



# Historical Highlights

Official Publication of the Sand Lake Historical Society

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Our 45th Year

Fall 2018

## From the president

We have four new vibrant Board members: *Holli Boyd-White* is already sharing programming ideas and leaning her publicity and business knowledge. Her husband, *Drew White*, is heading our Audit Committee. *Jim Powers* has jumped in and will be using his video skills to film our town historian's Oral History project. *Tedi Toca* is providing our publicity.

The Historic Neighborhoods project continues their quest to record the history of the homes near the Fox Mansion, Schumann Road, and Glass House. A recent block party got more neighbors involved. The Programming Committee is busy planning the rest of this year and developing next year's programs. Sharon Dawes heads the Records Management Committee and has enrolled us in Google's G-Suite to digitalize our archives

The Hazel Drew project continues: On November 18, John Holser will be giving the public a preview of his documentary on Hazel Drew at the Sand Lake Center for the Arts. *[More below – Ed.]*

Our Board of Trustees is made up of 13 members. At the moment we have one vacancy, and we always celebrate new people on any of our projects. Send me an email -- [jfuess4900@aol.com](mailto:jfuess4900@aol.com) -- and I'll get you connected. -- *Joan Fuess, president*

Last Fall, we looked at a list of local residents eligible for draft with the United State entering World War I as well as the names later listed on Sand Lake's World War I Honor Roll monument. This time around, we'll look deeper into the names on that monument (a few in particular), a 1919 ceremony honoring those and other veterans, and the formation of the American Legion post in Averill Park named in honor of one of them.

We'll also touch briefly on some of the Town Historians of Sand Lake and how and why it came to be that there are municipal historians in New York State (hint: *it's the law*).

## Upcoming programs

- 1 **Tuesday, November 13:** The National Audubon Society, National Geographic, BirdLife International, and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology have joined together to promote 2018 as the Year of the Bird, a yearlong celebration. This year also celebrates the 100th anniversary of the Signing of the Migratory Bird Treaty (MBTA). *Eric Washburn* will present "Birds: In your backyard and far away." Eric is a photographer who has traveled near and far to capture the beauty of our fine feathered friends. He will show slides from his journeys across the United States as well as adventures to Ecuador, Costa Rica, Brazil and Tanzania. Washburn will also share some helpful hints on taking pictures of birds. **7:30 p.m., Sand Lake Town Hall Courtroom, 8428 NY 66, Sand Lake NY.**
- 1 Immediately preceding our meeting, at 7:00 p.m., same location -- **Horse Thieves Beware: The 170th annual meeting of the Sand Lake Association for the Mutual Protection Against Horse Thieves will be held Tuesday November 13, 2018, 7:00 p.m.** All concerned horse owners, interested or just curious citizens may meet with us at the Town Hall. Please help keep this historic organization alive!

- 1 **Sunday, November 18: Who Killed Hazel Drew? - Film Preview and Fundraiser, at the Sand Lake Center for the Arts.** There will be two screenings: 1:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. For more information, please visit our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/events/575586892858044/> or the “Who Killed Hazel Drew? – The Sand Lake Murder That Inspired Twin Peaks” Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/WhoKilledHazelDrew/app/333898384040389/>. Direct ticket link: <https://hazeldrew.com/sand-lake-arts-center-film-preview-fundraiser-november-18-2018/>
- 1 **Tuesday, December 11: Annual Holiday Party / Pot Luck Supper.** An opportunity to share the dish (with recipe) that you bring for the pot luck supper but also our family traditions: a story passed down through the generations, a present-day tradition, a treasured decoration or favorite gift from long ago! You bring the pot luck dish; the Board of Trustees provides the desserts! Members and guests are invited. Please bring a canned good or other nonperishable food item for Doors of Hope! **6:00 p.m. at the home of Ron and Barbara Berti, 42 Schumann Road, Sand Lake.**
- 1 **Tuesday, January 8, 2019: New Age of Weaponry in the Civil War.** *Bob Shuey* will discuss how the necessities of war created new technology and the transitions to new models of weaponry and will demonstrate Civil War weaponry from his own collection. Shuey is known for his Civil War expertise. He is a Civil War Re-enactor with the 125th Regiment Association and participates in the Capital District Round Table as well as Da Buffs, Civil War enthusiasts who share their expertise as well as listening to speakers. **7:30 p.m., Sand Lake Town Hall Courtroom, 8428 NY 66, Sand Lake NY.**

### **Recap of past programs**

- 1 On September 11, Heidi Hill, Site Manager for Schuyler Mansion and Crailo State Historic Sites, gave a presentation on Alexander Hamilton and his connections to Albany.
- 1 On October 9, Town Historian Bob Moore and John Holser brought us up to date on the Hazel Drew murder case. Bob also introduced the new Sand Lake Oral History Project, a collaboration between the Historical Society and the Historian’s office beginning October 11. The remainder of the evening was devoted to a presentation of old photos of the hamlets of Sand Lake, West Sand Lake and Averill Park. Many folks in the near-capacity audience shared their remembrances!

### **Memorial awards**

The 2018 Sand Lake Historical Society Memorial Awards for Excellence in History, \$250 each given to Averill Park High School graduating seniors, went to Kelsey Granger and Kristen Schaefer. These awards were given in memory of John Allendorph, Joan I. Brown, Diane Freeman, Stanley Supkis, Ken van Praag and Ruth Udvary.

### **SLHS member notification list**

Those of you who have shared your email address with us should be familiar with our list called “[slhs-members @ googlegroups.com](mailto:slhs-members@googlegroups.com).” This is an announce-only list to quickly get word to members regarding cancellations, postponements and/or program reminders. This is *not* a discussion list. Postings generally run about 1-2 per month, and you will be offered the opportunity to opt out. We’re happy to add members whose email address was not on file.

This will supplement any notifications on the School Closing Network or our Facebook page and web site.

### **In Memoriam**

We note with great sorrow the recent passing of founding and honorary member Ada Miller. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends.

## Centennial: World War I and Sand Lake – Part II

*The Troy Times* for Tuesday Afternoon, July 17, 1917, published **County Names. Eligible For Draft In Division Two. The Towns Included. The List With Serial Numbers of Men in Hoosick Falls and Other Towns — Should Be Kept For Reference.**

Amongst the names on that list were brothers Leslie W. and Enoch L. French. From what we can tell, Leslie was not drafted and did not serve. Enoch tried to enlist but couldn't, although he ultimately was drafted! Enoch's name later appeared on Sand Lake's World War I Honor Roll monument as "E. Lloyd French." [NOTE: Leslie W. was the father of our own Ross French; Enoch was Leslie's brother.] More about Enoch later...

What follows here is detailed service record information on those Sand Lake (and neighboring, in at least two instances!) residents who served in World War I and later were listed on the Honor Roll Monument currently found in Veterans Park. Source material is from Ancestry.com via the New York State Archives.

*[Editor's note: This proved, at times, to be a somewhat difficult task. Finding the information was not particularly difficult. Admittedly, transcription did take some time, but it was well worth it. Note that much of what you'll read below is transcribed as written: abbreviations, spacing, typos and all.]*

*What at times proved difficult was absorbing some of the information as the names "came to life" again, if only for a brief moment. In at least one case, we surprised at least one descendent who had no idea his grandfather had served in the War!*

*In another case, an eerie feeling came over me as I read, from an original letter, this rather matter-of-fact description: "...I saw him after he got killed ... was only a short distance from him ... got killed as we went over the top. He got killed instantly. Got a telegraph that his body will arrive at Hoboken August 25." – from a 1921 letter by William S. Adams to Nassau historian Belle Hopkins "in reply to a request for further information" regarding brother Walter A. Adams. Reading words like that proved chilling; at the same time, it helped bring some sense of connection, "getting to know" these young men, trying to understand what they must have gone through!*

*That such letters and other information exist is a story in itself. We'll also deal briefly with that below.]*

## The names on the Sand Lake World War I Honor Roll Monument

The following information is in the same order as the names as listed on the monument.



**Alfred Middleton:** no information found

**Charles H. Horton:** Drafted Sept. 21, 1917, Army Service, H.D. Co. 326<sup>th</sup> Infantry, U.S.A. In this country from Sept. 21, 1917, until April 29, 1918. Returned to Camp Merritt. Was discharged June 13, 1919. Medal received from the Town of Sand Lake. (*Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as Charles H. Horton*)

**Aron F. Dibble:** Drafted May 1, 1918, Army Service. Service Co. I. 60<sup>th</sup> Pioneer Infantry, at Camp Dix, Delaware Powder Mills, Camp Wadsworth. Served as officer. Discharged Jan. 30, 1919. One medal from the people of Sand Lake. (*Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as Aaron Dibble*)

**George Albert:** Inducted Apr 5/18. Served 21 Co 6 Bn 153 Dep Brig to May 8/18; Co L 312 Inf to Discharge. Served overseas May 20/18 to Feb 13/19 Hon. Disc. Mch 3/19 (*Form No. 724-1½, A.G.O., March 12, 1920*)

**Charles Hess** – SEE: Donald Hess below

**Josiah O. Dawes:** no information found

**Elmer Angel:** no information found  
**Hugh Warren:** Enlisted Regular Army Mch 21/18. Co F 105 Inf to disch. Served overseas May 17/18 to Mch 6/19. Hon. Disc. Apr 4/19. (Form No. 724-1½, A.G.O., March 12, 1920. Listed as Warren, Hugh A)

**George M. Fellows:** Drafted Aug. 9, 1918. Served with Battery E. 35<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Field Artillery, 12<sup>th</sup> Division, Camp McClellan, Ala. Discharged Dec. 20, 1918. (Charlotte Carmon notes)

**Lewis Filkins:** Enlisted June 25, 1917, Army Service. Served in U.S. Medical Department, Transferred to 51<sup>st</sup> Infantry, Pioneer's Supply Co., served 12 months in Camp Mead, Maryland, Camp Wadsworth, S.C. Camp New Paltz, N.Y. Served as Company cook, served 6 months in France, 6 months in Germany with Army of Occupation. Returned to Camp Mills, Long Island. Transferred to Camp Upton and discharged July 8, 1919. Received one Victory ribbon with bronze stars for battle engagement. (Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as Louis Filkins)

**Clarence Appel:** Enlisted August 1917; Army Service in Infantry Co. I. 303<sup>rd</sup> R.D. Regiment, served 10 months, 17 days at Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass. In France 1 year, England 5 days, Canada 2 days. Sent back to Camp Mills Mineola, L.I. Discharged July 19, 1919, Received a Victory Medal in France and Sand Lake Medal. (Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as Clarence Apple)

**William H. Hoffay, Jr.:** Drafted April 4, 1918, Army Service. H.D. 2<sup>nd</sup> Co. 311<sup>th</sup> Infantry. Served two months Camp Dix, N.J. One year in France. Returned May 20, 1919, Camp Merritt, N.J. Discharged May 30, 1919. Received medal from town of Sand Lake. (Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as William Hoffey)

**E. Lloyd French:** Drafted July 20, 1917, Accepted August 10<sup>th</sup>, left for Camp September 21, 1917, Army Service. Served in Co. I. 303<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Co. B. 301<sup>st</sup> Supply Train, 76<sup>th</sup> Division. While in France Transferred to Co. C. supply train, 76<sup>th</sup> Division. Served in this country 10 months at Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass. In France 6 months, returned to Debarkation Hospital No. 51, Hampton, Va. Transferred to Camp Dix, N.J. Base Hospital and from there was sent to Government Hospital at Fort Porter, Buffalo, N.Y. Discharged March 18, 1919. (Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as Enoch Lloyd French)

**Fred Graffunder:** Drafted Aug 9/18. Btry D 36 FA. Discharged Feb 14/19. (Form No. 724-1, A.G.O., Nov. 22, 1919. Listed as Graffunder, Fred A.)

**Wilber H. Lasch:** Drafted Army Service. Served in Depot Brigade, Receiving Attachments. Served 3 months and 15 days Camp Syracuse, Fort Ontario and Camp Dix. J. J. Discharged from Camp Dix, Nov. 15, 1918. (Charlotte Carmon notes)

**Dennis B. Warren:** Drafted Apr 4, 1918. 153 Dep Brig to Apr 20/18; Co A 307 MG Bn to disch May 16/19 (Form No. 724-1, A.G.O., Nov. 22, 1919.)

**Charles W. McClellan:** Entered service Oct. 5, 1917, Army Service. Served in 302<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery. Was at Camp Devens, Camp Herring,

Ill. 9 or 10 months. Was a non-commissioned officer at France and England 10 months. Returned to Camp Devens and discharged May 7, 1918. (Charlotte Carmon notes)

**Earl S. Mohl:** Drafted Sept. 7, 1917, Army Service. Served in 303<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Co. A. Returned home in 161<sup>st</sup> Regiments Co. G. Was at Camp Devens 10 months. In England one week, France 8 months. Returned to Camp Dix and discharged March 4, 1919. (Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as Earl Mohl)

**Phillip Brown:** Was drafted Sept. 15, 1917, Army Service. Served in Company F. 306<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 77<sup>th</sup> Division. Was transferred Dec. 21, 1918 to 315<sup>th</sup> Military Police. Was at Camp Upton 7 months, was in England 2 days, in France 14 months. Was discharged at Camp Upton July 11, 1919. (Charlotte Carmon notes)

**Harold Tiff:** Enlisted Regular Army July 26/17. MD Base Hosp 33 to Dec 12/18; MD to disch Mch 22/19. (Form No. 724-1½, A.G.O., March 12, 1920. Listed as Tiff, Harold C)

**John C. Roberts:** Drafted Dec. 10, 1917, Army Service. Served in the 308<sup>th</sup> Pack Train Co. Was 6 months at the following Camps: Fort Slocum, Camp Johnson, Fort Bliss, Camp Merritt. Was 14 months in France. Returned to Camp Merritt and Camp Upton. Discharged July 16, 1919. Received medal from Town of Sand Lake. (Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as John L. Roberts)

**Clarence E. Clickner:** Enlisted Aug. 26, 1918, Army Service. Served in Division No. 1, Rensselaer County, N.Y. Forwarded to Camp Gordon, Atlanta, GA. Received Corporal's Warrant Sept. 30, 1918, Unit 23<sup>rd</sup> Co. 6<sup>th</sup> Training Battalion, 157<sup>th</sup> Depot Brigade, Transferred to Camp McClellan, Ala., with unit, Transferred to 20<sup>th</sup> Co., 157<sup>th</sup> Depot Brigade. Discharged Camp McClellan, Ala. Dec. 19, 1918. (Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as Lucien E. Clickner)

**Henry L. Roaser:** Drafted Sept. 9, 1918, Army Service. Served in Medical Department Base Hospital 128. Served 6 months at Camp Servier, Camp Jackson, S.C. Discharged Feb. 14, 1919; Medal from Sand Lake. (Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as Henry Razor)

**Harold L. Abbott:** Drafted April 5, 1918, Army Service. Served in 78<sup>th</sup> Division Co. L. 311<sup>th</sup> Infantry. In France 13 months. Sent back May 24<sup>th</sup>, 1919 Camp Merritt, Camp Upton, discharged May 30, 1919. (Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as Harold Abbott)

**Seymour Ryemiller:** Entered Service Nov. 13, 1917, Q.M. Army Utilities, served 19 months. In this country 19 months, Camp Devens, Mass., Camp Meigs, Washington, D.C. and Camp Merritt, N.J., Camp Upton, L.I. Non-commissioned officer. Discharged June 13, 1919. (Charlotte Carmon notes)

**Nelson B. Brookner:** Enlisted April 29, 1918, Navy Service, Quartermaster, 3<sup>rd</sup> Class. Served in this country entire enlistment, Wissahickon Barracks, Cape May, New Jersey. Was a non-commissioned officer, discharged Feb. 18, 1919. (Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as Nelson Brookner)

**Edward Nash:** Inducted Oct 13/18. Student Army Tng Corps Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Troy N Y to disch Dec 14, 1918. (*Form No. 724-1 A.G.O., Nov. 22, 1919. Listed as Nash, Edward E*)  
Clayton Coons: Inducted Jun 18, 1918. Btry BN 11 Regt F A Repl Dep to disch. Dec 31/18. (*Form No. 724-1 A.G.O., Nov. 22, 1919. Listed as Coons, Clayton J*)

**Ernest Coons:** no information found

**Nelson Bowman:** Enlisted Oct. 30, 1918, Marine Service. Served in 14<sup>th</sup> Regiments and ship duty. Was 9½ months at Paris Island and Norfolk, Va. In Brest, France, 3 months. Sent back to Virginia Navy Yards and discharged Nov. 20, 1919. Received sharpshooter's medal at Paris Island. (*Charlotte Carmon notes*)

**Clarence Dobert:** Enlisted Dec.13, 1917, Navy Service, served on Torpedo Boat, U.S.S. Woolsey, in training 2½ months, Newport, Rhode Island. Stationed in France 14½ months. Stationed in England 1 week. Stationed in Portugal 1 week. Stationed in Spain 1 day. Stationed in various ports on West Coast from Aug.6 to Dec.1919. Discharged San Diego Dec.19, 1919. (*Charlotte Carmon notes*)

**Peter Budesheim, Jr.:** Enlisted Sept. 20, 1917, Army Service. Served 306<sup>th</sup> Machine Gun Co. Was also a Wagoner. Was at Camp Upton. In France 1 year 6 days. Was sent back in April to Camp Mills and was discharged May 9, 1919, at Camp Upton. (*Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as Peter Budesheim*)

**Frank Snyder:** (*address unknown; Charlotte Carmon notes*)

**Henry E. Brown:** Was drafted May 27, 1918. Army Service. Served in the Pioneer Infantry Company M. Was one month in this country at Camp Spartenburg, S.C. In France 14 months and two months in Germany. Sent to Camp Dix, N.Y. Nov. 2, 1919, and was discharged Nov. 5, 1919. Received a medal from Sand Lake. (*Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as Harry Brown*)

**Casper Ernst:** no information found

**Charles Uline:** Enlisted Navy. U.S.S. O'Brien 4-6-17 to 4-16-18; Receiving Ship San Francisco Cal 4-16-18 to 6-1-18 as Boatswain Mate 1 Class; Receiving Ship Mare Island Cal 6-1-18 to 10-19-18 as Chief Boatswain Mate; U.S.S. Robinson 10-19-18 to 11-11-18. Discharged from Naval Hospital New York, N.Y. 4-18-19. (*Navy record; listed as Charles Luther Uline*)

**Shirley Zweig:** no information found

**Henry Acknour:** Enlisted August 8, 1918, Army Service in 1<sup>st</sup> Co., Served seven months two weeks and two days, was at Cornell University and Boston Harbor, was discharged March 24, 1919. (*Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as Henry Ackner. Listed as Henry J. Ackner on Form No. 724-1, A.G.O., Army record*)

**Adam W. Hoffman:** Drafted Aug. 15, 1918, Army Service. Served in 12<sup>th</sup> Regiment. Served 3 months in this country, 2 months at Cornell University, Ithaca, 1½ months at Camp Jackson, S.C. Discharged Dec. 2, 1918. (*Charlotte Carmon notes: name appears as Adam Hoffman*)

**Leroy Smith:** Drafted May 27, 1918, Army Service. Served in 2<sup>nd</sup> Anti-Aircraft Machine Gun Battalion Co. B. Was at Camp Wadsworth,

CS.C. from May 27, 1918, to June 22, 1918. From June 23, 1918, at Camp Hill, Newport News, V. to June 29, 1918. Served in France from June 30, 1918, to Feb. 21, 1919. Returned to Camp Dix, N.J. Feb. 22, 1919. Discharged March 10, 1919, at Camp Dix. (*Charlotte Carmon notes*)

**Lester Smith:** Drafted April 29, 1918, Army Service. Served in Co. D. 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion, U.S.G. U.S.A. Was 9 months Camp Dix, Fort Niagara, Camp Holibird Was a Sergeant. Was discharged Jan. 25, 1919, from Camp Dix. (*Charlotte Carmon notes*)

**Charles W. Whiteford:** Drafted Oct. 5, 1917, Army Service. Served Co. C. 303<sup>rd</sup> Infantry; served 9 months at Camp Devens. In France one year. Returned to Camp Devens from which discharged July 8, 1919. (*Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as Charles Whiteford*)

**Charles H. Rubeck:** Drafted Oct. 6, 1917, Army Service. Served in 303<sup>rd</sup> Co. H. Headquarter Attachment. Was 9 months at Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass. Was 9 months in England, France and Germany. Returned to Camp Mills April 5, 1919, Discharged May 12, 1919. (*Charlotte Carmon notes*)

**Clarence C. Bailey:** Drafted April 23, 1918, Army Service, served in Co. L., 311<sup>th</sup> Infantry. Two weeks at Camp Dix, N.J. Discharged May 7, 1918 from Camp Dix, N.J. (*Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as Clarence Bailey*)

**David Latson:** Entered service May 28, 1918, Navy Service. Served on ship known as U.S.S. Ex-Shubrick Coast Torpedo. Later named boat 15. Was in Pelham Bay Training Camp 6 weeks; then went on board ship as First Class Electrician and in Jan. 1, 1919, was made Chief Electrician. Released from active duty April 18, 1919. (*Charlotte Carmon notes*)

**Edward Filkins:** Drafted Oct. 5, 1917, Army Service Co. B. 303<sup>rd</sup> Infantry to Feb 5/18; Co D 61 Inf. To discharge Nov. 22, 1919. (*Form No. 724-2, A.G.O.*)

**William Adams:** Enlisted May 22/17. Co A 30 Inf to discharge. Engagements: Aisne; Chateau Thierry; Caampange; Marne; Velse; Meuse Argonne. Wounded slightly Oct 4, 1918. Served overseas from Apr2/18 to Aug 20/19. Honorably discharged on demobilization; Aug 25/19. (*Form No. 724-9, A.G.O., Nov.22, 1919.*)

**Walter Adams:** Enlisted May 22/17. Co A 30 Inf June 1/17 to Oct 13/18. Engagements: 2<sup>nd</sup> Battle of the Marne; Jaulgonne; Served overseas from Apr2/18 to Oct 13/18. Killed in action Oct 13, 1918. Honorably discharged on demobilization; Aug 25/19. (*Form No. 724-6, A.G.O., Nov.22, 1919.*)

**Zenas Greenman:** Drafted My 28, 1918, Army Service. Served in Co. D. 52<sup>nd</sup> Pioneer Infantry; one week at Camp Wadsworth, discharged Jun 5, 1918. (*Charlotte Carmon notes*)

**Fred Caulkins:** no information found

**William Caulkins:** Drafted May 27, 1918, Army Service, Served in Company C, 323<sup>rd</sup> Infantry, 81<sup>st</sup> Division, Served May 27, 1918, to Aug. 6, 1918, at Camp Wadsworth, S.C. Camp Mills, Camp Upton and Camp Merritt. In France from August 6<sup>th</sup> to June 14, 1919. Returned to

Camp Stewart, then to Camp Upton; discharged June 21, 1919. (*Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as William Calkins*)

**Nelson Patchin:** Drafted July 15, 1918, Army Regiment Battery A. F.A.R.D. Was at Camp Jackson, S.C. Discharged Dec. 31, 1918.

(*Charlotte Carmon notes*)

**Joseph Hestover:** Drafted May 27, 1918, Army Service. Served in Co.M.2<sup>nd</sup> Pioneer Infantry. From 27<sup>th</sup> of May until 30<sup>th</sup> of June at Camp Wadsworth, S.C. and at Camp Stewart, Virginia. Served in France and Germany from July 14, 1918, until Oct. 15, 1919. Returned to Camp Dix Oct. 15, 1919, and was discharged Nov. 5 1919. Bronze Medal. (*Charlotte Carmon notes: last name appears as Hestover in records.*)

**Clarence Brown:** no information found

**Howard J. Cole, Sr.:** no information found

**Howard J. Cole, Jr.** (*Charlotte Carmon notes:*

*Howard T. Cole listed as "address unknown"*)

**Harold Hamm:** [Harold G. Hamm] Drafted Aug. 15, 1919, Army Service. Served in Co. D. 59<sup>th</sup> Ammunition Train, 4 months at Fort Adams, Rhode Island, discharged Dec. 13, 1918.

**Arthur Green:** Drafted Sept. 21, 1917, Army Service. Served in Co.D. 301<sup>st</sup> Engineers, at Camp Devens 10 months, was a Corporal. Served in England 3 days, in France from Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> to May 27<sup>th</sup> and in Germany about 6 months. Returned to Camp Devens and was discharged June 21, 1919. Received a Victory Bar in France. (*Charlotte Carmon notes*)

**J. E. McCarthy:**

Entered service Dec. 11, 1917, Aviation Branch of service. Served in 825<sup>th</sup> Aero Repair Squadron. Was at Fort Slocum, N.Y. two weeks. In France from Sept. 1, 1918, to June 29, 1919. Discharged July 7, 1919. (*Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as Edward McCarthy*)

**Walter Baker:** no information found

**Arthur Hayner:**

Drafted Sept. 21, 1917, Army Service, Served in Co. B. 76<sup>th</sup> Division, Quartermaster supply Train Truck, 5 months at Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass. Discharged Feb. 13, 1918. (*Charlotte Carmon notes*)

**Ralph Hall:** Enlisted Sept. 26, 1917, Army Service. Served in Co. D. 39<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 4<sup>th</sup> Division 8 months at Camp Syracuse, N.Y. and Camp Greene, Charlotte, N.C., 13 months abroad. (*Charlotte Carmon notes*)

**Wm. Temple:** Drafted My 23, 1918, Army Service. Served A. Co. 28<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 1<sup>st</sup> Division. Served at Camp Gordon, Ga. and Camp Merritt, N.J. In France and Germany from Aug. 3, 1918 to Aug. 22, 1919. Left Brest, France, Aug. 33, 1919; arrived New York Aug. 30, 1919, to Camp Merritt N.J. Discharged from Camp Dix Sept. 26, 1919. (*Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as William S. Temple*)

**George Effland:** no information found

**Frank Horton:** no information found

**Jacob Weatherby:** no information found

**John W. Crippen:** Y.M.C.A. Secretary. In France during 1918. First with Gievres Division S.O.S. Then at the Front with 90<sup>th</sup> Division; also went with the Army of Occupation into Duxemburg, Germany. Returned to Camp Upton, L.I. January 1919. (*Charlotte Carmon notes: listed as Rev. John W. Crippen*)

**Henry J. Brodt:** no information found

**Conrod Engwer:** no information found

**Arthur Rupert:** no information found

Several names do *not* appear on the Honor Roll Monument but were documented by Charlotte Carmon:

**Louis Filkins:** Drafted Oct. 6, 1917, Army Service Infantry 1<sup>st</sup> Class Private Co. D. 61<sup>st</sup> Infantry, 5<sup>th</sup> Division. Served in this country 6 months at Camp Devens, Mass. And at Camp Green, N.C. Served in France Luxemburg, 14 months. Returned to Camp Merritt, Base Hospital No. 41, Staten Island, N.Y., also Base Hospital No. 31, Carlisle, Pa., discharged Nov. 22 1919. (*Charlotte Carmon notes: not clear if this is the same as Edward Filkins?*)

**Donald Hess:** Enlisted Dec. 7, 1917, Naval Air Service. Served as Machinist's Mate in Naval Air Service. Served at Bay Shore, Naval Base, Hampton Road, Pensacola and Rockaway Point. Discharged Aug. 19, 1919. Somme Offensive, Ypsus Lys, St. Mihiel, Muse Argonne. Sent back Jan. 1, 1919. Discharged Jan. 10, 1919. (*Charlotte Carmon notes: might be same as the Charles Hess listed on monument?*)

**John F. Bradwell:**

Entered in service at Hoosick Falls, N.Y. Nov. 13, 1917; sent to Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass. On same date. Served in 3<sup>rd</sup> Co. 1<sup>st</sup> Batallion Depot Brigade until Dec. 1917. Transferred to Aviation Service at Kelly Field, South Antonio, Texas, in the 615<sup>th</sup> Aero Supply Squadron. Transferred to 226<sup>th</sup> Aero Service Squadron Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>, 1918. Sent to Hazelhurst Field Garden City, L.I. N.Y. April 6<sup>th</sup>, 1918. Embarked for England June 30, 1918. Landed in Liverpool, England, July 7, 1918. Moved to South Hampton, England, remained three days; moved to Flowerdown, Winchester; remained 2 weeks; then moved to Marlborough, England, stayed 2 months; moved to Bircham Newton; stayed 1 month. Then moved to Segeford, England, remained until Nov. 25, 1918; then sent to Knotty Ash Can, Liverpool; embarked on Mauretania Nov. 31, 1918, landed in New York Dec. 6, sent to Camp Mills, Hempstead, L.I. N.Y. Then moved to Roosevelt Field, discharged Dec. 12, 1918. (*Charlotte Carmon notes*)

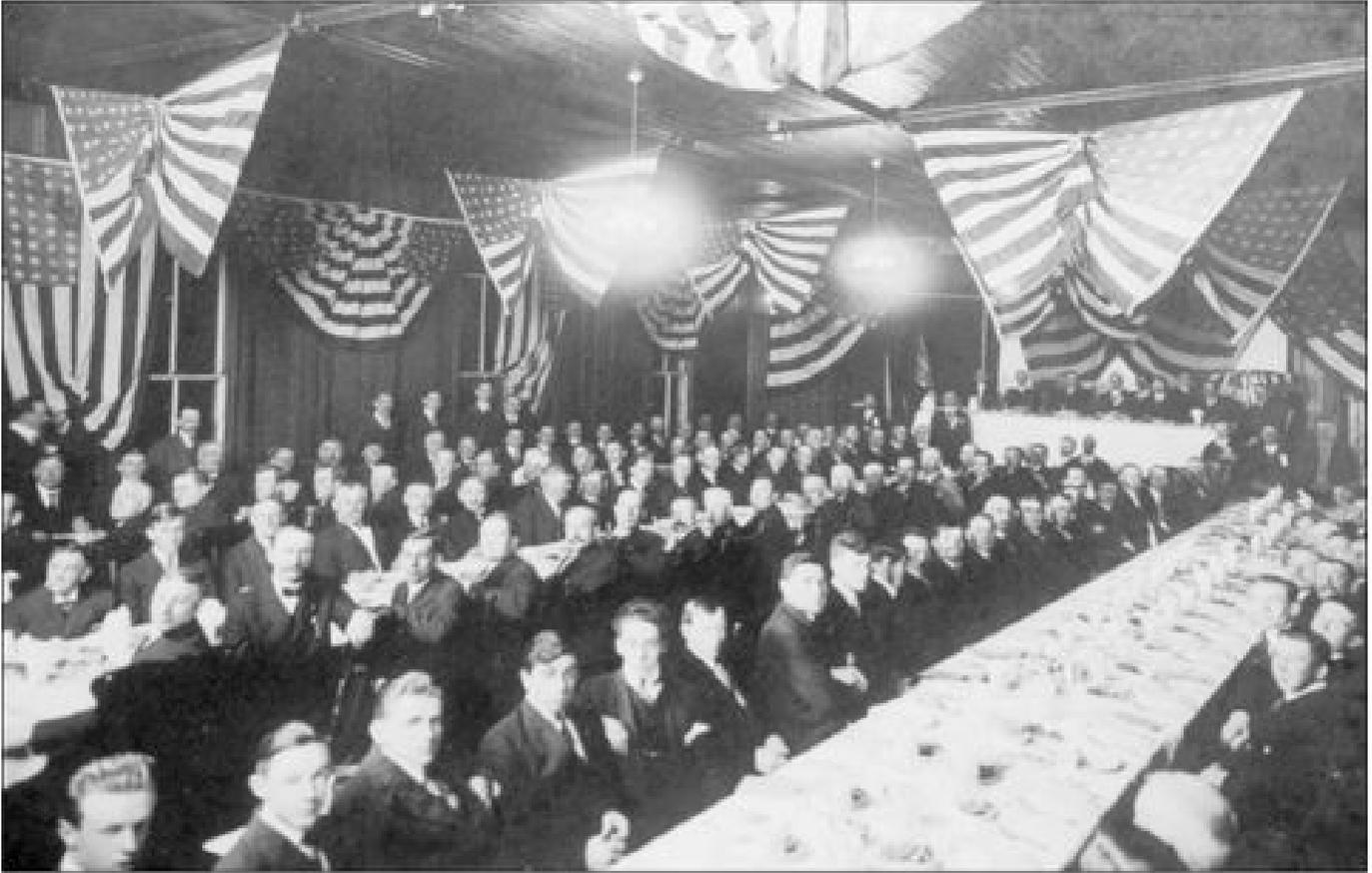
Adams, Walter A.	545,192 352	6
(Surname)	(Christian name)	(Army serial number)
Residence: R.F.D. 1, Averill Park, Rensselaer, NEW YORK		
(Street and house number)	(Town or city)	(County) (State)
* Enlisted * R. A. * N. G. * E. R. * C. * Inducted at Ft. Ethan Allen, Vt. on May 22, 1917		
Place of birth: Rensselaer, N. Y.	Age or date of birth: 22 5/12 yrs	
Organizations served in, with dates of assignments and transfers: Co A 30 Inf June 5/17 to Oct 13/18		
Grades, with date of appointment: Fvt. May 22/17; Corp /; Sgt July 22/18		
Engagements: 2nd Battle of the Marne; Jaulgonne; Argonne		
Served overseas from APR 2/18 to OCT 13/18 from to		
Killed in action: Oct 13, 1918		
Other wounds or injuries received in action: None		
Person notified of death: Frank Adams, (Name) Averill Park, (Degree of relationship) N. Y.		
R. F. D. #1, (No. and street or rural route) (City, town, or post office) (State or country)		
Remarks: Form No. 724-6, A. G. O. * Strike out words not applicable. † Dates of departure from and arrival in the U. S. 8-726		

## Sand Lake medal ceremony, 1919

You may have noticed several references above to “Medal received from the Town of Sand Lake.” In addition to medals and honors earned in military service, New York State also awarded medals to those who served, as did a number of localities. Sand Lake was no exception!

On September 13, 1919, the town held a ceremony

Arthur Butler, Harry Tillson, and Frank Barnum; (second table, facing camera) unidentified, William Adams, Charles Smith, Edward Hack, George Schreiner, William Schreiner, John Lewis, and Rev. John Crippen; (back to camera) unidentified, Frank Fredenburgh, Lloyd French, Floyd Foster, unidentified, Willis Larkin, and James Cotton.” (photo courtesy of Town of Sand Lake Collection)



at the Faith Community Hall in Averill Park, to honor its World War I veterans as well as five living veterans of the Civil War. The photo above appears in *Images of America; Sand Lake* and is captioned as follows:



“Town Presents Medal. A medal, inscribed on one side ‘For Service’ and on the other ‘Presented by the people of Sand Lake to their loyal fighting son,’ was given to soldiers, sailors, and marines of World War I and five Civil War veterans...

“Seated, from left to right, are the following: (first table, facing camera) Walter Baker, unidentified, Leon Smith,

unidentified, Ted Brazee, Lawrence Gruber, three unidentified men, George Cann, George Brownhardt, Joseph Kehn, unidentified, Richard Lay, Harrison Lay, Howard Lester, and unidentified; (back to camera) three unidentified, ? Dobert, unidentified,

## Who is Charlotte Carmon? Why do we owe her such a debt of gratitude?

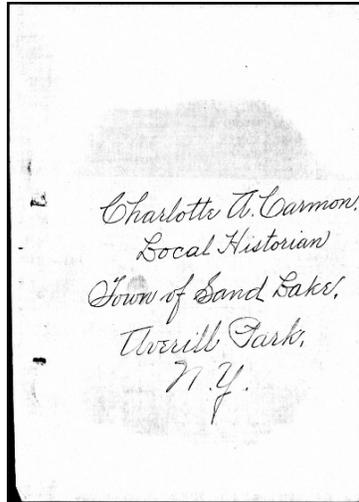
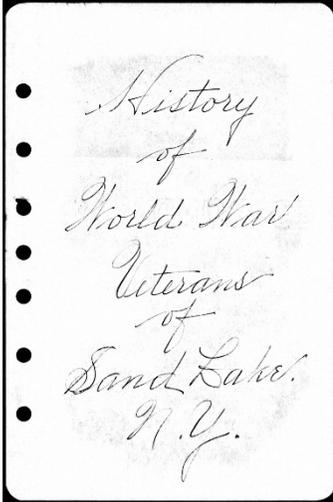
Many of the above notations of service records were the work of Charlotte Carmon, who just might be considered Sand Lake’s first town historian; we don’t know for sure.

Generally, Harold Tiffit is considered Sand Lake’s first town historian (SEE: *Images of America; Sand Lake Revisited*, p. 117; note also that Harold Tiffit’s name appears on the WWI Honor Roll above). But, apparently in that same role, it was Charlotte who, per request from New York State, compiled, typed and submitted service records of those from Sand Lake who served in the War.

We don’t know much about Charlotte, other than she was apparently an Averill Park resident, a vocalist who was also active in community activities and, for some brief period of time, a Collector of school

taxes. But we do owe her that debt for stepping up to collect these histories.

(Unfortunately, there are a few gaps in the



surviving records from

her. Given the alphabetical nature of the gaps, it is possible that some of the pages she submitted have gone astray in the past 97+ years.)

Why was this done at all? We need to backtrack a bit. Soon after war was declared on April 6, 1917, then-State Historian James Sullivan was assigned the task of documenting New York's contribution to the war efforts. He and his staff contacted "historical and patriotic societies throughout the State, libraries, schools, colleges, and public officials of towns, villages, and cities for their help. The ultimate goal was to be a comprehensive history of the State in the War. The New York State Library also initiated a similar effort with libraries across the state.

In 1919, New York State Education Law was amended via Chapter 181 of the Laws of 1919, which was intended to establish local historians in the villages, towns and cities of the state.

Local historians were asked to provide service records as well as individual citizens' records of tasks on the home front. Those historians were also asked to collect relevant photographs, letters and other pertinent information.

Success in this effort was mixed, although Rensselaer County did rather well, judging from the records in the State Archives. (Sullivan had estimated that a history would comprise three volumes and over 1,000 pages. Sadly, that comprehensive history never materialized, primarily due to lack of funding.) Meanwhile, though, the State Archives holds these records, as well as over one million military service records of New Yorkers serving in the Army, Navy, Marines, and as nurses.

The law is still in effect to this day, as part of **§57.07 of Arts and Cultural Affairs Law:**

1. *A local historian shall be appointed, as provided in this section, for each city, town or village, except that in a city of over one million inhabitants a local historian shall be appointed*

*for each borough therein instead of for the city at large; and a county historian may be appointed for each county...*

2. *Such local authorities and also the board of supervisors of each of the counties of the state are hereby authorized and empowered, in their discretion, to contract with the trustees of an historical association for the support of any or all historic edifices situated within the boundaries of such municipality; or may share the cost of maintaining the same as agreed with other municipal bodies; or may contract with the trustees of such historical associations to maintain said historic edifices for public use under such terms and conditions as may be stated in such contract...*

**§57.09** outlines the duties of the historians:

*It shall be the duty of each local historian, appointed as provided in the last section, in cooperation with the state historian, to collect and preserve material relating to the history of the political subdivision for which he or she is appointed, and to file such material in fireproof safes or vaults in the county, city, town or village offices. Such historian shall examine into the condition, classification and safety from fire of the public records of the public offices of such county, city, town or village, and shall call to the attention of the local authorities and the state historian any material of local historic value which should be acquired for preservation. He or she shall make an annual report, in the month of January, to the local appointing officer or officers and to the state historian of the work which has been accomplished during the preceding year....*

Charlotte Carmon notwithstanding, again, Harold Tift is considered Sand Lake's first town historian, serving from 1954 until his death in 1959. (Note: the 1954 Town budget appropriated \$50 for the historian, some \$10 more than was appropriated for the dog warden!) Others who have served in that capacity include Joseph T. Sproule (1960-67), Mrs. Lillian Sproule (1968-72?), Mrs. Lillian Howarth (1972-78?), Madolyn Carpenter (1978-??; Elinor Zaki as deputy), Judy Rowe (with Mary French as deputy), and Bob Moore (2013-present).

## **Sergeant Walter A. Adams**

Walter A. Adams and older brother William S. enlisted in the United States Army May 22, 1917. Both were assigned to Company A, 30th Infantry and sailed for France April 2, 1918. Among the important battles in which Walter participated were the Aisne Defensive, the battle of Chateau Thierry, the Aisne-Marne Offensive, the Battle of Vasse and the St. Mihiel Offensive.

Walter was killed October 10, 1918 (some accounts and records list the date as October 13, 1918; his

gravestone reads Oct. 10, 1918), at Madeleine Farm in France during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive, regarded as the deadliest battle in American history.

Sergeant Adams (I) is buried, along with brother William and other family members, in Sand Lake Union Cemetery. The American Legion post in Averill Park is named for him.



Technically, the Adams brothers were from the Town of Nassau. The family lived on what is now Totem Lodge Road, but their mailing address was R.F.D. #1, Averill Park. Nassau also “claims” them as their own, and they were listed on Nassau’s WWI honor roll. It is from Nassau’s submissions to the State Historian that we get the post card photo of Sgt. Adams shown here.

### Private Enoch Lloyd French

Found in *Images of America; Sand Lake Revisited* is this photo of Pvt. Enoch Lloyd French in uniform during World War I. The caption notes that his sister Edith had typed letters Enoch had sent home and that those were given to the town historian’s office by his son Gordon.

Well...it’s more than that; a LOT more! In fact, copies of various letters, photos and other documents fill a pair of thick three-ring binders (with some duplication.) It is a veritable treasure trove of information and insight into the life of a soldier during the War! Handwritten notes, diaries, photos, post cards – even a copy of a handwritten April 1918 letter sent to troops from HRH King George V, noting in part “...*I wish that I could shake the hand of each one of you & bid you God speed on your mission.*” There are also photos of three medals awarded to Pvt. French: the medal awarded by the Town of Sand Lake (see previous article on **Sand Lake medal ceremony, 1919**), one awarded by New York State, and a third denoting France, the country in which he served.



(*Seen here are New York and France service medals.*) Enoch actually attempted to enlist on June 23, 1917, but was not accepted at the time due to, among other reasons “my height being too great for my weight...”!



Ultimately, though, French *was* inducted in September 1917 and served overseas from July 1918 to January 1919.

Just the handwritten “diary” part encompasses four sections: Part I – The Call; Part II – Life in a Cantonment (Camp Devens, Massachusetts); Part III – Overseas; and Part IV – The Return! Each section is filled with handwritten journals along with newspaper clippings, photos, postcards and other memorabilia such as programs and even menus!

Hopefully, at some point in the future, we can present much more of this information provided by Pvt. French and his family on the Sand Lake Historical Society website!

### Sergeant Walter A. Adams American Legion Post 1021

In January 1930, Nelson H. Patchen was elected Commander of the newly organized Sergeant Walter A. Adams Post, American Legion, of Averill Park. Other officers named were: Vice Commanders, Lester Smith, E. Matthews and William Adams; Adjutant, Arthur Cummings; Treasurer, Roy Smith; Chaplain, E. L. French; Service Officer, Charles H. Horton; County Committee member, Dr. J. J. Purcell. That first meeting was held at Odd Fellows' Hall, Averill Park, at which time a constitution and bylaws were drawn up.

Charter Presentation Night was May 7, 1930. A parade was held through the community, and a program of exercises took place in the Central High School, Averill Park. The evening parade, starting at St. Henry’s and winding through the village, featured six bugle and drum corps of American Legion posts and Post Commander Patchen as Grand Marshal.

Support for the new Post included such events as “...The West Sand Lake Grange Players will present the play ‘Ted Drops In’ at Faith Hall Wednesday evening [June 11] for the benefit of the Walter Adams Legion Post of this place.” (*Troy Times, June 7, 1930*) “... Sergeant Walter A. Adams Post, American Legion, will conduct a food sale in the Odd Fellows' Hall Saturday morning [sic] from 9 to 12 o'clock. The committee in charge includes Mrs. William Adams and Mrs. Lloyd French. (*Troy Times, July 23, 1931*)

New quarters of the Sergeant Walter A. Adams Post, American Legion, of Averill Park, located in the former District No. 8 Glass Lake School, were opened



formally [May 27, 1933] with a social at which many guests were present.

Commander Cummings was Chairman of the committee in charge. By 1935,

though, the building had been sold and became a private residence.

On January 14, 1937, a meeting of the Post was held for the purpose of organizing an Auxiliary Unit. Charter members included: Mrs. Bertha Lindberg, president; Mrs. Ana Smith, 1st vice president; Mrs. Margaret Fitzgerald, 2nd vice president; Mrs. Elsie Cummings, secretary; Mrs. Leontine Effland, treasurer; Mrs. Alice Dibble, sgt.-at-arms; Mrs. Mary Pohl, welfare chairman; Mrs. Christine Baily, rehabilitation chairman; Mrs. Caroline Moran, Mrs. Eva Palmer, Mrs. Alvertia Primeaux.

Membership was "limited to mothers, wives, sisters and daughters of members of the American Legion, or of men and women who were in the military or naval service of the United States between April 6, 1917 and November 11, 1918 and died in line of duty or after honorable discharge; and those women, who of their own right are eligible to membership in the American Legion." (*The [Chatham] Courier*, January 21, 1937)

For many years, what prior to creation of the Averill Park Central School District in 1929 was the two-room District No. 7 schoolhouse has served as "home" for the

Post, in earlier years sharing the building with the District's Principal. A February 18, 1946, *Knickerbocker News* article



noted that "...plans to modernize building of the Sgt. Walter A. Adams Post, American Legion, at Averill Park were outlined at the February meeting of the post Auxiliary. Plans were made for a game party Apr. 4 and a field day in July to raise money for the building fund."

Fittingly, and to bring this story full circle, "Lt. Ruth Adams [who enlisted in the Army Nurse Corps in 1942], niece of Sgt. Walter A. Adams, for whom the post was named, was a guest at the meeting and later became the first woman member of the post."

## SLHS Facebook page and web site

If you haven't already done so, look for us on Facebook! It's a great place to get the most up-to-date news on meetings and events, along with other items of interest from us and from other places and groups in the Capital District. And occasionally, you'll see things you won't see in our newsletter or the web site! Currently, we're at **344 page likes!**

Look on our web site for the link or go to <https://www.facebook.com/SandLakeHistoricalSociety> — "Like" us...and enjoy!

Speaking of our web site, [sandlakehistory.org](http://sandlakehistory.org) is back online with a new host and, hopefully, better and more stable than ever! Things are now up-to-date on the site, and we'll be adding to it soon!

## Facts and Artifacts

Long-time members may recall that *Facts and Artifacts* was an early name for this newsletter. We have revived that name for use as a reprint series, bringing back and, in some cases expanding on, topics covered in the past 45 years.

Currently, there are nearly 20 of these, with more on the way, on topics such as 1. *Memories of Faith Mills*; 2. *Hamlets*; 3. *Ice Harvesting on Burden Lake*; 4. *World War I and Sand Lake*; 5. *Methodist Farm Centennial 1917-2017*; 6. *Tin Clapper Shop*; 7. *Coll Gang – Cedarhurst – Legs Diamond*; 8. *Schools before 1929*; 9. *Rensselaer Village (glass works)*; 10. *Historical Markers in the Town of Sand Lake*; 11. *Sand Lake in 1958*; 12. *Clifford Hastings brings electricity to West Sand Lake (in progress)*; 13. *The Sand Lake Advertiser 60th anniversary*; 14. *Sand Lake's agricultural history*; 15. *Sand Lake – Mill Town*; 16. *Variety Store/Young's Pharmacy*; 17. *Fox Mansion (in progress)*, and 18. *Protection Against Horse Thieves*.

We will try to have copies of some or all available soon at various meetings and events, generally at 50¢ each!

## Officers and Trustees of the Society 2018-19

*Joan Fuess*, President (2020); *Rosemarie Sniezyk*, Vice President (2021); *Jackie Tremont*, Corresponding Secretary (2019); *Sharon Dawes*, Recording Secretary (2019); *Michelle Mosher Schultz*, Treasurer (2020).

*Holli Boyd-White* (2021); *Dee Erickson* (2019); *Jane Minotti* (2021); *Jim Powers* (2020) *Sue Powers* (2021); (2020); *Tedi Toca* (2019); *Drew White* (2019); *vacant* (2019).



Sand Lake Historical Society  
**Membership Application/Renewal 2018-2019**  
*(Please print clearly)*

New Member  Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\$3 per Student (13-22) \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 per Individual \_\_\_\_\_ \$15 per Family \_\_\_\_\_

\$100 per Lifetime (Individual) \_\_\_\_\_ \$150 per Lifetime (Family – two persons) \_\_\_\_\_

Would you prefer to receive newsletter via: email  or Postal Mail  *(check only one)*

Do you have any particular historical interests or expertise? If so, please let us know:

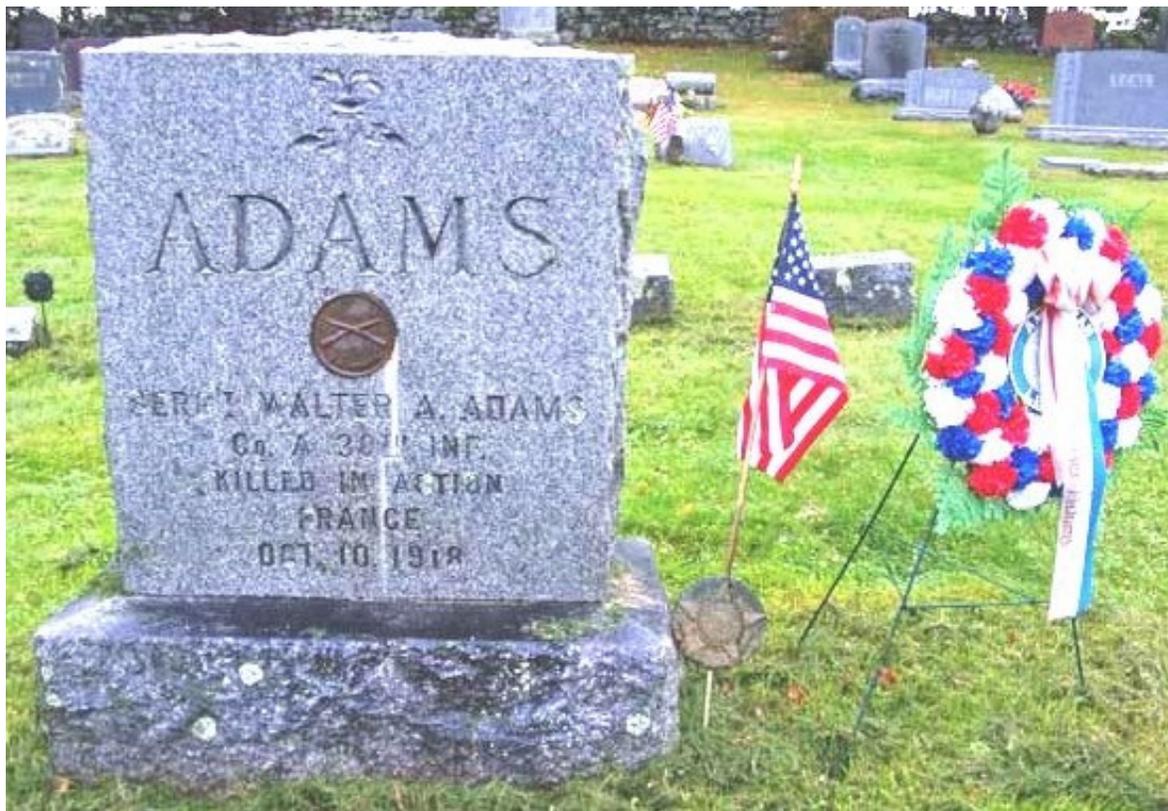
\_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed: ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

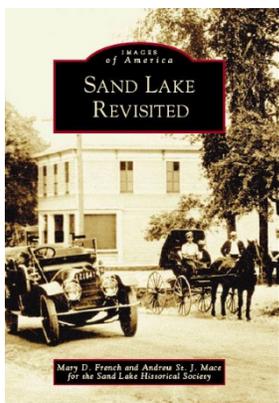
Please make checks payable to *Sand Lake Historical Society*. Mail to:  
Sand Lake Historical Society, Post Office Box 492, West Sand Lake, New York 12196

HH 45-2 Fall 2018

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*[Photo of Sergeant Walter A. Adams' headstone at Sand Lake Union Cemetery; photo by Thomas Dunne, from the findagrave.com website]*



<http://sandlakehistory.org>  
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Historical Highlights  
Andrew Mace, Editor/Publisher



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