



Grand River Trail

TRAIL TALES

Brighton Area Preservation News

The purpose of the Brighton Area Historical Society is to preserve, advance and disseminate knowledge of the history of the Brighton Area.

The membership is composed of people who feel this purpose is worthwhile and should be promoted.

P.O. Box 481 Brighton, Mi. 48116
Vol. X No.2 February, 1991

Brighton Area Historical Society

Board of Directors

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Penny Szczechowski	229-7324
Finance Comm., Mike Cuthbert	229-4550
Town Hall Restoration- Lyons School- Editor, Penny Szczechowski	229-7324

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN NEEDED

Two of the Society's major committees need chairmen as of this month.

The Lyons School Restoration Committee is working on preserving one of the last remaining one room school-houses in the state. It is in need of a chairman.

The Old Town Hall, built on the Millpond in 1879 has had active restorative work from the Committee over the last few years. Everyone who travels down Main Street now can enjoy the efforts of this hard working committee. It is also in need of a chairman.

Please help continue this work. Volunteer your time. You won't be sorry. Call an officer or board member and get involved.

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1991 DUES CAN BE PAID NOW

Membership dues for 1991 are now due. If you do not have a '91 on your Trail Tales newsletter address label, you need to send in your dues now.

Please note that dues have been raised for the 1991 membership year. Patron and Business/Professional are still \$25.00. Couples are now \$12.00. Individual dues are \$7.00.

Please do your part to support the Society and help pay for the printing of this newsletter.

GENEALOGY AND HISTORY BOOK FAIR

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 1991

LANSING CIVIC ARENA
(Old Lansing Civic Center)
505 W. Allegan
Lansing, Michigan

\$1.00 admission

New and used books covering all aspects of genealogy and historical research.

JANUARY MEMBERSHIP

PATRON/BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL

Elizabeth S. Bindenagel (South Dakota); Steve & Kathy Lowry ('92); Val & Kathy Jacoby (Florida); Keehn Funeral Home; Kay & Jere Michaels; Dr. & Mrs. Gerald E. Whalen (Frankenmuth);

FAMILY/INDIVIDUAL

Wayne & Sally (Beurmann) Baldwin (Grand Rapids); Ted & Doris Carmack (Dearborn); Mr. & Mrs. Timothy C. Flynn; Dorothy R. Foster ('91, '92, '93, California); Norman & MaryBeth Guest (Lewiston); Josephine Hyne; Mr. & Mrs. Royden E. Jones; Mrs. Carol King (Texas); John & Mari-Lynn Korte (Ohio); Jeanette Madigan; Mike & Helen M. Michaels; Heidi Newman (Ann Arbor); Charles & Marion Norris; Dominic & Dottie Palarchio ('92); Mrs. Frank Seger; Lovisa Seger; Mel Skeman; Richard & Barbara Smith; Mrs. Franc Stokes (Florida); Mr. & Mrs. Robert Watson (Howell); Cathy Wilson; Paul & Alene Anderson (Charlevoix)

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1991 HOME TOUR

The 1991 Brighton Area Home Tour is in need of a chairman and volunteers to serve on the committee. Cathy Qualls, last years chairman has had to resign from this years committee. Therefore, in order for the Society to hold the tour, a chairman needs to be chosen quickly.

If you are interested in heading this committee, please contact one of the board members immediately.

If a chairman is not found, the home tour will be cancelled for this year.

HOWELL LECTURE SERIES

The Livingston Country Historical society is again presenting an old house lecture series. The fall programs were very successful.

The winter series is shown below. All lectures will be held at Howell High School in room L-8 at 7:30. The cost is \$3.00, payable at the door or in advance through Howell Community Education, 1400 W. Grand River.

February 19 - WHERE DO I GO TO FIND THE THINGS I NEED?

Loelei Crawford from Materials Unlimited in Ypsilanti, will show some of the architectural salvage and reproduced items that are available. A slide presentation will show the use of these items in both new and old homes.

March 21 - WHAT COLOR SHOULD I PAINT MY HOUSE?

Robert Schweitzer will discuss authentic colors for period homes. Mr. Schweitzer is an architectural historian from Eastern Michigan University's Historic Preservation Program and is co-author of America's Favorite Homes.

April 30 - HERB GARDENS

Edith Salyer will give a slide presentation showing formal and informal gardens and the plants appropriate for both. Her talk will cover theme gardens such as culinary, medicinal, and fragrance. Ms. Salyer is a self-taught gardener who has been growing herbs for 11 years. She is a member of the Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Michigan Herb Association.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Dick & Shelagh Davis
chairmen - 229-8494

Many thanks to all of you who are already sending in your membership dues for 1991 and, in some cases, for 1992 and 1993.

We would like to express our gratitude to Lois Cole, who has been doing the calligraphy for the patron/business/professional certificates for the past few years. Lois, and her husband, Don, will be retiring soon and moving out of Brighton. We wish them well, and much happiness in their new home.

We would appreciate a call from any member who enjoys doing calligraphy and who would do the certificates for us. They average between three and six a month. It involves writing the member's name and the year of membership. Please call one of the board members if you would like to take over this job. Thank you.

The Society wishes to thank Dick & Shelagh Davis for their work on the membership. They are resigning from the chairmanship as of February. A new chairman is being sought. If you are interested in chairing this committee, please call a board member.

OLD TOWN HALL RESTORATION

Dick & Shelagh Davis
chairmen - 229-8494

The Committee expressed its thanks and appreciation to Ralph and Elizabeth Roman, for their generous donation toward the Old Town Hall restoration. We appreciate their thoughtfulness.

We also appreciate the suggestions of one of our members, Shirley Sharp, who had some great ideas on fundraisers for this committee. The committee will be exploring the possibility of a progressive dinner, as one of the ideas. More to follow!

The carillon, which "crashed" during a power failure and had to be sent to the supplier for repairs, is back and up in the Old Town Hall tower. It has been updated and a surge protector has been installed. You can again enjoy the chimes and music when you are in town.

The Society wished to thank Dick & Shelagh Davis for their dedication to the Old Town Hall Committee. They will be stepping down as chairmen. A new chairman for the committee is needed. If you are interested please contact a board member.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

NEW () RENEWAL ()

Activities in which I would like to participate:

- () Bake Sale () Help with Spec. events () Newsletter () Research
- () Board Member () Hospitality () Oral History () Restoration
- () Fund Raising () Programs () Photography () Video Taping
- () Genealogy () Membership Committee () Publicity () Other work

I would be willing to do: _____

DUES: \$25. Patron	Send to: Brighton Area Historical Society
\$25. Business/Professional	P.O. Box. 481
\$12. Couple	Brighton, Mich. 48116
\$ 7. Individual	

IS THERE A DOCTOR IN THE AREA? (Cont.)

Livingston County was among the six which constituted the 22nd Michigan Volunteer Infantry formed in response to President Lincoln's call for 75,000 men, April, 1861; to put down secession attempts of the southern states. Members of the 22nd were involved in some of the worst battles of the war where casualties amounted to 1/3 of the participants. History reminds us that the three months at first felt necessary to bring the conflict to an end, eventually extended to four years.

Fishbeck, Noble, Kelley, Bingham, Bigham, Curtis, McCabe, Placeway, Hacker, Pentlin, Cushing, Baetcke, Thompson, Albright, Harrington, Conely, Curry, Avis, Clark, Crippen, Woodruff, Appleton, Westphal, Bidwell - all names familiar to a student of Brighton area history and all members of the volunteer infantry regiments. If they weren't wounded or killed, most local enlistees stayed until the end; 1865.

Eventually 90,000 men from Michigan served in the Civil War. One in seven did not return. Altho' the number killed in action is horrendous, the number who died of wounds, disease and starvation, was triple that number. Millions of cases of illness resulting from dirt and polluted water; malaria, typhoid, pneumonia and dysentery (the Tennessee quickstep).

The knowledge of sanitation, bacteriology and antiseptics was still in the future. The men endured the sanitary measures of the Middle Ages. Not all medical men were competent. Stories were told of "confirmed scoundrels and drunkards". The incompetency and bungling of officers often led to unnecessary deaths and hardships. The prescription of calomel, which included mercury, was a common medical treatment.

During and after the Civil War narcotics (morphine, opium, heroin, etc.) and patent medicines, containing large proportions of alcohol, were so widely used that drug addiction became known as the 'Army Disease'. Their use was so widespread that one nostrum created the addict and the next professed the cure. One, which was touted to cure the drunkard, contained 41.6% alcohol. Even children were given doses of these medicines for coughs, croup, hoarsness, asthma, bronchitis, all diseases of the chest including consumption (Tuberculosis).

The advertisers included political figures, Civil War generals and friends of these prominent persons, creating the association between the veteran, the prominent person and the patent medicine. Dr. Tobias and others combined camphor, alcohol, turpentine, ammonia, chloroform, etc., into a linament. Often these remedies were sold following a magic show or concert at the local opera house. These linaments were touted to be good for one's horse also. (By Marieanna Bair. To be continued. It is hoped that persons with knowledge of medical practitioners in the area, since the turn of the century, will contact her. 229-6402.)

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