

THE YELLOW WASP

Lima Historical Society

May 2015

**ANNUAL DINNER MEETING
at the
AMERICAN HOTEL**

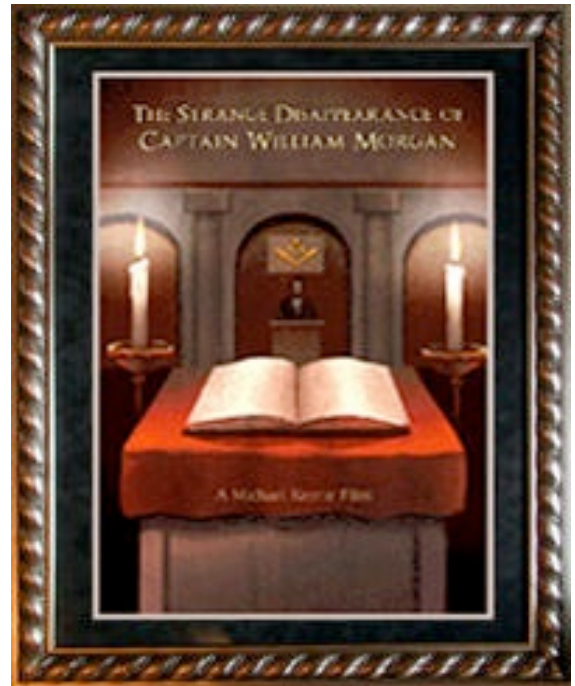
**Sunday, May 17th
5:00 PM**

*The Strange Disappearance
of
Captain William Morgan*

**by
Pittsford
Author/Historian**

Michael Keene

**Reservations Necessary
Please See Enclosed Flyer**



Mysterious Happenings in Lima's History?

Mr. Keene's illustrated talk will reveal exciting "true" stories of spiritualism, secret societies, and possibly even murder, that are said to have taken place in Lima during the early 19th century. They involve the American Hotel, the Lima Masonic Lodge, and many of Lima's citizens.

Come, join us for dinner, and hear the details.

**TENNIE BURTON MUSEUM
&
LIMA MUSEUM MERCANTILE
Opening
MEMORIAL DAY 10 AM**

www.limahistorical.org
And, please "like" us on Facebook

LHS Calendar of Events

PLEASE CLIP AND SAVE

Wednesday, April 15th	LHS Board Meeting: 7 PM at the Tennie Burton Museum. All LHS members welcome.
Friday/Saturday April 24/25th	Annual Spring Clean-up Days at Tennie Burton Museum. Come either day- 9AM-noon.
Wednesday, May 13th	LHS Board Meeting: 7 PM at the Tennie Burton Museum. All LHS members welcome.
Sunday, May 17th	Annual Dinner Meeting at the American Hotel. <i>The Strange Disappearance of Captain William Morgan</i> by Michael Keene. See enclosed flyer.
Monday, May 25th	Memorial Day. Season Opening Tennie Burton Museum and Museum Mercantile. 10 am.
June 4th through 6th	LHS Garage Sale. 7364 East Main. Please put aside items that you might want to donate.
Wednesday, June 10th	LHS Board Meeting: 7 PM at the Tennie Burton Museum. All LHS members welcome.
Sunday June 28th	Strawberry Social at the Tennie Burton Museum. 2 to 4 PM. Enjoy the local harvest.
Sunday, July 19th	Music on the Porch at the Tennie Burton Museum. Details to be announced. 2 to 4 PM.
Sunday, August 23rd	Book Signing, <i>The Lincoln Funeral</i> by Michael Leavy at the Tennie Burton Museum. 2 to 4

LIMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PO BOX 532 LIMA NY 14485 (585-624-1050) www.limahistorical.org

LHS Barn Sale June 4-6th

Once again, we will be holding a barn sale at the home of Fran and George Gotcsik on the first weekend in June. Proceeds will help to build our growing driveway fund for much-needed improvement and expansion of museum access and parking capacity.

Please set aside any good saleable items that you no longer need—furniture, dishes and glassware, pots and pans, tools, and unique curiosities. We need a rich array.

Please bring things to the Gotcsik's at 7364 East Main St. on Thursday June 4th. We could also use help setting up on Thurs, and selling on Friday and Saturday. Email Martha Sempowski (msempowski@frontiernet.net) with questions or to volunteer

Tennie Burton Library Reorganized

Thanks to the tireless efforts of our new Treasurer, Karen Hanson, our Tennie Burton Library has been completely reorganized and made more accessible. Many of you may not realize the scope of the historical resources available in our own library. Thank you Karen.

Tennie Burton Museum April Clean -Up Days



**WE NEED
YOU!**

We want to show the museum in its best possible light this summer and that takes requires a group effort. Please come out on April 24th and/or 25th: 9 to 12.

There is something for everyone. Whatever your strength—from dusting to gardening—please join us and help ready our museum for opening day in May. We need as many hands as possible.

LHS Membership LIST

Apologies to Cindy Rau and Mary Williamee whose names were not included in the list of LHS renewed and life members published in the March *Yellow Wasp*.

Friends of the Library Book Sale June 5- 6th

LIMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MISSION STATEMENT

Lima Historical Society was founded to collect and preserve Lima's history, its architectural structures, and its culture to educate and inspire people today and tomorrow.

Lima's Oldest Fraternal Organization Masonic Lodge No. 45, F. and A.M.

Lima was just emerging from its pioneer days in 1809 when a small group of citizens formed Trinity Mark Lodge No. 59. It was chartered on June 11, 1816 as Lodge 261 by signature of Grand Master DeWitt Clinton (renumbered as Lodge No. 45 in 1839). Alanson Brown, was the "first candidate initiated, passed and raised" in the lodge and he continued to play a leading role for many years (Proceedings p. 105). Other prominent Lima citizens who were active during the early to mid 1800's included Asahel Warner, Smith Weeks, Justin Smith, Levi Hovey, and Samuel Daniels.

As early as 1810, a lodge meeting room was constructed in the home of Asahel Warner on West Main Street. Meetings continued to be held in Lima until 1825 when they were briefly relocated to Honeoye Falls. By 1831, however, the growing group was back in Lima where they have continued until the present day—first on the upper floor of the Lima Town House on Rochester St., then at the "Yellow Wasp," a popular inn on West Main Rd, followed by some years at the American Hotel, and then in the Godfrey Block on Rochester St., until a fire in 1865 destroyed the building as well as Lodge records. Just a year later, in 1866, the Lodge had begun meeting in the Masonic Hall at the four corners, as they still do today (see photo below of the building in the 19th century, alongside that of building as refurbished by Masonic Lodge 45 in 2012) .

During the mid 1800's, the Lodge faced very trying and difficult times. The Masons were subjected to malicious rumors and accusations, persecution, and social ostracism from several quarters in town, a pattern that was also happening to other Masonic Lodges across western New York during that time. Fortunately, this period passed and the Lodge survived intact.

Information From *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York* , Freemasons of the State of New York, University of Michigan, 1904; and *Leaves From the History of Union Lodge No. 45* by George Atwell, Union Lodge No. 45, 1887.



TENNIE BURTON SUMMER SCHEDULE

New Exhibits

- **Flax: From Plant Fiber to Linen**
- **Old Time Woodworking Tools**
- **The True Facts of the Lima Bank Robbery**

Special Events

Sunday, June 28th	Strawberry Social	2 to 4 PM
Sunday, July 19th	Music on the Porch	2 to 4 PM
Sunday, August 23th	Book Signing Mike Leavy: <i>The Lincoln Funeral</i>	2 to 4 PM
Sunday September 13th	Kids' Old Time Fun Day Special Kids' Crafts and Activities	2 to 4 PM

Lima Historical Society

1850 Rochester St.
P.O. Box 532
Lima NY 14485



Lima Historical Society

Board Members 2014-2015

President: Barbara May
Vice President : Martha Sempowski
Treasurer: Karen Hanson
Recording Secretary: Robin Ha
Corr. Secretary: Hildegarde Turk
Trustees: Mike Leavy
 Duane Fuller
 Gail Fuller
Lima Historian: Douglas Morgan
Programs: Martha Sempowski
Buildings and Grounds: Duane Fuller
Membership: Marilyn Schroeder
Museum: Marilyn Schroeder
Publicity: Douglas Morgan
Preservation: Frances Gotsik
Education: To be filled
Ways and Means: To be filled
Yellow Wasp Editor: Martha Sempowski
www.limahistorical.org

SUPPORT LHS MEMBERS AND VENDORS

Arts and Artifacts

7310 East Main St. Lima, NY
(585) 978-0360

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Kokopelli Lawn and Garden Care

Roger Reakes
(585) 704-2424
rreakes@rochester.rr.com

LHS Webmaster JERRY WARSAW

Piano Tuner Technician
585-704-2080
www.jwarsaw.com