

Conference Location

**Florence Elston
Conference Center
Sweet Briar College
Sweet Briar, VA**

Directions available on website and will be in your registration packet. Parking is free.

On Campus Conference Housing

On-Campus Housing is available within walking distance of the Conference Center.

Rate is \$36.75 per person per night. Single or double rooms are available. Bathrooms are shared with 6-8 stalls per floor. Rate includes one set of linens (sheets and towels).

If you need to extend your stay, please use the conference hotel as the dorms will need to be vacated Sunday morning.

Conference Hotel

Florence Elston Inn
450 Sweet Briar Rd.
Sweet Briar, VA 24595
1-434-381-6207
Block Code SWCW

Rate will be \$120 + tax per night per room.

Continental Breakfast is included. Call the Inn with your reservation at 1-866-388-6207 before the deadline of June 24, 2015 and mention Block Code SWCW for our special conference rate. Free parking. Located adjacent to Conference Center.

Rate can be extended 3 days prior and 3 days post conference.

Other Possible Friday Adventures

- The National Civil War Chaplains Museum
- Historic Sandusky
- Point of Honor
- Legacy Museum of African American History
- Spring Hill Cemetery
- Presbyterian Cemetery
- Lazy Days Winery
- Morris Orchard
- Rebec Winery
- Saunders Brothers Farm Market
- Fishing in the lake



Register online!

<http://www.swcw.org>

Members – Full Registration - \$235
Non-Members – Full Registration - \$260

The Society for Women and the Civil War is a membership organization dedicated to increasing awareness and understanding of women's roles related to the Civil War through education and scholarship.

**Next Conference
2016 Dover, DE**

THE SOCIETY OF WOMEN AND THE CIVIL WAR Presents “Appomattox: Where Our Nation Reunited”



**17th Conference
July 24-26, 2015
Sweet Briar College
Sweet Briar, VA**

**FRIDAY,
JULY 24, 2015**

10 AM to 4 PM - Dorm and Conference Check-In
Lower Level, Florence Elston Conference Center

Choose Your Own Adventure

Transportation for all adventures is on your own, but we will assist with carpooling.

Old City Cemetery

1:00 PM to 4:00 PM – Cost \$5.00

Tour the Confederate Section which contains the graves of over 2,200 soldiers from 14 states. A docent will lead you on a tour of the Pest House Medical Museum. Other museums and gardens are included on the grounds.

History & Tour of Sweet Briar College

1:00 PM to 4:00 PM – Cost Free

Learn about the history of Sweet Briar College and tour the slave cabin on the grounds exhibiting 200 years of African American history.

Walking Tour of Downtown Lynchburg

1:00 PM to 4:00 PM – Cost Free

A guide will lead you on a tour of the streets of downtown Lynchburg and find many locations known during the Civil War. Wear comfortable shoes. Lynchburg is nicknamed the Hill City for good reason.

5:00 PM – WELCOME RECEPTION

Join us for a salad bar at the Florence Elston Conference Center Lower Level

6:00 PM - SWCW ANNUAL MEETING

Florence Elston Conference Center – Lower Level, Conference Room A/B

7:00 PM - KEYNOTE SPEAKER

The Christiana Riot of 1851, Marva Belt

Three harmless Quakers and 38 wretched and penniless Negroes, armed with corn cutters, clubs and a few muskets, led by a miller, levied war on the United States and were tried for treason as Edward Gorush attempted to reclaim his property under the Fugitive Slave Law.

**SATURDAY,
JULY 25, 2015**

6:45 – 7:30 AM Breakfast & Registration
Lower Level, Florence Elston Conference Center

8:00 AM - Field Trip Board the buses in front of the Conference Center. Our field trip this year will be to Appomattox Court House National Historical Park and the Museum of the Confederacy-Appomattox. A picnic lunch will be provided.

1:30 PM – My Name is a Heritage of Woe: Varina Howell Davis and Varina Anne Davis in War and Peace, Ruth Ann Coski

The second wife and youngest child of President Jefferson Davis had a complicated mother-daughter relationship. Both were fiercely loyal to the memory of the President but in different ways.

2:30 PM – Through the Eyes (and Pen) of Julia Wilbur, Paula Tarnapol Whitacre

At 47, Julia Wilbur left her home and spent the next few years as a relief agent for the Rochester Ladies Anti-Slavery Society. The diaries she kept reveal her successes and failures, her views on conditions for the freedmen, and her battles with the Union power structure.

3:30 PM – Searching for Maria Lewis, Black Female Trooper of the 8th NY Cavalry, Anita L. Henderson

Maria Lewis is noted in several sentences in Julia Wilbur's pocket diary but little else was known about her until Ms. Wilbur's main diary was discovered and transcribed. It revealed the alias and true identity of Maria Lewis, showing how information can change with the introduction of new sources.

6:30 to 8:30 PM BANQUET

The Wailes Lounge will be the setting for the annual conference Banquet. There will be door prizes and an Auction. The entertainment for the evening will be the Rivanna River Shape Note Singers. Don't be afraid to sing along as we learn this Sacred Harp style of singing that originated in the American South.

**SUNDAY,
JULY 26, 2015**

7:45 AM – 8:45 AM Breakfast
Lower level, Florence Elston Conference Center

9:00 AM - *The Challenge to Care: Lucy Mina Otey and the Ladies Relief Hospital in Lynchburg, VA, Lyn Kraje*

After being refused entrance to a military hospital in Lynchburg because "women and flies were unwelcome," Mrs. Otey organized the Ladies Relief Hospital, with permission and support from President Jefferson Davis.

10:00 AM – *Inter Arma Silent Leges: The Wrongful Execution of Mary E. Surratt, Kaitlyn Ramirez*

On July 7, 1865, Mary Surratt became the first woman to be executed by the Federal Government for her alleged role in the plot to murder Abraham Lincoln, Andrew Johnson and William Seward. An examination of the testimonies of 3 men, which contain problematic statements, could lead to a reasonable doubt of her guilt.

11:00 AM – *In Consideration of Her Sex: Gender and the Postwar North at the Gettysburg National Homestead, Elizabeth M. Motich*

The National Homestead for Soldiers' Orphans opened in 1866 as a home for "the many thousands of the children of our gallant dead." By 1876 it was vilified as the site of gruesome child abuse, including girls being forced to cross-dress in the Bloomer costume.

12:00 Noon CLOSING REMARKS

Special Note

This year we are missing one of our long-time attendees, Flo Williams, who passed away in 2014. The keynote presentation on *The Christiana Riot of 1851* is Flo's research. Thanks to Marva Belt for agreeing to present Flo's work to us.