



Willow House Times



Issue 30

Cuyahoga Heights Historical Committee

March 2015



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Cuyahoga Heights Historical Archives

Kennedy House

4651 E 71st Street

Home of

Historical Committee

&

Boy Scouts



Village Soldiers -WW I



Iacopo Attilio Angiocchi

Our Village Soldiers

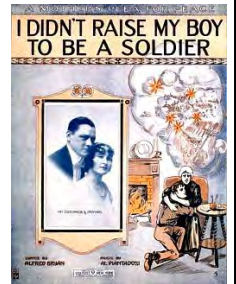
This month's WW I soldier is Iacopo Attilio Angiocchi.

Music has been part of the military since 3,000BC when musicians led armies off to war with drums & horns. Music during World War I was often used to inspire passion, voluntary compliance & occasionally, shame in those who didn't support the war. Much of the music distributed during World War I greatly influenced social and political attitudes, thereby serving as an effective propaganda tool for private citizens and governments. Upon declaring on April 16, 1917 that the American troops were joining in the war, President Wilson faced the task of swaying public opinion in favor of the conscription and mobilization of troops. Anti-war sentiment was still strong among the American citizens. The day after Wilson's declaration of war against Germany, George M. Cohan composed ***Over There***, a march containing lyrics that stressed patriotism and a sense of national identity. It was one of the most successful American pro-war propaganda songs, enthusiastically inspiring the American spirit of confidence about the ability of our troops to end the war and return home safely. Since it was a march, it was easily sung and enjoyed, and proved to be an effective propaganda tool at the onset of the war for recruiting and homeland support. It was publicly advertised that the royalties from this



song were donated to war charities, so this music was of even more value as a pro-war tool. Being an all-American venture, one sheet music cover (one of several) was drawn by famous American artist, Norman Rockwell. When General Pershing became commander of the AEF he discovered our military bands were inferior to the French & English bands. Since General Pershing believed bands were essential to troop morale, he implemented a four-point program to improve the Army's band program: (1) he ask Congress to increase the number of bands. Congress responded by authorizing 20 additional bands. (2) acting on his own authority, he increased regimental band strengths from 28 to 48 pieces. (3) he established a band school in France. Its curriculum included an eight-week course for bandmasters and a twelve-week course for bandmen. (4) Pershing commissioned all bandleaders as First and Second Lieutenants and sought to grant them an

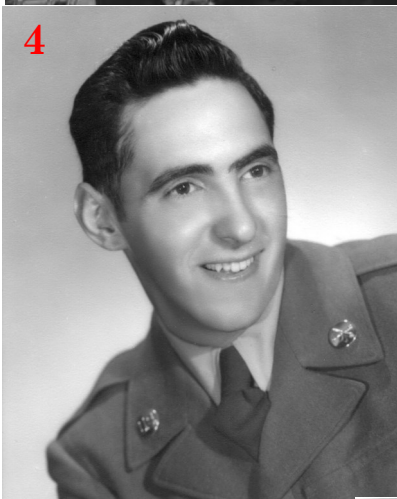
authority equal to their responsibilities. In response to the Navy's need for musical assistance, John Philip Sousa traveled to the Great Lakes Naval Station to meet with Captain William Moffett, the base commandant, who offered Sousa a commission as lieutenant in the Navy Reserve, serving as the Great Lakes Naval Station Director of Music. The Navy commission greatly pleased Sousa, as he regretted not having received a Marine Corps officer's commission in the years he had served as the Marine Corps bandmaster. The military bands played for troops, in war torn towns, for war bond drives, military ceremonies & Red Cross events. Between mid-1914 and mid-1919, 35,600 American patriotic songs were copyrighted, and 7,300 were published, all available to stir the citizens' response to the war and the country.



Iacopo Attilio Angiocchi was born in Dalli Sotto, Sillano, de Lucca, Tuscany, Italy on March 15, 1895 to Domenico & Giulia Adorni Angiocchi. He was always called "Peting" or Little Pete. In his youth he worked at harvesting chestnuts, fished the nearby streams & hunted. September 20, 1912 he arrived at Port of New York's Ellis Island on the steam ship Koenig Albert. Iacopo & three of his brothers Federico, Sisto & Guiseppe worked in the brickyard where the trucking terminal is today. You can still see some of the old brick wall from the brick company in the side of the hill on Warner Road. He traveled back & forth with his double barreled shotgun to Italy for the winter when the bricks could not be made & came back in the summer. Guiseppe was the only brother that stayed in America with Iacopo. One day the Army recruiters came to the Italian area where Iacopo was living. They ask if he liked America & if he would fight for it. He said yes to both questions & enlisted July 21, 1918. Iacopo was in the 158th Depot Brigade. He went to Camp Sherman for training & was placed in an Army Band, that traveled around the Virginia/ North Carolina area, where he played the tuba. On November 15, 1918 he was honorably discharged by the Adjutant General & the Expiration of Term of Service Office for completing his term of service [4 months]. By enlisting he automatically became a naturalized U. S. citizen after the war on October 15, 1920. He then went back to Italy to find a wife. Iacopo married Marianna Fontana on April 8, 1923 & left Italy May 26, 1923 for America. They had five children Julia, Lidia, Lidio, Robert & Rena. Lidia died when she was three & Rena lived less than two months. By 1924 when their first child Julia was born they lived in the Bletch horse barn. The Ezzo house on Bletch Court is where the barn stood. The barn/house was moved twice & is now at 7142 Bletch Court. Iacopo worked in a brick yard, a steel mill, a millwright, worked at Ferro Enamel & the Regional Sewer Plant. He was a member of the Toscana Club, a fraternal organization for men from the Province of Tuscany in Italy that lived in Cuyahoga Heights. Iacopo died May 17, 1977 & Marianna on September 20, 1966. They are both buried in Calvary Cemetery in Cleveland, Ohio. Iacopo & Marianna's two sons & son-in-law served in the Army during WW II, Korean Conflict & during peace time.

Iacopo & Marianna's son-in-law, Julia's husband, Robert Hine was in WW II from February 18, 1943 through January 1, 1946. He was in the 83rd Thunderbolt Infantry Division & received five medals, Good Conduct Medal, Army of Occupation Service Medal, American Theater Service Medal, EAME Theater Service Medal w/ four bronze stars & the World War II Victory Medal. After serving in the Army he became a village policeman. Their son Lidio was in the service from October 1951 through September 1953 & was stationed in Japan during the Korean Conflict. Son Robert served from March 1954 through March 1956 & was stationed in Germany.

Source: Laura & Mark Hine;
www.palorsongs.com (Music as War Propaganda);
www.WWIinstitute.org (Pershing & Sousa);
www.fas.org (History of U.S. Army Bands)



- 1 Julia, Iacopo, Lidio & Marianna Angiocchi
- 2 Lidio, Robert & Julia
- 3 Iacopo & Marianna
- 4 Lidio M. Angiocchi
- 5 Robert T. Angiocchi
- 6 Robert A. Hine
- 7 Iacopo & Marianna in front of their home at 7142 Bletch Court. This was the horse barn moved from the Bletch property on 71st Street.
- 8 The Bletch house & barn at 4935 E 71st. The barn on the right side of the picture is the home in picture # 7.



Cuyahoga Heights Historical Committee

Barb Bartczak

Mark Chase

Laura Hine

Irma Schab

Sandy Waldemarson

*

2015 Meetings

10 AM - Noon

April 4th

May 2nd

May Memorial Day

Open House 9 AM –1PM

August 1st

October 3rd

at

Kennedy House

4561 E. 71st Street

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Willow Times News

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Website

sites.google.com/site/cuyahogahtshistorical

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www.facebook.com/groups/132447953512779/

Do You Know?



Does anyone know anyone in this picture?

We think the boys in this picture are from Independence High School & came to classes in the foundry as part of their Industrial Arts Class. Press Newspaper -Date March 9, 1965.

Committee news

The 1st meeting for 2015 will be April 4th from 10 AM till 12 noon.

Our meeting dates for this year are listed to the left. Everyone is welcome to attend the meetings, or look at the displays.

Memorial Day Open House will be from 9 AM to 1 PM.

You can also schedule a time to visit by contacting any committee member or calling the village hall.

We will e-mail or call you to set up a time.