

St George Historical Society Newsletter

P O Box 14, Tenants Harbor, ME 04860

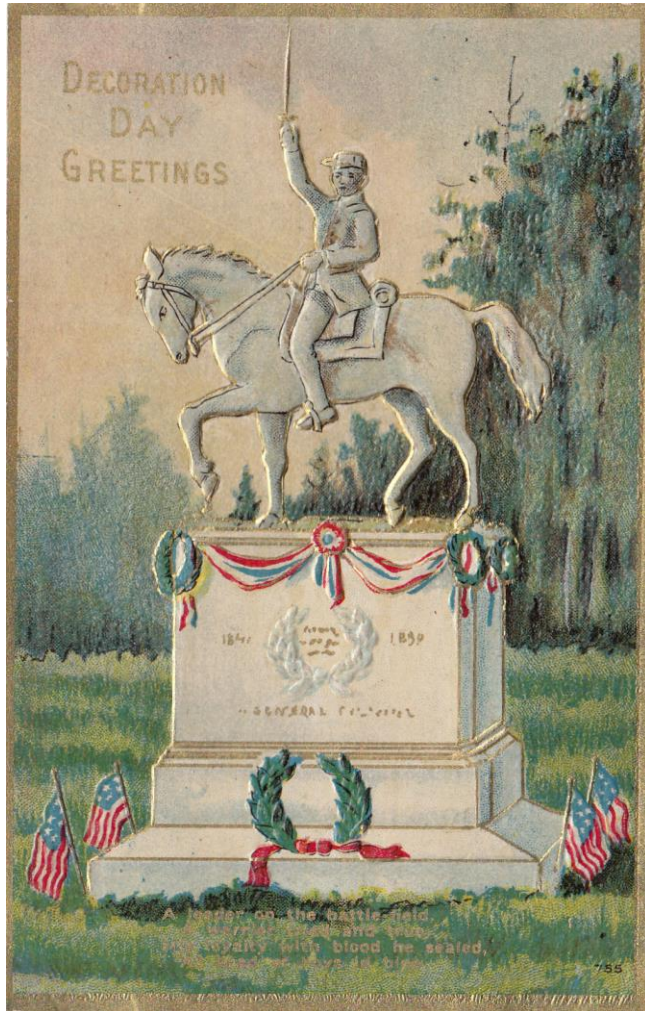
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An IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

May 2022



Decoration Day / Memorial Day

The first national celebration of Decoration Day took place May 30, 1868, at Arlington National Cemetery, where both Confederate and Union soldiers are buried. Shortly thereafter, some Americans, including officials in the U.S. Government, began to refer to it as Memorial Day. Its focus, though, still lingered on the Civil War.

Memorial Day, as we know, is far from a macabre or morbid tradition. For more than a century, the ritual of visiting cemeteries, memorials and gravesites was the real start of summer. It was an annual act of remembrance, clearing away the dirt and grime from those hallowed markers. It's a time to decorate those personal memorials.

ST GEORGE IN WORLD WAR 1

From Albert Smalley's "History of St George"

“Veterans of World War I are in the same category as those in the other wars—not recorded. The following list consists of those born and enlisted in St. George; those born in, but not enlisted in St. George; those enlisted from St. George but born elsewhere and those who came and resided in the town after the close of the war. The records of most of these men may be found in the *Roster of Maine in the World War*, published in 1929. A few St. Georgers are not listed in these records.

Those serving in the army were: Harold Barnes, Frank and Willie Barter, Edward Chaples, Chester T. Clark, Harold A. Clark, Willis F. Clark, Richard Collett, Arthur L. Cook, William Victor Dennison, Edwin R. Edwards, James P. and Lester H. Elwell, David Ervine, Arthur Gardner, James A. Gould, Herbert H. Hawkins, Eugene Holbrook, David Johnson, Melvin and Pearl W. Jones, Herbert Kelloch, Harold Kelloch, Walter Kyman, Harold Leavitt, Leon Lowell, Perley McLellan, Sanford Maker, Lawrenton Marshall (*died at Ft. Devens*), Wesley Mills, Ernest Pease, Warner B. Philbrook, Walter Rackliff, Emerson Rawley, George H. Robinson, Joseph W. Robinson, Ralph Runnels, Donald Sheerer, Gus Thompson, Maynard L. Tripp, Leland Ulmer, Harold Wall, Fred and Forest Wall, William G. Williams, Fred S. Wilson, and John L. Sawyer. Austin Kinney was killed in France, July 15, 1918. Perhaps one of the best known veterans is Ralph Cline who posed for the “Patriot” by Andrew Wyeth. Continuing with the list is, Clarence Dwyer, T. Thurley Hocking, H. Alvah Harris, Herbert H. Hawkins, Lincoln Monaghan, John S. MacKenzie, Arthur M. Rawley; Earl Snow, Austin Watts, Byron Boyles, Frank Black, Alexander Smith, Harrison Smith, Perley Trask, Burton Wallace: Axel Holgerson, Everett G. Pease, William Imlach, and Hilding Nelson. Fred Erickson, born at Long Cove, is also thought to be a veteran.

Jean G. MacKenzie, sister to John MacKenzie, served in the Army Nurse Corps.

The following St. Georgers served in the Navy: Lester Allen, Elmer Ames, Fred B. Balano, Ellis Baum, J. Maynard Brennan, Roland H. Gilcrest, Albert J. M. Grant, George D. Grierson, Almond C. Hall, John M. Higgins, Arthur Philbrook, Lawson Pinkham, Arthur Rawley, Harold Rivers, Albert Slingsby, Clarence Smalley, Carl G. Smith, Carleton F. Snow, Raymond Tolman, Claude E. Wiley, Leslie Wilson, Charles W. Snow, and Burton Wallace.

Those serving in the U.S. Coast Guard were James Kenney, Alonzo and Albion Maker, Alan and Winfield Tabbutt, Frank Mitchell, Wallace I. Brown, and Hugh Snow.”

Membership Dues

Membership dues cover the calendar year and are \$10 / individual and \$15 / household.

An application form for a new membership can be found at the end of this newsletter. Please send dues and application form (if new) to:

St George Historical Society
P O Box 14
Tenants Harbor, Maine 04860

June 2022 Events

Saturday – June 18th – 10am to 2pm – the Andrew Robinson House will host a tea party focused on quilts and aprons.

Thursday – June 30th – 7pm – Monthly program on our video and audio collection.

Every Saturday during June the Old Library Museum will be open from 10am to 2pm.

Remembering The War of 1812 From Albert Smalley's "History of St George"

The *Massachusetts Records of Volunteer Militia of 1812*, page 206, gives the following list of St. Georges. Unfortunately, this does not include those who served in the Naval Forces:

Thomas Kinney, Captain.

John Watts, Lt.

William Watts, Ens.

John Robinson, Sgt.; James Linnekin, Sgt.

John Montgomery, Sgt.; John Leeds, Sgt.

William Kelloch, Corp.; Soloman Norwood, Corp.

Luther Bryant, Corp.: David Wall, Corp.

Privates were; John Allen, Benjamin Bickmore, John Chaples, John and William Clark, Francis, Jeremiah, and Richard Foster, Dennis Fogerty, Thomas Colley, Barnabas Fountain, Alexander, Robert, and Samuel Gilchrest, Archibald, Isaac, and Peter Hall, Henry Handley, James Harris, Ephraim, Samuel and William Hart, Charles Haskell, Robert Hawes, Joseph Henderson, Robert Hawes, Joseph Henderson, William Hupper, Samuel and William Jones, Haunce and John Kelloch, John Kelloch, Jr., Ephraim Kiff, Benjamin Linnekin, Michael Long, John Marshall, Thomas Martin, Daniel Matthews, Robert Murphy, James Mills, Isaac and Jacob Norwood, Richard Rivers, Andrew and Ephraim Robinson, Daniel and Nathaniel Seavey, Archelaus and Isaac Smalley, Caleb Stover, James Sweetland, Ephraim Wall, George and Moses Watts, David Wheeler, Adam Wiley and William Wilson, and David Kelloch.

The only record found of sailors in this war is in the early family records where Joseph Long, Arch and Urquhart Fogerty are listed as dying in Dartmoor Prison. How many others lost their lives in their country's service may never be known. A thorough search has failed to uncover the identity of the *Horatio*, the vessel they were supposed to have been on when captured.

The most substantial relic of the War of 1812 left in St. George is the old fort at Wiley's Corner, which is now a State park. It was built in 1809 by Thomas Vose of Thomaston. It consisted of a rampart in the form of a crescent, facing the river. Supposedly it was equipped with three 18-pound cannon. There were barracks and a small blockhouse and powder magazine built of brick.

The old fort had only one engagement. In 1814 *H.M.S. Bulwark*, a ship of 74 guns sailed up the river. At the fort they were opposed by only one man, Ephraim Wiley, veteran of Valley Forge and many battle engagements during his long service in the Continental Army. Eph was sorely outnumbered by his Majesty's forces, so for the first time in his life he surrendered. The foe spiked his guns and departed.



Spanish-American War 1898 – “Remember the MAINE”

From Albert Smalley’s “History of St George”

During the war with Spain, the life-saving service was found to be a ready-made signal service, applicable to the needs of the navy, therefore was brought under the Coast Signal Service, Department of the Navy. The light-house keepers and assistants also came under this department, bringing men in these two services into the Spanish-American War veteran category.

The Spanish-American war had little impact on St. Georges other than the excitement over the outcome. Frank H. Brown and Alex Humphrey were two of the townsmen who enlisted and survived. Eugene Bond enlisted and was assigned to Co. F., 2d Artillery and died in Cuba. John Taylor served on the *U.S.S. Lancaster*. There may have been others.



St George Historical Society, Inc.

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stgeorgemainehistory@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership runs for a calendar year – Jan 1st to Dec 31st

Name _____

Address _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email address _____ Phone (optional) _____

Type of Membership: Individual / \$10 _____ Household / \$15 _____

Areas of interest _____