

The Dispatch

Newspaper of the

CAPITAL DISTRICT CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

PO Box 14871 Albany, NY 12212
www.cdcwrt.net



Volume 30, Number 10 December 2013





A CIVIL WAR STORY



THIRST



DECEMBER MEETING
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2013

SIENA COLLEGE CAMPUS
ROGER BACON HALL
LATHAM, NY

"Thirst: A Civil War Story"

by

John McCarty

Social Hour	**6:00 – 7:00 p.m.**
Business Meeting	**7:00 – 7:15 p.m.**
Presentation	**7:15 – 7:45 p.m.**
Discussion	**7:45 - -8:15 p.m.**

CDCWRT MEETING

The December meeting of the Capital District Civil War Round Table will be held on the campus of SIENA COLLEGE IN THE AMPHITHEATER IN ROGER BACON HALL on Friday, December 13th. This was the site of last year's Civil War conference at Siena.

The presentation is a 30 minute film entitled: **"THIRST: A CIVIL WAR STORY."** ***The movie will be followed by a 30 minute panel discussion.***

The movie tells of a young Union volunteer from New York State who runs from a skirmish in the days following the bloody Battle of Gettysburg in 1863. Exhausted and out of water, he comes upon a well that, unknown to him, is guarded by Confederate soldiers who may also be deserters. H is rescued from becoming a victim to his thirst by a fellow New Yorker who, along with a now dead compatriot, deserted their unit after Gettysburg. Desperate and without anything nearby to drink, the two "skedaddlers" concoct a dangerous plan to seize the well from its Confederate captors. In the process of overcoming their fears and carrying out that plan, they learn that courage is sometines not a choice but a necessity – even a duty – and that the source of it is unknown to the end.

Written, directed and edited by upstate New York filmmaker, John McCarty, the film is inspired by a story by Stephen Crane, the author of "The Red Badge of Courage," and echoes that famous novel. Its production coincides with the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War in which New York contributed more troops and suffered more casualties than any other state in the embattled Union.

The 30 minute film will be followed by a panel discussion with John McCarty and the producer, Audrey Kupferburg. Some members of the cast who are students at the University in Albany, may also be present.

POST-HOLIDAY PARTY

Since there will NOT be a Holiday party at the December meeting, there WILL be a party at the Potpourri Meeting in January. If you have left over Christmas cookies or leftover New Year's snacks, please bring them to the Senior Center to share.

CIVIL WAR TOURS OF THE NEW YORK STATE CAPITOL

Stuart Lehman has asked us to announce Civil War tours of the Capitol and the new flag exhibit entitled, ***1863: Loyal till Death.***

The tours will be on the first Thursday of the month until May 2014, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., at the State Street lobby of the Capitol.

Please register by calling (518) 473-7582 or on line at www.ogs.ny.gov.

UP-COMING EVENTS

The following list of up-coming events is provided to help Round Table members plan their long term calendars. These are events that involve our Round Table, especially events that provide opportunities to raise funds for our preservation activities. Some events may change as the year progresses, so members should check the list monthly. Details of Sesquicentennial Civil War events can be found on the web-site: www.nycivilwar150.org.

On January 10, 2014, the CDCWRT will hold its annual Potpourri Meeting with presentations by J.J. Jennings and Bob Shuey. A Post-Holiday party will also be held prior to the meeting, along with the election of officers and board.

RON TUNISON

In October, artist, sculptor and Round Table member, Ron Tunison, died unexpectedly. The family is planning a memorial service. Many members own castings of Ron's works that are signed and numbered. Two have been donated to the CDCWRT, and are being offered ***below*** their original sale prices of $395. "Robert E. Lee" (144/350 in 1991) is offered at $295. "Advance the Standard" (6/350 in 1992) is offered at $295. Buy both for $500. In the future only reproductions of these original works may be offered.

Attendees of the dinner at our conference received a Tunison cachet. Autographed cachets will be available at the January meeting. A picture of Ron at Gettysburg in July is in the November issue of the ***Civil War News.*** The Civil War community at large does not yet know of Ron's demise. If you enjoy accurate, beautiful historical art, you will enjoy these pieces.

NOVEMBER CONFERENCE

The CDCWRT sponsored another excellent conference on the Civil War, concentrating on events in 1863. Friday night's reception was in the primal forest area of the Museum with the majestic elk and babbling stream. A variety of cheeses including baked brie, salamis, fruits and raw vegetables preceded delicious dinners provided by Nicole's.

After dessert, we were welcomed by the President of CDCWRT, the Deputy Commissioner of the NYS Office of Cultural Education, the State Historian and Chief Curator of the NYS Museum, and President Lincoln. Keynote speaker, Bud Hall, then told the story of some of the cavalrymen from New York State at the Battle of Brandy Station.

Saturday started with coffee and donuts. Juanita Leisch spoke about the important role of women on the home front in the war, and Matt Farina spoke about one woman who was a seer of women's rights, dress and destinies. R.L.Murray again provided a spectrum of quotes of soldiers that reflected their changing attitudes as the war progressed. J.D. Petruzzi spoke about one New York cavalryman who rose from house painter to one of the most respected cavalry officers. The day ended with Troy Harmon's unique analysis of the Gettysburg Address and its relationship to the Bible. On Sunday Dave Hubbard told us how much baseball was played during the war during the long periods in camp. Chis Kolakowski again gave an excellent synopsis of events in the West that would bring Grant to Washington for 1864. Finally Bob Weible led a tour of the Civil War exhibit with the backroom story of some of the collections.

Box lunches each day were delicious and were consumed in the wood paneled center. The raffle prizes in order selected were the pair of Boyd's bears (1st), the Gettysburg maps (2nd), and the Don Troiani print (3rd).

There was special praise for Matt George who organized this superb conference, and Matt Farina who prepared the programs and speakers gifts.