



Back row—Steve Black, Tony Ferreyra, Jim Vichich, Ron Cyr, Tom Reinke
Front row—Mindy Kinsey, Lynn Strong, Nancy Fredenburg

Welcome to New BAHS President, Nancy Fredenburg

The BAHS Board of Directors elected a different president at the March Annual Meeting for the first time in (18) years. Long serving president, Jim Vichich, decided the timing was right to step down from the role of president and not to run again in 2025. Jim will continue as a Director on the BAHS Board where he has served since 1994. He looks forward to being an active board member for many more years.

Nancy Fredenburg has been a BAHS Board member since 1992 and a proud graduate of Brighton High School, class of 1976. She has been the Society's Vice-President for (4) years.

Lynn Brady Strong will be the new Vice-President. Lynn has served on the Board of Directors since 2015. Her family has been in the area for about 125 years.

Thank you to retiring board members John Rawcliffe for his (6) years and Caitlyn Perry-Dial for her (2) years of volunteer service. Their presence and advice will be missed.

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

We were saddened to hear of the recent passing of

PATRICIA "PAT" MROZEK

Pat was a long-time member of the Society and will be missed.
Our condolences to her family and friends.

FREE CoBACH
Exhibit thru April 23
"Memories of Island Lake"

CoBACH Summer Hours
April thru October
Wed. — 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: Dale Borst, Pamela Hicks, Lee & Donna Perry, Scott Selesky, John & Anne Zemke

BUS/ORG: Premier Financial Planning*, Wealth & Wellness Group*

LIFE: Jason Conrad Huntley, CFP*

2025 SPONSORSHIPS: Platinum Plus: Wallflower Mercantile

Welcome to new members*: Jason Conrad Huntley, CFP, Premier Financial Planning, Wealth & Wellness Group

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.
- Dr. John Cameron, Jerry & Carole Damon and Lake Trust Credit Union for their 2025 Platinum Sponsorship.
- Wallflower Mercantile for the 2025 Platinum Plus Sponsorship and their donation to the Society.
- Pleasant Valley Social Club for their donation in memory of Denise

Daddino and Bonnie Corrigan.

- Mindy & Tom Kinsey for their donation in memory of Denise Daddino.
- John & Anne Zemke for their donation to the Society along with their dues.
- Patricia DeFoor for her donation to Lyon School for the fence replacement.
- Donors of jewelry for BAHS Vintage Used Jewelry Sale April 25—May 3: Barb Binkley, Carolina DeLuca family, Carlota Haider.
- Volunteers who greeted the guests at the CoBACH Center in March: Steve Black, Mindy Kinsey, Bob Pettengill, Tom Reinke, Lynn Strong and Jim Vichich.
- Pam Bell, Steve Black and Tony Ferreyra for volunteering with inputting collection information into the Past Perfect software at Lyon School.
- Nancy Fredenburg, Mindy Kinsey and Lynn Strong for cleaning and prepping the Lyon School for the Annual Meeting.
- All board members who helped relocate the Annual Meeting to the Lions Club Community Den due to a power outage at the Lyon School. Special thanks to Tony & Beth Ferreyra for securing the Lions Club at the last minute.

Dates to Remember

PLEASE SEE PAGE 1 FOR SUMMER CoBACH HOURS

CoBACH Center: April FREE Exhibit: "Memories of Island Lake.

May — July FREE Exhibit: "The Office Before Apple"

April 3,10,17,24 Thursday; 9am—12nn: Lyon Schoolhouse Open for archiving & tours.

April 23; Wednesday: BAHS Board Meeting at CoBACH Center, 6PM.

April 25, Friday—May 3, Sunday: CoBACH Center: Vintage Used Jewelry Sale Annual Fundraiser for the Society. See enclosed flyer and our Facebook page for details.

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 — 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 — Jason Conrad Huntley, CFP — 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 — Karen Wirth — Alice Wyland

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

Brewery Becker** — Brighton Area Women's History Roll of Honor** — Brighton Area Chamber of Commerce (2025) — 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) — Premier Financial Planning (2025) Preview Properties (2025) — Promess, Inc.** — Refrigeration Research ** — Serra Brighton Automotive (2025) — Tee-Bone'z Tavern (2025) Wallflower Mercantile** — Wealth & Wellness Group (2025)

2025 Sponsorships:

Platinum: John Cameron, MD, Jerry & Carole Damon, Lake Trust Credit Union, **Platinum Plus:** Wallflower Mercantile

Silver Steve & Denise Black — Kathy Lueker Pearson

Gold: Judith Coebly/Gary Reutter

Support BAHS: Become a Sponsor, 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, become a member or a sponsor, please mail your check 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: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Type of Membership Plan:

New \$5 Student \$50 Patron or More
 Renew \$20 Individual \$75 Business/Professional
 \$30 Family \$500 Life

BAHS Sponsorship Program:

The BAHS sponsorship program has the following levels with the associated annual funding gifts. Sponsors will receive recognition through the Trail Tales newsletter and through the sponsorship placard located at the City of Brighton Arts, Culture and History (CoBACH) Center (aka Old Town Hall).

Platinum — \$1,000+ Gold — \$500+
 Silver — \$250+ Bronze — \$100+

Additional Donation to — Check as Desired:

Pleasant Valley Cemetery Restoration
 Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund
 Friend of Lyon School
 BAHS CoBACH Events
 Friend of Old Village Cemetery

Amount of Additional Donation:

\$10 \$100
 \$25 \$250
 \$50 Other \$ _____

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.

Current BAHS Leadership

President
Nancy Fredenburg

Vice President
Lynn Strong

Secretary
Thomas Reinke

Treasurer
Steve Black

Webmaster
Debbie Armstrong

Directors
Ron Cyr
Tony Ferreyra
Mindy Kinsey
Jim Vichich

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:
(517) 304-5044

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

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The following story was compiled from the book "From Settlement to City, Brighton, Michigan 1832—1945" by Carol McMacken and the website of St. George Lutheran Church. This book detailing Brighton's early history can be purchased from the Society by contacting Nancy Fredenburg at 517-304-5044.

St. George Lutheran Church

The Evangelical Lutheran St. George's Congregation of Livingston, Michigan was the name chosen by a group of approximately twenty-five families who met on April 23, 1845, in Genoa, for the purpose of forming a church. The Reverend Frederick Schmid, the first Lutheran missionary in Michigan conducted the meeting at which it was determined that the congregation of approximately 100 adults and children, while devout, had barely enough resources to sustain little more than life's most essential necessities.

Religious services were conducted in German and were held in homes, barns, and in the log schoolhouse. Recognizing that money was scarce and that there was a need for a permanent structure that could accommodate the congregation, Dr. E. A. Buck made the journey to his native Germany of obtain the financial resources to build a church. While there he not only received \$600 but he was also presented with a baptismal font, a communion set, a church record, a contribution plate, and a church seal with the imprint of St. George slaying the dragon.

Three years later, Richard Beherns Sr. conveyed two acres of land at the corner of Herbst and Hubert Roads to be used for a church and a cemetery. Louis Dorr, an expert carpenter and joiner, was given the task of constructing a building that measured 25x36x16 ft. at a cost of \$310. Pastor Schmid officiated at the dedication of the new building in 1849, exactly four years after the initial meeting in Genoa.

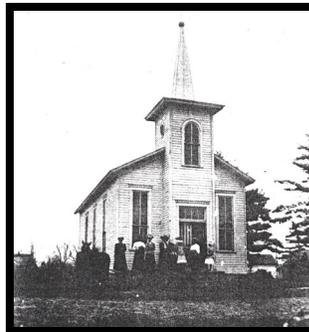
Thirty-four years after the decision had been made to form a religious community, the cornerstone was laid for a new church and a parsonage on three acres at the corner of Crooked Lake and Bauer Roads. The editor of the Brighton paper noted, in June of 1880 that "The Lutheran Society contemplates erecting another church in Brighton. We now

support six churches and still there's room." The church, larger than the previous one, measured 32x50 and was built at a cost of \$2,800.

In January of 1920 there was some talk of moving the church to the village of Brighton. By December of 1921, the elders of the church voted to make the move. The members subscribed \$7,000 for the work. Herman Risch, Oscar Schoenhals and Con Weber went to work on the details of the move. The property of Phillip Conrad was purchased for \$5,000. Conrad's property on the corner of Main and 4th contained a house, occupied at that time by the Roy Newcomb family. The residence was thought to be modern throughout and all agreed that the house would be ideal for a parsonage and the lot would make a prominent site for the church.

In 1922, the Genoa church was dismantled, loaded on wagons and transported to Brighton. It was placed on the newly purchased land. The members of St. Paul's Episcopal Church consented to let the congregation use their church until the Lutheran Church was ready. The Christmas sermon delivered by the Reverend Pastor Swinehart was titled, "The Greatest Christmas Gift." The cornerstone for the church was laid on April 26, 1922.

September 2006, the original pump organ was located and graciously donated to St. George. It can be seen in the library area where it is on display. In 2020, St. George celebrated its 175th anniversary.



St. George c 1880



St. George c2023