

Financial Struggles

Like many families during and immediately after World War I, the Memorial Society struggled to make ends meet and pay the bills. The Society relied on donations and occasional fundraisers to pay for the care and maintenance of the cemetery. During the war years, many individuals did not have extra money, and donations to the Society slowed. In October 1919, Society members learned the group did not have enough funds to pay its mowing bill. The Society owed \$15.00 for mowing of the cemetery grounds, and there was only \$9.71 in the bank checking account.

Members decided to make up the difference by collecting the 1920 membership dues in advance. The Society collected \$5.10 in dues, and two persons donated 50 cents each. With the \$6.10 collected at the October 3, 1919, meeting, the Society now had \$15.81 and could pay the \$15.00 mowing bill.

Now, nearly 104 years later, as we reflect on that meeting in the fall of 1919, we salute the women of the Society who dug into their pocketbooks and kept the organization solvent.