



HAPPY NEW YEAR !

Another year has passed and many volunteers of the Brighton Area Historical Society wrapped up the final event for 2024 with big smiles on December 8. This was the day when Santa and Mrs. Claus spent the afternoon with the children at the Lyon One-room Schoolhouse. Luckily Santa was able to land his sleigh several days early on the thin layer of snow as the Santa event was shrouded with temperatures in the low 50s.

The well dressed children kept Santa very busy with their lists of desired gifts. This was a wonderful afternoon of smiles and laughter. Santa Pat was excited and that enthusiasm was absorbed by every child and parent. Santa told stories and entertained families as joyous photo memories captured every moment. Mrs. Claus, Mindy, helped keep the conversations non-stop as the two adults in red suits were having fun interacting with their guests.

The elves were busy in the ornament workshop helping kids make their special tree embellishments. The elves, Denise and Nancy, have earned their 12 month rest after three hours with the sugar enriched children. Many tasty cookies were enjoyed while elf Lynn served the delectable treats to the children. Santa's photographer, elf Ron, documented the afternoon of festivities and merriment.

The historical society team members provided a wonderful afternoon of cherished remembrances! Thank you to everyone! While the parents and children had a wonderful and fun afternoon, please note the workers had an equally great time. Parents were very complimentary of the awesome Lyon Schoolhouse Christmas Santa Program. **The 2025 Program with Santa will be Sunday, December 14, from 1-4 pm.**

Happy New Year and the best of health to everyone in 2025!

Jim Vichich
BAHS President
info@BrightonAreaHistorical.com
810-250-7276

NOTE: This is the final month of our Membership Drive. If you have renewed your dues or are a new member, we thank you. If you have not yet renewed your dues for 2025, we hope you will by using the insert or the form on Page 3. THANK YOU.

FREE CoBACH

Exhibit:

“Memories of Island Lake”

CoBACH Winter Hours

January thru March

Thursday & Friday 5—8pm

Saturday 11am—5pm

Sunday 2—5pm

Closed Monday

**Archiving at Lyon School
on Buno Road
Every Thursday
9 to 12nn**

CHECK OUT FACEBOOK

Frequent postings regarding Brighton History.

Brighton Area Historical Society

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

DATES TO REMEMBER	2
THANKS AND RECOGNITION	2
SPONSOR FORM	3
BAHS LEADERSHIP	3
CONTACT BAHS	3
NEWS/STORIES	4

Thanks and Recognition

MEMBERSHIPS: (Reflect dues paid for year 2025 unless otherwise noted.)

IND/FAMILY: Caren Biermann, Howard & Syndy Bisoski, Bob & Pam Brantley, Richard & Barb Briggs, Charles & Lois Cheney, Ron Cyr, Jim DeJohn, Lynnette Hawkins (2026), Richard Hyne, Jeanette Johnson, Phyllis Jose*, Susan Lanning, John & Ruth LePatourel, Dennis & Maria Littleworth, Charles McConnell, Richard & Kathy McKinnie, Rudy & Doreen Meffert, Larry & Edie Millen, Robert & Cathy Padget, Stephanie Popoff, Paul & Cindy Sawallich, Patrick Smith, Bill & Hilary Sproule, Roberta Sweetman, Lois Tobias, Susan Tucker-Judd*, Peggy Van Sickle, Robert Veik, Paul Weber, Mike & Sherri Wisser (2026)

PATRON: Frank DeLuca, Caitlyn Perry-Dial, Debra B. Johnson, Charlene & Dave Kull, Robert & Priscilla Pettengill

BUS/ORG: Clark/Tait Eye Center, Serra Honda-Mazda Brighton

LIFE: Tim & Kerry Bennett

2025 SPONSORSHIPS: **Platinum:** Lake Trust Credit Union; **Silver:** Steve & Denise Black, Kathy Lueker Pearson

Welcome to new members*: Phyllis Jose, Susan Tucker-Judd

FINAL MONTH OF OUR MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

We hope you will renew your membership using the form on Page 3 or the insert. 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 2025 and beyond.
- Lake Trust Credit Union for their 2025 Platinum Sponsorship.
- Steve & Denise Black for their 2025 Silver Sponsorship and donation

to Friend of Old Village Cemetery.

- Kathy Lueker Pearson for her 2025 Silver Sponsorship & Donation to the Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund.
- Bob & Betsy Herbst for their donation to Friend of Lyon School and Pleasant Valley Cemetery Restoration in memory of Janet Warner Bennett.
- Ron Cyr, Caitlyn Perry-Dial, Jeanette Johnson and Paul Weber for their donation to the Society along with their dues.
- Richard & Kathy McKinnie for their donation to the Larry Lawrence Scholarship fund, Friend of Lyon School, CoBACH Events and Friend of Old Village Cemetery along with their dues.
- Bill & Hilary Sproule for their donation to CoBACH Events along with their dues.
- Bob & Pam Brantley, Rudy & Doreen Meffert, Roberta Sweetman, Peggy Van Sickle for their donation to the Larry Lawrence Scholarship fund along with their dues.
- Patrick Smith and Mary Lou Winegar for their donation to Friend of Old Village Cemetery along with their dues.
- Caren Biermann for her donation to Friend of Old Village Cemetery and the Larry Lawrence Scholarship fund along with her dues.

Our condolences to the family and friends of

Carolina DeLuca`

Carolina was a long-time member of the Society. Her generosity and kindness will be missed by all.

Dates to Remember

PLEASE SEE PAGE 1 FOR WINTER CoBACH HOURS

CoBACH Center: January—March FREE Exhibit: "Memories of Island Lake.

January 2,9,16,23,30; Thursday; 9am—12nn: Lyon School-house Open for archiving.

January 22; Wednesday; 6pm; CoBACH Center: BAHS Board Meeting.

Life — Business — Professional Members

Life Members:

Tom Archer — John & Deb Armstrong — Paul & Kathryn Bair (MI) — Tim & Kerry Bennett — Sharrell (Munce) Blakeley (CA) — Janice Beach Donald & Shari Black (FL) — Steve & Denise Black — Marilyn Campbell (IN) — Jack Collett — John & Jenny Conely — Bonnie Corrigan Kelsey Corrigan — Timothy & Giannine Corrigan — Jerry & Carole Damon — Patricia LewAllen DeFoor (GA) — Frank & Jo Del Vero Bill & Margaret Dixon — Joan Engel — Tony & Beth Ferreyra — Nancy Fredenburg — Dave & Jacque Fuller — Lee & Deb Gough Stephen & Marilyn Harrington — William & Lenore Harris — Betsy & Bob Herbst — Kathy Jacoby (OR) — Claire & Aaron Jusino — Kate Lawrence Jim Leith (IN) — Stephen Leith — 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 Lueker Pearson David & Marilyn Pettigrove — Bob & Donna Phillips — Douglas & Carole Rearick — Brigitte Ritsema — Tom & Bonnie Riutta — Pauline Schaffer Bruce & Betty Schuman — Anne Stratigos — Lynn Brady Strong — Jim & Vicki Vichich — Michael & Jennifer Vichich — Linda (Skeman) Wintermute Karen Wirth — Alice Wyland

Business /Professional Members: (Indicates Life Members)**

Advance Craft Builders (2024) — Archer Huntley Financial Services ** — Brewery Becker** — Brighton Area Women's History Roll of Honor** Brighton District Library ** — Brighton Lions Club (2024) — Brighton Veterans Memorial Comm.** — Buckley-Jolley Group ** Clark/Tait Eye Center (2025) — Mark Francuck, DDS, PC (2024) — Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc.** — Liberty Title Agency (2024) — Lindhout Associates** Liv. County Convention & Visitors Center (2023) — Lawrence Auto Body ** — Masonic Lodge No. 247 ** — Patrick Financial Group, LLC ** Power House Electric, Inc. (2025) — Preview Properties (2025) — Promess, Inc.** — Refrigeration Research ** — Serra Brighton Automotive (2025) Tee-Bone'z Tavern (2024) — Wallflower Mercantile**

2025 Sponsorships:

Platinum: Lake Trust Credit Union

Silver: Steve & Denise Black — Kathy Lueker Pearson

Gold: Judith Coebly/Gary Reutter

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: _____

Membership Plan:		Additional Donation to—Check as Desired:	
<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> \$5 Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Pleasant Valley Cemetery Restoration	
<input type="checkbox"/> Renew	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> Larry Lawrence Scholarship	Amount of Donation:
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Patron or More	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75 Business/Professional	<input type="checkbox"/> Friend of Lyon School	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$250
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Life	<input type="checkbox"/> BAHS CoBACH Events	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____
		<input type="checkbox"/> Friend of Old Village Cemetery	

The Brighton Area Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit AND a 509(a)2 Public Charity 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).

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 James.Vichich@gmail.com

Current BAHS Leadership

President Jim Vichich	Directors Ron Cyr
Vice President Nancy Fredenburg	Tony Ferreyra
Secretary Thomas Reinke	Dr. Caitlyn Perry Dial
Treasurer Steve Black	Mindy Kinsey
Webmaster Debbie Armstrong	John Rawcliffe
	Lynn Strong
	Trail Tales Editor Jerry Damon

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 AND a 509(a)2 public charity 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
PAID
Permit #303
Brighton, MI

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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.

