



Dave Pettigrove

The Buzz at Old Village Cemetery

Headstone restoration workdays at the Old Village Cemetery have taken on a new sound. If you approach the workers kneeling on the ground or sitting on a bucket, you will notice a unique resonance. The dozen high speed Dremel hand grinders sound like you are next to a disturbed hornet's nest.

The workers using these Dremel grinders are removing excess epoxy and small amounts of stone from the previously repaired joints where the headstones were broken. This final stage of restoration is to complete the natural appearance of these previously broken areas. Diamond tipped bits are creating a pocketed depression so that new mortar can be in-filled. This is needed because during the stone snapping, pieces of stone along the break edge also broke off. This new in-filled mortar will not only make the headstone appear close to the natural stone, but will add strength in these previously damaged areas. It is estimated that these final repairs to the epoxied joints will be completed in 2023-2024 period.

Headstone restoration has been the main task since the Brighton Area Historical Society hired a professional conservator in 2012. Members were trained on techniques and best practices in a hands-on session in the Old Village Cemetery. Since that time, over 3049 volunteer hours have been dedicated to headstone preservation and restoration.

Thank you to all the volunteers in this program. The City of Brighton DPW has also provided assistance when special equipment or unique tasks were needed.

Jim Vichich, BAHS President
810.250.7276
Info@BrightonAreaHistorical.com

Old Village Cemetery —Tour of Civil War Veteran Gravesites

On **Sunday, September 25; 2—3:15pm:** Local historian, Judith Coebly, will conduct a tour of Civil War Veteran gravesites located in Brighton's Old Village Cemetery. This is a fundraiser for the restoration of the Old Village Cemetery. Meet at the entrance gate located above the AMP. Donation \$5. Reservations recommended. Contact Jim 810-250-7276.

Current CoBACH

Exhibit:
"Brighton Fire
Department"

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: Cheryl Krueger, Norma Jean Pless (2023), Roberta Sweetman*(2023)

PATRON: Jane Tomlinson (2023)

SPONSORSHIP: Bronze: Carolina DeLuca

Welcome to new member*: Roberta Sweetman

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.
- Carolina DeLuca for her Bronze Sponsorship.
- Roberta Sweetman for her donation to CoBACH along with her dues.
- Jane Tomlinson for her donation to Friend of Lyon School, CoBACH and Old Village Cemetery along with her dues.
- Norma Jean Pless for her donation to the Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund and Friend of Lyon School along with her dues.
- Jerry & Carole Damon for their donation to CoBACH.
- CoBACH volunteers for August: Joe Collins, Nancy Fredenburg, Mindy Kinsey, Bob Pettengill, Tom Reinke, Bonnie Riutta and Jim Vichich.
- Thursday volunteers that help in the archive room updating records: Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Mindy Kinsey, Norma Pless, Lynn Strong and Jim Vichich.
- Dan & Anna Oginsky for providing a tour and meeting space in July at their Brighton Lighthouse office facility.
- The wonderful talented work of Deb Armstrong in maintaining and updating the BAHS website.
- Members of the 2022 Old Village Cemetery Headstone Restoration Team whose talents have continued the repair of broken headstones this summer: Howard Bisoski, Don Boyer, Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Tony Ferreyra, Dave Fuller, Mindy Kinsey, Bob Knight, Jack Longberry, Dave Pettigrove, John Rawcliffe, Dave Rebiger, Spence Schubbe, Pat Smith, Jim Vichich, Ed Vitez, and Dick Weaire.
- All those who helped with the BAHS booth at the Brighton Art Fair, assembling materials, set-up, take-down and working in the booth: Joe Collins, Jerry & Carole Damon, Tony Ferreyra, Nancy Fredenburg, Mindy Kinsey, John Rawcliffe, Phil Smith, Lynn Strong, Bob Triffo, Jim Vichich and Dick & Lucille Weaire.
- Lee & Deb Gough, Mindy & Tom Kinsey, Lynn Strong & Jim Vichich for securing and moving the donated Canopy picture, "Lady & the Lion" from Stouts Restaurant to the Lyon Schoolhouse storage.

Dates to Remember

CoBACH: Days and hours of operation:

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

Closed Monday. NOTE: Labor Day Closure: September 3, 4, 5.

CURRENT EXHIBIT; Sept—November: "Brighton Fire Department"

September 1,8,15,22,29; Thursdays; 9—11:59am: Tours and Archiving at Lyon Schoolhouse.

September 26; Monday, 9—2:30pm: OVC Headstone Restoration Day. Additional restoration day: October 24.

September 28; Wednesday, 6pm: BAHS Board Meeting.

September 24; 2—3:15pm: One tour, Max of (20) guests. Tour of Civil War Veteran Gravesites by historian Judith Coebly in Brighton's Old Village Cemetery. Earliest burial 1838. Fundraiser for restoration of Old Village Cemetery. Learn the story of some of these great veterans. Meet at the entrance gate located above the AMP. Donation \$5. Reservations recommended. Contact 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 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 — Brigitte 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 (2022) — Brighton Veterans Memorial Comm.** — Buckley-Jolley Group ** — Clark/Tait Eye Center (2022)
Golfview Painting (2022) — Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc.** — Lindhout Associates** — Lawrence Auto Body ** — Masonic Lodge No. 247 **
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's 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 to: Brighton Area Historical Society P. O. Box 481 Brighton, MI 48116-0481		Name: _____	Phone: () _____
		Address: _____	
		City: _____	State: _____ Zip Code: _____
		E-Mail: _____	

Membership Plan:		Additional Donation to—Check One:	
<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2 Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund	Amount of Donation:
<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

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
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Permit #303
Brighton, MI**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Our current exhibit at the CoBACH Center, located on Main Street in Brighton next to the Millpond is entitled, "Brighton Fire Department." This is an extensive display of the role the fire department has had in Brighton which continues to this day. The display runs September through November. We hope you will visit the CoBACH Center and see the history of Brighton's Fire Department.

Brighton's Altruistic Fire Department

Brighton Village was incorporated March 25, 1867. Fire wardens were appointed to the "...stern and unrelenting supervision of all heating facilities in the homes and business places ...". In the absence of an organized fire department and fire equipment, they were the only protection against the fearful enemy, fire.

May 19, 1868, the village council authorized the purchase of hooks and ladders. This equipment was carried by hand when and where needed. Just how the need for this protection was broadcast is not recorded. Nor was there a storage facility for these hooks and ladders. Ned Seger, local historian, in 1944 surmises the men of the department utilized various places in town. He mentions one, the Bierworth Building, located just east of George B. Ratz' Blacksmith Shop on West Main (across from the mill pond).

May 3, 1872, the village Council ordered the purchase of five fire extinguishers from the Babcock Fire Extinguisher Company. The destruction by fire of the home of the village clerk April 8, 1873, and two years later that of Godfrey Westphall's Hardware Store at 202 W. Main, October 28, 1875, piqued the need for a better means of fighting a fire. A month later an aye vote authorized the purchase of a hook and ladder apparatus for no more than \$975. January 20, 1876, Babcock Manufacturing Co., Chicago was given the contract to supply a truck equipped with hooks, ladders, eight patent fire extinguishers (four on each side) and buckets. James Thomson was elected keeper of the chemicals. An extra 26-foot ladder was included. It is recorded this truck and its appurtenances was hand drawn and made "...a very snappy outfit".

At the next council meeting, President Benjamin Howard Lawson was ordered to appoint nine men to the hook and ladder company, to be responsible for the equipment. They enrolled Gilbert Abrams, Lyman

W. Birge, George Carpenter, Samuel H. Conely (foreman), Clinton Dewit, A. Giles, Robert Jolly, William W. Lewis (assistant foreman), Richard J. Lyons (secretary) William Mann, George Ratz, A.A. Reed, August Schmidt, George G. Smith, H. Soule, William Sutherland, G.W. Sweet, Ira Thomson and James Van Loon.

The village now has its first fire department, all volunteers. A month later, May 20, these appointees requested exemption from poll taxes as compensation. This practice probably continued for many years.

A uniform was adopted, which consisted of a black silk cap, red shirt, and patent leather belts. On July 4, 1876, the company marched in its first public parade in its new uniform. (Each Independence Day since, the Brighton Fire Department has participated.) The ladies contributed flowers and other decorations to complete the regal appearance. (Today the Brighton Fire Department still parades in the same classy style.)

Not until the town hall was built, 1879, was there storage space for the various fire fighting equipment and uniforms. Two outward opening doors on the first floor allowed for quick response to an emergency. A jail was across the back of the building; the council met on the second floor.

(This is a reprint of a story previously published in Trail Tales and was compiled by Marieanna Bair from press clippings; 1880 History of Livingston County and Ned Seger's History of the Fire Department.)

