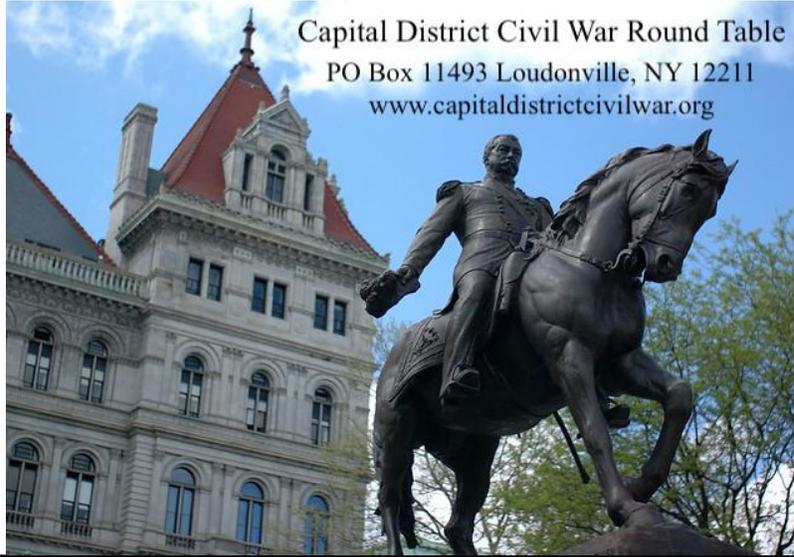


The Dispatch

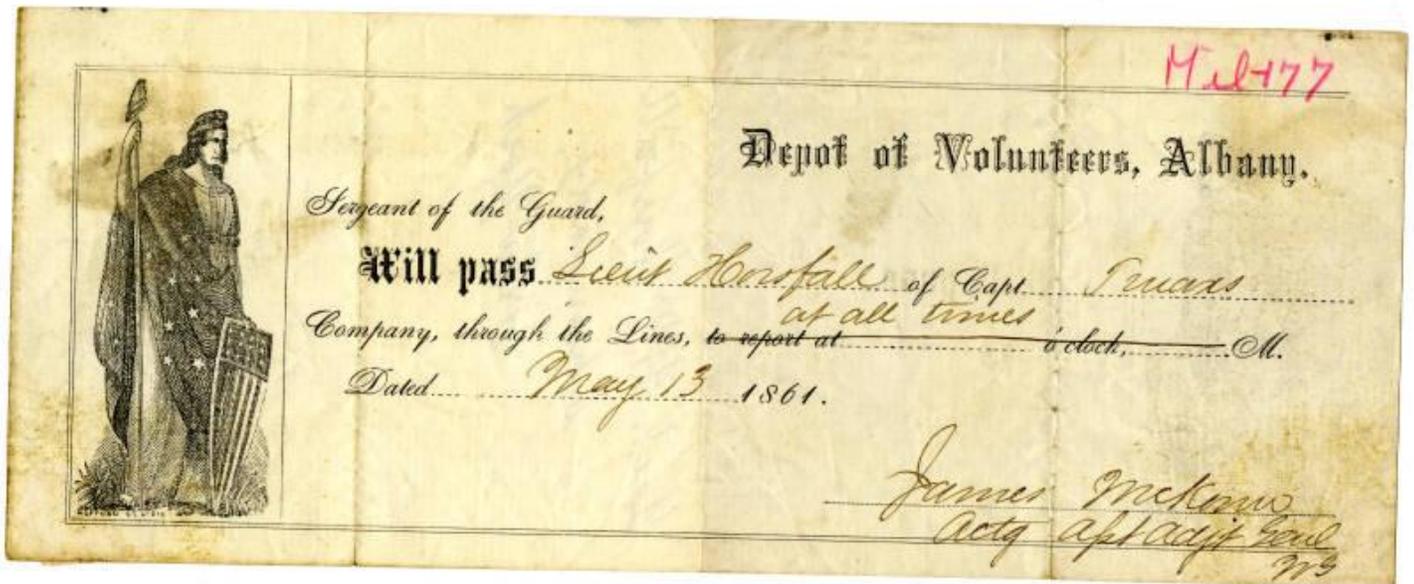
Volume 39, Number 2

February 2022



Capital District Civil War Round Table
PO Box 11493 Loudonville, NY 12211
www.capitaldistrictcivilwar.org

Schenectady in the Civil War



Pass dated May 13, 1861 for Lt. Horsfall of Capt. Truax's Co. through the line at all times. It is signed by James McKoun, Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

Signed on the back "Lie^t W^m Horsfall, Schenectady, New York"

Image from the Schenectady County Historical Society

<https://nyheritage.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p16694coll45/id/5156/rec/6>

FEBRUARY MEETING

Friday, February 11, 2022

IN-PERSON MEETING AT THE WATERVLIIET SENIOR CENTER

MIKE DIANA

Schenectady and the Civil War

Social Hour	6:00 p.m.
Business Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Presentation	7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Questions & Answers	8:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Matt Watros was originally scheduled to speak on his novel *Gabriel: a novel of the Civil War*. He had to reschedule due to a family emergency. Thanks to the hard work of Matt George, we will hear from Mike Diana.

Mike Diana is the Education and Programs manager at the Schenectady County Historical Society. He gives walking tours and lectures on the Civil War in Schenectady.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 11: Jerry Mikorenda's presentation is called "America's First Freedom Rider."

April 8: Lynn Herman will speak on the Allegheny Arsenal Explosion in Lawrenceville, PA.

May 13: Jeff Harding is tentatively scheduled to speak on General John Reynolds and Kate Hewitt.

MASKS ARE REQUIRED, REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS.

We will not have refreshments available.

ELECTIONS RESULTS

The proposed slate of Executive Board members were elected at the January meeting. Erin Baillargeon, Rosemary Nichols, and Steve Muller will continue to serve as President, Secretary, and Treasurer, respectively. Mark Koziol will serve as Vice President, and Joyce Brooks is an At-Large member. There are still two open At-Large positions. The commitment of Board membership is low: joining a 40-minute Zoom meeting once per month. Please contact a Board member if you are willing to serve. The Round Table cannot function without the service of Board and Non-Com members (whose names are listed on the back of the newsletter).

THANK YOU, MEMBERS

The Round Table wishes to thank John Assini, Erin Baillargeon, Mary Bonczar, Bart Cohen, Matt George, Luanne Johnson, Mary Ellen Johnson, Norman Kuchar, Dean Long, Benjamin Mastaitis, Fran McCashion, Leo McGuire, Steve Muller, Robert Mungari, Joe Prezio, Galen Ritchie, William Schreiner, Bill and Noreen Underhill, and Paul Van Wagenen for their donations to the Operating or Preservation funds.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Long-time member Regina Daly passed away in December, 2021. She was active with the Thomas Cole National Historic Site and the Ulster County Civil War Round Table. She was also a proud member of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

BOARD UPDATES

The Executive Board met via Zoom on January 17. We welcomed Joyce Brooks as a new At-Large member and confirmed the NonComs who are critical to the functioning of the Round Table.

Treasurer Steve Muller reported that the Operating Account has \$4,858.43. The Preservation Account has \$4,285.68. He also presented a full accounting for 2021. The Operating Account had a total income of \$2,164.36 from membership dues, donations, and interest. The total expenses for that account came to \$2,121.56, representing newsletter printings, program expenses, website and postal expenses, and storage and insurance payments. The Preservation Account had a total income of \$2,986.93 for the 2021 year. These monies came from book raffles, donations, merchandise sales and interest. Expenses for this account totaled \$1,564.00 and came from storage payments and our donations towards battlefield preservation.

The Board approved the donation of \$500 to the American Battlefield Trust for a \$29 to \$1 match to preserve lands at Cedar Mountain and Cedar Creek.

BUFORD'S VIEW

by Matt George

Note: shortly after Matt George wrote and submitted his column, Matt Watros contacted him to regretfully cancel his talk. We are hoping to reschedule the presentation in 2023.

Matt Watros has written a historical novel closely based on the Civil War experiences of his ancestor (great, great, great grandfather) Gabriel Ballard. Gabriel, still a teenager, lived near Dryden, N.Y. very close to the border between Tomkins and Cortland Counties. He enlisted in the 143rd New York on August 15, 1862. He ended up being a "bummer" in Sherman's famous March to the Sea.

It might be interesting to some that the author was a rifleman in the Marine Corps and served one tour of duty in Iraq. He lives in N.Y. with his wife and three children. Much of the information on Gabriel activities are based on his four journals the young Watros kept during and immediately after the war. Sadly Gabriel, who had five children, died of consumption at age 31 in 1875. The fifth and last child, a daughter named Julia, was the author's great, great grandmother.

Matt dedicated his historical novel to his grandmother Nancy Lee Watros. Of his grandmother, Matt says, "she introduced me to the study of history and taught me the importance of books." How true!

The 143rd N.Y. was a three-year regiment, mustered into federal service October 8, 1862 in Sullivan and Tompkins counties. They served in several corps during the war. This

included the 1st Division of the 20th Corps and the 22nd Corps at the very end of the war. After Gettysburg it was part of the 12th Corps and, like the 134th N. Y. (in the 11th Corps), they were transferred to the western theater and combined into the 20th Corps. They fought with Sherman during his March to the Sea. Their heaviest losses came at Kennesaw Mountain and Peach Tree Creek. They were at Johnson's surrender. After the Grand Review, they were mustered out on July 20, 1865.

Primarily because of the extreme cold (and of course, COVID) we only had ten attendees at the last meeting. A year ago our attendance averaged 30-35. Those who did attend heard two good talks by Julie Mountain and Claire Hamilton. I hope we do much better in

February. Sharon Schreifels, our only trivia contest winner, attended and selected her fifth free book. This month's trivia questions are at the end of this column. Contact me at JBuford63@aol.com

TRIVIA:

- 1) After Appomattox, where and when did Joe Johnston surrender his army?
- 2) At Bentonville the 143rd N.Y. was in the 1st Division, 3rd Brigade of the 20th Corps. What local regiment was in the 2nd Brigade of the 2nd Division of the same Corps? (Hints: I'm asking the question; and the Regiment's number uses the same numerals.)
- 3) What was Sherman's Christmas gift to Lincoln on December 22, 1864?



"The Surrender of General Joe Johnston" [date and location cropped out in deference of the trivia question, above]
Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/cph.3b53123>



The Dispatch
Newspaper of the
**CAPITAL DISTRICT
 CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**

PO Box 11493 Loudonville, NY 12211
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Membership Form

2022 Calendar Year

Name: _____

Newsletter Preference: Email _____ OR Mailed Copy _____

_____ Email/Mailing address is the same as last year

If not: _____

Membership Dues \$35

(All dues go into the Operating Account to pay for newsletters, program expenses, and use of the meeting space)

Additional Donation for the Operating Account _____

Donation for the Preservation Account _____

(Preservation money pays for donations to preserve historic sites/lands, rental of the storage shed, and the Round Table's insurance)

Total: _____

Please mail your payment to: CDCWRT
 P.O. Box 11493
 Loudonville, NY 12211-0493

* Early payments will be held and deposited in January.

**CDCWRT
P.O. BOX 11493
LOUDONVILLE, NY 12211**

___ If marked, your membership was not renewed as of Jan. 25.

Created in 1984, the Capital District Civil War Round Table is an incorporated non-profit educational organization. Meetings are held monthly in various locations in the Capital District. This newsletter is published eleven times per year. Annual dues are \$35. The purpose of the organization is to promote, educate, and further stimulate interest in, and discussion of, all aspects of the Civil War period.

Contact the Capital District Civil War Round Table through
our website: www.capitaldistrictcivilwar.org
or email: cdcwrt@hotmail.com

THE OFFICERS

President	Erin Baillargeon	Vice-President	Mark Koziol
Treasurer	Steve Muller	Secretary	Rosemary Nichols
At-Large	Joyce Brooks	At-Large	(open)
At-Large	(open)		

THE NONCOMS

Program	Matt George	518-355-2131	Jbuford63@aol.com
Membership	Erin Baillargeon and Steve Muller		
Refreshments	Dean Long and Luanne Whitbeck		
Webmaster			
Education	Matt George		
Newsletter	Erin Baillargeon and Rosemary Nichols		