



COUNCIL ON AMERICA'S MILITARY PAST
56th ANNUAL MILITARY HISTORY CONFERENCE
St. Augustine, Florida
October 6-8, 2023

SCHEDULE

(as of July 6, 2023)

CONFERENCE HOTEL

Hampton Inn & Suites
13551 Airport Court, Jacksonville, FL 32218
(Additional information on last page)

Special thanks to CAMP Member Dr. George E. Cressman, Jr., for his great contribution to this conference. In addition to suggesting the sites that are scheduled, Dr. Cressman will be our guide for the entire conference. He is a World War II historian, researcher, author, and tour leader. He holds an undergraduate degree in Chemical Engineering, an MBA, and his doctoral work is in marketing. He is president of the Camp Blanding Museum Association and serves the Camp Blanding Museum as its senior historian and docent.

Friday, October 6, 2023

11:00am

Board of Directors' Meeting

Hotel

1:00pm

Depart hotel

- St. Augustine Light House and Museum – The Light House was a U.S. Coast Guard training base during World War II. The Museum includes a history of the Coast Guard training.
- Castillo de San Marco – The Spanish built the Castillo to defend the Florida coast and protect their trade routes; the Castillo is the oldest masonry fort in America.
- Spanish Military Hospital Museum – An introduction to the practice of medicine in the Spanish period. The Spanish Military Hospital was established in 1791 in honor of King Charles IV of Spain during the Second Spanish Period. In addition to being a hospital, the building also had a mourning room that allowed families to grieve over their deceased soldier for 24 hours. Now, the hospital has been turned into a museum by Barbara and Nicholas Wilson who have kept the ground floor and garden in the same way that they would have been during the years of the hospital's operation.
- Annual Meeting and Dinner at the Spanish Military Hospital Museum
Speakers: *Christine P. Miller, D.P.M., D.M.M., Ph.D., FACCWS*, is the museum's Volunteer Medical Historian. CAMP Director Dr. Miller is a University of Florida assistant professor of orthopaedic surgery and a podiatrist and board-certified wound care specialist at UF Health Jacksonville. She also serves as medical director of the Wound Healing/Limb Salvage Program. In addition to Dr. Miller's talk, *Vincent Piraino* will give a short presentation on musket ballistics.

Return to hotel ~ 8:00pm

Saturday, October 7, 2023

8:00am

Depart hotel (note: boxed lunch included today)

- Fort Clinch – Fort Clinch was a Coastal Defense fort that protected the entrance to the St. Marys River, and the harbor in St. Marys, Georgia. Union troops occupied the Fort during the Civil War, and Coast Guardsmen served at the Fort in WWI and WWII.
- Point Peter – Located in St. Marys, Georgia, Point Peter was a long-standing battery located on the St. Marys River. Following the Battle of New Orleans, the British took the battery at Point Peter – a battle fought after the War of 1812 was officially over.
- Travel on to St. Simons Island, Georgia – Using the Route 17 exit from I-95, the group will pass Jekyll Island (the Newport, Rhode Island of the rich and famous in the south) and the site of the J.A. Jones Shipyard where Liberty Ships were constructed during World War II.
- Home Front Museum, St. Simons Island, Georgia – Located in a former U.S. Coast Guard station, the Home Front Museum provides details of World War II in Coastal Georgia. Navy schools, a Liberty Ship yard and anti-submarine patrols are featured in the Museum displays.
- Fort Frederica – Following a surprise attack on Savannah in 1735, James Oglethorpe built and staffed several outposts in disputed (by the Spanish and the British) territory. The largest of these was Fort Frederica on St. Simons Island. A small town was located adjacent to the Fort, and the residents built a thriving agricultural and merchant market. The CAMP tour will visit the NPS visitor center and then tour the remains of the village and Fort.
- Battle of Bloody Marsh – This battle took place on 7 July 1742 when the Spanish tried to take Fort Frederica on. The British defeated the Spanish who then retreated to St. Augustine. There were two sharp engagements in the battle, and the group will visit both sites.
- Fort King George – Traveling north from St. Simons Island on Route 17, enter Darien. Observe the tabby wall remains of warehouses fired by a Union raid in June 1863 (before Sherman's march). Proceed on to the site of Fort King George. Fort King George was built in 1721 on the Darien River; the Fort was the southernmost British fort until 1727. The CAMP tour will visit a recreation of the Fort.
- Dinner Skipper's Fish Camp, Darien GA

Return to hotel ~ 9:00pm

Sunday, October 8, 2023

8:00am

Depart hotel

Camp Blanding Museum – Camp Blanding, originally a Florida National Guard training post, was mobilized for federal service in 1940. Initially a unit training site (152 different units trained at the Post), the Post was converted to an Infantry Replacement Training Center (IRTC) in the summer of 1943. Just over 824,000 men trained at Camp Blanding during World War II. The Post returned to the State of Florida in 1948 and remains a primary training site for multiple Regular, Reserve and National Guard units. The Museum displays the history of the Post and the World War II training effort. Equipment from World War II through the Gulf Wars is displayed.

Return to hotel ~ 12:30pm; conference ends

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CONFERENCE HOTEL

Hampton Inn & Suites

13551 Airport Court, Jacksonville, FL 32218

\$114 king, \$119 two queens

Rate is good October 5 through October 9, 2023

Free Airport Shuttle, Free Parking, Free Breakfast

Make your reservation by September 6 to get this rate.

To make hotel reservation:

<https://group.hamptoninn.com/xurymo> or

www.Hilton.com (group code CAM) or

Call 904.741.4001 (mention CAMP)

CONFERENCE COORDINATOR

Contact Bridget Hart 240.672.6844