

World War I

April 6, 1917 - November 11, 1918

The United States declared war on Germany on April 6, 1917. Eight hundred and fifty men subject to military service in District I received notices (draft) to appear at Edwardsville, Illinois the next week to be examined for Uncle Sam's Army, and claim exemptions, if they have any. The first call was August 3, second call August 17 and third call September 14, and there was a fourth call and again later calls until there were 152 men from Livingston. Those being called were:

Anschuetz, William	Genczo, John	LeBlanc, George
Anschutz, Wallace	Gerti, William	Lesicko, Joseph III
Anschutz, Walter	Gesosky, Joe	Liddle, Clyde
Andrews, Clyde	Giocopraci, John	Lorson, Henry
Antroelaks, Nick	Giuliani, John	Lovejoy, Ernest
Arvimini, Emil	Gorenz, John	Lovejoy, Leslie
Avanzini, Emanuelle	Gvzdov, Walter	Luketich, Pete
Barna, Peter	Greenmore, Jesse	Lukotich, Andro
Barnes, Alvin	Grossner, Steve	Majeski, William
Bertalone, Frank	Hastings, Ben	Marey, Henry
Berti, William	Healey, William	Marzas, Wilemas
Best, Grover	Heinz, Alvin	McDonald, William
Biepeokovis, B.	Herring, Adolph	Mentelsky, Karl
Borti, William	Hippey, James W.	Meyer, William
Bozik, Lukos	Hoffman, Paul	Miller, Adam
Brondalize, Angelo	Hoffner, Andrew	Miller, Fred
Carson, John	Hribar, John	Miller, Otto
Cassoni, Ruimondo	Hulvey, John	Mongat, Tony
Cavullini, Modesto	Jajask, William	Novotney, Michael
Cerne, Wence	Joly, Leon	Ondes, Andy
Cirar, Charles	Joshu, Fred	Ortenceo, Celi
Coalson, Arthur, Sr.	Joshu, Henry	Ottino, John
Coalson, Forman	Jublelt, Alvin	Palitich, Paul
Costadin, Joseph	Kacmirski, Mike	Parker, Donald
Dunstan, William	Katavia, John	Peiritch, Donald
Elenewisdy, Victor	Katavia, Paul	Pelepka, John
Elenewsky, Kazimer	Kavathas, D.G.	Philippe, Louis
Enrietto, Pete	Keele, Herbert	Pickel, Walter
Eugenio, Giano	Kelley, Cole	Pocisinnos, P.
Evans, Andy	King, Louis	Polutink, John
Fasculos, Peter	Kiviathowski, Stanley	Porgi, Frank
Finer, Harry	Klancar, Frank	Pribianca, Alphine
Finer, Ike	Knemoeller, Andy	Prosser, Ben
Finley, Clifford	Knemoeller, Rudolph	Puvilich, Joseph
Finley, James	Koch, Walter	Ranken, Robert
Florian, Mike	Koenies, John	Ravenelli, Silvie
Freund, Ferd	Korum, Anton	Renner, Henry
Gasparetto, Tony	Korum, Clinton	Renner, William
Gasparotto, Alex	LaVillette, Charles	Retsias, Nick

Ruehrup, Fred
Sakellaris, Dan
Salter, Oscar
Sandrino, Fiorvanto
Santa, Angelo
Sardyga, Anton
Sawchak, Mike
Scanzoni, Adolph
Seketa, Joseph
Sievers, William F.
Sikons, Paul
Sobut, Dominick

Spencer, A.J.
Spencer, John
Spero, Jim
Spiros, Tom
Spudic, John
Spudich, Tom
Stunck, Carl
Suravias, Gustav
Suravlas, Demeries
Tamiati, Americo
Tarando, Charles
Telepka, John

Theves, John
Thomso, John
Ulman, Andy
Vallow, David
Vanhooser, John
Wajcuila, Jonas
Windisch, Elmer
Windisch, William
Wolf, Edward
Wrishink, Louis
Yucic, Pivil

Those who entered the military were all given rousing farewells with local bands and parades. They were also accompanied to Edwardsville by townspeople to show their support of our boys going off to war.

World War I Liberty Loan Drives

World War I cost the United States 35.5 billion dollars. There were five Liberty Loan Drives between 1917 and 1919, which raised more than \$21 billion or 2/3 of the nation's war costs. How did Olive Township help pay this debt? We could not find where Olive Township participated in the First Liberty Loan Drive. The second Liberty Loan Drive was held in November 1917 with 262 people in Olive Township purchasing a total of \$23,350.00 in bonds. The amount expected from Olive Township was only \$20,000.00.

The third Liberty Loan Drive was held in April 1918. At 1:00 pm the Livingston Miner's Band went to Williamson to lead the parade formed by Williamson residents. As they came through Livingston people fell in line. In the procession were school children, miner's organizations, Red Cross members from Livingston and Williamson in uniform, fraternal orders and the public in general. They estimated 3000 people in all.

After the parade they gathered at the City Hall Square with Joseph Hebenstreit presiding over the gathering. The band played patriotic numbers. Then Attorney Jesse I. Simpson and J. F. Eck of Edwardsville, Attorney W. P. Boynton of Alton and Honorable E. C. Wheeler of St. Louis, government Liberty Loan manager each gave a patriotic address. Olive Township was honored for the various lines of patriotic work the people had done. Mayor Joseph Healey, Joseph Renner and Fred Joshu served as marshals for the parade. Every man, woman and child carried a flag and each business in the twin cities flew a flag. One person would not carry a flag and fell out of the line of march, even though he was persuaded to get in line. Two evenings later he was notified to report to city hall. He was given a large specimen of Old Glory and started to march over the route covered by the parade. A number of citizens in automobiles and a crowd



of jeering children followed him. He was also told that an American citizen is required to remove his hat as an indication of respect when the anthem is played. It did him no bodily harm, but may have taught him and some others how to act in the future.

Olive Township was to have raised \$15,000.00 this time, but the total was \$75,000 raised by 650 persons.

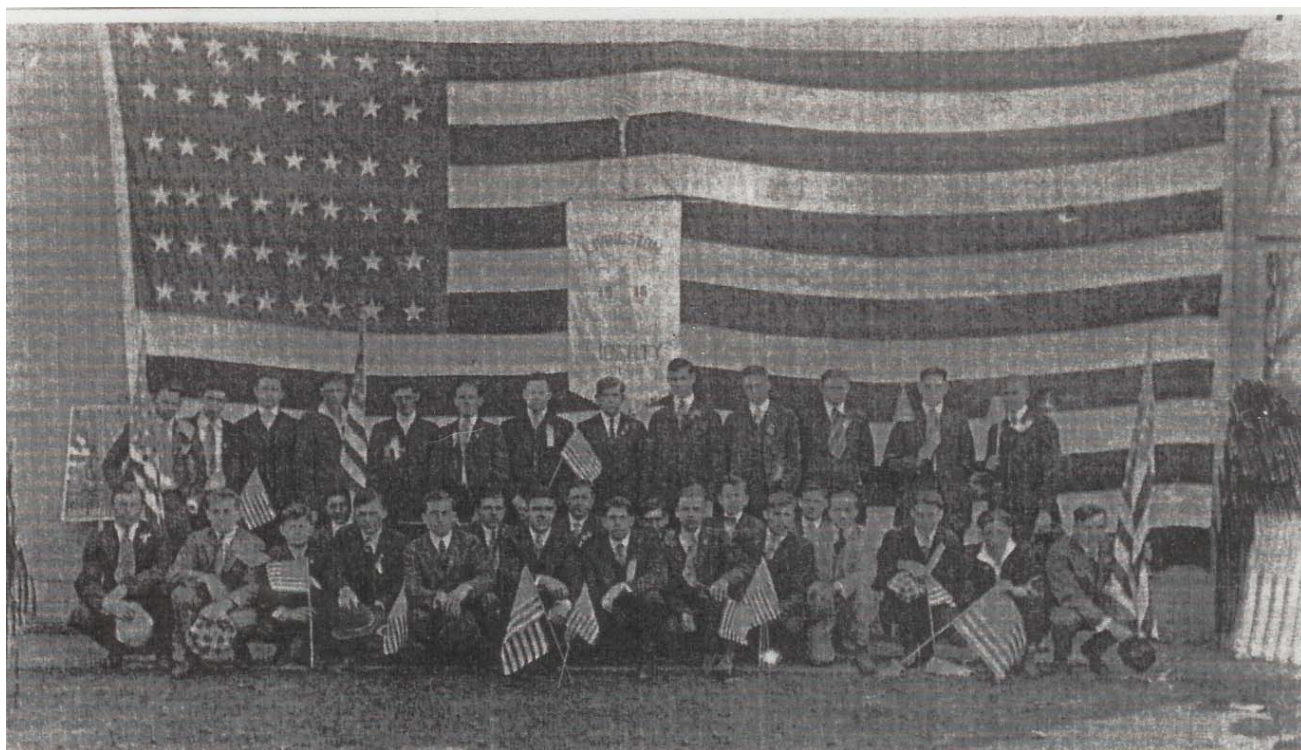
On September 5, 1918, Olive Township was awarded the first honor flag in Madison County for its valiant work in the campaign for the sale of the Third Liberty Loan Bonds. The band was out for this occasion. Senator J. G. Bardill of Highland presented the flag to D.E. Aylward, chairman of the Olive Township Drive, who gave an appropriate address.

John Zetkolic who led the township with a subscription of \$1,200.00 was also introduced. An honor flag was raised on the City Hall flagpole while the band played *The Star Spangled Banner*. It was later taken down to protect it from the elements and placed on one of the walls in the American State Bank.

The fourth Liberty Loan Drive was held in September 1918. On Saturday and Sunday people volunteered to buy bonds. The booth at Livingston was in charge of D.E. Aylward, Joseph Hebenstreit, Tipmer Rachow, Miss Jessie Livingston, Miss Molly Finer and Mrs. Ida Ramsey and by Tuesday \$65,000.00 was subscribed. By the time the drive ended, Olive Township had bought \$90,000.00 in bonds.

Livingston Liberty Club 1918

The Livingston Liberty Club was a patriotic organization of young men that was active during World War I.



Pictured left to right. Top row: Wilfred Jennings, Lester Jones, George Sakalosky, Fritz Hribernik, Frank Zorzi, Martin Sarko, Fay Fenwick, Grover Best, Joe Joshu, William Andrews, Fred Johnson, Edward Joshu and Clarence Meyer.

Bottom row: John Millich, Charles Viola, Andy Kasarda, William Curcuro, Walter Liptak, John Baperstis, George Chulka, Henry Malench, John Illo, Pearl Bell, Gerald Johnson, Elmer Stroka, Charles Windisch, John Kasarda, Ignatz Thiel Jr., Jack Scanzoni, Elmer Lovejoy, Uranus Tumiat, Joseph Dixon, Jr.

Proclamation

Whereas it has behooved our President and Government of the United States of America to call to the colors in defense of our nation and honor an immense army of which the Congress has passed an act setting forth a plan of selective draft in which a number of our beloved sons, brothers fathers, relatives and friends have been chosen and who are requested to depart on September 19, 1917.

I do hereby proclaim that this date be made a special holiday in honor of the departing ones, and I request that all business be closed at 11:00 a.m., except that which is to make this holiday a success, and do further request that all participate in the fare-well demonstrations.

Yours truly,
Joseph Healey
Staunton Star-Times - September 22, 1917

Red Cross

In July 1917 even before a Red Cross Unit was formed there was a baseball game held to raise money for the Red Cross. The men organized two teams, the "Fats" and the "Leans".

The "Fats" were comprised of the following men:

Abraham Farhat	2b	Joseph Healey	cf
John Kreuter	p or ss	Ellis Vallow	lf
Mike Whitney	c	C.E. Atwell	p or ss
O.C. Luebbe	1b	Baptiste Cavigliola	3b
L.C. Ottenad	ss	Joseph Hebenstreit	rf

Tom Beynon, Dr. R.C. Berry, Dr. Vaught, Ike Finer, Arthur Dumont, Elmer Dowden, Alvin Heinz, and Fred Joshu were benchwarmers.

The "Leans" were comprised of the following:

Tom Hebenstreit	p	W. Phelps	rf
Gus Webster	2b	Henry Wray	cf
Fred Safko	3b	John Howells	1b
George Kreuter	c	Henry Thornwall	lf
Rudy Knemoeller	ss		

D.E. Aylward, John Alfeld, H.R. Keele, August Hribernick and J.W. Rice were benchwarmers.

Umpires were John A. "Honeyboy" O'Connor and "Little Mike." Admission was 25 cents for adults, 15 cents for children and the grandstand was free.

August 17, 1917 - A meeting was held at the Eagle Theatre to organize a Red Cross Unit. D.E. Aylward presided at the initial session. Mr. Barnsback and Mr. Brown of Edwardsville gave patriotic addresses. The people were told the aims and purposes of the Red Cross work. A local unit was formed and the following people held office; Chairman Mayor Joseph Healey, Sr.; Vice Chairman Miss Jessie Livingston; Secretary Mrs. Marie Dunlap and Treasurer D. E. Aylward. Fifty people joined that night

and by Tuesday noon there were 105.

September 15th - The Red Cross instituted "Tag Day" with \$105.00 being collected. Miss Susie Arber collected \$35.00, the largest sum of any one member.

September 18th - Mayor Healey made a Proclamation. (see article regarding *Staunton Star Times* September 22, 1917 edition.)

November - The Red Cross made a shipment of Christmas goods to the boys in France. The packages were sent to Edwardsville with the county Red Cross to take charge. Included in the packages were tobacco, cigarettes, candy, pencils, tablets, checkerboards, and cards. Later in November the Red Cross sent a shipment of five complete sets of knitted goods to the headquarters in Edwardsville.

December 3 - The Pythian Sisters had a box social and entertainment at Saily's Hall. The net proceeds were \$122.50 with one half given to the Red Cross.

January 1918 - Susie Arbor received a thank you letter from a serviceman who received a sweater she had knitted.

February 18, 1918 - Ladies of the Red Cross unit in the past week made their January shipment of goods to the county headquarters in Edwardsville. The articles included in this shipment were made since Christmas day and the consignment consisted of two dozen hospital bed sheets, two dozen pairs of pajamas, three wool helmets, three wool mufflers, eighteen pairs of wool wristlets, one hundred twenty pairs of wool socks and thirty-one wool sweaters. Surgical dressings that were sent included eighty, four by four inch gauze compresses, twelve, eight by twelve inch absorbent pads, forty, nine by nine inch compresses, two, sixteen by twenty-four inch irrigation pads, twenty four-tailed muslin bandages, twenty muslin "T" bandages, eighty gauze sponges, one hundred muslin abdominal bandages and thirty many-tailed bandages.

February 1918 - A Junior Red Cross was formed in the public schools with four hundred-fifty students enrolled in Livingston. The rooms of Mrs. Carleton and Miss Nancy Best had 100% participation. A small white flag with a red cross was hung in the window of those classrooms at the school.

March 1918 - The local miner's union assessed each member 50 cents a month. The proceeds were donated to the Red Cross. The American Red Cross room was a lively place. Mrs. Fred Behrent was in charge on Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. On Wednesday Mrs. Nora Busker was on duty.

May 1918 - There was a Red Cross Drive held with the quota for Olive Township \$2,627. The funds for the local unit were given a big boost when the local office of The New Staunton Coal Company received word from headquarters that they will contribute \$100.00 a month for twelve months.

June 1918 - The ladies of the Red Cross sent a shipment of the following goods to Edwardsville: thirty-eight pajama suits, twenty-five hospital shirts, fourteen sweaters, seventeen pairs of wristlets, twenty-three pairs of socks, six helmets, two mufflers and \$31.00 cash.

August 1918 - The Red Cross received a donation of \$20.17 from Cavigliola and Costa. The money was the receipt they received from the electric piano in their place of business for one week.

September 1918 - Eighty year-old Jane Funderburk donated a quilt to the Red Cross.

October 1918 - A dance was held at the Callovini Hall; the proceeds going to the Red Cross. Also in October, a meeting of the Red Cross was held and the following officers were elected for: Chairman J.A. Hebenstreit, Vice Chairman Mrs. Thomas McCullister, Secretary Mrs. J.S. Alfeld, and Treasurer J.M. Arkabauer.

October 12, 1918 - A dance was held at the Spudich Hall; the proceeds to go to the Red Cross. Admission was 50 cents for gents and ladies free.

October 18, 1918 - The Slovenian Orders of Livingston had a dance; the proceeds to go to the Red Cross. The dance was held in Frank Domevscik Hall with admission for gents 75 cents and ladies free. Again in October, Mrs. D.E. Aylward, Mrs. Joseph Healey, Sr., Miss Mae Livingston and Miss Susie Arbor delivered the following to the county Red Cross in Edwardsville: forty-one sweaters, eighty-eight pairs of wristlets, three helmets, fourteen pairs of socks, eighty pajama suits and one thousand gauze compresses.

October 1918 - The Red Cross made a donation of \$500.00 to the Red Cross in Louisville, Kentucky to be

used in rendering assistance to the influenza sufferers at Camp Taylor. The funds in Louisville had been depleted in combating the influenza epidemic.

December 1918 – A campaign for renewal of Red Cross members was held. The committee was D.E. Aylward, Mrs. Thomas McCullister, Mr. I.J. Finer, Miss Jessie Livingston, Mrs. Harry Deck, Mrs. Roy Pollett, Mrs. W.T. Berry and L.J. Finer. In 1917 they had a total of two thousand members, and they were hoping to top that number.

Private Robert P. Donaldson

Word was received Saturday by the postmaster of our neighbor city Livingston stating that his brother, Robert P. Donaldson had been killed on July 6 while in the performance of his duty as a United States Soldier in France. He was a member of the 28th Engineer Corps and was engaged in some work in a quarry near the front when he met with the accident, which claimed his life. According to the account of his death the young man coming out of a quarry tripped over a rock and before he could regain his feet and scramble to a place of safety, was struck by a car heavily laden with rock as it was coming down an incline.

The injured man was immediately taken to the base hospital, but despite all that medical skills could do, he succumbed to the effects of his injuries shortly thereafter. Donaldson, prior to his enlistment was a resident of Livingston for about ten years. He served as a correspondent for the *Star Times* from the Twin Cities. April 1917 he left for South Dakota working in the mines in that state until enlisting in the Army in October 1917. In February 1918, he was stationed in France. On July 5th he wrote home saying he was well and requested for them not to worry about him. He died on the following day. A memorial service is being arranged and will honor Robert P. Donaldson and William L. Marajas, a young man that died while in training camp.

INTERNATIONAL SHOE COMPANY
WOOD RIVER TANNERIES

Needs Men for WAR WORK

Rides can be arranged. Apply
U. S. Employment Service
211 N. State St. Litchfield, Illinois.

ESSENTIAL OR AGRICULTURAL WORKERS MUST
HAVE STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY.

If you are unable to call at the above office, mail the coupon below direct to International Shoe Co. Office, 307 East Broadway, Alton, Ill., and we will send a representative to your home.

FILL IN AND MAIL

NAME _____
Address _____ City _____

Note—If you live in a rural district, give complete instructions as to how you may be reached.

The ad for International Shoe Company appeared December 31, 1944 in the *Staunton Star-Times*.

WORKERS WANTED!

Western Cartridge Co.

EAST ALTON, ILLINOIS

Needs Both Men and Women for Vital War Production Jobs

These are easy to learn, safe jobs, with good pay right from the start. Periodic rate increases.

APPLY NOW

YOUR NEAREST U. S. EMPLOYMENT OFFICE } or } WESTERN CARTRIDGE EMPLOYMENT OFFICE EAST ALTON, ILL.

IMPROVED PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IS AVAILABLE

World War I Happenings

- February 1917 - A local Branch of the State Council Of Defense was formed. Chairman Joseph Healey - Vice Chairman D.E. Aylward, Secretary I.J. Finer and Treasurer J.M. Arkabauer. Executive Committee; Herman Becker, D.G. Livingston, D.E. Aylward, Ernest Zamboni, J.A. Hebenstreit, J.W. Donaldson, Warren Hardy, Joseph Healy and Ed Hosto. Resolution and By-Law committee; Pierce Purcell, J.S. Alfeld and C.F. Liddle. Membership was for male citizens only and initiation fee was \$1.00.
- April 1917 - Patriotism was shown in the Village of Livingston by the large number of flags flying in the breeze. The railroad employees erected a 33-foot flag pole in the center of the railroad lawn on which waved a 5 x 10 foot flag. The mine was putting up a 7 x 12 foot flag. The 'city dads' will not be out done so they flew a 9 x 16 flag on the village hall.
- November 1917 - Joseph Hebenstreit presided over a meeting held on the twentieth to explain the importance of the YMCA and the good work they were doing to comfort and cheer our boys in the service. A petition was circulated at the end of the meeting with subscriptions totaling \$1000.00. At this meeting officers were chosen. Chairman J.A. Hebenstreit, President Joseph Healey, Sr., Treasurer D.E. Aylward and Secretary Harry Finer.
- December 1917 - They had collected almost \$1,600.00.
- January 1918 - Postmaster J. W. Donaldson was appointed local registrar for the registration of all unaturalized German's living in Livingston. By February 14, 1918, he had registered fifty-five German aliens.
- February 1918 - A group of young men organized a YMCA Club. The officers were Chairman Henry Malench, Vice President John Paperstis, Secretary Pearl Bell and Treasurer Walter Liptak. The young men intended to rent a club room and equip it as a clubroom.
- A number of local young men organized a "100 percent American Club" and changed the attitude of some people so they rapidly recovered from their Anti-Americanism. I.J. Finer went to St. Louis and purchased 2,500 buttons and on the outer circle of the wheel are the words, "American Club, Livingston, Ill". In the middle of the pin is "100 Per Cent". Every man, woman and child who would sign a loyalty pledge was given a button.
- You did not have to be a citizen to sign this pledge. To the best of our knowledge Livingston was the first town to attempt such a comprehensive undertaking and because of their success they were assured it reflected great credit on her population.
- The Eagle Theatre had slides showing about 40 men who were in service from Olive Township. The pictures were shown before each movie and John Arkabauer wanted pictures of any other boys in service.
- Sunday, September 8, 1918 - Livingston observed it's second "Motorless Sunday" with 'no' automobiles seen on the streets.
- November 19, 1918 - The campaign for the United War Fund was closed. The quota for Olive Township was \$4,000.00 and it was oversubscribed with a total of \$6,500.00 being collected.
- December 1918 - The Olive Township Christmas Fund was collected with a total of \$125.00 to be used for Christmas gifts for Olive Township boys in the training camps.
- And if you were disloyal! A man made disloyal remarks and a group of young men tarred and feathered him using feathers from a feather bed. He was employed at the mine and after drawing his time he departed form Livingston. He filed charges in Edwardsville and four Livingston men were arrested, but the case was later dismissed.
- A man went into a tavern and tore down many Liberty Loan posters and went in to a patriotic meeting and interrupted the meeting making disloyal comments. He was arrested by Livingston police and has since been imprisoned in Springfield, Illinois until the Federal Authorities take action.
- Another man was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury because he did not register for the armed services. He was arrested by U. S. Deputy Marshals and furnished bond of \$1,000. He was to appear in court at the next session.



Jonas Wajcuila

Private, U. S. Army
148th Infantry Regiment, 37th Infantry Division
Entered the service from Illinois July 1917.
Died: October 26, 1918
Buried: Plot C, row 01, Grave 10
Flander's Field American Cemetery,
Waregem, Belgium.

American Legion Post #377 received a Charter on July 17, 1924 and was named American Legion John Wajcuila Post #377 to honor Private Jonas Wajcuila, also known as John Wajcuila.

Armistice Day

November 11th is the anniversary of Armistice, which was signed in the foreign campaign by the Allies and the Germans in 1918, ending World War I after four years of conflict.

At 5:00 a.m. on Monday November 11, 1918, the Germans signed the Armistice, an order was issued for all firing to cease so the hostilities of the First World War ended. This day began the laying down of arms, blowing of whistles, impromptu closing of businesses. All over the globe there were so many demonstrations that the world had never seen such rejoicing. In November 1919 President Woodrow Wilson issued his Armistice Day proclamation.



Proclamation

To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride, the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with the gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in councils of the nation.

President Woodrow Wilson
United States of America

