

WWI in Cumberland County





6th Annual Golf Classic June 22, 2018 Cumberland Golf Club



A special thank you to our Golf Classic marquee sponsors

Lower Allen VFW Post 7530



Cumberland County in World War IRandy Watts

Introduction

While historians have not established a clear understanding of all the factors that led to World War I, it is generally agreed that the assassination of Austrian Archduke Ferdinand and his wife by a Serbian nationalist in June 1914 precipitated a diplomatic crisis that spiraled into war, beginning in July 1914. From then until America's entry into the conflict in April 1917, the war claimed the lives of millions of European soldiers in a deadly contest of trench warfare; where small gains in territory were often paid for with hundreds of thousands of casualties.

Based on public sentiment America initially remained neutral, but with time the populous took on an anti-German bias, especially after the 1915 sinking of the Lusitania by German submarines – the attack killed over 1,100 people, including 128 Americans. In January 1917, a telegram from Germany's Foreign Minister Arthur Zimmermann to the Government of Mexico, offering them territory in the United States if they would declare war on the United States, was made public and further fueling anti-German feeling. Not long after this Germany began unrestricted submarine warfare and began sinking American ships in the North Atlantic.

America officially declared war on Germany on April 6, 1917 and the country began the systematic process of total mobilization. The first American soldiers began to land on European soil in June 1917 and by the end of the war 2 million "doughboys" had served on the Western Front. Of the 4 million men who entered military service 53,000 died as a result of combat and 63,000 from other causes; another 204,000 were injured.

The European nations initially wanted to use American soldiers to fill their depleted ranks, but General Pershing and others insisted that the United States would fight under their own leaders on their own hook. Over the next year and a half Americans fought in numerous battles and campaigns with notable victories at Cantigny, Chateau-Thierry and Belleau Woods, played important roles in turning back the last German offensives of the war and led the final Allied push that resulted in the Armistice of November 11, 1918.

History POPS!

Projects-Outreach-Publications-Scholarships

The CCHS annual golf classic supports county-wide Society educational programming, exhibits and outreach and the Society's new scholarships and awards grant program. CCHS will offer scholarships & mini-grants to eligible history students and history-related projects throughout Cumberland County.

visit the Historical Society's website to learn more: https://www.historicalsociety.com/outreach/history-pops/

Cory Young received a scholarship to continue his research on Slavery in Cumberland County after the Act for Gradual Abolition in 1780.

A Special thank you to the Golf Classic Committee

Paul Hoch (Chair)
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George Thompson (second left) and three unidentified soldiers, c1918

A special thank you to Paul and Lois Hoch for sponsoring today's lunch



D. N. Biddle & Sons Department Dry Goods and Carpet Store decorated for Welcome Home celebration after WWI c1919

A special thank you to the Hershey Company for being the Old Hickory sponsor

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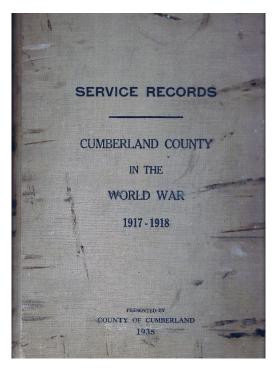
A Meal In Itself
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Local Impacts

From available records it is known that at least 1,884 men from Cumberland County served in the military during World War 1. Of this number 72 died while serving. The breakdown of those who served, recorded at the time by race, is as follows:

Category	Number	Died
Army – white, enlisted	1,583	66
Army – white, officers	23	1
Marines – enlisted and officers	17	0
Navy – white, enlisted	108	1
Navy – white, officers	10	1
Nurses – female	9	0
Army – colored, enlisted	61	3



A complete list of those from Cumberland County who served in the World War was published in 1935. A record of pertinent facts for each person is included – the book serves as an invaluable research tool for anyone attempting to identify family members from Cumberland County who may have served in the war.



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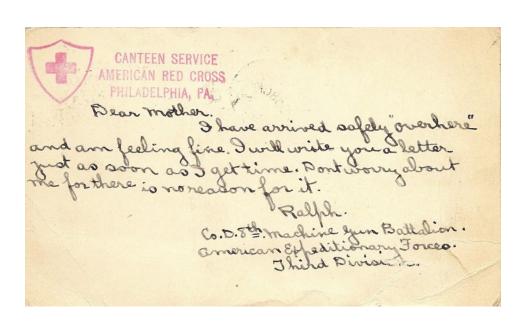
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Wormleysburg. Penna.

Cumberland Country.



General Pershing—History Teller Productions http://www.historyteller.us/

A Thank you to Randy and Laura Watts for sponsoring General Pershing in honor of Ralph R. Watts, Sr. Co. D, 8th Machine Gun Battalion, 3rd Division, U. S. Army.

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Enlistments

There were two methods by which men entered the service – by volunteering or by conscription via the draft. Those who were drafted were inducted individually and assigned to units throughout the military. In Cumberland County there were three local companies consisting of those who volunteered to serve, and these companies left for and returned from the war as units, making it possible to give some details on their existence. While the majority of the soldiers in these units were from Carlisle as there was an armory there, the other towns and townships of the county were well represented as well.

Two of these companies were part of the 8th Regiment of the Pennsylvania National Guard and had participated in the "Punitive Expedition" against Mexico in 1916. The Punitive Expedition was an attempt by the United States Army to capture Mexican revolutionary Pancho Villa in retaliation for his attack of Camp Furlong near Columbus, New Mexico on March 9, 1916. General Pershing, with regular army troops, pursued Villa into Mexico and engaged with his troops in several engagements. Due to increasing friction with the legitimate government of Mexico the troops were eventually recalled and Villa was not captured.

As part of the campaign both Co. G based in Carlisle, and Co. D based in Harrisburg, of the 8th Regiment were mobilized and shipped out to the Mexican border. While stationed on the border a machine gun company was formed to serve the 8th Regiment. This new company was headed by Captain Ralph Crow from Lemoyne. After their return from Mexico the machine gun company was headquartered at the Citizens Fire Company in Lemoyne.



John and Eunice Myers and Child, c1918

They were based there until their departure for service in Europe, eventually becoming the 108th Machine Gun Battalion.



Company G of the 8th Regiment later became part of Co. G of the 112th Regiment of the 28th Division, also known as the Keystone Division. Both the 112th Regiment and the 28th Division continue to serve to this day.

The third local company was Company F of the 103rd Ammunition Train, 28th Division. This company was headquartered in the Cumberland Fire Company of Carlisle and the majority of its members were from Cumberland County. It too left for the war and returned as a unit.

Record of Service – Cumberland County Companies

Co. G

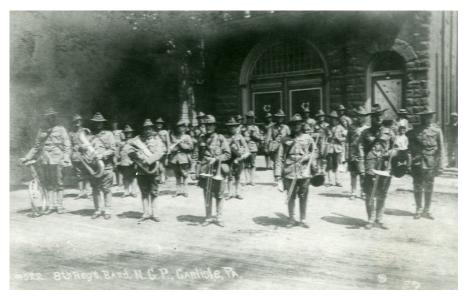
The roots of Company G of the 8th Regiment of the Pennsylvania National Guard go back to its formation in 1874. The first Colonel of the Regiment was John P. S. Gobin, and the unit became known as the Gobin Guards. The Armory, located on North West Street is now owned by St. Paul's Lutheran Church. It was an active group and quite prominent in the community, especially its band, known as the 8th Regiment Band.



J.P.S. Gobin

Co. G left for Camp Hancock, outside of Augusta Georgia on

September 10, 1917. A crowd of nearly 7,000 assembled to send them off. Civil War veterans, members of the G. A. R., Sons of Union Veterans and veterans of the Spanish American War ceremoniously parted so the troops could board the train. Speeches were given and music played as the troops marched up West High Street to board railroad cars positioned near the college.





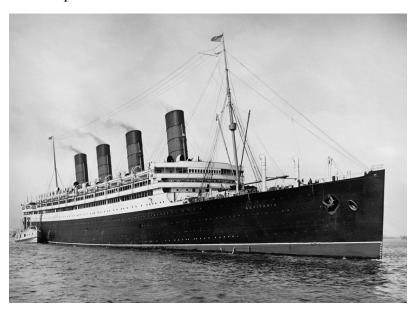
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453 Lincoln St Suite 115, Carlisle, PA 17013 (718) 704-9435

Mothers, fathers, children and sweethearts got close to the coaches for final conversations with the boys they loved and there were, as might be expected, some pretty pathetic scenes. Some of the soldiers seemed to be in jovial spirits while not a few shed tears with those below their windows.¹

The Herald noted: The men of Company G last evening went toward the flaming sunset in the west, on the first stage of their journey to France to battle for the freedom of the world.²

Company G arrived in Camp Hancock in mid-September 1917 and remained there for training until May 1, 1918. In October 1917 they were assigned to the 112th Regiment as noted. On May 6th, the 112th boarded the R.M. S. Aquitania and sailed for England, arriving in Liverpool on May 14th. From there they went to Calais, France, arriving there on May 16th. They were awarded battle streamers for the participation in the following battles: Champagne 1918, Champagne-Marne, Aisne-Marne, Oise-Marne, Lorraine 1918 and Meuse Argonne. Company G was virtually wiped out in late August in the battle of Fismette, and a number of county men were taken prisoner.³



¹ The Sentinel, September 11, 1917.

² The Herald, September 11, 1917.

³ James A. Murrin, *With the 112th in France* (J. B. Lippincott: Philadelphia, 1919).



Company G returned to Carlisle on May 7, 1919, or at least 38 members did. Of the other 150 who had left in September 1917, sixteen were dead, many had been discharged for wounds or illness and others had been transferred to other companies. They were greeted by a crowd of thousands of people who lined the streets and cheered their arrival home.

Here and there, blocking the progress of the cars, men and women ran out and jumping on the running board, grabbed the hand of some favorite soldier.

The caravan paraded around the downtown.

After the men were conducted over the parade route, each automobile took home the soldier who happened to be in the car. It mattered not the distance, whether it was Shippensburg, Mount Holly Springs, or in the rural district, each man was taken to his home.

The Sentinel wrote of their service:

It fought not on the Hindenburg line near Flanders, but in the Marne sector, where the Germans were nearest to Paris, the Carlisle men were thrown into the breach to stem the tide of invasion. They stemmed it back and far better, turned the enemy back. Close on their heels through Fismes, Fismette and on the Vesle River Company G pursued the Germans wo were fighting every step of the way.⁴

⁴ The Sentinel, May 8, 1919.

Co. A 108th Machine Gun Company

The origins of the Machine Gun Company of the 8th Regiment can be traced to the Mexico in 1916 as noted above. After their return from Mexico Captain Ralph C. Crow began to recruit actively in the Harrisburg and eastern Cumberland County area, anticipating America's entry into the war. Little is known of the service of this company. It appears that they returned with the 28th Division, arriving in Philadelphia on May 16th, 1919.



The monument for the 108th Machine Gun Battalion at the Pennsylvania Military Museum in Boalsburg, Pennsylvania.

Cumberland County was well represented in Company F of the 103rd Ammunition Train, 28th Division. It was originally recruited as Truck Company No. 9, beginning in mid-July 1917. The early recruiting was based in the Cumberland Fire Company on East Louther Street in Carlisle, and the company used that building as its headquarters. The company filled up rapidly and was sworn into Federal service in a ceremony at the fire house on July 27, 1917. They left for Mt. Gretna, Lebanon County, early on the morning of August 6, 1917.

The Cumberland County Historical Society would like to thank the generous donations of the Golf Tournament and Speakeasy:

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A huge crowd gathered at the station to cheer the men on the first lap of their trip to France to do active service. Cheers for the company leaving as well as for Company G sounded and resounded. Too soon indeed for the relatives was the bell of the train heard. The command was given, and instantly the men were at attention. Again came the command, and in a few minutes the men were on the train. A moment more and the bell rang, the train moved, last farewells called out, and Carlisle's first representatives were off to the front. As the train passed down High Street the cannon of the Son's of Union Veterans fired a salute until the train was entirely out of site.⁵

After a month at Mt. Gretna the company was sent to Camp Hancock outside of Augusta, Georgia. On September 27, 1917 it was designated Co. F, 103rd Ammunition Train, 28th Division. In October it was consolidated with the former Co. 11 to become Caisson Company No. 2. On May 19, 1917 they sailed on the S. S. Ceramic and arrived in Liverpool England on May 31, 1917. They arrived in France on June 6th and experienced their first combat on August 11th in the Fismes region. In late September they were transferred to the Argonne and were involved in combat operations there. In late October Company F was transferred to Belgium and supported artillery units there until the Armistice.



S. S. Ceramic

⁵ The Herald, August 6, 1917.

They were reunited with their unit after hostilities ceased and sailed for the United States aboard the U. S. S. Liberator on April 24, 1919, arriving in Philadelphia on May 7, 1919. They were mustered out of service on May 20, 1919 and arrived in Carlisle later that day. A ceremony was held at the Cumberland Fire Company when they arrived.⁶

Arriving at the engine house the procession found nearly 1,000 persons assembled to listen to the addresses of the evening and to join patriotic music. In well-chosen words Dr. A. R. Steck welcomed the men back to their home, congratulated them on their brilliant achievements in France and on the excellent manner in which they had conducted themselves.

There is much that is unique in the history of Company F, 103rd Ammunition, or at least so far as Cumberland County members and it are concerned, for it was the first unit to leave the county for France after the declaration of war against Germany.

It was organized largely through the efforts of Lieutenant C. W. McClune, of New Cumberland, and First Sergeant William Smith, of Carlisle. The members of the Cumberland Fire Company gave it loyal support, and indeed, the majority from Carlisle who entered its ranks were members of that company.⁷



Ammunition Train collar insignia.

⁷ The Herald, May 21, 1919.

⁶ Thomas Frederick DeLong, *A History and Roster of the 103rd Ammunition Train* (Allentown: 103rd Publishing Co.)

Pat Ferris Speakeasy entertainment sponsor

MorganStanley

A special thank you to Bartoli, Seig, and Metz at Morgan Stanley for sponsoring the Speakeasy on June 29th.

On the Home Front

The entire country was fully invested in the war effort and the country's mobilization was total. Families with members in the war posted service flags in their window with a star for each son – blue for those who were safe, silver for those who were captured and gold for those who had died.



THE SERVICE FLAG

Border of red for a courage high—
Courage that's stanch and true.
With a field of white for purity,
Where the name-stars glimmer blue—
Blue for the man who lives and serves,
Where echo the fierce war cries,
But gold for the one who gives his life
And dies as a hero dies.

It was also common for churches, industries and fire companies to display service flags in honor of their members who were in the military.

There were frequent rallies in support of the troops who were away and the sale of bonds to support the war in the towns and villages of Cumberland County throughout the war. *The Sentinel* wrote of one such rally, held in Carlisle on April 26, 1918:

Wartime rallies like that of Liberty Day today serve a very useful purpose. They inspire us with the righteousness of our cause.



Service flag on Citizens Fire Company in New Cumberland

They create enthusiasm for victory. They instruct as to the causes of the war. They fill us with Patriotic fervor which leads to sacrifice. It does us good to rally for a good cause.

This is a war for humanity, and as such we are proud to be engaged in it.⁸

The Troops Return

As the troops returned home they received hero's welcomes in those towns where they had left as a group. The reception of Company G and the 103rd Ammunition Train were highlighter earlier. The 108th Machine Gun Battalion was attached to the Harrisburg Armory and took part in the city's ceremonies. Other communities in the county had sent many young men off to the war, but they had gone individually rather than in groups from the community. A number of towns had welcome home celebrations once all their boys had returned home. One example is that of Wormleysburg on October 11, 1919. A large parade was held in the afternoon, followed by a banquet for the soldiers, after which a memorial service was held for Charles Hauck who died in action in France and Cletus Weaver who died of disease while in camp in Georgia.⁹

THE CITIZENS OF WORMLEYSBURG

INVITES YOU TO BE THEIR GUEST AT

A WELCOME-HOME CELEBRATION

TO THE

SOLDIERS, SAILORS, MARINES AND NURSES OF WORMLEYSBURG

WHO WERE IN ACTIVE SERVICE IN THE WORLD WAR

TO BE HELD IN WORMLEYSBURG ON

SATURDAY, OCTOBER ELEVENTH, 1919

IT IS REQUESTED THAT YOU WEAR YOUR UNIFORM

⁸ The Sentinel, April 26, 1918.

⁹ The Harrisburg Telegraph, October 11, 1919.



The biggest celebration was the Peace and Victory Celebration held in Carlisle in July 1919. The multi-day event was climaxed with a parade on July 4th.



The Cumberland Fire Company engine and Good Will Fire Company in the parade.



Capital BlueCross

A special thank you to Capital Blue Cross for sponsoring the Golf Carts today.



A convoy of US military trucks parked near the public square in Carlisle, c1918





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Memorials to the Troops

As early as 1919 towns began efforts to create parks dedicated to the soldiers of their towns who had served in Europe. The largest is Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Park in Mechanicsburg. Others include Memorial Park in Lemoyne and Memorial Field in New Cumberland. Many towns erected markers to commemorate the service of their troops and many organizations did so as well. Two examples of fire company memorials are shown.



New Cumberland



Empire Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1, Carlisle

Conclusion

Today's Cumberland Classic is part of the Cumberland County Historical Society's commemoration of World War 1 and the many contributions of our citizens toward the successful outcome of the war. It was a time of great unity and sacrifice on the part of our country, the outcome of which was America's emergence as a world super power.









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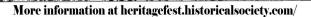
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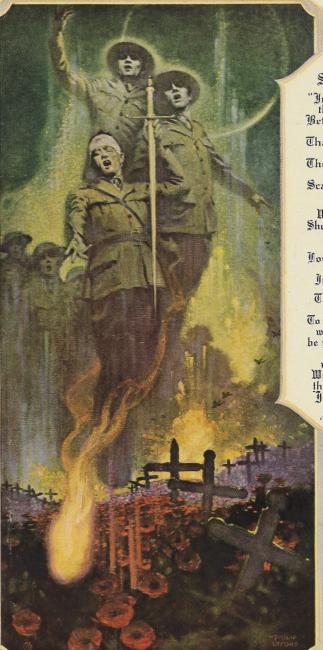
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BEER GARDEN

(11-4:30 Sat and 11-2:30 Sun)







Me Shall Not Sleep

"In Hlanders fields
the poppies blow
Between the Crosses,
row on row,
That mark our place;
and in the sky
The larks still bravely
singing fly,
Scarce heard amidst
the guns below.

Me are the dead. Short days ago we lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Hoved and were loved, and now we lie In Hlanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe,
To you from falling hands we throw the Torchbe yours to hold it high;
If ye break faith with us who die.
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow In Manders fields."

Courtesy of CRPutnam's Song

In behalf of the brave men who have enlisted in the fight of right against might we reprint the above lines by Col.McCrae.

As an inspiration to war giving and war sacrifice it strikes a major note. There is no war appeal to which it is not applicable.

This beautiful lyric of the war was written by Lieur tenant Colonel Dr. i John McCrae of Montreal, Canada, while the second battle of Ypres was in progress.

The author's body now lies buried in Flanders fields.

ls it conceivable that we shall "break faith" with those "who die" for us?

From a painting by Philip Lyford

Contributed toward the Winning of the War by
Makers of Surgical Dressings, etc. Chicago, New York, Toronto

The Red Poppy – Symbol of World War I

The common or corn poppy, Papaver rhoeas, grows in many parts of the world, and even before World War I was a symbol of death, renewal and life. The seeds of the poppy can lay dormant in the earth for generations, and then sprout when exposed to sunlight.

During the second Battle of Ypres (April 22 – May 15, 1915) in a portion of Flanders, known as Flanders Fields, poppies sprouted from the land that had been devastated by combat. A Canadian doctor, Lt. Col. John McCrae, noticed the poppies growing near a mass grave, and to honor a friend who had died the day before, he wrote the poem "In Flanders Fields."

In Flanders Field the poppies blow, Between the crosses row on row.

It quickly became one of the best known and most quoted poems of the war, and the red poppy became a symbol of remembrance for the dead. Monia Michael, an American woman, promoted the sale of artificial poppies with the proceeds used to support victims of the war. The American Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) adopted the red poppy as its symbol to commemorate soldiers from the United States who were killed in the "Great War" in 1922, and since then has sold "Buddy Poppies" assembled by disabled and needy veterans at V. A. hospitals.¹



¹ From Wikepedia.org; Smithsonianmag.com; VFW.org

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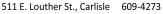
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Jason Illari, Executive Director Cumberland County Historical Society



Auction Items

Tournament Rules

- The Tee Markers are small plaques with the CCHS Golf Classic logo framed with either white, black or red for respective tees.

All Ladies will hit from the Red Tees All Men 65 and older will hit from the Black Tees Men 64 and younger will hit from the White Tees

- Hole # 4 is the \$10,000 Hole – in-One hole. The prize is \$5000 for the golfer and \$5000 for CCHS. To be eligible for prizes all players will hit from the same Tees on the Par 3's, which are color coded Red, Black. & White.

Note: There are prizes on each par 3 except # 11 for "closest to the pin." To be eligible ball must be on the green, not on the fringe.

- Hole # 11 is Old Hickory. All players must use a hickory shafted club which will be provided at the tee. Do not use a regular club from your bag on this tee. The names of all players whose ball **remains on the green** will be recorded and placed in a drawing for \$100. All players hit from the same tee.
- This is a scramble. The best ball of the 4 team players will be selected on each shot from the tee into the hole. **Each player must use at least three tee shots**. First ball in hole ends play.
- The ball may be moved one (1) club length, no closer to the hole, except when on the green, in a sand trap or behind a hazard (e.g. tree).
- The total number of strokes, using the best ball on each shot, will be recorded on the score card for each hole. At the end of the round, the 18 hole score will be totaled, signed and turned in at the pavilion. In the case of a tie, scores of the highest handicapped hole(s) will be compared until winner is determined.
- To maintain pace of play, please adhere to limit of one mulligan per player per round.
- Scorecard to be turned in at dinner pavilion!

As we remember WWI and Cumberland County, we would like to recognize the brave men who died in service to their country.

Abrahims, John E. Ashburn, Doyle D. Beattie, Paul J. Beistline, Elwood Irvin Brown, James M. Carroll, Charles H. Carroll, Owen M. Clendenin, Jacob C. Conrad, John W. Couse, Reuben W. Deitch, Charles L. Dewalt, Abraham Durff, William H. Effley, Harold V. Emswiler, Henry Franklin Failor, James Fanus, Carroll L. Fenton, William H. Goodyear, Paul C. Gutshall, Guy O. Gutshall, John Graham Halfmann, William M. Hauck, Charles D. Helman, Guy I. Hench, William Elwood Hoffsess, Charles J. Hunter, Monroe R. Hykes, Oscar M. Jumper, Ralph M. Kell, Charles S. Kelley, Harvey E. Kelly, Paul Walter Kurtz, Walter Kutz, Charles N. Lucas, Philip H. Marburger, George A. Marshall, George E.

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