

## **Trail Tales**

Volume XLI No. 7 July 2022





#### 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

# Current CoBACH Exhibit: "Let's Go Camping"

## **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: Faith Capling (2023), Gene & Judy Dahlin

PATRON: Steve Black\*, Roland & Jane Owens (2024), Mary Vogt\*

LIFE: Deb & Lee Gough\*

SPONSORSHIP: 2022 GOLD: Lawrence Auto Body

Welcome to new members\*: Steve Black, Deb & Lee Gough, Mary Vogt

## 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:**

- To our members who have renewed their dues for 2022 and beyond.
- Lawrence Auto Body for their 2022 Gold Sponsorship.
- Bob Meyers, Director of History at the Historical Society of Michigan for being the guest speaker at the BAHS May 14 membership dinner.
- Powerhouse Electric for the nice job of updating electrical outlets and lighting in the Marieanna Bair Archive Room. Thank you Paul and Ryan Sawallich.

- Weekly volunteers that help in the archive room organizing and storing historic records of Brighton. They include: Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Mindy Kinsey, Norma Pless, Lynn Strong and Jim Vichich. A special thanks to this group of volunteers for the thorough cleaning of the school rooms in preparation for the Marieanna Bair Celebration of Life.
- CoBACH volunteers for June: Joe Collins, Mindy Kinsey, Tom Reinke, Bonnie Riutta, Lynn Strong and Jim Vichich.
- Charlene Kull for her informative and fun presentation on the Mills of Livingston County during the Mills Exhibit at the CoBACH Center. Also thanks to Jim Miller and Michael Berendt for their earlier presentations on mills.
- Family of Marieanna Bair for their generous donation in Marieanna's name for improving historical information storage in the Marieanna Bair Archive Room. Improvements were also made in lighting and furniture.
- BAHS Board members Jerry, Jim, Joe, Lynn, Mindy, Nancy and Tom who helped setup, and put away items used at Marieanna's Celebration at the Lyon Schoolhouse.
- Jerry & Carole Damon for maintaining the membership records, donations, and the monthly preparation and of our monthly newsletter, Trail Tales.

## **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: "Let's Go Camping"** 

July 4, Monday; 10am: Fourth of July Parade on Main Street in down-

town 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:

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 — Lee & Deb Gough — 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 Veno 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 (2022)

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

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.

Mail check or money order payable Brighton Area Historical Society P. O. Box 481 Brighton, MI 48116-0481	e to: Name: Address: City: E-Mail:	State:	Zip Code:	
Membership Plan:  New \$2 Student [ Renew \$15 Individual [ \$25 Family [	\$50 Patron \$60 Business/Profession: \$500 Life	Additional Donation to—Check One:  Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund Friend of Lyon School  BAHS COBACH Events Old Village Cemetery Fund  (c)(3) Non-Profit Organization . All donations are tax	\$10 \$100 \$25 \$250 \$50 Other \$	
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+;  If you would like to become a sponso	Gold — \$500+;	. ,	onze — \$100+	
Jim Vichich, President Brighton Area Historical Society 810-250-7276 or jvichich@comcast.r	net			
BAHS Leadership 2022	E	BAHS: How to Contact Us or Find Us		
President Director Jim Vichich Joe Co		If you would like to contact us, please use the following options: <b>E-Mail:</b>		

Dr. Caitlyn Perry Dial Vice President John Rawcliffe **Nancy Fredenburg** 

**Thomas Reinke** Secretary **Lynn Strong Mindy Kinsey** 

Treasurer & Trail Tales Editor

**Education Liaison** Jerry Damon **Judith Coebly** 

Webmaster

**Debbie Armstrong** 

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.

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.

### **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**

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.

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.)

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

#### "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.

<u>Island Lake</u>, 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.)

<u>Crooked Lake:</u> 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.)

<u>Burroughs Recreation Camp:</u> 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.*)

(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.)



Island Lake



**Charles Howell Boy Scout Camp**