



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
Vol. X No. 11

Brighton, Mi. 48116
November, 1991

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Editor-Penny Szczechowski	229-7324

SOCIETY NEWS

HELP WANTED:

Someone to type the Board minutes once a month. If you are interested in helping your Society, please call Anne Stratigos at 229-3968.

A CRAZY QUILT, SIGNATURE QUILT was donated to the Society by the estate of Evelyn Schroeder of Bishop Lake Road in Howell.

The quilt was dated 1912 and had some old Brighton family names stitched in. A few of the names you may recognize were Rolison, Swarthout, and Appleton.

Research is now being conducted on more of the history of the quilt. One story was that the ladies of these families who had farms near each other, got together to stitch this quilt for the family.

We welcome this wonderful piece of history to our archives and thank the family of Evelyn Schroeder.

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UP WITH PEOPLE CONCERT

On Nov. 29, 30, and Dec. 1 Brighton will play host to a wonderful group of young people who put on a terrific program full of music, dance, and entertainment.

If you haven't seen them you must.

BRIGHTON ANNUAL CHRISTMAS WALK

The Olde Brighton Merchants Association is hosting the annual CHRISTMAS WALK in downtown Brighton Sunday, December 1

Caroling, shopping, Tree Lighting Ceremony

SIGNATURE QUILT FILLING UP

For a \$10 donation your name or that of another can be embroidered on the quilt which will be retained in the Society archives.

A signature of P.G. Hartman, whose ad appeared in the 'Grand Formal Opening' program of the opening of the Rialto Theater in 1919 -

P.G. HARTMAN AND SON

- Dealers in -
FRESH AND SALT MEATS
OF ALL KINDS

Oysters and Fish in Season

- is available A \$10 donation would include it on the quilt. As other early signatures come to our attention, it seems fitting to include them.

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The Society has income tax deductible status with the I.R.S. under Section 501(c)(3). Gifts donated to the Society are income tax deductible from both Federal and State Income Tax.

+ + + +

Tiles of various local sites make appropriate Christmas gifts. These are available at Jarvis Men's Store, 205 W. Main.

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ANNUAL OCTOBER BAKE SALE

Many thanks to Jane Tomlinson and her fine crew for the recent bake sale at the Brighton Farmers Market. They are really getting good at it. The regularity with which Jane conducts this twice a year event is much appreciated.

If you were unable to donate/buy baked goods, you might consider a monetary contribution. The society's goals, preservation and restoration, resource survey, oral history, etc. cannot be reached without your support.

MEMBERSHIP

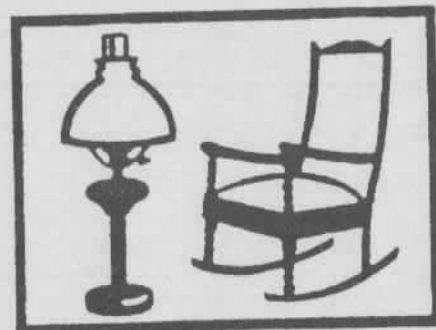
BUSINESS: Bogan Agency; David Beauchamp (Champ's Pub); Elizabeth Bindenagel (S.D.); Warner's Orchard and Cider Mill;

PATRONS: Rita Altenburg; Robert H. Chesky, M.D. ; Mr. & Mrs. Harold Jarvis, Jr.

INDIVIDUAL/ COUPLE: Betty Adams; David C. Apps; Josie & Patrick Arnold; Jeanette Bailey; Don & Ricci Bandkau; Evangeline Bell; Bob & Tillie Bitten; W. Charles & Joan M. Brown; Jim & Polly Buchanan; Frank & Bernice Cheetham; Dale & Doris Clixby; Ula Davis; Doris Fay; Betty (Hall) Franklin (AZ); Karen Goss; Mrs. Norman Guest; Kathryn P. Hodgkin (91,92); Mr. & Mrs. Walter E. Jollitz; Whitney & June Kimble (91,92); Mary E. Mathias; Mr. & Mrs. William D. McCririe; Judy & Jim Murray; Ed & Sherry Nyhus; Mary Pearsall; David Pomerville; Mr. & Mrs. Cliff Ritter; Daniel & Emma Jean Siford (91,92); Alice Spengue (91,92,FL); Bill & Charmaine Zink.

The Society wishes to thank the members for their support by the renewal of their memberships. Many thanks to those who are unable to help personally but show their support by paying patron dues when possible.

Your support helps the moral of those contributing their time and energy to the Society.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR AREA

As winter and the holidays approach, events and annual Christmas celebrations are taking place. Listed below are just a few of the many activities available to us.

DICKEN'S OLDE FASHIONED CHRISTMAS
in Historic Holly
beginning Nov. 29, every weekend
through Dec. 22.
313 634-1900

CHRISTMAS AT CROSSROADS VILLAGE
Just north of Flint
Thursday - Sunday; Nov. 29-Dec. 29.
313 736-7100

Franklin (North west of Detroit)
HOLLY DAY FESTIVAL
Dec. 7, 10:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Carriage rides, home tour, craft
classes and demonstrations, etc.
Tickets \$5.00;
313 885-1576

GREAT LAKES ANTIQUE SHOW AND SALE
Oakland University, Meadow Brook
Complex, Rochester
Nov. 16, 17.
313 420-3237

BOTSFORD ANTIQUE SHOW
Botsford Inn, Farmington Hills
Nov. 30, Dec. 1
313 363-9736

ANTIQUER MERCHANTS ASSOC.
ANTIQUER SHOW in Allen
Nov. 29, Dec. 1
517 869-2822

CHRISTMAS WALK
Plymouth
Dec. 6-8
313 455-7011

CHRISTMAS WALK
Northville
Nov. 17
313 349-0522

ROMEO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
HOME TOUR
Dec. 15
313 752-6645

8th ANNUAL FANTASY OF LIGHTS
Howell
Nov. 29
Victorian carollers, music and
displays; parade at 7:00 p.m.
Special Holiday Sundays and
carriage rides Dec. 1, 8, 15
1:00 - 4:00
517 546-3920

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: _____

FEES: \$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? (Concluded)

In 1945, Dr. Niles Clarke Was discharged, in Mississippi, from the U.S. Army having served for 5½ years. He had been a member of the National Guard. Following V.J. Day veterans who had served since before Pearl Harbor were among the first released. He and his family decided they did not want to go back to Detroit to his earlier practice. Washington was considered as a possible site to hang his shingle. His wife, Wilma, drove with their two boys from Gulfport, Mississippi, to Denver and on to Washington when they decided against that plan.

Dr. Clarke visited the State Medical Society in Lansing for advice on where to settle. Partly because his family had connections to the Ben Hur resort area, off Flint Road, the Clarkes also researched Brighton. Tom Leith, who was active in city government at the time, introduced him to Dr. Archie McGregor and the decision was made. His office was opened at 716 Spencer in 1945 and his practice grew quickly. (Office hours every evening except Thursday and Saturday.) By 1948 he practiced surgery and obstetrics at the McPherson Memorial Hospital in Howell, transferring from Mellus Hospital in Brighton.

By the mid 1950s his office was located in the old Masonic Hall building at 202 W. Grand River. He was on the steering committee with Dr May to successfully arrange for D.O.s and M.D.s to practice together at McPherson. When the McPherson Health Center was built he transferred in 1968 and moved his office and private practice there. He also conducted the physicals for the hospital employees. In 1971, Dr Clarke, an all around good family doctor, died and is buried in Fairview Cemetery.

Since the 1970s the Brighton Area has not been without the availability of sufficient medical attention. Clinics to serve every physical, emotional and mental distress dot the region. From the top of one's head to the tip of the toes, and everything in between, one can find a practitioner to apply the remedy. Emergency facilities are available; 'natural healing'; pediatrics; rehabilitation; hearing; vision; chiropractors and acupuncturists are among the many varieties of assistances available to one's need. Within an hour's comfortable drive one can find some of the world's finest hospitals. Much has changed. A dozen eggs, bushel of apples or a chicken will not pay the bill. Nor does one find so many young mothers' or children's graves. I, for one, am satisfied with the changes.

In 1845, a call was issued to local doctors to form the Livingston County Medical Society. Then in 1876 the Livingston County Medical Association was formed. This writer has exhausted her research material regarding these organizations. There appear to be no local records or archives of either of these organization. Assistance of the Michigan Medical Association needs to be requested for more information. Are there those of our readers who can help with this? (Compiled and edited by Marieanna Bair. Thanks are extended to Pete Baldwin, Mildred Clarke, Don Keehn, Dave Lehman, Mary Mathias, Horace P. Taylor, Helen Wilkinson, Brighton City cemetery records person, Dóris Petersen and to the several who have contacted the writer, giving of their experiences to enhance these writings and to more fully complete our files. Much information was gleaned from "Michigan Memorabilia" by William Pless and the 1880 History of Livingston County by Franklin Ellis.)

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