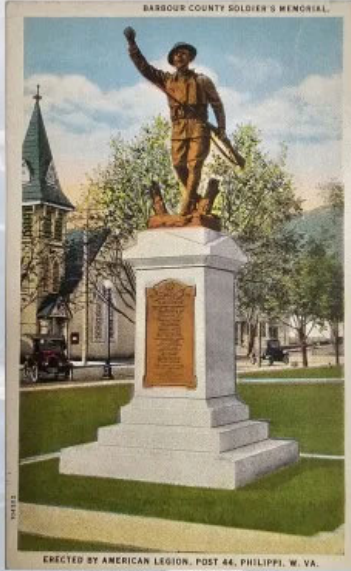




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# A Century Of Honor: Celebrating 100 Years Of The Doughboy Monument In Philippi, WV

<p><b>Invocation</b>  <b>Welcome and Recognitions</b>  <b>Pledge of Allegiance</b>  Michael Rexroad, Acting Post Commander  Philippi American Legion Post 44</p> <p><b>The Star-Spangled Banner</b>  Philip Barbour High School Band - Victor Iapalucci, Director</p> <p><b>Guest Speaker</b>  West Virginia Secretary of State Mac Warner</p> <p><b>Country Roads</b>  T.J. Dalton, Belington Middle School Band Director</p> <p><b>Honoring the Fallen</b>  <b>Placement of Memorial Wreath</b>  West Virginia Secretary of State Mac Warner  American Legion West Virginia Commander Matthew Sampson</p> <p><b>The Names of the Fallen</b>  The Honorable Alan D. Moats  Barbour County Circuit Court Judge, Retired</p> <p><b>Ringing the Bell of Honor</b>  Barbour County Commissioner Jedd Schola</p> <p><b>Flowering the Memorial Wreath</b>  Barbour County Belle Judy Boylen  Miss Barbour County Taylor Paige Skidmore</p> <p><b>Three-Volley Salute</b>  Belington American Legion Post 96 Honor Guard</p> <p><b>Moment of Remembrance "Taps"</b>  Hayden Dalton  8<sup>th</sup> Grade Student at Belington Middle School  Cadet Airman with Civil Air Patrol</p> <p><b>America the Beautiful</b>  Philip Barbour High School Band</p>	<p><b>Still Standing Strong</b></p>  <p>The "Spirit of the American Doughboy" Soldiers' Memorial was erected by American Legion Post No. 44 and the Citizens of Barbour County. Thousands attended the dedication of the memorial on November 11, 1923. One newspaper reported that "the crowd was solidly packed between the courthouse and the stores across Main Street and from Bank Building to Bank Building."</p> <p>The post card to the left shows the Doughboy statue at the time of the dedication. Engraved on a brass plate on the base of the statue are the names of those soldiers from Barbour County who gave their lives in service to our country in World War I. Additional plates were added through the years to honor fallen soldiers from World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, and Iraq War.</p> <p>More information can be found at <a href="https://barbourcountywv.org/">https://barbourcountywv.org/</a> under Document Center, then History Corner. This entry includes several newspaper accounts from the 1923 dedication, as well as information about the statue and its creator, E. M. Visquesney.</p> <p>In July, 2023, the monument was cleaned and preserved by Kreilick Conservation, LLC of Oreland, PA, with grant funds obtained by State Senators Bill Hamilton and Robert Karnes, and State Delegate Chris Phillips, and with matching funds provided by the Barbour County Commission.</p> <p><b>Following the Ceremony</b></p> <p>Circuit Clerk Gerald Fogg invites visitors to tour the historic courtroom of the Barbour County Courthouse and view the recently restored stained-glass dome.</p> <p>Cookies will be served in the Courthouse Lobby and hot dogs will be provided to Band members and Veterans by Philippi Lions Club at the Gazebo.</p>
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In the heart of Philippi, West Virginia, a timeless symbol of sacrifice and valor stands proudly - the "Spirit of the American Doughboy" Soldiers' Memorial. Erected a century ago by American Legion Post No. 44 and the Citizens of Barbour County, this iconic monument has served as a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made by the brave sons and daughters of this community in service to our nation.

On November 11, 1923, thousands gathered to attend the dedication of this remarkable memorial. It was a day etched in history when, as one newspaper reported, "the crowd was solidly packed between the

courthouse and the stores across Main Street and from Bank Building to Bank Building." The solemn ceremony marked the enduring connection between the citizens of Philippi and their fallen heroes.

The monument, captured in a postcard from the 1923 dedication, proudly stands as a testament to the sacrifices made by Barbour County's servicemen and women during World War I. A brass plate on the base of the statue bears the names of those heroes who laid down their lives in the Great War. Over the years, additional plates have been added to honor the fallen from subsequent conflicts, including World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the Iraq War.

In a fitting tribute to the monument's centenary, a restoration project was undertaken earlier this year. In July 2023, Kreilick Conservation, LLC of Oreland, PA, meticulously cleaned and preserved the monument. Grant funds, secured by State Senators Bill Hamilton and Robert Karnes, and State Delegate Chris Phillips, were matched by the Barbour County community to fund this essential preservation work.

As the November 4, 2023 celebration of the monument's 100th anniversary approaches, the program promises a memorable experience for all in attendance. Circuit Clerk Gerald Fogg extends an invitation for visitors to tour the historic courtroom of the Barbour County Courthouse, with its recently restored stained-glass dome.

Following the ceremony, guests can enjoy cookies in the Courthouse Lobby, and hot dogs will be provided to band members and veterans by the Philippi Lions Club at the Gazebo.

The day's proceedings will be marked by inspiring speakers and musical performances by Philip Barbour Marching Band, TJ Dalton (Belington Middle School Band Director), and Hayden Dalton (Belington Middle School student).

The event will commence at 10 a.m. on November 4, 2023, as the community gathers to honor and remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country. This centennial celebration is not just a moment of remembrance but a testament to the enduring legacy of the "Spirit of the American Doughboy" monument, which has stood as a silent guardian of Philippi's history for the past century. It is a day when the past is saluted with respect, the present is celebrated with pride, and the future is embraced with hope.