

# THE YELLOW WASP

Lima Historical Society

September 2011

## LHS GENERAL MEETING: Tuesday, September 27th

You Loved it on the Lima House Tour – now Own it! The See  
1497 Bragg Street, **TWO PART PROGRAM**

Come and enjoy the warm hospitality and historic ambiance of the Lima's own American Hotel.

### **"Recollections of a Local Civil War Era Soldier"**

by Sherlee Ruth

### **"Research on Civil War Soldiers From Our Area"**

by Lima Town Historian Douglas Morgan

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 27th at 7:30 PM at the Court House. The program features two LHS members speaking about the local impact of the Civil War.

Sherlee Ruth will share intimate stories and details recorded in a well-preserved Civil War diary by Dr. Clark Otis, former soldier and later family medicine physician in Honeoye Falls. Her interesting collection of Clark Otis' memorabilia will also be shared with the audience.

Douglas Morgan, Lima Town Historian, will provide us with an update on his ongoing research into the participation and service of local boys and men (and a couple of women) in the Civil War.

Tuesday, September 27th: 7:30 PM Open to the public  
Lima Court House on East Main Street Admission Free



*Bloody Battle of Cold Harbor Virginia, where many Lima boys lost their lives between May 31 and June 12, 1864.*

## **Free Summer's End Community Event at the Tennie Burton Museum**

*Ice Cream Social  
English Country Dancing on the Lawn*

The Lima Historical Society is sponsoring an Ice Cream Social, along with a demonstration of English Country Dancing (see p. 3) on Sunday, September 4th, from 2 to 4 PM at the Tennie Burton Museum. Admission is free and open to all—members and non-members. Please come and tour our new exhibits before they close for the season; have a dish of ice cream; and try out your "dancing feet" on the museum lawn. Instructions will be provided for young and old—so be sure to bring the kids and the grandparents. Help us celebrate a successful summer season!

## LHS Calendar of Events

PLEASE CLIP AND SAVE

Sunday, September 4th	Ice Cream Social and English Country Dancing. 2 to 4 PM Tennie Burton Museum.
Wednesday, September 14th	LHS Board meeting: 7 PM at Tennie Burton Museum.
Tuesday, September 27th	LHS General Meeting Two-Part Civil War Program by Sherlee Ruth and Douglas Morgan. Election and installation of new LHS officers.
Sundays June-Sept	Tennie Burton Museum open 2 to 4 PM. Several new exhibits including, " <i>When Johnny Comes Marching Home Again</i> ," an exhibit on Lima's role in the Civil War.
Wednesday, October 12th	LHS Board meeting: 7 PM at Tennie Burton Museum.

LIMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY 1850 ROCHESTER ST. PO BOX 352 LIMA NY 14485 (585-624-1050)

PLEASE CLIP AND SAVE

### Crossroads Day!

Many thanks to Judien Cooper and Shirley Murphy for their time and efforts on behalf of the Lima Historical Society on Lima's Crossroads Day.

Judi kept the museum open most of the day, welcoming 45 visitors and treating them with lemonade, coffee, and almond bars as they toured Lima's history.

Shirley and her team of volunteers set up and presided over our LHS booth on the lawn of the Presbyterian Church, selling cookbooks and items left over from the garage sale in May.

Our appreciation to both of you.

### Museum Driveway Problem Addressed by the Village of Lima

Ever since NYS lowered the level of Route 15A some years ago, the apron of the driveway leading to the Tennie Burton Museum has been steep and troublesome. Many of us have experienced the problem firsthand—scraping the bottom of our cars on the village sidewalk when entering or exiting the driveway.

This summer, at our request, the Village of Lima crew addressed the problem by sloping and lowering the level of the sidewalk and consequently reducing the grade at that interface.

Many thanks to the Village Board and the Village crew.

### Thanks To LHS Nominating Committee

Thanks are due to Jean Lacey, Hildegard Turk, and Rose Reynolds for their service on this year's nominating committee. The enclosed ballot represents the fruit of their efforts. Please fill out and return at the next general meeting on September 27th, or by mail.

**If you would like to become a bit more involved in the society yourself, and were somehow overlooked this year, be assured that we have a place for you.** We are in need of individuals interested in helping out with photos, objects, and records at the museum; we need a "practical" person for our Buildings and Grounds committee; and someone to take on "Ways and Means."

### NY Main Street Grant Funds Facelift for Lima

You should soon begin to see some exciting changes on Main Street! Last summer, the Village of Lima was awarded a NY Main Street rehabilitation grant. Sketching and planning have been underway ever since, but work is now proceeding.

The program will provide partial funding for façade renovations and other repairs to seven of our downtown buildings. In addition, there is funding for new historic period lighting and street furniture for the downtown business district.

This should make a real difference in the appearance of our historic downtown business district. Thanks to all of those who helped make it possible.

### 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.**

## What Is English Country Dancing?



"You say you've never heard of English Country Dancing? You're in good company, since many people are unfamiliar with it. But if you've watched *Pride and Prejudice* on TV or seen *Sense and Sensibility* or *Emma* at the movies, you have indeed seen it. But fear not - English Country Dancing (ECD) is not the obscure relic you might think it to be! While this traditional form of dance has been around for several hundred years, it's still thriving today. There is English Country Dancing all over the United States.

For many, it's the music - hauntingly beautiful tunes that make the heart swell. Some dance tunes are taken from old ballads and political satire; others come from classical music and operas. This gives ECD music tremendous variety; sometimes sweet and melodic, sometimes melancholy, and sometimes absolutely driven with a pulsating beat."

Quoted in August 2011 from:

<http://www-ssrl.slac.stanford.edu/~winston/e.cd/repasky.htmlx>



*View to the north on Rochester Street, showing bandstand across the sidewalk.  
LHS photo was scanned by Mike Leavy. Published in Around Lima, p. 29.*

## Music and Pranks in Lima

by Mabel Furner Jenks

"Music has always played an important role in the life of the community, as evidenced by the fact that College Hall was sometimes called "Concert Hall," as was also a hall on the corner downtown (*Masonic Building*).

Two brass bands have been formed here, one flourished about 1880, and the second early in the century. Band concerts were given in a bandstand erected on the Four Corners over the side walk on the corner by the church, which was taken down a number of years ago when the band ceased to function. Because of its location, there was no permanent flight of stairs leading up to the playing platform, and the players reached it by a ladder placed in position each time there was a concert. This afforded an opportunity for mischief by some of the youngsters of the day who sometimes removed the ladder during a concert and hid it, thus marooning the players in their lofty perch until it could be found and replaced so that they could descend after they finished playing for the older folks' entertainment."

(excerpt from *Lima 1788 - 1964: The Crossroads of Western New York*, 1964: p. 43, by Mabel Furner Jenks.

**Lima Historical Society 2012 Calendars**

**Available in September at LHS Meetings, Museum, and Area Businesses**

## Lima Historical Society

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

### Lima Historical Society

#### Board Members 2011-2013

President: Michael Leavy

Co-Vice President Judien Cooper

Treasurer: Margaret Mercado

Recording Secretary: Martha Sempowski

Corr. Secretary: Hildegarde Turk

Trustees: Barbara May

Mary Jule Welch

Gail Fuller

Lima Historian: Douglas 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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### TWO PART PROGRAM

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by Sherlee Ruth

#### *"Research on Local Civil War Soldiers from Our Area"*

by Douglas Morgan

September 4th 2-4PM

Ice Cream Social/English Country Dancing

Tennie Burton Museum