

The Dispatch

Newspaper of the

CAPITAL DISTRICT CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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



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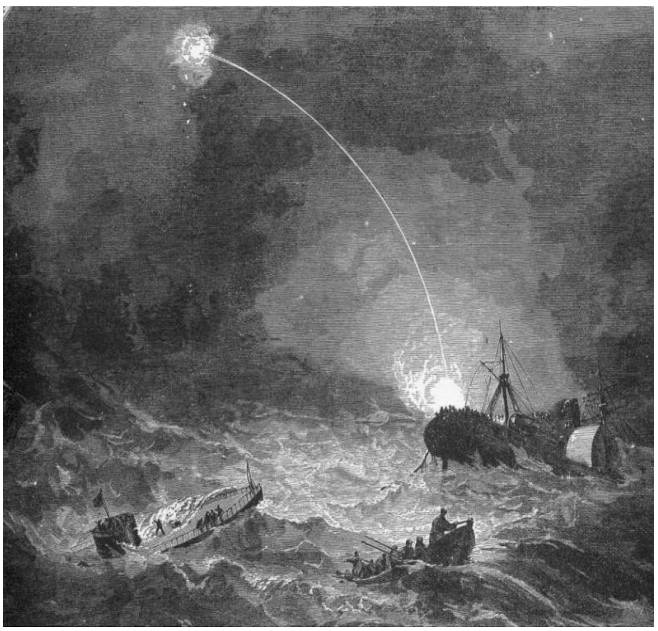
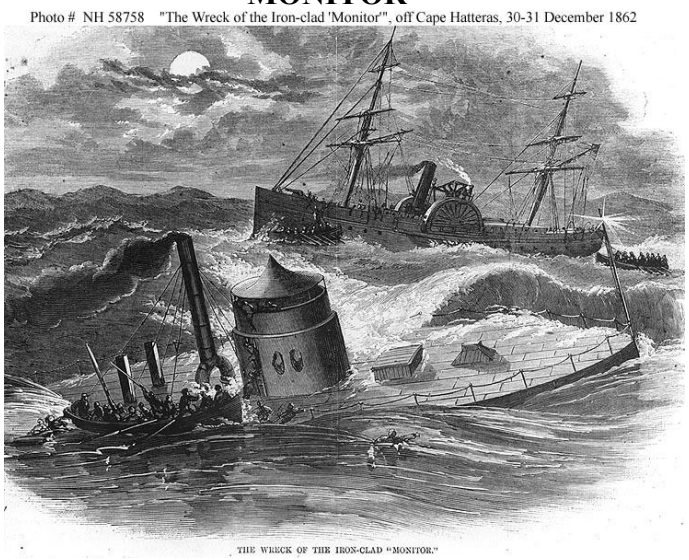
145TH ANNIVERSARY - DECEMBER 31, 1862

"LOSS OF THE 'MONITOR'"



Line engraving published in "The Soldier in Our Civil War", Volume I page 248.

"THE WRECK OF THE IRON-CLAD 'MONITOR'"



Line engraving published in "Harper's Weekly", 1863, depicting USS *Monitor* sinking in a storm.

In December 1862, *Monitor* was ordered south to join the blockading forces off the Carolinas. On 29 December she left Hampton Roads in tow of USS *Rhode Island*, bound for Beaufort, N.C. The weather, expected to be good for the entire voyage. On the 30th wind and seas increased to a gale by evening. Water entered the ship more rapidly than pumps could handle it. The boiler fires were drowned. The tow line was cut, the anchor dropped, and the crew was removed under extremely difficult conditions. At about 1:30 a.m. *Monitor* sank with the loss of 16 of her crew of 62. She was lost to human sight for nearly 112 years.

JANUARY MEETING
Friday January 11, 2008
Guilderland Library
2228 Western Ave.

POTPOURRI NIGHT

SOCIAL HOUR	**6:00-7:00 PM**
BUSINESS	**7:00-7:30 PM**
PRESENTATION	**7:30-8:30 PM**
DISCUSSION	**8:30 – 9:00 PM**

CDCWRT MEETING

The monthly meeting of the CDCWRT will be held at the Guilderland Library on Friday evening, January 11, 2008. This is our annual Potpourri Night where members of our round table can present short presentations on Civil War topic. Members are also encouraged to bring in Civil War artifacts to display or talk about briefly.

Longtime member of the CDCWRT, Robert E. Mulligan, Jr., will present, **"THE TRUTH ABOUT TROY."** ***Bob will discuss in ten minutes the little known Confederate plot to destroy the Burden Iron Works horse-shoe production machines in the spring of 1865. The mass production of horseshoes was a key economic advantage for the North.***

Rosemary Nichols, secretary for the round table the past several years, will present, **"THE STONE FLEET PROJECT OF 1861."** ***This was a Civil War mission in which no one died. You must attend to find out more about this intriguing topic!***

Pat Stedman will present **"THE BAYONET."** ***Many of us are familiar with the book, "Confederates in the Attic," but Pat's mother had a bayonet in hers. Pat will relate the story of this item.***

BOARD MEETING

A Board Meeting was held on December 17, 2007. The treasurer reported $998.61 in the regular account, and $6,734.80 in the preservation account. Mail order cachet sales raised the final total for the Albany Rural Cemetery Civil War Day to $803. The four-day Remembrance Day Weekend in Gettysburg earned $1950. The weather dampened the Victorian Stroll and netted $286. Sales at the December meeting were $210. Sue Knost earned $510 in two hours at the "Lee's Last Christmas at Arlington" Ceremony on December 9th.

Elections were held at the December meeting. The following is the new Board for 2008.

President	J.J. Jennings
Vice-President	Lew Warner
Secretary	Mary Ellen Johnson
Treasurer	Fran McCashion
At-Large	Matt George
	Ralph J. Rahm
	Howard Young

A tentative schedule of events that affect our round table will be listed in newsletters so that members can plan ahead and schedule activities accordingly.

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.

December 31, 2007, First Night in Saratoga Springs at the New York State Military Museum marks the end of the calendar year for the CDCWRT and the beginning of 2008 which marks 145th anniversary for a number of Civil War events. Members of the round table will be on hand to promote our organization and to sell books, cachets, and replica 19th–Century jewelry. Anyone interested in helping should contact Sue Knost, Matt George or Rosemary Nichols.

February 8th, 2008, Friday, will be the February meeting for the CDCWRT. We usually try to have a Lincoln related topic. Details will follow.

February 23-24, 2008, Saturday and Sunday, are the dates for the annual Covermania. This is a large stamp, cachet, and postcard show held annually in Albany. Anyone interested in stamp collecting will enjoy this free show where 50-60 exhibitors are usually present. All items displayed are for sale. The CDCWRT will also be exhibiting, and a special cancellation will be available.

March 14, 2008, Friday, is the date for the March meeting of the CDCWRT.

April 11th, 2008, Friday, is the date for the April meeting of the CDCWRT.

April 16th, 2008, Wednesday, marks the preliminary or 'soft' opening of the new Visitor Center at Gettysburg. The CDCWRT is exploring the possibility of our organization handling a special commemorative cancellation for the event.

On May 2nd-4th, 2008, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the 145th anniversary of the Battle of Chancellorsville will be celebrated in Virginia. There will probably be a re-enactor event associated with this. The CDCWRT provided a cancellation for the 135th anniversary.

On May 9th, 2008, Friday, the guest speaker for the May meeting of the CDCWRT will be Wayne Mott. Wayne is the Director of the Adams County Historical Society. The extensive collection is housed in the historical Lutheran Seminary at Gettysburg. Wayne will talk about the artifact preservation project the society is beginning.

June 7th and June 8th , Saturday and Sunday, mark the dates for the Peterboro Civil War Weekend. This annual event take place in Peterboro, NY on NYS route 20, near Syracuse. Peterboro was a stop on the Underground Railroad. More details will follow.

July 1st through the 3rd marks the 145th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. There are multiple events taking place on the two weekends that bracket the actual anniversary.

On Monday, June 30th and Tuesday, July 1st, the Adams County Historical Society is planning a major fund raiser. The CDCWRT would do a commemorative postal cancellation for this event.

On Tuesday, July 1st through Thursday, July 3rd, the National Park Service will commemorate the actual anniversary of the battle. There undoubtedly will be many activities taking place. This would be an excellent time to visit Gettysburg, but you should make reservations NOW.

On Friday, July 4th through Sunday, July 6th, the 145th anniversary will be celebrated by the 'usual' re-enactor organization. The committee expects 10,000 to 15,000 re-enactors. Information is available on line at www.gettysburgreenactment.com.

On July 26th and 27th, Saturday and Sunday, the Baseball Hall of Fame Induction Day will be celebrated in Cooperstown. The CDCWRT has been present at these events with our popular baseball items such as T-shirts and commemorative postal cancellations.

On Saturday, September 13th and Sunday, September 14th, the Albany Rural Cemetery Civil War Days will be celebrated.

Saturday, September 20th and Sunday, September 21st, mark the Saratoga Springs Grand Army Event.

On September 26th, Friday, and September 27th, Saturday, the National Park Service will celebrate the Grand Opening of the New Visitor Center and the unveiling of the restored Cyclorama painting at the Visitor Center in Gettysburg. Plans of the center were discussed extensively in a newsletter in 2007.

On Tuesday, November 18th, the David Wills house will open in Gettysburg. Lincoln stayed at the Wills house the day before he delivered the Gettysburg Address. The final touches to the address may have been completed at the house. **On Wednesday, November 19th, guest speaker, Ken Burns, will talk on the 145th anniversary of the Gettysburg Address on Remembrance Day.** The CDCWRT usually has a postal cancellation, commemorating the event. **Saturday, November 22nd, marks the Remembrance Day Parade in Gettysburg.** This is always a huge re-enactor event, and will be more so on a major anniversary year.

Sunday, December 7th, marks the Troy Victorian Stroll, as well as the 67th anniversary of Pearl Harbor. This is another local event where the CDCWRT is present to promote our organization and raise funds for preservation. Volunteers are always needed.