

AFGS SEEKING WORLD WAR I SOLDIERS' PHOTOGRAPHS

Next year the United States will be commemorating its entry into World War I. By the time the Armistice was signed on November 11, 1918, over 53,000 Americans would die in battle, with an additional 63,000 dying of disease or accident. By some estimates Rhode Island sent 23,000 soldiers and sailors to fight, of which 585 died. The estimate does not make clear if this number includes men who went to fight for other countries before the US entered the war. This same estimate, which was in a 1919 copy of the Woonsocket Call, listed 30 people from Woonsocket who died. Unfortunately, these lists, which appeared from time to time in newspapers, were inaccurate and often contradicted themselves. AFGS has been able to identify over 70 men and women who served and died not only in the United States Army and Navy, but also in the Canadian, French, and English Armies.

Next year the American-French Genealogical Society intends to honor these brave men and women who gave their lives in "the war to end all wars." Much research is still left to do, and this list may change as new information is uncovered. Presently, along with the research, we are trying to locate photographs of these veterans. The few newspaper photos which have been found are of very poor quality. We are asking anyone who may have a picture of these men and women to allow us to copy them so that we may put a face to the name. We do intend to expand this project to include photos and/or histories of all the Woonsocket residents who served in the war, but for now we would like to limit our project to getting photos of those service men and women who paid the ultimate price.

The list we have compiled to date is:

Philip Anicette, Pvt	Robert T. Johnson, Pvt
George T. Aucoin, Pfc	William Jolicoeur, Pvt
Donatian Belhumeur, Pvt	Rene Keiser
George D. Bernard, Pvt	Pierre Lambert, Pvt
Louis F. Bernier, Pvt	Alphonse Lammertyne
Eugene L. Berry	Emile Landreville (Alias Frank Roberts)
Eugene Blanchard, Pvt	Napoleon Languiran, Cpl
Ernest C. Bonin, Sgt	Adrien B. Laquerre, Pvt
John J. Bradley, MM1c	X. Lallemand
John F. Brady, Pvt	Romeo Lariviere, Pvt
Stephen J. Brady, Cpl	Emile E. Lecrique
William Brandon, Air Mechanic 1/c	Edgar Lemeire, Pvt
William S. Brindle, Pvt	Joseph Lombaert
Franck Cherb, Pfc (also listed as Frank Cerbo)	Aime Longtin, Pvt
Joseph Cormier, Pvt	James F. Magner, Pfc
Alphonse J. Corriveau	Mariano Marini, Pvt
Joseph R. Coutu, Pvt	Constance Martin, Navy nurse
Charles V. Cronk, Pvt	John P. McQuade, Fireman 2c
Arthur Curtis, Pvt	Howard B. Miller, Major
Joseph G. Desrosiers, Pvt	Joseph O. Normandin, Pvt
George Dessauvages, Cpl	Peter Peloquin, Pvt
Jean Devinck	Adelard Plante, Pvt
Abraham Doyon, Pfc	Hormisdas Raymond, Pvt
Joseph O. Ducharme, Pvt	Alberic C. Riendeau, Pvt
Come Duhamel, Pvt	Napoleon Riendeau, Pvt

Elie Duhamel, Pvt
Edna G. Dunn, Yeowoman 2/c
Richard Edmundson, Pvt
Giovanni Filice, Pvt
Harold F. Flynn, 1st Lt
James F. Flynn, Corp
Leo L. Fontaine, Pvt
William Foyle (Foille), Driver
Harry George
Donat J. Giguere, Pfc
Lloyd H. Gledhill, Sgt
John Jacob, Cook
Arthur E. Johnson, Apprentice Seaman

Lionel O. Roberge, Pvt
Ludger Rocheford, Pvt
Emma Rousseau, Army nurse
Eugene St Hilaire, Sgt
Peter Swiatloski, Pvt
Walter P. Talaska, Chief Quartermaster
Ovila M. Toupin, MM2c
Robin J. Trent, Pvt
Ralph L. Truesdale, Pvt
Napoleon A. Valley, Pvt
John (Jean Baptiste) Valois, Pvt
Emile Wilerval
Henri Wilerval
Andrew F. Young, Pvt

You may scan the photo yourself and send it to RDBeaudry@afgs.org. Please be sure to include the name of the soldier as well as your own name and relationship to the veteran. You may also call us at 401-765-6141 to set up an appointment to drop the photo off at our library at 78 Earle St, Woonsocket. Photos can be scanned while you wait.