

THE YELLOW WASP

Lima Historical Society

May 2020

Lima Historical Society Annual Meeting-Postponed Due to the Coronavirus

Tennie Burton Museum Memorial Day Opening Cancelled- Opening TBD

AN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE: THE PANDEMIC OF 1918: LOCAL NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS

The Livingston Democrat: November 6, 1918:

“Here are ten rules to protect children endangered by flu. Every boy or girl, every little baby, just now is in danger. A contagious disease—Spanish influenza—is scattered throughout our country. Safety for the little ones comes first.

Ten rules for helping them dodge the flu:

1. Keep them at home and off the streets.
2. Wash their hands and faces three times more than usual. Use a clean towel for drying.
3. Stop kissing them. If you must kiss them, put the kiss only on the backs of their necks—never on the mouth.
4. Stop feeding them with your own fork or spoon. Don't spread their bread with your own knife when at the table.
5. Don't give them a drink from your own glass or cup. Another dish to be washed is nothing when their health is at stake.
6. Keep them out of doors when the weather is good, but warmly clothed when winds are cold.
7. Open the bedroom window at night with bed or cradle protected from draughts.
8. Every child should sleep alone, well covered in cool weather.
9. Mouth toys, such as whistles, mouth organs, blow pipes or horns spread disease.
10. Guard against cats or dogs that are sick. Keep them away from children.”

Democrat & Chronicle: April 19, 2020

“Sister Francis Xavier Byrnes (1871-1918)” by Jim Memmott

Archives Alive Vol 34, No 13, 9/29/2000, published by the Sisters of St. Joseph

Anna Byrnes was one of ten children of Patrick and Margaret Dwyer Byrnes of Lima. After becoming a Sister of St Joseph and teaching in a number of diocesan schools, she became principal of Sacred Heart school in Rochester. In 1918, with the Spanish Influenza spreading in Rochester and the school closing its doors temporarily, she volunteered to help care for the sick in Mount Morris. Within a week, she had fallen ill to the flu and passed away soon after. She was hailed as a hero of her time.”

The Lima Recorder: October 31, 1918:

“Mrs. Benjamin O. Beale, who has been sick with influenza, is around again.”

The Lima Recorder: December 5, 1918:

“On the sick list are: Madaline Egan at her home with bronchial pneumonia, Lucille Van Gelder with grip, Anna Cummings with influenza...”

Twelve cases of Spanish influenza have been reported to health officials in the village. It is necessary that we take all precautions to prevent the spread of the disease...

Recent deaths:

Daniel P. Hogan, formerly of this place, died at his home in Palmyra on Wednesday, November 27 after an illness of one week of influenza followed by pneumonia.”

The Lima Recorder: December 19, 1918:

“Names of those reported suffering from the influenza and grip follow: William B. Leary of Leary Bros. Laundry, Miss Mary Lockington, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Butler, Mr. and Mrs. Coff, Mr. Raymond Coykendall, Miss Bernice Keating, Mr. Harold Dibble, Miss Alberta Beckwith, Mrs Lucia Crouse, members of the Miller family west of the village, Mr. Earl Rowland, Donald Driscoll, and Miss Esther Molyea.”

With appreciation to Amie Alden, Livingston County Historian, Jim Memmott, and the Sisters of St Joseph for their research assistance.

LHS Calendar of Events

PLEASE CLIP AND SAVE

May Annual Meeting/Elections

Cancelled

Memorial Day Opening of Tennie Burton Museum

Cancelled —Date of museum opening to be announced

LHS Barn Sale

Cancelled-Please save saleable items for next year's sale.

LIMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY 1850 ROCHESTER ST. LIMA NY 14485 (585-624-1050)

PLEASE CLIP AND SAVE

LIMA TOWN HALL GETS AN HISTORIC FACELIFT

Like so many historic buildings in the downtown business district of Lima, the Town Hall, built in 1907 (see original postcard from the Tennie Burton Museum collections below), has undergone many changes and alterations. After a devastating fire in 1927, the building was reconstructed and a layer of stucco added, covering the red/brown rusticated cement blocks that originally graced the front of the building. During the 1950's and 60's a marquee was added when the building saw use as a movie theater that many of you may have enjoyed (see photo from the museum's photo collections opposite).



This year, according to Supervisor, Mike Falk, a renovation project undertaken by the Town included removing the asbestos stucco that had been added to the front façade of the building—restoring the building to its original pre-1927 appearance. Asbestos floor tiles in the front foyer were also removed.

The next phase in the Town plan is to remove the rotting wooden door surround and the small tin roof on the building front. “Once those are down, we will be working with the Town engineers Clark, Patterson Lee to go to bid for restorative masonry work and appropriate flooring, Falk explained.

Fond Farewell to Judien and Jim Cooper

It is with regret that we bid farewell to Jim and Judi Cooper. Both have been dedicated LHS members for more than 30 years, taking on a host of responsibilities—Judi as LHS President for a number of terms and as Coordinator of several successful House Tours. They are relocating to their new Smith Mountain Lake home in Hardy VA. With gratitude, we wish them well.

Hoyland Bettinger

Another of Lima's Famous GWS Grads



Hoyland B. Bettinger was born in Lima on December 1, 1890 to Frank Allen Bateman and Winona (Tadder) Bateman, both of whom were associated with Genesee Wesleyan Seminary. Sadly, his father died in 1894 and his mother in 1899, leaving him an orphan. Around the age of nine, he was taken in as a foster child by a prominent Lima couple—Jacob and Agniece (Shepard) Bettinger. The Bettingers lived in a large home (now demolished) on the north side of West Main St, previously located between the present Fanatics and the bank building. They owned a furniture/undertaking business located on East Main Street.

Young Hoyland showed artistic talent early on, perhaps inherited from his mother who had taught art at the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary. It is presumed that Hoyland attended School #9 in the village, but we do know that he graduated from GWS in 1909. He married Agnes Emma Howe in 1914 in Waltham, Massachusetts. He worked at General Electric in Schenectady, exploring early television production techniques a subject on which he authored a book entitled *Television Techniques* published by Harper and Brothers in 1947. Hoyland achieved international renown, however, as a painter, etcher, photographer, and illustrator. Many of his works are still considered highly valuable (see two of his paintings below)



Hoyland travelled frequently to Quebec where he founded the Gaspé School of painting in Ile Bonaventure, Quebec, to Mexico, and to California. He was eventually remarried to Margaret Higgins with whom he was living in Monterey, California at the time of his accidental death in 1950, when he fell over a 30-ft cliff at Point Lobos in Carmel. He is interred in Cocksackie NY along with Margaret.

Internet source <https://www.mutualart.com/Artist/Hoyland-Bettinger/74F8889A8609BCB6/Artworks>.

Our gratitude to Chantal Soucy, a journalist from Quebec, for alerting us with her questions about Hoyland's Lima roots, and to Fran Gotcsik, an ongoing source for anything related to Lima's history. We have had a fruitful historical exchange with our Canadian colleague. Other sources include The Lima Recorder, June 1, 1950, NY Times obituary, 1950, Ancestry.com.

A Call for Help In Writing Lima's 2020 Pandemic History

In 1942, the Dutch government asked people to keep diaries during the Nazi occupation of their country, in the hope of preserving and publishing personal histories of that era for the future. Thirteen-year old Anne Frank took up the challenge in her inspiring and influential diary, published as *The Diary of a Young Girl* after her death in Aushwitz in 1945.

While we are witnessing a far different and less deadly crisis than Anne was, we think it is important to preserve a Lima record of this 2020 pandemic—unprecedented in our lifetimes. Thus, we are calling on you and the young people in your families, to record in a journal or electronic format, your own personal experiences during this era of daily disease and death counts, masking, school and business closings, job losses, social isolation, shortages and Zoom. Tell us how you have been affected. Send to the Lima Historical Society (PO Box 532, Lima NY) or by email to our website. See below.

Looking for Something To Do??

The Lima Historical Society is always in need of volunteers, even in this era of “social distancing.”

We have a number of collections' tasks that need doing—some from the comfort of your own home and computer, others within our Resource Room at the museum. One might help by entering data remotely into the growing electronic database of our collections and historic photos. Someone else might come in and scan photos so that we can eventually meet our goal of providing internet access to Lima's historic resources. Contact us on the LHS website. www.limahistorical.org

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



Lima Historical Society

Board Members 2019-2020

President: Matthew Lenahan

Vice President: Martha Sempowski

Treasurer: Frances Gotsik

Recording Secretary: Barbara May

Corr. Secretary: Anita Layfield

Trustees: Barbara Kolstee

Ericka Gruschow Elliott

Standing Committees

Program: Martha Sempowski

Buildings and Grounds: Duane Fuller

Membership: Unfilled

Museum: Barbara May

Publicity: Martha Sempowski

Preservation: Frances Gotsik

Education: Unfilled

Ways and Means: Unfilled

Yellow Wasp editor: Martha Sempowski

Lima Historian: Joyce Rapp

www.limahistorical.org

Support All Our Local Businesses

Help Them Be There When This Is Over !

Thanks To All Who Renewed

Their LHS Memberships

Daniel Marcellus

SkyPort IT, Inc.

Rochester, New York Area
Information Technology & Services

American Hotel

100th Anniversary

Reynolds Family Ownership

Americanhoteloflima.com

Copy Town Enterprise

7306 E Main St, Lima, NY
(585) 624-5074

Commercial Printing Services
Color Copying
Copytown4@gmail.com

**Kokopelli
Lawn and Garden Care**

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