



National Museum of Civil War Medicine



March 2020

Newsletter of the NMCWM

Frederick, MD

New Recruiting Kiosk

We are proud to announce the installation of a brand new interactive kiosk in the newly-renamed Robert Gearing Recruitment Gallery. This upgrade is thanks to funds raised in our ongoing Annual Appeal, which is focused on improvements to the entire gallery.

This is the first time the Museum is employing a digital exhibit, and if it is successful we will purchase two more units for other galleries. The kiosk features recruitment posters from different eras of the war. From the initial start when “war fever” raged, to attracting the immigrant population, to bounties, to colored troops, and ultimately to the draft. The monitor is visible throughout the room, so even if you aren’t the one using the iPad to navigate, you can see the content being displayed. The posters are highly visual and look great on the large screen. If you’ve visited us lately and have seen the kiosk, we would love to hear your feedback.

We’re very close to our goal of \$20,000 for the Robert Gearing Recruitment Gallery. Please consider giving any gift, whatever the size. We will soon be installing new lighting and reimagining our very popular exhibit, “Will They Get In?” Dedication of the gallery will be in the late spring of 2020.

David Price, NMCWM Executive Director



48 East Patrick Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701

301-695-1864

1-800-564-1864

www.civilwarmed.org

New Newsletter Format

You may have noticed that the interior pages of our newsletter have a brand-new format. We decided to update the look, and to move the events listings online. With three locations and an ever-increasing event schedule, the easiest way to keep the listings up to date is on our websites. Should any last minute changes arise, the listings will be updated immediately to reflect those changes.

Events at the NMCWM and the Pry House can be found at: www.civilwarmed.org/events

Events at the Clara Barton Missing Soldiers Office Museum can be found at: www.clarabartonmuseum.org/events

Should you have any questions about specific events, please don't hesitate to contact John Lustrea at john.lustrea@civilwarmed.org or call 301-695-1864.



Staff Spotlight

Joanna Jennings, the Deputy Director of the NMCWM, began working at the Museum in August 2004. She's held many different titles: Administrative Assistant, Facilities and Human Resource Operations Administrator, Office Manager, and now Deputy Director.



Many tasks fall under her purview. On the human resources side, Joanna maintains employee payroll and regularly checks in with staff and volunteers to make sure everyone is happy with their roles. She also takes care of administrative duties, which include managing the guest services staff, keeping up with visitation numbers, and making sure the Carty building is in proper working order. Most of the Museum staff would also note that she is superb at lifting morale and creating an enjoyable work environment.

Continue Clara Barton's Work!

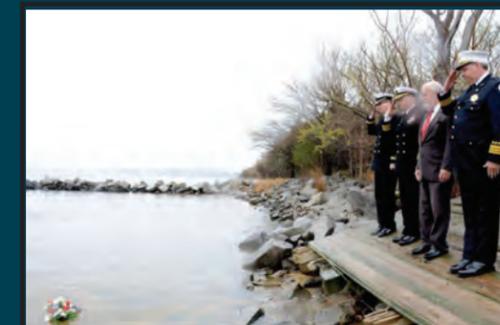
The NMCWM is planning to sponsor a Blood Drive in conjunction with the Red Cross, as one way to continue the humanitarian efforts of our own Clara Barton. The Blood Drive is scheduled for Thursday, July 2, from 11 am until 4 pm, at the downtown Frederick location of the NMCWM, 48 E. Patrick Street.

The Red Cross requests that anyone interested in donating blood sign up for this event. Signing up does not commit anyone to donate; donors will receive a Red Cross T-shirt and free Museum admission usable the same or another day. If interested, you can sign up in various ways: in the Museum lobby; by calling 301-695-1864; or by emailing Leatrice.Urbanowicz@Civilwarmed.org. For more information on the eligibility requirements for donating blood, go to the Red Cross website, www.redcrossblood.org.

Featured Events

The Black Diamond Disaster

Two April events will focus on the legacy of the *Black Diamond* disaster, a forgotten maritime tragedy of the American Civil War. On April 22, 1865, after the war had essentially come to a close, approximately 300 soldiers got on board a steamer in Alexandria to return to their various regiments. They had survived Andersonville Prison and been nursed back to health at Camp Parole and other hospitals in the area, and were just waiting to be mustered out. But fate was not kind, and a number of them died early the next morning in a forgotten tragedy on the Lower Potomac River.



2019 commemoration of the *Black Diamond* disaster.

The Sinking of the Black Diamond Clara Barton Missing Soldiers Office

Thursday, April 9, 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Learn about the legacy of the Black Diamond disaster from Karen Stone, Director of the Museums Division of St. Mary's County Government. Learn the tragic story of the men who were lost in the accident between the steamer *Massachusetts* and the barge *Black Diamond* during the hunt for John Wilkes Booth. This is a pay-what-you-please event.

Commemoration of the Sinking of the Black Diamond St. Clements Island Museum

Saturday and Sunday, April 25 and April 26

Head to St. Clement's Island for a weekend of activities commemorating the *Black Diamond* Disaster. NMCWM Executive Director David Price will speak at the commemorative ceremony on Sunday, April 26, at 2:00 pm, and Museum staff will be present throughout the anniversary weekend.

Membership and You

We stand in the long shadow of the Civil War. Medical professionals today have inherited the challenges and triumphs of that conflict which continues to influence patient care. With your membership, you join the ranks of our most important supporters—members like you are the reason we survive and thrive.

As a measure of thanks for your support, we are happy to provide free admission to all three of our locations, discounts in our gift shops, and special admission to events. This year we have introduced new "Members Only" programs. Join us on Saturday, April 18, for an exclusive guided tour of the USS *Constellation* in Baltimore only for members of the NMCWM. See our website, www.civilwarmed.org, for details.

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Frederick, MD 21701
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Open Seven Days a Week

Mon.-Sat. 10am-5pm
Sun. 11am-5pm
Closed: New Year's Day, Easter
Sunday, Thanksgiving, Christmas
Eve & Christmas Day



The National Museum of Civil
War Medicine is a nonprofit,
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Pry House Field Hospital Museum

Antietam Natl. Battlefield
18906 Shepherdstown Pike
Keedysville, MD 21754
301-695-1864 Call for Hours

Clara Barton Missing Soldiers Office Museum

437 7th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004
202-824-0613 Call for Hours

Go Green

Send your e-mail address to
Kyle.Dalton@civilwarmed.org.
You will receive your next
newsletter electronically.



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P.O. Box 470
Frederick, MD 21705-0470

The Blue and Gray

The Blue and Gray Hospital Association is the first officially-recognized living history group of the NMCWM. They have been conducting programming at the Museum of the highest caliber and scholarship level for eight years now, and this partnership between the two organizations serves to formalize and emphasize that connection.



You can see the Blue and Gray at the NMCWM five times a year during one weekend each in April, May, July, September, and December. For 2020, the confirmed dates are April 4 to 5, May 23 to 24, and September 19 to 20. The remaining dates will be confirmed later this year. Additionally, the group will present their annual Historical Interpreters Workshop at the NMCWM on March 14, 2020. The day-long symposium is an annual event and features presentations by several experts in the field of Civil War medicine. Visit civilwarmed.org for more information, or call 301-695-1864.

Left: David Price, Executive Director, NMCWM and Mark Quattrock, Blue and Gray Hospital Association.

Right: John Evans of the Blue and Gray Hospital Association interacts with Museum visitors.

Join Today! www.civilwarmed.org