

The Dispatch

Newspaper of the

CAPITAL DISTRICT CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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



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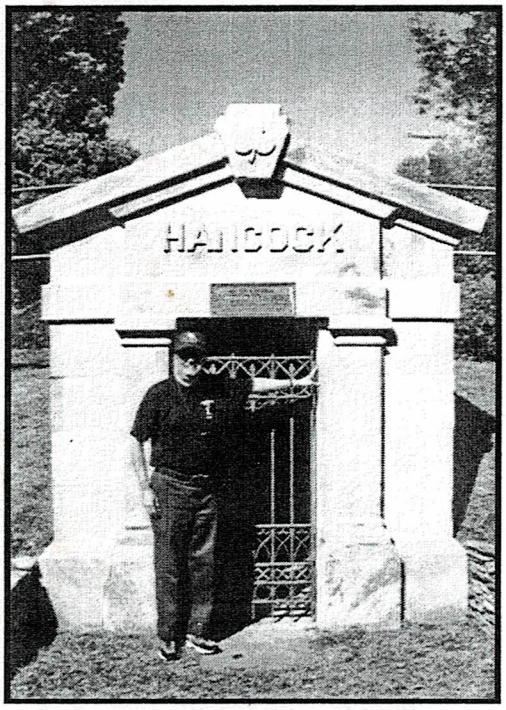
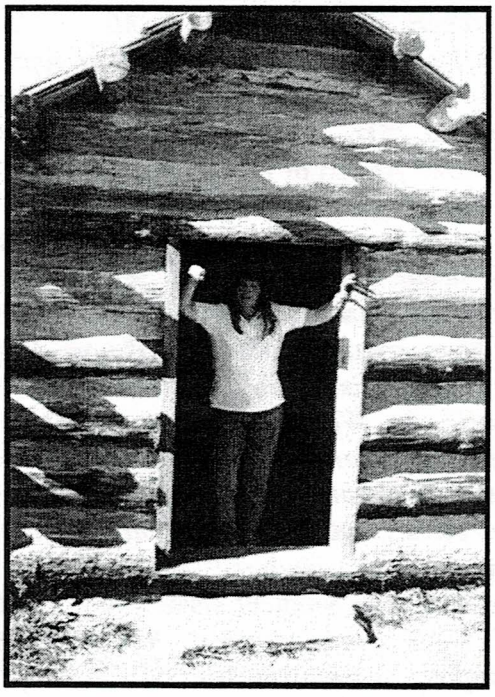


This is the promised photo of JJ Jennings standing at the tomb of Maj. Gen. Hancock. The photo was taken on Oct. trip 2006. JJ did not steal quarters from Hancock's tomb.



Sue Knost stands in the doorway of a replica of the winter quarters of soldier's at Valley Forge, PA. Twelve men lived in each of these log cabins. This photo was taken on the Oct. trip 2006.

JANUARY MEETING
Friday January 12, 2007
Guilderland Library
2228 Western Ave.

POTPOURRI MEETING

SOCIAL HOUR	**6:00PM**
BUSINESS	**7:00PM**
PRESENTATION	**7:30PM**
DISCUSSIONS	**9:00PM**

CDCWRT MEETING

***The January meeting of the CDCWRT will be held at the Guilderland Library on Friday, January 12, 2007. This is our annual Potpourri Meeting where several members of our Round Table will make short presentations on Civil War topics of interest. Laura Alpert's presentation is entitled,* "Dr. Mary Edwards Walker – A Woman Ahead of Her Time."**

Doctor Mary Walker was the only female physician in the Union Army during the Civil War, and she is also the only woman to be awarded the Medal of Honor. Even if she were alive today, Oswego, New York native, Dr. Walker, would stand out as an unusual character. Her dress, which resembled male clothing of its time period, her possession of two medical degrees, her status as a divorced woman with no children, her medical service and prisoner of war status during the Civil War, uniquely distinguish her. She managed to ruffle more than a few feathers during her lifetime, including the Women's Suffrage Movement. She was known for her great eccentricity. She is a little-known but highly fascinating Civil War figure from out own back yard, who deserves our attention and respect.

Our second speaker will be Stacy Kilts, who has been a member of the RT the past 3-4 years. Stacy lives in West Coxsackie and is a maternity nurse at St. Peter's Hospital. She became interested in the Civil War after seeing the movie, Gettysburg. Her husband also sparked her interest in the War. But it's becoming an obsession!!

Stacy has recently passed the first step in becoming a guide. In fact, her topic is entitled,* "Turning a Passion into a Profession - - - Becoming a Licensed Battlefield Guide at Gettysburg." *She will talk about the process and qualifications for becoming a guide.

The evening is also our T-Shirt Night, where members can "show off" their new Civil War T-shirts they have acquired, or buy new T-shirts from the Round Table.

There will also be table available for members to bring in items of interest. If you have a collection or some unusual item that you would like to display, contact President, Matt George, so that a table will be available.

This month's meeting will also be combined with General Elections and our Holiday Party, which were postponed due to the Shaara Meeting. Members are encouraged to bring in some snacks or cookies or some holiday treats to share.

BOARD MEETING

At the November meeting of the Board, a slate of officers was put forward for the general election, which will be held at the January meeting of the CDCWRT.

These are nominations only. Nominations remain open up to and including the election meeting. Any member in good

standing may make nominations from the floor at the election meeting. Members are encouraged to make nominations.

Anyone interested in serving on the Board, but not wanting an elected position, is encouraged to volunteer and serve on one of several committees. Please contact any officer to indicate your interest.

Nominations:

President	**J.J. Jennings**
Vice-President	**Lew Warner**
Treasurer	**Mike Spaulding**
Secretary	**Rosemary Nichols**
At-Large	**Fran McCashion**
At-Large	**Mary Ellen Johnson**
At-Large	**Laura Alpert**
Ex-Officio	**Matt George**

Non-voting member include the following appointments:

Membership	**Joe Stracuzzi**
Library Liaison	**Lew Warner**
Editor Newsletter	**Matt Farina**

VICTORY AT LAST

After 20 months of debate, on 12/20/2006 the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board rejected a proposal to build a 3000-machine slot parlor one mile from the Gettysburg battlefield. The Civil War Preservation Trust, together with the National Parks Conservation Association, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, No Casino Gettysburg, and Preservation Pennsylvania, banded together in the Stop the Slots Coalition in the most significant battlefield preservation victory since the defeat of Disney's proposed theme park at Manassas in the early 1990s.

The debate had divided the town of Gettysburg, with signs for opposing groups posted on homes and businesses. I believe that if the proposal had identified a site 10 miles north or south of Gettysburg, then would have been little opposition. In recent months it became general knowledge that the real money –backers were not local businessmen, but rather Stanley Morgan. James Lighthizer, president of CWPT, stated, "By not allowing gambling to encroach on this famous town and battlefield, Pennsylvania has sent a clear message that it cares deeply for its historic treasures."

Now perhaps the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Attorney General will have the same fortitude and deal firmly with the construction firm that violated battlefield land at Harpers Ferry.

MISCELLANEOUS

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, there will be a limited number of postal cachets ($10 each) autographed by Jeff Shaara. Many of you heard him speak last month at the very successful library event. Jeff signed these in 1997, as he was becoming famous.

There will also be some framed postal art and used books for sale at bargain prices. There will be T-shirts and other RT items for sale. **A free gift will be available for all purchases over $10.** All funds go for battlefield preservation activities.

This newsletter sports a new logo on page one. We have had the same logo for over 17 years. Please let editor, Matt Farina know what you think. The new logo was suggested by board member, Lew Warner.