Manchester Historical Society

Ticket to a 9/15/1917 dinner honoring WWI draftees and enlisted men.

Ticket donated by Ralph Starkweather, whose grandfather Arthur J. Starkweather, was a WWI veteran.
Research & transcription by Susan Barlow & Dick Jenkins, December 2016.

An article related to the ticket. From The Hartford Courant, September 7, 1917

Manchester to Honor Selectives

“Manchester’s part in the farewell to the men of the national army, while late in getting underway, is making rapid progress and at the meeting of the general committee held last night plans were pretty well settled for the event. The date decided upon is Saturday, September 15, at which time it is proposed to make a gala day in Manchester. The stores will be asked to close during the hours that the parade and exercises are held and an effort will be made to have all the town’s people become interested, especially the children. The exercises will be started at an early hour so as to allow the parade to be completed and then have the exercises at the park before the darkness begins. The committees named at the meeting Wednesday have all been augmented.

The Parade.
First will come the marshal and aides, the Home Guard, the new national army, Spanish War Veterans, the Boy Scouts, Sons of Veterans, and the G.A.R. members, who will ride in autos.

The full details are yet to be completed, but it is the desire to confine the parade to active and former military men. The line of march is also yet to be decided, but it will be short and will be so arranged as to take care of both ends of the town. This will be followed by a public gathering at the park at the Center where there will be a speaker, to be announced later, after which there will be a banquet for the new national army. At the dinner souvenirs will be given the men. If the plan is adopted that was suggested last night they will each receive a safety razor, a liberal supply of tobacco, besides toilet articles and the comfort bag from the local branch of the Red Cross.


Refreshment: G.H. Miller, chairman, P.J. O’Leary, Edward Ballseiper, John H. Bissell, James O. McCaw, J.M. Kletzel, John Trotter, W.B. Porter, Mrs. W.C. Cheney, Mrs. Elizabeth Lamenzo, Mrs. Yurgul, Miss Emily Cheney, Mrs. Frank Isleib, Mrs. Walter Lewis, Mrs. William Alvord, Mrs. J.W. Goslee, Mrs. George Johnson, Mrs. John Johnson.