

**Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte
Community Services — Research Department
March, 2016**

**Our March 1916
WW1 Volunteers**

**Anthony Maracle, Matthew Corby, Wheeler Maracle,
James Bardy, Andrew Loft, Isaac Barnhardt,
Isaac Maracle, Charles Arthur Brant, Wilbert Brant,
George Leo Smart**

Local history information also appears on the MBQ Website, under
Research, and on the Kanhiote Library Website.

Kanhiote Library: 613.967.6264
MBQ Research: 613.396.3424

WW1: Honouring Those Who Volunteered in March, 1916

In March, 1916, ten community members volunteered to serve: Anthony Maracle, Matthew Corby, Wheeler Maracle, James Bardy, Andrew Loft, Isaac Barnhardt (who served as Isaac McDonald), Isaac Maracle, Charles Arthur Brant, Wilbert Brant and George Leo Smart.

Andrew Loft's attestation was certified in April and not approved until May 1916. We will profile him in the May newsletter.

Herbert Robert Sager, who volunteered in February, will be acknowledged here as he was not accepted until March. His military personnel file has not been digitized yet. Once it is, we will profile him again with more details.

Wheeler Maracle, Isaac Maracle and Charles Arthur Brant were profiled in the article entitled "*WW1 Vets of MBQ: Those That Didn't Come Home*" from November, 2013. James Bardy was profiled in the article entitled "*Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte & World War One: Those who survived but whose deaths were related to their service*" from August, 2014.

ANTHONY MARACLE **Regimental Number: 928669**

Anthony was the son of Moses & Jenny (Williams) Maracle. According to his baptismal record, he was born in October, 1883, but his date of birth on his attestation paper was the 15th of January, 1886.

Anthony signed up on the 1st of March, 1916, in Mount Forest, Ontario, for the 153rd Battalion.

We learn from his military personnel file that before the war he was a farmer. He had no previous military experience.

On the 16th of May, 1916, in Guelph, Ontario, Anthony was discharged from the military for being “medically unfit” for service. His conduct and character while in the service was described as “Good”.

Anthony died on the 28th of April, 1919, from tuberculosis [*AO Death Registration*]. He was buried on the 29th of April, 1919 [*Tyendinaga Parish Church Record*].

Most of this information comes from his military personnel file [*LAC RG 150, Accession 1992-93/166, Box 5910 – 2*]. This file has been digitized and can be found at <http://bac-lac.gc.ca>. Other information has been taken from MBQ Records.

MATTHEW CORBY

Regimental Number: 220497

Matthew was the son of Adam & Ellen (Brant) Corby. He was born on the 3rd of August, 1899, according to his baptismal record. On his attestation paper, he stated that he was born on the 4th of August, 1897.

Matthew signed up on the 6th of March, 1916, in Northport, Ontario, for the 80th Overseas Battalion.

We learn from his military personnel file that before the war he was a farmer. He had no previous military experience.

Matthew was reported absent without leave on the 14th of March, 1916, in Belleville. He was reported as a “Deserter” on the 10th of April, 1916.

Matthew did return to his family. He is on the 1921 census with his mother, Ellen, and his siblings.

We do not know what happened to Matthew after that.

Most of this information comes from his military personnel file [LAC RG 150, Accession 1992-93/166, Box 1996 – 6]. This file has been digitized and can be found at <http://bac-lac.gc.ca>. Other information has been taken from MBQ Records.

**ISAAC BARNHARDT (served as Isaac McDonald)
Regimental Number: 754640**

Isaac was the son of Annie (Doreen) Barnhart. We do not know for certain who his father was. His mother was married to Joseph Barnhart and she was the daughter of Peter Doreen (aka Peter McDonald) and Margaret Brant. This might explain why he used the surname McDonald.

According to the 1901 census and his attestation paper, Isaac was born on the 5th of March, 1888.

He signed up on the 18th of March, 1916, in Webbwood, Ontario, for the 119th Overseas Battalion.

We learn from his military personnel file that before the war he was a labourer. He had no prior military experience.

Isaac left Canada on the 8th of August, 1916, and arrived in England on the 19th of August, 1916. He was transferred to the 52nd Battalion, Manitoba Regiment, and landed in France on the 29th of November, 1916.

Isaac suffered from I.C.T. (Inflammation of Connective Tissue) in his right foot at the end of January, 1917. He was discharged from the hospital and returned to his unit in February, 1917. In March, Isaac suffered from a corneal ulcer in the right eye which left a scar and suffered also from “conduction deafness”. The injury to his eye could have been an aggravation of a childhood injury to the eye which affected his vision before the war.

He suffered a shrapnel wound to the right shoulder in November of 1917. He was transferred to the Canadian Corps Reinforcement Camp and recovered without disability.

Isaac rejoined his unit in the 52nd Battalion in January, 1918. He was appointed Lance Corporal in the field in August and was further promoted to Corporal in September, 1918.

Isaac left France on the 11th of February, 1919. In March, he was awarded the Military Medal.

On the 15th of March, 1919, it was reported that Isaac had a hearing disability. The medical reports state that his hearing had been “OK until March 1917 at Vimy Ridge – shell explosion near him – some deafness in right ear followed-“. The medical report states that the disability was permanent. The deafness was “due to damage to conduction apparatus” but that his former occupation could be resumed.

Isaac left for Canada on the 21st of March, 1919, and was discharged on the 30th of March, 1919, in Toronto.

On the 29th of October 1919, Isaac Barnhart married Charlotte Hill [*AO Marriage Registration*]. They can be found together on the 1921 census in Deseronto. However, when Charlotte died in 1935, she was buried under her maiden name. We do not know what happened to Isaac after 1921.

Most of the information here is from his military personnel File [*LAC RG 150, Accession 1992-93/166, Box 6730 – 40*]. This file has not been digitized yet, but we do have a hard copy and it is available for viewing at Kanhiote Library. Other information has been taken from MBQ Records.

WILBERT BRANT

Regimental Number: 636958

Wilbert was the son of Frank & Mary (Moses) Brant. According to his baptismal record, he was born on the 26th of November, 1899. But on his attestation paper Wilbert stated his date of birth was the 26th of November, 1897.

He signed up on the 27th of March, 1916, in Deseronto, Ontario, for the 155th Overseas Battalion.

We learn from his military personnel file that before the war he was a labourer and had no previous military experience.

Wilbert was discharged on the 12th of July, 1916, at Barriefield Camp (now CFB Trenton), Ontario. The reason for the discharge was "being under age".

He married Harriett Beatrice Claus on the 22nd of September, 1919 [*AO Marriage Registration*]. They can be found together in Oshawa on the 1921 census.

Wilbert and Harriett had at least three children; Wilbert Garnet, Clayton & Elva Verna. The family enfranchised in 1938.

Most of the information here is from his military personnel file [*LAC RG 150, Accession 1992-93/166, Box 1020 - 24*]. This file has been digitized and can be found at <http://bac-lac.gc.ca>. Other information has been taken from MBQ Records.

GEORGE LEO SMART

Regimental Number: 636959

George Leo was the son of Henry & Julia (Moses) Smart. According to his baptismal record and his attestation paper, George was born on the 7th of April, 1898.

He volunteered on the 28th of March, 1916, in Deseronto, Ontario, for the 155th Overseas Battalion.

From his military personnel file we learn that before the war he was a farmer. He had one year of military experience in the 49th Regiment.

Before he left for England, George suffered a bout of measles and was hospitalized for 12 days in June, 1916. George left Canada on the 18th of October, 1916, and arrived in England on the 28th.

He was transferred to the 156th Battalion in January, 1917. In May, 1917, George was transferred to the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. He arrived in France and in June was sent to the field. He was sick in October, 1917, and evacuated to England. He rejoined his unit in France that December.

George suffered a left sprained ankle in February, 1918, and returned to duty two days later.

The Battle of Amiens began on the 8th of August, 1918, and was part of the "Hundred Days Offensive" that led to the end of World War One that November. On the 15th of August, 1918, in Amiens, France, he was wounded in the field. George suffered a gunshot wound to the right wrist. He was invalided on the 16th of August and sent back to England.

The medical reports described the injury as a bullet "piercing rt forearm and fracturing rt ulna. Was not operated on. Wound was healed completely in a month." He had scars at the point of entry and exit. But he experienced loss of feeling in the hand, especially "of the two little fingers". He was given massage and 'electrical treatments' for a week. Even so, the injury left a lesion of the ulna nerve that resulted in problems with sensation and movement. He had partial loss of movement in the hand, moderate weakness, and loss of feeling in the 5th finger area. But his wrist movements were not affected.

In October 1918, he was transferred to the 1st Canadian Convalescent Depot and from there he was transferred to the 6th Reserves Battalion in February, 1919.

George went absent without leave for three days, being the 30th of January to the 2nd of February, 1919, and forfeited three day's pay.

The medial board reported Geroge's disability as "permanent" but that his former occupation could be resumed.

He left for Canada on the 31st of March, 1919, and was discharged on the 8th of April, 1919, in Kingston, Ontario.

George Leo Smart married Doris Brandon Sero on the 14th of December, 1920 [*AO Marriage Registration*]. They had several children: Eva, Jean, Aurel, Velma Helen, Betty Elaine, Doris Donelda and Norris Denny.

George died on the 28th of February and was buried on the 4th of March, 1977.



Most of the information here comes from his military personnel file [*LAC RG150, Accession 1992-93/166, Box 8994 – 19*]. This file has been digitized and can be found at <http://bac-lac.gc.ca>. Other information has been taken from MBQ Records. Photo is courtesy of Nicole Storms.

HERBERT ROBERT SAGER

Regimental Number: 784998

Herbert was the son of Robert & Adeline (Smart) Sager. He was born on the 9th of May, 1901 [*AO Birth Registration*]. He originally told the military that he was born on the 9th of May, 1896, but this was later amended to 1901.

He signed his attestation paper on the 28th of January, 1916, in Barton, Ontario, for the 129th Overseas Battalion. It was not certified by the Officer of the Commanding Unit until the 4th of March, 1916.

His military personnel file [*LAC RG150. Accession 1992-93/166, Box 8611-22*] has not yet been digitized. When the file becomes available we will provide a more detailed profile for him.