

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Brighton Area Schools — History Club Formed

Submitted by: Nancy Fredenburg, Vice-President BAHS

For many years the Society had discussed ways to engage the younger generation to become more involved in local history. We had discussed bringing it into the schools via speakers and presentations.

In June of 2024, I had decided to pursue the idea of forming a High School History Club. The application process was fairly easy after I found out we didn't need a teacher to sponsor the club and I could self-sponsor. High schools now ask that any individuals that meet have to follow an application process and be approved prior to starting any meetings. At the beginning of the school year they allow all clubs to have a table for incoming freshman to see what is available. I was now competing with some 50 clubs, yes 50! Remember in our school days there were probably 15 clubs of after school activities. Today, they have clubs for every interest. I was encouraged that I had signed up the possibility of 7 people for the History Club.

Our club meets every Tuesday at 2:30 PM in the Brighton Alumni Room at the high school. Let me introduce two of our dedicated members:

- **Val**, a sophomore, is captivated by the mid-70s Brighton band records. There are three different vinyl albums produced under the guidance of Mr. K (Carl Klopshinski). The company that did this was based in Hartland. Val is also researching to see what else this company produced. If anyone out there remembers these albums, we would like to interview you. Val is also spearheading a Google Earth project to compile aerial views of the high school over the decades, which we plan to showcase in the Alumni Room.
- **Owen**, a freshman, is passionate about World War II history. His personal collection of memorabilia was a hit during one of our meetings. Inspired by discussions on Civil War veterans interned in the Old Village Cemetery, Owen

and his mother plan to visit the cemetery to explore its historical significance.

Engaging with these young minds and sharing Brighton's rich history has been a rewarding experience. The century-old treasures housed in the Alumni Room at the high school provide a tangible link to the past that we hope will inspire future historians.

We welcome more students to join our journey through time. If you're interested Brighton and/or the high school history, please reach out to me: Nancy Fredenburg, BAHS, P.O. Box 481, Brighton, Michigan 48116.

