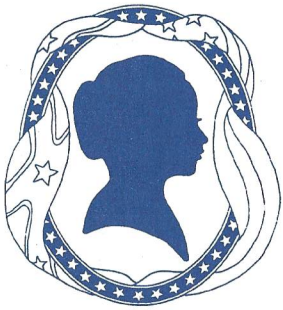


Conference on Women & the Civil War

June 15, 16 & 17, 2001
Frederick, Maryland

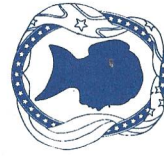
*Recognizing the Efforts of Women
1861-1865*



The Conference on Women and the Civil War focuses on the service of women to their country during the War Between the States. Participants include academics, independent scholars, reenactors, living history presenters, genealogists, military and government personnel, and others who have an interest in women's history.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

DeAnne Blanton, Military Archivist & Historian
Jeanne Christie, Research Associate, Univ. of Connecticut
Eileen Conklin, Civil War Historian & Author
Betsy Estilow, Associate Professor, Hood College
Marie V. Melchiori, Certified Genealogical Records Specialist



CONFERENCE ON WOMEN
& THE CIVIL WAR
12728 Martin Road
Smithsburg, MD 21783

2001 Conference on Women and the Civil War

June 15, 16, & 17 • Hood College, Frederick, Maryland

FRIDAY, JUNE 15

Noon to 6 pm Registration
1 to 3 pm Optional Workshops
4 to 5 pm Optional Walking Tour of Civil War Frederick
5:30 to 7:30 Welcome Reception hosted by the National Museum of Civil War Medicine with a private tour of the museum's newly renovated facilities and exhibits.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

7:30 to 8:30 Registration
8:30 Welcome

8:45 **The Union's Secret Weapon: Harriet Tubman's Military Career** *Catherine Clinton, author and historian.* Harriet Tubman played a crucial role in military campaigns during the war. She began her service with the Union army as a nurse and laundress but transformed into a spy and scout during 1862-63, when her greater gifts were recognized by commanding officers. Post war, Tubman struggled to obtain compensation for her services, a campaign stymied by racism and sexism.

9:30 **They Called Her Captain: The Amazing Life of Emily Virginia Mason** *Karen Rae Mehaffey, author and historian.* A member of the social elite of antebellum Virginia, Emily was reared in Michigan and educated in New York. An avid secessionist, she worked as a hospital matron for most of the war. Post war, she traveled and wrote, including a book of Confederate poetry and the first authorized biography of Robert E. Lee.

10:45 **A Heavy Responsibility: Women and Men in Civil War Northern Virginia** *Michael Mangus, PhD, Ohio State University.* A look at Confederate women's aid and devotion to the Southern military. Women routinely described the duties thrust upon them as laborious and grew tired of war, yet they gave their all and remained committed to Southern independence. As long as men continued to fight, locals continued to hold out hope and actively support their country.

11:30 **Kady Brownell: A Tall and Taller Tale** *Sara Bartlett, independent scholar and actor.* Kady Brownell, vivandiere of the First and Fifth Rhode Island, served 1861-62, yet she is one of its most famous participants. Newspapers cited her as the only woman enlisted in the Union Army, but their stories are far from accurate. What happened to her and for her on the road to mythic heroism is explored.

12:15 to 1:45 Luncheon and Book Signing

1:45 **The Role of Women Physicians in the Civil War** *Mercedes Graf, Governors State University.* There were approximately 200 female physicians in the U.S. in 1860. This is an introduction to some of these pioneers who chose to involve themselves in the war effort, serving at home or in the field.

2:30 **Madame Elizabeth: From Plantation to the Lincoln White House** *ZSun-nee Kimball Matema, Intercultural Education Exchange* Born a slave, Elizabeth Keckley purchased her freedom and established herself as a seamstress in the Capitol. She became Mrs. Lincoln's confidante and friend. Keckley's book *Behind the Scenes* was an insider's wartime view, position, and participation at the side of the Lincolns.

3:45 **Take Your Gun and Go: Images of Women in Civil War Era Songs and Ballads** *Meg Galante-DeAngelis, University of Connecticut, and Caitlin DeAngelis, musician.* Images of women are a central theme in Civil War era music although few but the most sentimental love songs of the period survive in our collective consciousness. Portrayals of women in period songs and ballads will be examined, revealing a much broader celebration of patriotic women of both North and South.

4:30 **Betty Van Metre: Vermont's Rebel Heroine** *Thomas Ledoux, historian and genealogist.* Betty Van Metre's husband and four brothers served in the Confederate army and suffered at the hands of the enemy. Although a loyal Southerner, Betty was the savior of a severely wounded Vermont officer who was left for dead near her home. This courageous Virginia woman braved danger and derision to become a heroine in Vermont.

6:30 Dinner

7:30-8:30 Educational Exhibits

PLEASE NOTE: Additional information—including educational exhibits, presentations, and presenter biographies—is posted on the conference web site <http://womenandthecivilwar.org>

SUNDAY, JUNE 17

9:30 **Making War on Women and Women Making War: Confederate Women, Union Army Policy, and the Military Prisons of St. Louis during the Civil War** *Thomas Curran, St. Louis University.* Little research has been done on the imprisonment of women during the Civil War. Policies, conditions, and sentencing concerning female political prisoners in the prisons of this city will be explored.

10:45 **The Ties of the Past: The Gettysburg Diaries of Salome Myers Stewart, 1854-1922** *Sarah Sites Thomas, author and historian.* This Gettysburg schoolteacher was drawn into nursing the wounded both in her father's house and in area field hospitals. The diaries, memoirs, and letters of Sallie Myers are a significant contribution to the history of this battle. They tell a remarkable story of the human capacity for heroism and courage in the face of devastation and destruction.

11:30 **"Play Dixie for me:" Oral History and the Women of Western Virginia** *John Heatwole, author and historical consultant.* Many people in this area occupy the same land as their Civil War ancestors and are custodians of rich oral traditions of the war's impact on the lives of their forbearers. The women left at home to tend the farms and shops were caught up in situations never before dreamed of, and they responded with ingenuity, courage, and determination. Their stories are a color commentary to the statistics of history.

12:15 Adjourn

INFORMATION AND FEES

- **Basic Registration** \$195 through May 15; \$245 after May 16. Includes syllabus and other conference materials, presentations, educational exhibits, Friday night reception with private tour of the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, and Saturday lunch and dinner.
- **Friday Workshop** \$25 (optional; space limited)
- **Friday Walking Tour** \$10 (optional; space limited)

CANCELLATION

Cancellation received on or before May 15, 2001, will be refunded less \$50. No refunds will be made after May 15, but substitutes will be accepted.

FOOD

Friday night reception, lunch and dinner on Saturday, and light refreshments between sessions are included. Breakfast is not included but may be obtained on campus or in area restaurants.

Guests of conference attendees and speakers may attend the reception and private tour of NMCWM at \$10 per person. Guests may enjoy dinner and the exhibits on Saturday at \$25 per person. Guest space is limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

LODGING

A list of area motels will be included in the confirmation packet mailed to each participant.

QUESTIONS?

301-293-2820 (9 A.M. to 8 P.M. Eastern)

roslin@nfis.com

Additional information is available on the web:
<http://womenandthecivilwar.org>

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Friday, June 15

WORKSHOPS

(1 to 3 P.M.)

A • Domestic and Material Culture of the Civil War Era Virginia Mescher, historian and author. The topic of material culture and everyday life is one that is often neglected but it does have a great many surprises. Women purchased items in stores, cared for a household, and cooked food, whether they were involved in the war effort or not. By studying domestic culture we gain an insight into aspects of their lives not otherwise known. Whether one is a researcher, an author, or a reenactor, it is important to know about the ordinary details of people's everyday lives.

B • Copyrights and Copywrongs Susan Anthony, copyright attorney and historian. A practical, hands-on how to protect your research and the circumstances under which you can use the research of others. Copyright protection and duration, notice of registration, works in the public domain, "fair use" doctrine, rights and permission, and the impact of the World Wide Web on copyright and other intellectual property rights will be addressed.

C • Accuracy in Reenacting Glenna Jo Christen, Wendy King, and Juanita Leisch, historical reenactors. The portrayal of a civilian woman or a distaff soldier involves more than just putting on a dress or a uniform. Three veteran reenactors discuss the challenges and problems in properly presenting a 19th century persona.

WALKING TOUR

(4 to 5 pm)

A tour of downtown Civil War Frederick covering the ransom of the city, war time hospitals, the meeting and arrest of Southern sympathizers in Maryland's legislature, and many other stories of this divided community.

Registration

Name _____
(Print as you wish name to appear on ID Badge)

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

E-mail _____

please check for permission to print on attendee list

General Registration \$ _____
(\$195 if paid by May 15; \$245 after May 16)

Optional Workshop @ \$25 \$ _____
(Which one? A B C — circle your choice)

Optional Walking Tour @ \$10 \$ _____

Guest: Reception Fri. night @ \$10 _____

Guest: Dinner Sat. night @ \$25 \$ _____

Name of Guest _____

(NOTE: Reception and Dinner for participants is included in the registration fee.)

Total Payment Enclosed \$ _____

Please make check or MO payable to CWCW.

Credit card: MasterCard _____ VISA _____

Card # _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Mail Form with Payment to
CWCW
12728 Martin Road
Smithsburg, MD 21783