



The Dispatch

Newsletter of the

Capital District Civil War Round Table

P.O. Box 14871, Albany, NY 12212-4871

CDCWRT's web site: timesunion.com/communities/cdcwrt

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NEW YORK STATE MILITARY HERITAGE INSTITUTE

New York State will celebrate the opening of the New York State Military Museum and Veterans Research Center in Saratoga Springs, New York on Wednesday, October 16th, 2002. Governor George Pataki will officially open the military museum doors with a ribbon cutting ceremony on that day. More details will be announced at the October meeting.

The historic New York State National Guard Armory located at 61 Lake Avenue in Saratoga Springs was dedicated in 1889 and was completed in 1891 as the home of the 22nd Separate Company, NYNG. It was designed by architect Isaac G. Perry (1822-1904) who was appointed in 1883 to complete the Capitol Building in Albany, N.Y. The castellated armory, a uniquely American style, originated in New York State in the 1870's.

**October Meeting
Friday 10/04/02**

**Pruyn House
207 Old Niskayuna Rd.
Newtonville, NY**

SOCIAL & MUSIC	6:30 PM
PROGRAM	7:00 PM
BUSINESS MEETING	FOLLOWS

Marcia began her historical research in 1981, and her first performance was in 1982. Since then she has performed thousands of times for schools, libraries, museums, festivals and organizations. She has also performed as Clara Barton.

Talented Round Table member, Roxanne Wegman, will provide period musical entertainment prior to the meeting. A short business meeting will follow the program.

CDCWRT MEETING

*The October meeting of the CDCWRT will be held on the **FIRST FRIDAY, October 4th**, at the BURMASTER BARN AT THE PRUYN HOUSE. **PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN DATE TO THE FIRST FRIDAY, AND THE MOVE TO THE PRUYN HOUSE SITE. THIS IS BEING DONE TO ACCOMMODATE OUR SPEAKER.** The meeting is co-sponsored with The Friends of the Pruy House, in lieu of their Civil War Days which was cancelled this year due to the 140th anniversary of the Battle of Antietam re-enactment.*

Our speaker will be Marcia Estabrook, who will present a one-woman, first person dramatization of the true story of Ellen Craft, a light-skinned Georgian slave who fled to the North in 1848. She posed as a white man, and her husband, as his slave. Their perilous journey takes them from Savannah to Philadelphia, Boston, Nova Scotia and England. Her story is a powerful one, filled with danger, narrow escapes, victory, and the love between a man and a woman, united in their determination to be free.

DIRECTIONS: from Albany, exit 5 on the Northway; right at the light onto route 155 west; take second left onto Old Niskayuna Road before passing under the Northway bridge; look for Pruy House signs; Pruy House 0.6 miles.

From the north: take exit 5 on the Northway; left at the light onto route 155 east; pass under the Northway bridge; take first right onto Old Niskayuna Road; 0.6 miles.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September meeting was attended by 60 members, and was held at the Sand Creek Middle School auditorium. The late change in venue occurred because we were unable to secure the Guilderland Library for a Thursday night, thirty days before the meeting. An errata sheet was included in each local newsletter. The Board expresses an apology for anyone who might have gone to the library by mistake.

Our Canadian speaker, was the bilingual, bicultural, Mark Vinet, who discussed Canada's contribution to the American Civil War. Mark was dynamic and entertaining. He provided insight about Canada's not so neutral role, as the colony of Canada drafted its constitution during the Civil War years.

When it became a nation in 1867, it hoped to avoid the possibility of secession as the Confederate states had argued. The parallels between the CSA and the province of Quebec were discussed.

By the way, one of Mark's Civil War relatives, who was in the Rhode Island 4th, was wounded, and while recovering, he wrote a song about his homeland. It just happens to start as, "Oh Canada, - - -," and has become the national anthem. There was almost 30 minutes of questions and discussion after Mark's presentation.

LAST CALL: TRIP CHANGE

The Fall Trip will occur on **Friday, October 11th to Monday, October 14th**. It is entitled, **From Fredericksburg To Chancellorsville: The Last Battle?** The cost will be **\$499/person**, and includes transportation to Baltimore, bus to the battlefields, 3 nights motel, most meals including banquet, entrance fees, tour guides, and lectures. We realized it was \$1300 cheaper to hire a bus from Albany than hire a bus in Virginia! **Anyone wishing to go on this trip, but not wanting to fly, may now do so. The bus will leave from Colony Center (Filene's) at 07:00am on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10TH, spend the afternoon in Gettysburg, and stay overnight near Frederick, MD. The bus will then meet the rest of the group flying into Baltimore, Friday morning. The bus will return to Albany, Monday, October 14th, arriving around midnight. The cost remains \$499/person, but does NOT include lunch & dinner Thursday or dinner on Monday. If interested, call Paul Rivenburgh (785-2780) by 9/28/02. A \$200 non-refundable deposit MUST be made by 9/28, and the balance due by Friday, October 4th.**

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The Fifth Annual Northeast Conference on the Civil War will occur on Friday and Saturday, November 8th and 9th, with the Fall Banquet on Saturday evening, November 9th. The conference is entitled, **Remembrance of the Civil War Through Letters, Drawings and Artifacts.** It will tie-in with the **Eye of the Storm Exhibit** at the New York State Museum. The exhibit runs from October 5th to December 31st, and features one of the most remarkable Civil War collections ever uncovered. It is the written and watercolor collection of Pvt. Robert Knox Sneden, which began to surface in 1993, and was published in the fall of 2000.

The guest speaker for our fall banquet will be **Thomas P. Lowry, M.D.** Dr. Lowry is a graduate of Stanford University, where he studied history and medicine. He has authored numerous journal articles and had practiced medicine and psychiatry for more than thirty-five years. Two of his Civil War books are **The Story the Soldier Wouldn't Tell: Sex in the Civil War**, and, **Tarnished Scalpels**, a book about the court-martials of over fifty Union physicians. Dr. Lowry will talk about the Lincoln court-martials.

The cost of the Conference will be \$85 and includes continental breakfast, coffee breaks, lunch, and the evening banquet in addition to conference materials. The Conference only, will be \$60/person. The Banquet only, will be \$30/person. The banquet will be buffet style at the Best Western Motel, 1228 Western Ave., in Albany. Cocktail hour begins at 6:00pm, and dinner at 7:00pm. Mail checks to Paul Rivenburgh, treasurer.