



Exciting News!

President Jim Vichich Featured on Preservation Oaks World-wide Podcast.

You have an opportunity to listen to a great Brighton history podcast that is followed by a world-wide audience that is available starting this month on January 27.

Sit back in the comfort of your home and listen to a great session on the history of Brighton. You will learn about the how and why Brighton was settled and why advances in technology always propelled the success of our community forward.

Preservation Oaks Podcast by Sean Radcliff is a leading podcast that focuses on local history across the country. Learn how the Brighton Area Historical Society was formed to fight government plans to remove the Old Town Hall and how it continues to enrich the community through cultural exhibits at our three historical sites.

My appearance on the show promises to be an engaging and insightful conversation shedding light on the important work our historical society does and the passion that drives us.

Starting January 27. Go to the website:

PreservationOaks.podbeam.com

Select Episode:

EP088 S04E01

Jim Vichich

BAHS President

info@BrightonAreaHistorical.com

810-250-7276

Our condolences to the family and friends of
LINDA (Skeman) WINTERMUTE

Linda was a Life member of the Society. Borne in Brighton, she had a strong interest in Brighton history. Linda served in the United States Army as a Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge of the aviation dispensary at Fort Stewart, Georgia.

FREE CoBACH

Exhibit:

“Memories of Island Lake”

CoBACH Winter Hours

February 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

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Thanks and Recognition

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

IND/FAMILY: Denise Daddino, Floice Frazer, Joanne Harte, Frank & Monica Ninteman, John & Linda Rawcliffe, Marilyn Schlaug (2026), Rick & Tietze Smith, Ralph Steinberger,* Donna Warner, Robert Wilkinson

PATRON: Pamela Bell (2026), Don Boyer, Dave & Terrie (Leith) Fisher, Mindy & Tom Kinsey, Rich & Mary K. Ray, Haig & Alice Stoddard

BUS/ORG: Tee-Bone'z Tavern

2025 SPONSORSHIPS: Platinum: Jerry & Carole Damon

Welcome to new member*: Ralph Steinberger

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE HAS ENDED...However, you can still renew your membership or become a member using the form on Page 3. 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.
- Jerry & Carole Damon for their 2025 Platinum Sponsorship and donation to the Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund.
- Don Boyer and Joanne Harte for their donation to the Society along with their dues.

- Mindy & Tom Kinsey for their donation to CoBACH along with their dues.
- John & Linda Rawcliffe for their donation to Friend of Old Village Cemetery along with their dues.
- Floice Frazer and Donna Warner for their donation to Friend of Lyon School along with their dues.
- Rick & Tietze Smith for their donation to the Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund and CoBACH along with their dues.
- Volunteers who greeted guests at the CoBACH Center during January: Steve Black, Tony Ferreyra, Nancy Fredenburg, Mindy Kinsey, Tom Reinke, Lynn Strong, Jim Vichich.
- Our snow shoveling crew who took care of the sidewalk at Lyon School during January: Steve Black and Jim Vichich.
- CoBACH museum exhibit staff that removed the Christmas exhibit and installed the new exhibit "Memories of Island Lake." Carole Damon, Nancy Fredenburg, Deb & Lee Gough, Mindy Kinsey and Lynn Strong.

THANK YOU to everyone who renewed their dues, made a donation or became a sponsor during our membership drive. We appreciate each and every one of you!

Dates to Remember

PLEASE SEE PAGE 1 FOR WINTER CoBACH HOURS

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

February 6,13,20,27; Thursday; 9am—12nn: Lyon Schoolhouse Open for archiving & tours.

February 4; Tuesday; 7pm; Methodist Church: History Presentation to Dorcas Group.

February 26; Wed.; 6pm; CoBACH Center: BAHS Board Meeting.

March 16; Sunday: Annual Meeting w/Elections at Lyon School; Luncheon 1—2pm; Meeting 2:15 — 4pm.

April 25, Friday—May 3, Sunday: CoBACH Center: Vintage Used Jewelry Sale Fundraiser.

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 Venio 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** — 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 (2025) — Wallflower Mercantile**

2025 Sponsorships:

Platinum: Jerry & Carole Damon, 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
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Brighton, MI**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Did you know the Society has a Facebook page? Stories about Brighton’s rich history are regularly posted on this site, along with many photos. Below are two recent stories. We invite you to check out our Facebook page. Brighton Area Historical Society.

Island Lake, 125 Years Ago

The Michigan National Guard trained many summers at Island Lake in the late 1800s. Their training grounds were south of the railroad where Academy Drive crossed the RR tracks.

This winter photo from New Years Day, 1899 shows the 31st Infantry that was mobilized at Island Lake in preparation for battle in the Spanish American War. The 31st was sent to Cuba January 25, 1899 and returned on April 25, 1899.

Island Lake has a lot of history from around its shores. Visit the CoBACH Center through March to see many old photos and learn about its rich history. The Brighton Area Historical Society’s FREE exhibit is the “Memories of Island Lake.”

CoBACH winter hours are: Thursday through Friday, 5-8pm; Saturday, 11-5 pm; Sunday 5-8 pm. The City of Brighton Arts, Culture and History (CoBACH) Center is located in the Old Town Hall at 202 W Main St.



Preservation of History By A Scout

The rebirth of Campbell Town Cemetery in Hamburg Township was the focus of a local scout in the summer of 2024.

Mr. Will Lutz is a junior at Brighton High School and a life scout. His Eagle Scout Project focused on restoring headstones thus helping in preserving the cemetery and memories of our early settlers who established and lived in a small community known as Campbell Town.

This project required most of headstones that were leaning to be removed and reset vertically. Some headstones required new bases to hold them since they were snapped at ground level. Other headstones were broken in pieces and required restoration. Will and his dad, Mark, took a special training class in the proper techniques for restoring headstones. This community was located between Ore Creek and Hamburg Road about 1/4 mile south of today’s Hamburg Road bridge that crosses Ore Creek. (The 1875 map shows the location of the early bridge that was 1/4 mile south of the today’s crossing.)

Kudos to Hamburg Township government for allowing Will Lutz to proceed with this vital restoration project! Most of the people buried here were just good, common citizens. They raised their families, paid their taxes and helped their community. These headstones are likely their sole documentation of having lived on the planet. Thank you Will Lutz for helping to preserve their name in local history through your restoration of Campbell Town Cemetery! A job well done!

