



MHS Newsletter

The Marlow Historical Society's mission is to preserve and illuminate Marlow's history

Winter 2019

The Marlow Doughboys - A Centennial Tribute by Tracy W. Messer

The first World War - the war to end all wars - ended on Armistice Day 1918, "the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" when a ceasefire with Germany came into effect. Altogether, 4,734,991 United States service members responded to Uncle Sam's call, "I WANT YOU." Eight of them came from Marlow, NH, whose total population at the time was not much more than 400. Their names are inscribed on the base of the veterans' memorial upon which the sculpture of an American doughboy stands guard. Each name has its own story ...



DALTON FRANKLIN AYER
(1893-1983)



ROSS ALVIN AYER
(1895-1983)



ROBERT CARPENTER
(1894-1972)



CARL LEON ELLIOTT
(1894-1977)



CHARLES EDWARD MURDOUGH
(1895-1972)



JAMES FISKE PERKINS
(1896-1960)



MARSHALL CLEMENT PERKINS
(1894-1962)



GEORGE NEILEY WRIGHT
(1891-1942)

If you can help us find the two missing photos, please contact the Marlow Historical Society.

DALTON FRANKLIN AYER was born in North Reading, MA, on September 24, 1893, son of John A. and Lilla A. (Moulton) Ayer, and grew up in Marlow. He was a U.S. Army veteran, enlisting in 1916 and received the Croix de Guerre and a U.S. citation for exceptional gallantry. As reported in his obituary published in *The Keene Sentinel*, "A former employee at the Estey Organ plant in Brattleboro, Vt., Mr. Ayer also worked as a farmer in Alstead and as a carpenter in Keene. He spent 28 years as a maintenance worker at Camp Takodah in Richmond, where campers and staff members knew him as "Pops" Ayer. Mr. Ayer was a master of the Marlow Grange and later was a member of the American Legion's Gordon-Bissell Post No. 4 in Keene and a member of 40 and 8." On April 10, 1920, Mr. Ayer married Pauline Helen Harper who died on February 28, 1932. He was a resident of Walpole, NH and died at the Westwood Healthcare Center, Keene, in January 1983 at the age of 89. He was survived by one son, Paul D. Ayer of Sherman, Texas; two daughters, Marilyn Beverly Burbank of Walpole and Verna Elwell Holt of Keene; one brother, Ross A. Ayer of Annandale, VA; eight grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren and three nephews. The funeral service took place at the Fletcher Funeral Home in Keene. He was buried in the Marlow Village Cemetery later that spring.

ROSS ALVIN AYER was born in Ashland, MA, June 20, 1895, son of John A. and Lilla A. (Moulton) Ayer, and grew up in Marlow. He was a U.S. Army veteran, having served from July 25, 1917 to March 18, 1919. Mr. Ayer was a resident of Alstead Center, NH at the time of his death on July 20, 1983 in Hartford, CT. A graveside service was conducted at the family lot in the Marlow Village Cemetery by Rev. James Link of Cornish, NH. Prayers also were offered by Stephen O. Sargent representing the NH Grand Chaplain of Odd Fellows. A delegation was present from the Britton-Porter American Legion Post No. 57 in Alstead and the American flag was presented to Mr. Ayer's daughter, Mrs. Patricia

ROBERT CARPENTER was born in Surry, NH on October 5, 1894, the son of Merrill D. and Bertha A. (Wilbur) Carpenter. He served as a Private First Class, 74th Infantry, from June 28, 1918 to January 22, 1919. In addition to being a member of Gordon-Bissell Post No. 4, Mr. Carpenter belonged to the American Legion and Cheshire Barracks 89. He died at the age of 77 in the Monadnock Nursing Home on March 16, 1972 and had been a resident of Keene for many years. Survivors included his wife, Mabel (Perry) Carpenter of 41 Tanglewood Estates in Keene; one son, Robert D. Carpenter of Keene; two daughters, Mrs. Grace A. Bergeron of Surry and Mrs. Margaret A. Bergeron of Keene; one brother, Earl R. Carpenter of Wollaston, MA; one sister, Mrs. Rena Dana of Millbury, MA; nine grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held at the Fletcher Funeral Home followed by burial in Woodland Cemetery, Keene.

CARL LEON ELLIOTT was born in Marlow, NH on December 21, 1894, the son of Charles and Flora (Farley) Elliott and had been a lifelong resident of the town. He served during World War I from September 4, 1918 to June 12, 1919. Mr. Elliott had been employed by Andorra Forest for many years and was an honorary member of the Marlow Fire Department. He died at the Cheshire Hospital in Keene on September 22, 1977 at the age of 82 after a period of failing health. Survivors included his wife, Ellen (Hunter) Elliott of Cross Street, Marlow; one daughter, Mrs. Alice Ball of Surry; three grandchildren; six nephews; one niece; and cousins. Services were conducted by Rev. C. Edward Claus, pastor of the Marlow United Methodist Church followed by burial in the Marlow Village Cemetery.

CHARLES EDWARD MURDOUGH was born in Lempster, NH on September 24, 1895, the son of Edgar and Josephine (Pollard) Murdough. For many years he was a resident of Marlow prior to moving to Keene in 1942. He died at the Elliott Community Hospital in Keene on January 14, 1972 at the age of 76. Besides his widow, Lizzie (Hutchins) Murdough of 26 Court Street, he was survived by two sons, Charles E. Murdough, Jr. of Sydney, Australia, and Raymond Murdough of Keene; seven grandchildren; one brother, Frank Murdough of Newburyport, MA; and several nieces and nephews. His funeral took place the following Monday at the Fletcher Funeral Home.

JAMES FISKE PERKINS was born February 1, 1896 in Marlow, NH, the son of James M. and Gertrude (Friend) Perkins. He served overseas as a Wagoner with Battery B, 66th U.S. Army Coast Artillery Corps and was a member of the American Legion Post in Alstead. After attending public school in Marlow and high school in Springfield, VT, he continued his education at the University of New Hampshire. He served as postmaster in Marlow for 32 years starting in August of 1928. Mr. Perkins was actively involved in his community having been elected as a selectman and representative to the Legislature. He was a former member of Marlow Odd Fellows Forest Lodge No. 69, a past master of the Masonic Lodge in Alstead, and a member of the Eastern Star Chapter in that town. He died at his home in Marlow on September 7, 1960 at the age of 64. Though he had been in poor health for nearly two years, his condition was improving and he was at the post office the previous day. Besides his wife, Harriet (Spalding) Perkins of Marlow, he was survived by a niece and nephew, and several cousins. The Rev. Burton G. Robbins of the Marlow Methodist Church conducted the funeral which was followed by a graveside Masonic service in the Marlow Cemetery.

MARSHALL CLEMENT PERKINS, son of Waldo H. and Marian G. (Russell) Perkins, was born in Marlow, NH on May 13, 1894. He served in World War I from May 7, 1917 to December 30, 1918 and was a Sergeant, Battery B, 73rd U.S. Army Coast Artillery Corps. Mr. Perkins was actively involved in a number of veterans and fraternal organizations including the Old Newport Drum Corps World War I Barracks, Brewster-Gould Post No. 25, American Legion, and the Sugar River Lodge of Odd Fellows. He attended Marlow grade schools and later Towle High School in Newport, NH where he served as a police officer for 26 years prior to retiring in 1957. Mr. Perkins, 68, died on October 6, 1962 at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Norman Hauck of North Bennington, VT after a long illness. Besides his daughter, he was survived by his wife, Mrs. Justa M. (Cray) Perkins; his mother, Mrs. Marion Perkins of White River Junction, VT; a brother, Russell Perkins of White River Junction, and several cousins. Services were conducted at the Newton-Bartlett Funeral Home, Newport, by Rev. S.N. McCain, rector of the Church of the Epiphany. Burial took place in Pine Grove Cemetery, Newport.

GEORGE NEILEY WRIGHT was born in Marlow on December 7, 1891, son of Amory P. and Jennie F. (Neiley) Wright. Mr. Wright enlisted on June 1, 1917, and served as first class private with Battery A, 65th coast Artillery corps, 2nd company, first battalion, 157th Depot Brigade. He was a member of the Gordon-Bissell Post No. 4, American Legion; a former member of Marlow's Odd Fellows Lodge No. 69; and belonged to the Masonic lodge in Alstead. He was educated in Marlow. Upon coming to Keene, he first worked for the Nims Plumbing Company and for Glenroy W. Scott. Later, he entered the employ of Wright Brothers on Roxbury Street. Mr. Wright died in Keene on May 7, 1942. He was a long-time soloist at the First Congregational church and well-known singer in male quartets and other musical organizations in Keene, including two years with the Handel and Haydn Society in Boston. As reported in The Keene Sentinel, he and his wife were two of Keene's outstanding musical personages. "George had an unusually fine voice and was ready to use it on any occasion. Both he and his wife trained under Mrs. Marian Kenefick in Boston. He formerly was soloist and member of the choirs of Grace Methodist and Court Street Congregational churches before taking up his First church position." His funeral was held in the First Congregational church, Keene, followed by burial in the family lot, Marlow Village Cemetery. Mr. Wright was survived by his widow, Mrs. Mildred (Buswell) Wright, formerly of Greenfield and Boston, whom he married on Aug. 30, 1927; three sisters, Mrs. Howard H. Gorges and Mrs. Elmer E. Beard, both of Keene, and Mrs. Joseph L. Eriksen of Greenfield; and two brothers, Walter A. and Charles S. Wright; as well as several nephews, nieces and cousins. According to his obituary, "Mr. Wright is nephew of the late Charles F. Neiley, a former vice president and director of the American Tobacco Company, and George was among those who recently received word that they would share in an estate considered to be a fortune."

- SOURCES:
- Ayer, Dalton Franklin. The Keene Sentinel, Monday, January 24, 1983, page 2.
 - Ayer, Ross Alvin. The Keene Sentinel, Monday, July 25, 1983, page 2.
 - Carpenter, Robert. The Keene Sentinel, Friday, March 17, 1972, page 2.
 - Elliott, Carl Leon. The Keene Sentinel, Tuesday September 22, 1977, page 2.
 - Murdough, Charles Edward. The Keene Sentinel, Saturday, January 15, 1972, page 3.
 - Perkins, James Fiske. The Keene Sentinel, Wednesday, September 7, 1960, page 2.
 - Perkins, Marshall Clement. The Keene Sentinel, Monday, October 8, 1962, page 2.
 - Wright, George Neiley. Unidentified obituary - probably The Keene Sentinel, May 8, 1942, page 2.
 - Wright, George Neiley. Unidentified notice - probably The Keene Sentinel, May 10, 1942, page 2.

A Victory Liberty Loan coin, pitted with rust, was found in the backyard of #5 Lower Main Street by Al and Mary Blank, and is now in our museum. Liberty loans or bonds were sold by the Federal Government during WWI (the "Great War", or "War to End All Wars") to raise money to advance the Allied cause. An advertisement read: "The money to be raised by the Victory Liberty loan already has been spent. It furnished the "punch" that won the war and saved the lives of 100,000 of America's bravest boys. It is this unshed blood you are paying for when you subscribe to the Victory Liberty loan."

The "medals" - made from melted German cannons captured by American troops - were distributed "for patriotic duty" to all who worked on the Liberty Loan committees throughout the U.S. On one side is a reproduction of the U.S. Treasury Building with the words "Victory Liberty Loan." On the other side is a certification of participation in the Victory Liberty Loan project, with a space for engraving the name of the recipient.

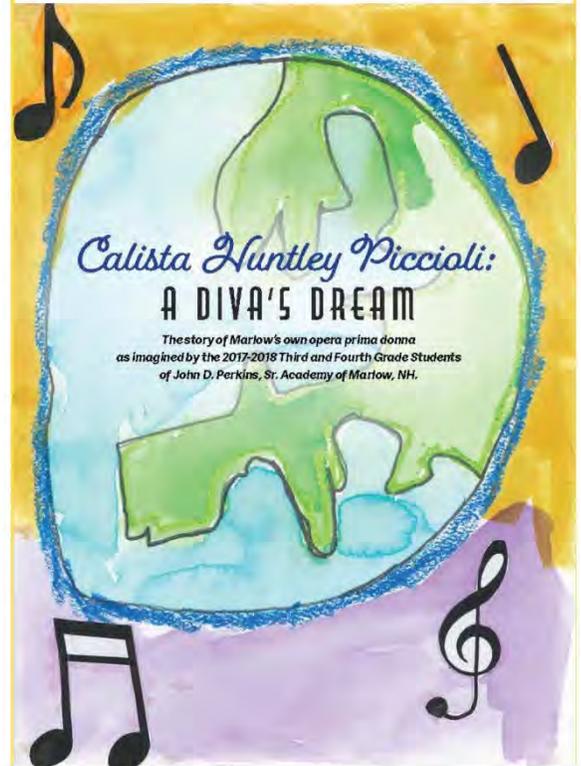


Fall Monadnock Historical Societies Forum in Murray Hall



On October 11, 2018 the Marlow Historical Society proudly hosted the roundtable discussion of the Monadnock Historical Societies Forum. The attendees were given a tour of the newly renovated Murray Hall museum, and visited Jones Hall, which received an LCHIP grant for its own restoration work.

A Diva's Dream



Once again Marlow's budding historians have made us proud. Under the direction of their teacher Mrs. Leah Giles, and inspired by local historian Tracy Messer, third and fourth grade students at the John D. Perkins, Sr. Academy have written and illustrated a picture book about renowned opera singer Maria Calista Huntley Piccioli. The students received an award from the Association of Historical Societies of New Hampshire at the group's annual meeting held in Grafton on Saturday October 27. Our Historical Society was co-winner of the award.

Born in Marlow in 1841, Maria Calista overcame many obstacles to become one of the world's most famous prima donnas of the 19th century. You can read all about her in our Winter 2016 newsletter. The students are now working on having a historical marker installed to commemorate her birthplace.

The books are \$15.00 and can be purchased by contacting Mrs. Giles at lgiles@sau29.org. You can also purchase a copy of **Four Days of Fury** and the **Calista Huntley** book for only \$20.00. *Four Days of Fury* was written and illustrated by Mrs. Giles' 3rd and 4th grade students in 2016 to commemorate the Marlow Forest Fire of 1941. All funds raised will support more student local history projects.

The Tinker Family

Many a family tree that has its roots in Marlow's nourishing soil, grows strong branches that extend long and far into the world. Such is the history of the Tinker family tree.

Elijah Tinker (1785-1862), was one of Marlow's first settlers who came, like all the others, from Connecticut. He was a farmer, and married Elizabeth Comstock (1785-1868). Their eldest son **Lauren Tinker** (1809-1895) was born in Marlow, and also farmed the land. He married Hannah Chase Glidden (1812-1871). Lauren served as Selectman for several terms and was an active member of the Christian church.

Today we are more familiar with the names of Lauren's youngest sons: twins

Lucius Duett and Lucian Duane Tinker. Lucius (1847-1931) married Etta A. Keyes (1852-1927). They lived in Nashua, but spent summers in their house on Washington Pond Road - now, Art and Pat Anderson's home. Lucius was a teamster and at one time drove the Marlow stagecoach.

Lucian (1847-1928) was also a teamster and farmer before purchasing the drugstore that belonged to E.N. Howe and turning it into a prosperous business. The Tinker Store burned in the Marlow fire of 1916. Lucian was postmaster, selectman, occupied high office in the Odd Fellows, and belonged to the Patrons of Husbandry (the Grange). He and his wife Addie Greenwood Brown (1857-1940) lived in the house that stands on the corner of Mill and Main Streets (now owned by Art Murdough) from 1909 to 1941. Longtime residents still refer to it as the "Tinker House".

Lucius and Lucian had an older brother - **Alvah Glidden Tinker** (1838-1910) - who married Ellen Augusta Dunklee (1846-1911). Alva lost an arm while serving in the Civil War. The 1870 census lists him as a *tin peddler*; the 1880 census as *huckster* (a person who sells small items door to door). Of their three sons, **George Milan Tinker** (1867-1962) and **Charles Lauren Tinker** (1870-1956) were born in Nashua, and relocated to Waltham MA. There they worked as machinists and built the first automobile ever seen in Marlow when they drove to visit their Uncle Lucian on July 7, 1900.

We now come to the son of George Milan and his wife Mary Jane Tuttle (1870-1939), **Harold Lauren Tinker**, who wrote the eloquent poem featured in this article. Harold L. Tinker (1867-1966), a native of Waltham, became a distinguished English professor at The Choate School, the prestigious preparatory school for boys in Wallingford, CT. He was a collector of rare first editions, an accomplished tenor, and an advisor to a future President of the United States, John Fitzgerald Kennedy!

Harold L. Tinker wrote this poem to honor his grand uncle Lucian Tinker at the time of his death.

*Now sinks in peace to earth, the loving heart,
Folded the tired hands, their labor done;
Closed the kindly eyes, whose glance could dart
Laughter and joy, to soul of every one;
Stilled is the voice, whose sympathetic word
Made loving friends of men where'er he went;
Stopped for eternity the ears that heard
The woes of men. The gold of life is spent.
Weep not his going, widow, brother, friend,
As sinks to earth this soul. The setting sun slants
its glad ray to celebrate the end, of life well lived,
of love's great victory won.
The lingering bee deserts the falling flower
Rich with the sweet he culled, this parting hour.*



E.N. Howe Drugstore, which later became the Tinker Store, owned by Lucian Tinker. It burned in the fire of 1916.

Route 10: A Scenic Byway

Before Interstate 91 was built in the 1950s, Route 10 was the main route north to the White Mountains and on to the province of Quebec. In New Hampshire it was called the Dartmouth College Highway. Before the 1948 bypass, it went right through Marlow village, connected to Main Street by the Farley Bridge.

To accommodate travelers, there were inns, cabins, restaurants, gift shops, etc. all along the road. In Marlow, for example, we had the **Morrell Cabins**, situated on the site of the now closed Marlow Store. Owners George Stanley Morrell and his wife Mary Etta originally came from Nova Scotia. They lived in Stoneham, MA before acquiring the Marlow property from J & C Livingston. They built cabins and a restaurant, and ran the business until 1957. Their son, Gerald Victor Morrell, ran the service station. Four of the cabins still exist. One, of course, is the Marlow store; another one is standing on the property owned by Jeffrey Younie, behind the store - probably its original location; two more were moved to Fox Hill Road and joined to create one house, now painted red. A fortuitous discovery in our files - an envelope with old negatives from the late 1930s - has yielded photos of the cabins which we had never seen before.



Farley Bridge - connected Route 10 with Marlow's Lower Main Street



View of Morrell's Cabins



One of the Morrell's Cabins as it looks today

The **Christmas Trees Inn** was originally the home of the Farley family, and headquarters for their ink and extract company in the 1800s. It was later purchased by James P. Burnap, a wealthy and prominent Marlow citizen. In 1954 actress Virginia Sale and her husband Sam Wren were on their way to Hanover where their son attended Dartmouth College, when they saw a FOR SALE sign in front of the mansion. They took the sign quite literally, purchased the property, and turned it into an inn. ***

In 1923, the legendary musical theater actress May Yohe (who once owned the Hope diamond), and her husband John Smuts opened an inn in Marlow called "**The Blue Diamond**" catering to tourists visiting the White Mountains. The book "*Madcap May: Mistress of Myth, Men & Hope*" (available at our library) reads: "The place included a modest home for the couple and an inn on 600 acres of farmland wooded with sugar maples. Smuts did the cooking, offering South African dishes.... May was the hostess and manager. But, as if to prove the bad luck of the Hope diamond after which it was named, the inn burned down the following November. Arson was suspected; the fire was thought to have been set to cover up a burglary." ****

George Gee, the last of his family to own the Gee Mill, which was located at the intersection of Route 10 and Sand Pond Rd., sold it to a Massachusetts firm in 1910. He and his wife Edith moved to the village and opened the **Tourist Lodge**, now the home of Art and Mary Andraesen. *****

The property at 828 NH Rt. 10, directly in front of the state barn, was once a **Tea Room and Gift Shop**. As you can see in the photo below, the road ran closer to the house than it does today. Another establishment known as "**Long's Tearoom**" stood on the present-day site of the Perkins Academy. It burned in the 1941 forest fire.



Marlow Tea Room

*** See article "*Memories of the Christmas Trees Inn*, in our Winter 2016 newsletter.

**** See article "*Madcap May Yohe, the Hope Diamond and Marlow*" in our Spring/Summer 2015 newsletter.

***** See article "*The Gees Come to Town*" in our Fall 2016 newsletter.



**Marlow Historical Society
Founded in 1976**

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Treasurer - Pat Strickland**

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marlow-historical-society.php*

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**TO ALL OUR MEMBERS: WE THANK YOU
FOR YOUR LOYAL SUPPORT, AND WISH
YOU**

**A HOLIDAY SEASON FILLED WITH LOVE,
PEACE AND JOY.**

Maria, Barry, Patty, Pat, Rhonda, Joanne and Ed



Looking forward to 2019...

Winter has hardly started, but we already have plans for next year. We would like to do an exhibit showcasing our three historic quilts which are kept carefully stored in archival boxes: an 1875 Bride's Quilt, a 1976 Bicentennial Quilt, and a 1991 Autograph Quilt. We will ask members whether they own historic family quilts that they would like to display as well. We are also exploring the possibility of hosting a Humanities Council presentation on this very popular subject.



"Tree of Life" made by the Marlow Quilters in 2013.