

Brighton Area Historical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 481

Brighton, MI 48116

Trail Tales

October 2004
Vol. XXIII No. 10

Preserve, Advance and Disseminate Knowledge of the History of the Brighton Area

RESERVATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR:

From Settlement to City - Brighton Michigan - 1832-1945

After much research, writing and re-writing, Society board member, Carol McMacken has completed the task of compiling the history of Brighton from 1832-1945. Reviewing the microfilm of past editions of the Brighton Argus, interviewing long-time residents and the selecting of many photographs has led to this narrative of the settlement of Brighton.

This project has been a full time occupation for the past several years. The Society board has determined the cost of the book will be \$65.00 for non-members, \$60.00 for members. (Shipping, if necessary, will be added.) Each book will be numbered and sold on a first come, first served basis with early orders receiving an early number of this first edition.

The story set forth will create for the reader, a sense of how life was lived, the sacrifices that were made and how adversities were overcome.

The Brighton Area Historical Society is offering this hard-bound edition which includes over 400 pages and 300 photographs. This limited-first run of 500 is the most complete history of Brighton that has henceforth been published. Reserve your copy now.

VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY BICENTENNIAL

October, 1804, on the Missouri, brought frost and finally relief from the hordes of mosquitoes. Also shorter days and much cooler nights.

On October 8, the Arikara tribe was met by Lewis. He, with two soldiers and two voyagers, paddled one of the pirogues across the river. He hoped to convince the Arikaras to welcome the Americans, make peace with the Mandans and reject the sioux. A popular naive opinion held by many. A warm welcome he did receive and met trader Joseph Grave-lines who had been living with the Arikaras (cont. p. 3)

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Dates to Remember:

- Oct.*20, 27: 7 p.m. Lyon School Restoration/maintenance. Welcome.
- *21, 28: 1-3 p.m. Archives filing. Welcome. 810/229-6402 to confirm.
- *25: 6:30 p.m. Board meeting. Welcome.
- Nov. 9: 10 a.m. Tour of Michigan Civil War Flags. Lansing.
*Lyon School, 11455 Buno Rd., Brighton.

MEMBERSHIPS

COUPLES/INDIV: Pat & Josie Arnold, *Cheryl Chidester, *Charles & Stephanie Koehn, Richard & Judy Parsons, Dietrick & May Jean Richter (Fraser), *Carol Scott, and *Patricia Thorp.

*New. Welcome on board. Various opportunities for your support, both financial and other, can be found in the newsletter. Everyone should always feel welcome to attend any scheduled activities.

It's getting near time to review the mailing list. Most people receiving the newsletter have paid dues for 2004 and beyond. The Society does not want to remove any addresses but the budget dictates otherwise. If this issue has 'Complementary Copy' stamped on it - dues are not up to date. Your support is needed. It is hoped you will continue your membership or become one.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

Bert Bair and John & Janice Field for help in mailing the September issue.

Cheryl Chidester, Rich & Judy Parsons for including donation with their dues.

Doris Case Singer for renewing membership to Friends of Lyon School and an extra donation.

Carol Scott for a 1967 Brighton Township Land Use map.

Elaine Luttermoser for a picture of Brighton High School students of 26-27.

Nancy Fredenburg, Mindy Kinsey, and Jim Vichich for helping at the Society booth at Harvest Fest.

Community ed office for pictures from Senior Center activities over the years.

Howell archives for pictures from the Livingston County Press files.

NEEDS NEEDS NEEDS

Caring people to serve on the Society board. Call a board member and offer to be on the ballot at the Annual Meeting.

Docents to 'sit' the restored Lyon School in order to have it open to the public. A good way to spend a Sunday afternoon. Information will be prepared for you. Call 810/229-6402.

An embroiderer for the Signature Quilt. Business/Professional members.

PRESERVATION/PRESERVATION

ARCHIVES: Come and help I.D. the many photos that have been donated by the Livingston County Press and local Community Ed office. There is not enough space to store them all nor can we afford to mail them, if we had an address. These photos are from 30-35 years ago.

LYON SCHOOL: Membership in Friends of Lyon School will help pay for the steel door to replace the deteriorating wood door. Friends membership is \$15./individual, \$25./Family. Your continued support is what keeps this part of the Society mission afloat.

Tuesday, November 9, 10 a.m.

Michigan Civil War Flags

Michigan Civil War Flags, their importance and restoration will be the program at the Michigan History Museum in Lansing.

Kerry Chartkoff, of the 'Save the Flags' committee will lead the tour into the room where the flags are stored and will help us understand the value and veneration with which Michigan Civil War soldiers held their company's flag. Each group proudly carried its own banner. Born by the color bearer the soldiers depended on him for direction in the heat of battle. Many of the flags bear mute witness to the ferocity of the fighting.

Capacity is limited. Reservations are necessary. Call 810/229-6402 by November 5. The program will be 1/2-3/4 hour. If seating is necessary, note when making the reservation. We will car pool with parking in the museum lot. There is no charge. Donations to the restoration of the flags are welcome.

One may also tour the Historical Museum. An outstanding exhibit: 'Tommaso Juglaris: A Capitol Artist' appears in the first floor special exhibit gallery through January 9, 2005.

The public is welcome. A lunch room serves sandwiches and beverages.

The Brighton Area Historical Society extends sympathies to the family of
DAVID LEHMAN
A Brighton native and supportive member of the Society

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

P O BOX 481, BRIGHTON MI 48115-0481

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____
(Please include Zip + 4 digit)

Send membership card? () Yes () No () New () Renewal

DUES: () \$50.00 Patron () \$25.00 Couple () \$2.00 Student
() \$50.00 Bus/Prof. () \$15.00 Individual () \$500.00 Life

Be a Friend of Lyon School: () \$10.00 () \$20.00 () \$25.00 () other \$ _____

DONATION: () \$10.00 () \$20.00 () \$50.00 () \$100.00 () other \$ _____

The Society is a 501(c)3 Income Tax Deductible Organization

FUND RAISING PROJECTS

POST CARDS: early local scenes, pkg. 6/\$3. NOTE PAPER: pkg \$2.50; MUGS \$5; TOTE BAGS \$15.; NEEDLEPOINT KIT \$8.; PEWTER PLATES \$35.; all show the Old Town Hall.

1875 PLAT MAPS of Brighton, Conway, Genoa, Green Oak, Hamburg, Hartland, Howell, Iosco and Oceola Townships and 1915 of Brighton and Howell Cities @ \$1. AFGHANS: red, green or blue, woven with nine local sites \$49.; TAPESTRY PILLOW with railroad depot and train, \$28.; 2004 CALENDAR with local scenes \$5. SOCIETY POLO SHIRTS: Navy, forest green and black with BAHS emblem. S/XL \$25., XXL \$26.50. To order any of the above, 810/229-6402.

Your signature, or that of another of your choice, embroidered on the SIGNATURE QUILT, \$10. An appropriate, simple way to support the Society. the quilt will remain in the Society's archives.

TILES: 13 local scenes on black/white 6"x6" ceramic tiles. Limited editions. Available at Main Street Cafe, 440 W. Main. \$8. or 3/\$21.00.

Brighton's own "FROM SETTLEMENT TO CITY... 1832-1945" history book. Almost 500 pages, over 300 pictures. \$60. to members, \$65. to non members plus shipping. Reserve yours.

(cont. fr. p. 1) for 13 years. His knowledge of the territory and the several languages would be most helpful in avoiding the misunderstandings so prevalent in dealing with the Sioux. Lewis hired him immediately. The Arikaras impressed Clark as "...Durtey, Kind, Pore & extravigent pursessing national pride."

October 20, near today's Bismark, N.D., one of the soldiers, Pvt. Cruzette encountered the first grizzly bear. Merely wounding it he j"...being alarmed at the formidable appearance of the bear he left his tomahawk & gun." Those in use at the time could only be fired once and needed re-loading - a distinct disadvantage when merely wounding a grizzly.

October 24, evidence of the Mandans was clear. The devastation of the smallpox, brought by the white man was obvious: abandoned village and ceremonial sites, and human bones the lodges. By the end of October a site for the winter encampment of the expedition was determined. Work began immediately to construct winter quarters on the north bank of the Missouri, just below the mouth of the Knife River. The Mandans made them welcome to spend the next five months nearby.

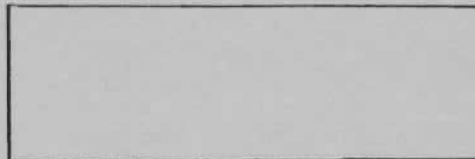
BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

Advance Craft Home Builders, The Fence Spot and Lawrence Autobody have renewed for 2004. The continued support and confidence of these local businesses is much appreciated. Give them your consideration please. The support of others in the community is most welcome.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P O BOX 481
BRIGHTON MI 48116-0481

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THE LAWSONS OF NEW YORK

The John F. and Margaret Lawson family arrived in Livingston County in 1836, from New York, with four children under ten years of age. Eighty acres in Genoa Township, Section 9, were recorded July 9, 1836. In Section 4, 120 Acres were recorded September 22, 1836. The first order of business would have been the construction of a log home in that wilderness. The 200 acres were located on both sides of the Grand River Trail, to the west end of Long (Chemung) Lake.

John F. died in 1857, at which time the property was inherited by his remaining children. George A., b. 1828, died earlier than his father; as one recorder wrote "...in early manhood." Those remaining were Benjamin Howard, b. 1831; Margaret, b. 1833; Serena, b. 1835; Catherine, b. 1837 and John W. b. 1840 (A daughter, Sarah, had died in infancy.) All but Catherine and John were born in New York.

Benjamin Howard owned a hardware store in Howell c. 1860. At some period he became a doctor. He married Maria Holling of New York, c. 1857. In April, 1871, he organized the B.H. Lawson & Company Bank in Brighton at 140 W. Main. He sold to Gustav J. Baetcke in February, 1891. After the organization of Brighton Village, 1867, B. H. held several positions on the village council. Also in the Livingston County Agricultural Society. After moving to Detroit he established the Union Trust Co. in 1889, and practiced at Grace Hospital. His obituary states "...Was one of Brighton's premier citizens."

Margaret married George Younglove c. 1857 and had one child, Burl. By 1870 Younglove has remarried and Burl is still with him. It would appear Margaret died in the early 1860s.

Serena was a rural school teacher, later becoming Spaulding M. Case's third wife. They had two sons. After Spaulding's death she married Thomas Tunis in 1871, and they lived in Brighton Village.

In 1860 Catherine E. is with her mother on the farm in Genoa.

John W. married Adelaide Barnard. They farmed the original acreage. Of their five children, Ernest continued farming after buying out the heirs, upon the death of his father, John W. Ernest and J.G. Hays formed the Howell Co-op in 1917. He organized the First National Bank in Howell. In 1923 his Sunrise Park Subdivision was platted. His son, Harold, formed the Lawson Candy Company in Brighton in the late 1940

It appears John F. and Margaret would have had reason to be proud of all their descendants. (Compiled by Marieanna Bair from: census records; 'Early Landowners and Settlers', 'First Landowners' and obituaries compiled by Milton Charboneau; writings of Bill Pless; and family history from Colby Thompson of California. Corrections and additions welcome. 810/229-6402)