

LIMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



*Preserving Lima's history
with a focus on its future*

50th Anniversary Events

May 20, 2023
Anniversary Dinner

4:30 p.m. Reception - The American Hotel

6:00 p.m. Buffet Dinner - Lima Presbyterian Church

- Welcome
- Historic Lima Photos - video playing continuously
- Buffet Dinner
- Reflections on LHS Foundations

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Crossroads Days - Town Hall Auditorium
August 5 and 6, 2023

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Through Lima's Lens: Images of its Past
Celebrating the Good Life in Lima Today
With An Exciting Historical Look at Yesterday

- ***Positively Lima***
1983 Multi-Image Presentation
Featuring Lima People and Places
- ***Lima Through the Ages***
Historic Lima Photos
from the Tennie Burton Museum Collections
Video showing continuously
- ***Talking Buildings***
An Architectural Tour of Lima
Slide Presentation showing continuously

The 1970s

- 1972** May First meeting to consider forming a society
- 17 attendees
Sept. Lima Historical Society forms -125 memberships
- 1973** Tennie Burton Museum opens Memorial Day on West
Main Street at former clothing store
Artifacts & records moved from Museum at Town Hall
Society receives NYS Charter
Town of Lima offers financial support



- 1975** LHS launches Annual Most Improved Property Award
1975 -1996; 2008-2009
- 1976** LHS celebrates U.S. Bicentennial with Ball at the Town
Hall and prize winning float in summer parade



1977 Belle Chapin Tenny bequeaths her Rochester St. home to LHS for a museum



1978 Present Tennie Burton Museum opens Memorial Day
Collections moved from West Main St. building



The 1980s

1983 *Positively Lima* created and first presented by
LHS & Elim Bible Institute
Christmas at the Museum



1984 Main Street façade renderings
Positively Lima - first house tour
Reprint of Mabel Jenks history,
Lima 1788-1964

1985 *Positively Lima* tee shirts sold
Summer Mini - series for children (also in 1986, 1987)
LHS assists with Main St. business renovations
First Progressive Dinner

Light Up Lima - Store windows
decorated for holidays



1986 *Return to Lima* House Tour
Groveland inmates paint museum
historic colors



- 1987** 56 Lima buildings listed in State & National Registers of Historic Places
Summer intern introduces new cataloging system
Progressive Dinner
- 1988** Lima Bicentennial celebrated
New Year's Eve Gala at the Town Hall
Bicentennial tee shirts sold
Historically Yours Lima House Tour
Conservation of Torch Light Banner
Flavors of Lima Cookbook published
- 1989** Conservation Assessment Award for museum textiles and prints



The 1990s



- 1990** Centennial Firehall purchased by LHS
\$9,000 NYSCA/ Xerox grants for building reuse
Oral Histories recorded
Discover Lima House Tour
Vintage Hat Show at Town Hall

- 1991** Celebrity Auction on
Crossroads Days nets \$2,200
Craft demonstrations at Museum

- 1992** Quilt Exhibit
Winter Carnival at Tubbs Park
Centennial Firehall workdays
Old Time Christmas at Museum
Wreath & ornament sale
Welcome to Historic Lima House
Tour





1993 Progressive Dinner
Raffle, wreath and plant sales
to raise funds for firehouse

1994 Centennial Firehall sold
Eastside/Westside House Tour

1996 *Lima-From Mason to Millwright*
House Tour

1997 LHS 25th Anniversary Dinner
at Elim Bible Institute

1998 Progressive Dinner
Livingston County inmates paint
& wallpaper Museum
Sale of calendars, wreaths, ornaments

1999 Progressive Dinner



2000-2008

2001 Progressive Dinner

2002 Quilt Exhibit

Furnace replaced & roof
repairs at Museum

Old Fashioned Christmas
at Museum

2003 *Harvest a la Mode*

Progressive Dinner

Spinning demonstration at
Museum

“Hands on History” camp for children—also 2004, 2009

2004 College Ave. Cemetery headstone restoration

Cub Scouts tour Museum



2005 Early Lima Schools panel discussion

Presbyterian Church Cemetery headstone restoration

Phone and security system installed at Museum

2006 *Town and Country* House Tour

2007 Reception for Veterans
“Hats Off to Lima” hat
exhibit & tea
New Sign at Museum-gift
of Al Lacey



2008 *Savor Lima's Harvest* Progressive Dinner
1984 façade drawings exhibited at Town Hall
Savor Lima Cookbook published



2009-2014

2009 *Eastside Westside House Tour*

Livingston Cty. inmates repair & repaint Museum interior

New roof installed at Museum

Progressive Dinner

Brownies visit the Museum



2010 English Dancing at Town Hall

Quilt Raffle

Christmas cookie sales—through 2016



- 2011** Civil War exhibit
Clara Barton Tea at Town Hall
LHS website launched
- 2012** Strawberry social with country dancing
Potluck Dinner “Trunks and Travels” presentation
Sunday workshops – postcards, calligraphy, collecting
Student interns reorganize historic newspapers
- 2013** Mitzi Collins plays for country dancing at Town Hall
Tennie’s Place opens on East Main St.
Asbestos abatement in Museum basement
- 2014** Wine & Cheese tasting – also 2015, 2018
Antique Doll exhibit
Museum Mercantile Gift Shop opens



2015-2023

2015 Candle making workshop
Strawberry Social
“Pioneer Fun Days” at Museum



2016 Sock Hop at Town Hall
Lima Artists’ exhibit and
reception
Remembering the 60’s exhibit
BCW Trio plays on porch of Museum

2017 *Positively Lima* House Tour

2018 Fire Department exhibit at Museum

2019 Computer digitization of Museum collections begins
New furnace installed at Museum
Hat exhibit



2020 COVID 19 Pandemic

Museum closed, programs cancelled

Artifacts loaned for HF-Lima HS 50th Anniversary exhibit

2021 Programs virtual March - May; in-person Sept. - Nov.

Lima artists' paintings loaned for Livingston County
Council on the Arts exhibit

2022 Member Picnic at Mark Tubbs Park

Halloween at Museum

Museum exterior repairs and painting

Positively Lima restoration

2023 Programs co-sponsored with Lima Public Library

50th Anniversary Celebration





Forty years ago, a cutting-edge audiovisual show entitled *Positively Lima* (original logo above) celebrating the history, people, and community life of Lima, was designed and presented through the collaborative efforts of the Lima Historical Society and Elim Bible Institute, with assistance from Eastman Kodak Company. The 20-minute show included over 500 color slides shown on six synchronized projectors enhanced by music, special sound effects, and historical narration. It was first presented to a large audience of Lima residents at Elim Bible Institute's College Hall on November 18, 1983. *Positively Lima* represented a warm, people-centered overview of a "moment in time" in the history of the small town of Lima NY—a unique historical treasure.

Electronic technology moved rapidly over the next four decades, rendering much equipment obsolete and digital materials often impossible to access. Unfortunately, that was the fate of *Positively Lima*. Thankfully, collective memories of the show, together with six carousels of identified slides and a grainy audio/video tape had survived within the Lima Historical Society and its Tennie Burton Museum.

Thanks to a proactive effort by LHS Board member, Elizabeth Osta, and the generous sponsorship of Martin and Catharine Gardner, we were able to contract with DeBergerac Productions Inc. for restoration of the presentation. As part of this year's 50th Anniversary celebration we are offering free showings at the Lima Town Hall auditorium (fully handicap accessible) during Crossroads Days, August 5 and 6.

Crossroads Days

Lima Town Hall Auditorium
August 5 and 6, 2023
1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

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Anniversary Committee

John Serafin, Chairperson
Duane Fuller
Gail Fuller
Fran Gotsik
Dan Marcellus
Elizabeth Osta
Kathie Reynolds
Courtney Rowe-Lenahan
Martha Sempowski

Sponsorships

Martin & Catharine Gardner	<i>Positively Lima</i>
Elizabeth Osta & George Van Arsdale	Anniversary Dinner
Skyport IT	Pre-Dinner Reception
Lima Republicans	Table
Lima Rotary	Table
Steve Werner & Ron Blodgett	Table

Supporters

American Hotel
Copy Town Enterprise
DeBergerac Productions Inc.
Frances & George Gotcsik
Mike Leavy
Doug Morgan
Martha & John Sempowski
Spinelli's Catering and Events
Stephenson-Dougherty Funeral Home

All our loyal Historical Society Members

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1973

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2023

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