

# THE YELLOW WASP

**Lima Historical Society**

**March 2019**

**LHS General Meeting  
Tuesday, March 19, 2019**

***The Women's Club Movement, 1880-1920  
Lima DAR, Quaere Club and WCTU***

**By Colleen Plimpton**



*Nineteenth century photo of a group of women (not a Lima group).*

The March meeting of the Lima Historical Society will feature a presentation by Lima native, Colleen Plimpton, on the important contributions of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century women's organizations like Lima's Quaere Club and the local Ska-hase-ga-o chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), as well as the Womens' Christian Temperance Union.

American women in the 1800's initially found their voice in the struggle for abolition and suffrage. During the Industrial Revolution women secured more leisure time, and were increasingly allowed higher education. Though still without the vote by the end of the century many progressive women organized into groups which were instrumental in issues such as child labor law reformation, environmental protection, historical preservation, justice, temperance, and library creation.

Come and find out what your female ancestors were up to when they weren't in the kitchen! The meeting is free and open to the public. Lima Court House, next to the Town Hall – Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> 7 pm. Everyone is welcome.

**Excerpt  
Catalogue  
Genesee Wesleyan Seminary  
1879**

Expenses.	
Tuition in the common English branches, per quarter,	\$4 00
In the higher branches, . . . . .	5 00
Extra charge for Drawing and Painting, . . . . .	3 00
“ “ for Chemical Lectures, . . . . .	1 00
“ “ for Philosophical Lectures, . . . . .	1 00
Board in the Hall, including fuel, washing, and room-rent, per week, . . . . .	2 00
Students furnish their own lights, wash-bowls, and towels.	
Ladies will be charged one dollar per quarter, during the winter term, for sawing and carrying wood to their rooms.	

## 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.

## LHS Calendar of Events

PLEASE CLIP AND SAVE

- Tuesday March 19<sup>th</sup>**      **LHS General Meeting. *The Women's Club Movement, 1880-1920 Lima DAR, Quaere Club and WCTU* by Colleen Plimpton. Lima Court House 7 PM.**
- Thursday March 21st**      **LHS Board Meeting: 7 PM at the Tennie Burton Museum. All LHS members welcome.**
- Sunday, May 19th**      **SAVE THE DATE Annual Dinner Meeting at Pinehurst. *LHS Antiques Roadshow* w/ H.P. Prazar. Details to follow in next *Yellow Wasp*.**

**LIMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PO BOX 532 LIMA NY 14485 (585-624-1050) [www.limahistorical.org](http://www.limahistorical.org)  
Or contact us at: [limahistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:limahistoricalsociety@gmail.com)**



### “New” 1930’s Gas Kitchen Stove at the Tennie Burton Museum

Thanks to research and contacts made by Duane and Gail Fuller, Raymond Baldassarre of Rochester offered to donate this enameled-iron gas stove made in the 1930’s by the Detroit-Michigan Stove to the LHS. It is appropriate to the period of our museum kitchen and looks great. By the 1930’s most people had switched to electric lights, leaving gas companies looking for new uses for their product. Demand grew quickly.

Lima’s own Caccamise Moving Co. graciously transported the stove from Rochester for us. Thank you all.



### What’s Going On at the Tennie Burton Museum This Spring?

Besides working on a new summer exhibit, we are in the process of renovating our 2<sup>nd</sup> floor storage areas to accommodate our historic clothing and hats which were reboxed and relabeled last year. These will all be settled in their new space this spring. Plans are also underway to purchase a new computer and database software to digitize our catalogue of objects, photos, and documents, thus enhancing our ability to do electronic searches and answer inquiries from the public. Eventually, we anticipate offering public access via our website. We are grateful to some special donors, LHS member fundraisers, and the Town of Lima for providing the necessary resources, but lots of “hands on” work is needed too.

So if you would like to help in any way, we would love to discuss what is needed. Please contact us through our website.

### Our Sincere Condolences to the Family and Friends of Richard Rapp

#### 2019 LHS Annual and Lifetime Members

##### \*Sustaining Members

##### Renewed Annual Members

Gretchen and Jim Alday,  
Sally Bloom,  
\*Anthony Catalano  
Carol Edwards  
Fuller, Duane and Gail  
Garling, Beverly  
Gobien, Jurgen and Susan  
Herke, Marilyn

Knop, John and Kathleen  
Knop, Barbara  
Kolstee, Barbara  
Lakis, Dennis  
Leavy, Mike  
Luft, Carl and Chris  
Milliken, Vincent  
Milne, David and Nancy  
Murphy, James and Shirley

Neenan, John and Sharon  
Osta, Elizabeth/George VanArsdale  
Ruth, William and Sherlee  
John Andrews/John Rutkowski  
Schroeder, Marilyn  
Sempowski, John and Martha  
Yarka, Charmaine  
Yorks, Barbara and Paul

##### Lifetime Members

Barber, Estelle  
Laverne Beaumont  
Jane Chatterton  
Cooper Family  
Gerald Donaghy  
Fellows Family  
Richard Garey Sr  
Richard Garey Jr  
Bev Gillette

Scott Gillette  
Kruk Family  
Jean Lacey  
Lamendola Family  
Luhowy Family  
Mayer Family  
Robert Minemeier  
Palmer Family  
Edna Shanks

Steve Plavcan  
Arletta Porazzo  
David Redding  
Edna Shanks  
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Charles Thompson  
Robert Wiggins  
Patrick Reynolds  
Les Morse family

\*Gardner Family  
\*Ellen Gillette  
\*Gotesik Family\*  
\*Reinhard Family  
\*Turk Family  
Marilyn Zaludny  
June Klitgord  
David Redding Chiropractic  
Charles Thompson

## YELLOW WASP SERIES - 2019 :

## GENESEE WESLEYAN SEMINARY AND GENESEE COLLEGE

The campus on the hill on College St. (now the home of Elim Bible Institute) has a long history of offering educational opportunities for both women and men, beginning with Genesee Wesleyan Seminary (GWS) which opened in 1831 as one of the first co-educational institutions in the country. The seminary put Lima on the map and earned our town a reputation as a nationally-recognized center of learning. After the co-educational Genesee College was added to the seminary on campus around 1850, the Lima campus became even more of an attraction, as students were drawn from across the country. Many prominent, forward thinking, and influential 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century people owed their formal education to GWS and/or Genesee College. This series will profile some of these “famous” individuals who were associated with the seminary or college— either as students or faculty. Suggestions are welcome.

**Helen Pitts Douglass**

Born in 1838 to the prominent Pitts family of Honeoye New York, Helen Pitts attended Genesee Wesleyan Seminary for her initial secondary education. Her father, Gideon Pitts was a friend of Frederick Douglass, and the large family home on the main street in Honeoye is said to have been a stop on the Underground Railroad.

An intellectual from a young age, Helen went on to graduate from Mary Lyon’s Mount Holyoke Female Seminary (now Mount Holyoke College) in 1859. She became an active champion of abolition and the women’s suffrage movement, remaining devoted to worthy social causes throughout the rest of her life.



After the Civil War she taught at Hampton Institute in Virginia, a school that provided education to postwar free blacks. Later moving to Washington DC, she helped publish a feminist newspaper, writing about women’s rights, before taking a job as a clerk in the office of Frederick Douglass. She assisted him in his work and the writing of his autobiography *Life and Times of Frederick Douglass*. Helen (seated in photo) and Frederick married two years after the death of his first wife.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton became a good friend to Helen and Frederick, lending vocal moral support to them when they were maligned by many of their friends and even their families for their “mixed race” marriage. In turn, both Douglasses remained steadfast in their public support for the cause of women’s rights and suffrage. When Frederick died in 1895, his eulogy was delivered by Susan B. Anthony. Helen died in 1903 at 65 years of age. She was buried next to her husband in Rochester.

([https://www.civilwarwomenblog.com/helen-pitts-douglass/by MaggieMacLean](https://www.civilwarwomenblog.com/helen-pitts-douglass/by/MaggieMacLean))

**WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT****2019 LHS New or Renewal Member Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Membership Levels**

Individual	\$15
Senior Individual	\$10
Family	\$20
Senior Family	\$15
Sustaining	\$30- \$100

Please renew on line: [www.limahistorical.org](http://www.limahistorical.org)  
 or mail to Membership Chair, 1840 Genesee St, Lima NY 14485

1850 Rochester St.  
P.O. Box 532  
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**LHS Board Members 2018-2019**

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Corr. Secretary: Mary Jule Welch  
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Barbara Kolstee  
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Lima Historian: Joyce Rapp  
Programs: To Be Filled  
Buildings and Grounds: Duane Fuller  
Membership: Gail Fuller  
Museum: To Be Filled  
Publicity: Martha Sempowski  
Preservation: Frances Gotsik  
Education: To Be Filled  
Ways and Means: To Be Filled  
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