

The Calling Card



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

<http://www.swcw.org>

The 2022 Conference on Women and the Civil War

Registration is now open for *The Women of the Shenandoah Valley*,
the 22nd Conference on Women and the Civil War.

Space is limited!

**This promises to be an exciting and informative event,
featuring presentations by speakers who are experts in their
field;
an excursion to the world-class Frontier Culture Museum;
plenty of opportunity for networking and socializing;
and fine farm-to-table dining.**

Read all the details here: [Details for the 2022 Conference - Society for
Women and the Civil War \(swcw.org\)](#)

Register here: [EmailMe Form - SWCW 2022 Conference Registration
Form](#)



Image Courtesy of The Valentine.

The venue is the Hotel Madison and Shenandoah Conference Center
in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Our special conference rate for rooms is \$119 + tax per night,
plus \$5 parking per day.

To reserve your room, call the hotel at 540-564-0200,
or go online to [Hotel Madison and Shenandoah Valley Conference Ctr
\(travelclick.com\)](http://HotelMadisonandShenandoahValleyConferenceCtr.travelclick.com)

Shenandoah Valley: Historical Site Spotlight

Long's Chapel at Zenda

The story of African American transition after the Civil War is featured at Long's Chapel at Zenda in Harrisonburg. The chapel served as a spiritual and educational center of Zenda or "Little Africa," a settlement formed after the Civil War by formerly enslaved persons. Built between 1870 and 1871, the chapel was the first school for the community residents.

Visitors are welcome: [Long's Chapel at Zenda \(virginia.org\)](http://Long'sChapelatZenda.virginia.org)



2022 Membership Campaign

**Now is the time to join us for the first time,
or to renew your annual membership.**

Just go to our website:

[Join the Society - Society for Women and the Civil War \(swcw.org\)](http://swcw.org)

Our membership year runs from January - December*

Exclusive benefits of membership include a discounted rate on our annual conference, a members-only page on our website, and access to our quarterly journal, At Home and In the Field.

The Society for Women and the Civil War is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization. **Membership dues are tax-deductible, and they enable us to fulfill our mission.** We are dedicated to recognizing the efforts of women who lived through or participated in the American Civil War, and those who research, reenact or otherwise honor these women of the past.

*New members who joined from October - December 2021 do not need to renew for 2022.

The password for the Members-Only Portal will be changed on March 1, and the new password will be sent via email to those whose dues have been paid.

News of Note

MCWI's Spring 2022 Conference.

The McCormick Civil War Institute's spring 2022 conference, "*Beyond the Mere Routine of Everyday Life': Encounters & Experiences During the Civil War*", is scheduled for Saturday, April 2, 2022, on the main campus of Shenandoah University in Winchester, Virginia. Registration for this conference is now open at <https://www.su.edu/mcwi/upcoming-mccormick-civil-war-institute-events/mccormick-civil-war-institute-spring-conference/>.

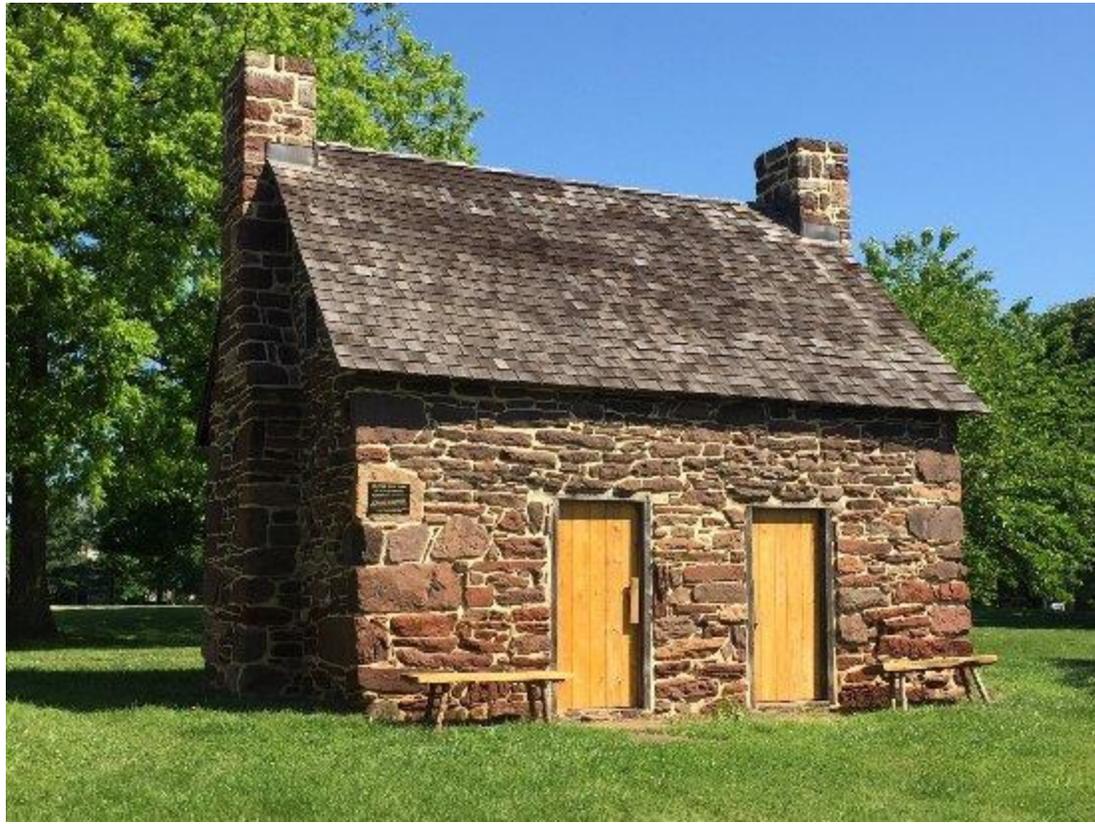
MCWI is a proud Organizational Partner of SWCW, and a co-sponsor of our 2022 conference.

New Civil War Film.

Joseph F. Wilson's third film, *Civil War Dead - Dignity Denied*, is now available on YouTube: [Civil War Dead - Dignity Denied - YouTube](#)

Historic Preservation.

The Slave Dwelling Project is a non-profit educational organization actively working to raise awareness and organize resources to preserve, interpret, maintain and sustain extant slave dwellings and other structures significant to the stories of the enslaved. To learn more about this important work, visit their website: [The Slave Dwelling Project - Changing the narrative...](#)



Ca. 1832 slave dwelling, Manassas, Virginia.

Research Resource:

The National Women's History Museum

[About Us | National Women's History Museum \(womenshistory.org\)](https://www.womenshistory.org)

The mission of the National Women's History Museum is to tell the stories of the women who transformed our nation.

They are accomplishing this mission through their state-of-the-art website as well as through their campaign to build a physical museum.

The NWHM is the largest online cultural institution dedicated to US

women's history. The website is home to articles, biographies, and online exhibits chronicling the lives and accomplishments of American women. Additionally, the NWHM operates a Resource Library and Archives, which is open for research by appointment, and presents a full schedule of online lectures and interviews.



Harriet Tubman, one of the many 19th century women featured by the NWHM.

Society Notices

Mary Louise Jeseck Daley has stepped down from the Board of Directors of SWCW. A long-time supporter of the organization, Mary Louise has worked tirelessly on behalf of the annual conferences. The Board thanks her for

dedication and years of service, and wishes her well in her new volunteer endeavors.

The SWCW Regent for the Midwest Region, **Tim Daley**, has also stepped down. The Board thanks him for all the good work he did in this position. *SWCW is looking for a volunteer to become the new Midwest Regent -- members living in the states of Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma or Wisconsin are eligible for the position. If interested, send an email to swcw1865@gmail.com.* J. White is serving as interim regent.

Current Board member and President Emerita of the Society, **DeAnne Blanton**, was featured in a recent interview on the podcast, *Civil War Talk Radio*. On the episode DeAnne talked about the history and founding of SWCW and gave an overview of the Society and its aims. If you're interested in listening to it, you can find episode #1818 released on February 2, 2022 at <https://www.impedimentsofwar.org/>, or wherever you get your podcasts.

DONOR LIST

SWCW gratefully acknowledges the following individuals
for their contributions:

Janet Whaley

J. White

Individuals wishing to donate to our General Fund or Scholarship Funds should visit our website
at [Donations - Society for Women and the Civil War \(swcw.org\)](https://www.swcw.org/donations).

SWCW is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and all donations are tax-deductible.

SWCW Offers Scholarships!

The Society is accepting essay submissions for the **2022 Marge Estilow and Dr. Florence Williams Scholarships**. The Dr. Florence Williams Scholarship will be awarded to a current high school student while the Marge Estilow Scholarship will be awarded to a current college student. For more information, click here: [Estilow and Williams Scholarships - Society for Women and the Civil War \(swcw.org\)](https://www.swcw.org/estilow-williams-scholarships)

The Society is also accepting essay submissions for the **2022 Brenda C. McKean Memorial Scholarship**, which will be awarded to a practicing reenactor or living historian. For more information, click here: [Brenda McKean Reenactor Scholarship - Society for Women and the Civil War \(swcw.org\)](https://www.swcw.org/brenda-mckean-scholarship)

All submissions for these 2022 grants must be received by April 1, 2022.

**National Register of Women's Service in the Civil War
(NRWSCW):**

Woman of the Month

Susie King Taylor



Image dated 1902. Courtesy of the Library of Congress

Born August 6, 1848 in Liberty County, Georgia

Died October 6, 1912 in Boston, Massachusetts

Buried at Mount Hope Cemetery in Roslindale, Massachusetts

Susan Ann Baker was born into slavery on August 6, 1848, the first of nine children of Raymond and Hagar Baker. For the first seven years of her life, she lived with her parents on a plantation owned by Valentine Grest on the Isle of Wight. Susie's grandmother, Dolly Reed, convinced Grest to allow Susie and two younger siblings to live with her in Savannah, Georgia. Dolly immediately arranged for the education of her grandchildren. Over the next six years, Susie was secretly educated by a succession of teachers, including a free black woman, Mrs. Woodhouse; an African-American nun; a white playmate; and the son of their landlord.

At the beginning of the Civil War, Susie was ordered back to the plantation. In early April 1862, she fled with her uncle to a federal gunboat at St. Catherine's

Island. They were shortly transferred to St. Simon's Island, where Susie made herself known to Union authorities. In short order, at the age of thirteen, Susie founded the first free school for African American children in the state of Georgia. She taught more than forty children during the day, and held night classes for adults.

In August 1862, the 1st South Carolina Volunteers, later redesignated as the 33rd U.S. Colored Infantry, formed on St. Simon's. Susie enrolled as a laundress, and went with the regiment when it was transferred to Beaufort, South Carolina. There, at the age of fourteen, Susie married Edward King of Co. E. She and Edward served together in the 33rd USCT until they were mustered out on February 6, 1866. Although officially designated as a laundress, Susie also worked as a cook, seamstress, and nurse for her regiment. Additionally, she taught the men of the regiment to read and write. Susie served with the regiment for four years and three months, but was never paid for her services.

After their military service, Susie and Edward settled in Savannah. Susie opened a day school for African American children, and a night school for their parents. Edward found work as a longshoreman. Sadly, Edward passed away in September 1866, just a few months before Susie gave birth to their only child. When public charter schools for African American children opened in Savannah, Susie's private schools went out of business. No longer able to support herself and her child by teaching, Susie entered domestic service with the family of Charles Green. It was in the employ of the Greens that she first travelled to Boston.

In 1874, Susie permanently relocated from Savannah to Boston, and continued to work as a domestic servant until she married Russell Taylor in 1879. She became a civil rights activist and also helped form Corps 67 of the Women's

Relief Corps, serving as its president in 1893. Russell died in 1901. In 1902, Susie published her memoir, *Reminiscences of My Life in Camp with the 33rd United States Colored Troops, Late 1st S.C. Volunteers*. Susie is the only African American woman to publish a Civil War memoir. She passed away ten years later, at the age of 64, and was buried in an unmarked grave next to Russell.

In 2008, Susie was the recipient of the Georgia Women of Achievement Award. In 2019 the Georgia Historical Society erected a marker honoring her near the First Presbyterian Church in Midway. In 2020 the Boston Parks and Recreation Department marked her grave with an upright granite marker. A public school in Savannah is named after Susie. Her memoir is still in print.

The Calling Card accepts submissions.

We are pleased to share the achievements of our members, and to advertise the activities of the Civil War and Women's History communities. We also welcome individual research requests, and notifications about educational and archival resources.

Please send your submissions to swcw1865@gmail.com, with *Calling Card* in the subject field. (Submissions may be edited for brevity or clarity.)

The Calling Card is distributed on the 15th of each month, and our deadline for same-month submissions is the 10th.

If you enjoyed this issue of *The Calling Card*,
please consider forwarding to a friend.

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