

# We Will Not Forget: November 11 at 11AM on Trigon Park



by *Lynne Belluscio*

Look carefully at the men in this photograph. Is that your grandfather or great-grandfather in the back row? Perhaps your great-uncle is sitting on the right? These are the forgotten soldiers - those who served our country during

World War I. They were willing to sacrifice their lives to defend our allies in Europe and preserve our freedom. And we do not know who they are. Their faces stare at the camera. "Here we are! We are the veterans of World War I. We have come home! We have gathered in front of the town hall, to remember our brothers in arms."

And there were women from LeRoy who became nurses and served in hospitals both here and abroad. Women who saw the horrors of war and held the hands of men as they lay dying of wounds or as their lungs burned with gas - or they died of influenza. They are all gone, never to know that this community has finally acknowledged their sacrifices. They lay in graves, here, and far away places. Some are recognized by

a small flag on Memorial Day, but during their lifetime they preferred not to talk about the War -- the War to End All Wars. It was to be forgotten, and with their passing we have forgotten. We have forgotten their faces, their names and their sacrifices. But on Sunday, November 11, at 11 in the morning LeRoy will remember. We will gather on Trigon Park to dedicate a grey granite marker to the 270 who served and the twelve that died in service to their country.

We want to thank all the people who have made donations to the LeRoy World War I monument. We have come almost to our goal of \$5000. Just last week, two people on a bus tour from Canada, bought two enamel poppy pins and then came back to buy another for a friend of theirs. We have five pins remaining that will bring another \$100 closer to the goal.

Perhaps you have noticed that the two maple trees on either side of the Civil War monument have been removed. It became obvious that they were crowding the monument and adding to the acid degra-

dation of the statue. The flood light, installed in memory of George Cory could barely cast any light. By the dedication, the chains and posts that surround the monument will be removed and this winter, plans will be started for landscaping this area of Trigon Park, which will include a marker for the veterans of the Korean War.

The Botts Fiorito American Legion Post was created after World War I to support and help returning veterans. They will preside over the ceremonies and they will provide an honor guard and a military salute. All the churches that can participate will toll their bells at 11 AM 21 times in a National Salute to the men and women who served in World War I.

Terry Krautwurst and I will read the honor roll of the twelve LeRoyans who paid the supreme price. Two hundred and seventy red poppies with the names of each of the LeRoy WW I veterans will be placed in the field around the monument at the reading of In Flanders Fields. The traditional hymn of Remembrance Day will be led

by Laura Williams, followed by Taps.

*O God, Our Help In Ages Past  
Before the hills in order stood,  
Or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting Thou art  
God,  
To endless years the same.*

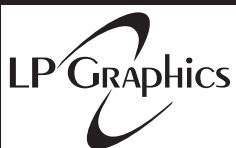
*A thousand ages in Thy sight  
Are like an evening gone;  
Short as the watch that ends the  
night  
Before the rising sun.*

*Time, like an ever rolling  
stream,  
Bears all its sons away;  
They fly, forgotten, as a dream  
Dies at the opening day.*

*Like flowery fields the nations  
stand  
Pleased with the morning light;  
The flowers beneath the mow-  
er's hand  
Lie withering ere 'tis night.*

*Our God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our guard while trou-  
bles last,  
And our eternal home.*

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