



# The Dispatch



Newsletter of the

**Capital District Civil War Round Table**

P.O. Box 8874, Albany, NY 12208

Volume 11 Number 6

February 1994

## FEBRUARY PROGRAM

### THE XII CORPS AT GETTYSBURG

by  
Christiar Heidorf

Christian Heidorf, Author of Gettysburg: 125th Anniversary -- What They Did Here, will discuss an often ignored aspect of the Battle of Gettysburg, the actions on Culp's Hill. His presentation, "Regiments of Valor: Major General Henry Slocum's XII Corps at Gettysburg", will examine the role of Slocum's Corps on the Army of the Potomac's right flank.

Christian Heidorf, a chemical and environmental engineering consultant with Harlow & Taylor Associates, is a Signal Officer and Regi-

mental Historian for the 156th Field Artillery, New York Army National Guard.

## CDCWRT CALENDAR

••• 1994 •••

- |      |    |  |
|------|----|--|
| FEB  | 11 | <b>The XII Corps at Gettysburg.</b> Chris Heidorf, author of <u>Gettysburg: The 125th Anniversary</u> .  |
|      | 20 | <b>Gettysburg Bash</b> at Proctor's Theatre in Schenectady.  |
| MAR  | 12 | <b>Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory: The Civil War in Art.</b> A free slide lecture at the NYS Museum by Harold Holzer.<br><br><b>Spring Banquet: Jackson's Failed Protégés.</b> Robert Krick, author of <u>Stonewall Jackson at Cedar Mountain</u> . |
| APR  | 15 | <b>Barksdale's Attack at the Peach Orchard: Gettysburg, July 2, 1863.</b> Captain Steve Hawley, History Department, USMA.  |
| MAY  | 13 | <b>Clara Barton.</b> Stephen Oates, author of biographies of Lincoln, John Brown, King, Faulkner and a recent study of Clara Barton.   |
| JUNE | 10 | <b>A Civil War Medical Re-Enactment.</b> Alvan Jacques.  |

## FEBRUARY MEETING

Friday, February 11, 1994

Bethlehem Public Library  
Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY

Doors Open: 7:00 PM  
Program Begins: 7:30 PM



**Weather Conditions Limit January Turnout**

Poor weather conditions on the night of our January meeting severely limited attendance. It was especially unfortunate because the evening's program was reported to be outstanding. **Mark Jordon**, author of the newly published biography of John Gibbon, spoke about the feud between Gibbon and his corps commander Winfield Scott Hancock. We are investigating the possibility of bringing Mark back for a repeat performance so members can get another opportunity to hear the program.

**Welcome New Members**

Bill Bailey, Ravena, NY  
Dennis J. Farrar, Waterford, NY  
Bryan Gosling, Voorheesville, NY

**Living History Goes Hi-Tech**

A new forum for living history buffs has opened on the on-line computer service CompuServe. Here is the announcement:

(6-Jan-94)

*Members who participate in staging living history, formal and informal re-enactments of events such as the American Civil War, share their hobby in the new Living History Forum.*

*Forum message sections and libraries cover Non-European history, the Dark Ages and Medieval times, The Renaissance, the Colonial Revolution, the American Civil War, arms and armor, arts and sciences, garb and costuming, politics and religion and living history groups such as the Society for Creative Anachronism.*



It looks like living history buffs have joined the information superhighway. (Or is that a plank road?).

**Spring Banquet All Set**

**Kathy Silo** has made all the arrangements for our annual Spring Banquet. The enclosed flyer contains all the details. Sign up early, this should be an excellent program with author, historian, and preservationists Robert Krick as the featured speaker.

**Gettysburg Bash at Proctors**

**Sue Knost**, working with **Richard Straight** and the 125 NY Regiment of Volunteer Infantry, has organized a series of activities around what will probably be the last theater showing of the film *Gettysburg* in the local area. The festivities will begin on **Sunday, February 20**, with the doors to Proctors Theater, in Schenectady, opening at **12:00 noon**. A number of displays will be set up in the arcade section of the theater, including a display table by our round table. **Tom Duclos** will be there with the Confederate Collection, including the flags from Lincoln's coffin. Volunteers from Grant's Cottage will be there dressed in period costumes. **Ron Tunison** is scheduled to be there with a working model of the "Friend to Friend" Masonic Memorial Monument dedicated this past summer in the Gettysburg Cemetery Annex. (Anyone interested in displaying their collections should contact Sue Knost to make the arrangements).

Inside the theater, **Bryan Gosling** is going to kick off the festivities at 12:30 with a narrated slide show of the filming of *Gettysburg*. At around 1:00, **Bob Mulligan** is going to do "Corporal Tanner". The 125th New York Regiment of Volunteer Infantry will be there in a variety of uniforms and will be involved in the pre-film ceremonies. Civil War period music will also be featured.

The film is scheduled to begin at 3:00 PM. The setting should be great -- a super wide screen

and digital sound version of the film should really bring the battle scenes to life. There is plenty of parking right around the theater. Refreshments (beer, soda) and food (hot dogs, popcorn, candy) will be available at very reasonable prices. The price of admission is an incredible \$2:00 for adults and \$1:00 for children! Don't miss all the fun. This could be your last chance to see Gettysburg on the big screen.

□ ***APCWS Buys Interest at Cedar Mountain***

The December issue of Hallowed Ground, APCWS's newsletter, contained news of a new acquisition of a part of the Cedar Mountain Battlefield. Bob Krick, our March banquet speaker, is the author of a wonderful account of the battle entitled Stonewall Jackson at Cedar Mountain.

The acquisition makes the APCWS part owners of the entire parcel known as the Taylor Wiseman Estate. The property is the site of the Gate, brushy field, wheatfield, and Orange-Culpeper Road - all major landmarks on the battlefield. The land has been carefully maintained over the years to maintain the farm's historical integrity.

The Wiseman home sits on high ground near the scene of the Stonewall Brigade's rout during the battle's opening action. Big. Gen. Charles S. Winder, commander of Jackson's old division, fell mortally wounded at a spot marked by a monument near the entrance drive. The trace of the Culpeper-Orange road, the axis of the battlefield (not present-day U.S. 15), courses across what is now pastureland and is still discernible to the alert eye.

The Battle of Cedar Mountain marked the opening combat of the Second Manassas Campaign. Jackson's wing of the Army of Northern Virginia sought to strike Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks' corps of Maj. Gen. John Pope's Army of Virginia before Pope could concentrate his forces. Jackson moved north from Orange on a particularly steamy Virginia day but allowed his lead divisions to deploy carelessly and without support from Maj. Gen. A.P. Hill's seven brigades. Banks unexpectedly seized the initiative and drove a

portion of Jackson's left flank from the battle field, threatening to break the center of the Confederate line as well. Hill's timely arrival and Jackson's personal leadership turned the tide of the battle and Banks' corps eventually retreated toward Culpeper. The vicious engagement cost more than 3,600 casualties.

Cedar Mountain Battlefield lies six miles south of Culpeper on U.S. 15. The Wiseman Farm and most of the surrounding landscape remain rural and Cedar Mountain looms over the woods and fields as it did 131 years ago.

□ ***APCWS Says Thank You (Again)***

The last issue of the Dispatch contained excerpts from a thank you note from the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites (APCWS) for our donation of \$1,105.88 to the Campaign to Save Malvern Hill and Glendale. The money was part of the proceeds from this past October's trip to Manassas.

Mark Silo received another nice thank you note this past December from APCWS' Executive Director Will Greene for CDCWRT's donation of \$750 to their Malvern Hill/Glendale campaign:

*Dear Mark,*

*Your check for \$750 reached my desk this morning, and on behalf of the officers and directors of APCWS, please accept my sincere thanks for this wonderful gift. When combined with matching funds from New York's Gilder Foundation, the CDCWRT has allowed us to protect 1/3 of an acre of the Malvern Hill Battlefield.*

*You might report to your members that the Campaign to Save Malvern Hill and Glendale is progressing very well. Counting your donation, we have deposited more than \$203,000 thus far, which generates \$67,000 in matching funds. Because our primary goal is \$288,000, you can see that we are close to being able to exercise the option on the Malvern Hill parcel. Our ultimate goal*

is to stage an eleventh hour rally and find an additional \$97,000 this month [December] so that we qualify for the maximum contribution from the Gilder Foundation. But in any case, we remain confident that this project will move forward in January, thanks to the tremendous support we have received from our friends across the country.

I have asked Mark Stephens to bundle up a copy of "Diehards" for you so that you can have it available for your January conclave....Incidentally, our 1993 Membership Campaign has produced 1,200 new APCWS members so far, pushing us over the 6,000 mark for the first time in our history.

Once again, Mark, please express to the members of the CDCWRT our sincere thanks for their loyal and generous support of battlefield preservation and the Campaign to Save Malvern Hill and Glendale. We would like nothing better than to host your group for a field trip to Richmond one day soon so that you can tromp across the property you have helped preserve. It's a great feeling. Until then, our best wishes to you, Kathy, and all our friends in Albany for the holidays and the New Year. We are very grateful to have earned your organization's confidence and trust.

Sincerely,

*Will*

A. Wilson Greene  
Executive Director

## *The Civil War in Art Featured in Lecture at the New York State Museum*

One of the nation's leading authorities on Civil War-era political culture and iconography, Harold Holzer, will present Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory: The Civil War in Art, a slide lecture at the New York State Museum on Saturday, March 12 at 2 p.m. Admission is free. A booksigning of Mr Holzer's recent publication, "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory," will follow the presentation.

This program was originally scheduled for January 8th. Poor weather conditions forced the program to be rescheduled for March 12th.

Mr. Holzer will focus on the rich visual archive that helped Americans visualize the battle and leaders of the Civil War while it raged and then served as a commemoration of the people and events for years to follow.

"Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory" is the first full-scale book on the art and artists of the Civil War. It is co-authored by Holzer and Mark E. Neely Jr., winner of the 1992 Pulitzer Prize in History for his study of civil liberties during the Civil War.

## *State Archives Needs CDCWRT's Help!*

The Capital District Civil War Roundtable recently received a letter from the New York State Archives & Records Administration about its request for a \$1.25 million increase in its budget. The State Archives needs and deserves our support for this budget increase so that it can modernize and extend its services to every citizen throughout the state.

As you probably are aware, the State Archives holds some of the most important Civil War records in the state. Many notable Civil War historians rely on these records to conduct their original research. For example, fellow CDCWRT member Larry Hauptman utilized the State Archives' holdings while researching his recent history of the Iroquois in the Civil War as did Professor Larry Kohl of the University of Alabama for his forthcoming history of the Irish Brigade. In addition to professional historians, many other people use the State Archives while researching other aspects of the Civil War. In fact, many of our members use the State Archives' holdings of Civil War service records to research the careers of individual soldiers or to help them identify artifacts they may acquire for their personal collections.

Twenty years ago, New York was the only state without a state archives and as a result New Yorkers had lost many irreplaceable records, many of which documented the state's role in the Civil War. Today, New York has an award-winning state archives which, during the last five years, has seen the size of its holdings double and the number of researchers triple. However, during that same five year period, the State Archives lost one-third of its professional and technical staff and its budget was decreased. Recognizing the challenges to maintaining a quality State Archives, the Board of Regents and the State Education Department asked for increased funding for the State Archives in the Governor's budget. Unfortunately, Governor Cuomo did not include any of the requested funding in his budget.

The State Legislature is now considering the budget and many individuals and organizations that use and support the State Archives services to every region of the state. The State Legislature must pass a new budget by April 1st, and funding decisions will likely be made by early March. The Executive Board supports the State Archives' budget initiative and hopes that its members will do the same. A fiscally sound State Archives will ensure that New York State's documentary heritage is protected and accessible to all its citizens. Members can show their concern by writing their

state legislators urging them to support increased funding for the State Archives. The following is a draft letter that can be used as a model, along with the names and addresses of state senators and assemblymen who represent most of the roundtable's membership:

<Sample Advocacy Letter>

*Dear (Senator or Assemblyman name):*

*I write to urge you to support an increase of \$1.25 million in the budget of the State Archives, part of the Education Department. The Archives preserves the history of State government and the people of New York and has been an extremely valuable resource to members of the Capital District Civil War Round Table and to countless other constituents of yours.*

*New York was the last state to open an official State Archives in 1978. Fortunately, we now have a State Archives that has won national awards for the quality of its work. However, budget cuts in recent years have decimated the staff and prohibited the Archives from purchasing the expertise and the modern technology it needs to meet rising demands for statewide Archives services.*

*Please take action to increase the Archives budget by \$1.25 million -- 6 cents for every New York resident -- so that the Archives can modernize and extend its services, including the establishment of a statewide exhibits and education program that reaches every region of the state. This, in turn, will benefit all of your constituents, including local government officials, lawyers, journalists, teachers, students, academics, business people, genealogists, preservationists, local historians, public policy advocates, and many others who use the Archives research resources and services. Please invest now in the State Archives and support an increase in their budget for 1994*

LIST OF LOCAL LEGISLATORS:

# Fall Banquet Images

Senator Howard Nolan Jr. (518)  
LOB Room 809 455-2657  
Albany, NY 12247

Senator Joseph L. Bruno (518)  
LOB Room 409 455-3191  
Albany, NY 12247

Senator Hugh T. Farley (518)  
LOB Room 412 455-2181  
Albany, NY 12247

Senator Stephen M. Saland (518)  
LOB Room 946 455-2411  
Albany, NY 12247

Senator Charles D. Cook (518)  
LOB Room 512 455-3181  
Albany, NY 12247

Assemblyman James W. Tedisco (518)  
LOB Room 530 455-5811  
Albany, NY 12248

Assemblyman John McEnery (518)  
LOB Room 648 455-4178  
Albany, NY 12248

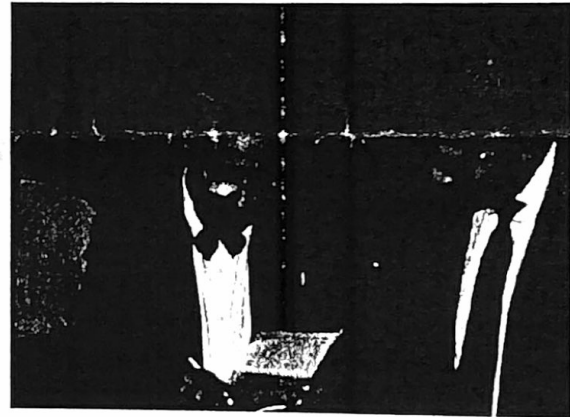
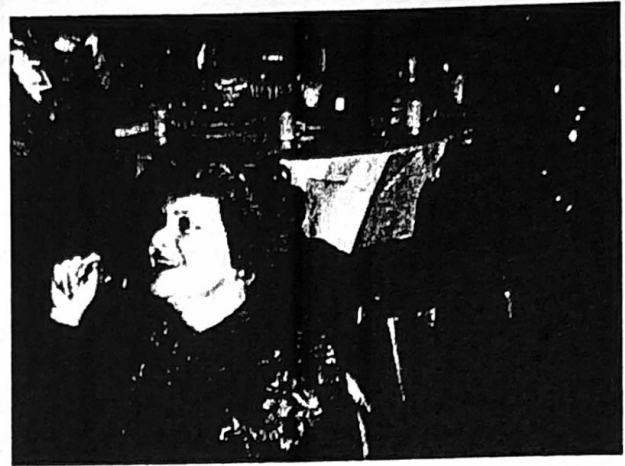
Assemblyman Paul D. Tonko (518)  
LOB Room 626 455-5197  
Albany, NY 12248

Assemblyman Ronald J. Canestrari (518)  
LOB Room 637 455-5931  
Albany, NY 12248

Assemblyman Pat M. Casale (518)  
LOB Room 527 455-5777  
Albany, NY 12248

Assemblyman Arnold W. Proskin (518)  
LOB Room 437 455-5931  
Albany, NY 12248

Assemblyman John J. Faso (518)  
LOB Room 448 455-5314  
Albany, NY 12248



If you have questions or would like additional information, contact Dan Lorello or Bill Evans.

## 1993 CDCWRT ANNUAL INCOME STATEMENT

**Balance December 31, 1992: \$4,144.95**

### REVENUE

|                                 |                    |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| DUES .....                      | \$1,695.00         |
| BOOK RAFFLE .....               | \$344.00           |
| INTEREST .....                  | \$81.84            |
| PRESERVATION GUIDE SALES .....  | \$3.00             |
| BOOK SALES .....                | \$807.00           |
| GETTYSBURG MAGAZINE SALES ..... | \$186.00           |
| MARCH CABIN FEVER DINNER .....  | \$1,338.50         |
| NOVEMBER BANQUET .....          | \$1,472.00         |
| VIRGINIA BUS TRIP .....         | \$9,976.00         |
| <b>Total REVENUE</b>            | <b>\$15,703.34</b> |

### EXPENSES

|                                   |                    |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| NEWSLETTER .....                  | \$807.79           |
| SPEAKERS .....                    | \$201.05           |
| REFRESHMENTS .....                | \$47.00            |
| POSTAGE .....                     | \$27.20            |
| P.O. BOX RENTAL .....             | \$35.00            |
| BOOK PURCHASES .....              | \$542.94           |
| RAFFLE TICKETS .....              | \$5.39             |
| GETTYSBURG MAGAZINE .....         | \$183.54           |
| MARCH CABIN FEVER DINNER .....    | \$1,273.55         |
| NOVEMBER BANQUET .....            | \$1,186.38         |
| VIRGINIA BUS TRIP:                |                    |
| TRIP EXPENSES .....               | \$7,889.22         |
| DONATION .....                    | \$2,086.77         |
| GRANTS: .....                     | \$1,600.00         |
| NYS MILITARY HISTORY MUSEUM ..... | \$250.00           |
| FRIENDS OF GRANT COTTAGE .....    | \$200.00           |
| WEST PT. KEATS FUND .....         | \$200.00           |
| SAVE HISTORIC ANTIETAM FND. ....  | \$200.00           |
| APCWS - MALVERN HILL .....        | \$750.00           |
| MISC: SHEET PROTECTORS .....      | \$7.50             |
| ROOM RENTAL - LIBRARY .....       | \$24.00            |
| BANK SERVICE CHARGES .....        | \$82.95            |
| <b>Total EXPENSES</b>             | <b>\$16,000.28</b> |

**Balance December 31, 1993: \$3,848.01**

Created in 1984, the Capital District Civil War Round Table is an incorporated non-profit educational organization. Meetings are held monthly at the Bethlehem Public Library in Delmar, New York. This newsletter is published ten times per year. Annual dues are \$15. The purpose of the organization is to promote, educate, and further stimulate interest in, and discussion of, all aspects of the Civil War period.



To join or renew membership, send \$15 to the CDCWRT address below.

**CDCWRT**  
**P.O. Box 8874**  
**Albany, New York 12208**

### The Officers

|               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Chairman      | Michael Barrett |
| Vice-Chairman | Richard Becker  |
| Treasurer     | Mark Silo       |
| Secretary     | Sue Knost       |
| At-Large      | Robert Johnson  |
| At-Large      | Dan Lorello     |

### The Troops

|               |                           |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| Programs      | Michael Russert           |
| Newsletter    | Robert Johnson            |
| Preservation  | Richard Becker            |
| Field Trips   | Mark Silo, Kathy Silo     |
| Banquets      | Michael Aikey, Kathy Silo |
| Refreshments  | Jack Lancto               |
| Nominations   | Jack Lancto               |
| Membership    | Kathy Silo, Russ Denegar  |
| Video Library | James Carey               |



**Capital District Civil War Round Table**