

May Historical Society Events in Downtown Brighton

APRIL 29—MAY 7: VINTAGE USED JEWELRY FUNDRAISER SALE

Support the historical society's programming and visit the CoBACH Center for this awesome sale of jewelry. Each piece is uniquely packaged and priced to sell. This is our first sale in three years and includes many new donations to the society. This is a sale not to miss for a deal! Remember Mother's Day, Prom and Graduation are just days away. Don't miss Downtown Ladies Night, May 5! Weekdays: 5—8pm and Weekends 1—8pm.

MAY 7, SATURDAY, 9—12nn: SPRING CLEANUP AT OLD VILLAGE CEMETERY

Join the community and the historical society for a morning of fellowship as we spruce up Brighton's oldest cemetery. Removal of broken branches and debris is the focus as we prepare the cemetery and the (47) veteran gravesites for Memorial Day. Bring your gloves and leaf rakes and take in the beauty of the surroundings as you read mid 1800 headstones of Brighton's founders including a former US Senator and Michigan Governor. The Old Village Cemetery looks down on the Millpond and surrounding community and presents a vista many have not seen. Share your civic pride and join us! Registration starts at 8:30am in the public parking lot behind and adjacent to St. Paul's Church.

MAY 14, SATURDAY, 5:30pm: MEMBERSHIP DINNER AT ST. PAUL'S

Enjoy a wonderful catered dinner with friends and learn about the involvement of Michigan's 5th Regiment in the Civil War. The guest speaker is noted historian, Bob Myers, with the Historical Society of Michigan. Tickets are \$15 per person. Guests are welcome. For information call Nancy 517-304-5044.

The following are FREE PRESENTATIONS about our current CoBACH Display:

MAY 15, SUNDAY, 2pm: SPECIAL CoBACH FREE PRESENTATION

The Mills of Livingston County by James Miller, 30-40 minutes.

MAY 22, SUNDAY, 2pm: SPECIAL CoBACH FREE PRESENTATION

Operation of the Former Brighton Downtown Mill and Construction of the Scale Model by Michael Berendt, 30-40 minutes.

JUNE 4, SATURDAY, 2pm: SPECIAL CoBACH FREE PRESENTATION

Mills of the Brighton Area by Charlene Kull, 30-40 minutes.

MAY 30, MONDAY, MEMORIAL DAY FREE EXHIBIT, 9—1pm CoBACH Center

Learn about the Civil War and see many authentic items used in the battles. This museum quality exhibit features two private collections that includes uniforms, swords, rifles, pistols, ordnance, drums, and much more. Two experts will share their knowledge about these collectibles. They love questions! Bring those elementary and high school kids and grandkids. Stop in while you await the veterans' Memorial Day Parade on Main Street and the program at the Veterans' Memorial that begins at 10am.

Jim Vichich, President
810.250.7276
Info@BrightonAreaHistorical.com

Current CoBACH

Exhibit:

Mills of

Brighton Area

CoBACH HOURS

Tuesday—Friday 5—8pm

Saturday 11—5pm

Sunday 2—5pm

Closed Monday

**Archiving at Lyon School
on Buno Road
Every Thursday
9 to 12nn**

**See Page 2 for
Additional details**

CHECK OUT FACEBOOK

Frequent postings regarding Brighton History.

**Brighton Area Historical
Society**

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Thanks and Recognition

MEMBERSHIPS: (Reflect dues paid for year 2022 unless otherwise noted.)

IND/FAMILY: Suzanne Conerway, Beverly LaBelle, Mary Lynn Rickman

PATRON: Karen Goss

THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS WHO HAVE RENEWED THEIR DUES.

Please see the form on Page 3 if you would like to join, or renew your dues. Through your dues and donations we are able to continue the work of preserving Brighton's history.

THANKS:

- Natalie & Todd Buckley for donations to the society from the sales of Brighton advertising tee-shirts showcasing logos of former Brighton businesses. Tee-shirts available from Wallflower Mercantile include: Cardona's Pizza, Miller Sports, Yum Yum Tree Ice Cream Shop and Uber's Drugstore.
- Lynn Strong for her donation in honor of Bonnie Corrigan's 90th Birthday.
- Karen Goss for her donation to the Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund, Old Village Cemetery and Friend of Lyon School along with her dues.
- Mary Lynn Rickman for her donation to the Friend of Lyon School, CoBACH Events and Old Village Cemetery along with her dues.
- Nick Deychakiwsky for his matching donation to the Society from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.
- Mike & Sherri Wisser for their donation to the Society.

- Pat Franklin for her matching donation from the Amica Foundation for the Friend of Lyon School.
- Vicki Vichich and Judith Coebly for preparing donated jewelry for the Vintage Jewelry Sale.
- Judith Coebly for designating her honorarium from the Michigan State Society of Questers for the restoration of headstones in the Old Village Cemetery.
- Donations of jewelry for the BAHS Vintage Jewelry Sale from Judy Bair, Terry Celano, Judith Coebly, Janet Griffin-Bell, Jill Hancock and Vicki Mango.
- Archive workers: Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Mindy Kinsey, Norma Pless, Lynn Strong and Jim Vichich for excellent work in reorganizing and updating of the archive room.
- CoBACH volunteers for April: Joe Collins, Mindy Kinsey, Bob Pettengill, John Rawcliffe, Tom Reinke, Lynn Strong, Peggy Van Sickle and Jim Vichich.

The Brighton Area Historical Society extends its sympathy to the families of:

BILL DAMM and CAROLE BRUHN

Both were members of the Society and will be missed.

Dates to Remember

CoBACH: Days and hours of operation:

Tuesday—Friday 5—8 pm, Saturday 11—5 pm and Sunday 2—5pm. Closed Monday.

CURRENT EXHIBIT: May—June: Mills of Brighton Area

FUTURE EXHIBITS: July—Mid-September: Recreational Camps of the Area

Special FREE Presentations on Grain & Saw Mills during CoBACH Mills Exhibit.

See Page 1 for exact timing.

May 15, Sunday: The Mills of Livingston County by Jim Miller

May 22, Sunday: Brighton's Downtown Grist Mill Operation & Scale Model by Michael Berendt.

June 4, Saturday: Mills of the Brighton Area by Charlene Kull.

Lyon School Open Dates: May 5,12,19,26; Thursdays: Archiving work from 9-11:59am.

Friday, April 29 through Saturday, May 7, 2022 at CoBACH Center.

Vintage Used Jewelry Sale Fundraiser: Approximately 5,000+ vintage jewelry pieces. All priced to sell! Cash and Checks accepted. Follow our Brighton Area Historical Society Facebook page for information.

May 7, Saturday, 9—12nn; Old Village Cemetery: 14th Annual Spring Clean-up.

May 25, Wednesday: Next BAHS Board Meeting: 6pm at CoBACH.

May 30, Monday: 9am—1pm: Memorial Day at CoBACH.
Civil War Special **FREE Exhibit.**

Life — Business — Professional Members

Life Members:

Tom Archer — John & Deb Armstrong — Paul & Kathryn Bair (Allen) — Shirley Barton — 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) — Kathy Jacoby (FL) — Claire & Aaron Jusino — Kate Lawrence — Seth & Shannon Lemke (TX)
Ray & Bessie Maltby — Jere & Kay Michaels — James & Janis Miller — Randy & Linda Venio Needham — Greg & Pamela Park (OH)
John G. Park & Madeline Kingston-Park — Richard Park (IL) — Kathy Pearson — David & Marilyn Pettigrove — Bob & Donna Phillips — Joyce Powers
Douglas & Carole Rearick — Brigette Ritsema — 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 (2022) — 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 (2022) — Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc.** — Lindhout Associates** — Lawrence Auto Body **
Livingston County Convention Visitors Bureau (2021) — Masonic Lodge No. 247 ** — Michigan Consulting & Environmental (2021)
Neighbors Magazine (2022) — Patrick Financial Group, LLC ** — Power House Electric, Inc. (2022) — Preview Properties (2022) — Promess, Inc.**
Refrigeration Research ** — Serra Honda Brighton (2022) — Tee-Bone'z Tavern (2022)

2022 Sponsorships

Bronze: Carolina DeLuca

Silver: Frank & Josephine Del Vero

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

BAHS Leadership 2022

President Jim Vichich	Directors Joe Collins
Vice President Nancy Fredenburg	Dr. Caitlyn Perry Dial
Secretary Mindy Kinsey	John Rawcliffe
Treasurer & Trail Tales Editor Jerry Damon	Thomas Reinke
Webmaster Debbie Armstrong	Lynn Strong
	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

**Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #303
Brighton, MI**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Mills of Brighton is our current display at the CoBACH Center in downtown Brighton, next to the Millpond. Special **Free Presentations** about the mills will also be given at the CoBACH Center. We hope you enjoy this story and will visit CoBACH to see the display. Dates and times for the presentations are listed on Page 1.

Early Gristmills of the Brighton Area

The village of Brighton was centered in 1840, on the hill where Spencer Road and Rickett Road intersect the Grand River Trail, "Upper Town." Orson Quackenbush selected vacant land in "Lower Town" to build the Brighton Flouring and Gristmill. The site was located on the north side of W. North Street; a strip about two blocks wide extending north (on the west side of S. West Street). The parcel included the area to be flooded by the millpond, and the high ground now occupied by the Old Town Hall, St. Paul's Episcopal Church and the village cemetery. After securing the plot, water rights also had to be obtained before building the dam. In those days this mill saved farmers a long trip to Woodruff's Mill on Pleasant Valley Road.

The location was low and marshy ground. Moving dirt with a small slip scraper with one h.p. to construct the dam and spillway and form the raceway ponds of the mill required considerable time. (It seems likely the lumber for the mill was cut by the Maltby Sawmill just a few hundred feet down stream.) During the years of the mill's operation there were two bridges on W. North Street; one over the stream from the water that turned the water wheel, the other over the water from the spillway. The dam was built on the south side of Main Street.

Quackenbush operated his mill for a few months and then sold the mill, including all the property and rights to Rev. Wm. A. Clark. He died in September 1841, and his heirs sold the mill back to Quackenbush. However, the Clarks donated the high ground east of the mill pond as a future site for the Episcopal Church and the Village received the land where the cemetery and the Old Town Hall are now located.

In 1847, Quackenbush sold the mill to Evert Woodruff who, in 1849, sold the Brighton Mill to Lyman Judson, who owned a large farm on Grand River Road, just east of the village limits. Judson enlarged the mill, removed the old breast water wheel and installed a French turbine type of water wheel.

In 1856, he sold the mill to Egbert F. Albright and Chester Thomson. Under their operation, for the next 25 years, the turbine water wheel was replaced by three others of improved style and two sets of stones were employed. It is thought they were also the builders of a brick addition, complete with a tall chimney, to house a steam boiler to provide power in the dry summer months when Ore Creek's water flow was reduced to a trickle. During those times the pond dried to such a level the rotting pond lilies and marsh grass caused an objectionable odor in the downtown and adjacent areas.

In the mid 1870's ownership changed to Charles T. Hyne and sons Will, Fred and Frank. All had large farms in the area and other business interests, including a grain elevator and a coal and lumber yard. "HYNE BROS" was just visible on the sign on the mill's last day.

By 1907, the Galbraith family was advertising 25# sacks of their "Ideal" wheat flour for 55 cents and a like amount of "Gold Seal" flour for 60 cents. Those prices included free delivery "to any part of the village."

Following the Galbraiths, Brighton Mills was operated by a partnership of two unrelated men named Thompson. Will, an experienced miller worked in the mill full time. His partner, John, was an ambitious man following many different pursuits. He was a rural mail carrier by profession, but he also kept and milked a herd of cows in a barn on the northeast corner of Grand River and Main Street. He also helped his partner install an electric motor to supplement water power.

(The above was an excerpt from stories compiled by Marieanna Bair. To find out more about these mills and their history, please visit the current CoBACH Display or plan to take in one of our **FREE Presentations** about the mills. See Page 1 of this newsletter for dates and times.)