

THE CALLING CARD – August 17, 2019

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The Calling Card

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

<http://www.swcw.org>

Welcome to the August edition of *The Calling Card*.

Many of you are receiving this newsletter for the first time; and we welcome your readership.

Our organization's goals are to recognize the lives and efforts of women who lived through or participated in the American Civil War; and to provide a forum and fellowship with those who research, reenact or otherwise honor these women of the past.

A Message from our President.

After Action Report.

Greetings SWCW Friends,

Just got back from the 20th SWCW Conference in Williamsburg, VA and had a fabulous time! This was our best conference ever and it was a thrill to not only see our numbers grow, but to socialize with so many of our best supporters!

Our registration was held in the SWCW Hospitality rooms which were staffed by our own Jean Marie and her trusty group of amazing helpers which included Cynthia Feedback, Ginger Stevens, Maria Greco, Bob Ziegler, Janet Whaley, TJ Youhn and Jim Knights. Then it was off to Jamestown to explore and hear from director of preservation, Mark Summers, about the amazing work they are doing to uncover archeology related to the settlement.

After a light dinner in the William and Mary dining hall our keynote speaker, Carson Hudson, did not disappoint when he regaled us with stories about the women of Williamsburg and the way they behaved (or misbehaved) during the Civil War. The hospitality suite bustled with traffic as the Twilight Madness event brought out the bargain hunter in all of us. Not to mention the number of cocktails and finger foods consumed by the attendees and prepared to highlight the state of Virginia.

The following morning we were up with the birds and on a bus to two locations that were instrumental in Civil War history – Sherwood Forest, the ancestral home of U.S. President William Tyler and his wife Julia (who was owner during the Civil War) and Berkeley Plantation, the location of Harrisons Landing and Federal encampment. The tours were fascinating and informative. Our luncheon was graced by Sarah Biehrle, who spoke to us on Arabella Barlow. Arabella was a nurse, who served during the Peninsula campaign, and was married to General Francis Barlow. Sarah uncovered many unique items about Arabella for this talk. Then as an interim speaker, T.J. Youhn spoke to us on the Peninsula campaign and cleared the air on why it was so pivotal a campaign for both sides.

That night while we assembled for the banquet at Shield's Tavern in the colonial section, Diane Kauffman and her team of amazing helpers (Barb Hanna, Lin Russell and Janet Whaley) auctioned off the remaining items from the night before to finalize the amount of cash inflow from the contributions to more than \$500! Dinner at the Tavern was a hit with cocktails and the atmosphere of the colonial tavern was an amazing addition to the conference in such a historic town!

The following day we gathered in Sadler Hall to hear from Betsy Estilow speaking on the Hospital Transport Service, which evacuated most of the Federal wounded from the Peninsula. Then ranger Robbie Smith from NPS Yorktown spoke on the women who helped spearhead that effort. Finally, we heard from Shelby Harriel on her research of Frances Hook of Chicago's Irish Legion.

Once again, it was time to say goodbye, load up the car and drive on home after a completely successful time.

Next year the conference will be in Harrisonburg, VA on July 24 – 26 and will prove to be another record breaker. Our Call for Papers for next year is being advertised in this issue and your board is beginning to work on the details for that conference. So save your pennies and join us!



Conference Speakers included (L to R) Sarah Bierle, NPS Park Ranger Robbie Smith, Betsy Estilow and Shelby Harriel



SWCW Board Members/Regents (L to R) Jim Knights, Janet Whaley, Bonnie Mangan, Gary Ryan, Tim Daley, Susan Youhn, Mary Louise Jesek Daley and Tabitha Miller



Conference Participants posed together at the end of our 20th SWCW Conference

Call for Papers.

The Society is seeking proposals for the 2020 Conference on Women and the Civil War, which is dedicated to recognizing the lives and efforts of women, both Union and Confederate, by showcasing original and innovative research. The Conference will be held in Harrisonburg, Virginia, during the 4th weekend in July.

Potential presenters should submit

- A synopsis of the presentation, not more than 3 pages. The synopsis must include a description of visual aids used to illustrate and highlight the presentation.

- A bibliography of the sources used, with an emphasis on primary sources.
- A vitae or biography, not more than 1 page, including contact information.

Submissions will be evaluated principally on the following criteria

- Originality of the topic.
- Relevance of the topic to the lives and efforts of women in the Civil War era.
- Quality of research.
- Quality of the presentation, including use of visual aids.
- Anticipated interest-level in the topic.

We encourage submissions from graduate students and are particularly interested in subjects examined from a micro-history perspective. Only presentations based on original research will be considered for selection.

Send your submission to swcw1865@gmail.com. Please put **Paper Submission** in the subject line.

Deadline: All submissions must be **RECEIVED by November 15, 2019**. The Society will contact all submitters by the end of the year. Presentation submission indicates acceptance to speak if selected by the Conference Committee.

Podcast Recommendation

The **Ridiculous History** podcast covers unusual but true stories in history, and recently featured a respectful episode about Civil War soldier Albert Cashier. <https://www.ridiculoushistoryshow.com/podcasts/meet-albert-cashier-the-trans-man-who-fought-for-the-union-in-the-civil-war.htm>

Women's Civil War-era Food Management and Recipes

Growing, gathering and otherwise obtaining foodstuffs, then preparing and preserving them, was critical to Civil War women in their efforts toward the war-time survival of their families. Their food management techniques and recipes are interesting to us for heritage cooking, and are very important to living historians and reenactors who want to be authentic.

Some good references include the following books, all of which are available on Amazon:

Helen Zoe Veit, [*Food in the Civil War Era: The North*](#)

Helen Zoe Veit, [*Food in the Civil War Era: The South*](#)

David W. Flowers, [*Voices From the Kitchen: A Collection of Antebellum and Civil War Era Recipes From Period Receipt Books*](#)

R. Douglas Hurt, [*Food and Agriculture during the Civil War \(Reflections on the Civil War Era\)*](#)

Geraldine Ann Marshall, [*The Homeplace History and Receipt Book: History, Folklore, and Recipes from Life on an Upper Southern Farm a Decade before The Civil War*](#)

Roxe Anne Peacock, [*History Lover's Cookbook: Over 150 full-color photos inspired by nineteenth century recipes, anecdotes, and the Civil War*](#)

Pallas Athena Ladies Aid Society (PALAS), a SWCW member organization, has prepared tables of seasonally-appropriate vegetables, based upon commonwealth agriculture department information from Virginia and Pennsylvania. These are quite useful to Civil War living history field cooks, and can be applied to regions on the same latitudes. Copies may be obtained by sending an eMail request to pallasathenalas@aol.com

Solicitations.

If you have any items of interest for the next issue of *The Calling Card*, please send an email to your editor, DeAnne, at dablanton@gmail.com. The next issue will arrive in our inbox on or around September 15.



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