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American Association for State and Local History

Military History

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE AASLH MILITARY HISTORY AFFINITY GROUP

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AASLH Military History Affinity Group

Military History Survey

The AASLH Military History Affinity Group Advisory Committee wants to hear from you. If your organization has any type of military collections or tells any stories related to the military, then this survey needs your input.

[Click here to access the survey.](#)

The Military History Affinity Group exists to help any organization with a military collection or connection. This survey will help identify ways they can be of service to local history organizations as well as military museums. **The survey will be open until June 15.** You are strongly encouraged to participate.

Civil War Commemoration Commentary

by Steve Stearns, Field Program Curator, Historical Services Division, National Guard Bureau, Washington, DC

Many of you may have noticed that as we embark as a nation to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, there has not been a federally-driven, top-down approach such as with the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial. This has really become a state-centered commemoration. While one can argue the merits of this approach, the bottom line is there still is a lot going on regarding the Commemoration. It takes a little more initiative to ferret out the events and related programs, but it is well worth our effort to do so.

AASLH does have a page on their website dedicated to the [Civil War 150](#) with links to contacts for each state with an active commission. It also

Articles for this e-newsletter are supplied by members of the AASLH Military History Affinity Group Advisory Committee. Please feel free to forward this e-mail to colleagues.

For more Military History resources, [click here](#).

To sign up to receive future issues of *Military History Affinity Group News*, join the AASLH [Military History Affinity Group](#). **The Affinity Group is not a membership organization and there is no fee to join.**

However, you will need to create a username and password and share your basic contact information. [Click here](#) and then click on "Join the Military History Affinity Group" link at the top of the page and then on "Don't have a Login? Click here."

contains podcasts of speakers and sessions focusing on the Sesquicentennial from previous AASLH meetings.

Coming up this summer are such events as Yorktown Civil War weekend in Yorktown, Virginia (May 28-29); Juneteenth Ceremony marking the end of slavery, Antietam National Battlefield, Sharpsburg, Maryland (June 19); Commemoration of cannon fire between Confederates and the USS Massachusetts, Gulf Islands National Seashore, Gulf Breeze, Florida (July 9); and Battle Reenactments at Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, Republic, Missouri (August 12-14).

A visit to the [U.S. Army Center of Military History \(CMH\) website](#) will provide those interested with a list of Civil War Links. From that list we can report that Arkansas, Connecticut, Kentucky, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia all have their own state websites on the Civil War. I am hopeful other states will join them.

I also want to promote participation in one particular conference that I believe will be nothing short of outstanding. That would be the Civil War Photographic Conference entitled, [Understanding War through Imagery: The Civil War in American Memory](#). It will be presented by the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center (USAHEC) & the Army Heritage Center Foundation in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Dates for the conference are June 25 and 26. The USAHEC is a fine facility and will provide a wonderful setting for this emphasis on early photography and photographic techniques, along with related Civil War topics. The Civil War Dance Foundation will be demonstrating Civil War and Victorian Era dancing Saturday evening. Questions can be addressed to carl_civilwarconf@conus.army.mil.

Military History Affinity Group Activities at AASLH 2011 Conference in Richmond

The Military History Affinity Group Advisory Committee would like to invite you to join us in Richmond on September 14-17 for the [2011 AASLH Annual Meeting](#). There are sessions and activities planned especially for military-related institutions, along with several sessions with military ties. Here are some of the highlights:

- **Wednesday, September 14**
 - Civil War Sampler Tour
- **Thursday, September 15**
 - Opportunities for Civil War Data 150
 - The Do's and Don'ts of Working with Private Collectors and Researchers
 - Remembering Even When It Hurts
- **Friday, September 16**
 - Secession and the Confederacy: Issues for Local History Sites
 - Aren't We Forgetting Something? The War of 1812 Bicentennial
- **Saturday, September 17**
 - Military History/Presidential Sites and Libraries Affinity Group Joint Breakfast
 - Hardtack and Heroines Tour - A visit to the U.S. Quartermaster Museum and the U.S. Army Women's Museum with a behind-the-scenes tour.

Another highlight is the keynote speaker on Thursday, September 15. Adam Goodheart is the author of the upcoming book *1861: The Civil War Awakening*. [Click here](#) to hear a podcast of Goodheart on NPR: "Looking At The Civil War 150 Years Later"

For more information about all of AASLH's programs and services, visit <http://aaslh.org/>

The complete schedule will be available on the AASLH website after June 1. Register by July 29 and save \$75 off the preregistration rate. [Click here for more information about registration and hotels.](#)



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