

Snippets of LeRoy History

by Lynne Belluscio

Back in 1999, the Historical Society newsletter included "The 1900s in Review." Here are some of the early entries.

1900 – Stone wall around O.F.Woodward estate on East Main is built without mortar for \$3000 – The Lang Billiard rooms at the Ross Block are equipped with new Brunswick-Balke tables – The Monarchs, a LeRoy football team is formed – Third annual Genesee and Wyoming County Firemen's Convention is held in LeRoy

1901 – The dam at Godfrey's Pond is raised by the New York Central Railroad-The Albany Wheelmen (riding high wheel bicycles) stop in LeRoy on their way to the Pan American Exposition - The new brick B.P.& R. station is built on Lake Street to replace the old station which was destroyed by fire – News of Western New York Salt Company to be built in LeRoy is announced – LeRoy's stores are closed for the funeral of President McKinley

1902 – Jell-O buys first advertisement in a national magazine, The Ladies Home Journal

1903 – Fire at LeRoy Plow Company – Charles Higgins of Pavilion Center displays a 2 ¾ pound potato at the LeRoy Gazette office – The iron fence around Machpelah Cemetery is installed – Fire damages the Lampson Block

1904 – Several varieties of wheat, developed by A.N. Jones of LeRoy are displayed at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis – Two Shriners are injured while riding camels into the circus tent in LeRoy Historical Society

1905 - Construction of the Soldier's Monument on Trigon Park is completed – People of LeRoy prefer snow shovels to the horse-drawn snow plow for clearing sidewalks

1906 – The Masons buy

the former Universalist Church for a Masonic Lodge on West Main Street – Orator Woodward dies – Soldier's Monument on Trigon Park is dedicated

1907 – St. Joseph's Catholic Church Society is formed – High winds fell 115 foot flag pole on Trigon Park - Overcrowding at LeRoy's Catholic School forces the Italian students to attend public school

1908 – Chemical Hose Company moves into new quarters in house built by Pearl Wait on the corner of Clay and Myrtle Street – Construction of the new Main Street cement bridge is started – A runaway menagerie wagon strews cages of bears, kangaroos, monkeys, birds, dogs, and an opossum along Main Street – Cornerstone of St. Anthony's Church in Limerock is laid

1909 – Ingham University dormitory in 1887 is demolished – Cornerstone of St. Joseph's Church laid and bell is blessed – Speed limit in village is changed from 8 mph to 10 mph

1910 – Chapel at Machpelah Cemetery is built

1911 – Ingham tablet is dedicated in entrance of LeRoy High School – Sunday hours at the LeRoy Post Office changed from 11:30 to 12:30 to 9:45 to 10:15 – Students move into the new high school on Trigon Park – LeRoy is the first incorporated village in the state of New York whose charter provides for the regulation of aircraft – The "Meteor" a diesel-electric passenger motor car is introduced for commuter service - The village hall on Bank Street is destroyed by fire

1912 – Edward Perkins purchases the LeRoy Gazette News and merges it with the LeRoy News and forms the LeRoy Gazette News – A small tornado touches down west of the village

1913 – The second Lodi Bridge is erected of the Oatka Creek on Clay Street – An ex-



Fence at Machpelah Cemetery erected in 1903

plosion damages St. Joseph's rectory - Employees of the LeRoy Cotton Mill, strike because they are prevented from opening windows for ventilation - Garbage collection is stopped due to an injunction

1914 – LeRoy Lodge Loyal Order of Moose is chartered – Publication of the Genesee Courier is suspended

1915 – Fifteen automobiles are registered in LeRoy – LeRoy Salt Company damaged by fire

1916 – Second Baptist Church is organized – Lapp Insulator Company is founded – The Te-Car-Na-Wun-Na Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution is formed

1917 – Military registration held on June 5 for every man between the ages of 21 and 30 – 1000 people gather at the NY Central station to say farewell to first 14 LeRoyans drafted by Selective Service - Women's suffrage is defeated in LeRoy by 38 votes but is passed in the state

1918 – First Motorized fire equipment is purchased – LeRoy High School leads the state in Thrift Stamp sales – Delia Phillips is the first wom-

an in LeRoy to vote

1919 – Donald Woodward becomes the first LeRoy-an to arrive and depart LeRoy by air – The Botts-Fiortto Post 576 of the American Legion is chartered – Both LeRoy policemen are equipped with handcuffs

1920 – Donald Woodward buys O.F Woodward Medicine Company and forms Kemp and Lane – Ernest Woodward, Genesee Crushed Stone Company and Osborne Wells dedicate 640 acres of land north of town for a bird and game preserve

**SUPPORT
YOUR LOCAL
ADVERTISERS!**

They help sponsor the local news section of the Le Roy Pennsaver.

**THANKS
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT!**