

THE YELLOW WASP

Lima Historical Society

May 2018

Annual Dinner Meeting/Program Sunday afternoon, May 20th

The Clash of Cultures

By Raymond Cianfrini

The 2018 Annual Meeting of the Lima Historical Society will include dinner at the American Hotel, followed by a brief business meeting of the association. We will then reconvene across the street at the Lima Town Hall for a program by Raymond Cianfrini, a retired attorney and Genesee County legislator from Oakfield, NY. His subject, "The Clash of Cultures," involves the rise of the "northern" Ku Klux Klan in Genesee County during the early 20th century. He will discuss how this rather surprising development followed a substantial influx of immigrants into the county at that time, and the resulting resentment that precipitated the vicious movement—a timely subject. Mr. Cianfrini is currently working on a book on this subject.

The Annual Dinner will be held at 2 PM at the American Hotel. Open to the public. Reservations required. Information 585-624-7542. For reservations see inserted form or go to: www.limahistorical.org

Mr. Cianfrini's illustrated presentation will follow at the Lima Town Hall at ca. 3:30 pm. Free and open to the public.



LHS Quilt Raffle To Benefit the Tennie Burton Museum

Once again, Sandi Shusda has created and donated a beautiful handmade quilt to be raffled as a fundraiser for the Historical Society. The queen-sized quilt has a pleasing red, white and blue theme that will enhance any bedroom in your home. It will be on display downtown in the storefront owned by the Kathie and Tom Reynolds. The winning ticket will be drawn at an LHS event in the fall. Funds are targeted for needed basement work to address moisture problems in the museum (see article on p. 2).

Raffle tickets will be sent to LHS members and available for sale at local venues. Price: \$1 each or a book of 10 for \$8. For tickets, please call Gail Fuller at 624-7542 or contact us at limahistoricalsociety@gmail.com.

LHS Calendar of Events

PLEASE CLIP AND SAVE

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| Sunday , May 20th | Annual Dinner Meeting and Program. "The Clash of Cultures" by Raymond Cianfrini. American Hotel 2pm (Dinner-reservations required) . Program at 3:30 at Town Hall. |
| Monday, May 28th | Memorial Day Opening of Tennie Burton Museum. Come watch the parade, enjoy some refreshments and new exhibits. Help us celebrate the Lima Fire Department and honor its years of service to the community. |
| Tuesday, September 18th | General Meeting: "Upstate Bohemians: Greenwich Villages of Western New York and the Emergence of Modern America" by Michael Eula. Court House 7pm. |
| Sunday, November 11th | General Meeting. "Documenting Livingston County Veterans" by Amie Alden, Livingston County Historian. Lima Town Hall 2pm. |

LIMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PO BOX 532 LIMA NY 14485 (585-624-1050) www.limahistorical.org
Or contact us at: limahistoricalociety@gmail.com



*Delia Phillips
1828-1920
Born in Lima*

Lima's Delia Phillips

One hundred years ago this past month, 91-year old Delia Phillips took her place in line to become the first woman ever to vote in Le Roy NY, where she had moved late in life. Women had gained the right to vote in New York State in 1917, three years ahead of the passage of the 19th amendment to the U.S. constitution. This past April, Lynn Belluscio, LeRoy Town historian organized a celebration in honor of this pioneering woman. It was attended by several LHS members.

NEW EXHIBIT

HISTORY OF THE LIMA FIRE DEPARTMENT

Lima made history in 1830 with the first organized fire company in the county— *The Lima Repulse Company*. Reorganized twice since then, today's Lima Fire Department is the proud successor to that early group of courageous volunteers who fought to protect the community from the ever-present threat of fire.

The exhibit will trace the history of Lima's fire fighters in photos and objects, documenting those nearly 200 years of service to Lima. Opening Memorial Day. Help us honor them!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP OUT AT THE TENNIE BURTON MUSEUM ???

After years of dedicated service on our Museum Committee, Marilyn Zaludny, Marilyn Schroeder and Judy Reinhard have retired from that job. We wish to express our gratitude to them.

So now, with the help of several longtime members and some who have recently joined, we are reorganizing a new museum committee. If you are interested in helping out, one of the varied tasks may be a fit for you: exploring historic photos and genealogical records; cataloging new acquisitions, creating labels, data entry, setting up new exhibits, cleaning, helping to re-organize our storage areas, etc. Call Martha Sempowski at 329-7675 if you can spare a few hours.

MUSEUM BASEMENT PROJECT

For some years, we have had a moisture problem in the museum basement, with standing water at some times and a dehumidifier that is unable to keep up. In order to better protect our collections of historic clothing, objects, photos and records from the high levels of humidity and possible mold/mildew, we are exploring options for mitigating the problem through drainage tiles and installation of a sump pump. Funds from the quilt raffle will be directed toward this project.

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.

A Story of Recovery and Rehabilitation By Patrick Thorpe

The Lima Fire Department has a proud history dating back to 1830. In 1941, the department purchased a shining new American LaFrance pumper that came to be known as “Quack-Quack.” From 1941 until 1956, the ’41 Ford was Lima’s primary apparatus for protecting the village from fires. I don’t know when the ’41 Ford responded to its last fire, but it was an incident in 1972 when the truck earned its nickname—“Quack-Quack.” Hurricane Agnes wreaked havoc in the southern tier in 1972 and Lima was called on for help. Parked in the water in Canisteo, that old ’41 Ford pumped water for two days straight. Its remarkable reliability and performance “like a duck in water” during that disaster earned it the nickname “Quack-Quack.” Lee Shanks purchased the old truck in 1983. Knowing about my father Nelson’s involvement with the Lima Fire Department and his early years learning to drive “Quack-Quack,” Lee gave my father and me the opportunity to own the truck. We spent most of 2015 building a new barn to store all our other equipment, which allowed us room to work on “Quack-Quack” in the shop. The frame and most of the larger parts were sandblasted and from there, the engine, transmission, booster tank, pump and the cab went back on the frame. At this point the truck was starting to take shape, but one week later it would all change.



In September 2016, I was on my way to work on a warm, clear night, so I opted to ride my motorcycle. While en route, two college students entered a crosswalk against a green light in an unlit intersection near the local community college. Sadly, I struck one of them, but was thrown from my motorcycle. Lying in the middle of a four-lane highway, I found I couldn’t stand up or walk. Later found I was blind in one eye and couldn’t lift even a gallon of milk, so turning a wrench was not an option. I was out of work for six months, and underwent two surgeries, and nine months of physical rehabilitation. In terms of the truck restoration, I can’t take credit for how well it went from there. It was family and friends who got me through my own tragedy, and made sure that the truck got restored. In May of last year, I was cleared to work on it. Jimmy Mull finished it up with the fine lettering, and best of all, Lee and Edna Shanks were able to see the restored ’41 Ford in all its original glory. **May 2017-Antique Automobile Club Association award/ June-2017 - Dearborn Award Early Ford V8 Meet/February- 2018 National Peterson Fire Apparatus Award, for best antique fire apparatus shown for the year.**

This past year has been the hardest year of my life. The good thing is that from a rehabilitation and a restoration standpoint, the truck and I both made it. I started 2017 not knowing if I’d ever walk again, and ended the year working, seeing the truck restored, being able to drive it, and winning a national award. Old “Quack-Quack” not only looks good, she looks stunning. Our story is a testament to the determination, faith, love and support of family and friends.

**** Come see old “Quack Quack,” help celebrate Pat’s story and the Lima Fire Department’s long history of service to our community with a new exhibit at the Tennie Burton Museum opening on Memorial Day (see P.2). Free fire hats for kids.**

Time To Renew Your 2018 Membership To The Lima Historical Society

Below you will find a list of **all members who have paid their dues for 2018**. If you do not see your name, please send in the renewal form along with your selected membership dues.

****Please note that Lifetime and Honorary members have not been listed, only members who have renewed for 2018.**

Sally Bloom.	David Swartz & Lyn Kowalski-Swartz	Bill & Sherlee Ruth.
Jennie & Don Brown	Larry & Marlene Kramer	Marilyn Schroeder
Anthony Catalano.	Kathy Lenahan	John & Martha Sempowski
Louise Doliver	John & Mary Ellen Little	John & Barbara Serafin
Carol Edwards	Carl & Chris Luft	David Spencer
Duane & Gail Fuller	Barbara May	Rev. John Andrews/John Rutkowski
Jurgen & Susan Gobien	Vincent Miliken	Mary E. Williamee
Walt Fritz & Karen Hanson	Doug Morgan	Barbara Yorks
Marilyn Herke	Elizabeth Osta	
Barbara & Paul Jones	Colleen Plimpton	

We appreciate your continued support and dedication to Lima's Historical Society and the Tennie Burton Museum. Within the walls of the Museum, Lima's history and artifacts are being lovingly preserved, researched and shared with folks near and far. Touring the Museum is definitely a step back in time to be enjoyed by all ages. Come for a tour!

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



LHS Board Members 2018/19

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Vice President : To be filled
Treasurer: Fran Gotsik
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Ways and Means: To be filled
Yellow Wasp Editor : Martha Sempowski
www.limahistorical.org

Handmade Quilt Raffle

Tickets:

\$1 each or a book of 10 for \$8

Contact us at limahistorical@gmail.com

PLEASE SUPPORT LHS MEMBER / MERCHANTS

**THE LIMA FIRE
DEPARTMENT**

**New exhibit at the
Tennie Burton Museum**

Lima Village Pharmacy
7298 W. Main St.
Lima, NY 14485

at the Four Corners
(585) 624-9777

American Hotel
*At the Crossroads of
Western New York*

Rose and Pat Reynolds
Americanhotelloflima.com

Copy Town Enterprise
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