

THE CALLING CARD

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



February 15, 2019

20th Conference on Women and the Civil War.

Have you checked out the conference details yet on our website?
<http://www.swcw.org/2019-conference-details.html>. The lineup this year is so exciting!

- Meet with the Director of Preservation at Colonial Williamsburg
- Learn about Civil War Williamsburg
- Visit two James River plantations
- Hear about Civil War nurse Arabella Barlow
- Have dinner in a historic Williamsburg tavern
- Find out about Civil War Yorktown
- Learn about women who served aboard hospital transport ships
- Listen to the adventures of Civil War soldier Frances Hook

Register online: <http://www.swcw.org/registration.html>

Conference Lodging.

For attendees of our conference, lodging has been procured at The College of William and Mary Ludwell Apartments. Details are available on the website.

Conference attendees who wish to stay elsewhere in Williamsburg are encouraged to make their reservations as soon as possible. Williamsburg is a high-demand summer destination, and local hotels are fully booked months in advance of the summer season.

The Historic Triangle.

Are you thinking about turning this year's conference into the centerpiece of a summer vacation to Williamsburg? The following links are helpful in learning more about the Historic Triangle - Williamsburg, Jamestown, and Yorktown - as well as the surrounding area.

- Colonial Williamsburg: <https://www.history.org/foundation/index.cfm>
- Jamestown: <https://historicjamestowne.org/>
- Yorktown: <https://www.visitwilliamsburg.com/topic/yorktown>
- Newport News: https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g58019-Activities-Newport_News_Virginia.html
- James River Plantations: <http://www.jamesriverplantations.org/#top>
- All things Virginia: <https://www.virginia.org/Welcome>

February Event at the Missing Soldiers Office Museum.

On February 28 at 6:00 p.m., world-renown forensic anthropologist Douglas Owsley will present *Forensic and Archaeological Investigation of Civil War Military Remains*. For more information, visit the museum's website: <http://www.clarabartonmuseum.org/event/forensic-anthropology-cw/>

National Registry of Women's Service in the Civil War.

Please see the attachment on the next page for an exciting update about the Registry effort.

Solicitations.

If you have any news you want to share with the rest of the Society, please send an email to dublanton@gmail.com. Submissions for the March *Calling Card* must be received by March 15, 2019. The next issue will arrive in your inboxes on or around St. Patrick's Day.

National Registry of Women's Service in the Civil War (NRWSCW)

In July of 2018, the SWCW Board of Directors approved the initiation of the National Registry of Women's Service in the Civil War (NRWSCW), and it was presented to the membership at the annual meeting during the 2018 conference.

The registry serves as not only a database, but as a source of demographics for analysis and reporting.

The database has gone through beta-testing and currently holds the names of over 1,000 women whose service has been verified. The project officers have reached the point at which they will receive nominations from SWCW members beginning 1 May 2019; nominations will not yet be open to the general public. This date will permit the project officers to continue adding entries from sources on hand, and will permit members time to assemble documentation to support nominations for entries. When the registry is opened for SWCW nominations, an email address will be announced in the Calling Card. An update on the registry will be provided to the members at the annual meeting during the 2019 SWCW Conference.

The types of service of women and girls in the registry are quite varied and range from aid society members, soldiers, nurses, matrons, diet kitchen managers, daughters of the regiment, propagandists, cooks and bakers to physicians, herbalists, laundresses, vivandieres, spies, couriers, flag-sewers, seamstresses making uniform pieces, munitions and ordnance workers, providers of comfort goods and food to military units and members other than just family members, treasury department workers and PoWs, etc., etc., etc. They also include the service of women who were political activists, speakers, newspaper columnists - regarding war issues - caregivers, and activity within military camps. Also military-certified and/or -contracted prostitutes. Nurses are distinguished as civilian military-employee nurses, volunteer nurses, Dix nurses, USCC nurses, USSC nurses, nun nurses, transport nurses and others. If they served in more than one type of nursing position, that will be entered. If they served in more than one capacity, ex. a woman who served as a contract physician, trainer of Dix nurses and was a PoW, those varied types of service will be entered.

Sourcing, including family history, must be provided, as the project officers will verify each nomination prior to entry. Sourcing should include the identity of the source, the date of the source, and, if a published document, the name of the author and the page number from the source. Scanned documents and images are very welcome, as are URLs for web-posted documents.

After verification, the woman's data is entered into the electronic database, and each woman also has a designated electronic file folder into which documents regarding her service, biography and history are entered.

The data points are: last name; first name; middle name; married name, if married; city(ies), military site(s) and/or military vessel(s) of service; state(s) of service; pension record number; date of birth; date of death; location of birth; nation of allegiance; role/position; source; misc notes.

If the woman held actual military rank by warrant or commission, or honorary rank, please so indicate.

If the woman was a nun, please indicate her order and her religious denomination, ex. Roman Catholic or Episcopalian. If her convent or abbey name is available, that is also welcome. If both her birth name and religious name are available, please provide both.

If the woman was a member of the clergy, please indicate her religious denomination, if available.

If the woman was a physician, please indicate if she was a MD (Medical Doctor), DO (Doctor of Osteopathy), DH (Doctor of Homeopathy) or other.

If the woman had a title, such as Ph.D., Rev., D. Pharm., please provide that information.

If a woman was assigned to, attached to, or associated with, a military unit, please identify that unit.

If the woman was the wife of an officer of the rank of Colonel or above, of a member of the clergy, of a member of the medical profession or of a man of note for his Civil War service, please so indicate.

If information is available regarding the name(s) of husband(s), nicknames, honorifics and or aliases, please provide.

If the woman was the recipient of an award or honor (during the war, or afterwards for her Civil War service) or was the recipient of disciplinary action, please so indicate.

If the woman was a member of an aid society or organization such as USSC or USCC, please identify the organization.

If the woman was a PoW or otherwise detained or imprisoned, please make note of that.

If the woman was WIA or KIA, please provide information regarding that status.

If a military vessel or encampment (during or after the Civil War), or a chapter or post of a post-war veterans, service or other organization was named for the woman, please indicate.

If the woman emigrated from the US during or after the war, please so indicate, including the country to which she emigrated.

If information regarding a gravesite, ex. from Find-A-Grave, is available, please provide it.

If the woman is a predecessor of a SWCW member, please also note the name of the member.

If there is any other information regarding the specific nature or special character of a woman's service, please advise.

The database will be posted on the members-only portal of the SWCW website. Data regarding women who were military members or military employees will also be shared with Women in Military Service to America (WIMSA) for its database and archives.

The SWCW project officers are J-M. White and Jeanne Christie. Those who might be interested in assisting with data verification and/or entry are requested to contact J-M. White at lctress1@aol.com.