COUNCIL ON AMERICA’S MILITARY PAST
54th ANNUAL MILITARY HISTORY CONFERENCE
Baltimore, Maryland

May 6-9, 2020

Homewood Suites by Hilton

1181 Winterson Road, Linthicum MD
(Use link or call to reserve: 410-684-6100; $129 King Suite)

Conference Planning Committee

Glenn Williams, Local Arrangements Coordinator
John Bowen
Jim Carson
Bridget Hart
Mark Magnussen
Terry McGovern
Nick Reynolds
Ann Todd

Have questions or need help during the conference?
Call/text Bridget Hart 240.672.6844

All sessions held in the Homewood Suites meeting room unless otherwise indicated.
Wednesday, May 6, 2020

3:00-5:00pm  
*Board of Directors’ meeting*

5:30-7:30pm  
*Registration and Welcome Reception*

Thursday, May 7, 2020

8:00am-11:30am  
*Conference Opening and Papers*

**OSS Training in Prince William Forest** – *Ann Todd, Ph.D.*
During WWII, the Office of Strategic Services conducted covert operations training in Prince William Forest Park, VA. This presentation will focus on the efforts taken by the National Park Service to conserve the CCC structures of the cabin camps as they were when OSS lived and trained there.

*Ann Todd* has been a contributing author and consultant for the National Geographic Society, given presentations in national parks, and worked as a historian and curator for the National Museum of the Marine Corps. She is the author of “Komsomol Participation in the First Five-Year Plan,” “OSS Operation Black Mail: One Woman’s Covert War Against the Imperial Japanese Army,” and articles in the *Marine Corps Gazette* and *The Marine Corps University Journal*. Ann has served in the United States Coast Guard and now lives in Dripping Springs, Texas.

**A Tale of Two Constellations** – *Dave Hiley*
Baltimore harbor is home to the first-class corvette USS Constellation, constructed at Norfolk Navy Yard 1853-54, and the last sailing man-of-war designed and built for the U.S. Navy. For many years Baltimore controversially claimed the Constellation, and not the USS Constitution in Boston, was the oldest surviving USN warship. The frigate Constitution, launched in October 1797, was a sister ship of the frigate USS Constellation, launched at Baltimore in September 1797: hence Baltimore's claim to be the home of the oldest surviving USN warship. Years of research scuttled Baltimore's claim, i.e., there was not one USS Constellation but two completely different ships launched almost 60 years apart. Through history and naval draught plans, Dave will detail the research that solved the matter once and for all proving the USS Constitution is, indeed, the oldest surviving USN warship.

*Dave Hiley* is a Florida native who grew up in a career military family. He entered federal service after graduating with an MA in Geography from the University of New Mexico. After five years in DoD intel he was recruited into the Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency, serving another 25 years as a CIA Case Officer. Dave also is a graduate of the US Naval War College. His interests include prehistory, military history, antique arms and archaeology.
The CIA’s Foray into Preservation – Sam Cooper-Wall
When CIA, a massive government bureaucracy, inherits a modest house on the lot where they are building a superstructure, they struggle to figure out what to do with it. After some false starts that will make preservationists cringe, they finally discover a solution that respects the integrity of the home while serving a useful purpose. But the house itself is only half the story; the personalities in and around it are even more fascinating.

Sam Cooper-Wall holds a bachelor’s degree in history, with minors in Civil War Era Studies and political science, from Gettysburg College. He has previously served as archivist and deputy director for collections at the Central Intelligence Agency Museum in Langley, VA. He currently works as a legislative policy advisor for a Member of Congress.

BALTimore IS TAKEN! An Examination of Unfolding History after the American Defeat – Harold W. Youmans, J.D.
Researchers and archaeologists in the 28th century would be excused if they rewrote the early history of the United States based upon evidence gleaned from surviving London newspapers published in that city during the first week of October 1814. Yes, according to these newspapers: Baltimore was taken!

Harold W. Youmans, J.D., is an historian and lecturer on the War of 1812. He has made numerous presentations to groups throughout the United States on the War. He is retired as a Colonel in the U.S. Army and as an Environmental Law Special Magistrate in central Florida. He is the former Editor of the quarterly Journal of the War of 1812, and a Contributor to the 2012 edition of The Encyclopedia of the War of 1812. Colonel Youmans arguably possesses one of the largest collections of War of 1812 printed materials in private hands.

Acquisition and Preservation of the A-12 Oxcart - A128 – Toni Hiley
Toni will discuss the CIA Museum’s acquisition and preservation of the A-12 Oxcart - A128, with comparisons to the MIG-21 she is helping restore for the National Museum of Nuclear Science & History in Albuquerque, N.M.

Toni Hiley is an Albuquerque native who for the past two decades directed operations for the CIA Museum. Now a consultant to the Intelligence Community and other select organizations on museum best practices, she is passionate about using history and culture to inspire and educate through inventive museum exhibits, informative publications and media.

Publishing and JAMP – Vincent Rospond
The Journal of America’s Military Past editor will share the who, what, when, where, and why of writing for CAMP’s scholarly journal.

Vincent Rospond has a Master’s in History and Finance and has been the editor of JAMP for the past six years. He is the author of three books: Polish Armies of the Partitions 1770-1794, Orphan Eagles and The Polish Army of 1939. In addition, he is also the Publisher and Editor for Pike & Powder Books.

11:30am-12:00pm
Lunch & Overview of Site Visits by Local Arrangements Coordinator Glenn Williams
Site Visits
12:30-2:15pm
*Maryland Military History Museum*
The Maryland Museum of Military History collects, preserves, interprets, and presents significant artifacts and artwork relating to the history of Maryland’s servicemen, and of the people, places, and events that represent the military heritage of the State of Maryland.

2:30-4:00pm
*Star Spangled Banner Flag House*
In this house in 1813, the Pickersgill family and Grace Wisher sewed the flag that inspired our National Anthem. It has been designated a National Historic Landmark.

4:30pm
*Dinner G&M Restaurant*

Friday, May 8, 2020

8:30am Depart hotel

9:00am-11:30am
*Ft. McHenry*
Fort McHenry is a historical American coastal pentagonal bastion fort best known for its role in the War of 1812, when it successfully defended Baltimore Harbor from an attack by the British navy from the Chesapeake Bay on September 13-14, 1814. It was first built in 1798 and was used continuously by the U.S. armed forces through World War I and by the Coast Guard in World War II. It was designated a national park in 1925, and in 1939 was redesignated a “National Monument and Historic Shrine.” (We will have boxed lunches at the Fort McHenry picnic area.)

Noon-5:00pm
*Baltimore Inner Harbor and Historic Ships*
Historic Ships in Baltimore is home port to USS Constellation, the last all-sail warship built by the U.S. Navy, the submarine USS Torsk which sank the last two enemy combatants of WWII, USGC Cutter Taney, the last surviving vessel to witness the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Lightship 116 Chesapeake, which marked the entrance to the Chesapeake Bay, and the Seven Foot Knoll Lighthouse.
- Pier 1: USS Constellation
- Pier 3: USS Torsk & Lightship 116 Chesapeake
- Pier 5: USCGC Taney & Seven Foot Knoll Lighthouse

6:00-8:30pm
*Pizza and a Movie*
Relax after a long day of walking with pizza and a movie (*The War of 1812*) in the hotel meeting room.

About the movie: The War of 1812 shaped American, Canadian and British destiny in the most literal way possible: had one or two battles or decisions gone a different way, a map of the United States today would look entirely (and shockingly) different.
Saturday, May 9, 2020

8:30am Depart hotel

**Staff ride of the 1814 Battle of Baltimore**

The staff ride will include following the British route of advance toward Baltimore, stopping at the scene of the delaying action fought by the Maryland militia, and culminating at the main American defense line on Hampstead Hill – site of present Patterson Park.

The Colgate Creek Quartermaster Proving Ground near Dundalk, Maryland, was part of the Holabird Quartermaster Depot, the facility that tested the famous Wiley’s “Jeep” for acceptance by the Army. The functions conducted at Colgate Creek were later transferred to Aberdeen Proving Ground. The property itself later became part of Fort Holabird, some vestiges of which are still visible – notably the former Officers Club now houses the Chapter 451 of Vietnam Veterans of America.

6:30-7:00pm

**Reception**

This year’s Annual Dinner and Reception will be more casual than in the past. With a nod to our Maryland location, tonight’s menu will be heavily influenced by regional fare.

7:00-9:00pm

**Annual Dinner**

Presentation: **The Despot’s Heel** – Glenn Williams, Ph.D.

“The Despot’s Heel” tells the story of the secession crisis in Maryland in the early days of the American Civil War. Both the state, as well as the city of Baltimore, experienced tensions caused by the divided loyalties of its citizens. These differences erupted into a riot in the streets when a pro-secession mob attacked U.S. troops passing through Baltimore on their way to Washington, and the subsequent military occupation of the city by federal forces. News of the riot inspired James Ryder Randall, a Marylander living in New Orleans, to compose the song “Maryland, My Maryland,” as an appeal for his native state to join the Confederacy – the opening line “The despot’s heel is on thy shore” refers to the U.S. military presence in the state. Maryland, however, remained loyal to the Union throughout the war. This presentation will examine the political, economic and military significance of the state in the spring of 1861 and afterward, as well as the course it took in the conflict.

**Glenn F. Williams** is a retired Army officer who entered public history as a second career. He is currently a Senior Historian at the U.S. Army Center of Military History, Fort McNair, DC, where his previous positions included Historian of the National Museum of the U.S. Army Project and Historian of the Army Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration. He has also served as Historian of the American Battlefield Protection Program of the National Park Service, Curator/Historian of the USS Constellation Museum, and Assistant Curator of the Baltimore Civil War Museum – President Street Station. He is the author of several books, including *Year of the Hangman: George Washington’s Campaign Against the Iroquois* (Westholme), recipient of the Thomas J. Fleming Award for the Outstanding Revolutionary War Book of 2005, and named one of “The 100 Best American Revolution Books of All Time” by the *Journal of the American Revolution* in the spring 2017 issue. His newest book, “Dunmore’s War: The Last Conflict of America’s Colonial Era,” was released in May 2017. In 2018 he was recognized for contributions to the study of 18th Century American military history with the Shelby Cullom Davis Award of the Society of Colonial Wars and the Judge Robert K. Woltz Award of the French and Indian War Foundation. He holds a BA in History from Loyola University of Maryland, a MA in History, with a Certificate in Public History, from University of Maryland Baltimore County, and a Ph.D. in History from the University of Maryland, College Park.

*Conference ends at conclusion of Annual Dinner.*