



**Newsletter Issue 34, January 2017**

**George Aubrey — American Resistance Fighter**



George A. Aubrey, born in MA in 1893, served as a company commander during WWI and was eventually promoted to Major. He sustained multiple injuries in September 1918 at the Battle of Saint-Mihiel, and was discharged soon after. Following his military service, he married Frenchwoman Alberte Viette in 1919 and after studying engineering



in the US found himself in France at the outbreak of WWII. Active in the American Legion, he led Legion efforts to organize the American Volunteer Ambulance Corps and made weekly radio broadcasts to the US. He was forced to flee Paris in 1941, and in his new location near Saint Amand-Montron organized a group of maquis fighters—his code name was LAFAYETTE. Aubrey was killed when while driving home in the commune

of Bétête from a meeting with other French Resistance leaders, he encountered a German unit. He and passengers in his car opened fire but were easily overtaken by the Germans. Aubrey was shot multiple times by machine gun fire, however, he managed to hide secret documents detailing Resistance plans before he was killed. Aubrey was posthumously awarded the French Croix de la Légion d'Honneur and is honored on a plaque at Place des Etats-Unis in Paris. There is also a street named after him in Saint Amand-Montron where he is an honorary citizen. Each year since his reburial, dedicated French citizens have held a ceremony at his grave site to honor his service and sacrifice.

**Thomas A. Pope's Medal of Honor**

Corporal Thomas A. Pope was America's first Medal of Honor recipient in World War I. And coincidentally, he was the last surviving Army Medal of Honor recipient of World War I when he died in 1989. Pope entered the



Army from Illinois and served in Company E, 131st Infantry Regiment, 33rd Division which was under the command of the Australian Army on 4 July 1918 during the Battle of Le Hamel. He singlehandedly rushed a German machine gun nest, killing several of the crew with his bayonet and while standing astride the gun he held off other crew members until reinforcements arrived and captured them. After the war he was a district foreman for the Cook County Highway Department. He is honored on a plaque at the Australian Corps Memorial in Le Hamel, France and is buried in the Arlington National Cemetery.

**Lincoln in Edinburgh**

By far most overseas memorials honoring Americans are from WWI or WWII. But we do know of some for other wars, such as this beautiful statue of Lincoln in the Old Calton



Cemetery in Edinburgh. It honors the Scots who fought and died in our Civil War. Sculpted by George Edwin Bissell, it depicts a standing figure of Lincoln with a freed slave giving thanks at his feet. The monument was erected through American funding and was dedicated on 21 August 1893. Six Scots who died while fighting in the Civil War are buried in this cemetery and recorded in our database.

Our website had over 6,000,000 hits in 2016! The database continues to expand and now contains 1392 memorials at 1014 sites containing 5555 names and 1665 units.

**Please consider a donation to help us continue our important work**