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9 speakers (Theo Mayer, Edward Lengel, Speaker 6, Mike Shuster, Monique Seefrie, James Shetler, Jacy Jenkins, Terry Schow, Katherine Akey)

[0:00:09]

**Theo Mayer:** Welcome, to World War One Centennial News, Episode number 63. It's about World War One then. What was happening a 100 years ago this week? And it's about World War One now. News and updates about the Centennial and the commemoration. Today is March 16, 2018. And our guests include Dr. Edward Lengel, with a story from the Yankee Division and rats. Mike Shuster from the Great War Project Blog, revisiting the ongoing anti-war movement in America. Commissioner Monique Seefried tells us about upcoming Centennial commemoration events in Europe. James Shetler with a story of one dough boy's dog tags and the journey back beside him. Jacy Jenkins gets us ready for the premier of the new animated World War One film Sergeant Stubby an American Hero. Terry Skowe, sharing the 100 cities, 100th Memorial Project from Odgen, Utah. And Katherine Akey with the World War One commemoration in social media. World War One Centennial News is a weekly podcast brought to you by the US World War One Centennial Commission, the Pritzker Military Museum and Library, and the Starr Foundation. I'm Theo Mayer, the Chief Technologist for the commission and your host. Welcome to the show. This week, as we were looking at the news and articles from various publications 100 years ago, an unexpected theme popped out. A theme that covers two ideas that are said to be the only sure things in life. Death and taxes, both of which are all over the news this week, 100 years ago. With that as a setup, let's jump into our Centennial Time Machine and roll back 100 years to understand how we see death and taxes 100 years ago, in the War that changed the world. We are back in 1918 and some things never change. We are in mid March, heading towards April and it's tax time. Dateline, March 11, 1918. A headline from the Official Bulletin reads, "Voices of 25,000 Four-minute Men to be Heard Throughout the Land, Warning All to Make Tax Returns". The story opens with 25,000 Four-Minute Men will start out today on a nation-wide campaign to impress upon the American public their patriotic duty to promptly file their income tax returns and to pay their taxes. Now, you remember the Four-Minute men, right? The Four-Minute men are a force of volunteers that are deployed by George Creel, America's propaganda chief, to deliver four minute government written pitches to the population. The article continues to explain, "The Four-Minute men will appear in theaters, movie picture houses, and public gatherings. Special meetings will be held by chambers of commerce, boards of trade, rotary clubs, luncheon clubs, and business organizations. " Don't delay " is the warning that will be given by the speakers. Taxpayers will be urged to protect themselves and aid the Government by being prompt." It will cost the Government money and trouble to hunt down the man who dodges the income tax, but the word has gone forth from headquarters that this will be done. Be it known that the slacker will be shown no leniency. Now here it gets interesting. The article goes on to reveal how much people actually pay for taxes in 1918. In the article it states, "The man of modest income is made to bear just a share of the common burden. Tables have been produced comparing the tax rate in the United States and Great Britain. Here in the United States, the married man with an income of \$2,500 pays \$10 in taxes, while in Great Britain the man with an income of \$2,500 pays a tax of \$223. However, larger incomes in the US are subject to a surtax. The normal rate of tax under the War Revenue Act of 1917 is two percent on a net income of a married person earning \$2,000. The surtax ranges from an additional one percent on incomes between \$5,000 and \$7,500 to a surtax of 50 percent on incomes in excess of \$1,000,000. So in 1918, we have a tax code that can be explained in four minutes. It supports working people with a small tax burden and expects the wealthy to contribute a substantial share back to the nation that makes it possible for them to gain such wealth. Weird,huh? Okay, so much for taxes. Let's talk about the other sure thing in life. Death. This week 100 years ago, there is great controversy raging in the pages of the New York Times over the publication of casualty lists. Concerned over German abilities to derive useful military information from casualty lists and under great pressure from the French, Pershing only publishes names of casualties with no unit, or home address information. Dateline, March 11, 1918. A headline in the NY Times reads, "War Department Stands By The Ban On Casualty Lists. Shows No Intention of Yielding on Publication of Addresses. Congressmen Object. Expect Floods of Protests from Constituents. But Information is Declared to be Valuable to Foe". The article goes on to explain that the French don't publish any casualty lists, instead they simply inform the next of kin directly. Interestingly, George Creel, the head of the Committee on Public information, also easy to describe as America's propaganda chief is in on this fight. As the Times describes the committee's stand as, "The mere publishing of name of soldiers without home addresses to identify them to neighbors and friends or to prevent confusion with other men of similar names, is so devoid of news value that the committee will not issue these lists." Interestingly, the New York Times clearly has it wrong, because George Creel is also the publisher of the government daily War Gazette the "Official Bulletin" and on the same day, May 11, in issue #254, on page 2, there is an article whose headline reads, "List Of Casualties As Reported Among The U.S. Forces Overseas". And it continues to list the casualties by the rank, first name, middle initial, and last name but no address. Looking further into it we found something else pretty fascinating. A few days later, on March 16, another article in the New York times is published. Headline, "1,222 Casualties in Overseas Forces so Far; 162 Killed in Action or Dead From Wounds". Okay. So, 162 killed in action out of 1,722. This got us looking at it. The article

goes on to list what the causes of the casualties are. Some of the smallest numbers are things like death from gas, civilians, and even one execution. But when you look at the numbers, you realize that out of the casualties, less than 10% are killed in action. About the same percent as killed by accidents. But a whopping 37% over a third of the casualties are the result of disease. So if you are an American Soldier in Europe in March of 1918, you're nearly four times more likely to get killed by a bacterium or a virus than you are to get killed by the Kaiser's forces. A pretty strange twist of fate at this stage in the war that changed the world. We've put links to our research in the podcast notes. And that brings us to this week's segment of America Emerges: Military Stories from World War One with Dr. Edward Lengel. Ed, this week your story is about the 26th Yankee Division. And last week you teased us with the fact that this week's story was going to include special rats. Can't wait to hear the story.

**[0:09:01]**

**Edward Lengel:** Well, that's right. The 26th Division is the first National Guard Division to reach the front. It's called the Yankee Division and it's formed of troops from Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. They have a controversial commanding General named, Clarence Edwards, and Edwards is from Cleveland, Ohio. He's a West Point graduate from 1883 and he has a very kind of down homey command style. He's very relaxed and easy going with his own Officers and subordinates. He looks out for his men's welfare and is very particular that their treated respectfully and properly. But he does not get along with his fellow Generals very well. He rubs them the wrong way. Pershing has problems with Edwards and wonders out loud whether anyone could succeed in making anything out of him. So, it's rather a fraught departure for the front. When the 26th Division hits the front in February of 1918, there's signs that the French 6th Army-- The Yankee Doughboy board box cars that are famously labeled for carrying 40 men and eight horses. They're called the Famous Forty and Eight. These same box cars would carry GI's in World War Two, a generation later. The Yankee Division Doughboy moved toward the front on train or they'd dismount along the Chemin des Dames sector near Soissons. And the Chemin des Dames is a hill, is made up of chalk and limestone hills that are gashed by trenches and they're punctured by dugouts and caves. And in fact, if you visit the battlefield area now you can still see many of those dugouts and caves. The French Poilus are soldiers, welcomed the Doughboy, worked with them pretty well, take them out to no-man's land and showed them how things worked out there, take them on a few patrols. But one thing they can never be certain they'll be prepared for is the horrors of poison gas. As we heard, a few weeks ago, the First Division suffered hundreds of casualties from a German mustard gas attack. And the 26th Division may well have suffered the same terrible experience were it not for a strange tribe of rats who inhabit the front line trenches in this sector. Now, these are interesting rats. Usually, the rats are the plague of soldiers on the front line. They have terrible, nasty, unpleasant habits and the soldiers kill them whenever they can. But in this sector, the French have treated the rats as pets. Fed them and trained them to be docile and friendly. And they're quite useful because whenever the Germans launch a gas attack, the rats are the first line of defense because they send up the alarm by squealing when they detect gas wafting in, which they usually can do better than people can. So, they set off the alarm and the soldiers, in this case, the Doughboy are prepared and they're ready to get on their gas masks in time. And so they don't suffer the terrible casualties that they might otherwise have done. But the 26th Division is in for a test, and we'll be hearing about that in a couple of weeks because they enter very heavy combat with German forces in April and they endure a major battle at place called , which I will be talking about in a few weeks.

**[0:12:45]**

**Theo Mayer:** That's a great story. Ed, what are you going to be telling us about next week?

**[0:12:48]**

**Edward Lengel:** So next week, I will be talking about the German offensive of March 21st, 1918. A huge, overwhelming offensive. And one American Regiment of Engineers, the Six Engineers, were caught up in that German offensive with British forces and they were forced, right away, into a combat role. It's a very dramatic story.

**[0:13:15]**

**Theo Mayer:** Dr. Edward Lengel is an American military historian, author, and our segment host for America Emerges: Military Stories from World War One. There are links in the podcast notes to Ed's post and his website as an author. Combining war in the sky and Women's History Month. We have this first person account from a YMCA canteen worker who went to Paris to help our boys. This week, one hundred years ago, the war in the sky over Paris is alive with attacks on the city. This is from one of the last letters written by a Miss Winona C. Martin, a YMCA worker who was killed in a German air raid attack on Paris. In this letter she describes another raid much like the one in which she was killed. Hospitalized in Paris with Bronchitis she writes,

**[0:14:05]**

**Speaker 6:** "Above the red brick wall, which is all I see, of the world's most beautiful city, there rises a patch of sky... and as the light began to fade on my first night in the hospital, I noticed some stars of marvelous brilliance. Suddenly they began to move about in the weirdest manner, which I thought was due to the fact that I was slightly lightheaded. My nurse came to me presently and explained that they were airplanes on guard. She said the Bosh were expected

any moment, because it was full moon. The following night I was watching them again when suddenly I heard the boom of canons. There came the call of sirens, which warns Paris that an air raid is on. There followed a scene as I hope never to witness again. All the lights were extinguished and the women in the ward across the hall awakened and commenced to call to the Saints and the Virgin for protection. Further down, I heard babies crying. The nurses walked up and down ringing their hands, yet trying to prevent a panic. For half an hour the firing continued. Sometimes directly above our heads, and sometimes becoming more distant. Meanwhile, the whole battle was visible from my window. The airplanes, mere streaks of light, darted hither and thither and sometimes there was a blaze like a falling star when one was hit. At the end of that time, the firing ceased. The siren blew the recall, which meant that the Bosh were driven back. And to my immense surprise, the whole hospital instantly calmed down, turned over on its pillows and went peacefully to sleep.

**[0:15:57]**

**Theo Mayer:** Sadly, Miss Martin was a civilian casualty this month, but her letters home give us a special glimpse into one woman's experience of the war in the sky, and the war in Paris 100 years ago this week. Now on to the Great War project with Mike Shuster, former NPR correspondent and curator for the Great War Project Blog. Mike, this week you turn your focus back to the home front with a report on those who still resist America's participation in the war. Their voice is not a welcome echo in the US, is it Mike?

**[0:16:32]**

**Mike Shuster:** No, it isn't and so we have to say the headline reads, American Anti-War Movement Still Alive. A thousand protestors and prison socialists won't repent. Uneasy days on the battlefield." And this is special to the Great War Project. The anti-war movement in the United States remains as intense as ever. That's the view of Historian Adam Hochschild, as he surveys the battlefields these days a century ago. More than a thousand conscientious objectors were still behind bars in the United States, Hochschild reports and attendance at peace rallies was on the rise. American radicals scoffed at President Woodrow Wilson's high flown rhetoric about democracy and self determination. Hochschild writes, "insisting that the real reason the u.s. Was fighting for an allied victory was to ensure that massive American war loans to Britain and France would be paid back." Although, American war resisters were never as numerous as their British counterparts, more than 500 draftees refused any sort of alternative service and went to prison. Witness the case of the American Socialist party leader Eugene Debs. Debs left a sick bed in 1918 to give a series of anti-war speeches for which he too was thrown behind bars. The judge to him he might get a lesser sentence if he repented. "Repent?", asked Debs. "Repent for standing like a man?" In the Spring of 1918, Debs is given a 10 year sentence for violating the recently sharpened Espionage Act. According to a story in Michael Kazin, Debs speaks at a picnic for Socialist party members in Ohio. On that occasion, Debs does not rail against conscription nor specifically condemn the war Americans were currently fighting. Instead, Kazin notes he rails against the fact that the working class has never yet had a voice in declaring war, but were taught it was their patriotic duty to have themselves slaughtered at command. Kazin concludes that was evidently too much for the justice department. Later, Debs would remain in prison even though he eventually ran for President on the Socialist ticket. On the battlefield, Hochschild reports in early March 1918, General Sir Douglas Haig, a commander of British forces, gets an intelligence report. An offensive of one of big scale will take place in the current month. That intelligence proves to be true. "These were uneasy days," observes Historian Gary Mead with both British and French commanders just one step away from panic as the long expected German explosion seemed to be unstoppable. Haig describes the situation for the British as, "Their backs are against the wall, fighting for survival along a battlefield of 150 miles," When the German army launched the first of five powerful offensives. On March 21st, a century ago, writes one his historian, "Only three hundred thousand American troops who arrived in France, and they were still being assigned to quiet sectors, where they could continue their training." As for the anti-war activists in the United States, many shifted their views and embraced President Woodrow Wilson's 14 Points, but some dug in their heels, making resistance stronger. Rice Historian, Michael Kazin, "Not every prominent radical softened his or her opinion of Wilson." Socialist Eugene Debs remained a steadfast foe of American belligerency. The leader of the Whablies big bill would have more than 100 of his IWW comrades remained confined to a Chicago jail for their opposition to American participation in the war. And that's the news from the Great War Project this week, 100 years ago today.

**[0:20:14]**

**Theo Mayer:** Mike Shuster, from the Great War Project blog. If you'd like to see videos about World War 1, we suggest our friends at the Great War channel on YouTube. This week's new episodes include; Peace in the East: The Treaty of Brest-Litovsk and German Tactics for the 1918 Spring Offensive. See their videos by searching for The Great War on YouTube or by following the link in the podcast notes. And now it's time to fast forward into the present with World War 1 Centennial News Now. This part of the podcast isn't about the past, it's about now and what's happening to commemorate the centennial of the war that changed the world. This week in commission news, we're looking across the Atlantic and towards the summer. To the many centennial commemoration events that'll be taking place all across Europe as the desperate and the decisive battles that brought the war to an end are remembered. Joining us, with an overview of commemoration activities across the pond is U.S. World War 1 Centennial

Commissioner Monique Seefried. Monique, welcome back to the show. You know, we haven't had you on the show for a really long time.

[0:21:35]

**Monique Seefrie:** Dale, it's a pleasure to be on the show. I listen to the podcast very often and I always enjoy them so I am delighted to be able to present those events, which are upcoming.

[0:21:48]

**Theo Mayer:** Well, thank you, Monique. In overview, what are the key commemoration events?

[0:21:52]

**Monique Seefrie:** There are, in fact, four major commemoration event. The first one is around the first U.S. Operations. Those take place at the end of May, on May 26-27. First, at where the first successful American operation took place. The second one will mark the end of offensive at the Aisne-Marne American Cemetery, where you have 2,289 American soldiers being buried there. 1,289 are from the second division and in the second division, served the Marines who have 337 men buried there. The Marines have been honoring the Battle of Belleau Wood with great faithfulness over the years. They will, this year, for the centennial year, be the center lead of the event with the U.S. Second Division. There is a major event happening on May 27th, in the evening, in the beautiful Chateau-Thierry American Memorial. The new interpretation center will be inaugurated. And that is going to be a major event. For visitors to the region, it's going to be an extraordinary opportunity to learn more about the Americans in that part of France during World War 1.

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**Theo Mayer:** Monique, let me ask you. What is the interpretation center?

[0:23:44]

**Monique Seefrie:** An interpretation center is the new word, if you want, to speak about a small museum and it's called interpretation center because contrary to the old traditions of just displaying objects, there you are really learning and using all the modern techniques about what happened at the time.

[0:24:08]

**Theo Mayer:** Thank you.

[0:24:09]

**Monique Seefrie:** The second set of commemoration is around the Second Battle of the Marne and takes place on July 28th. It marks the wars and offensive as there was an American cemetery. That day, there will be then a wonderful World War 1 fair in the heart of the village of nearby with re enactor, with and you will also be able to eat the food the soldiers ate then. I can tell you American soldiers always preferred the French food in 1918 than the American canned food that they were receiving, so we will see what we will be served. And at night there is going to be an incredible sound and light ceremony at the French memorial to the Second Battle of the Marne. It's called "the Phantoms" from Lendovisky, was a French sculptor. He did the Christ Rio Digionaro, it was a very famous French sculpture. Anyhow, there is this wonderful sound and light, but in the afternoon you will have a very special event at the Rainbow Division Memorial, with the ceremony followed by your concert. Then, the third series of events will surround the centenary of the Battle of . And this is a multinational commemoration so we as American are part of the wonderful commemoration that will take place at the Cathedral of . Also, with French representative. Then comes the major commemoration of the centennial of World War 1 for the Americans. It is a Samuel and Moragone offensive. The Murzargonewas the largest American offensive that ever took place before and since then. We will start on September 21st, in the evening at Samuel with a fly over of the American memorial at . The next day there will be a commemoration at the Samuel American cemetery and that night, we'll start something really quite exceptional and it will be a luminary at the Murzargone Cemetery where there will be a reading of all individual soldiers names and on the screen you will see general photos. The name reading around the clock for approximately 30 to 35 hours. Those are really the most official events that will take place during that time.

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**Theo Mayer:** Monique, if an American wants to participate in some of these things, how would they go about it?

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**Monique Seefrie:** In order to do your plans, I would absolutely recommend the wonderful guide that Mike Endland had just published: American Battlefields of the First World War. I would also, and it's not out yet, mentions that ABMC has produced a cemetery guide. That will be something quite wonderful because it will deal with the cemeteries but also with the sites around the cemetery. Then, in the Netherland, a new guide has just been published

which is an illustrated travel guide of World War I. But the most important part is really, as soon as you can, book your hotel because they are being booked very, very quickly.

**[0:28:29]**

**Theo Mayer:** I know there is one event in particular that is close to your heart. It is taking place at the Croix Rouge farm in late July. What is it?

**[0:28:36]**

**Monique Seefrie:** It is the ceremony at the Rainbow Division memorial on July 28th. It is a very special for me because I was responsible for erecting this memorial to the Rainbow Division in 2011. It is a wonderful statue by British member of the Royal Academy of a soldier holding his dead comrade. The sculptor wanted to represent the soldier as an angel of mercy and it's very powerful. We will have a ceremony with all the colors of the units who made up the 42nd Division in World War I. Twenty-six National Guard units, plus the District of Columbia and that is why this division was called the Rainbow Division.

**[0:29:34]**

**Theo Mayer:** Well, Monique, thank you so much for coming in and telling us about all these events going on in Europe to commemorate World War One.

**[0:29:40]**

**Monique Seefrie:** Absolutely! I hope that many, many Americans will be attending because I can tell you as a French born citizen, I am really moved to see the incredible efforts that all of these French villagers in town are doing to honor the Americans.

**[0:30:01]**

**Theo Mayer:** Dr. Monique Seefried is a Commissioner on the US World War One Centennial Commission. We have put a number of links including to some of the guides Dr. Seefried mentioned into the podcast notes. This week for remembering veterans, we're joined by James Shetler, a citizen historian and independent researcher. James is here to tell us about the story of a pair of dog tags and their long journey back to the Doughboy that had lost them a century ago. James, welcome.

**[0:30:31]**

**James Shetler:** Thank you, Theo. Greetings from sunny Minneapolis.

**[0:30:34]**

**Theo Mayer:** Thank you. So James, to start, can you tell us a bit about the man these dog tags belonged to-- Captain Swenson?]

**[0:30:40]**

**James Shetler:** Sure, Captain Swenson, Alfred Swenson, was born and raised not far from me St. Paul. I live in Minneapolis. His house is still there. The high school, although the building has been rebuilt is there too. We both attended the University of Minnesota, although 67 years apart. And many of the buildings where he had classes are still there. I had classes in the buildings where he probably was. He studied Engineering but he didn't graduate because he contracted typhoid fever and had to drop out. In 1916, he enlisted in the Army and served on the Mexican border. In 1918, he went to France as part of the 313th Engineers. He survived the war and after the war he was active in repatriating Polish officers back to Poland. He was scheduled to come home on June 12th, 1919 but he was hit by a speeding car in Paris the night before. He died the next day in an American hospital and was buried in the American Cemetery in Suresnes, a suburb of Paris.

**[0:31:49]**

**Theo Mayer:** So, how did the dog tags come to be in your possession?

**[0:31:51]**

**James Shetler:** Well last fall, I went to France to visit the places my grandfather was when he was in the war. I was staying in a B and B in the village of and one of the guests a man, Peter Weaver from the Netherlands told me Swenson's story which was heartbreaking that he died just before I was coming home. At the same time, all of the stories are heartbreaking, they're all tragedies. Dr. Weaver had gotten dog tags from someone who found them actually on Ebay. He researched Swenson and found the story of his untimely death and he asked if I could find out more information about the Captain since we were both from the Twin Cities. So, mostly through the Minnesota History Center and also Ancestry.com, I found out a lot about Swenson. And as a thank you for my help, Dr. Weaver sent the dog tags to me this past December.

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**Theo Mayer:** So, you decided that you were going to take them back to Captain Swenson. How did that work?

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**James Shetler:** The more I learned about Captain Swenson, the more I realized how much we had in common. Both being from the Twin Cities, many of the buildings that existed in the early 1900's are still here. Buildings that he would have been at, streets he would've walked and probably driven on. We're both children of Swedish immigrants, we both attended the University of Minnesota. He would've been in my neighborhood. I live in an older part of Minneapolis. I would have been in his neighborhood. There were just so many things, in addition to my grandfather having served in the war at the same time. I also learned, in all my research, especially on Ancestry.com, I could not find any record of anybody from his family having visited his grave. I checked transatlantic crossing, couldn't find anything. His mother died within two years of his death, so she couldn't have made it over. His father lived til the mid 40's and I find no records of that. So I thought, well, I don't know if anybody ever visited this guy, but I've got his most personal belongings in my hand I wanted to repatriate him with it. At least for a moment.

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**Theo Mayer:** I've seen the pictures. So you went over there and put the dog tags over his cross and took some images, right?

[0:34:05]

**James Shetler:** I did. It was kind of appropriate. It was a cold, snowy, rainy, miserable day and it felt like Minnesota, to tell you the truth. And I thought, if anybody in this cemetery knows what this kind of day is like, it's Captain Swenson because he was from there. And he would have known cold, wintry, snowy, rainy days. And that's the day he and I were having that day.

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**Theo Mayer:** It's really touching because you really, really, do seem to relate to this man. What a great project.

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**James Shetler:** It's been wonderful. And very humbling.

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**Theo Mayer:** It's 65 years apart but you're a really good friend to this man.

[0:34:43]

**James Shetler:** I feel like-- I am absolutely sure I know more about this man than any other living person. He had one sister and she had children and that's where the trail goes dry. Somebody gave those dog tags away. The fact that he found them on Ebay, somebody came across them and didn't want them. Somebody in the family at some point. It's like he's lost. He's just lost. I didn't want him to be lost anymore.

[0:35:11]

**Theo Mayer:** It's a great story. Are you working on any World War One research right now?

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**James Shetler:** Yes I am. I am researching other Doughboys who were killed or wounded in the war. And as I mentioned, my grandfather, Jay Shetler, served during the war from 1918 into 1919. Jay was a mess Sergeant with the 301st Engineers the San offensive and then after the war in Burl Germany. I have letters he wrote to my grandmother during his time in the army. And using those letters, I started a blog detailing his time there. I'm also using a lot of other resources documenting where his unit was day by day, where that exists. And putting other events going on in the war and the world at that time. Anyone interested in following the blog can find it at [Jayinthegreatwaronwardpress.com](http://Jayinthegreatwaronwardpress.com)

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**Theo Mayer:** We'll make sure it's in the podcast notes.

[0:36:07]

**James Shetler:** Okay.

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**Theo Mayer:** James Shetler is a citizen historian who pursued a story of service. Now if you have who served in World War One, a Doughboy, a volunteer, an individual, your ancestor or someone who you just connect with, like James did with Captain Swenson. You can help share their story and get it into the permanent national archival

record about World War One. Just go to [ww1cc.org/stories](http://ww1cc.org/stories) where you can submit their story of service to be published and archived. That link as well as the expanded story of Captain Swenson are in the podcast notes. This week in our Spotlight in the Media, we're joined by Jacy Jenkins, VP of Partnerships and Outreach for Fun Academy Motion Pictures. That's the one who is putting out the new animated film, "Sgt Stubby: An American Hero!" Which is having a combination world premiere showing and children's benefit in Los Angeles later this month on March 27th. Jacy, welcome.

[0:37:10]

**Jacy Jenkins:** Hi. Thanks for having me.

[0:37:12]

**Theo Mayer:** So, Jacy. Sarge atn Stubby is a great story about the relationship between some American Doughboys and a really special dog that they adopted or maybe better he adopted. And it's based on a true story, right?

[0:37:25]

**Jacy Jenkins:** Yes. Stubby was a stray dog who wandered onto the training camp in New Haven, Connecticut. Onto the training of 102nd Infantry Regiment. It was before military dogs, so they taught him how to salute. He became a little mascot so whenever a Colonel might come over and say, "What's this mutt doing here." He would salute. He really raised the moral of the soldiers and when his pack went off to war, he snuck onto the ship and he actually fought in 17 battles, catching a German spy in the trenches and being promoted to Sergeant. He was extremely iconic leading parades around the country when he came back, meeting three Presidents. And even having a three-column obituary in the New York Times when he died.

[0:38:08]

**Theo Mayer:** The media and the press loved him in the day. It really did. So, the premier in LA is also a fundraiser. Can you tell us about that?

[0:38:16]

**Jacy Jenkins:** Through our phenomenal partnerships, we are having three premiers. A world premier will be on March 27th in Hollywood at Regal LA Live. And a special partnership with Variety, the Children's Charity of Southern California. We will be raising both funds and awareness for the Boys and Girls Club in LA, with a portion of proceeds going to Variety. What's going to be interesting is we're also going to be doing syndicated casting-- simultaneous casting, two tents on March 28th. Two special Variety tents, hospitals and theaters. So we're really excited about that. On April 8th, we're going to be Stubby to his home town of New Haven, Connecticut and an advance screening with partnership with Bowties and Connecticut's State Library, and the Connecticut National Guard, which those two non-profits will be gaining and receiving proceeds and awareness. We have a lot of stuff planned. The mayor is going to saying-- it's going to be announced on April 8th as Stubby Day and closing off the block. It's going to be right there on the New Haven Green, where we begin the movie. So we're real excited about that advance screening. And our last advance screening will be on April 11th in Columbus, Georgia which, will be at the National Infantry Museum and the proceeds will also benefit them.

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**Theo Mayer:** Well, Jacy that seems to be part of Fun Academy's culture. You make movies but you also have a philanthropic bent, creating events to raise awareness for the film and raise money for causes.

[0:39:50]

**Jacy Jenkins:** Yes, it is in the DNA of the company. It's really important to us. We just did a Sergeant Stubby look alike contest. And it evolved naturally, because Stubby is the quintessential shelter dog. We wanted to support our animal rescue partners by helping bring awareness to their effort. And that's important to us. As they help us, it's not a true partnership unless it mutually beneficial. So, you know these animal rescues are in the trenches, if you will, of helping dogs just like Stubby find a pack or a home. And helping them market their adoptable dogs, we wanted to hold a contest. So the response was amazing and most of the dogs were adopted that are marketed as a Stubby lookalike, which has been this incredible phenomenon sweeping across America. Also, we were able to give \$2,000 to applicants towards adoption fees. And also 1,500 to the top three winners. We were even able to adopt our own lookalike Stubbs from Dallas, Texas. We go and support our partners events by bringing him and the replica jacket that you might know is preserved along with Sargent Stubby at the Smithsonian American History Museum. And truly, to answer your question, we really have the privilege of telling the story of this iconic, historical figure. We have the privilege, but we also have the responsibility to be that force for good like Stubby was. And that is very important to us.

[0:41:21]

**Theo Mayer:** Aside from that, it's a really fun and good movie. That's really important. Where can the public go see the movie? Because it really is a great ride.

[0:41:28]

**Jacy Jenkins:** Yeah, it's really just an epic adventure. It very innovative because it's all through the eyes of this dog. So, Sergeant Stubby is marching into theaters April 13th. Friday the 13th. We are projected to be on 3,000 screens across North America with a PG rating.

[0:41:50]

**Theo Mayer:** This is a great one to take your kids to.

[0:41:52]

**Jacy Jenkins:** Yes. Definitely. We want to make entertaining, innovative, educational content. You know why? Why have we gotten accustom to educational content? Being the JV team. So, we're bring the varsity team to educational content and we want people to learn while they're having fun. So, we hope that you'll support us in our launch pad movie, Sergeant Stubby: An American Hero, coming to theaters April 13th.

[0:42:16]

**Theo Mayer:** Jacy Jenkins is the VP of Partnerships and Outreach from Fun Academy Motion Pictures. You can learn more about the film Sargent Stubby: An American Hero by following the links in the podcast notes; we've also included links to the most recent trailers and to their social media accounts. Another Spotlight in the Media is for another World War One film premiering this weekend in New York and LA. It's called Journey's End is an intimate, gritty, and a really powerful film about men, mortality and fear. It's a story about a group of British soldiers sent back to the front line trenches, just about exactly 100 years ago. Now, this podcast audience knows what going on. There is an imminent massive German assault rumored to be coming, right away. And these seasoned veterans, who are joined by this fresh faced young 19 year old kid, they know what they are probably in for! I just saw a viewing copy of the film and I have to tell you, this is a really beautifully made, it's wonderfully written, it's well cast, it's powerful, it's poignant. It's a World War One movie you're going to want to make an effort to go see. The film is going into limited release in the US. We've have included a link to the play date schedule in the podcast notes. You can also google Journey's End to learn more. Tune in next week, when we've arranged an interview with the film's director, Saul Dibb. We are going to talk about being in the trenches making the film. You'll like it. Both the trailer and the showing listings are linked below. Moving on to our 100 Cities, 100 Memorials segment about the \$200,000 matching grant challenge to rescue and focus on our local World War One memorials. This week we are profiling the World War One Doughboy Monument project by the Weber County Historical Society & American Legion Post 9 in Ogden, Utah. With us tell us about their project is Terry Scowe, a member of the National Executive Committee for The American Legion of Utah. Terry, welcome.

[0:45:25]

**Terry Schow:** Thank you.

[0:45:27]

**Theo Mayer:** Terry, you were one of the very first projects to submit a grant application to the 100 Cities, 100 Memorials program. When did you get started on this?

[0:45:35]

**Terry Schow:** I think we started in about September of 16 and I think we submitted it probably in November of 16.

[0:45:46]

**Theo Mayer:** Terry, your doughboy statue was originally installed way up high on the side of a building, was that the legion post?

[0:45:52]

**Terry Schow:** It was, yes. On the the 24th Street in Ogden.

[0:45:55]

**Theo Mayer:** What was the history of the memorial's original inauguration or creation?

[0:45:59]

**Terry Schow:** Well, it was designed by Gilbert Reswald, I believe that's the pronunciation, Gilbert Reswald. Our Legion post was actually chartered in 1920. Folks from the post are the ones that instituted that. I don't have much history beyond that. I'd be actually, kind of curious myself, what it costs us to do that initially. And then down the road,

of course, we donated that to the Ogden City Cemetery so it could be on permanent display there. That's why we wanted to help with this restoration as well.

**[0:46:38]**

**Theo Mayer:** It's been a while since I first read your project profile, but isn't there a story about gold radiator paint being used to refurbish the statue back in the 70's or something?

**[0:46:47]**

**Terry Schow:** Yes, there is in fact. The statue had fallen in disrepair. A helmet had been removed and those kind of things. And some well-meaning folks had decided to spray gold radiator paint on the statue in order to enhance its appearance. Obviously, over time it did look great.

**[0:47:09]**

**Theo Mayer:** Well, it was very shiny. But not a recommended conservation method, I must add. Yes. You pulled together a really strong coalition of organizations in Ogden to do this project. It's pretty impressive. Who all were they?

**[0:47:25]**

**Terry Schow:** We had the, of course, the Weber County Historical Society, we had Daughters of the American Revolution, we had the local Quantas club, the Ogden Quantas club. We had the Disabled American Veterans and of course, my Legion post, Baker-Merrill post 9 here in Ogden, Utah. And also, Ogden City came on board as well, and they're the ones that granted us the authorization to move forward on these renovations.

**[0:47:55]**

**Theo Mayer:** What stage are the renovations at now?

**[0:47:57]**

**Terry Schow:** The statue itself is a bronze work, down in Utah County and we've ordered some granite panels and they're working on the base. Of course, our plan is for a dedication on November 20 of this year to have the statue put back up. One of the requests that I made to the Historical Society is add the American Legion emblem on because, in fairness, our post donated that and we wanted the Legion recognized as who had set this thing in motion, initially back in the early 1900's.

**[0:48:34]**

**Theo Mayer:** It makes a whole lot of sense. One of the things that struck me about the memorial is that your Doughboy's face is really amazing. As a sculpture, it's really nice.

**[0:48:42]**

**Terry Schow:** It is. It's great. It's a very attractive statue and in fact, we actually have a picture hanging in our post of what that statue looked like early on in the cemetery and there was not a lot around back at that time. So it's kind of impressive to get this thing updated.

**[0:49:00]**

**Theo Mayer:** Well, congratulations on being selected as a World War 1 Centennial Memorial. You said you are re-dedicating it this year?

**[0:49:06]**

**Terry Schow:** Yes. November 20th. Certainly we want to thank the World War One commission and the Pritzker Military Museum foundation to help us with the funding. I think our project's going to cost, upwards to \$50,000, but it'll be great when it's done. I just think it's great that you guys did this and that we learned about it. We're fortunate enough to be one of the grantees and it was a great community project when we had the Historical folks contacting me and then realizing it was a Legion project to begin with. Obviously, it was natural for us to work to get this thing taken care of.

**[0:49:44]**

**Theo Mayer:** Did you know it was a Legion project when you started?

**[0:49:47]**

**Terry Schow:** I have to admit, I don't think I did. Each Memorial Day, we meet at that location in the cemetery and then our post goes about the cemetery and we put flags on the graves of all those veterans. So it had been a point every Memorial Day for us. But I had not made the connection with the early days of when that statue was done. So, it's kind of fun for me to learn the history and also work to champion to get it updated.

**[0:50:15]**

**Theo Mayer:** Was it the 100 Cities, 100 Memorial's program that actually got you guys going?

**[0:50:20]**

**Terry Schow:** The Centennial Commission was the driver because when I-- I spoke to them at the American Legion National Convention and then learned of the funding and then. So all this kind of came together. Weber County had done some other improvements in the cemetery and then Tom Moe, whose actually one of the World War One commissioners, a friend of mine-- actually Tom was a POW in Vietnam for about five years. Really a great fellow.

**[0:50:48]**

**Theo Mayer:** Terry, thank you for coming by.

**[0:50:49]**

**Terry Schow:** My honor. Thank you. I've really working with you folks.

**[0:50:53]**

**Theo Mayer:** Terry Scowe is a member of the National Executive Committee for The American Legion of Utah. Learn more about the 100 Cities, 100 Memorials program at the link in the podcast notes or by going to [ww1cc.org/100cities](http://ww1cc.org/100cities). And now for our feature "Speaking World War One" - Where we explore the words & phrases that are rooted in the war. 100 years ago, penguins stumbled across the grassy fields of America, France, and England, playing a critical and important role in the aerial war effort. Penguins? Yeah, Penguins. In your mind's eye, are you still seeing little black-and-white, flightless, tuxedo clad birds? Flapping their stubby little wings on grassy knolls? Well, actually you've got the stubby wings, the flightless and the grassy knolls right. Penguin is our Speaking World War One word, this week. And the penguins of World War One were indeed flightless and stubby winged. They were trainer planes for the air corps. These non-flying trainer aircraft were made for teaching new recruits how to operate an aircraft while still reasonably safe at ground level. Around 300 of the "Penguin" trainers were made during the course of the War, with wings too short and engines too small to lift the craft into actual flight, allowing trainees to experiment with the flight controls, engine operations, and flight procedures while still at ground level. These "aircraft" were jokingly nicknamed "Penguins" because both the creatures and the planes were something that probably should, but didn't fly. Penguins -- a useful training tool for a novice pilot, a cute but very smelly animal, and this week's Speaking World War One Word. Check the podcast links to learn more, and to see photographs of the Penguin planes. And that brings us to the buzz. The centennial of World War One this week in social media with Katherine Akey. Katherine, what did you pick this week?

**[0:52:54]**

**Katherine Akey:** Hi Theo. Daylight savings time appears in the news both this week in 2018 and this week in 1918. In fact, the most popular article we shared across social media accounts this week had to do with daylight savings time; most reactions to it were barf emojis and despair, which is pretty much how I felt trying to get up on Monday morning at what felt like 5 am. But the NY Times article from 1918 has a different tone. After months of tightly regulated coal and electricity usage, which meant many Americans spent their Mondays in the cold, Daylight Savings promised to help take the edge off coal rationing by giving us an hour more daylight in which to work and an hour less darkness that needed illumination. The change seems welcomed by the people of 1918, but I'm guessing they didn't expect the wartime procedure to come back, and stay back, for a century. So, if you're feeling as grumpy as I am about daylight savings, you can thank the coal shortages of a century ago for the disruption. Moving on to nicer news. We shared another story about a treasure trove found in a trunk this week. Last week, we told the story of a man who has written a book about his father's life and service in the war, which he put together after inheriting his father's foot locker, filled with wartime belongings. It seems that trunks and footlockers were the go-to way to store belongings a century ago, as a World War One era trunk was recently donated to the Texas Military Forces Museum. The museum posted a video of curators and archivists opening the trunk, astonished at the good condition and the sheer quantity of objects inside. Dozens of letters, photographs, mess kits, magazines, well kept uniforms, the possessions of two brothers, one with the 141st Infantry and the other with the 149th and 150th Machine Gun Battalion, 42nd Rainbow Division. You can watch the whole video for a sneak peak at the collection and if you have a weird old trunk in your attic, you may want to crack it open and see what treasures you have. And that's it this week for The Buzz

**[0:54:54]**

**Theo Mayer:** Thank you, Katherine. And thank you, audience for listening to this week's episode of World War One Centennial News. We also want to thank our guests. Dr. Edward Lengel, military historian and author. Mike Shuster, Curator for the great war project blog. Monique Seefried, World War One Centennial Commissioner. James Shetler, citizen historian and humanist. Jacy Jenkins, VP of Partnerships and Outreach at Fun Academy Motion Pictures. Terry Scowe from the 100 Cities, 100 Memorials project in Ogden, Utah. Katherine Akey, the commission's social media director and line producer for the podcast. We also want to Eric Maar as well as our intern John Morreales for

their great research assistance. And I am Theo Mayer - your host. The US World War One Centennial Commission was created by Congress to honor, commemorate and educate about World War One. Our programs are to inspire a national conversation and awareness about World War One and this podcast is a part of that and we want to thank you for listening. We are bringing the lessons of the 100 years ago into today's classrooms. We are helping to restore World War One memorials in communities of all sizes across our country. And of course, we are building America's National World War One Memorial in Washington DC. We want to thank the commission's founding sponsor, the Pritzker Military Museum and Library as well as the Starr foundation for their support. The podcast can be found on our website at [ww1cc.org/cn](http://ww1cc.org/cn). That's Charlie Nancy. On iTunes, Google Play, TuneIn, Podbean, and now also on Stitcher, Radio on Demand, as well as on other places you get your podcast. Even on your smart speaker. Just say "Play W W One Centennial News Podcast." Our twitter and Instagram handles are both @ww1cc and we are on Facebook @ww1centennial. Thank you for joining us. And don't forget to share the stories that you're hearing here today about the war that changed the world. Alright, so what do you call a Penguin in the trenches during World War One? Lost. So long.

**[0:57:41]**