



# The Dispatch

Newsletter of the

Capital District Civil War Round Table

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CDCWRT's web site: [timesunion.com/communities/cdcwrt](http://timesunion.com/communities/cdcwrt)

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## FIGHTING IN THE BLOODY ANGLE AT SPOTSYLVANIA

The Spring trip of the Capital District Civil War Round Table will cover the Wilderness Campaign and the Spotsylvania Campaign. This year marks the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of both battles. The timing of the trip coincides closely with the actual timing of the battles.

**April Meeting**  
**VERMONT**  
**FULL DUTY BANQUET**  
**SATURDAY**  
**APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2004**

<b>SOCIAL HOUR</b>	<b>6:00PM</b>
<b>BUSINESS MEETING</b>	<b>7:00PM</b>
<b>PROGRAM</b>	<b>7:30PM</b>

**CDCWRT MEETING**

*As previously announced, there is no scheduled April Meeting of the CDCWRT because of the religious holidays and the full bill of events for the month. Instead, members are encouraged to attend the Full Duty Banquet in Berlin, Vermont (near Montpelier) on Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. This is the annual event for several of the Vermont roundtables. A block of rooms is available at the Hotel at \$45. The dinner guest of honor is JIM LIGHTHIZER, the President of the Civil War Preservation Trust. A number of our members will be car-pooling and will stay overnight. Contact Joe Stracuzzi for details.*

**MARCH MEETING**

Willie Lamb appeared in uniform at the March meeting of the CDCWRT. Willie spoke in the first person as a female soldier. She was a composite of several women who joined both Union and Confederate armies. She explained her reasons for enlisting and fighting. Later our speaker stepped out of her role as Willie, and talked in more detail about women soldiers. She covered the medical exams and explained how women could remain undetected. She also spoke about what happened to women who were discovered. It was a fascinating topic and there was a lively Q&A period afterwards.

There were 42 attendees at the first Civil War film at the library on Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. Tom Carroll spoke first about the individuals involved in the construction of the Monitor. Several of these were represented in the movie, ***Ironclads***, and the information in the preceding lecture, made the movie more meaningful and enjoyable.

**UP-COMING EVENTS**

**CIVIL WAR FILM (AND LECTURE) FESTIVAL** continues on Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, at the Guilderland Library at 7:00 with the movie, ***Abe Lincoln in Illinois***. This series is jointly sponsored by the Library and the CDCWRT. Other movies to follow are:  
***The Great Locomotive Chase – May 6<sup>th</sup>***  
***The Red Badge of Courage – June 9<sup>th</sup>***  
***Glory – July 14<sup>th</sup>***  
***Friendly Persuasion – August 11<sup>th</sup>***  
***Andersonville – September 15<sup>th</sup>***  
***Shenandoah – October 20<sup>th</sup>***

The first large display case in the library corridor will be made available to the RT throughout the year for exhibits that will tie-in the movie. Please look for the item in the display case, and if you have an item that is pertinent to the movie, and would like to display it, please contact Lew Warner at 458-2282.

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On May 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, the Round Table will be at Ellwood Plantation (where 'Stonewall' Jackson's arm is buried) and at the 140th Anniversary of Spotsylvania. If you are interested in assisting at this event, please contact Sue Knost or Joe Stracuzzi. A special postal cancellation will be carried out by the RT and the Postal Service.

The Albany Civic Theater is producing *The Andersonville Trial* on the weekends of **May 7-9, 13-16, and 20-23**. The theater is on Second Ave. at the top of the hill. Thursday, Friday and Saturday performances are at 8pm, and Sunday matinee is at 2 pm. Ticket reservations can be made at 462-1297. Members of the RT are encouraged to attend a performance. There are three Italian restaurants in the area of the theater. Sam's Restaurant is on Southern Boulevard, Nicole's is on Delaware Ave., and Cavellari's is on Second Ave. just above the theater.

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**The May meeting of the Round Table will be on Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2004.** Unfortunately, Dana Shoaf, from the Central Virginia Battlefield Trust, will not be able to speak at this meeting. Instead, Sue Knost is trying to arrange a presentation about a donated lantern slide set from the 1920's that covers some Civil War battlefields. A velopticon may be available to demonstrate the slides. There will be more details in next month's newsletter.

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**May 15<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, will be a busy day.** Chris Kolakowski will be graduating from SUNY with his Masters degree. This will also be the Annual Open House at Peebles Island from 9:00 am to 4 pm. This is an opportunity to explore the state historical preservation facilities. There are demonstrations in various preservation and restoration techniques. The RT will have an information table at the site, along with numerous other groups. Take 787 to Cohoes-turn right onto route 470 (Ontario St.) – turn left onto Delaware Ave just before the bridge over the Hudson. The facility is about one mile down the road.

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**From May 15<sup>th</sup> to December 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Rensselaer County Historical Society in Troy will present an exhibit entitle, "War on the Home Front from 1775-2003."** Hours are from 12 noon to 5 pm on Tuesdays through Saturdays. More information can be obtained from the website, [www.RCHS.online.org](http://www.RCHS.online.org).

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**The June meeting will be on Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, and our speaker will be Ray Wemple.** Ray will talk about the Confederate Signal Corps. The annual picnic is scheduled for Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, at Peeble's Island.

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**Other up-coming events in which you Round Table is involved, are listed below:**  
**June 12-13<sup>th</sup> Peterboro Civil War Days**  
**June 14<sup>th</sup> Cooperstown, Game Day**  
**June 26-27<sup>th</sup> Civil War Days at the Masonic Temple in Troy**  
**July 1-5<sup>th</sup> -Gettysburg 141<sup>st</sup> Reenactment**  
**July 11<sup>th</sup> -CDCWRT Picnic**

## MISCELLANEOUS

RT Board member, *Chris Kolakowski* will speak to the Phil Kearny Civil War Round Table of Northern New Jersey on April 15<sup>th</sup> on the topic of *New York City in the Civil War*. Editor *Matt Farina* spoke to the Ulster County Civil War Round Table on March 26<sup>th</sup> on the topic of *The Civil War, Soldier's Heart and the Development of Anglo-American Cardiology*. RT members, *Matt George, Joe Strucuzzi, Lew Warner and Matt Farina* talked about the Civil War Soldier at the Mohanasen Middle School.