



The Dispatch

Newsletter of the

Capital District Civil War Round Table

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CDCWRT's web site: www.cdcwrt.org

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Much of the desperate fighting at Chickamauga on September 20, 1862, took place around the Snodgrass house on the slope of Snodgrass Hill, where the Federals took their first positions at the edge of the woods. The entry in the sketch states:

“ The Snodgrass house on the battle field of Chickamauga. Near here Genl Thomas repulsed the last charge made by the Confederate Army. ---- It was once said by a Confed general that “Here at Snodgrass house, fell the Southern Confederacy.””

**JULY MEETING
PICNIC !
SUNDAY
JULY 17TH
NOON TO 6:00 PM
THATCHER PARK**

Tommy grew up in the South near Chickamauga. In fact his family lived on a farm that became part of the battlefield. This promises to be unique talk about a battle with local ties at Oakwood Cemetery when General George Thomas (the Rock of Chickamauga) is buried.

UP-COMING EVENTS

Civil War Days in Troy will be held on Saturday, July 9th and Sunday July 10th. The site will be in Troy's Prospect Park.

CDCWRT MEETING

The next meeting of the Round Table is our annual picnic, on Sunday, July 17th, at Thatcher State Park, on the Helderberg escarpment, south of Albany. Take New Scotland Ave (Route 85), or Delaware Ave (Route 443), out of Albany, or Routes 155 and 85A out of Guilderland and Voorheesville.

The Round Table has reserved table in the HORSESHOE 2 AREA, WHICH IS NEXT TO THE SWIMMING POOL. THERE IS A \$6.00 PER CAR CHARGE, SO CAR POOLING WILL SAVE YOU GAS AND CASH.

The Round Table will supply hamburgers and hot dogs, rolls, chips, and soda. Members are asked to bring salads, desserts, or a special item to share. In order that we don't wind up with 15 bean salads, please contact Noreen Underhill (phone 371-4312) to indicate what you are bringing or for suggestions.

We will have a guest speaker for the picnic. Tommy Smith, Park Ranger at Lindenwald (Martin Van Buren National Historical Site) will speak about some aspects of the Battle of Chickamauga. It seems that

This has been held at the King Solomon Masonic Temple the past several years, but it had become popular and has outgrown that site. Prospect Park allows for a larger venue. Activities include an encampment and a re-enactment of a Civil War battle. There will be other types of entertainment. The RT will need volunteers for our information tables.

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On Monday, July 11th, at 1:00pm, there will be a History Teachers' Summer Institute at Union College. We are looking for volunteers to present in a mini-conference for the teachers, entitled, *Teaching the Civil War.* Interested members should contact president, Matt George for details.

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Sunday, July 31st, is Induction Day at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown. The RT will have a booth for sales of cachets and T-shirts. Volunteers are being sought.

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Chamberlain Days in Maine will be held on Wednesday, August 10th through Saturday, August 13th. President, Matt George has attended this activity several times. He states it is a great experience for Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain fans, and will give anyone more details about the event.

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The September meeting will be held on Friday, September 9th, at the Guilderland Public Library. The Latschers will present the program that was cancelled this past winter when a storm prevented them from traveling from Gettysburg.

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CIVIL WAR HERITAGE DAY, 10:00 – 3:00, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2005

The Civil War Monument at Albany Rural Cemetery contains the names of **648** Albany County residents who were **“Killed in Action.”** The bronze plates on the monument were cast from a melted-down Civil War cannon. During the four years of war, **Albany averaged 13.5 dead and about 50 wounded per month.** In the days following a major battle, casualties could hit 4 or 5 times that.

On June 7, 1862, in the midst of the carnage, the Trustees of Albany Rural Cemetery donated a section, which was named the **Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Plot** to bury and honor these soldiers. The Trustees resolution read: *“--- a sufficient and suitable piece of ground be set apart to inter the remains of officers and soldiers of the Army of the Union who have fallen or may fall in endeavoring to suppress the present Rebellion.”*

The schedule for the day will include:

10 am to 3 pm: Regimental Camp set up by soldiers of the 125th NYVI Reenactment Regiment, 61st NYVI Reenactment Regiment, and a Zouave contingent from the Hudson Valley.

10 am to 1 pm: Civil War tours will be conducted, both walking tours and horse drawn tours. There will be a charge for the horse drawn tours.

10:30 am to 1:30 pm: Music will be provided by John Quinn’s 77th New York Regimental Balladeers, a nationally recognized Civil War group which has several CD’s to their credit.

All Day: Exhibits and Tables featuring the Capital District Civil War Round Table, the Watervliet Arsenal, Albany Rural Cemetery, and others.

2:00 pm: Rededication Service will include a Civil War Color Guard, presentation of several dignitaries, history of Albany Rural, Chaplain’s Invocation, President Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address, wreath laying ceremony, and military volley salute and taps. At the conclusion of the service, visitors will be invited to place a flower on the grave of their selected soldier. **President and Mrs. Lincoln have been invited and have advised us that they plan to attend.** The event is FREE to the public, but we request a \$3.00 per car donation for parking to offset expenses.

LINCOLN MEN AND SONS OF DIXIE - A New Feature of *The Dispatch*.

If you have a Civil War relative who was a soldier, please send a brief biography and a picture, if available, to the editor.