**See Page 2 for  
Additional details**

### **CHECK OUT FACEBOOK**

Frequent 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**

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## Thanks and Recognition

**MEMBERSHIPS:** (Reflect dues paid for year 2021 unless otherwise noted.)

**IND/FAMILY:** Wallyne Smail

**LIFE:** Carole Scott

**Renewing and new memberships keep the Society vital.**

Please see the form on Page 3 if you would like to join, or renew your dues.

**THANKS:**

- Brighton Light House/Dan & Anna Oginsky for their 2021 Platinum Sponsorship.
- Carole Scott for her donation to the Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund along with her Lifetime Membership.
- Charlene Bargert for her donation to the Society for classic photos of old Brighton she requested.
- Judith Coebly for her work in preparing the program for the August Tours of Civil War Soldiers Graves of the Old Village Cemetery.
- Joe Collins, Nancy Fredenburg, Mindy Kinsey, Lynn Strong and Jim Vichich for volunteering at the CoBACH Center in July.
- The 5th Regiment Band for playing the classic songs from the Civil War era at the CoBACH Center on Sunday, July 11. Thanks to Carol Smith and the costumed ladies.
- Jerry Brock, Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Jim Ireton, Bob Knight, Dave Pettigrove and John Rawcliffe for the installation of the Victorian Silhouettes.
- Norma Jean Pless for storing the Brighton Historical Silhouettes for the Society.
- Jerry & Carole Damon and Jim Vichich for the preparation and mailing of the July Trail Tales.

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## Dates to Remember

**CoBACH: Tuesday—Friday 5—8 pm, Saturday 11—5 pm and Sunday 2—5pm.**

The CoBACH **FREE exhibit is called “Music in the Air.”** Learn about the different bands in the early 1900s that shared their love of music with the folks of Brighton. Many old photos show those musicians.

**Lyon Schoolhouse; 9am—11:59am:** Lyon School is open for archiving and tours on Thursdays. All visitors must wear facial masks and observe social distancing.

**Headstone Restoration Days at Old Village Cemetery; August 23, Sept. 27 and Oct. 25:** Always on the 4th Monday of the month from 9am—2pm.

**Old Village Cemetery; August 8th and 21st:** One guided tour

each day of the gravesites of Civil War Soldiers. Learn the story of the soldiers located here. Tours will last 1.25 hours. Each tour will focus on different soldiers. Maximum of 20 guests per tour. Donation is \$5 per person and reservations required. You can purchase tickets online at [BrightonAreaHistorical.com](http://BrightonAreaHistorical.com). Follow the Facebook page of the Brighton Area Historical Society for upcoming details.

**Saturday, September 25;** One-room Schoolhouse Association Fall Conference. **See Page One for complete details.**

**Santa at the Lyon Schoolhouse; Sunday, December 12; 1—4pm:** Visit the school with the children and grandchildren for those great holiday Christmas card photos. **This is a FREE event.** Mark your calendars for this fun event! More details in future newsletters.

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## 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 — Edgar L Cord, Ph.D. — Bonnie Corrigan — Timothy & Giannine Corrigan  
Jerry & Carole Damon — Bill & Margaret Dixon — Joan Engel — Tony & Beth Ferreyra — Nancy Fredenburg — Stephen & Marilyn Harrington  
William & Lenore Harris — Betsy & Bob Herbst — Dr. John & Barbara Jacoby (MN) — Val & Kathy Jacoby (FL) — Kate Lawrence  
Seth & Shannon Lemke (TX) — Ray & Bessie Maltby — Carol McMacken — Jere & Kay Michaels — James & Janis Miller — Randy & Linda Veno Needham  
Greg & Pamela Park (OH) — John G. Park & Madeline Kingston-Park — Richard Park (IL) — David & Marilyn Pettigrove — Bob & Donna Phillips  
Joyce Powers — Douglas & Carole Rearick — Tom & Bonnie Riutta — Robert & Pauline Schaffer — Bruce & Betty Schuman — Carole Scott  
Anne Stratigos — Lynn Brady Strong — Jim & Vicki Vichich — Linda (Skeman) Wintermute — Al & Karen Wirth — Alice Wyland

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

Advance Craft Builders (2021) — Archer Huntley Financial Services \*\* — Brighton Area Women’s History Roll of Honor\*\* — Brighton District Library \*\*  
Brighton Lions Club (2021) — Brighton Veterans Memorial Comm.\*\* — Buckley-Jolley Group \*\* — Clark/Tait Eye Center (2021)  
Davis Multimedia, Inc. (2021) — Golfview Painting (2021) — Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc.\*\* — Lindhout Associates\*\* — Lawrence Auto Body \*\*  
Livingston County Convention Visitors Bureau (2021) — Make Believe Manor, LLC (2020) — Masonic Lodge No. 247 \*\*  
Michigan Consulting & Environmental (2021) — Neighbors Magazine (2021) — Patrick Financial Group, LLC \*\* — Power House Electric, Inc. (2021)  
Preview Properties (2021) — Promess, Inc.\*\* — Refrigeration Research \*\*

### 2021 Sponsorships

**Platinum:** Brighton Light House/Dan & Anna Oginsky

**Bronze:** Weld Mold Company

## 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>Phone:</b> ( ) _____
		<b>Address:</b> _____	
		<b>City:</b> _____	<b>State:</b> _____ <b>Zip Code:</b> _____
		<b>E-Mail:</b> _____	

<b>Membership Plan:</b>		<b>Additional Donation to—Check One:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2 Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund	<b>Amount of Donation:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Renew	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> Friend of Lyon School	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100
<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Patron	<input type="checkbox"/> BAHS CoBACH Events	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$250
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60 Business/Professional	<input type="checkbox"/> Old Village Cemetery Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Life		

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 2021

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

### 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.

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.

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



### Crooked Lake in the Late 1800s and Early 1900s

It is interesting to know that the name "Crooked Lake" was applied officially to this body of water as early as 1837, the year Michigan attained statehood. The name is found in a legislative act of that period which provided a system of canals to cross southern Michigan and do for this region what the Erie Canal was doing successfully for New York State. The canal was to be known as the "Clinton and Kalamazoo" and was to start at Mt. Clemens, where the Clinton River empties into Lake St. Clair, come west to Crooked Lake, then on through this watershed and join the Kalamazoo River as the last link into Lake Michigan. A branch or feeder canal was to come up to Crooked Lake from Dexter some 25 miles to the South. Construction was started at Mt. Clemens, but the rapidly growing railways doomed most of the ambitious canal and streams projected in this and neighboring states. Plat

Of the three islands in Little Crooked Lake, the northern one lies in the Northeast quarter of Section 28, while the other two lie in the Northwest quarter of that Section. All of these islands and the farmland at the south and southwest of the lake had been acquired by F. Truhn from the original owners in 1867. The Truhn family played an important part in the early life of this region.

About 1897 Laughlin and Henderson, who operated a thriving store at Chilson in a large double structure, bought the north island and built a cottage on it, probably one of the earliest lake cottages to be built in the county. It was sold in 1903 to Carl Weimeister, a blacksmith of Howell, who acquired it along with all the farmland at the south end of the lake. The cottage was a frame structure, barn-like, with a few windows and no interior finish. On the shingle roof was painted in large letters the name "Nordica" named for Lillian Nordica, who was at the peak of her fame as a singer at that time.

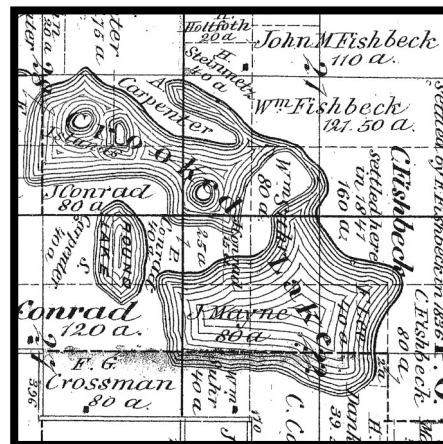
For many years this was rented to groups of young people from the area who came in horse drawn vehicles and spent a week

"camping" as it was called, chaperoned by their elders. Mr. Weimeister sold the cottage in 1914 to Mr. Slear, the station agent at Chilson, and he soon sold it to one of the Toledo families, the Bauers who had been renting it. Mr. Bauers later transformed the old frame Nordica cottage into the present fieldstone summer home equipped with all modern facilities.

A great many people camped in tents on the shores of the lake in those days and cooked in the open. The favorite spot on Little Crooked was the "swimming hole" on the west shore about the center of the present Homestead Beach Development.

Another camping site occasionally used was on the east shore of Little Crooked near the fine, large spring on the hillside south of Round Lake. A campfire there, high up on the bluff, was always a cheering sight to those camping on the west shore near the swimming hole.

*(This story was compiled by Jerry Damon from the writings of William Pless (1974) and from "Crooked Lake: A History by Willis Lyon (1979).*



**Plat Map 1875**