



Brighton Area Historical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 481

Brighton, MI 48116

Trail Tales

September 2004
Vol. XXIII No. 9

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

FROM SETTLEMENT TO CITY - BRIGHTON, MICHIGAN 1832-1945

Compiled by Carol McMacken the history book is at the publishers'. "...offers the reader an opportunity to gain insight into the chronology of the first one hundred and thirteen years of Brighton's existence. Through text and an extensive photo collection it is possible to appreciate the effort of the early inhabitants as they endeavored to establish a viable community.

"Always buffeted by new technology and affected by natural and man made catastrophes, the citizens never sat idle or resisted the outcomes of change. With noble intentions they seized upon those unexpected opportunities to build a town that would leave a legacy and improve the lives of their children. Through their tireless energy, all of societies' institutions simultaneously evolved to shape and determine the character of the community that was born because two young men were motivated to leave their comfortable home in the east and establish a new home on the shores of Ore Creek." (From the book jacket.)

VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY BICENTENNIAL

It was late August, 1804, and the Corps came into Sioux territory. August 29, 70 Yankton Sioux arrived on the shore of the Missouri to council with the Captains Lewis and Clark. Another 500 were in the Indian camp nearby. The captains proffered their usual gifts of tobacco, corn, etc. The Corp was in uniform, the flag raised on a pole and the gun fired.

Not to be outdone the Sioux also had their impressive rituals; full regalia, music and singing. Talking resulted only in Indian complaints of wanting more gifts. They desired powder and balls and whiskey, not medals and trinkets. The captains refused and continued upstream.
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Dates to Remember:

- Sept. *8, 15, 22, 29: 7 p.m. Lyon School Restoration/maintenance. Welcome.
- *9, 16, 23, 30: 1-3 p.m. Archives Filing. Welcome. 810/229-6402 to confirm.
- 18: 6 p.m. Alumni Association annual dinner.
- 25: 8-4 p.m. Harvestfest in Brighton.
- *27: 6:30 p.m. Board meeting. Welcome.
- *Lyon School, 11455 Buno Rd., Brighton

MEMBERSHIPS

PRESERVATION/RESTORATION

COUPLES/INDIV: FAY Hall (CA), Walter Jollitz, Norma Jean Pless (Roscommon), Sherrel Rutter (Detroit), Randy & Kyle Wilson.

Dues, and donations dedicated to the General Fund, pay for Trail Tales; P.O. box rent and non profit mail permit; annual financial review; banking expenses; Michigan filing fees; liability insurance; officer expenses; memberships in various state historical preservation organizations; seminars/training sessions; etc.

All have to do with the management of the Society. Sincere thanks to those sending annual dues and to those making contributions to the General Fund. If you are receiving a Complementary Copy of Trail Tales it is helpful to become a member or make a contribution to the General Fund.

All board members and chairpersons are donating energy and time because the Society's mission has value for them. It is assumed the Society's mission has value for you also.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...Ida Bair, John & Janice Field and June Kimble for help with mailing the August newsletter. June also donated buttoned small kitchen hand towels for sale.

...Nancy Fredenburg, Mindy Kinsey, Jim Vichich and Lucille Weaire for their help at the Art Fair booth last month. Also to those who patronized the booth.

...Jerry & Lisa Cave for contributing to the General Fund.

...Jim Anderson for a picture of Bert Miller and a memorial card.

...Evelyn (Hyne) Dothager for her photo of the Ed Hyne farm and one of her Hyne ancestors.

...Wally Jollitz for a cream can used by A.F. Blehm who owned the Woodruff property on Pleasant Valley Road south of I-96.

...Phyllis (Reetz) Kerslake for the scythe used by her grandfather Monroe Taylor.

...Paul Richards for a small pitcher, a momento of Island Lake.

...Dick & Barbara Smith for a Corona and an Underwood typewriter, with cases, and a Victor adding machine c. 1930. Also early school books, etc.

ARCHIVES: Properly cataloging recent additions into earlier files is ongoing. We are able to help researchers as more items, or copies, are received. Photos, clippings, books, etc., are welcome.

HISTORY BOOK: Orders can be taken for 'From Settlement to City', a history of Brighton 1832-1945. Almost 500 pages with over 300 pictures. The cost to members is \$60. To non-members is \$65. Plus shipping/handling.

LYON SCHOOL: Brush and trees have been removed from the north property line. A 20' flag pole, with interior cable, has been installed in the yard. Donations to the Lyon School Fund make these improvements possible. The possibility of a 36" steel exterior door for the Archives Room is under review. This is a major expense. Your contributions will be very helpful.

HARVESTFEST, SEPT. 25

Saturday, September 25, 8a.m./4 p.m. the Society will have a booth at the Brighton Farmers' Market Harvestfest. This is an opportunity to promote awareness of the Society and its mission.

Reservations for "From Settlement to City, Brighton 1832-1945" will be taken as will memberships. Fund raising items will be for sale. A new order of coverlets and decorative pillows will be available. These and others make great gifts.

It is always an enjoyable several hours where one can promote the benefits to the community the existence and growth of the Society. If you can give a few hours to help at the booth please call 810/229-6402.

NEEDED NEEDED NEEDED

...Docents to 'sit' the restored Lyon School in order to have it open to the public. Information re: the Society and its programs and the restoration is available. Call 810/229-6402.

...An embroiderer for the Signature Quilt.

...Members to consider serving on the Society board. Election will be in November.

...Business/professional members.

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.

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A day later the even more aggressive Teton Sioux were met. That group with which it was most important to become friends. The captains invited three chiefs on board the keel boat to confer. They were given a shot of whiskey; and, as Clark later wrote "...and Soon began to be troublesom." The chiefs were returned to shore in the canoe but Sioux warriors grabbed the bowline and wouldn't let Clark return to the boat. A canoe-load of gifts was demanded before the Corps would be allowed to continue. The captains refused.

The continued hostile attitude caused Clark to draw his sword and to order all hands to arms. Lewis, on the keelboat, took similar action. Indians drew arrows. The dramatic confrontation erased from Lewis' mind the orders from Jefferson to use discretion should an incidence like this arise. Both Lewis and Clark refused to back away from the threat. Fortunately one of the chiefs had the bowline released and the pirogue returned to the boat. No lives had been lost but the captains failed in their quest to make friends with the Sioux.

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.

BAHS
ALUMNI
DINNER

September 18

Send name, phone, and \$25. for each diner to BASAA, P.O. Box 1163, Brighton by 9/3.

50-50 drawing.
\$20.00/500 tickets.

Proceeds to Scholarship Fund.

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

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THOMAS WOULD'S - MILLER AND FARMER

Thomas Would's was an early land owner in Brighton Township; however not among the first. With his older brother, John, 240 acres in Section 15 (E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$) were purchased in 1855 from John Jackson, son of Cyrus, a land speculator of New York. Before dying in 1858, age 33, John deeded Thomas his share.

Thomas, one of ten, was born in England November 15, 1826, and was on his own at age 10. One biographer writes: "At the beginning, when he started out in life for himself, he made it a rule to live within his income, and this resolve, closely followed, has given him an independence than which there is no more pleasant feeling in the world."

He married Hannah Abbott September 21, 1852, and, being married only three months, they sailed from England to the United States. Hannah was born May 27, 1824. After landing in New York they were in Pennsylvania for 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ years. 1854 finds them in Brighton Township.

In 1867, with neighbor Tim Warner, the Woodruff Mill and farm, (Section 34, on Pleasant Valley Road, south of I-96) 110 acres, were purchased. Restoration and repair of the mill was expensive. They operated the mill for five years. The partnership was dissolved in 1872 with Warner acquiring the farm and Would's the mill. Six years later the mill was sold to Mr. Henry Nye, a miller from England, and Thomas returned to full time farming on 160 acres in Section 15.

Thomas and Hannah had no children. Apparently Hannah was not well. Her sister, Martha Abbott, came to the United States in 1882 to help care for her. Martha died June 20, 1896, age 69. She is buried in the Pleasant Valley Cemetery. Hannah's obituary in January, 1900, age 76, says she "...suffered from mental aberrations."

Thomas moved into Brighton about the time of Hannah's death. He lived with Caleb Knight Collett, a carpenter and builder. Thomas died in 1907, joining Hannah and brother John, at the Pleasant Valley Cemetery. His obituary states "Bad speculations in recent years...reduced his wealth." In 1915 Thomas' 160 acres in Section 15 are owned by Collett. (North side Newman Road, one mile east of Van Amburg Road.

By 1961, 20-40 acre parcels are shown on the plat map. These were later divided into 5-10 acre parcels by 1979. (Compiled by Marieanna Bair from: 1891 Portrait and Biographic Album; census records; 1880 History of Livingston County; Early Land Owners and Settlers, First Landowners and obituaries compiled by Milton Charboneau. Corrections and additions welcome. 810/229-6402)