

# THE YELLOW WASP

**Lima Historical Society**

**May 2019**

**Annual LHS Dinner Meeting: Sunday, May 19th  
at Pinehurst Senior Living Community  
1000 Pine Trail, Honeoye Falls NY 14472**

*Lima's Antiques Roadshow*  
**By H. P. Prazar**

Please join us for one of Pinehurst's famed Sunday dinners at 1:30 PM, followed by a brief business meeting, annual election, and an antiques appraisal program presented by the well known H. P. Prazar. Attendees are invited to bring one or two antiques or treasured collectibles for free identification and appraisal. So dig out those curious items whose value you have been wondering about and get some answers. Trash or treasure? One way or another this program promises to be lots of fun.

Make your reservations by May 8th to assure your place at the dinner (see enclosed form). Those wishing to attend the program only are welcome to do so, and should plan to arrive between 2:30-2:45 PM. This is a great chance for LHS members and their friends and guests to get together and get to know one another.

## **A Lost Lima Landmark: "Rebecca at the Well" Drinking Fountain**



No. 687.  
DRINKING FOUNTAIN WITH  
STATUE OF REBECCA.  
FOR MAN, HORSE AND DOG.  
Arranged with ball, with regulating the flow of water and allowing  
water to drink without one being.  
A fine fountain of iron and brass. Size, 2 feet 11 inches high.  
12 feet 8 inches high including water. By letter and water, painted and cast, - - - \$100 00  
Without ball only, allowing water to run continuously, desired \$110 00



In 1900, the members of Lima's chapter of the Women's Christian Temperance Union sponsored the installation of an elaborate 11 ½ foot drinking fountain at the Four Corners in Lima; many such fountains were created by local WCTU groups across the country. It was intended to provide pure, clean drinking water to both people and animals. The fountain remained a landmark in Lima until the 1940's when it was struck by a tractor trailer truck and apparently damaged beyond repair. The whereabouts of the remains of this monumental bronzed piece are presently unknown. Does anyone have any information about where it might have ended up?

Lima's fountain, was made in a well-known style, the "Rebecca at the Well" design (#687) manufactured by the J.W. Fiske Ironworks of New York City. The design is reminiscent of the biblical figure of Rebecca pouring water from an urn. Identified by a plaque indicating its erection by the WCTU, the fountain stood for 40 years in Lima as a testament to a broad list of reform movements (besides alcohol prohibition), including child labor laws and women's suffrage—movements that targeted the well-being of women and children. Interestingly, Frances E. Willard was the national founder of the WCTU in 1879, served as Preceptress of Genesee Wesleyan Seminary here in Lima for a year in the late 1860's—probably no mere coincidence.

Many thanks to Fred Lauzus of Strasburgh PA, who reminded us of Lima's lost fountain, and of research by Helen Szafer (see her Memorial Fountains Blog) . Their thorough research on fountains provided most of the information drawn on for this article.

## LHS Calendar of Events

**PLEASE CLIP AND SAVE**

- Friday /Saturday May 10/11**      **Clean-up Days at Tennie Burton Museum, 9 AM-12PM. Come either day for as much time as you can spare. Jobs range from dusting to minor household repairs. We need you!!**
- Sunday, May 19**      **Lima Historical Society Annual Dinner Meeting at Pinehurst Senior Living Community. "Lima's Antique Roadshow" by H.P. Prazar. Dinner at 1:30 PM; Program will begin around 2:45 PM.**
- Memorial Day, May 27th**      **SEASON OPENING OF TENNIE BURTON MUSEUM. Reception after the parade. New Exhibit opening- "One Hundred Years of Hats in Lima"**

**LIMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY 1850 ROCHESTER ST. LIMA NY 14485 (585-624-1050)**  
**www.limahistorical.org**

### Tennie Burton Museum Goes Digital

It was time. Time for the Lima Historical Society to make its collections of historical objects, photos, and records more accessible to the public by digitizing them. This will allow us to better track the locations of our materials in the museum and expedite responses to public inquiries.

Since last fall, members of the LHS Board have been researching the most appropriate and cost-effective software and hardware products necessary for this major project. Now, thanks primarily to the relentless efforts of Duane Fuller, with generous advice and ongoing assistance from Dan Marcellus, Information Technology Specialist (SkyPort IT Inc.), together with financial assistance from the Town of Lima and from several private donations, we are in a position to move forward this spring. If you would like to help out in any way, please contact us on the LHS website.

### Volunteers Needed

Since last summer our collections storage facilities have been undergoing renovation and enlargement. We also undertook an inventory and checking of our major collections in preparation for the digitization project. A dedicated group of members participated in these weekly efforts and made great progress, besides having a good time working together.

Come spring, we hope to continue with these essential "curatorial" projects. We are also mounting a summer exhibit featuring our large collection of historic hats (see below). There is something for everyone here—from rearranging storage rooms, to choosing hats and best ways to display them, to sorting historic photos. It will be a chance to get together with a congenial group of members for a couple hours a week and provide a valuable service to your community and its history. Contact the LHS website if you can join us.

## NEW SUMMER EXHIBIT "One Hundred Years of Hats in Lima"

The Tennie Burton Museum has an extraordinary collection of historic men's and women's hats dating from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> centuries. We are mounting a fresh new exhibit this summer featuring some of the most flamboyant hats in our collection, alongside some of the simpler, more practical ones. The emphasis will be on how millinery styles, even in a small town like Lima, followed national and international trends throughout that period, as a reflection of wider social and cultural changes (including, of course, changing hair styles).



If you have any old photos showing Lima ancestors or residents in hats, please let us know so that we can copy and show them in the exhibit. They would be a welcome addition. Also, if you have any information on Lima's historic milliners, please contact us through the website and share your knowledge.

Come and enjoy this entertaining and informative new exhibit with us this summer. Museum open Sundays 2 to 4 pm.

**WELCOME TO ALL NEW LHS MEMBERS!**

**THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS, LIFE MEMBERS  
 AND TO ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE RENEWED YOUR 2019 MEMBERSHIPS !**

**YELLOW WASP SERIES - 2019 :  
GENESEE WESLEYAN SEMINARY AND GENESEE COLLEGE**

**Kenneth B. Keating (1900-1975)  
A Life of Service to His Country**



Lima's own Kenneth Keating is another well-known graduate of Genesee Wesleyan Seminary whose family home on Rochester Street is marked by a historic plaque (see if you can locate it). The son of Louise Barnard (also a GWS graduate) and Thomas Keating, Kenneth was born in 1900. He attended local public schools before enrolling in GWS and graduating in 1915. Returning home after serving in the US army in WWI, he went on to the University of Rochester and then Harvard Law School. He was married to Louise Dupuy and together they had one daughter, Judith Howe.

Keating's private law practice in Rochester was interrupted when WWII began, and he again served in the US army. In later years, he was promoted to Brigadier General in the Army Reserve. His congressional service began when he ran as a Republican and won a seat in the US House of Representatives from 1947 to 1959. He was then elected to the US Senate (1959 to 1965) during which time he is said to have been influential in urging President John Kennedy to take more aggressive action with regard to Russian missiles being installed in Cuba (Cuban missile crisis). Unseated in 1965 from his NY Senate seat by Robert Kennedy, Keating then served a

period as a judge to the New York Court of Appeals, until being named Ambassador to India and later Ambassador to Israel during the 1970's. In those diplomatic missions, he was known for his political astuteness and affability. The Kenneth B. Keating Federal Building on State St. in Rochester is a notable testament to his public service.

Sources of information: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kenneth\\_Keating](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kenneth_Keating); obituary NYTimes, May 6, 1975.

**Not Today's High School or College!  
More On Genesee Wesleyan Seminary and Genesee College  
Excerpted from the Archives of Syracuse University**

"Today's high school and college prep school students likely would not recognize the life of students at Genesee Wesleyan Seminary. The school year was divided into two terms, one beginning the first Wednesday in May, the second the first Wednesday in November. October and April were vacation months... The seminary offered instruction in literary, vocational and "special departmental" subjects. The original design of the courses was to offer instruction in letters and science, combined with agriculture and the "mechanic arts." The main courses, or programs of study, were the College Preparatory, Classical, Latin Scientific, Engineering Preparatory and Commerce. There were also vocational courses: a general vocational course; a vocational course specializing in agriculture; and a vocational course for girls specializing in Household Arts. The seminary also maintained five special departments: Instrumental and Vocal Music; Arts and Crafts; Elocution and Oratory; Commerce and Shorthand; and Household Arts. A post graduate year was offered for those students who wanted to secure a broader and more liberal education than the high school furnished."

"Genesee College opened its doors in 1851 to 48 students. The Genesee Wesleyan Seminary board of trustees was responsible for the founding of Genesee College and the relations of the two institutions were as amicable and mutually helpful as could have been expected. For the majority of the time, the affairs of the two institutions were administered by a joint board of trustees. College students boarded in seminary dormitories and ate at the seminary table, and seminary students benefited from the shared instruction of the college professors in some studies. There were several years, during the 1850s, when there were over one thousand students on the small campus and, with the overlapping institutions' contradictory social rules, the day-to-day running was not always smooth. Each institution, however, did assist the other especially on occasion when there were advanced seminary students who could benefit from the influence of stimulating ideas and enjoy the advantages of high grade instruction, courtesy of the college, to a degree not usually known in the secondary schools of this period. The effect of the connection with the college served to elevate the ideals and standards of scholarship in the seminary." (Univer[https://library.syr.edu/digital/guides\\_sua/html/sua\\_gws\\_prt.htm](https://library.syr.edu/digital/guides_sua/html/sua_gws_prt.htm))

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TENNIE BURTON  
 MUSEUM

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