

THE YELLOW WASP

Lima Historical Society

March 2011

LHS Meeting: Tuesday, March 22nd at 7:30 PM

Railroads of the Civil War: An Illustrated History

You Loved it on the Lima House Tour - now Own It! The See
1497 Bragg Street,

by President Michael Leavy



Union soldiers pose with scorched locomotive after the fall of Richmond (1865) (Library of Congress photo).

Over the course of the first half of the 19th century, America found itself following two different tracks: an industrialized North and an agricultural South. These differences resulted in a spectacular collision over slavery,

and from 1861 to 1865, the nation would fight a savage war.

Trains were very much a part of American culture at this time, altering cities and navigating us toward industrial world prominence. But the Iron Horse was destined to take on a deadly role, as a major weapon of war for the first time in history. Soldiers and supplies were rushed to battle—usually around railheads—at a rate ten times faster than ever before.

At the next meeting of the Lima Historical Society, author Michael Leavy will give an illustrated talk on his theory that railroads contributed greatly to the escalation, duration, and horrible carnage of the Civil War. He spent five years doing research and accumulating photos from Southern historical societies and other archives, and then used digital technology to extract railroad images hidden within the general views. He will have a limited number of autographed copies of his new book available at the meeting.

Tuesday, March 22nd: 7:30 PM Open to the public
Lima Court House on East Main Street Admission Free

Civil War Sesquicentennial by Joyce Rapp

It was April 1861 when Confederate guns opened fire on Ft. Sumter, "a brick stronghold" on an island near the mouth of Charleston harbor, South Carolina. It was answered by Capt. Doubleday, the first Union shot of the Civil War, a war that would blow to bits the national landscape and take 600,000 lives between 1861 and 1865. President Lincoln immediately called upon the northern states to raise militia for the war effort.

Livingston County initially raised 600 volunteers for the first 38 two-year regiments. More companies (in the Civil War, a company was composed of up to 100 men) were raised later to fill depleted ranks. In Lima, at least 181 volunteers, including Lizzie Campbell, "an heroic hospital stewardess," fought in the bloodiest battles of the war: Bull Run, Mechanicsville, West Point, Gaines Mills, Antietam, both battles of Fredericksburg and others. There are some interesting statistics about the War Between the States: over 2,000,000 men served in the militia and 364,512 were either killed or died in prisoner-of-war camps. In Lima, 17 men did not return home.

This year, 2011, marks the sesquicentennial of the Ft. Sumter attack, the beginning of the Civil War. Therefore, County Historian, Amiee Alden has suggested that each community join the county in commemorating the event. In our town, you will find a Civil War display at the Town Hall next month; maybe a "community read" about the Civil War era (How about "Gone With the Wind"?) and one fifth grade teacher I know is assigning a book report on any book relating to that war. If you would like to be part of a "community read" program, or if you have any other ideas, call me at 624-4116.

LHS Calendar of Events

PLEASE CLIP AND SAVE

Wednesday, March 9th	Lima Historical Society Board meeting: 7 PM at Lima Town Hall
Tuesday, March 22nd	Lima Historical Society General Meeting <i>Railroads of the Civil War: An Illustrated History</i> by Michael Leavy. Lima Court House 7:30 PM.
April 15th and 16th	Spring Clean-up Days at Tennie Burton Museum, 9 AM-12PM. Come either day for as much time as you can spare. Tasks range from dusting to minor household repairs. Always fun!
May	Lima Historical Society Annual Meeting and Banquet. Details to come.
Memorial Day	Grand Re-opening of Tennie Burton Museum featuring exciting new exhibits for all ages.

LIMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY 1850 ROCHESTER ST. PO Box 352 LIMA NY 14485 (585-624-1050)
PLEASE CLIP AND SAVE

LHS Garage Sale - June 3rd-5th Please start saving saleable items!

Once again, the Lima Historical Society will be sponsoring a Garage Sale with all proceeds going to maintain the Tennie Burton Museum and exhibit its collections of Lima history. It will be held during the town-wide garage sale weekend of June 3rd through 5th.

So when you are doing your spring cleaning and/or de-cluttering, please think about donating unneeded items to the society. Drop off location will be reported in May *Yellow Wasp*.

This has always been a successful fundraiser for us in the past, but it depends on all of our members helping to make it so.

Spring Clean-up at Museum Fri. April 15th and Sat. April 16th 9 - 12

4th Grade Tours at Tennie Burton Museum

Remember when all 4th graders in the HFL system used to come to the museum for a morning-long tour of Lima's history? Well, that tradition is being revived this year. We are planning on hosting all ten classes of HFL 4th graders (local history focus year)—two classes per day over five mornings in early June. A big undertaking to say the least!!

We feel that as Lima's Historical Society, this program is part of our responsibility to the children of the Lima/Honeoye Falls community. Clearly, we will need plenty of volunteers, but with a well-planned curriculum and lots of fun activities, the burden should not be too great on our volunteers.

Please come and help out for a couple of hours on one or two mornings. No experience or special knowledge is required. Call or email Judien Cooper (582-2652) (judic@frontier.com).

Lima and Genesee Wesleyan Seminary "Star" in New Book by Dr. Nancy Beadie, University of Washington

Some of you may remember Dr. Nancy Beadie, who spent time here a number of years ago doing research on Genesee Wesleyan Seminary in the archives of the Tennie Burton Museum. Her book, *Education and the Creation of Capital in the Early American Republic*, has now been published by Cambridge University Press. Her intensive study of mid 19th century schooling in upstate New York features Lima and the Seminary as a detailed example of her theory that schools were a driving force in the formation of social, political, and financial capital during that time, setting the stage for development of the modern capitalist state.

Those interested in the history of Lima will find a great deal of new information here, as well as insight into early Lima's extraordinary educational initiative and its economic consequences for the growth and development of the fledgling community. A copy is available for loan through the Lima Historical Society. Please contact Martha Sempowski (msempowski@frontiernet.net).

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.

Historian's Corner

1st New York Dragoons & Lima, NY

"The most famous of the Western New York troops was the First New York Dragoons, which was originally recruited in Portageville, as an infantry regiment, but because most of the members were farm boys of the Genesee Valley, and accustomed to riding and handling horses, it was transformed to a cavalry regiment, which saw service from the beginning of the war to the end.

Of the, many young men who, enlisted in the federal forces from the Town of Lima, the majority saw service with this regiment. And the writer of this article has vivid memories of the Decoration Day parades of many years ago, with William A. Ferris, the Color Sergeant of that regiment, mounted on a horse leading the parades, and a number of solid businessmen of this town, who also were members of that regiment, following their equestrian flag-bearer on foot. For this reason, it is assumed that there must be many mementoes of those long-past days scattered through this area. An example is a cavalry pistol, carried by one Edward Bonner from Lima, who was killed at the Battle of Cold Harbor. The pistol was taken from his body on the battlefield by Sergeant Ferris and sent to Trooper Bonner's brother, Mr. Samuel Bonner of Lima, whose grandson is now a resident of Honeoye Falls" (from article by Mabel Jenks, 1960, Lima Historian's Records). See Enclosed list of Lima's Civil War Veterans.

Douglas Morgan

Lima Historical Society New, Lifetime, and Renewed Annual Members For 2011

Annual Memberships

Gretchen and Jim Alday
Fred & Colleen Allen
Judy Atwood
Midge Merritt
Duane and Gayle Fuller
Diane Shirley
Joyce and Dick Rapp
Bill & Sherlee Ruth
John & Martha Sempowski
O'Connell/Dougherty Funeral Home
Barbara May
Colleen Plimpton*
Jim and Shirley Murphy
Jennifer and Skip Adams family
John and Mary Ellen Little
Frank and Linda Bassett*

Mike Leavy
Helen Taylor
Marge and Walter Sackett
Mary Jule Welch
Frank & Linda Bassett*
Beverly Garling
Barbara Kolstee
Ralph & Marilyn Herke
Marilyn Schroeder
Herb & Dottie Rosenberg
Jonathan & Fran Kreider
Vincent Milliken*
John Bailey*
Margaret Mercado
Mitchell Pearson Realtors*

Life Members

Estelle Barber
Laverne Beaumont
Brant Braeges
Marilyn Zaludny
Robert Wiggins
Jane Chatterton
James & Judien Cooper
Gerald Donaghy
Kent & Linda Fellows
Martin & Cathy Gardner*
Richard Garey
Richard Garey, Jr.
Beverly Gillette
Erwin & Ellen Gillette
Scott Gillette
Fran & George Gotsik
Jim & Lorada Kirkwood
June Klitgord
Steve & Teri Kruk
Jean Lacey

Nick & Ann Lamendola
Gabriel & Elvira Luhowy
Bruce & Dinah Mayer
Mr. & Mrs. Clair Milburn
Mr. & Mrs Joseph Shanks
Bob Minemier
Mr. & Mrs. Les Morse
Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Palmer
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Plavcan
Arletta Porazzo
Redding Chiropractic*
Judy Reinhard
Patrick Reynolds
Lee & Edna Shanks
Mr. & Mrs. Guy Smith
Dr. Charles Thompson
Hildegard & Paul Turk
Chris Turk
Thomas Wheat
Theodore Wiggins

*Indicates Sustaining Members

**If you do not see your name, please use form below to renew for 2011

Honorary Members

Lima Town Supervisor

Lima Public Library

Livingston County Historian

**If your name has been mistakenly omitted
or to update our contact list with your current email address (all members)
return form below or contact Martha Sempowski (624-2626) or msempowski@frontiernet.net**

THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT !

2011 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM OR MEMBER EMAIL UPDATE***

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

***EMAIL ADDRESS _____

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

Please send to:
Lima Historical Society PO Box 532, Lima NY 14485

Lima Historical Society

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

Lima Historical Society

Board Members 2009-2010

President: Michael Leavy

Co-Vice Presidents: Shirley Murphy

Judien Cooper

Treasurer: Margaret Mercado

Recording Secretary: Unfilled

Corr. Secretary: Martha Sempowski

Trustees: Rose Reynolds

Barbara May

Mary Jule Welch

Lima Historian: Doug Morgan

Programs: Shirley Murphy

Buildings and Grounds: Unfilled

Membership: Sherlee Ruth

Museum: Marilyn Schroeder

Publicity: Douglas Morgan

Preservation: Frances Gotcsik

Education: Jennifer and Kirk Adams

Ways and Means: Unfilled

Yellow Wasp Editor: Martha Sempowski

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by President Michael Leavy

Electronic Communication

**LHS is trying to use email to communicate more
efficiently with members**

**Please update our email records by completing
form inside or emailing us**