Celebration of Life Memorial for Marieanna Bair

On Sunday, June 19, Lyon Schoolhouse was the setting for the Celebration of Life Memorial for Marieanna Bair. Approximately 100 family and friends gathered under the tents to share stories and well wishes with the Bair family.

Marieanna was very influential in growing the Brighton Area Historical Society from its earliest days. She was a board member for nearly forty years and president from 1993—2007. Her influence along with others helped to preserve the 1873 Pink Hotel, 1879 Town Hall and the 1885 Lyon Schoolhouse.

Sunday’s clear blue sky was joined by refreshing temperatures in the mid 70s. These great conditions were complemented by the wonderful luncheon provided by the Bair family. A portable microphone provided easy access for folks to share their stories and experiences and many kind words were spoken about Marieanna. I am sure she was smiling from above knowing the good feelings and love expressed by many from their dealings with her.

Following the luncheon, guests enjoyed visiting the refurbished Lyon Schoolhouse that has an interior setting of circa 1920. The classic maple desk tops with the inkwell hole in the corner and flip-up seats define this era of education. Many guests enjoyed pulling the rope that extended into the bell tower that caused the bell to toll throughout the neighborhood. This classic sound of the country school is a refreshing and a pleasant reminder of earlier and simpler times. Thank you Marieanna for helping to preserve these buildings. Your strong preservation beliefs will allow future generations to create their own memories for many generations!

Jim Vichich, President
810.250.7276
Info@BrightonAreaHistorical.com
Dates to Remember

CoBACH: Days and hours of operation:
Tuesday—Friday 5—8 pm, Saturday 11—5 pm and Sunday 2—5 pm. Closed Monday.
CURRENT EXHIBIT: “Let’s Go Camping”
July 4, Monday; 10am: Fourth of July Parade on Main Street in downtown Brighton.
July 7,14,21,28; Thursdays; 9—11:59am: Tours and Archiving at Lyon Schoolhouse.
July 25; Monday, 9—2:30pm: OVC Headstone Restoration Day. Additional restoration days: Aug 22, Sept 26 and Oct 2
July 27; Wednesday, 6—7:30pm: BAHS Board Meeting at Brighton Lighthouse, 142 Brighton Lake Road. August 24th board meeting will be at Lake Trust Credit Union on Old US 23.
August 28, Sept. 24; 2—3:30pm: Old Village Cemetery Tour, Veteran Gravesite Tours, Donation $5 each, Limit 20 guests per tour. Meet at CoBACH Center. Different tours for each date. Reserve your spot. Call Jim 810-250-7276.

Life — Business — Professional Members

Life Members:

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

2022 Sponsorships
Gold: Lawrence Auto Body
Silver: Frank & Josephine Del Vero
Bronze: Carolina DeLuca
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.

### Membership Plan:

- [ ] New $2 Student
- [ ] Renew $15 Individual
- [ ] $25 Family
- [ ] $50 Patron
- [ ] $60 Business/Professional
- [ ] $250 Life
- [ ] $500 Life

### Additional Donation to—Check One:

- [ ] Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund $10
- [ ] Friend of Lyon School $25
- [ ] BAHS CoBACH Events $50
- [ ] Old Village Cemetery Fund $100
- [ ] 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

**Vice President**
Nancy Fredenburg

**Secretary**
Mindy Kinsey

**Treasurer & Trail Tales Editor**
Jerry Damon

**Webmaster**
Debbie Armstrong

**Directors**

- Joe Collins
- Dr. Caitlyn Perry Dial
- John Rawcliffe
- Thomas Reinke
- Lynn Strong

**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.
Let’s Go Camping — Recreational Camps of the Area

Overview

When the territorial land was being bought up from the government in the area, land with lakes was looked upon as wasted acreage. No crops could be grown on them. No trees harvested for buildings. The belief of fever and ague were blamed on the wetlands.

Who would have thought that less than a century later that the same “wasted acreage” would become a very popular and desired area! Brighton area boasted to have “50 lakes in a 5 mile radius.” Many natural, some man-made, with dams along the many creeks.

Island Lake, and the adjoining lakes of Fonda and Briggs became the most popular and one of the earliest park areas. With easy access by train, which stopped at Island Lake from Detroit, and by car, with the fine gravel Grand River Trail, vacationers flocked to the Brighton area. (To find out more about this park, visit CoBACH Center to see the display.)

Crooked Lake: Its camping history goes back to 1897 when Laughlin and Henderson, who operated a store in the town of “Chilson,” bought the north island and built a cottage on it. This has been said to be one of the earliest lake cottages or camps in the area. (The rest of the story can be found by visiting CoBACH Center to see the entire display.)

Burroughs Recreation Camp: Burroughs Adding Machine Company purchased and developed a resort/camping area for their employees. The resort had beaches, cabins, camping, fishing, boating, etc. Opening Memorial weekend 1927, and by midsummer had issued 3800 passes to employees to come to “The Farm.”... (More information on this camp is available at the CoBACH Center display.)

The Charles Howell Boy Scout Camp located on Brighton Lake was widely regarded as one of the finest scout camps in America. Brighton Lake started out as the Herbst Pond. Charles Howell purchased 280 acres of land for $28,000. Intended for development, the depression diminished the idea. During the depression, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) planted thousands of pine trees. (Visit CoBACH Center to find out more about this camp and the fond memories that many from Brighton have.)

From July through Mid-September, the display at the CoBACH Center, located on Main street in Brighton next to the Millpond is entitled, “Let’s Go Camping.” This is an extensive display of the many camps around the Brighton Area. Below is just a sample of what will be on display. If you want to learn the “rest of the story,” please plan a visit to the CoBACH Center.

(This is a fascinating display of camps in and around the Brighton area. We hope you will stop by the CoBACH Center and find out more information and view the current display. Thanks to Mindy Kinsey for compiling this information from the Society’s archives.)