

TUSCANIA

Wiley, Asa Rogers
1889 WI – 1966 WI



(Doyle Studio, Medford)

AT TUSCANIA SURVIVORS GATHERING—These 16 survivors of the sinking of the troopship Tuscaulia by a German torpedo in the Atlantic Feb. 5, 1918, gathered in Medford Saturday for the annual meeting of the Wisconsin Tuscania Survivors Association. Seated, left to right, are Art Hansen, Withee; Martin De Boer, La Crosse; Charles Meyenberg, Stone Lake; A. R. Wiley, Washburn; Oakley Parkhill, Neills-

(Doyle Studio, Medford)
ville, reelected president of the association Saturday; Charles M. Jonas, Washburn; Nat Carhardt, Neillsville, reelected secretary-treasurer; and Edmond Johnson, Rosholt. Standing, same order, are Fred Braem, Marshfield; O. R. Thompson, Rib Lake; William Rueschel, Shawano; Alvin W. Grambsch, Neenah; J. W. Kramer, Medford; Herb Hurd, Wausau; Hobart Edmunds, Waupaca; and Lehland McCue, Poy Sippi.

Asa Rogers Willey – "Marshfield (WI) News-Herald Monday 7 Feb 1955 p 3 -
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/267705968/>

(WW I)		WW II		KOREA		HON.		ORIGINAL	
1. NAME OF DECEASED - LAST - FIRST - MIDDLE (Print or Type)				14. NAME AND LOCATION OF CEMETERY (City and State)					
WILLEY, Asa R.				Woodland Cem., Washburn, Wisconsin					
2. SERVICE NUMBER				3. PENSION OR VA CLAIM NUMBER					
251139				XC 2 057 596					
4. ENLISTMENT DATE (Month, day, year)				5. DISCHARGE DATE (Month, day, year)					
June 8, 1917				May 29, 1919					
6. STATE				7. DECORATIONS					
WISCONSIN				None					
8. GRADE OR RANK				9. BRANCH OF SERVICE, COMPANY, REGIMENT, DIVISION					
Pvt.				Army Co. E, 107th Supply Train					
10. DATE OF BIRTH (Month, day, year)				11. DATE OF DEATH (Month, day, year)					
May 24, 1889				August 23, 1966					
12. RELIGIOUS EMBLEM (Check one)				13. CHECK TYPE REQUIRED					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LATIN CROSS (Christian)				<input type="checkbox"/> UPRIGHT MARBLE HEADSTONE					
<input type="checkbox"/> STAR OF DAVID (Hebrew)				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FLAT MARBLE MARKER					
<input type="checkbox"/> NO EMBLEM				<input type="checkbox"/> FLAT GRANITE MARKER					
<input type="checkbox"/> FLAT BRONZE MARKER				15. This application is submitted for a stone or marker for the unmarked grave of a deceased member or former member of the Armed Forces of the U. S., soldier of the Union or Confederate Armies of the Civil War or for an unmarked memorial plot for a non-recoverable deceased member. I hereby agree to accept responsibility for proper placement at the grave or memorial plot at no expense to the Government.					
DO NOT WRITE HERE				NAME OF APPLICANT (Print or Type)					
FOR VERIFICATION				Evadell Willey					
26 JUL 1968				Widow					
B/L				ADDRESS OF APPLICANT (Street address, City and State)					
Z 4119100				Washburn, Wisconsin 54891					
CONTRACTOR				SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT					
Hillsboro, Texas				Evadell Willey					
DATE				DATE					
AUG 1968				9/7/66					
16. FREIGHT STATION				17. NAME OF CONSIGNEE WHO WILL TRANSPORT STONE OR MARKER					
Washburn, Wisconsin 54891				Clarence A. Zanto					
ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE (Street address, City and State)				Washburn, Wisconsin 54891					
I HAVE AGREED TO TAKE THE STONE OR MARKER TO THE CEMETERY.				SIGNATURE OF CONSIGNEE					
Clarence A. Zanto				Clarence A. Zanto					
DD FORM 1330, 1 NOV 62				APPLICATION FOR HEADSTONE OR MARKER					
EDITION OF 1 DEC 61 MAY BE USED.				Form Approved Budget Bureau No. 22-R205					
SGT COE 107 SUPPLY TRAIN WWI				NCPMAW Collection 8-1-68					

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/3152558:2375?tid=12475335&pid=-251686478&queryId=15572920658a5e0a52cb7431d51a37d2&phsrc=hFB69202&phstart=succesSource>

WILLEY ASA ROGERS 202 (10) 8-31-66 81-00
IC 2057596

Pvt Cas Det 2 Tr Bn 161 DB K 1 221 895

709 Montana Ave S Milwaukee A 1 450 143
Wisconsin

Ssn 251 139 Died 8-23-66 T 394 182

Born 5/24/89 R

Enl 7/15/17 Dis 5/29/19 CL 3 027 45

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U. S. VETERANS BUREAU
MAIL AND RECORDS
Form 7202—Rev. Sept., 1926

INDEX CARD

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<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C3M8-1KQJ?cc=2968245&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AWQF2-CH6Z>

Life:

A BASE BALL TEAM

**One Organized During the
Past Week.**

Bayfield Team will be Brought
Here for Game Sun-
day.

During the past week the baseball enthusiasts of the city got together and the result has been that a base ball club has been organized, and the indications are that it will develop into a fast team before many games are played. There is plenty of good material in the line-up and with a little practice they will be able to put up a good article of ball. Those in the team have all played ball before and have demonstrated that they can play when they get upon the diamond. Tim Kearns will have the management of the team and Asa Willey has been elected captain. The boys are entitled to the support of the lovers of the national game in the city and everyone should donate generously when the subscription list is presented.

The first game of the season will be played on the home grounds next Sunday afternoon when the boys will play the aggregation from Bayfield. Bayfield also has a good strong team and a good game is looked forward to.

"Washburn (WI) Times" Thursday 21 Apr 1910 p 1

Asa Willey left yesterday for
Rhineland where he will spend a
month or six weeks.

"Washburn (WI) Times" Thursday 16 Jun 1910 p 5

Dick Hering and Asa Willey spent Tuesday with the "speckled beauties" on the Sioux and Onion.

Trout fishing – "Washburn (WI) Times" Thursday 1 Sep 1910 p 1

Asa Willey left Tuesday afternoon for Rochester, Minn. where he will enter the employ of the American Express company in their offices.

"Washburn (WI) Times" Thursday 21 Sep 1911 p 5

Asa Willey returned the first of the week from Rochester, Minn. where he has been working for the American Express company during the past couple of months. Asa is spending this week in the woods hunting for deer.

"Washburn (WI) Times" Thursday 23 Nov 1911 p 5

Asa Willey will soon leave for Superior where he will be given a try-out with the Superior Minney League team. Asa has been playing good ball for several seasons and he will in all probability make good with the Superior aggregation.

"Washburn (WI) Times" Thursday 11 Apr 1912 p 5

Willey Signs up

Asa Willey left Tuesday afternoon for Rockford, Ill. where he expects to join the Red Sox of Superior. The Superior aggregation will go into training for the season at Rockford and the new men will be given a try-out in the games to be played there. The Madison team will also be booked for several games before the team returns to Superior where they will begin the season. The Superior team has purchased its release from the Minny League association and will be with the Western International League the coming season.

"Washburn (WI) Times" Thursday 18 Apr 1912 p 1

Asa Willey left the latter part of last week for California where he expects to work for the Eureka Explosive company.

"Washburn (WI) Times" Thursday 26 Aug 1915 p 5

WANT NAMES OF SOLDIER BOYS

Council of Defense Making Honor
Roll for Bayfield County

Work in Charge of Mrs. E. C. Alvord.
Want Names of Boys
in Service.

The Bayfield County Council of Defense, through one of their members Mrs. E. C. Alvord of this city, has started the work of making an enrollment of all soldier boys from Bayfield county with a view to having a permanent record of all boys from this county who have enlisted in the service of the United States in the present war,

Excerpt:

Wm. Tourville, Carl F. Larson, Arthur Voorhees, Elmer Wedin, Asa R. Wiley, Anton B. Wigen, Ralph Warden, Joseph Lamoreaux, Stance Oberc, Frank Oberc, Frank Miller, James Miller, James Leighton, Clarence D. Larson, Albert Nelson, Mike Peloquin, Probert Axelberg, Daniel Burgo, Oscar Carron, Arthur Enouf, Lieut. H. L. Good-

"Washburn (WI) Times" Thursday 17 Jan 1918 p 1

There was great anxiety for a time last week over the Bayfield county boys who were on the Transport Tuscania when she was torpedoed by a German submarine off the Irish coast. Those who are known to have on the boat are

Searg. Asa R. Willey, Washburn

Corp. Fred Casperson, Washburn

Private, Charles Joanis, Washburn

Private Fred McCutcheon, Washburn

Private W. G. Webber, Bayfield

Private Hjalmer Swanson, Mason

Lieut. H. I. Lewis, formerly of Washburn but listed as being from Stevens Point.

[article continues]

"Washburn (WI) Times" Thursday 14 Feb 1918 p 1

ASA WILLEY WRITES LETTER

**Reports His Safe Arrival at an
Irish Port**

**Was on Tuscania When She Was Tor-
pedoed by a German
Submarine.**

Mrs. Charles Willey has just received a letter direct from her son Asa R. Willey, dated Londonderry, Ireland, Feb. 6th, 1918 informing his parents of his safe arrival at that port at 5 o'clock a. m.

Asa R. Willey was on the Tuscania when the boat was torpedoed off the Irish coast by a German submarine, as was also Fred Casperson. Fred McCutcheon, Charles Joanis, and Dr. H. I. Lewis, all of this city.

Asa paid the highest tribute to the Irish and British sergeants saying that he never met a finer bunch of fellows. He also stated that he expected to be in France in the very near future.

Asa said his brother sergeants tried to guess his age. One guessed him to be thirty-five years old and another thirty-eight, which was due to several days growth of beard. Asa told them that maybe he had lived ten days during the last two days. He writes "Am feeling rather tired tonight as I only had about one hour's sleep in the last sixty hours. I cannot say why I didn't get more sleep. I wonder if you can imagine where I was?"

"Have just had tea, and will add that I am enjoying the best of health and never felt better in my life than at present. Tell Fred Casperson's folks that he arrived O. K. with me."

he arrived O. K. with me.

Asa Willey is a Sergeant in the Supply company of the 32nd division and is now in France fighting for the cause of democracy. He enlisted as a volunteer in the Bayfield county company, later being transferred to the Supply company.

LETTERS FROM BOYS OVERTHERE

Asa Willey and Fred Casperson Tell
of Experiences

Were on the American Transport Tus-
cania When That Boat was
Torpedoed.

On Active Service
with
American Expeditionary Forces,
Feb. 11th, 1918.

Dear Mother and Father:—

This is the second letter I have written since my safe arrival. In the first letter I couldn't announce being torpedoed but now everything has been printed and I will try and tell you something about my experience.

We had a convoy of ships and had an escort of * * * * for protection and naturally we felt quite safe.

On Tuesday P. M. about 6 o'clock we were in sight of the Irish coast and the islands along the coast of Scotland and "bang" a torpedo hit us amidships. The big boat immediately took a list to starboard and the second torpedo went behind us.

stand still." I will try and write every few days so you will get one of the letters announcing my safe arrival.

Enclosed find clippings from Bel-
fort papers. Must close now.

With love from Ace.

American Expeditionary Force,
Feb. 11th, 1918.

My Dearest Wife:—

Arrived safely on this side and surely had some trip of it. We were hit by a torpedo but the old Kaiser did not get us anyway. I suppose you have been worried about me for I suppose you have heard about an American transport being sunk and I was just lucky enough to be on the one that was sunk.

It was some awful experience. Carl Joanis and Asa Willey and I were the only ones from Washburn that were on the boat but we all got off safely so if you see any of their folks tell them that they are alright.

We had just eaten our supper and I was up on deck watching the water when the next thing I knew I was knocked down by the explosion. It was my duty to help lower the boats in case we were struck so I made for the top deck to lower the boat assigned to us but that had been smashed by the explosion so I went down again and watched for a chance to get away.

I finally saw a life raft floating so I jumped overboard and swam to the raft. We were picked up about an hour later a little cold and all wet but felt fine otherwise.

We were surely treated royally by the people here for they gave us

us.

Of course there was general confusion for a short time, then everything went smoothly. We had a life boat drill every day, and I had charge of six of our men who were supposed to lower the life boats at No. 7 davits, there being four boats in all, but these were smashed by the shock and it was up to us to get off the best way we could.

The rest of the company was in charge of our Lieutenant and it was up to him to get his men off safely and he did so, but I must tell you about myself.

I was watching some boys doing tricks with cards when the torpedo hit us and the lights went out. My life preserver was only a few feet away, but I couldn't find it and having read about big ships sinking in a few minutes, so I said to myself "A. R" its up to you to get up to your station. I was down on the 4th deck and when I reached my station by No. 7 davits I found the boats smashed so I went over to the port side which was high out of the water on account of the list. I helped

the people here for they gave us everything, hot coffee, cakes, warm clothing and smokes—they surely are good people here.

I don't know if this letter will ever reach you and perhaps I am writing things that will not get thru the censure, but if it gets thru you will at least know that I am safe.

The weather is surely grand here, just like summer at home, everything is green and nice. If you see my Daddy let him know that I have landed safely.

We were torpedoed on the night of the Fifth and as the Sixth was my birthday I will have something to remember it by.

I have not received a letter since landing but expect that I will be getting mail soon. We left a lot sooner than we expected.

Give my love to all my old friends and I will close hoping that this cruel war will soon be over.

Your loving husband,
Fred Caspersen.

Co. D. 107 Supply Train.
A. E. F.

the other one started and as I didn't have a life belt I concluded I had better depart in that boat. It was crowded full and men were in the water around us.

The big ship was constantly shooting rockets which would illuminate the sky and the destroyers were afraid to come near for fear of the submarine taking a shot at them. We rowed for about an hour and a destroyer gave us the word to pull in to them. We pulled in alongside and they threw us a line and the seventy-two men who were in the life boat were safely taken aboard. When I boarded the destroyer I was as strong as I am now and although I had neither hat nor coat I assisted in helping others aboard and we pulled many up over the side.

We picked up one man on an overturned boat, he being the only one on it, and when we pulled him up over the side he said "All saved."

We were taken to an English barracks in Ireland and were treated royally there. We stayed there from Wednesday A. M. until Monday and at present I won't say where we are but we are at a big camp and well taken care of.

Nearly 160 lives were lost and two of them were from our company. There were only three Washburn boys on the torpedoed boat and we are safe and anxious to get a crack at the Kaiser. The other two are Fred Casperson and Charley Joanis.

The minute we were hit one fellow said: "Let us pray as God alone can save us." Another answered, "We'll pray on the run and don't

WAS ON TUSCANIA; WRITES MOTHER

Mrs. Charles Willey of Washburn has just received a letter direct from her son Asa R. Willey, dated Londonderry, Ireland, Feb. 6, 1918, informing his parents of his safe arrival at that port at 5 o'clock a. m.

Young Willey, who is a nephew of Mrs. M. J. Chafee, and a cousin of Mrs. D. F. Beecker of this city was on the Tuscania when the boat was torpedoed off the Irish coast by a German submarine.

Asa paid the highest tribute to the Irish and British sergeants saying that he never met a finer bunch of fellows.

Asa said his brother sergeants tried to guess his age. One guessed him to be thirty-five years old and another thirty-eight, which was due to several days growth of beard. Asa told them that maybe he had lived ten days during the last two days. He writes "Am feeling rather tired tonight as I only had about one hour's sleep in the last sixty hours. I cannot say why I didn't get more sleep. I wonder if you can imagine

where I was?"

"Have just had tea, and will add that I am enjoying the best of health and never felt better in my life than at present.

Asa Willey is a Sergeant in the Supply company of the 22nd division and is now in France fighting for the cause of democracy. He enlisted as a volunteer in the Bayfield county company, later being transferred to the Supply company.

Co "E" 107 Supply Train
American Expeditionary Forces
France.

June 14th, 1918.

Mr. William Robinson,
Washburn, Wisconsin, U. S. A.

Dear Friend Bill:

The Washburn Times puts in it's appearance every week and I have had the best intentions, for some time, to write to you and thank you for remembering me, but until today I have failed to put them into effect.

There is nothing like the home time paper, when one is many miles away and many times when the mail was distributed and I was among those who failed to receive letters, I would satisfy myself by reading the news items.

Since joining the army, I have been in three different companies and held every rating from a buck Private to a Sergeant and some of them twice. I am now Mess and Supply Sergeant of our outfit and one who holds that position has some job on his hands to keep in the good graces of all the men. When a soldier turns in old clothes for new ones I have to look them over carefully, to make sure they are unserviceable and if I think they are not and he thinks they are the result is that the Supply Sergeant has made another enemy. Guy Empey, in his book "Over-the-Top" said that a Supply Sergeant must have been a burglar in Civil life. I will try to tell you something of the life "Over here."

Since our arrival we have moved three times and are now in a position which makes life interesting; it took us two days to get there and instead of riding on one of the big trucks, I rode the motorcycle on which I was right at home. We passed thru many cities and small towns and our outfit seemed to be of much interest to the natives as we were about the first Americans who had gone thru that section of the country.

As we were nearing our destination I received orders from my Captain to "Burn up the road" to a certain French city thru which we were to pass. In that city I was to see a certain American Major and make arrangements for our direction thru the city.

I had been searching about ten
Continued on page 8 Column 4

Above from page 1, below from page 8:

Continued from page 1

minutes when a Bugler sounded his bugle. I said to myself "I wonder what that call is", its a strange one to me. It was a signal for an air raid of which I was ignorant until I saw many people "star-gazing" (only it was during the day). I naturally looked up and many puffs of smoke were visible and many more continued to appear. I couldn't see Mr. Fritz but the barrage was too hot for him and the bugler blew "all clear".

Shortly after that I saw the Major and found out the directions in regard to getting out of town. The train was due in a short while so I thought that I would ride around and see the city. I had proceeded about a French block (they vary) when someone to my rear shouted "Hey Willey". I do not know who was the

more surprised, Harold Moore or I, but nevertheless it was a glad reunion. His company had just come back from the front and were resting from the effects of a gas attack. We talked about many things and I asked him how he liked the Artillery, a branch of the service to which he had lately transferred, as his former outfit was not exciting enough for him. "Fine" he said, "the first shot we fired hit a German brewery in a large city" I told him he shouldn't destroy the breweries as we soon would occupy that territory and it would be an easy matter to turn a German brewery into a wet canteen.

Soon after, the train put in its appearance and I had to ride ahead to show them the way out. Wishing each other the best of luck two friends who had not seen each other for nearly two years, and probably will not meet again until after the war, shook hands and parted.

The rest of the trip was uneventful. We stayed in a wood for two days and as many nights before moving to our present locality.

I saw Doc Trowbridge about a month ago and he was very busy doing "Nothing", but I imagine at the present time he is one busy man. The Washburn boys are also at this locality and I see them occasionally. It would be unfair to them to say they never ask me for my pass for there isn't anything like keeping on good terms with the M. P's, and it is up to every good soldier to abide by their wishes.

We are supposed to be in a quiet sector but you wouldn't think it was quiet if you could only hear the big guns roar at night, during the day there is not much noise but at night there is a constant booming; it has a tendency to remind one that he is in the Army.

In my position, I have many opportunities to ride with the Captain and several times we have been close to the front lines. Words cannot express the devastation of the country, but I guess our Artillery is playing as much havoc on the other side.

In the last paper I received, you mentioned the opening of the trout season and I will say that this season is the first in years that I failed to be out on the banks of my favorite trout stream on the opening day. Many times during our spare hours Casperson and I talk about the days on the trout streams, wondering how long it will be before we may again enjoy the pleasures that we have sacrificed.

I understand that a Home Guard Company is being organized in Washburn. It ought to be a good organization, considering that you keep men out of the draft age.

I don't mind the idea of men who wait for the draft but its the boys who say "They can't draft me, I work at the plant." For instance, about registration day there was a large influx of men, who came to Washburn to work at the plant. One fellow who got a job said he worked in a bank in Minneapolis and that five of his friends were coming on the next train. They also held positions in banks.

Well Bill, this letter is getting altogether too long for the censor. I merely wanted to thank you for sending the paper, so I will close with best regards to all.

As ever,

Ace.

Sergeant Asa R. Willey,
Co. E. 107th Supply Train,
American Expeditionary Forces,
France. O. K.

"Washburn (WI) Times" Thursday 18 Jul 1918 p 1 and p 8

A Charmed Life

Washburn has a young man fighting for the cause of Liberty on the battlefields who seems to have a charmed life and that young man is Reinald Fluck, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Fluck.

In a letter written by Asa Willey to his father Charles Willey he says that he met young Fluck some time ago who was on his way back to Paris after participating in three of the big battles of the western front. Asa said that many of the boys who were in the same company with young Fluck were either killed or wounded but that Fluck escaped without a scratch, but that he had two holes put through the knapsack which he carried on his back.

"Washburn (WA) Times" Thursday 7 Nov 1918 p 4

**POUNDED SIX INCH SHELLS
AT GERMANS IN FRANCE**

Having been in all of the big drives in France, with 18 months service to his credit and having escaped without a scratch although he was gassed on two different occasions is the experience of Harold Moore, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Moore, who returned to this city last Sunday from New York where he was honorably discharged from service.

Immediately after war was declared Harold Moore enlisted and after but a short training in camps in this country was sent across the seas. He enlisted in the medical corps of the army but after arriving in France this life proved too tame for young Moore, who was desirous of seeing real action, and he asked for a transfer to the artillery division of the army which was granted.

At the training camps in France he was taught how to use the big six inch guns with which the Germans were to be shelled and he was placed in Co. D of the 44th artillery in the 1st army where he went through all of the big drives made by the American forces.

Young Moore was in the battle of St. Miheal, the Forest of Argonne and in numerous other drives following and fought with his division up to the time the armistice was signed, when hostilities ceased. Moore said the last shot fired by his gun crew was at 10:59 on the morning of the 11th of November. He says the army knew that hostilities were to cease at that time, although the report was hardly believable by the men at the front, and for fear that it might be true, his crew pumped the shells at the Germans as fast as they could load and fire, and after the last shot had been fired, the bunch gathered around their gun pit and offered cheers for the American army.

He said that the German soldiers tried to fraternize with the Americans after the war had ended, evidently thinking that the Americans would believe they had been on some summer party, but they were told where to get off at.

Harold Moore spent eighteen months in France with the first army. He saw all the hardships of war and at times he says the men would become so exhausted during the drive that they could sleep anywhere even though the shells were bursting all around.

On one occasion he met Ace Willey of this city, and there was a warm greeting between the two. Willey's division, at the time, was on the move and,

of course, the meeting was necessarily short.

Moore was gassed twice and this sent him to the hospital for two days, but he says he was soon back with his division again.

He fought against the Germans from one end of France to the other, had many thrilling experiences, and escaped without a scratch. He is more than pleased to get back to the states again and Washburn is more than proud of her soldier boys.

Harold Moore, is one of the three sons of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Moore who served in the world war. Arnold was discharged from the service some time ago while Malcome is still in France.

"Washburn (WI) Times" Thursday 20 Feb 1919 p 1

A very pleasant stag party was given in honor of Asa Willey by his father on Tuesday evening of this week. Several returned soldiers were present as well as a large number of the old friends of Asa. He was royally welcomed home.

"Washburn (WI) Times" Thursday 5 Jun 1919 p 5

**LARGE CONTINGENT OF BOYS
RETURN FROM BATTLEFIELDS**

Overseas Men Return to This City During the Past Week

ALL Have Seen Fighting in France and
Many Were With the Famous
32nd Division.

Fifteen of Washburn's fighting men, a large number of whom left this city during 1917 with the Bayfield County company, arrived in the city during the past week, having received their honorable discharge from the army.

These men come from the real fighting front where they have seen much active service, being members of the American army which broke through the Hindenberg line and so upset the morale of the German forces that they were compelled to ask for peace.

Three of the boys were on the ill-fated steamer Tuscania which was torpedoed off the Irish coast and sunk. Casperson leaped into the water and was saved as was also Joanis and Willey who were taken off the boat by a destroyer.

Many of the boys returning were members of the famous 32nd Division which was given the name "Les Terribles" by the French for their daring method of fighting. The 32nd Division was never known to retreat.

The experiences which the boys have had while overseas has been varied and interesting. Washburn is proud of them and we are glad to welcome them home again.

The contingent arriving this week is the largest yet to arrive. Heretofore the boys have been arriving by ones and twos.

There still remains a few of the old Bayfield County company to return to this city but it is expected that before another month is over practically all of the boys will have arrived home.

Bayfield county expects to hold a big celebration in honor of her fighting boys and a committee of the County Board has been appointed to have charge of the arrangements but up to this time the committee have been unable to set a date for the reason that it was not known when the boys would return. It is expected that the celebration will be held some time within the next thirty days and the committee expect to make it one of the biggest celebrations ever held in the county.

Among the boys returning to this city the past week are Robert Sterling, Wallace E. Woodhead, Gilbert K. Calder, Lealie M. Olson, Malcolm E. Moore, Owen Paulson, Fred Gregoire, Chester Hansen, Ed. Blexrude, Soren Raarup, Edwin Swanson, Asa Willey, Alfred Trombley, Carl Joanis and Fred Casperson.

Great Fishing Trip

C. E. Estabrook, Roy Markham, Asa Willey and Remsen Bell returned on Monday evening from Rhinelander where they went on Saturday to enjoy a fishing trip at one of the lakes in that vicinity. The Washburn party were entertained by Ed. and Len Markham while on their fishing trip and they report the finest kind of a trip.

Clyde Estabrook claims to be the only member of the party to have any success at fishing and his catch consisted of a 32 pound muskellongue,

The trip was made in the Estabrook auto and the return trip over route 10 was a hard one according to the boys.

The other members of the party say Estabrook's story is a dream and that Roy Markham caught the only fish which weighed about eight pounds.

"Washburn (WI) Times" Thursday 2 Oct 1919 p 1

Asa Willey came to town on Wednesday, bringing with him a large timber wolf which he killed while on his hunting expedition..

"Washburn (WI) Times" Thursday 20 Jan 1921 p 5

ASA WILLEY LANDS FINE PRIZE

**CAPTURES SILVER-GREY
FOX NEAR HERE**

**Pelt Said to be Worth Any-
where Between Three and
Eight Hundred Dollars.—
Chopped Him Out of Hollow
Log.**

Asa Willey, who has been doing considerable trapping and hunting in the Cranberry country during the past winter, returned to the city the latter part of last week with a valuable prize which he captured, it being a silver-grey fox, the pelt of which is said to be worth anywhere from three and eight hundred dollars.

Willey and companion were going through the woods when they saw the fox enter the end of a hollow log, and their first thought was to capture the animal alive. The hole in the end of the log was blocked and then the boys started to chop the fox out of the log.

As a small opening was made in the log the fox evidently did not like the idea of being captured and put up quite a scrap and it became necessary to shoot the animal through the jaw in order that he might not get away.

The animal is a beautiful silver-grey in color and of fair size and the pelt is said to be very valuable.

Naturally Asa is mighty proud of his rare possession. To our notice this is the first silver-grey fox to be captured in this part of the country and the species is said to be very rare in the United States, which accounts for the great value placed upon the pelt.

“Washburn (WI) Times” Thursday 10 Feb 1921 p 1

BASE BALL MEN HOLD MEETING

DECIDE TO HAVE TEAM TO
REPRESENT WASHBURN

**Hugh Ross Elected Manager for
The Coming Season. Asa
Willey to Head Team as
Captain.**

A meeting of base ball fans and base ball players was held at the Du Pont Club on Wednesday evening of this week at which plans were discussed for a team to represent Washburn during the coming year, and it was decided that if the merchants and others would give the team financial backing that a strong team could be developed.

Hugh Ross, who so successfully piloted the team last season, was again chosen to head the organization the coming year, and Asa Willey, that veteran of the diamond, was selected as the Captain. The Secretary-Treasurer will be chosen from the the team as soon as it is organized.

It was planned to have the business firms of the city purchase uniforms for the players, the idea being to have the name of the firm printed on the back of the suit which he purchases, this advertising to be carried by players during all of the games. The idea is to develop an interest in the players and to encourage them to make a showing in the suit in which they play. It is thought that the costs of suits will amount to about \$12.00 each.

Plans were also made for raising funds to finance the organization and the Manager appointed Arthur Nelson as chairman of the Social Committee to arrange for the first benefit dance to be given for the team. Other money raising stunts will be announced later.

"Washburn (WI) Times" Thursday 16 Feb 1922 p 1

Beverage Tax Job Candidates In Oral Exams

Many persons, however, were given the opportunity to take the oral examinations even though they received grades as low as 59.90. The reason is that under a law passed by the 1937 legislature any veteran must be given a 5-point preference regardless of what his grade is. A disabled veteran must be given 10 points preference.

Thus, W. A. Denning who received a grade of 59.90 in the exam as enforcement officer really had not passed the exam. Because he was a disabled veteran, however, under the law the department had to give him 10 points preference and his grade was boosted to 69.90 which is a passing grade under the policies followed by the bureau of personnel.

Following are the names of those who though they had not passed the written exams qualified for the orals because their veterans' preference boosted their grade to the passing mark:

H. J. Holpapp received a grade of 66.89 plus 5 points veteran's preference making his final grade 71.89; R. S. Enders received a grade of 69.22 plus 5 points veteran's preference making his final grade 74.22; M. M. Rybucke received 67.45 plus 10 points preference making his final grade 77.45;

M. J. Werel received 61.84 plus 10 points preference making his grade 71.84; Robert Elis received 66.05 plus 5 points preference, making his grade 71.05; and A. R. Willey received 63.28 plus 10 points preference making his grade 73.28.

It was pointed out that several oth-

Add 2 Men to State Bureau of Inspection

Two new men will be added to the staff of the state bureau of inspection and enforcement, and three present employes have received notices that they will be retained, it was learned today. The men listed today are part of a larger list state bureau of personnel certifications now being scrutinized by George Keith, supervisor of the bureau.

The new men, both enforcers, are Alfred Van De Zande, Campbellsport, and Asa Willey, Washburn.

The old employes being retained are Thomas Reynolds, Green Bay, an inspector, and Ben Jopke, and Arnold Anderson, both enforcers.

"Madison (WI) Capital Times" Friday 26 Aug 1938 p 1

Smith Fires Six More Tax Agents

Four inspectors and two enforcement officers in the state beverage tax division were discharged today by State Treasurer John M. Smith just preceding the expiration of their probationary period under civil service.

Inspectors were Philip Lampert, Oshkosh; Nicholas Berg, Hilbert; Donald France, Milwaukee, and Alvin Kupper, Baraboo. Enforcement officers were Alfred Van de Zande, Campbellsport, and Asa R. Willey, Washburn.

Smith has fired employes before the expiration of their civil service probationary period so that he could later decide on his personnel. After the probationary period the employes could not be discharged except for cause.

"Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) Saturday 26 Feb 1939 p 1

"Wausau (WI) Daily Herald" 22 Apr 1939 p 22 - 4 men reappointed as beverage tax employees after being laid off at end of probation, 1 Asa of Washburn, all 4 passed civil service exams & will serve 6 months more probation

Dismisses Three From Tax Division

Madison, Wis., Oct. 16 — (AP) — State Treasurer John M. Smith advised the bureau of personnel to-day he had discharged three employes of the beverage tax division. They were Manley D. Hinshaw, of Ladysmith, an inspector; Benjamin P. Wolf, of Waukesha and Asa R. Willey, of Washburn, enforcers. All were probationary civil service employes. Smith did not give any reason for the dismissals.

"Stevens Point (WI) Journal" Monday 16 Oct 1939 p 1

Judge Says Alderman Was Illegally Elected

BAYFIELD (UP) — County Judge L. K. Blanchard, specially appointed referee in a hearing on contested absentee ballots in the April 1 election for Bayfield's mayor and one alderman post, stated in his report Wednesday that the alderman was elected illegally.

Blanchard, appointed by Circuit Judge Lewis J. Charles, turned in his completed report to Clerk of Court **A. R. Willey**. Blanchard said in his report that in the alderman race, Jerome Merkle won the election over Halvor Reiten, 51-39.

However, the judge said that of 19 absentee ballots for Merkle, only two of them were good. Reiten's one absentee vote was illegal. Reiten then held an election edge of 38-34.

BLANCHARD SAID many of the absentee ballots in the mayoralty election were also illegal, but would not change the results of the election in which Henry J. Wachsmuth was victorious over former

Mayor Irving Hudlund.

The judge's report stated the absentee ballots were not correctly distributed in that candidates distributed them to the homes of prospective shut-in voters. Blanchard said absentee voters must file a written request for such ballots and that they may not be distributed by the candidates.

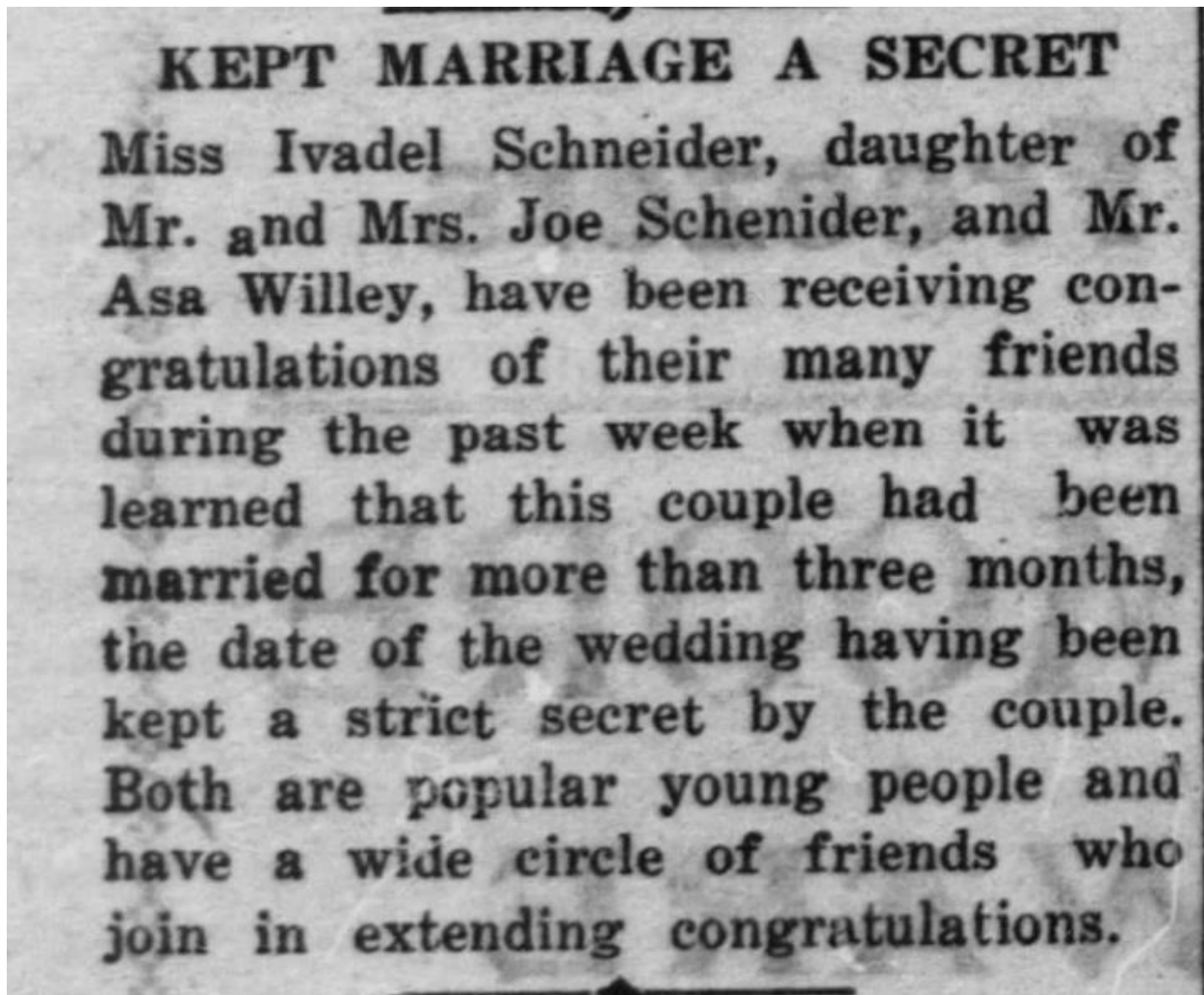
REITEN AND HUDLUND filed suit, charging that the ballots were not valid because they were distributed door to door.

In spite of his ruling, Blanchard said "in this election there was no evidence of fraud by anyone and there was no proof that any voter was influenced or attempted to influence in any manner the casting of his ballot. It

may be that the tactics employed were of long standing and were generally accepted in past elections. Nevertheless, the law does not sanction abuses, and it is trusted that these proceedings will have an improved effect on future elections."

"Eau Claire (WI) Daily Tribune" Thursday 1 May 1958 p 8

Wife:



Asa kept marriage to EVADELL SNIDER a secret for 3 months – “Washburn (WI) Times”
Thursday 21 Jul 1921 p 1

Wisconsin, U.S., Death Index, 1959-1997					
1979 through 1997 > W					
SEARCHED	INDEXED	NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	DATE OF DEATH	PLACE OF BIRTH
029461	12/16/1984	WILLEY	EVADELL F.		BAYF
<div> <div>Name</div> <div>Evadell F Willey</div> </div> <div> <div>Death Date</div> <div>16 Dec 1984</div> </div> <div> <div>Location</div> <div>Bayfield</div> </div> <div> <div>Certificate</div> <div>029461</div> </div>					

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/8790/images/VRDUSAWI1979_013-13474?pld=882708

Social Security Death Index

[View record](#)

Name	Evadell Willey
Social Security Number	399-38-9585
Birth Date	16 May 1899
Issue year	1958-1959
Issue State	Wisconsin
Last Residence	54891, Washburn, Bayfield, Wisconsin, USA
Death Date	Dec 1984

* * * * *

BENOIT

* * * * *

Evadell Snider of Washburn and Miss Edythe Larson of Upson spent the week end at their respective homes returning Tuesday morning to finish the school term.

“Washburn (WI) Times” Thursday 9 Jun 1921 p 3

—|—

Mrs. Asa Willey, who is teaching at Cornucopia, was home over Sunday.

“Washburn (WI) Times” Thursday 9 Mar 1922 p 3

ANNOUNCING A Fishing Contest

To the Fisherman who catches the heaviest Speckled Trout during the season, we are offering as a prize,
a No. 5 Split Willow Basket complete with
Heavy Leather Harness

The Terms of the Contest

THE TERMS OF THE CONTEST:

1. Contestant must live within the radius of the city of Washburn, the town of Washburn and the town of Bayview.
2. Fish must be caught in Bayfield Co.
3. We reserve the right to display the Fish for two days, and agree to keep it on ice in a fresh condition.
4. Fish must be dressed.
5. The contest closes at the end of the trout season at which time the prize will be awarded.

Asa Willey has started the game by registering a nice Speckled Trout 15 1-4 inches long, weight 17 ounces **Who's Next?**

Don't Fail to Notice Our Window--We Have
Brought the Old Trout Stream
Right To Town.

Buy Your Hardware at a Hardware Store

B. Ungrodt
SINCE ***GOOD Hardware*** 1886
WASHBURN, WIS.

We Sell To Sell Again

"Washburn (WI) Times" Thursday 4 May 1922 p 7

Asa R Willey

in the Michigan, U.S., Marriage Records, 1867-1952

Name	Asa R Willey
Gender	Male
Race	White
Age	32
Birth Date	abt 1889
Birth Place	Bayfield, Wisconsin
Marriage Date	15 Jul 1921
Marriage Place	Bessemer, Michigan, USA
Residence Place	Washburn, Wisconsin
Father	Chas Willey
Mother	Henrietta Rodgers
Spouse	Evadell Snider
Record Number	8558

8558	"	15	"	Asa R. Willey	32	"	Washburn	"
				Evadell Snider	22	"	"	"
Bayfield	"	Postal Service	Chas Willey	Henrietta Rodgers	No	"	15	
Washburn	"	Teacher	Joe Snider	Anna (unknown)	No			
"	Bessemer	"	W. J. Haggerson	Mildred MacFarlane	Bessemer Mich			
			Justice of the Peace	John Luscombe Jr	"	"		

https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/90489:9093?tid=&pid=&queryId=647fe3643bbde1d923bca9116c1dc8bc&_phsrc=hFB69198&_phstart=successSource

Two Eagle River residents, John Emmerson and Mrs. Robert Schroeder, were named to head the 10th district of the Veterans of Foreign Wars at the spring encampment held Sunday afternoon in Hurley. It was learned here today. Several Rhinelander people were named to district officers.

Excerpt:

Auxiliary Officers.

Other officers chosen by the Auxiliary are: Frances Foti of Rhinelander, senior vice president; Theresa Buteau of Solon Springs, junior vice president; Frances Wallin of Ashland, treasurer; Eva Busher of Tomahawk, chaplin; Evadell Willey of Washburn, conductress; and Margaret Larson of Rhinelander, Marion Williams of Superior, and Agnes Brost of Medford, trustees.

"Rhinelander (WI) Daily News" Tuesday 8 Jun 1954 p 3

VFW Auxiliary District Head Visits Woodruff

WOODRUFF — (Special) -- The Paquette Blackburn Auxiliary, No. 7898, was honored at a recent meeting by an official visit of Tenth District President Evadell Willey.

Following auxiliary inspection, Mrs. Willey spoke briefly to auxiliary members on such subjects as auxiliary and post membership, chairman appointments, quota participation, the VFW cancer fund, compliments and suggestions.

"Membership," stated Mrs. Willey, "plays an important role in veteran legislature and aid as well as in local community services. It is essential to all posts and auxiliaries regardless of how large or small they may be."

She went on to say "How readily a veteran is remembered during war time or immediately following a war; but how easily and quickly he is forgotten." She stressed a dire need for continued effort on the part of all members to assist

these "forgotten veterans" by securing additional post and auxiliary members.

Following the tenth district president's brief but inspiring talk, Gertrude Lawrence, president of the Paquette Blackburn auxiliary, presented her with a gift on behalf of the auxiliary.

Refreshments were served by Betty Worthing.

"Rhineland (WI) Daily News" Friday 19 Sep 1958 p 2

Father:

Veteran Innkeeper Dies at Washburn

Washburn, Wis.—(AP)—Charles A. Willey, 99, veteran Wisconsin innkeeper, died yesterday. Communities in which he engaged in the hotel and restaurant business included Juneau, Stevens Point, Wisconsin Rapids, Ashland, Phillips, Bayfield, Berlin, Fairchild, Merrill, Tomahawk, Madison, Richland Center, Linden and Washburn. In the latter part of the 19th century he built and operated the Island View Hotel at Bayfield and was host to William Jennings Bryan, Horace Greeley and other famous personalities.

Obituary of father Charles Willey – “Janesville (WI) Daily Gazette” Wednesday 27 Apr 1949

p 20

Mother:



Captioned: Geo. Rogers and 2 sisters, Ace Rogers children – so one of the women is
Henrietta Rogers (Willey) - <https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/12475335/person/-251686483/media/13f152a7-ced5-4187-a6a7-ddb5d863ee28>

Funeral Held Sunday

The funeral of Mrs. Charles Willey, whose death occurred in a sanatorium in the southern part of the state last week, was held from the Congregational church in this city last Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, services being conducted by Rev. G. W. Waters. Interment was in Woodland cemetery.

Mrs. Willey's death was caused by influenza and pneumonia which she contracted. She had about fully recovered from her nervous ailment at the time when she was taken ill with influenza.

Mrs. Willey was 58 years of age at the time of death. For the past ten years she has resided in this city with her husband and family. Previous to moving to this city the family resided at Bayfield for a period of eighteen years. She was a kindly lady, beloved by those who knew her. She is survived by her husband and a daughter Mrs. H. E. Logan of Milwaukee and a son Asa serving with the American army in France. To the relatives goes the sympathy of the community in their bereavement.

Obituary of mother Henrietta Rogers Willey – “Washburn (WI) Times” Thursday 13 Mar 1919 p 1

Sibling:

Wisconsin Births, 1820-1907	
View record	
Name	Nellie P Willey
Birth Date	24 Apr 1885
Birth Place	Bayfield, Wisconsin, USA
Reel	0007
Record Number	001452

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/12475335/person/-251686480/facts>

Miss Pearl Willey returned Sunday to Menomonee after spending her vacation at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Willey of the Avenue hotel. Miss Willey is taking work at the Stout kindergarten training school.

"Baraboo (WI) News Republic" Tuesday 5 Apr 1904 p 4

Miss Pearl Willey, who is teaching at Hayward, is in the city visiting with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Willey.

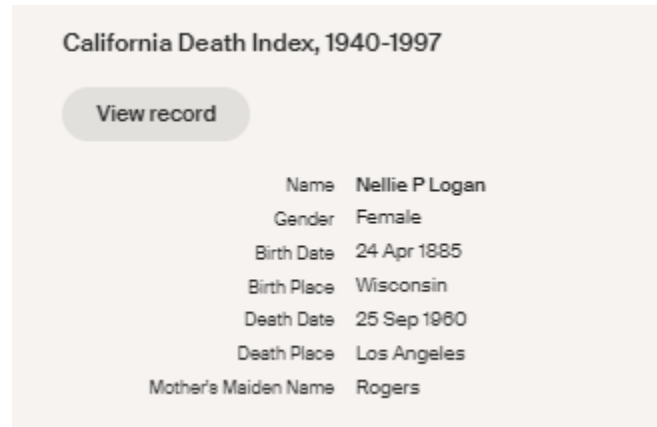
"Washburn (WI) Times" Thursday 23 Dec 1909 p 5

Married Monday

Miss Pearl Willey, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Willey of this city, and Mr. Harold Logan were married at the home of the bride's parents Monday noon, Rev. H. C. Rehm officiating. Following the wedding a five course dinner was served to relatives of the couple after which they departed on the afternoon train for Duluth and from there will take a trip down the lakes on the new steamer North America.

The bride is quite well known throughout the city. She is a young lady of exceptionally fine traits. During the past two years she has been teaching in the public schools of Madison. The groom is an accountant for the Wisconsin Tax Commission and is a young man of sterling quality. The friends of the young couple in this city extend congratulations.

Marriage of Pearl Willey to Harold Edwin Logan on 30 Jun 1913 – “Washburn (WI) Times”
Thursday 3 Jul 1913 p 4



<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/12475335/person/-251686480/facts>

Abbreviations:

b = born

d = died

F: = Find A Grave (www.findagrave.org)

NOK = next-of-kin

Name: Asa Rogers Willey

Name variations: nickname: Ace

Military:

On Tuscania: 107th Supply Co. D [returned in Co. E] - sergeant

Serial number: 251,139

Entered service from: Washburn, Bayfield WI

Sailed on “Tuscania” as: Asa R. Willey

Next-of-kin on “Tuscania”: father Charles R. Willey, Washburn WI

Returned from war on: "Virginian" May 1919

Sailed on return ship as: Asa R. Willey

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: father Charles R. Willey, Washburn WI (pvt, Co. E, 107th Supply Train)

World War I draft registration (1917): as Asa R. Willey - b. 24 May 1889 Bayfield WI; res: Washburn WI. Single. Surveyor for R.W. Smith, Washburn WI. Military experience: seaman, Naval Militia, 3 years, WI. Medium height, stout build.

National Tuscania Survivors Association (1939): Washburn WI (1939 NTSA & 1955 WI Survivors)

World War II draft registration (1942): b. 24 May 1889 Mayfield [sic/Bayfield] WI; res: Reed Hotel, Muskogee, Muskogee OK. NOK Mrs. A.R. Willey, Washburn [sic/Washburn] WI. Employed by E.I. Dupont [sic/Du Pont], Chouteau, Mayes OK. Height: 5'7" – 200 lbs.

Veterans Administration Military Index: FamilySearch.org indexed as birth as 24 Jun 1889 but it is the correct 24 May 1889 on the original card)

Enlisted: 15 Jul 1917

Discharged: 29 Jun 1919

Address: 709 Montana Avenue, South Milwaukee WI

Rank/unit: private, Casual Detachment 2 Training Battalion, 161st Depot Brigade

Birth & death:

Born: 24 May 1889 Bayfield, Bayfield WI (Family Search indexed as 24 Jun 1889 but 24 May 1889 on original card)

Died: 23 Aug 1966 Wauwatosa, Milwaukee WI (Veterans Administration Military Index: 23 Jul 1966)

Find A Grave record: 64136754 – presence on Tuscania indicated in flower

Burial location: Washburn, Bayfield WI

Cemetery: Woodlawn

Tombstone: in the text: World War I veteran

Father: Charles Rockwell Willey, 19 Mar 1850 Oak Grove, Dodge WI – 25 Apr 1949 Washburn, Bayfield WI. Son of Nelson Perkins Willey & Mary P. Robinson. Hotel keeper. Buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Washburn, Bayfield WI.
Find A Grave: 46197059

Mother: Henrietta Emogine ("Retta") Rogers Willey, 19 May 1863 Oshkosh, Winnebago WI – 14 Mar 1919 in southern part of WI, in a sanatorium. Daughter of Asahel Rogers & Lydia Naomi Mallery. Died before son Asa returned from war. Died of influenza & pneumonia (during the time of the Spanish flu pandemic). Buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Washburn, Bayfield WI.

Find A Grave: 46197078

Parents' marriage: 20 Jun 1883 Berlin, Green Lake WI

Spouse: Evadell Frances Snider Willey, 16 May 1899 Washburn, Bayfield WI – 16 Dec 1984 Bayfield Co. WI. Daughter of Joseph H. (1865-1930, F: 64137297) & Anna D. (1879-1961, F: 64137290) Snider. Buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Washburn, Bayfield WI.

Spouse Find A Grave: 64136743

Marriage: 15 Jul 1921 Bessemer, Gogebic MI & kept secret for 3 months.

Children:

Siblings:

- Pearl Nellie Willey Logan, 24 Apr 1885 Bayfield, Bayfield WI – 25 Sep 1960 Los Angeles Co. CA. Teacher. Married at the home of her parents in Washburn, Bayfield WI on 30 Jun 1913 to Harold Edwin Logan (26 Feb 1886 Chicago, Cook IL – 11 Jan 1955 San Diego, San Diego CA). He is buried in Eternal Hills Memorial Park, Oceanside, San Diego CA, F: 16347181. – In the 1920 census, Harold E. Logan (34 IL, accountant for a coke & gas company) lives in Wauwatosa, Milwaukee WI with wife Pearl N. Logan (34 WI). – Pearl Logan is buried in Inglewood Park Cemetery, Inglewood, Los Angeles CA. F: 239971029

Notes:

Pre-war:

Wartime:

Post-war:

Obituary:

Social Security number: 315-12-0476

Censuses:

1900 Fairchild, Eau Claire WI

Charles R. Willey, 50 WI, Mar 1850, father b. IL, mother b. OH, married 17 years, hotel proprietor

Henrietta, 37 WI, Mar 1863, parents b. NY, gave birth to 2 children, 2 are living, music teacher

Pearl, 15 WI, Apr 1885

Asa R., 11 WI, May 1889

& 4 female servants, a male hotel clerk & a male hotel cook

1905 WI state census – Richland Center, Richland WI

Chas. R. Willey, 55 WI, parents b. NY, hotel keeper

Retta E., 45 WI, parents b. NY

Pearl, 19 WI

Asa, 16 WI

& a male hotel clerk, 6 female domestics, a male boarders & a male hostler

1910 Washburn, Bayfield WI

Charles Willey, 60 WI, parents b. NY, in 1st marriage, married 27 years, cook on steam boat

Henrietta, 47 WI, parents b. NY, in 1st marriage, gave birth to 2 children, 2 are living

Pearl, 25 WI, single, teacher, school

Asa, 21 WI, single, laborer, powder works [this is an E.I. du Pont company]

1920 cannot locate

1930 South Milwaukee, Milwaukee WI – 709 Montana

Asa Willey, 40 WI, parents b. WI, age 32 at 1st marriage, superintendent, repair orders, machinery manufacturing plant, WWI veteran

Evadell, 30 WI, father b. WI, mother b. Germany, age 22 at 1st marriage

1940 Washburn, Bayfield WI – all in same house in 1935

Anna Snyder, 61 Germany, widow

Lyla A. Snyder, 37 WI, single [daughter]

Ace Wiley, 50 WI, state enforcement officer [son-in-law]

Evadell Wiley, 40 WI [daughter]

1950 cannot locate