

The Calling Card



**The monthly e-newsletter of the
Society for Women and the Civil War**

<http://www.swcw.org>

The 2023 Conference on Women and the Civil War

Women in Government Service

July 28-30, 2023

U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center at Carlisle, Pennsylvania

More information here:

[Details for the 2023 Conference - Society for Women and the Civil War \(swcw.org\)](http://www.swcw.org)

Register Now:
[2023 Conference Registration - Society for Women and the Civil War \(swcw.org\)](https://www.swcw.org)

Registration Deadline is July 15.

Presented by
the Society for Women and the Civil War
in partnership with the Old Baldy CWRT



Harriet Dame, Civil War Nurse

Hear her inspiring story at the *2023 Conference on Women and the Civil War*

Conference Spotlight:

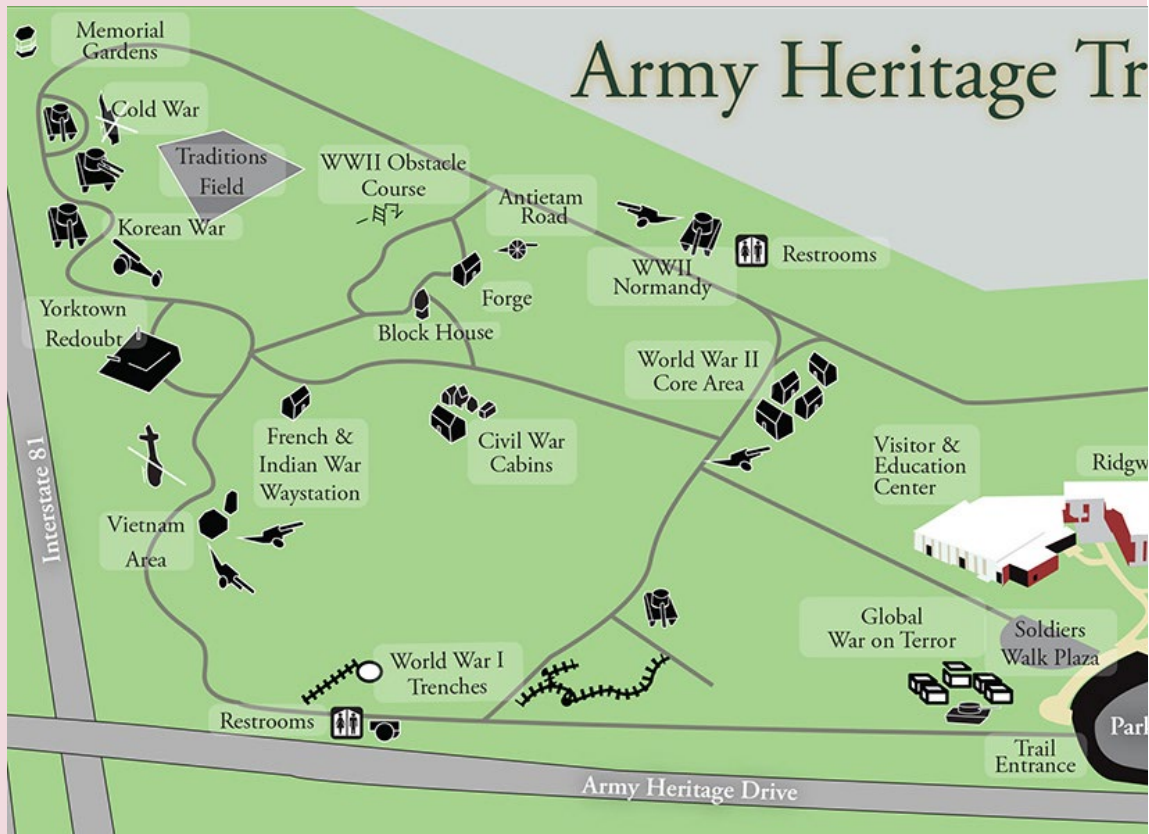
The U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center

[USAHEC Home \(armywarcollege.edu\)](http://armywarcollege.edu)

SWCW is honored to be hosting our 23rd Conference at USAHEC.

The U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center engages, inspires, and informs the Army, the American people, and global partners with a unique and enduring source of education and thought. The Center maintains the knowledge repositories that support scholarship and research about the U.S. Army and its operating environment. USAHEC is open to the public for research, and includes a premier museum with changing exhibits.

The extensive USAHEC archival collection includes unit histories, oral histories, soldier diaries, training manuals, extensive photographs, and more than 400,000 books and 70,000 objects.



The Army Heritage Trail, the outdoor museum of USAHEC, encompasses about one mile and highlights nearly every era of Army history with exhibits and artifacts. Designed to provide an immersion experience that allows the visitor to walk into each period represented, the Trail also serves as a stage for living history presentations by historians serving as interpreters. For the Civil War period, the Heritage Trail offers cabins and a section of the Antietam Battlefield. During the second day of the 2023 conference, seven unit and individual impressions will be offered on the Trail.

Call for Conference Volunteers

It takes a society to smoothly run a conference!

SWCW is requesting volunteers for the following tasks during the conference:

- assisting mobility-challenged attendees at check-in and check-out
- assisting at Friday registration
- working the Silent Auction
- helping with set-up and tear-down of various activities
- distributing boxed lunches on Saturday

If you want to help out, please contact us at swcw1865@gmail.com

News of Note

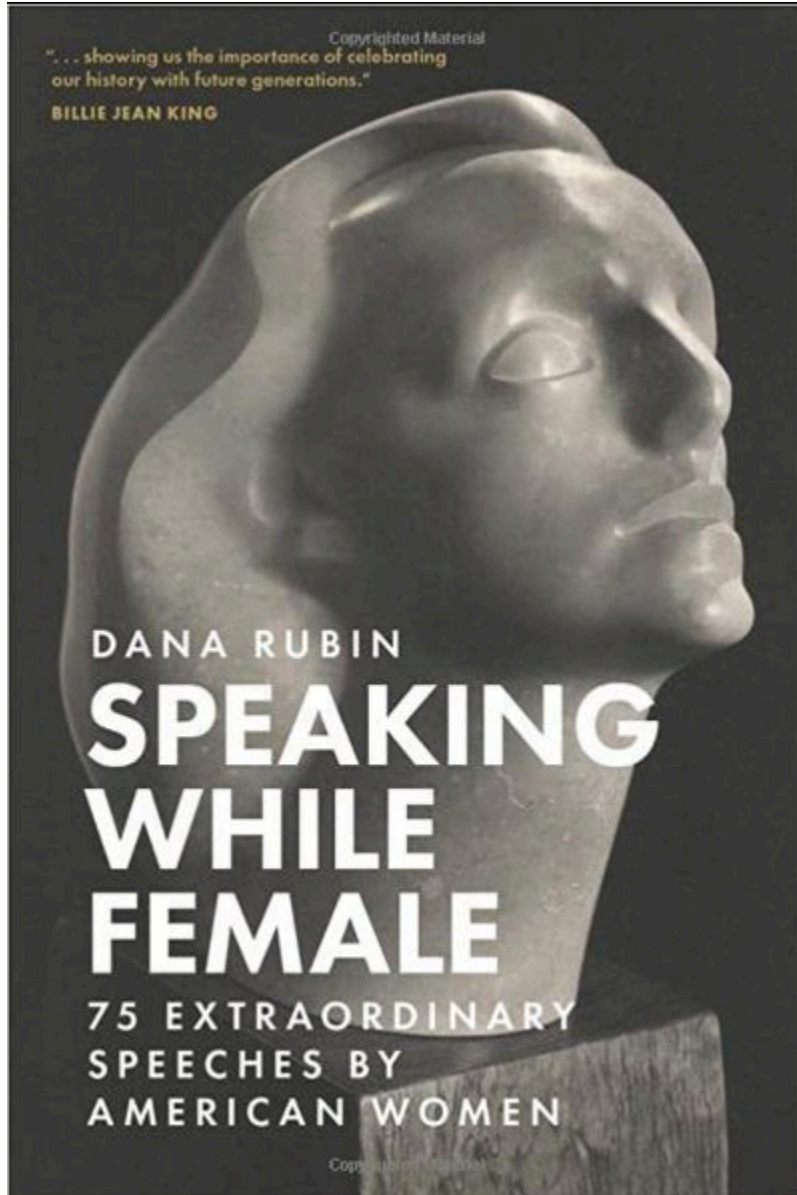
Travel the Oregon Trail!

The Blue and Gray Education Society's 2023 Americana Field University Program is *The Oregon Trail: Trekking to the Great Pacific Northwest*. The adventure starts in Kansas City, Missouri on July 9, and ends in Seattle, Washington on July 18. The field guide for this epic journey is Neil Mangum, formerly of the National Park Service and a frontier life historian. Get all the details here: [The Oregon Trail: Trekking to the Great Pacific Northwest – Blue and Gray Education Society](#)

The Blue and Gray Education Society is an Organizational Partner of SWCW.

Speaking While Female: 75 Extraordinary Speeches by American Women.

Compiled by Dana Rubin, this recently published anthology assembles speeches by American women from 1637 to the present, many of which have never been published. Available wherever books are sold.



19th Century Science and Technology.

Drum Barracks Civil War Museum in Wilmington, California will present a *Civil War Technology Fair* on June 24. Explore wet-plate photography, the telegraph, cooking, artillery and more. Check it out: [Drum Barracks Events \(thedrumbarracks.org\)](http://thedrumbarracks.org)

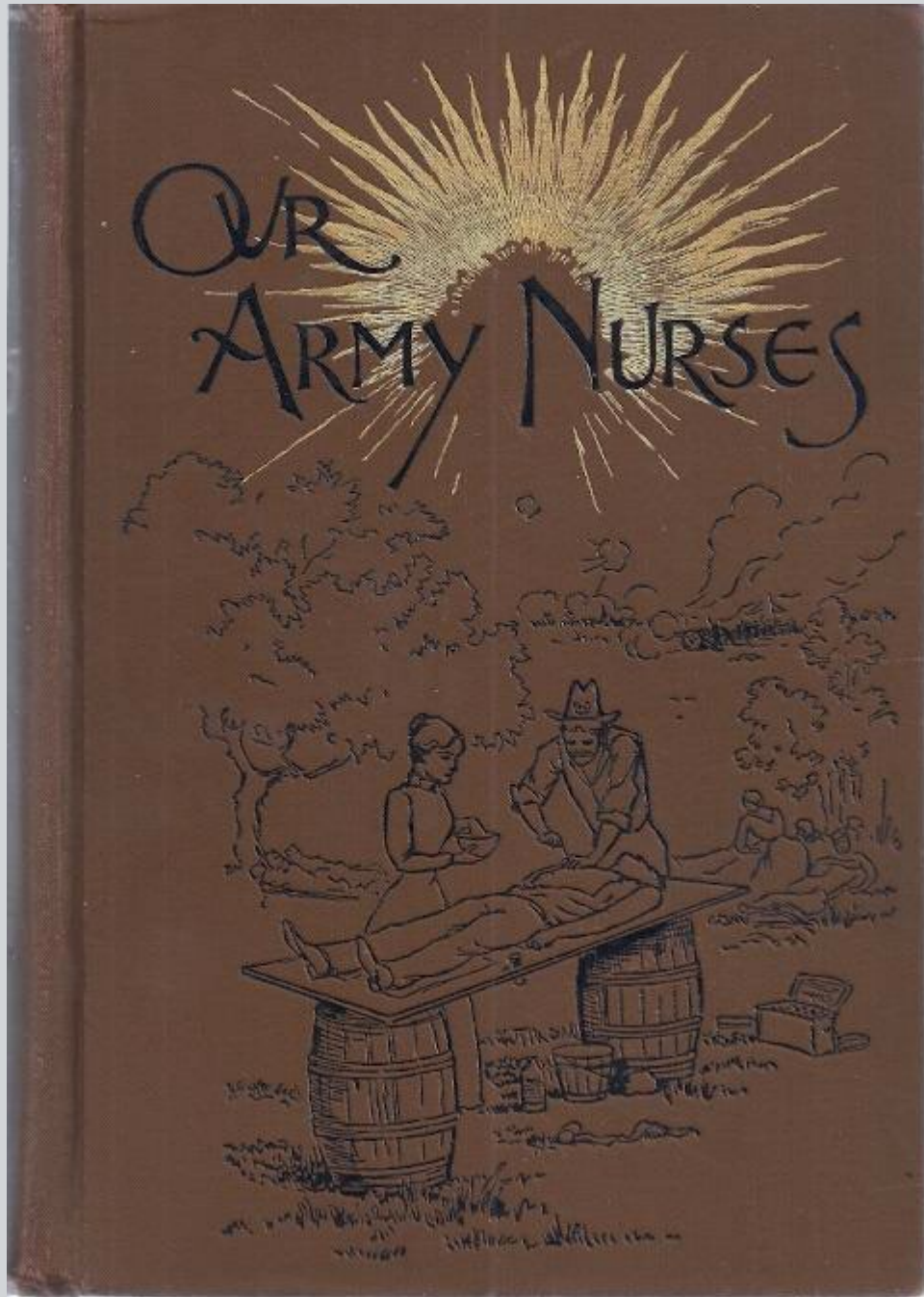
Research Resource

Our Army Nurses:

*Interesting Sketches, Addresses, and Photographs of Nearly One
Hundred of the Noble Women Who Served in Hospitals and on
Battlefields During Our Civil War*

Compiled by Mary A. Gardner Holland

Published in 1895



Former Union nurse Mary Gardner Holland collected wartime reminiscences of one hundred of her fellow nurses, and presented their moving and heroic

stories in this volume. The result is a collection of rare first-person accounts by 19th century women who witnessed the war.

Our Army Nurses is available online at the Library of Congress website: [Our army nurses. Interesting sketches, addresses, and photographs of nearly one hundred of the noble women who served in hospitals and on battlefields during our civil war. | Library of Congress \(loc.gov\)](#)

It was reprinted in 2009 as *Our Army Nurses: Stories from Women in the Civil War*. [Our Army Nurses: Stories from Women in the Civil War: Mary Gardner Holland, Daniel John Hoisington: 9781889020044: Amazon.com: Books](#)

**The Society for Women and the Civil War
is dedicated to recognizing the efforts of women who lived
through or participated in the American Civil War,
and those who research, reenact or otherwise honor these
women of the past.**

Join our efforts and become a member.

[Join the Society - Society for Women and the Civil War \(swcw.org\)](#)

Membership year runs from January - December.

Society Notices

Conference Binder Scanning Project.

Many thanks to the following SWCW members for stepping up to help us scan our conference binders: **Mary Louise Daley, Annette Keener-Farley,** and **Janet Whaley.**

2023 Ann Killian Scholarship Awarded.

Congratulations to **Catherine Ajenifuja**, this year's recipient of the Ann Killian Scholarship for Educators. Catherine is a retired U.S. Army Nurse, substitute teacher, and member of FREED (Female Reenactors of Distinction).

DONOR LIST

Ann Kalata

Lin Russell

Janet Whaley

Individuals wishing to donate to our General Fund or Scholarship Fund should visit our website at [Donations - Society for Women and the Civil War \(swcw.org\)](https://www.swcw.org). SWCW is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and all donations are tax-deductible.

SWCW Proudly Announces Our Newest Organizational Partner:

The Grand Army of the Republic Museum and Library



Headquartered in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the mission of the GAR Museum and Archives is to preserve the heritage and history of the Civil War era through the presentation of historical programs, forums, and exhibitions designed to promote a better understanding of American history. The museum also publishes the *Grand Army Scout* on a quarterly basis. Senior staff of the GAR Museum and Archives have been collaborating with SWCW regarding research on the National Association of Army Nurses of the Civil War.

Visit their website, [Grand Army of the Republic Museum & Library \(garmuslib.org\)](http://garmuslib.org), to learn more about their activities and research opportunities.

Women of the Month

The Nancy Harts

All-Woman Militia, CSA

In 1861, the women of LaGrange, Georgia watched the majority of their men -- nearly 1,300 -- march off to war. Recognizing that their town was strategically located on a rail line halfway between Atlanta, Georgia and Montgomery, Alabama, the citizens were concerned about a Union attack. Nancy Hill Morgan, the wife of a departing Confederate officer, decided to form an all-woman militia to defend their town.

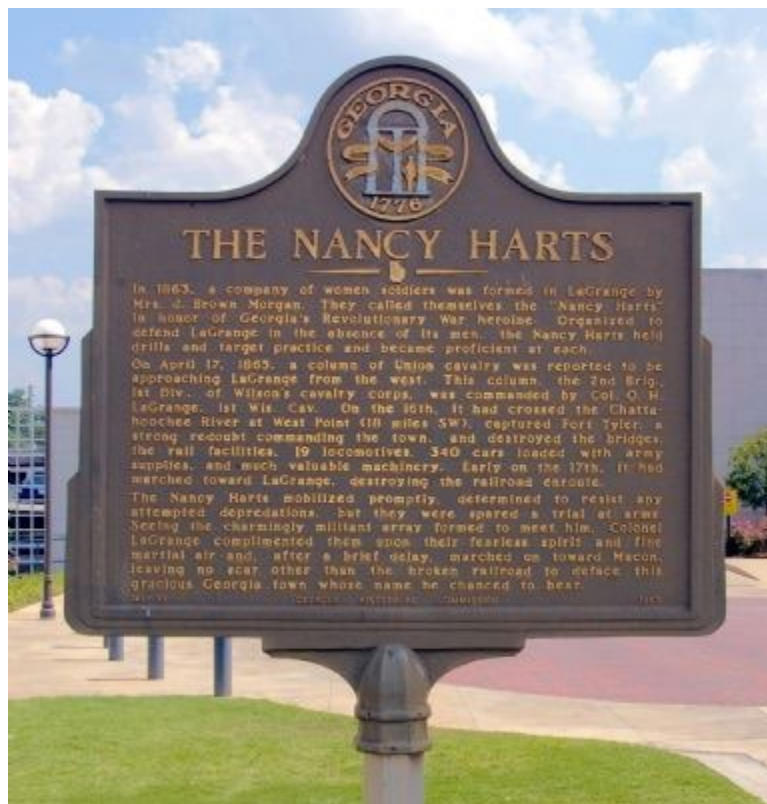
Along with her friend Mary Heard, Nancy Morgan recruited relatives, friends, and former schoolmates to form The Nancy Harts, named after the famed Revolutionary War fighter. Armed with a copy of William Hardee's *Rifle and Light Infantry Tactics*, as well as the assistance of a local man who was too disabled to serve in the army, The Nancy Harts rounded up muskets and pistols and taught themselves to drill like regular infantry soldiers. Over the course of the war, the 40-strong militia drilled twice a week, practiced their marksmanship, and formed themselves into a disciplined unit. They elected Nancy Morgan as their captain.



Capt. Nancy Hill Morgan

In April 1865, Union troops raided West Georgia, and the town of LaGrange received a telegraph that nearby West Point was under siege. The Nancy Harts quickly formed and marched to the LaGrange Female College on the edge of town. They were prepared to battle as a column of 3,000 Union soldiers approached the town. Captain Morgan went forward to negotiate with the commanding Union officer (who, no doubt, had no wish to engage the women). She agreed to surrender her town on the condition that Union troops spare all civilians and homes. The Colonel agreed to her terms and Morgan surrendered LaGrange. The Nancy Harts saved their town without firing a single shot. The Union troops kept their word and left homes untouched, but destroyed Confederate warehouses and rail lines.

The Nancy Harts disbanded at the conclusion of the war.



Solicitations

The Calling Card accepts submissions.

We request notices of the achievements of our members; activities of the Civil War & Women's History communities; educational and archival resources; and essays for our Woman of the Month column.

Send your submissions to swcw1865@gmail.com
with *Calling Card* in the subject field.

(Submissions may be edited for brevity or clarity.)

The Calling Card is distributed on the 15th of each month,
and our deadline for same-month submissions is the 10th.

Editor: DeAnne Blanton, SWCW Board Member and President Emerita
