

The 17th Conference on Women and the Civil War

Appomattox: Where Our Nation Reunited

The Fifth in a Series of Sesquicentennial Conferences

Sweet Briar College, Sweet Briar, VA

July 24-26, 2015

Friday, July 24

Choose Your Own Adventure! Accompanied by an SWCW officer.

1. **Visit Old City Cemetery, Lynchburg, VA**
2. **Tour of Sweet Briar College.**
3. **Walking Tour of Civil War Lynchburg.**

Welcome Reception

Annual Meeting of the Society for Women and the Civil War

The Christiana Riot of 1851. Marva Belt, presenting the work of the late Flo Williams.

How Quakers and free African Americans fought back against the Fugitive Slave Act.

Saturday, July 25

Field Trip: Appomattox Court House National Historic Site and the Museum of the Confederacy at Appomattox.

“My Name is a Heritage of Woe:” Varina Howell Davis and Varina Anne Davis in war and peace. Ruth Ann Coski.

The First Lady of the Confederacy and her youngest child had a complicated relationship.

Through the Eyes (and Pen) of Julia Wilbur. Paula Tarnapol Whitacre.

Wilbur was a relief agent with the Rochester Ladies Anti-Slavery Society, working in Alexandria, VA.

Searching for Maria Lewis, Black Female Trooper of the 8th New York Cavalry.

Anita Henderson.

If not for the diary of Julia Wilbur, the military service of Maria Lewis might never be known.

Banquet

**Audience Participation Performance with the Rivanna River Shape Note Singers.
Auction and Door Prizes.**

Sunday, July 26

The Challenge to Care: Lucy Mina Otey and the Ladies Relief Hospital in Lynchburg, VA. Lyn Kraje.

After being turned away from nursing in the military hospital, Otey established her own.

Inter Arma Silent Leges: The Wrongful Execution of Mary Surratt. Kaitlyn Ramirez.

An argument for the innocence of Mary Surratt in the conspiracy to assassinate President Lincoln.

In Consideration of Her Sex: Gender and the Post-War North at the Gettysburg National Homestead. Elizabeth M. Motich.

The National Homestead for Soldiers' Orphans opened in 1866 to care for children of "the gallant dead." A decade later, the home was accused of child abuse for dressing the girls in the Bloomer costume.