

# World War 1 History Symposium

Sponsored by the Pennsylvania World War One Centennial Committee



Saturday, May 13, 2017 at the U. S. Army Heritage and Education Center  
Carlisle, PA

Observing the 100th Anniversary of the First World War (1914-1918), four presentations examine a world calamity that fundamentally changed America

## Join Us for an Engaging Full-Day Program on The History of the First World War

This all-volunteer effort is *free*, but *you must register*. See below for details.

### Symposium Agenda

10:00 - USAHEC Opens, Symposium Opens

10:30 - Welcome by PA WW1 Centennial Committee event chairman

10:35 – Orientation by USAHEC Staff on programs/resources/facility

10:40 - "***America's Responses to the War in Europe, 1914-1917***", Dr. Michael S. Neiberg, Chair of War Studies in the Department of National Security and Strategy at the United States Army War College

The war in Europe impacted American society from the day it began. Over the next few years, Americans debated how they should respond to the war. By the spring of 1917, their options narrowed significantly. This talk will trace America's road to entry into what many of them hoped would become the war to end all wars.

11:40 - Lunch break

13:00 - "***Americans All! Foreign-Born Soldiers in World War I***", Dr. Nancy Gentile Ford, Professor of History, Bloomsburg, University.

During the First World War, nearly 1 out of 5 soldiers in the U.S. Army were foreign-born. This surge of Old World soldiers (from 46 different nations) challenged the American military's culture, linguistic and religious traditions and required military leaders to reconsider their training methods.

Dr. Nancy Gentile Ford will examine how the War Department drew on the experiences of progressive social welfare reformers and ethnic community leaders, who assisted with training, socializing and meeting the cultural and religious needs of immigrant troops. Ford will also analyze why the War Department did not call for harsh Americanization of foreign-born soldiers but, instead, created an atmosphere that accepted both American and ethnic pride.

14:00 - Break 2

14:10 - "**Writing the Great War: Veterans, literature, and the war's memory**", Dr. Ian A. Isherwood, Visiting Assistant Professor, War and Memory Studies, Gettysburg College

15:10 - Break 3

15:20 - "**Philadelphia in World War I**", Peter Williams, a lifelong resident of Philadelphia, is an attorney with a special interest in World War I. He writes articles and a blog on life in Philadelphia during the First World War years

Peter Williams will speak about life in Philadelphia during the "Great War". One hundred years ago Philadelphia was the third largest city in the United States and a major manufacturing center nicknamed "The Workshop of the World." Mr. Williams will discuss how Philadelphians lived, worked and played. He will also discuss how when America joined the fight, the city and its citizens mobilized to support the war effort at home and their boys over there.

16:20 - Program Ends

17:00 - USAHEC Closes

## Event Details

*There is no charge for the symposium and parking at USAHEC is free.*

## Registration

**You must register** for this *free* event so we know how many will attend, and not exceed room capacity. Go to the EvenBrite link below and Register. Please print your free admission ticket or save to your mobile device.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/world-war-one-history-symposium-tickets-32823295360>

## When

Saturday, May 13, 2017 10:00am –Center opens at 10:00 am - official welcome and program beginning at 10:30am

## Where

United States Army Heritage and Education Center, 950 Soldiers Drive, Carlisle, PA 17013.

Soldiers Drive is reached via Army Heritage Drive.

The symposium will be held in Multi-purpose Rooms 3 and 4.

See USAHEC.ORG for driving directions

717-245-3972

## Lunch

Your choice: 1) Food is available where you can pick up a sandwich 5 min. away on Harrisburg Pike (US 11) south of the PA Turnpike and 10 min. away on Harrisburg Pike North of the Turnpike. 2) Your own brown bag lunch. 3) box lunch (\$14) ordered in advance, no later than Monday, May 8, 2017. Pay the day of symposium. Box lunch has a sandwich on a soft Kaiser roll, fruit, potato chips, cookie, with the sandwich made from Turkey, Ham, Roast Beef or Vegetarian, along with a bottle of water. **To get a box lunch, send an email to Barry Johnson** at the address below and *specify your choice of sandwich*. USAHEC has beverages available and a large dining area.

## Directions

See the USAHEC web site above for directions, your own GPS, or your favorite mapping software.

For information on the symposium, contact Barry Johnson,  
Pennsylvania World War One Centennial Committee volunteer at  
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215-542-9359

