DESTINATION LODI

A HISTORICAL JOURNEY

OUR HEROES

I was walking down Wooster Street on my daily walk; I always stop and walk around the “Old Lodi Cemetery “circa 1815. I love looking at the beauty of the old tombstones and searching for names. If you see me talking to myself just ignore it. I talk to our past citizens I have researched and found their homes. When we bought the Waite-Harris house, I visited Dr. Waite and family at Woodlawn…

I googled the oldest established cemetery in Medina County, the results stating the Jefferson Street Cemetery in Medina, circa 1817. Wrong! Why do they always forget about the oldest settlement in Medina County with many firsts? Let me get off my soapbox.

The Lodi-Harrisville Historical Society will be focusing more on this cemetery. Thanks to Alloy Fabricators, we will have a new sign in the spring. Many stones are too far-gone. I would like mark them. Maybe a scout project? I am always concerned there are veterans on Memorial Day we miss. On the Find a Grave computer site, it states there are 606 citizens buried in this cemetery.

According to the Lodi Sesquicentennial 1811-1961 under Veterans of Early Years, there are 20 Civil War soldiers buried in the old cemetery. Using Find a Grave, I could only locate 18 gravesites. I am not forgetting the seven soldiers from the War of 1812. Joseph Harris once buried in this cemetery, was removed and buried in Woodlawn. Joseph, our founding father serviced in the Revolutionary War. I will be researching each one of the veterans I can find. I understand Medina Library has needed information. Maybe another Scout or school project? Maybe a cemetery walk?

William Stitle, 1845-September 30, 1893. William enlisted in Company I, 29th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, February 2, 1864. William being seriously wounded May 8, 1864 at Dug Gap in Georgia during the Atlanta Campaign so that his right leg was amputated. Discharged on August 16, 1865, he applied for an invalid soldier pension September 1, 1865.

He married Loretta Lowery (1848-1924) from Wayne County on September 21, 1873. I could only find one child, Jessie Eulalia Stitle born in 1884. Jessie married Alvin H. Hoyer on March 20. 1915, residing in Ashland, passed away in 1960. I could not find any children.

If anyone with Civil War family history buried in our four cemeteries in Harrisville Twp., which includes Woodlawn, Alberts-Munson and Voorhees, please send to 218 Church Street.

During the Bicentennial Joe asked for family biographies for a possible book. We will complete that project when we can but probably a CD instead of a book. My request is Family Trees. I would like Lodi residents who have at least two generations in Lodi to submit a Family Tree chart. Send to 218 Church Street Lodi.

The museum is coming along. We have started to empty our large storage unit. We have several heavy items left to move. New back steps are build, new screens for both doors. We have to fix nine windows, needing new robes to hang weights. Thank you Lodi Lumber. We need an expensive part for the furnace before winter sets in. Thanks to Terry Tomes for free labor. I cannot say enough good things about the people of Lodi. Thank you. Again, send all donations to Box 172 Lodi. Ohio 44254