

The Dispatch

Newsletter of the

Capital District Civil War Round Table

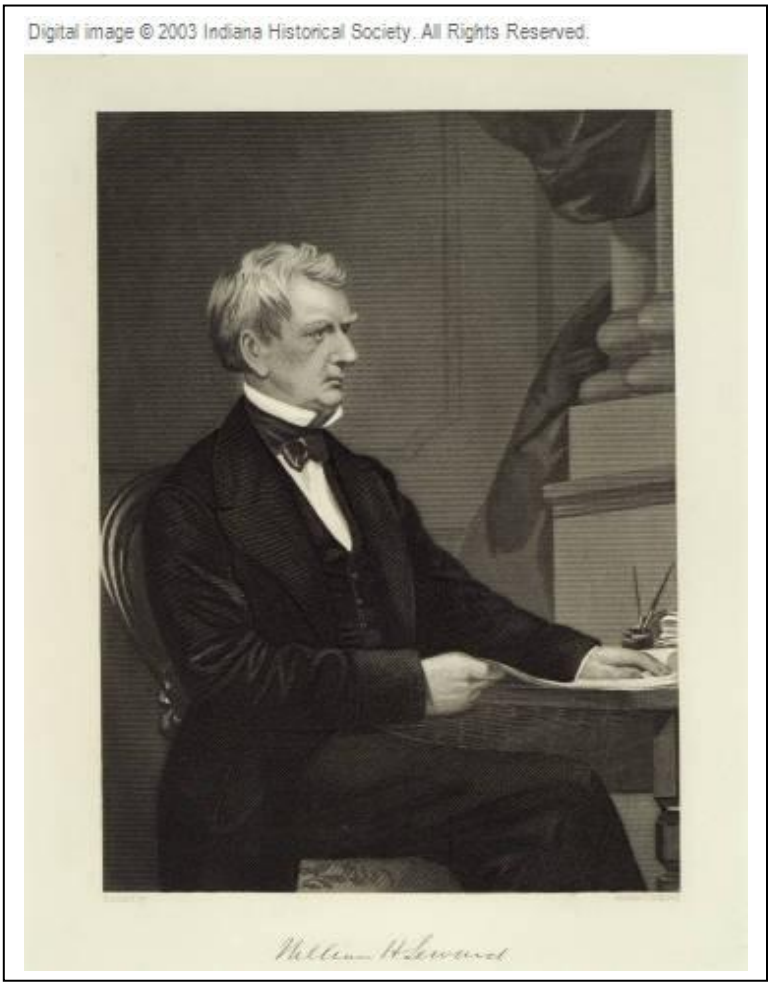
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CDCWRT's web site: ***www.cdcwrt.org***

Volume 23 Number 5 **January 2006**

WH Seward

- Teacher
- Lawyer
- Abolitionist
- Gardner
- Governor
- Senator
- Secretary of State
- Foreign policy maker
- His Assassination Attempted with Lincoln



JANUARY MEETING

Friday January 13, 2006
Guilderland Library
2228 Western Ave.

SOCIAL HOUR	**6;00-7:00PM**
BUSINESS MEET	**7:00-7:30PM**
PRESENTATIONS	**7:30-9:30PM**
Q&A	**9:30-9:59 PM**

CDCWRT MEETING

The January meeting of the CDCWRT will be held in the Guilderland Public Library on Friday, January 13th, 2006 at 7:30pm. This is our annual Potpourri Meeting when members of our Round Table make brief presentations on topics of their own choice. Such presentations may serve to encourage new speakers to talk about a Civil War letter or collection, an artifact or photograph, a Civil War relative, or a short topic. Experienced speakers may present a status report on some historical research or a publication in progress. It is a time for our Round Table to recognize the interests and backgrounds of its members in a relaxed and informal meeting.

Nancy Farina ***will talk about,*** **"William H. Seward – A Man for All Seasons."** ***Most of us know Seward as a member of Lincoln's Cabinet, and as the man who was almost stabbed to death the night of Lincoln's assassination. We also may recall that he was responsible for the purchase of Alaska from Russia. However this complex New Yorker was much more, as Nancy will discuss in her presentation.***

Howard Young ***will discuss,*** **"An Overview of Small Arms from the Revolutionary War to World War II"** ***Howard is a Round Table member and a re-enactor, especially for the Civil War and World War One. Many of us have admired the weapons and uniforms that have graced the display cases in the library. Many of these items are from Howard's collection. In his presentation he will trace the development of the handgun, using some of his own weapons.***

Marian Jewell ***will present an article about a Confederate connection to President Theodore Roosevelt, specifically an ex-slave and the President. This should prove to be an entertaining and unique connection.***

Finally, **Bob Bruer** ***will talk about New Bike Trail History Signs.***

Friday is also **T-SHIRT NIGHT,** ***so please wear those new Civil War T-shirts you received as gifts this holiday season. It is also our*** **MAGAZINE EXCHANGE NIGHT. Members are asked to donate old Civil War** ***magazines, which the CDCWRT sells for $0.50 apiece. There will also be a selection of used soft-cover and hardcover books for sale, in addition to CDCWRT baseball T-shirts and other gift items. Any member who would like to display artifacts should contact Sue Knost or Lew Warner to make arrangements for a table. Phone numbers are on the back page of the newsletter.***

PAST EVENTS

A crowd of about 65 people enjoyed the December meeting and Holiday Party. Joseph Zarzynski presented and entertaining, comprehensive and en-lightening review of the archaeology of Civil War shipwrecks. There were many questions in the follow-up to the lecture. There were also a number of items on

display. As usual the snacks and homemade items were delicious.

Prior to the presentation, the annual elections occurred. The proposed slate of candidates was elected unanimously. The slate includes:
Matt George, President
Lew Warner, Vice-President
Mike Spaulding, Treasurer
Rosemary Nichols, Secretary
Mary Ellen Johnson, At-Large
Fran McCashion, At-Large
J.J. Jennings, At-Large

The meeting concluded with the raffle of limited prints and books. The Troiani Irish print, valued at over $500, was won by Jim Shada. The Lincoln print was won by a Mr. Davis, and the Lee print, by Lew Gage. David Cuculick won the afghan. The Irish flag set went to Bill Green.

BOARD MEETING

At the December Board Meeting which was held after the elections, the Treasurer announced a balance of $2126.12 in the regular operating account, and $15,220.25 in the Preservation Account. The Preservation Account balance has grown with addition of approximately $1100 from sales at Remembrance Day in November in Gettysburg, $747 from the Victorian Stroll sales, and $475 from sales at the December meeting.

The Board then voted to disperse $4000 to the Civil War Preservation Trust's acquisition of land at Campion Hill in Mississippi, a part of the Vicksburg campaign. This was a 4:1 match, so that the donation was leveraged to $16,000. An additional $1000 was donated to CWPT's Wilson Creek, Virginia land acquisition. This was a 2.84:1 leveraged match. To date the CDCWRT has donated approximately $175,000 since its inception. This has been leveraged to over $250,000.

Sometime this year, an updated list of donations will be made available to the membership. This is why Ed Bearss refers to us as the "premier Round Table in the United States." The purchase of cachets, books, T-shirts, etc. are the basis of this.

UP-COMING EVENTS

The February meeting of the CDCWRT will be held on Friday, February 10th. J.J. Jennings will present a second installment to his series on Hancock. He has entitled this presentation, **"Hancock and the First Day at Gettysburg: Myth Versus Reality."**

The March meeting of the CDCWRT will be held on Friday, March 10th at the Guilderland Library. Jim O'Dell will present, **"Civil War Trains."**

MISCELLANEOUS

RT member, Jon Olson, is donating his entire collection of Civil War magazines to this month's sale. They include the magazine sleeves also. They will be priced to sell primarily as one year sets. Included are 54 issues of ***America's Civil War,*** 86 issues of ***The Civil War Times,*** 54 issues of ***North and South,*** 29 issues of ***Blue and Gray,*** and 34 issues of ***Military Images.***

Jon also said he would donate $25 to the RT if he could sell and unframed, Dale Gallon print entitled, **"Last Promise."** It depicts Brig. Gen. John Reynolds and Catherine May Hewitt entering into a secret engagement before he reports to the Army of the Potomac. Jon's phone is 785-1700.