

CWI 2018 Conference Wrap-Up and Thank You!!



From June 22-27, we hosted over 330 attendees and nearly 30 faculty members on the Gettysburg College campus for the Civil War Institute's annual summer conference. Attendees hailed from 38 states, plus the District of Columbia, and 4 countries, and included 11 high school scholarship recipients, 3 recipients of the Scott Hartwig Public History Scholarship, and 2 recipients of the Robert Glass Teacher Scholarship. Participants attended lectures, roundtables, panels, and small group discussions over meals with faculty that covered a wide range of topics, including the prisoner-of-war experience, Hood's Texas Brigade, the war for the common soldier, medical experimentation on enslaved women, and USCT desertion, among others. Our three days of battlefield tours included both evening and half-day tours exploring the fighting in the Wheatfield and along Cemetery Ridge, Gettysburg's battlefield monuments, Gettysburg civilians' experiences of battle, as well as the Seminary Ridge Museum, while our day-long tours took us to Manassas, Harpers Ferry, Washington, D.C., and Antietam. Participants also enjoyed day-long tours of the Gettysburg battlefield and tours following General Meade's movements before, during, and after the battle.

We would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to all of our attendees for making CWI 2018 a part of their summer. The enthusiasm, passion, and intellectual curiosity you bring to the conference are tremendous, and we so enjoyed having you with us this June. We also would like to thank you all again for your patience this year as we worked through the unexpected challenges of adjusting to a new (though only temporary!) main-stage venue in Bream Gym. We apologize for any inconvenience that this one-year change in meeting space caused, and we look forward to returning to our traditional (and upgraded!) meeting space in the College Union Building next year!

Miss any of our talks, or care to view them again?

Both CSPAN and PCN were on campus to film many of the conference's main-stage lectures. While many of the talks were streamed live, you can watch them again by checking the [CSPAN](#) and [PCN](#) schedules for re-airing, as well as the video libraries on their respective websites. You can also access these videos as they become available on the CWI [website](#).

REGISTRATION FOR 2019 IS OPEN!

Registration for the 2019 CWI summer conference (June 14-19) officially opened on July 2nd! Please visit our [website](#) to peruse next year's [schedule](#) and [register](#) for the 2019 conference. Featured 2019 speakers include Gary Gallagher, Ed Ayers, and Carol Reardon, among others!

Returning to Wednesday morning check-out

For those of you who attended this year's conference and expressed concern over the Tuesday, June 18th mid-day check-out on the preliminary 2019 conference schedule, please note that we have since revisited this topic as a staff and have revised the schedule to return to the traditional Wednesday morning check-out on June 19th.

New packages, discounts, and pricing for next year

As several 2018 attendees have already noted, we will be increasing conference fees again next year. While the increase may come as a surprise to some, rising conference service fees at the college and increased fees for speakers and transportation have required us to make this adjustment in order to be able to keep running a conference of this size and scope. We apologize for the increase, but sincerely appreciate your understanding in this matter.

We are, however, happy to offer several new discounts for 2019, in addition to our previous discounts. If you are a military veteran, Gettysburg College alumnus/a, K-12 educator, student (age 18 or older), public historian, or member of one of our partnering institutions listed on our registration webpage, you may qualify for a conference

discount. We are also pleased to offer a new half-price discount for minors (under 18 years of age) attending the conference with an adult. Finally, this year we are introducing a special family-lodging package for families of 3-5 who would like to attend the conference together. Please see our [registration](#) page for further details.

New tour and dine-in selection process!

Starting July 2nd, all conference registrants will be able to indicate their preferences for all battlefield tours and dine-in discussions during the initial registration process. We hope that this new system will enable us to cut back on some of the extraneous paperwork in the spring time, help us better gauge our tour numbers in advance, and reduce the number of miscommunications and missed sign-ups due to spam filters deleting bulk emails!

****WE DO ASK THAT YOU PLEASE ADD THE EMAIL ADDRESS OF CWI'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, ASHLEY LUSKEY (aluskey@gettysburg.edu) TO YOUR PERSONAL EMAIL ADDRESS BOOK. SHE WILL NEED TO SEND OUT SEVERAL MASS EMAILS TO ATTENDEES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR WITH IMPORTANT CONFERENCE INFORMATION, AND IF HER EMAIL IS NOT INCLUDED IN YOUR ADDRESS BOOK, IT MAY GET SENT TO SPAM AND BE DELETED. WE ALSO ASK THAT YOU REGULARLY CHECK YOUR SPAM FOLDERS OR REVISIT YOUR SPAM FILTER SETTINGS TO HELP REDUCE THE RISK OF MISSED EMAILS!****

****Please note that tour and dine-in selections are preferences only, NOT confirmations! You will be emailed a confirmation of all tour placements by May 1st, 2019.****

FUTURE CONFERENCE DATES

From 2019 forward, the CWI annual summer conference will begin on the second Friday of June. As many of you know, we have tried to rotate the dates of the conference the past several years to try to avoid Father's Day, the final weeks of school for individuals from many northern states, as well as other Civil War conferences that sometimes run concurrent with CWI. However, in light of numerous factors, including increased competition for lodging, dining, and classroom availability due to other concurrent camps & conferences at the college, heat & weather concerns, and administrative needs, we had to make the difficult decision of anchoring the conference on the 2nd Friday of each June. We realize that this decision may inconvenience or inhibit the participation of some of our attendees due to school, work, and family commitments, and we sincerely apologize for this. However, we do not see a current, workable alternative to these issues, and we once again appreciate your understanding in this matter.

From all of the staff at the Civil War Institute, thank you again to our 2018 conference attendees! We hope to see you next year, and we always look forward to seeing new faces as well! We hope you have a wonderful summer!