The C/DPHS is an association of individuals dedicated to the preservation of the history of our community. To the preservation of the region’s oral history, literary history, social history, graphic and pictorial history, and our history as represented by the region’s artifacts and structures. To the preservation of this history for future generations. To the art of making this common heritage accessible to the public. And to the act of collaborating with other individuals and organizations sharing similar goals.

Shadows of the Great War: Two From Williams Valley Among America’s Fallen

by Wally Lee Parker

Last summer marked the one hundredth anniversary of the beginning of the Great War. It was called the Great War because the world had never before seen anything like it. It was also called “the war to end war” — called such in the certainty that civilized nations would never allow such horrific carnage to occur again. In our current century we know that conflict as neither the Great War nor the war to end war. We know it simply as World War One — the first truly major upheaval within a century marked by human slaughter on an industrial scale.

The war in Europe began in late July, 1914, with the United States remaining neutral — at least technically — until the 6th of April, 1917. At the beginning of America’s direct intervention in the war its military had something over 100,000 men in uniform. By war’s end 4,355,000 men had been mobilized. That expansion was accomplished in large part by the introduction of conscription — of compulsory service.

Forty-two Divisions were sent overseas. Twenty-nine of those were at various times engaged on the active front. Put another way, 2,084,000 soldiers were sent to France, and of these, 1,390,000 were engaged in some type of combat. Historians generally state that of the 2,800,000 men conscripted by the draft, a disproportionate ratio were working class — primarily unskilled laborers, recent immigrants, or boys from poorer farm families.

During the 19 months of America’s participation in World War One, 116,500 American citizens were killed, 204,000 more wounded, and a few thousand listed as missing. In total, about 7 percent of our military’s soldiers were considered casualties of that war. Available records suggest that something over 780 of those killed in Europe were either volunteers or draftees from the State of
place Albert’s death among the 43,000 soldiers that passed away as a direct result of the great influenza pandemic of 1918 — a particularly virulent influenza first reported as having arrived in the United States in March of 1918. However, when this particular strain killed, it was relatively quick — suffocation often occurring 24 hours or less from the onset of symptoms. The extended pneumonia described in Albert’s case doesn’t seem to fit that profile.

Contrary to influenza’s historic pattern, the 1918 was particularly virulent among otherwise healthy young adults — those 20 to 40 years of age — making military installations ideal environs for its spread. Following that pattern, at least one of the young men listed among Deer Park’s fallen is known to have succumbed to that illness. The November 8th, 1918, issue of the Union, reports that “The funeral of Charles William Billings was observed on Friday, Nov. 2, at the cemetery near the Swedish Lutheran Church, five miles north of the city. The funeral was conducted by Rev. Wm. Worthington. Mr. Billings was a victim of the Spanish influenza, which was contracted while he was at the training school at Pullman. Death occurred Oct. 30. Charles Billings was born at Miller, Nebraska, June 27, 1897. He was 20 years of age and was inducted into the service but a few weeks ago. He leaves a father, mother, and two sisters, all of them residents of the community north of town.”

The above noted “cemetery near the Swedish Lutheran Church” is Clayton’s Zion Hill.

The only details about Frank Sainton found to date are from a single paragraph that simply states, “Frank Sainton, who is also somewhere in France, has been decorated with the Military Cross, for bravery under heavy fire, and has been wounded three times.” This is from the August 31st, 1917, edition of the Deer Park Union. And that makes Frank Sainton a bit of a puzzle. The first American military units arrived in France in late June, 1917 — with the sources so far rummaged through suggesting that the first combat engagements by American military personnel didn’t occur until the autumn of that year, several months after France’s report to the Allies that in mind, it should also be noted that as soon as the Doughboys set foot in France there was intense pressure placed on the American commanders to embed both individuals and entire units into British and French combat commands as replacements. So even though it was the American military’s official policy to resist early combat engagements, it was very soon abandoned.

It’s also interesting to note the term used to describe the decoration Frank Sainton received — “the Military Cross.” This is the specific award bestowed by Great Britain to junior and warrant officers of British and Commonwealth forces. The French had a similar device intended for soldiers of any rank — the Médaille Militaire. The American military allowed its personnel to accept and wear both these foreign decorations.

So, could Frank Sainton have been wounded while serving with British or French forces in August of 1917? Could he have been awarded “the Military Cross” for his actions against the enemy? We have no compelling evidence to suggest otherwise.

It’s March 23rd, 1918, and we receive a wire from the two known European casualties pictured in the 3rd volume of Soldiers of the Great War is somewhat more extensive. For example, under the extended headline “Guy Enman Was Drawing Dead On Shielded Sniper When Killed: Sorrowing Deer Park Parents Get Letter of Praise for Boy From Sergeant Guy Enman,” the following appeared in the February 5th, 1919 edition of the Spokane Chronicle.

“You had a boy to be proud of,” wrote Sergeant Hague, Co. E, 361st Infantry, to Mr. and Mrs. Enman of Roslindale, R. I. “Guy Enman was enjoying his leave with his friends in Washington. The names of the fallen are preserved in a set of books titled Soldiers of the Great War. Largely the work of three individuals — William Mitchell Haulsee, Frank George Howe, and Alfred Cyril Doyle — this state by state listing was printed in three volumes in 1920.

Volume One’s introduction gives this explanation for how the material was compiled. “While the list of names is based wholly upon the official records of the Government as shown in its official bulletin, the information accompanying the photographs is that given by the relatives of soldiers.”

The introduction goes on to state, “The purpose of this work is to present a record, complete and accurate, of the American soldiers who lost their lives in Europe in the World War.” As such it includes those taken by disease or accident while on Europe’s Western Front.

While the book Soldiers of the Great War only lists two young men from the Deer Park area, an article on the front page of the November 29th, 1918, issue of the Deer Park Union states that seven young men “from this district” had died during the war. The two mentioned in both the book and the local newspaper’s article are Guy O. Enman and Byron W. Hoffman. Of the others, those mentioned only in the Union article, are Albert I. Hoough, Frank Sainton, Carl Mace, Charles Billings, and Arthur Bolay. These last five are currently unknown.

Of these seven young men, we’ve yet to uncover any trace of Carl Mace or Arthur Bolay. As for the others, the fog of war is very much evident in regards to the above listed Albert I. Hoough. Our assumption when reading the newspaper’s list would be that Hoough was a resident of Deer Park at the time of his enlistment or conscription. An announcement in the March 29, 1918 edition of the Spokesman-Review tells a different story.

The body will arrive in Kellogg Sunday afternoon and the funeral will be held Monday. The Industrial Union and Spanish-American War Veterans will have charge of the services. There would be a natural tendency to
It should also be noted that Guy Enman’s death — the date of which is incorrectly stated in the above article — actually occurred on September 27th. This date is confirmed by the inscription chiseled on the cross above his grave — that grave being located at the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery near the community of Naucelle, Aisne, in northern France. Guy Enman’s burial overseas is confirmed by the March 13th, 1941, obituary for his mother as it appeared in the Spokane Daily Chronicle.

The obituary stated that “Isabella Enman, 74, died at her home in Williams Valley Monday after a long illness.” It went on to note that “she had resided at the family homestead since 1889.” It also stated that Deer Park’s American Legion Post #156 was named after the son she’d lost to the war. And that she had “made the trip to France to visit his grave.”

The 1918 issue of the Deer Park Union stated, “Guy Enman’s Infantry — Guy’s unit — as presented in a 1919 volume titled “The Story of the 91st Division,” indicate that Guy’s death occurred on the second day of the Meuse-Argonne Offensive — also known as the Battle of the Argonne Forest. This operation began on September 26th, and continued until all the fighting ended on November 11th. On the day of Enman’s death, his unit was engaged in the struggle to take the French village of Epinonville near the Belgian border. The text of the article states that the 361st Infantry was moving against opposition from both snipers and machine guns on its approach, intrusion into, and in its attempt to secure the fields and orchards beyond the French community.

The various Divisions of the American Expeditionary Force were divided into three primary groups according to the division’s likely to be the primary source of their personnel: the Regular Army (Divisions 1 through 20), the National Guard (Divisions 26 to 42), and the National Army (Divisions 76 to 93). These original distinctions — in which the National Army was to be comprised mostly of new conscripts and volunteers — blurred as events overtook planning. And by the summer of 1918 all U.S. land forces were simply referred to as components of the United States Army.

The 91st Division — originally part of the above noted National Army — was organized at Camp Lewis, Washington, in the late summer of 1917. It was known as the “Wild West Division,” since it drew its men from Alaska, California, Montana, Idaho, Oregon, Utah, and Washington. The Division was deployed to Europe in July of 1918.

The authorized strength of the 91st Infantry Division was 27,152 men. Besides the various infantry units — such as Guy Enman’s 361st Infantry Regiment — there were two machine gun battalions in the 91st Division. One of these was the 348th Machine Gun Battalion. And one of the soldiers in that unit was the second Deer Park youth listed in the third volume of “Soldiers of the Great War.”

A notice in the November 8th, 1918 edition of the Deer Park Union stated, “Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Roberts received the sad news Tuesday morning that their son, Byron, had been killed in France, October 2nd.” And then, under the headline “Deer Park Soldier Killed,” and the dateline “Deer Park, Wash., Nov. 9,” an article from the November 10th issue of the Spokane Review reported that, “Private Byron Bassler Roberts, Company C, 348th Machine Gun Battalion, A. P. O. 776, A. E. F., was born July 30, 1895, and drafted April 26, when he went to Camp Lewis. He sailed with the 91st Division from Camp Merritt. He was reported killed in action October 2, 1918. He is one of seven sons of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Roberts, Route 2, Deer Park. Three of his brothers are in the service of their country: Joe, George, Lloyd, and Roy.”

Private Roberts died on the 7th day of the Battle of the Argonne Forest. The “Story of the 91st Division” records that Byron’s unit, the 348th Machine Gun Battalion, was engaged in the effort to hold the ground around Epinonville when he was killed — that being the same bit of France that Guy Enman had died gaining. And like Guy Enman, Byron Roberts remained in France. He can be found at the Meuse-Argonne Cemetery — plot H, row 31, grave 33.

As for learning more about these fallen soldiers — as well as the many others that came home battered but relatively intact — someone should have a piece or two to add (meaning stories and photos would be appreciated). Also, a more thorough search of that era’s surviving newspapers may provide overlooked clues. And, as eyewitness wartime documents are constantly being added to various online archives. Many of these are searchable, so future inquires may bring results even when past inquiries have returned little.


Private Byron B. Roberts. Killed in Action.
A Horse Shoe Lake Shingle Mill
by
Roxanne Camp & Peter Coffin

Many sawmills dotted the Deer Park-Clayton area in the late 1800s and the early decades of the 1900s. These sawmills were fed by local forest—forest felled to clear land for farming. The locations of the Williams Valley and Wild Rose Prairie sawmills—those named in *Herbert Mason’s diary—are unclear. And very few pictures of those sawmills can be found. Fortunately, the Leonard Todd family took pictures of their family mill—a shingle mill located near Horse Shoe Lake.

The Todd family purchased the mill from William Dippold in 1937, and produced

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Letters, Email, Bouquets & Brickbats

—or—

Bits of Chatter, Trivia & Notices All Strung Together

While proofing last month’s Mortar-board, society president Bill Sebright asked, “Do you know what the acronym K.O.T.M. stands for?” He’d seen it on page 1022 and was puzzled.

It’s a puzzle that your editor solved when putting the story together. Unfortunately, after looking it up, your editor failed to follow through and add a footnote clarifying such for the readers.

K.O.T.M. stands for Knights of the Maccabees — a fraternal organization founded in the late 1870s for the specific purpose of creating an insurance pool for its membership — that insurance apparently paying a death benefit of some sort.

None of that is particularly strange. The late 1800s and early 1900s were brimming with fraternal organizations such as the Moose, Eagles, and Odd Fellows that offered some type of insurance benefit to their members. Exactly what — sickness, injury, life — varied widely from organization to organization.

As for why approximately a third of America’s male population belonged to one or more such organizations, that was a time when the federal government provided nothing recognizable as a social safety net. Although private insurance plans were available, only the economically advantaged could afford them. When disaster struck, most middle and working class citizens were reduced to accepting charity, or doing without. During the Great Depression, government agencies took over many of the safety net functions of these fraternal organizations. Private insurances became more available — often as a benefit of employment. And, as a result, the number of fraternal groups — as well as the total membership within those few organizations that survived without multiple mergers — went into sharp decline.

That said, henceforth your editor will try to be more diligent in annotating these acronyms when they appear in quoted materials.

... knights of this and that...

... the Bayview kilns ...

This last December society president, Bill Sebright, and his wife Anni, spent a day on Idaho’s Lake Pend Oreille. Aboard one of the Bayview Marina’s charter boats, the two had gone in pursuit of the lake’s bald eagles.
Left: This segment of map is from an article titled “Fine Trout Waters in the Idaho Panhandle”— as published in the April, 1920 issue of “Outing Magazine.” The outdoor adventure magazine obtained the map from the Northern Pacific Railway, and the heavy black line indicates the route of that railway’s tracks around Idaho’s Lake Pend Oreille.

Below: Bill Sebright at Washington Brick & Lime’s Lake Pend Oreille lime kilns.

— gone in pursuit with binoculars and camera in hand.

As Bill explained, “The eagles were in the trees along the shoreline. We also saw some mountain goats up on the hillsides. On the way back, I asked the captain about the cool looking structures along the shore just to the east of the marina—and the captain started talking about the kilns, the mines, and the miners.”

Bill reported that once ashore it was only a short drive (or walk) along Lime Kiln Road to where these photos were taken. The lime kilns are nestled along the northwest side of Scenic Bay (historically referred to as Squaw Bay). Scenic Bay is one of two fingerlike bays located at the southwestern extreme of the lake—the southernmost finger being Idlewild Bay (see the map on page...
The aforementioned appropriate size would have been chunks of limestone having a diameter of no more than six inches, but no less than three or so inches. That size restriction has to do with the intricacies of the burning process itself.

Pear to be a variation on a style many thousands of years old. The stonework exteriors were likely just an economic consideration since it would have been necessary to bring brick in by boat, or overland from the railroad siding at Athol (prior to the railway’s 1911 arrival) — though it’s still possible that just sufficient brick was transported to line the kilns, as was apparently done to arch the accesses.

As for Spear and Brook’s Bayview operation, an early description was found in a report from the Idaho Inspector of Mines. Though the exact date of publication was not included with the material, it appears to have been written between 1905 and 1910. The report said, “On the opposite side of the lake from Lakeview a bold mountain uplift, shown [see photo below], seems to be composed entirely of blue and grey heavy bedded limestone, which is also true of the shore line of the lake for a distance of three or four miles, terminating at Bayview, where an extensive lime plant of the Washington Brick & Lime Company is located. This plant includes four large draw kilns, and its large output of lime is transported across the lake to the railroad at Hope at a cost of about 50 cents per ton by the company’s own steamer.”

Regarding the manufacturing operation itself, the Bayview Historical Society states that the “limestone was quarried from the adjacent hillside.” And that the quarried material was then reduced by a “crusher” to an appropriate size for burning.

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As the Bayview Historical Society describes the process of loading the kilns, “Chunks of the rock were placed into the top of the kiln, alternated with wood, which was then set ablaze.”
To make loading these types of kilns easier, they were often built into the sides of hills, allowing access from above.

The size of the stones dropped into the kilns varied, but they had to be small enough to be thoroughly heated by the alloted fuel, yet large enough to allow space for the combustion gases to move freely between and sufficiently heat all the stones. The objective was to heat the limestone to a "cherry red" glow for a few hours. Too much time and the exteriors of the stones would begin to vitrify — making them useless. Too little time and an insufficient amount of carbon dioxide would be driven out of the rock — that being what changes its chemical composition from calcium carbonate to calcium oxide.

Once the burn was complete, the stones were pulled through the doors at the bottom. The stones would then be sorted — discarding those exposed to either too little or too much heat. From that point the useable material would be pulverized, slacked, powdered, and packed into barrels for shipment. The output of the Bayview facility as of 1905 was reportedly 75 barrels a day.

It’s reported that the Spokane International Railway spur track from Athol to Bayview was abandoned in 1936. Doubtless Lake Pend Oreille’s lime industry had faltered at some point before that.

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There was also a metal covered teepee located there. Rick is also related to Henry and Dave Brockman. 2) Stefanie Pettit from the Spokesman Review called. 3) Several months ago someone sent us a Program of Mrs. Nobel's Deer Park Elementary School's 4th grade class from 1972. 4) Several months ago someone gave the Society President Bill Sebright called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. He reported: 1) Received a phone call from Rick Nelson who wanted to know if we have a photo of the cone shaped building north of Dennison. It was located in the triangle between Dennison, North Road, and HWY 395. His Mom once lived in the cone shaped house. Rick said the round windows were actually Pyrex pie plates.
the quilt show will be at the Catholic Church in Deer Park this year. The next meeting will be March 14th, 6 PM, at the Real Estate Marketplace.

Eagle maintenance was discussed. We are still looking for someone to help us repair the Eagle. Marie Morrill mentioned that possibly Eastern Washington University’s architectural department may have students who would be interested in doing a special project such as designing a cover for the eagle.

Mike Reiter brought up the subject of creating a book about the origins of all the local road and street names. Many have been discussed in our publications, but having them all in one place would be a good resource.

Betsy mentioned that volunteers are needed for the Settlers Day fund raising dinner and auction at the Eagles on Saturday, March 7th. The dinner starts at 5 PM. The auction will start around 6:15 PM. If you have donations for the auction or have questions call Betty Burdette at 276-6709.

Lynn Wells mentioned the book Trail of Gold by Linda Hackbth. It’s about an 1860s diary recounting the freight route to the gold fields in British Columbia. The trail started at the White Bluffs on Washington’s Columbia River and ends at the community of Pen d’Oreille (the old spelling), which was on Lake Pend Oreille in Idaho. It sells for $25. If you have any questions call Lynn at 467-2571.

Don and Mary Jo Reiter are lending the Society their 1952 and 1954 Deer Park Antler yearbooks for scanning. They’re also lending us Deer Park High School Class of 1952, 1953, 1954 Memory Books — the last from their own 50th reunion — for scanning.

Karen Meyer reported that the Loon Lake Loon Association’s gift shop is closing permanently at the end of the season. They will use that room as a mini-museum. She said they have more than enough artifacts to fill the room. The Loon Lake Historical Society needs more volunteers willing to help.

Next meeting: Saturday, March 14, 2015, at 9 AM at the Clayton Drive-In. Meeting adjourned at 9:49 AM. The meeting minutes submitted by Grace Hubal, Secretary.

—— end ——