



You Are Invited to Attend the

7th Annual Sarasota World War I Conference

Monday, January 22, 2018 - at the Sandcastle Resort on Lido Beach, Sarasota, FL
with **Jay Wertz, Douglas Batson, Edwin C. Bearss, Robert J. Laplander,**
George A. Kranz, Erin R. Mahan and Mitchell Yockelson

"And we saw Europe - the last opportunity - in its old guise . . . In 1914 it blew up, of course. The lights went out and it was never the same again." - **George C. Marshall**

What was once called **The Great War** has largely been overlooked, obscured by the vivid moral clarities of the greater war that followed. World War I was a bloody preview of World War II - machine guns, air and submarine warfare, poison gas - these were technologies that applied the tools of mass production to human slaughter. Killing became impersonal, mechanical and vast.

World War I was more than just a war between nations. The "old world" was dying, and a new one had yet to be born. People of all classes and nations saw the conflict as some great cleansing fire that would lead to a better world. By the time it was over, millions of men and their dreams of progress had died in the trenches of Europe and on far-flung battlefields.

As we continue through **the centennial of World War I**, we present our seventh annual conference - in a setting that couldn't differ more from the terrible trenches of Verdun and the deserts of Mesopotamia. We will headquarter at the **Sandcastle Resort** on the white sands of **Lido Beach**, and enjoy the warm breezes and spectacular views of the Gulf of Mexico.

We have assembled a fine group of historians whose topics of presentation should be compelling. Among these will be **Robert J. Laplander**, the pre-eminent authority on **The Lost Battalion**, and **Douglas Batson**, who will offer a dramatic portrayal of Isaiah Bowman who played a major role in determining distribution of land areas and national borders, especially in the Balkans, as part of the Paris Peace Conference. And we are happy to report the return of the much-heralded **Mitchell Yockelson**, known to many of you from his frequent television appearances.

This will be a **very content-rich program** that will enhance your understanding and appreciation of The Great War. **Space is Limited** - so **Enroll Now** - and **Join us in Sunny Sarasota!**

2018 Sarasota World War I Conference



Schedule of Activities

Monday, January 22

- 7:30 AM-8:30 AM Continental Breakfast in Ballroom
8:00 AM throughout Books on Sale – **A. Parker Books, Sarasota**
8:00 AM throughout World War I Memorabilia Display
- courtesy of **George A. Kranz**
- 8:30 AM –9:30 AM *The Opening Battle on the Frontier:*
Disaster for the French – **Edwin C. Bearss**
- 9:45 AM -10:45 AM *Dwight D. Eisenhower in the Great War*
– **Mitchell Yockelson**
- 11:00 AM-12:00 N *Topic to be Announced* - **Erin R. Mahan**
12:00 N - 1:00 PM Group Lunch in Dining Room
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM *Finding the Lost Battalion*
– **Robert J. Laplander**
- 2:15 PM – 3:15 PM *The Inquiry: Wilsonian Peace and America on*
the World Stage – **Douglas Batson**
- 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM *From One War to the Next* – **Jay Wertz**

We reserve the right to change the order and topics of presentations, and to substitute faculty members as circumstances may dictate.

HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION

We will be based at the **Sandcastle Resort** on Lido Beach, 1540 Ben Franklin Drive, Sarasota, FL 34236 where we have reserved a block of rooms at the special discounted nightly rates of

- \$144 – Non-View; \$164 – Court-View; \$183 - Poolside; \$204 - Gulf Front.

To reserve a room under our block call **800-225-2181** and identify yourself as a registrant for the World Wars Conference. Our attendees WILL NOT be assessed the Sandcastle's \$25 per day Resort Fee.

FACULTY – 7TH ANNUAL SARASOTA WWI CONFERENCE

JAY WERTZ is the author of six books including two award-winning volumes in the War Stories: World War II Firsthand series, *D-Day: The Campaign Across France*; and *The Pacific: Volume One – Pearl Harbor to Guadalcanal*, as well as the recently released *The Pacific: Volume Two – The Solomons to Saipan*.

DOUGLAS BATSON is a former military geographer and an expert in the geography of World War I. He brings these passions together when he does performances portraying Dr. Isaiah Bowman, then-Director of the American Geographical Society (AGS). In January 1918, President Wilson tapped Dr. Bowman to lead "The Inquiry," a group of distinguished geographers who served as a precursor to today's National Intelligence Council. With its vast collection of maps and reports, The Inquiry propelled America onto the world stage at the 1919 Paris Peace Conference -- and together, they developed President Wilson's Famous "14 Points".

EDWIN C. BEARSS, historian emeritus of the National Park Service, is the most well-known battlefield guide in America and is acclaimed as one of the stars of Ken Burns' award-winning PBS series, *The Civil War*. He leads military history tours year-around of the Civil War, American Revolution, American West and World War I and World War II in Europe.

GEORGE A. KRANZ is a collector of World War I memorabilia including U.S. and German uniforms, medals and equipment. His interest in such was sparked when he discovered an old chest in a relative's house that contained a treasure trove of items owned by a WWI veteran of the Western Front.

ROBERT J. LAPLANDER is the leading authority on the 'Lost Battalion' of the 77th Division and the author of *Finding the Lost Battalion: Beyond the Rumors, Myths and Legend of America's Famous WW1 Epic*. He is featured in the television event *The Great War*; a 6-hour, 3-part record of America's contributions in WW1 presented as part of the American Experience series for PBS in conjunction with the 100th Anniversary of the war. He is also the author of *The True Story of the Wooden Horse*, an account of the POW escape from Stalag Luft III during WWII.

ERIN D. MAHAN is Chief Historian of the Department of Defense, and previously served as an Associate Research Fellow at the Center for the Study of Weapons of Mass Destruction at the National Defense University, and as a historian at the Department of State, where she edited several volumes of *Foreign Relations of the United States*. Her publications include *Kennedy, de Gaulle*, and *Western Europe* and articles on NATO, the Berlin Crisis, and U.S. and French foreign economic policies during the 1960s.

MITCHELL YOCKELSON is an archivist at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) where he works in the Office of the Inspector General and heads the Archival Recovery Team (ART). Additionally, he teaches history at the United States Naval Academy and military history at Norwich University. He leads tours to World War I and World War II battlefields for clients such as National Geographic Expeditions, Smithsonian Institution Residents Associate Program and the New York Times. Mitch has appeared on 60 Minutes, PBS, the History Channel and the Pentagon Channel. He is the author of *Borrowed Soldiers, Americans under British Command, 1918*; *MacArthur: America's General*; *Grant: Savior of the Union*; and *Forty-Seven Days: How Pershing's Warriors Came of Age to Defeat the Germans in Autumn, 1918*.

REGISTRATION PAGE - 2018 SARASOTA WORLD WAR I CONFERENCE

Monday, January 22, 2018

Registrant A

Registrant B

Name _____ Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Registration Fee per person: \$195

Registration Includes continental breakfast and lunch.

IF YOU MUST CANCEL, YOUR REGISTRATION FEE WILL BE 100% REFUNDED.

To Enroll:

- Call 800-298-1861, or
- Complete and Fax this form to 800-550-1347, or
- Mail to CWEA, Box 78, Winchester, VA 22604

Check Payable to CWEA or Charge my MasterCard, VISA, Discover or AMEX

Card # _____ Ex Date _____

Security# (3 digit # on back of VISA, MC or DISC or 4 digit # on front of AMEX) _____

Signature _____

CWEA
P. O. Box 78, Winchester, VA 22604
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cwea@earthlink.net www.cwea.net