

# THE YELLOW WASP

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**Lima Historical Society**

**November 2015**

## *The Jackson Sanatorium Dansville NY*

*Presented by  
Jane Shryver, Paul Hoffman,  
David Gilbert and Nancy Helfrich*

**Tuesday, November 17th 7:30 PM**

On Tuesday, November 17th at 7:30 PM, the Lima Historical Society is hosting an intriguing program on the historic Jackson Sanatorium, also known as the Jackson Health Resort, or nowadays as “the castle on the hill,” in Dansville NY. The health resort opened in 1872, and soon became quite successful and widely known for the health regimen and diet advocated by Jackson and later Mc Fadden . It purportedly attracted some notable visitors, such as Frederick Douglass, Susan B. Anthony, and Clara Barton (who later established the American Red Cross in Dansville).

The speakers will tell how the health resort first came into being. They will trace its early years showing pictures from original "Magic Lantern" slides, which have now been digitized.

The program will take place at the Lima Court House (next to Town Hall) at 7:30 PM. It is free and everyone is welcome.

*Adjoining illustrations show historic (1870) and present-day images of the Jackson Sanatorium. Historic image courtesy of Jane Shryver.*



THE CASTLE ON THE HILL - JACKSON SANATORIUM



**LHS**

### **HOLIDAY COOKIE TIME !!!**

Once again, we are holding our annual holiday cookie tray sale in late November for delivery to you in December. Let us do the baking for your holiday, office, or family get together, or just enjoy them yourself. This is the sixth year of this popular fundraiser to benefit the museum.

A \$20 tray contains a rich and wide assortment of four dozen cookies and treats. Orders must be received by November 23.<sup>rd</sup> See enclosed Reservation Form for details.

## LHS Calendar of Events

PLEASE CLIP AND SAVE

Saturday, November 7 <sup>th</sup>	Candlemaking Workshop. Make beeswax rolled candles with Jen Adams at the Tennie Burton Museum. 10AM to 12 noon. Reservations required.
Thursday November 5 <sup>th</sup>	LHS Board Meeting: 7 PM at the Tennie Burton Museum. All LHS members welcome.
Tuesday, November 17 <sup>th</sup>	General Meeting. <i>The Jackson Sanatorium in Dansville</i> . by Jane Schryver. Paul Hoffman, David Gilbert and Nancy Helfrich. 7:30 PM at the Lima Court House.
November- December	Holiday Cookie Tray Sale. See enclosed order form. Ready for pickup on December 11 <sup>th</sup> .
Saturday, December 5 <sup>th</sup>	OPEN HOUSE/ HOLIDAY SHOPPING . Tennie Burton Museum Mercantile- 11 to 4.
Thursday, December 8 <sup>th</sup>	LHS Board Meeting: 7 PM at the Tennie Burton Museum. All LHS members welcome.

LIMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PO BOX 532 LIMA NY 14485 (585-624-1050) [www.limahistorical.org](http://www.limahistorical.org)



### Candlemaking Workshop Saturday November 7<sup>th</sup> 10am to 12 Tennie Burton Museum

Join the fun with a small group at the museum. We are holding a pre-holiday craft workshop suitable for adults and children (ages 8 and up) on Saturday morning, November 7.<sup>th</sup> All supplies and instructions will be provided by our instructor, Jennifer Adams.

Make four beautiful handmade candles of varying sizes (or two pair of the same size). Extra supplies will be available for purchase. Call Martha Sempowski 624-2626 for reservations. Cost of the workshop is \$10.

### HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE Museum Mercantile Tennie Burton Museum December 5<sup>th</sup> 11-4 pm

The *Museum Mercantile*, our gift and book shop at the museum, will be open for holiday shopping on Saturday afternoon, December 5<sup>th</sup>. We have a wide variety of small gifts such as handmade aprons, local books, candles, wooden toys and games, sparkly scarves, lacy doilies, historic maps and LHS notecards for sale. Find that special hostess gift or stocking stuffer.

### THANK YOU

To all the docents, Board and Committee members and other member volunteers who made it possible to keep our museum open, and our holiday and Sunday programs staffed throughout the 2015 Summer Season. We are grateful to all.

### 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.

## 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary The Lakis Family on East Main Street in Lima

In 1915, one hundred years ago this year, Paris Lakis (1888-1936) and his wife Adamantia (1886-1945), (Photo #1) immigrants from Greece, opened the *Lima Candy Kitchen* at 6310 East Main Street, a building they then purchased in 1923. Over the years, the business grew, serving ice cream and sodas, and later, lunches, when it became the *Sandwich Shop*, operated until 1981 by son Peter Lakis (1915-1988) and his wife Polyxeni “Ann” Tsoulis Lakis (1920-2007) (Photos #2 and #3). Peter and Ann Lakis’ family resided on the upper floor of the building, where their children Dennis (b. 1946) and Elaine (b. 1952) grew up. Dennis still resides in that East Main Street apartment, renting the lower level to *Arts and Artifacts*, an antique and gift shop, and venue for art classes operated by Cynthia Rau.

Although belied by its relatively modern looking façade, the Lakis building is actually one of oldest (pre-1850’s) surviving commercial structures on Lima’s Main Street. Others were either destroyed by fires and rebuilt, or constructed later in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The earliest photo #4 (middle building) shows the original, two-story brick building with steep gable roof. At that time, there were two business entrances on the first floor and three symmetrically placed windows on the second.

That original appearance would be consistent with the use of the building from at least the 1850’s when it was occupied by Jacob A. Lindsley who ran a harness shop and sold other carriage accessories such as trunks, whips, etc., and rented a second side shop to tailor Joseph Foreman. During the 1870’s, Jonathan Watts owned and rented out the premises to several small businesses. By the 1890’s, S.H. Olmstead was running a clothing store on the main floor, and the second floor housed the Lima Recorder Offices. Twentieth-century occupants, prior to the Lakis family, included: a harness shop owned by Henry Livingston and G. Badder’s hardware store. The second floor enjoyed use as Stearn’s Hall—a pool hall, sometime polling place, and purportedly a “canteen” for visiting soldiers during WWII (*Historic information as per George Peters, Lima Historian, see \*Sources* ).

The Lakis family remodeled the interior of the shop sometime around 1930 (Photo #1). Note wall mural, tin ceiling, tile floor, and soda fountain. Around 1950, the Lakis family remodeled the exterior façade, removing the brick facing, and replacing it with green “Cararra Glass,” which was popular during that era, creating a single center entrance, and replacing two of the windows upstairs with a large plate glass window (Photo # 5). The latest renovations of the building included replacement of damaged glass tiles on the facade, new windows, awnings, and signage. Work was completed in 2013 with assistance from a New York Main Street grant awarded to the Village of Lima and Livingston County Sign and Façade grants.

(*Sources and Photos: Dennis Lakis; Duane Fuller; and an interview with George Peters, recorded by Roger G. Reed, Hirshensohn & Reed Associates, on file at the Lima Historical Society’s Tennie Burton Museum*).

### Michael Leavy’s Book on Lincoln Honored

The Ford Theater in Washington DC has solicited images and narrative from Leavy’s book *The Lincoln Funeral* for inclusion in an online exhibition and their permanent online resource: *Remembering, Lincoln Digital Collection*.



1. Paris Lakis family showing off renovated shop interior: Paris, Peter, Adamantia, Mary Lakis and an unknown waitress ca 1929-30.



2. Peter Lakis with ice cream maker ca. 1950.



3. Ann Lakis on left with friend ca. 1950



4. South side of East Main St. Lima, 1852.



5. Renovating the façade ca. 1950



6. The Lakis building 2015.

### LHS WEBSITE

We are rolling out a revised website with many new features. Thanks to Duane Fuller and Jerry Warsaw for all their work. Have a look: [www.limahistorical.org](http://www.limahistorical.org)

# Lima Historical Society

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## Lima Historical Society

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## ALL MEMBERS!!!!

### TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP Forms enclosed



**\*\*\*If you no longer wish to receive the *Yellow Wasp*,  
or if you would prefer to receive it by email, please send  
an email to the editor [msempowski@frontiernet.net](mailto:msempowski@frontiernet.net)**

### Blossoms Up!

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