

The 8th Conference on Women and the Civil War Hood College, Frederick, MD July 21-23 2006

Friday July 21

"Women at Antietam" by Betsy Estilow

Ms. Estilow highlights the efforts of women at one of the bloodiest battlefields in history.

Saturday July 22

"Jane Claudia Saunders Johnson and the Struggle to Supply the First Maryland Regiment, CSA" Presented by Stacy Hampton

Ms. Hampton will showcase the life of Jane Claudia Saunders, who played a major role in the history of her husband's First Maryland Regiment, C.S.A during the Civil War.

"They Married Confederate Officers" by Kathy Herran

Ms. Herran's presentation will center on the lives of six sisters, the daughters of Dr. Robert Hall Morrison, who married prominent Confederate officers. One was the second wife and widow of Confederate Lieutenant General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson. The women are shown to be women of fortitude and character with achievements in writing, music, art, and architecture.

"Strong evidence of your Patriotism:" African American Soldiers' Aid Societies and the Northern War Effort by Patricia Louise Richard

Ms. Richard will highlight the African American women's aid society work for the northern war effort. It will also look at the kinds of obstacles that black women confronted in attempting to serve their country.

"War? What War?" Civil War in Women's Periodicals versus Personal Writings" by Juanita Leisch Jensen

Ms Jensen quantifies the war-related content –visual and verbal – found in women's periodicals published during the Civil War and analyzes historians' reactions to that war content. She will then compare and contrast the war-related content of women's periodicals with that found in their diaries, letters and journals.

Sunday, July 23

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"Anna Ella Carroll, political advisor to Pres. Abraham Lincoln" by C. Kay Larson

Ms. Larson will focus on Anna Ella Carroll's less well-known activities; as a campaign manager, pamphleteer, and aide to Maryland Gov. Thomas H. Hicks during the secession crisis in the spring of 1861

"Precariously Balanced between North and South: Survival in Enemy Territory"

The Civil War Experience of a Virginia Woman Living in New York City Mary Sullivan (1836-1933) by Kathleen Curtis Wilson

Ms. Wilson showcases the life of Virginian Mary Sullivan used her iron will and persuasive Southern charm to challenge Union authority and cross enemy lines to help friends and family in the South. Mary found ways to comfort Confederate prisoners of war and leave a lasting legacy in spite of being labeled as a dangerous woman, kept under surveillance and thwarted by General Dix at every turn.

"Female Physician in the Civil War Armies" by Dr. Robert Slawson

Dr. Slawson highlights the work of women physicians involved in patient care of soldiers in both armies during the Civil War, including women who actually worked as surgeons and provided direct patient care for active duty soldiers; women who were denied access to patient care as surgeons but their labors were accepted as nurses either directly by the armies or through state and local aid societies; and women who had no formal medical training before the war worked as nurses during the war and then pursued a medical education after the war.

"Veterans as much as the gray, battle-scarred old soldiers": Independent Memorial Groups, Civil War Memory, and Arkansas Women, 1865-1899 by Derek Allen Clements

Mr. Clements discusses the changing role of women in the post-Civil War environment by analyzing the activities of independent memorial groups such as the Southern Memorial Association of Washington County and the Phillips County Memorial Association. Not only did women in these Arkansas groups maintain some hold upon their expanded sphere of influence during wartime, but they also interjected their opinions into Arkansas Civil War memory through memorial services, graveyard building, and monument construction.