Dear CMH Member –

**PLEASE COME** to the Company of Military Historians’ 2020 Annual Meeting

**Now scheduled for October 7-11, 2020**

The meeting will be held at the **Crowne Plaza- Princeton**, 900 Scudders Mill Road, Plainsboro, NJ.

Highlights of the 2020 Annual meeting will include the following:

**CONFERENCE EVENTS:** (Thurs evening through Sun morning)
- (Thurs.) Welcome Reception with recognition of the “Old Guard”; our 50-year members
- (Fri.) “Ten Crucial Days of the Revolution” field trip including Washington’s Crossing (PA and NJ), the Old Barracks Museum (Trenton) and Princeton Battlefield
- Nine lectures covering many periods of American military history and material culture
- 50-table exhibit / flea market room
- Silent Auction: **Turn your burden into CMH’s blessing by donating something for the Silent Auction.**

**OPTIONAL EVENTS:** (before and after the conference)
- (Wed.) Fellows event with workshop, dinner, presentation
- (Thurs.) Optional “Shopping and Shooting” field trip with weapons from flintlock to semi-automatic
- (Thurs.) Optional “Spouse-Scursion” to the Mercer Museum and Fonthill Castle
- (Sun.) Optional field trip to the Museum of the American Revolution (Philadelphia)
- (Sun.) Optional field trip to the NJ National Guard Militia Museum (Sea Girt)

Our meeting committee has worked very hard to provide the kind of experience you expect and still limit costs. In addition to 9 lectures, the Friday field trip and the traditional Saturday banquet, the registration fee includes Fri. & Sat. breakfasts, Sat. lunch and morning and afternoon coffee breaks. The hotel room rate at the Crown Plaza is **$119**. This is the cheapest rate we’ve had in a decade! The hotel offers free parking and a free shuttle service to and from the Princeton Junction AMTRAK / NJTransit station. If you come by train, there’s no need to drive at all!

**TAKE ACTION: Book Your Room Now:**
- **Online:** Reserve online at: [https://tinyurl.com/rooms-in-Oct-4-CMH](https://tinyurl.com/rooms-in-Oct-4-CMH).
- **Phone:** call 877-666-3243 and mention the Company of Military Historians.
- The $119 conference rate doesn’t expire until 9/15/2020, but at this price, we will fill our block early.

**BREAKING NEWS!**
You can register for the conference and pay by credit card ONLINE.

**TAKE ACTION: Register Now:**
- **Online:** Register online at: [https://tinyurl.com/register-4-CMH2020](https://tinyurl.com/register-4-CMH2020). After you register online you can pay online by credit card, or (to reduce your convenience fees) send a check made out to “CMH-2020” to: **CMH-2020, P. O. Box 535 Cuddebackville, NY 12729**.
- **Snailmail:** Fill out the attached registration form and send it with a check made out to “CMH-2020” to **CMH-2020, P. O. Box 535 Cuddebackville, NY 12729**.

If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact meeting chairman, Juanita Leisch, at the email and phone below. Your meeting committee thanks you in advance for your consideration of this invitation and looks forward to seeing you in April!

Sincerely,

Juanita Leisch Jensen,
2020 Meeting Chairman,
lesandjuanita1@hushmail.com, 845-754-8827

PS – Check for updates at: [www.military-historians.org](http://www.military-historians.org).

**PLEASE NOTE** Due to NJ laws, we cannot include firearms on sales tables at the Flea Market or in the Silent Auction.
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| new→→→ COnpany ViDeo (COVID): Internet-only access to videotaped business meeting, lecture presentations & tour of Exhibit Room. |
| $100 |

| Display & Sales Tables                  |                   |       |         |           |           |
| CMH member- First two Display Tables    |                   |       |         |           |           |
| CMH member- Additional Display Tables   |                   |       |         |           |           |
| CMH member- Sales Tables DUE TO NJ LAWS, FIREARMS MAY NOT BE SOLD. |                   |       |         |           |           |

| Optional Events                         |                   |       |         |           |           |
| Wed-Fellows Event                       |                   |       |         |           |           |
| Thurs-Shopping & Shooting-SHOOTER (incl. ammunition fee) |                   |       |         |           |           |
| SPECTATOR (no ammunition)               |                   |       |         |           |           |
| shooter $95 spectactor $70             |                   |       |         |           |           |
| Thurs- “Spouse-Scursion” to Mercer Museum (carpool) |                   |       |         |           |           |
| Sun-NJ National Guard Militia Museum (Sea Girt) –by Bus or by carpool / private Vehicle |                   |       |         |           |           |
| on Bus-$45 private Veh-$5        |                   |       |         |           |           |
| Sun-Museum of American Revolution (Phila.) – by Bus or by carpool / private Vehicle |                   |       |         |           |           |
| on Bus-$55 private Veh-$25      |                   |       |         |           |           |

We have priced registration at break-even to attract attendees, a risky strategy. Please add a donation to help ensure the Annual Meeting end up in the black … or …

turn your Burdens into our Blessings by bringing along and donating items for the Silent Auction. Just think what you could do with the space you free up by donating castoffs to the Silent Auction!

Total Due: Please send check made out to “CMH-2020” to P.O. Box 535, Cuddebackville, NY 12729. You can also register online & pay with ‘PayPal’ at [https://tinyurl.com/register-4-CMH2020](https://tinyurl.com/register-4-CMH2020)

Banquet entrée choice: You will choose your banquet entrée when you arrive and check in at registration.

Friday lunch: If you don’t want to walk to a local café for lunch during the Friday field trip, you can order a lunch to be delivered to you at the Old Barracks Museum when you arrive and check in at registration.

Comments: Use space below or attach a page to advise of extra requirements or requests.
Wednesday

Noon-9pm – Registration Desk Open (Hotel Lobby)
Turn in your Silent Auction donations.

3pm-8pm – Fellows Event
Fellows Event includes
• **Workshop:** Balancing Energy and Enthusiasm: Responsible Care, Repair and Conservation by Hermes Knauer, Conservator Emeritus, MET, NYC
• **Dinner** with group or on own
• **Presentation:** Cost of Revolution: Rediscovering an Irish Veteran of Germantown by Matthew Skic, Associate Curator, Museum of the American Revolution.

NOTES: Fellows may sign up for this event whether or not they register for the Annual Meeting. Each Fellow may also register one guest. Event will be held in Crowne Plaza, so no transportation is needed.

Thursday

8am-9pm – Registration Desk Open (Hotel Lobby)
Turn in your Silent Auction donations.

Noon-9pm – Exhibit / Flea Market Open

9am-5pm – Field Trip (transportation by BUS)
Shopping and Shooting
Trip includes
• Shopping expedition to International Military Antiquities (IMA) warehouse in Gillette, NJ with Coffee and donuts (compliments of IMA)
• Lunch (compliments of IMA)
• Transportation to shooting range where those who sign up as ‘shooters’ will have opportunity to fire variety of weapons. (IMA is providing ammunition and weapons from flintlock to semi-automatic)

NOTE: We are renting a bus to provide transportation for this trip. Thus, we have both a minimum requirement and maximum ceiling. Register early to ensure your slot!

900-500 – Spouse-scursion to Mercer Museum and Fonthill Castle (Doylestown, PA) transportation by carpool
Spouse Scursion includes:
• Guided tour of Mercer Museum,
• Lunch on own
• Guided tour of Fonthill Castle

NOTE: We are not renting a bus for this field trip, but Pat Behr, our field trip coordinator, will facilitate the formation of carpools to ensure all participants have a ride and all drivers have detailed driving directions.

NOTE 2 Arrangements can be made to limit our guided tour to areas on the first floor of the Museum and Castle. Please let us know if you have mobility issues or if stairs are a concern.

Friday

7am-8:30am – Breakfast

8am-10am – Registration Desk Open (Hotel Lobby)
Turn in your Silent Auction donations.

8am-9pm -- Exhibit / Flea Market Open

10am-9pm – Self-Service Registration (Conf. Center)

830 – Presentation
The Mud Rounds: The British Invasion and the Great Retreat Across the Jerseys
by Todd Braisted
The 1776 British Campaign to take New York was thought to be at a close. But was it? George Washington divided his troops primarily between Westchester County, New York and Fort Lee, New Jersey, with the fortress of Fort Washington between the two. In the space of four days that November, the British rapidly captured both fortifications, along with thousands of troops, dozens of cannon and numerous stores. Washington, faced with expiring enlistments, dwindling morale and numerous geographic obstacles was forced to flee across the state, with thousands of British troops under Lord Cornwallis close on his heels. **This is the story of some of the darkest days of the Revolution, which Thomas Paine referred to as “the times that try men’s souls.” While the Battles of Trenton and Princeton reversed America’s fortunes, the days before those victories were anything but optimistic.**

930-530 – Field Trip (transportation by BUS)
“Ten Crucial Days of the Revolution”
Trip includes
• Washington’s Crossing, PA & NJ
• Old Barracks Museum (with time to visit the nearby NJ State Museum and to get lunch at a local café)
• Narrated Visit to Princeton Battlefield
NOTE – During our four-hour stop at the Old Barracks Museum, you will have time to walk to the nearby NJ State Museum, and/or to a nearby café for lunch. Note that this is a transitional urban area. If you prefer, you can sign up when you arrive at the conference to have a box lunch delivered to you at the Old Barracks Museum. The bus will pick up attendees from both the Old Barracks Museum and the NJ State Museum, so no need to walk back from NJ State Museum.

630pm – Chapter Representatives Meeting
800pm – Board of Governors’ Meeting

Saturday
7am-830am – Breakfast (Waterfront Rm)
8am - Annual Business Meeting
Conducted by CMH President Craig Bell.

new 9am – Presentation
The Great War, What The Doughboys Told Me by Karen L. MacNutt, LTC Ret.
The histories of various state National Guard units in the North East have common strains. They are rooted in the colonial minutemen; but came of age during World War I. As part of the command staff of the 26th Inf. Div., then Maj. MacNutt was asked to produce a documentary of the division’s history in light of its being decommissioned in 1995. In the course of that project she became friends with some of the nation’s last surviving doughboys. “I can read about battles in books,” she told the men, “but what I want to know is, what was it like to be there?” JOIN MACNUTT AS SHE TALKS ABOUT THE BEGINNING OF THE NATIONAL GUARD AND LIFE IN THE AEF FROM A DOUGHBOY’S POINT OF VIEW.

10am – Break

1030am – Presentation
“Pennsylvania’s Defenses, 1775-1781” by Joseph Seymour
Pennsylvania’s contribution to the import and manufacture of weapons and materiel [during the American Revolution] is well-documented. Most notable among collectors and historians is the long rifle. Over the past two and half centuries, it has attained almost mythical legendary status as a quintessential American combat arm vis à vis the much-maligned smoothbore musket. Because of its fame, the rifle’s effectiveness bears closer scrutiny in terms of its ballistic performance and design.

Throughout eight years of conflict, Pennsylvania’s inhabitants made a significant contribution to independence. THE PRESENTATION WILL EXPLORE ... THE DEGREE TO WHICH PENNSYLVANIA LEVERAGED INNOVATION IN ITS CONTRIBUTION TO VICTORY.

1130am – Presentation
Colonial Medicine 1775 by Robert Jaffee, MD
THIS PRESENTATION WILL ADDRESS THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF MEDICINE AT THE TIME OF THE REVOLUTION. We will explain the theories behind medicine in that era. He will also review some of the more common diseases in that period afflicting the soldiers and the treatment they received.

Noon Lunch (Waterfront Rm)

1pm – Presentation
Guadalcanal: A 75th Anniversary Visit to the Battlefields by Mike Gill
The landing of United States forces at Guadalcanal in the British Solomon Islands occurred on August the 7th, 1942. The speaker’s father, Marshall Gill, was born and raised in New Jersey. He served in the 1st Marine Division and arrived in Guadalcanal on September 18th, 1942. The 75th anniversary visit was the speaker’s personal journey to visit the areas of Guadalcanal where his father was located and saw action. THE TALK WILL DESCRIBE ... BATTLEFIELDS AND ARTIFACTS ... INCLUDING WW 2 MARINE CORPS AND JAPANESE ITEMS THAT BELONGED TO MARSHALL GILL.

2pm – Presentation
Ten Days of the Revolution: A “Southron” View by Lawrence E. Babits
THIS PRESENTATION EXPLORES THE STRATEGIC, TACTICAL, AND POLITICAL SITUATION IN THE SOUTH FOLLOWING THE 25 APRIL 1781 BATTLE OF HOBKIRK’S HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA. Cornwallis was moving to join a British Army in Virginia while Nathanael Greene was trying to win back the Carolinas and Georgia. Greene was determined to use his skills in more decisive fighting in Virginia. Greene opted to stay the course in the South. This presentation examines why and what caused his change of heart, something every bit as important and decisive to the South as the northern winter campaign in 1776.
3pm – Break

330pm – Presentation
Willie, Johnny, and the Vacant Chair: Depictions of the Common Soldier in the Parlor Music of Civil War America by Emily Lapisardi
As the young men of the north and south marched to war, composers, lyricists, and music publishers were quick to capitalize on public sentiments through the publication of a plethora of songs depicting the common soldier. Stephen Foster, George Root, and a host of lesser-known composers allowed those left at home, and the soldiers themselves, to give voice to patriotic fervor, romantic longing, and the pain of injury and death through the vehicle of popular music published for performance by amateur musicians. This presentation will trace the evolution of the parlor song’s depiction of the lives, deaths, and wartime experiences of common soldiers through a summary of the repertoire and analysis of the songs’ roles both on the home front and in the military camp.

430pm – Presentation
Uniquely American: The Practice of Engraving Captured Cannon by Leslie D. Jensen
Les’ familiarity with surviving artillery from the American Revolution and later periods led him to research and create This Presentation on the Prevalence and Process by Which Captured Cannon Were Engraved. He has not published and has never before presented the results of his research on this uniquely American practice, which began in the 18th century and extended through the Mexican War.

630pm – Cocktail Party and Banquet
We anticipate that the Veteran Corps of Artillery of New York will serve as color guard for our traditional banquet ceremonies.

NOTE - You don’t need to decide your dinner entrée when you complete your registration form. Instead, you’ll make your selection at the conference registration desk when you arrive.

Sunday

830am – Presentation
Regimental Flags of the German “Mercenaries” in the War of the American Revolution by Steven W. Hill
Over forty thousand mis-named “mercenaries” in regiments from six German principalities served in America during the American War of 1775-1783. Each of these regiments carried flags of a pattern unique to their own establishment. At least 33 of these flags were captured during the war, 25 Hessian and 8 Anspach. Several of these flags and portions of several more still exist. This presentation will be a Discussion of What These Flags Looked Like, How They Were Made, Their Use in the Field, and Their Ultimate Disposition. While the Hessian troops are the best known, especially for their role at Trenton and Princeton, where the CMH conference is being held, important roles were played by Brunswick troops in the Saratoga campaign, and troops and flags of Anspach were captured at Yorktown.

930am-6pm – Field Trip (by bus or private vehicle)
NJ National Guard Militia Museum
While other events during the conference focus on the American Revolution, this field trip is our opportunity to see artifacts, exhibits, vehicles and aircraft related to American wars from colonial times to the present day. Exhibits include New Jersey militia and later National Guard soldiers in the Dutch and English colonial eras, the French and Indian War and the American Revolution, as well as the Indian Wars of the 1790s, the Whiskey Rebellion, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Civil War, the Spanish American War and American conflicts of the 20th Century from World War I to the present. Perhaps the most unique exhibit at the museum is a Civil War submarine, the “Intelligent Whale,” largely built in Newark.
general admission PLUS a special thirty-minute presentation on “Making the Museum” covering the long history of events that led to the creation of this museum. This presentation also highlights key artifacts and reveals how things work behind-the-scenes at the Museum.

NOTE: For both Sunday field trips, we are renting bus transportation. Thus, we have both a minimum requirement and maximum ceiling. You can ride the bus one or both ways, and we will have baggage space for folks who want to go to the airport or train station from the museum. We are also offering a ‘no bus’ option for folks who want to use private transportation.

Venue – Crowne Plaza, Princeton, NJ

LOCATION
The site of our conference is the beautiful CROWNE PLAZA-PRINCETON, 900 Scuppers Mill Road, Plainsboro, NJ.
- Conveniently located midway between the Newark and Philadelphia airports.
- Plenty of free parking
- FREE shuttle from the AMTRAK / NJTransit station at Princeton Junction
- if you come by train, there’s no need to drive!

AMENITIES
- 27-acre wooded campus with lake, fountains, 4-mile hiking trail
- Many guest rooms offer views of the lake and landscaped grounds
- “Forrestal Grille” restaurant, “Flight” martini and wine lounge
- Fitness center, indoor pool, whirlpool, billiards, shuffleboard, squash, racketball & tennis courts

PRICE
Our conference room rate for singles, doubles and a very limited number of suites is $119 / night. The special rate is available Tuesday through Sunday nights of our conference weekend. The special rate expires in mid-September but our room block will fill up early, so make haste to register and reserve your room!

TAKE ACTION: BOOK YOUR ROOM NOW:
To make your reservation call 877-666-3243 and mention “Military Historians”.

Display & Flea Market Entrance at 870 Scudders Mill Road: Look for signage for Novo Nordisk and Holiday Inn and follow drive around to left.

Hotel Entrance at 900 Scudders Mill Road: Look for signage for Crowne Plaza Hotel and use drive for 900 Scudders Mill Road. Hotel entrance will be straight ahead.
**Food FAQs**

*When do I choose my entrée for the banquet?*
In a break from tradition, you will choose your banquet entrée when you arrive at the conference.

*Where can I get meals that are not included in my registration?*

**Walking Distance to the Crowne Plaza:**
*It’s just about 2000 steps – ½ mile – door to door from the Crowne Plaza to the Plainsboro Town Center which has restaurants with a wide variety of cuisines and price ranges:*

- Dunkin Donuts – coffee and pastry
- Eastern Asian Fusion Restaurant – take-out Chinese, Japanese, Thai and Vietnamese
- Five Guys – burgers and fries
- The Grind Coffee House & Café – coffee house
- Indian Hut – Indo Chinese
- Jhopri – Classic Indian
- Lotus Garden – Chinese
- McDonalds
- Mexican Post – Mexican
- Panera Bread – Bakery / café chain
- Romeo’s Ristorante Italiano & Pizzeria

**Close to Old Barracks Museum (for Friday lunch).**
*The following are all located within two blocks of the Museum:*

  - Located between Old Barracks Museum and NJ State Museum
    - Café 128 – 128 State Street – charming décor
    - City Deli – 15 Willow Street – traditional deli décor and Italian/Spanish cuisine
  
  - Located on far side of Old Barracks Museum from the NJ State Museum... near a transitional neighborhood
    - The Hummingbird (Jamaican) – 29 S. Warren St.
    - Subway – 101 S. Warren Street – directly across Front street from the Humingbird
    - The Big Easy – 111 S. Warren Street – New Orleans and ethnic-themed food in a Jazz atmosphere

NOTE – If you prefer not to go to a café in downtown Trenton, when you arrive at the conference, you will have the opportunity to order a box lunch to be delivered to you at the Old Barracks Museum.

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**EVERYBODY MAKES MISTAKES**

We’ve all acquired things that we wish we hadn’t; or need to free up space for better things. Here’s your chance to turn your burden into a CMH blessing. Please bring one or more items to donate to the Silent Auction. Turn them in when you check in at the Registration Desk, and we’ll take it from there!

Thank you in advance for your participation in the Silent Auction.