

THE YELLOW WASP

Lima Historical Society

September 2009

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

*Tales That Might Have Been Told
on This Land*

by Ina Valeria Doyle

Whenever folks gathered near the crossroads that was to become Lima, tales must have been told. At the next general meeting of the Lima Historical Society on Tuesday, September 22nd, Ina Doyle, an old-fashioned story teller, will entertain us with a variety of stories from Seneca Iroquois, French, European, and British Isles traditions. These legends, folktales, tall tales, and personal stories were some of those likely to have been told around the campfires and fireplaces of early Lima settlers. In this way, the stories were preserved as they passed from generation to generation during long Lima winter evenings before television, radio and computers.

Please join us for an evening of fun and stories steeped in the past. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 22nd at 7:30 PM at the Lima Court House (next to the Town Hall) on East Main Street in Lima. The meeting is free and open to the public. Children are more than welcome. Plenty of parking available.

Lima Historical Society 2009 House Tour

East Side/West Side ...all around the town

A TOUR OF HISTORIC HOMES IN LIMA



Once again, the Lima Historical Society is hosting one of its always popular Historic House Tours as a fundraiser to help support the preservation of Lima's history at the Tennie Burton Museum. This year's event, entitled *East Side/West Side ...all around the town*, will be held on **Saturday, September 26th, from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM** (see enclosed flyer for tickets).

The tour will feature seven beautifully restored historic Lima buildings representing an unusual time span and range of architectural styles: from the 1793 Federal style John Morgan "Brick" Inn with spring-loaded dance floor; to two distinctive village homes (Greek Revival/Late Italianate), one of which is now a Bed and Breakfast; to a very ornate Queen Anne style rural home (see photo); to an early 20th century California Craftsman Style Bungalow; and finally to two Main Street buildings that have been exquisitely adapted for residential, commercial and office use.

An afternoon tea, Irish dancing, music, and a Dollhouse Exhibit are all included in the special advance member ticket prices (see flyer).

Queen Anne -style home of Andrew and Susan Sheppard

LHS Calendar of Events

PLEASE CLIP AND SAVE Tuesday,

- Wednesday, September 9th** **Lima Historical Society Board meeting. Tennie Burton Museum at 7:30 PM.**
- Tuesday, September 22nd** **Lima Historical Society General Meeting. "Tales That Might Have Been Told on This Land" by Ina Valeria Doyle. Court House 7:30 PM.**
- Saturday, September 26th** **Lima Historical Society House Tour. *East Side, West Side...all around the town: A Tour of Lima Historic Homes.* 11am -4pm. Advance tickets available at special member price.**
- June through September** **Tennie Burton Museum open on Sunday afternoons 2-4 PM. Special group tours available by appointment.**
- Tuesday November 17th** **Lima Historical Society General Meeting. Program by John Bailey.**

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

PLEASE CLIP AND SAVE

A Day in the Past 2009 LHS Day Camp

Thanks to the creative efforts of Jennifer Adams, the Lima Historical Society once again sponsored a children's day camp at the Tennie Burton Museum. Twelve children attended the one-day camp—some as helpers—along with a number of adults who helped supervise. The fun-filled morning camp held a mix of old time crafts, stories, music, treats and games, which everyone enjoyed.

Many thanks to Jennifer and her family and to the LHS Board for its support of this event. Next year we hope to get the word out soon enough to support a full week's camp.



Young pioneers enjoying history day camp.

LHS 2009 Most Improved Property Award

At the opening of the Tennie Burton Museum following the Memorial Day parade, the Lima Historical Society presented its 2009 Most Improved Property Award.

The recipients this year are Mr. and Mrs. George Gotcsik and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Fleming who, as a corporation, have purchased and are renovating the house and carriage barn at 7356 East Main St. in Lima. Many years ago, after being a private residence, this property was known as the Sheehan Nursing Home and later the Sheehan Motel. The Gotcsiks and Flemings have removed earlier additions on the carriage barn and are turning the original building into two apartments. The house has been turned into four apartments and the outside returned to its original look with the removal of a wrap-around porch and the application of pleasing new colonial paint colors.

The Historical Society is pleased to honor homeowners like these who are concerned about and add so much to the architectural and historical beauty of Lima.
Barbara May and Rose Reynolds- Committee members



George and Fran Gotcsik accepting the award from Barbara May on behalf of the Flemings and themselves.

A LETTER FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT

August 24, 2009

It is with great pleasure that I assume the responsibilities of President of the Lima Historical Society for my second time since moving to Lima in 1986.

Our community, like so many others across America, is experiencing the stresses of an uncertain economy and social changes. As a result, a stronger sense of community is developing wherein people are coming together to value more fully the shared heritage, traditions, and benefits of their cities and towns. In short we are taking a look at what we have with renewed appreciation. Historical societies are no longer being seen simply as repositories of artifacts and documents but, rather, as institutions where we can experience the omnipresent history in which we are immersed. The photos of those who came before us —enjoying events around town, plowing fields, attending schools—all project a kind of security. Examples of products manufactured here remind of us of the ingenuity and craftsmanship of our forebears.

These are some of the reasons I find involvement with the Lima Historical Society to be so rich and gratifying. We have a museum that is the envy of surrounding communities, and the continued support of the community ensures a healthy future. Events sponsored by the society—such as our upcoming House Tour—are colorful and fun, and draw attention to Lima.

We are all grateful to those on the board, the museum committee, and those who contribute in other ways to keeping the society vibrant, efficient and in overall good shape. As always we appreciate you, who as members, help keep us viable and make our events possible.

So let's move ahead with hope, support, and an eye towards the pursuit of fun!

Warmest Regards.
Michael Leavy

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.

Preserving Our Military Uniforms

Concerns over the fragile condition of some of the military uniforms in our collections at the Jennie Burton Museum prompted the LHS board (after Mary Jule Welch's research into the issue) to engage fabric specialist, Sarah Le Count to advise us on their cleaning and care. Sarah has now begun the painstaking task of carefully cleaning each uniform in preparation for long term storage under conditions that will be most suitable for their preservation.

Savor Lima Cookbooks

Just a reminder that we still have a supply of our popular Lima Historical Society cookbooks. Now that the new roof on the Jennie Burton Museum has been paid for, cookbook funds will help pay for the many other needed improvements at the museum. This fall, it is gutters and exterior painting.

American Hotel Wins Award

Lima's own historic American Hotel was recently awarded the Livingston County Chamber of Commerce Small Business Award for 2009. Kudos to long time LHS members Pat and Rose Reynolds, who give back so much to this community.

Stop in for a bowl of soup, and congratulate them.

Lima Son: Battle of Little Big Horn

It was recently brought to our attention by Daniel Ryan of Rochester that his great uncle from Lima, Corporal Daniel "Phil" Ryan, died at the Battle of Little Big Horn in 1876 under the command of General Custer. This fact was authenticated by the National Park Service at the Little Big Horn National Monument.

A small bronze plaque on the Ryan family stone in St. Rose Cemetery commemorates the death of this 21 year old Lima boy from Heath-Markham Rd. in that unpopular early war.

Lima Historical Society

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

Lima Historical Society

Board Members 2008-2009

President: Michael Leavy

Vice President: Shirley Murphy

Treasurer: Colleen Allen

Recording Secretary: Mary Jule Welch

Corr. Secretary: Martha Sempowski

Trustees: Rose Reynolds

Barbara May

Joy Niswander

Lima Historian: Doug Morgan

Standing Committee Representatives

Program: Shirley Murphy

Buildings and Grounds: Brant Braeges

Membership: Sherlee Ruth

Museum: Barbara May

Publicity: Douglas Morgan

Preservation: Frances Gotcsik

Education: Jennifer and Kirk Adams

Ways and Means: Unfilled

Yellow Wasp Editor: Martha Sempowski

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Lima Historical Society
2009 House Tour

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11-4

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**Please order your tickets now at special member price
and help make the House Tour a success again**