HEADQUARTERS GAZETTE

SOCIETY FOR MILITARY HISTORY VOL. 38, NO. 3 FALL 2025

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY WAYNE LEE

Greetings to my fellow members of the society, and I hope you've had an energizing start to the academic year (for many of you). Preparations are heating up for our spring conference, again to be held in Arlington and the deadline for submissions is upon us. And regarding the SMH submissions, we wanted to highlight a new kind of panel at this year's conference: the "SMH (Grad Student) Talks" are 5-minute presentations in which the presenter rapidly summarizes their ongoing research, essentially an extended elevator pitch (or mini-TED talk) of their project. The Program Committee will create up to two panels of up to ten presentations each, with time reserved for Q&A and discussion. Several of us have seen this format experimented with at other conferencs, and we're hopeful that it may engage the interest of graduate students who may yet be in early stages of a project and are hoping for some guidance and feedback.

As president, I also wanted to here express my personal gratitude to trustee Miranda Summers-Lowe and her husband Justin Lowe, who have donated $10,000 to the Society to endow an annual prize that recognizes individuals doing meritorious work in public history (independent and separate from a record of academic publication). The society will begin awarding this prize in the spring of 2026 as part of the suite of awards announced at the conference. Examples of meritorious work in public history include, but are not limited to: excellence in museum or exhibit work, oral histories, journalistic writing, website content or other electronic media, documentary film, battlefield interpretation, and education programs for audiences outside of post-secondary academia (such as K-12 students or currently serving military.

I'm also honored to report that the late Graham Cosmas, a long-time member and treasurer of our organization, and someone who was responsible in many ways for reorganizing the Society into its modern form, left a substantial sum to the SMH in his will. As historians, I encourage you to read our remembrance of him, which lays out the details of his many contributions to the Society here: https://www.smh-hq.org/grahamcosmas.html. In honor of that bequest, the Board of Trustees recently voted to fund the registration fees of first-time graduate student attendees at the annual conference, who will hereafter be known as "Cosmas Fellows."

We're very grateful for these acts of generosity and commitment, and we are always open to discussion with any member wishing to support the society in any way.

Lastly, I'm pleased to say that the Board had a productive two-day meeting in August, assessing where we are and where we'd like to be. We had quite a free-flowing conversation, unburdened by the bureaucratic necessities of our twice-yearly business meetings. I think we've gotten some good ideas and some clear directions, and I'm preparing a strategy summary for the board to consider at our fall 2025 meeting in October. More details will emerge as they are approved.

SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR THE MORISON PRIZE & SIMMONS AWARD

The Society for Military History seeks nominations for two of its most distinguished awards, the Samuel Eliot Morison Prize and the Edwin H. Simmons Award.

The Samuel Eliot Morison Prize recognizes not any one specific achievement, but a body of contributions in the field of military history, extending over time and reflecting a spectrum of scholarly activity contributing significantly to the field. Recent winners include Jennifer D. Keene, John Morrow, Brian McAllister Linn, and Beth Bailey.

The Edwin H. Simmons Award (formerly the Victor Gondos Award) is presented for long, distinguished or particularly outstanding service to the Society for Military History. Recent winners include Ricardo Herrera, George Eaton, the SMH Operations Staff, and Sarandis (Randy) Papadopoulos.

To nominate someone for either award, please send a one-page letter of nomination (it can have multiple people sign) by **Monday, February 2** to Executive Director Kyle Longley at longley@chapman.edu. . He will submit to the board of trustees for consideration (Please note that all nominees must be a member of the organization in good standing). The winners will be notified in advance of the March conference so they can hopefully attend the awards ceremony.

New members to the Society will automatically be entered into the online directory database. If this is not acceptable, please contact the Business Office.

HEADQUARTERS GAZETTE
is a publication of the Society for Military History

Submit newsletter material to the editor:

Kurt Hackemer
Department of History
University of South Dakota
414 E. Clark Street
Vermillion, SD 57069
Kurt.Hackemer@usd.edu

Send all change-of-address and membership inquiries to the journal editor:

Editor
The Journal of Military History
Virginia Military Institute
Lexington, VA 24450
jmhsmh@vmi.edu

INTRODUCING SMH (GRAD STUDENT) TALKS FOR THE 2026 ANNUAL MEETING



NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR GRAD STUDENTS: INTRODUCING "**SMH (Grad Student) TALKS**" @ SMH 2026 Annual Conference (Submission deadline 15 Nov. 2025)

- **"SMH (Grad Student) Talks"** are 5-minute presentations in which the presenter summarizes their ongoing research. Several major universities (e.g., Penn State, Texas Tech, Univ of Miami) hold grad student Ted-like Talks annually as a way for emerging scholars to share their ideas early in the research-writing journey, receive feedback, and garner interest.
- New in 2026, SMH will feature two panels consisting of up to ten 5-minute presentations each, followed by a 30-minute Q&A. Presenters may use up to 3 PowerPoint slides, with the first slide containing the title of the presentation, as well as the presenter's name, and affiliation. Presenters should email their slides to their panel Chair at least a day prior to their scheduled talk. The Chair will collate all slides into a single file to allow for rapid transition between speakers. The Conference Program will list all presenters, affiliations, and titles.
- Proposals should include a title and explain (in 300 words or less) the presentation's topic and emerging argument, as well as a one-page curriculum vitae. A subcommittee of the Program Committee will evaluate SMH Talk proposals for topic originality, research question, methodology, and significance/potential contribution to the fields of military history and national defense. Proposals will be evaluated individually but potential presenters are invited to list colleagues whose work complements their own and with whose presentations (if accepted) they would prefer to be grouped, and provide a *brief* rationale for the grouping (not included in 300-word limit).
- Send individual presentation proposals (with CV) as a single PDF directly to SMHMeeting2026@gmail.com with "SMH Grad Student Talk" as the subject. **Deadline to submit proposals for SMH Talks is 15 November 2025.** The deadline for all other panel, roundtable, and individual paper proposals remains 17 October 2025. F*or furloughed government employees, SMH has extended the deadline for panel, roundtable, and individual paper proposals to 24 Oct 2025, and will entertain individual requests for additional time.*

Grad Students: Sign up today to test drive your topics, ideas, and ongoing research without the pressure of writing a full-fledged conference paper!

For any queries on the program and processes, please contact Bryon Greenwald at bryongreenwald@gmail.com

SMH 2026 CFP Deadline Extension for Furloughed Government Employees

The deadline for paper, panel, roundtable, and poster submissions for the 2026 SMH Annual Meeting was **Friday, October 17**.

However, for colleagues employed by the federal government, and furloughed or otherwise significantly impacted by the current government shutdown, the SMH Program Committee has extended the deadline for submissions to the 2026 Annual Meeting from October 17 to **October 24**. A further extension for those affected may be requested (but cannot be guaranteed) by emailing SMHMeeting2026@gmail.com with the rationale for the request.

All submissions should be sent as a single **PDF** to SMHMeeting2026@gmail.com, where you may also direct any questions.

Looking forward to seeing you in Arlington!

~SMH Program Committee

SMH on Social Media

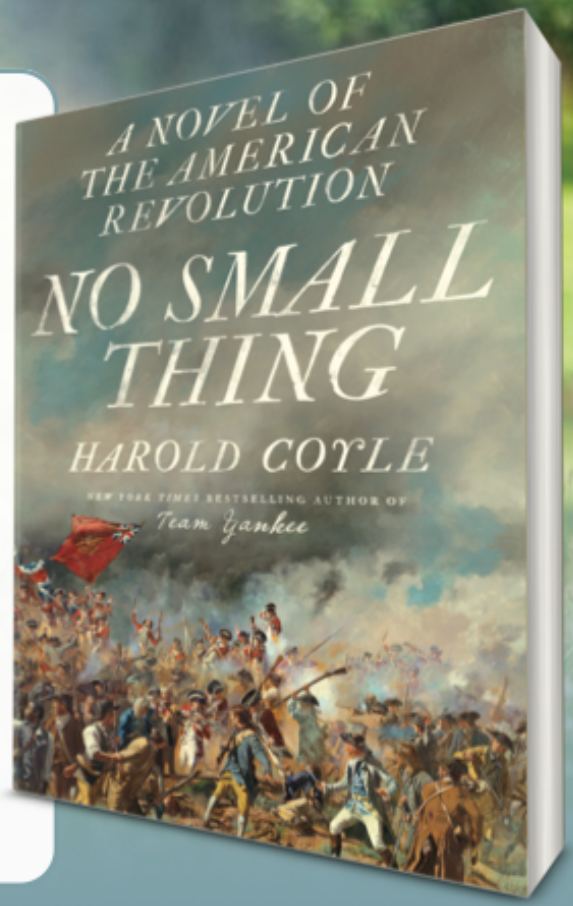
The Society for Military History maintains a private group on Facebook where members can post articles relating to military history, exchange job announcements, and discuss any number of topics relevant to the academy. The private group is an excellent forum for recruiting conference panels, arranging professional meet-ups, consulting the membership about research, and keeping oneself aware of new developments relating to the historical profession. If you are interested in joining, you only need to have an active Facebook account and find the "Society for Military History" group. Once you ask to join, one of the administrators will add you shortly thereafter. The Society also maintains a public Facebook page that members and non-members can view at any time, as well as a presence on Twitter/X under the handle @SMH_Historians.

CONCEIVED IN LIBERTY

The Latest Masterpiece of Historical Fiction from
New York Times Bestselling Author Harold Coyle



A tale of early America, of rebellion and sacrifice, featuring young militiamen, seasoned veterans, daring women, conflicted loyalists, and more - all swept into the storm and smoke of war.



MASTER WINGS PUBLISHING

Now available at masterwingspublishing.com
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CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
2026 SUMMER SEMINAR IN MILITARY HISTORY



Through the generous support of the John A. Adams '71 Center for Military History and Strategic Analysis at the Virginia Military Institute, and the Society for Military History, the 2026 Summer Seminar in Military History will be held on the VMI campus in beautiful Lexington, Virginia, June 1-12, 2026.

This two-week in-residence experience draws on the long tradition of Summer Seminars. This year, the theme will be "Foundations of Military History." Participants will engage with visiting scholars, VMI faculty, and the program director to develop core skills and concepts in the study of military history. Seminar Fellows will also interact with public historians and archivists and participate in a battlefield staff ride.

The seminar is open to advanced doctoral students (ABD at time of application) in History or a closely related field, early career scholars no more than five years beyond the conferral of their PhD., or scholars new to the discipline of military history (including public historians or historians employed in government positions).

Due to funding constraints, the seminar is only open to US citizens or permanent residents.

Seminar Fellows will receive:

- lodging for the duration of the Seminar
- select meals, including a welcome dinner, lunch each seminar day, and a closing banquet
- all reading materials
- a $1,300 stipend to help offset transportation costs to and from Lexington, Virginia, and other costs, such as evening meals, laundry, etc.

Seminar Fellows are encouraged to seek additional support from their home institutions to supplement travel and other costs.

Applications will be submitted via https://form.jotform.com/252778234204053. The application consists of a brief form, plus the following items to be uploaded:

- A two-page letter of interest, outlining the applicant's motivation, qualifications, and goals for the seminar and their future career

- A CV/Resume

Doctoral students will include the name and contact information of their academic supervisor, who will submit a letter of reference.

Applications will be accepted through December 12, 2025. Applicants will be selected based on their potential contributions to the field of military history and on the contribution the program can make to their future teaching and research. Selected Fellows must be members in good standing of the Society for Military History. Click here for membership information.

Questions about the program can be sent to the Director, Dr. Adam Seipp (Professor of History, Texas A&M University) at aseipp@tamu.edu.

FELLOWSHIP AND JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Army Records Society Fellowship Scheme

The Army Records Society (ARS) is delighted to invite applications for its fourth round of fellowships. Founded in 1984, the Society is a registered charity in the United Kingdom. Its mission is to edit and publish scholarly volumes relating to the British Army and reprint works of military interest. By doing so, it seeks to make primary source material available to a wider audience. At least one fellowship will be awarded in this round. Fellowships will be held for three years and a bursary of £1,250 per annum, plus travel expenses of up to £2,500 per annum, will be payable to successful fellows. In return for this bursary, fellows will be expected to produce a volume of edited papers for publication by the Society. Most Army Records Society volumes will reproduce 100-200 documents and / or diary entries and proposals should reflect on the availability of a suitable number of primary records. Individuals appointed to a fellowship will receive a mentor who will provide full support throughout the publishing process. While the fellowship scheme is most suitable for early career researchers (which we define as an individual who is within eight years of the award of their PhD — excluding career breaks), we are happy to consider applications from candidates who do not identify as early career researchers.

To date, the bulk of the Society's published volumes deal with the history of the British Army between c.1850 to 1945. While we would welcome volumes covering this period, we would be particularly keen to award fellowships to those considering earlier or later periods. The term 'Army' is also understood in its widest sense and we would be most interested to see proposals concerning Colonial or Dominion forces or amateur military units.

Those interested in applying for the fellowship scheme should forward a curriculum vitae, volume proposal form, and sample material to Dr Timothy Bowman (ARS chair) at T.Bowman@kent.ac.uk and Dr Aimée Fox (Fellowships committee chair) at af274@st-andrews.ac.uk.

The volume proposal should be submitted via this linked form, which will provide the following:

- Proposed title
- Editor name and contact details
- How did you hear about the Society's fellowships scheme?
- Why do you think the volume would be of interest to members of the Society?

- How will this volume complement existing historiography on this topic?
- An outline of primary sources to be used including, if known, details of copyright holders and whether any material has been digitised / previously published
- An outline of proposed chapters
- Planned submission date
- Small sample of transcribed material (maximum 3,000 words), which should be edited and annotated where appropriate

The deadline for proposals is **11:59 pm (GMT) on Friday 2 November 2025**. Those shortlisted may be asked for a sample of published or draft work. Fellowship applications will be assessed by an academic panel. Applicants will be notified of the panel's decision no later than Friday 11 December 2025.

Any questions about the Society, the fellowship scheme, or guidance on the proposal should be directed to both Dr Bowman and Dr Fox.

Fellowship Announcement

In 2026, the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation will host a research fellow to support the cost of travel and per diem expenses for researchers to use the Foundation's John "Jack" Ackerly III Memorial Library at the Foundation's headquarters in New Market, Virginia, for a period of at least five consecutive days per session.

The fellowships are open to graduate students, academics, teachers, museum professionals, and independent scholars whose research interests may benefit from the Foundation's holdings, collections and historic sites.

Fellowships will be awarded to applicants focusing on the American Civil War era in the Shenandoah Valley, broadly conceived, and whose topics match the Foundation's collections. The Library's holdings can be accessed at https://www.shenandoahatwar.org/library-database.

Recipients will be required to complete their fellowship research within a period of one year from the date of the award. Fellows will be asked to make an evening presentation to the public during residence and to summarize their research project and findings in writing.

Awardees while in residence at the Library will be provided with lodging, a photocopy allowance, technical support, and collection orientation.

Applicants should send a resume or C.V., a cover letter describing their research project and how the Library and the Foundation's related holdings and collections would benefit their work to the Foundation by **December 1, 2025**. Apply at info@svbf.net.

CALLS FOR PAPERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

Call for Papers

2025 Sacknoff Prize for Space History
$850 Cash Prize + A Publishing & Presentation Opportunity

Awarded since 2011, the Sacknoff Prize for Space History is designed to encourage original research by university students—undergraduate or graduate—in the field of space history. The prize is open to all students and is not limited to those at United States institutions. (Papers written by a team of students are also accepted.) Students must be enrolled at an educational institution at the time of submission and working toward a degree: undergraduate, graduate, or military. Papers already published or scheduled for publication in another journal will NOT be accepted. In addition to the $850 cash prize, the winning paper will be published in the peer-reviewed history journal, *Quest: The History of Spaceflight Quarterly* and will be given the opportunity to present their paper at the Society for the History of Technology annual meeting to the Albatross Special Interest Group on aerospace.

Possible Topics
Although works must be historical in character, they can draw on other disciplines—such as culture studies, literature, communications, economics, engineering, and science. Possible historical subjects include, but are not limited to:

- Historical aspects of space institutions and their leaders
- Case studies of companies and space business activities
- International efforts and programs
- Space technology development
- Human flight and robotic exploration programs
- Regulation of space businesses
- Politics and policies impacting space activities from a historical perspective
- Financial and economic aspects of the space industry
- The social effects of spaceflight
- The space environment
- Space system design, engineering, and safety

To learn more about the prize, go to https://spacehistory101.com/space-history-resources/sacknoff-prize/. For questions or additional information, please contact us at info@spacecommerce.org.

Call for Proposals

WESIPS 2026
Warfare, Environment, Social Inequality, and Pro-Sociability Biennial Conference

Organizers
Dr. Richard J. Chacon (Winthrop University)
Dr. Yamilette Chacon (James Madison University)

Dr. Leonardo García Sanjuan (University of Seville)
Dr. Marcos Andres Hunt Ortiz (University of Seville)

Dates: May 25-28 of 2026
Keynote speaker: Dr. Catherine Cameron (Univ. of Colorado)
Location: Seville, Spain
Abstract submission deadline: ~ October 26, 2025 at 11:59 PM (Eastern Time)
Registration fee: $350 USD
Registration deadline: ~ February 24, 2026 at 11:59 PM (Eastern Time)

The organizers are seeking papers from a variety of disciplinary perspectives and theoretical approaches addressing one or more of the following topics: Prehistoric/historic/contemporary warfare, ritual violence, biodiversity, natural resource utilization, past and present cases of environmental degradation/sustainability, egalitarianism, advent of social complexity, social inequality, conflict resolution, and prosocial behavior.

Conference website: https://spanishstudies.org/wesips/

Call for Papers

The Consequences of Conquest - March 4-6, 2026
Downtown Library, Sioux Falls, SD
The Many Faces of War XI: An annual hybrid interdisciplinary conference on the experience and impact of war throughout history.
2026 Theme - Rebellion or revolution and the origins of war

In honor of the 250th anniversary of American Independence we will examine the origins of war, conflict, or battle and if there is a difference between rebellion or revolution.

The study of warfare is often restricted to the sphere of military history and rarely allowed to transcend the artificial boundaries of historical study, namely those limited by geography and periodization. Throughout the ages war has had the greatest impact, not on the political elite who declare wars but on those who fight and die and their families and friends. This annual interdisciplinary conference aims to address both the experience and impact of war for those fighting as well as for those on the periphery.

2026 marks the 250th anniversary of American Independence. This conference will examine what happens in the lead up to war with a particular focus on the interaction of women, citizens and soldiers in everyday life and the role of government or laws in forming the catalyst for actions. It also encourages papers on warfare throughout history on all aspects of conquest, victory and defeat, such as the political and cultural shaping of territory or peoples and the propagandistic associations.

The conference aims at an interdisciplinary approach and underappreciated aspects of war and nation building are especially welcome. All periods of history are of interest. We also welcome papers on any and all aspects of military history from any discipline.

The conference is aimed equally at postgraduate students, researchers in the early stages of their careers and established academics. We also hope to have a session for undergraduate students.
There are no specific geographical or temporal parameters regarding the subject matter of papers, and

scholars and students of ancient, medieval and modern warfare are encouraged to submit proposals. We would also encourage the proposal of panels of three or four papers.

Send an abstract of 300 words and a brief bio to Graham Wrightson (graham.wrightson@sdstate.edu) BEFORE December 15, 2025.

Call for Papers

War in the Ancient World International Conference 2026 (WAWIC 2026)
June 9–11 2026 (Winnipeg and Madrid)

We are pleased to announce the upcoming War in the Ancient World International Conference 2026 (WAWIC 2026), an annual event that brings together researchers from around the globe to exchange ideas and present new research on ancient warfare. We invite submissions from scholars working on all aspects of ancient warfare and military history. Contributions from archaeological, philological, and historical perspectives are welcome. We are particularly interested in topics related to the Greco-Roman world, the ancient Near East, ancient Egypt, and neighboring cultures. The conference is open to graduate students, early-career researchers, and established scholars alike.

The 2026 conference will take place in person at two locations: in Winnipeg for participants based in North America and in Madrid for those based in Europe. Selected panels will be connected via Zoom to enable transcontinental interaction and discussion.

We welcome proposals in three categories: (a) individual papers, (b) project presentations, and (c) thematic panels.

(a) Individual papers may address any aspect of ancient warfare and will be assigned to appropriate panels by the organizers. Presentations should not exceed 20 minutes and will be followed by a 10-minute discussion.

(b) Project presentations, aimed primarily at master's students, doctoral candidates, and other early-career scholars, should take the form of a brief 10-minute talk. These will be followed by a 20-minute workshop-style discussion focused on open questions and constructive feedback.

(c) Thematic panels should have a clear focus on a specific topic related to ancient warfare. Panels hosted at one of the conference locations may include 4 to 8 related presentations. We especially encourage the submission of transcontinental panels, which should consist of 3 to 6 coordinated presentations. If you would like to organize a thematic panel, please contact wawic.ifg@hu-berlin.de with a brief outline of your proposed panel (150–300 words) BEFORE October 30, 2025. A complete list of speakers of contributors and abstracts is only due as of January 15, 2026.

If necessary, priority will be given to contributions from authors with an ongoing or well-established line of research on ancient warfare. Panel organizers are likewise encouraged to apply this criterion when selecting participants for their proposals

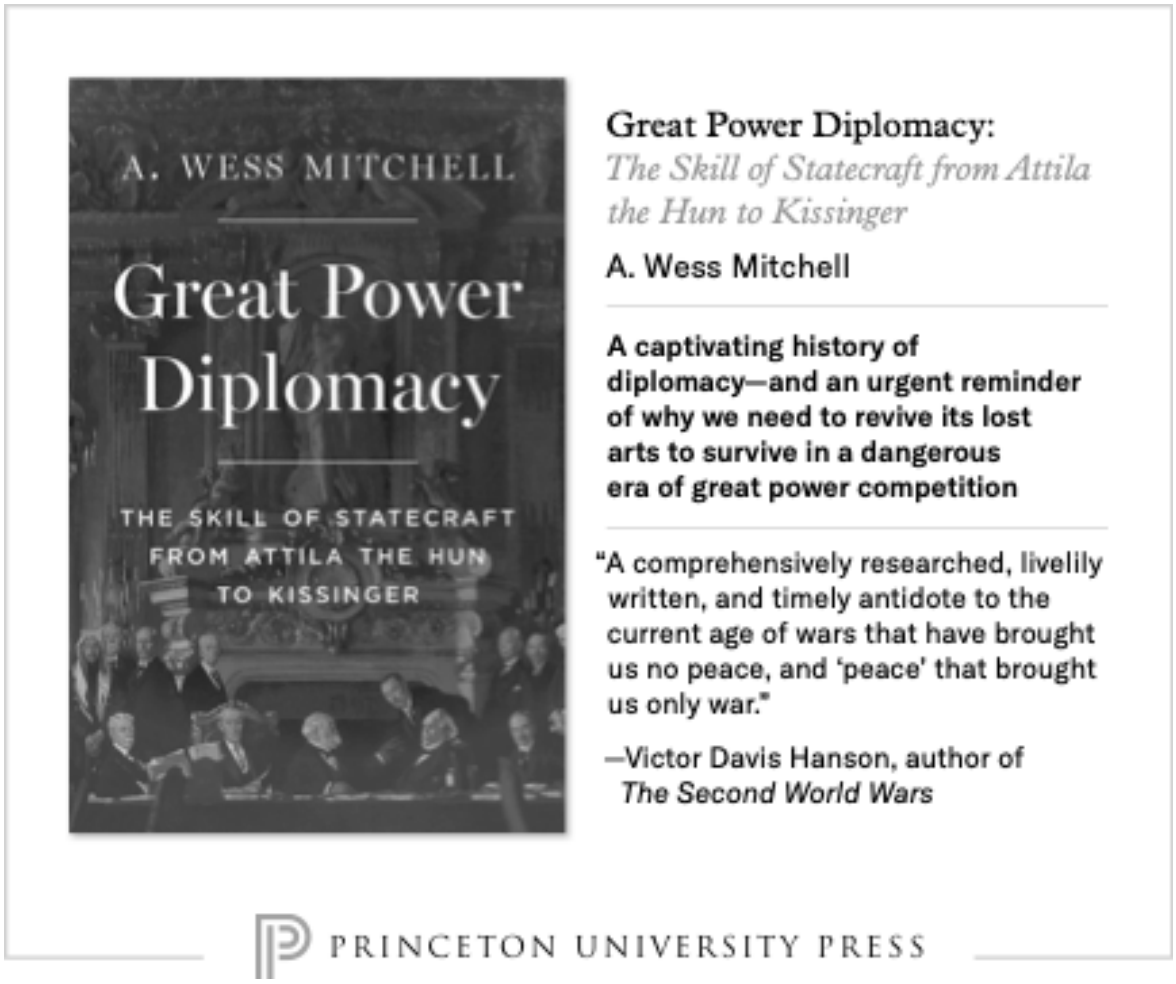
In-person participation at one of the two venues is expected, unless compelling personal circumstances or intercontinental travel make this impossible. Students and early career scholars as well as unemployed researchers will be able to apply for up to 150 € of their travel expense reimbursed.

For individual papers and project presentations, please send a 300-word abstract and a brief biographical note to wawic.ifg@hu-berlin.de BEFORE January 15, 2026. Please indicate whether you plan to attend in Winnipeg or Madrid, or provide a short explanation if you are requesting online participation. If you wish to apply for travel support, please include this in your submission.

If you have any questions about the conference locations, please contact the local organizers, and for questions about the conference series, please reach out to the coordinators. Detailed information about the locations, including useful details for participants, will be distributed in due time.

Participants are invited to submit their paper to the Diamond Open Access Online Journal "Deimos" after the conference (https://journals.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/index.php/deimos/index). Thematic panels may be proposed for the book series "Bellona". For updates on the conference, check out the homepage: http://www.wawic.org/

Local Organizers
Conor Whatley (University of Winnipeg, c.whately@uwinnipeg.ca)
Fernando Echeverria (Complutense University of Madrid, fecheverria@ucm.es)
Coordinators
Europe: Lennart Gilhaus (Humboldt University of Berlin, lennart.gilhaus@hu-berlin.de)
North America: Graham Wrightson (South Dakota State University; graham.wrightson@sdstate.edu) and Jeffrey Rop (University of Minnesota, Duluth, jarop@d.umn.edu)



Texas A&M University HGSO

TAMU History Graduate
HGSO
Student Organization

HISTORY UNDER A MIRCROSCOPE

CALL FOR PAPERS

The History Graduate Student Organization (HGSO) at Texas A&M University is proud to announce our 16th annual graduate and undergraduate history student conference to be held **February 20-21, 2026** at Texas A&M University-College Station.

This conference seeks scholarly discussion on new actors, grass-root approaches, and intersectionality. Papers of all historical sub-disciplines are welcome, including but not limited to military, social, gender, environmental, and transnational history. The goal of this conference is to encourage nuanced historical conversation that shines a light on events, communities, and connections that have received limited attention in the past.

Undergraduate and graduate students interested in presenting at the conference must submit a 250-word (maximum) abstract, along with a curriculum vitae (CV), by Friday, November 21, 2025. Notifications of acceptance will be sent via e-mail by December 15, 2025. Accepted presenters will have until Friday, January 23, 2026, to submit completed papers, not to exceed ten pages. Completed panels are welcome and not required or expected. All submissions and correspondence should be emailed to: tamuconference@gmail.com.

Awards in recognition of excellence will be presented to the best overall Ph.D., M.A., and undergraduate papers. Travel grants will be awarded on the basis of need and merit.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Alan McPherson, Ph.D.

Professor of History, Temple University
Director of the Center for the Study of Force and Diplomacy



Mary Elizabeth Walters, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Air Command and Staff College

TRAVEL GRANT APPLICATIONS

FEBRUARY 20-21, 2026

THIRD ANNUAL AIRPOWER FORUM: AIRPOWER IN CONFLICT & COMPETITION

MAY 11-14, 2026

AIR COMMAND AND STAFF COLLEGE MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALABAMA

The Air Command and Staff College is pleased to announce its call for papers for the Third Annual Airpower Forum. This year's theme, Airpower in Conflict and Competition, invites scholars and practitioners to critically explore the evolving role of airpower across the full spectrum of conflict. We welcome submissions that engage with historical, theoretical, and contemporary perspectives to assess effective airpower employment.

We will consider paper and panel proposals on a wide range of airpower topics, with preference given to scholarship designed to inform the airpower practitioner. Panel and paper proposals should clearly explain their topics and questions in ways that will be understandable to those who are not expert in the methodology of history and political science while demonstrating rigorous research methods. We also welcome non-traditional proposals that showcase airpower applications, the use of artificial intelligence, or other creative approaches.

- **Pre-organized panels and roundtables should include:**
  1) Panel or roundtable title
  2) 200-word abstract summarizing the theme of the panel or roundtable
  3) For panels only: submit paper title and an approximately 300-word abstract for each paper (a panel consists of three papers)
  4) One-page CV for each participant
  5) Compile all information into one PDF

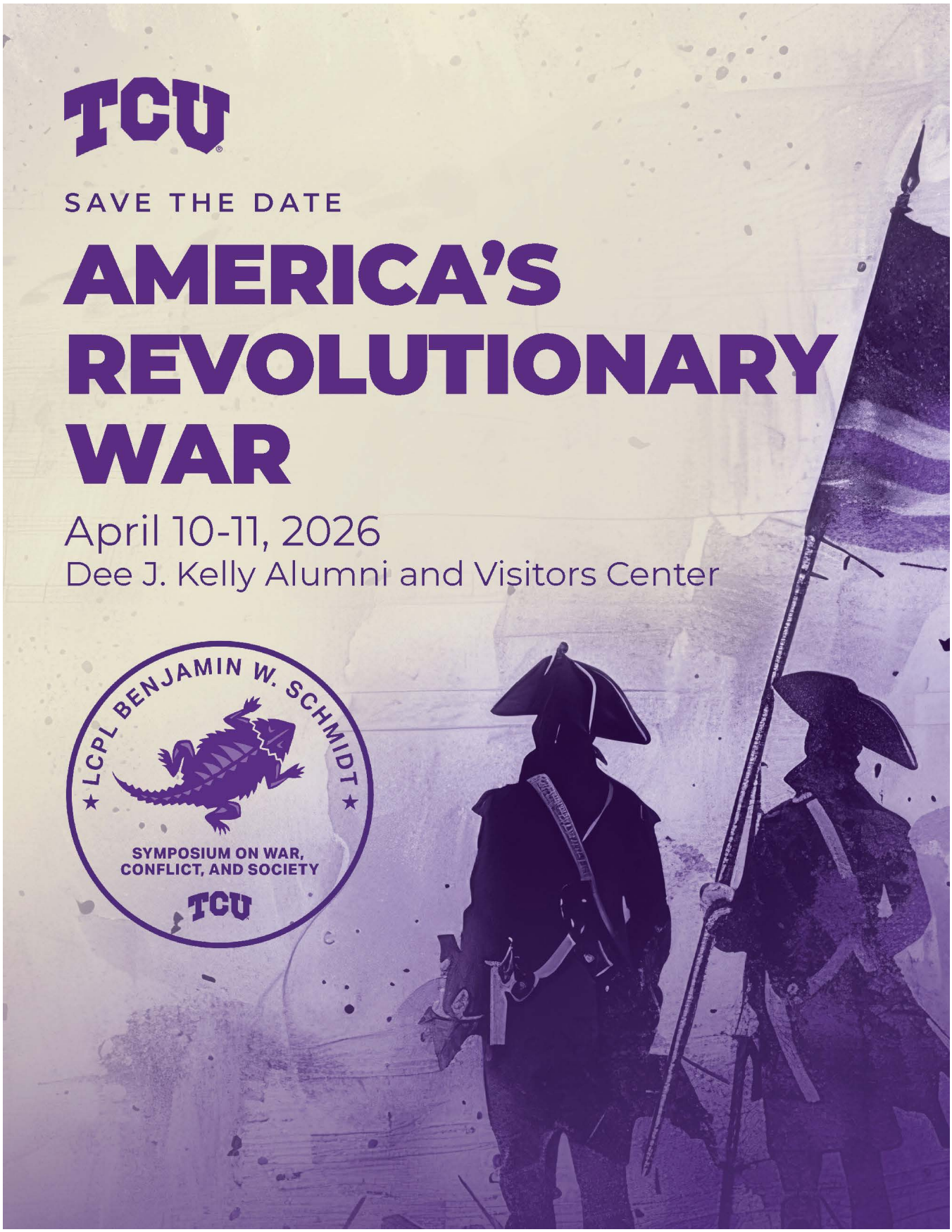
- **Individual papers**
  1) Paper title
  2) 300-word abstract
  3) One-page CV
  4) Compile all information into one PDF

- Non-Traditional Submissions: Follow the above guidelines, adapting as necessary. Note if you will need sixty or ninety minutes.

Please send proposals to acscairpowerforum@gmail.com by November 15, 2025.
Acceptances will be sent out by January 10, 2026.



Submission Deadline: November 15, 2025


TCU
SAVE THE DATE
AMERICA'S REVOLUTIONARY WAR
April 10-11, 2026
Dee J. Kelly Alumni and Visitors Center
LCPL BENJAMIN W. SCHMIDT
SYMPOSIUM ON WAR, CONFLICT, AND SOCIETY
TCU

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Grant Opportunity

Leo is a document management and transcription platform designed for historians, archivists, and family researchers by a fellow historian. It uses cutting-edge AI to transform manuscript images into accurate, searchable plain text.

Leo invites applications for the Leo Transcription Grant, which offers up to 100,000 free credits, sufficient to transcribe as many as 200,000 pages of handwritten manuscripts. The grant is open to students, academics, and institutions. The only condition of the award is that grantees publish the images and transcriptions online free of restriction and copyright. Further information and the application form are available at https://blog.tryleo.ai/2025/09/05/leo-transcription-grant-2025/.

Seeking Internship Partners

The Albert Lepage Center for History in the Public Interest at Villanova University has announced its Summer Internship program. Every year, they fund graduate and undergraduate History and Art History students to work with historically focused institutions and organizations or otherwise work on historically focused projects.

The Lepage Center is currently soliciting partners for the summer 2026 program ahead of opening the application to students in February 2026. Their guidelines for partner applications are below.

Application Instructions
Please send a letter of interest and a 2-page resume of the primary internship supervisor(s) in a single PDF to Kevin Fox, Lepage Center Administrator, at lepage@villanova.edu.

Letters of interest should address the following:

- What duties and outcomes will define the proposed internship?
- How does the proposed internship use historical thinking, methods, and skills to address issues of public interest?
- Who will be the primary internship supervisor(s)? What types of teaching, mentoring, and professional development will they provide for the student?
- Will this internship be integrated into an existing internship program or is it a stand-alone opportunity?
- Can this internship, or parts of it, be done remotely?
- Can you tailor this internship to undergraduate or graduate expectations and mentorship, or is it best suited for one over the other?
- Can you contribute funding toward an internship stipend, travel expenses, or housing? This is not a requirement for successful applications.

Application Deadline is December 1, 2025

Please contact lepage@villanova.edu or Kevin.fox@villanova.edu with any questions.

U.S. Senate Unanimously Designates National WWII Italian Campaign Remembrance Day 82 Years After the Allied Landing in Mainland Italy

Following the unanimous passage of S. Res. 432 on October 6, 2025, the U.S. Senate has established the National World War II Italian Campaign Remembrance Day. The bipartisan resolution was led by U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs Chairman Sen. Jerry Moran (R-Kan.) and co-sponsored by U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services Ranking Member Sen. Jack Reed (D-R.I.), Sen. Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.), Sen. John Boozman (R-Ark.), Sen. Rick Scott (R-Fla.), and Sen. Tim Sheehy (R-Mont.). The measure represents the first formal federal recognition dedicated to the Italian Campaign, honoring the nearly one million Americans who served in the 602-day struggle to liberate Italy and underscoring the urgency of preserving their memory with fewer than half a percent of World War II veterans still living—82 years after the campaign began.

Designated as the remembrance day for the Campaign, the date recalls September 9, 1943 when American forces landed at Salerno and along the Amalfi Coast to launch Operation Avalanche, beginning the liberation of mainland Italy from German occupation. Coming just one day after the announcement of the armistice with Italy, which would soon thereafter join the Allied effort, U.S. forces pressed forward in their longest continual combat campaign of World War II, which included the first unit combat jump by U.S. paratroopers, the largest amphibious landing of the war to that point, and the liberation of Rome, the first European capital to be freed from Nazi occupation.

The Italian campaign was an uphill battle fought in rugged, heavily fortified mountains, in cold winter conditions, and through populated towns and cities. It was the costliest campaign on the Western Front in terms of infantry casualties, with more than 150,000 American casualties, including over 60,000 killed or missing and 92,000 wounded. Today, more than 12,000 Americans are laid to rest in the Sicily–Rome American Cemetery and the Florence American Cemetery.

In spite of its enormous sacrifice and military importance, the Italian Campaign has been described as the "forgotten campaign." The Senate resolution seeks to address that neglect by not only designating the day of remembrance, but also by supporting all commemorative efforts from grassroots educational programs to institutional initiatives.

According to Senator Moran, *"I introduced a resolution to establish the 'National World War II Italian Campaign Remembrance Day' to commemorate the valor of our veterans and ensure their legacy endures for generations to come. Eighty-two years ago, Allied forces launched Operation Avalanche, marking the start of the liberation of the Italian peninsula from fascist Nazi occupation. This military campaign was a testament to the unyielding resolve of U.S. Forces and the strength of our foreign military alliances, united by a shared commitment to democratic ideals and the fight against fascism."*

According to The Allies Museum Founding Director, Reed Cataldo, *"We are grateful for the leadership of Senators Moran, Scott, Reed, Blackburn, Boozman, and Sheehy. This resolution is an important symbol not only for our museum, but for its underlying mission of honoring the nearly one million Americans who answered our nation' s call to stand together in defense of the free world, and a long overdue moment of pride for their families, whose sacrifice and legacy we are committed to preserving for future generations."*

The resolution requests that the President of the United States issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to commemorate the Italian Campaign and express gratitude to Americans who

gave their lives and to all others who served to defend freedom in the Italian Campaign.

Awards Announced for Excellence in U.S. Army History Writing

The Army Historical Foundation is pleased to announce the winners of the 2024 Army Historical Foundation Distinguished Writing Awards. The 2024 awards honor books and articles published in 2024. The winners:

Book Awards

Biography
Tubby: Raymond O. Barton and the US Army, 1889-1963. By Stephen A. Bourque. University of North Texas Press.
Operational-Battle History
Cassino '44: The Brutal Battle for Rome. By James Holland. Atlantic Monthly Press.
Institutional-Functional History
No award presented for 2024.

Journals, Memoirs, and Letters
Patton's Tactician: The War Diary of Lieutenant General Geoffrey Keyes. Edited by James W. Holsinger, Jr. University Press of Kentucky.
Unit History
Ski, Climb, Fight: The 10th Mountain Division and the Rise of Mountain Warfare. By Lance R. Blyth. University of Oklahoma Press.

Reference
US Battle Tanks, 1946-2025. By Steven J. Zaloga. Osprey Publishing.
Reprint
No award presented for 2024.

Article Awards

Academic Journals
"A Bold Experiment: The U.S. Zone Constabulary in Occupied Germany." By M. Ashley Vance. *Army History*, Fall 2024.
Journals and Magazines
"Robbed of Reason: Post Traumatic Stress Disorder in the Civil War." By Ernest A. Dollar, Jr. *Civil War News*, November-December 2024.

The book award winners receive a plaque honoring the book and a $1,000 cash award; the winner in the Reprint category receives a plaque only. The article award winners also received a plaque and a $250 cash award.

The AHF Distinguished Writing Awards program was established in 1997 to recognize authors who make a significant contribution to the scholarship on U.S. Army history. Each year, nominations are submitted to the Awards Committee by publishers and journal/magazine editors. A small group of finalists is selected and a final judging is made.

For more information on the Foundation and its activities, please view the AHF website at www.armyhistory.org.

MEETINGS CALENDAR

2025

October 15 – The U.S. Naval Institute and the U.S. Naval Academy will host a conference in which government officials, military personnel and academic scholars will gather to discuss " Dominance Through Disruption: The Evolving Military Advantage." For further information, see the Institute's website at Dominance Through Disruption: The Evolving Military Advantage | U.S. Naval Institute.

November 7-9 – Flint Hills Military History Symposium, at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum campus and in the Kansas State University Student Union. Information at www.flinthillsmilitary.com.

November 13-15 – The History of Science Society will hold its annual symposium in New Orleans, Louisiana. See the Society's website at Future and Past Meetings - History of Science Society (hssonline.org) for details as they become available.

November 20-22 – The National WWII Museum in New Orleans, Louisiana will host its 18th annual Conference on World War II. The event features a daylong pre-conference symposium, "WWII Special Forces and Special Operations," followed by two days of presentations on a variety of topics. For more information, see the Museum's website at The National WWII Museum.

2026

January 8-11 –The American Historical Association will host its annual meeting at the Hilton Chicago in Chicago, Illinois. For more details, including a timeline for preparatory events, see the Association's website at Timeline - AHA.

February 20-21 – History Graduate Student Organization student history conference, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX. Information: tamuconference@gmail.com.

February 19-21 – Africa and the African Diaspora and the World Wars, Florida State University Alumni Center, sponsored by the Institute on World War II and the Human Experience, Department of History, Florida State University and the Society for Black Military Studies. Contact: G. Kurt Piehler, kpiehler@fsu.edu.

March 4-6 – The Consequences of Conquest conference, Downtown Library, Sioux Falls, SD. Contact: Graham Wrightson (graham.wrightson@sdstate.edu).

March 26-29 – Society for Military History 92nd Annual Meeting, Arlington, VA.

April 16-19 – The Organization of American Historians will hold its annual conference at the

Philadelphia Marriott Downtown Hotel in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The theme of this year's gathering is "Re-thinking American History at 250." For further details, see the Organization's website at OAH | 2026 OAH Conference on American History.

May 11-114 – Airpower Forum: Airpower in Conflict & Competition, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. Information: acsairpowerforum@gmail.com.

May 25-28 – Warfare, Environment, Social Inequality, and Pro-Sociability Biennial Conference, in Seville, Spain. Conference website: https://spanishstudies.org/wesips/

May 16-18 – War College of the Seven Years' War at Fort Ticonderoga, New York. For more information, contact Richard M. Strum, Director of Academic Programs: rstrum@fort-ticonderoga.org.

May 25-26 – Warfare, Environment, Social Inequality, and Pro-Sociability Biennial Conference, Seville, Spain. Conference website: https://spanishstudies.org/wesips/

June 9-11 – War in the Ancient World International Conference 2026 (WAWIC 2026), to be held simultaneously in Winnipeg, Canada and Madrid, Spain. Local organizers are Conor Whatley (University of Winnipeg, c.whately@uwinnipeg.ca) and Fernando Echeverria (Complutense University of Madrid, fecheverria@ucm.es).

June 18-20 – Society of Civil War Historians biennial conference, Richmond, VA. Info: https://scwh.memberclicks.net/.

July 13-16 –The History of Science Society will co-host its 2026 meeting in partnership with the European Society for the History of Science. Their meeting is set to be held at the University of Edinburgh in Edinburgh, Scotland, and the conference theme will be "Shifting Perspectives: Plural Worlds, Contested Sciences." For further information, see the Society's website at 2025 HSS Annual Meeting - History of Science Society.

September 16-19 – The National Council on Public History will cohost its annual meeting with the American Association for State and Local History at the Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence, Rhode Island. The theme of this year's meeting will be "The Work of Revolution." For more information as it becomes available, see the Council's website at 2026 Annual Meeting | National Council on Public History.

SMH Members Renewing by Mail

For those who choose to renew their annual memberships by mail, please do not send your membership renewal forms and checks to the *Journal of Military History* office at the Virginia Military Institute. That correspondence should be directed to:

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