



The Dispatch

Newsletter of the

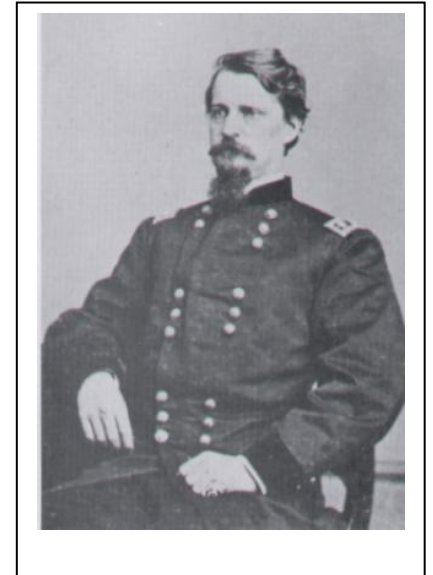
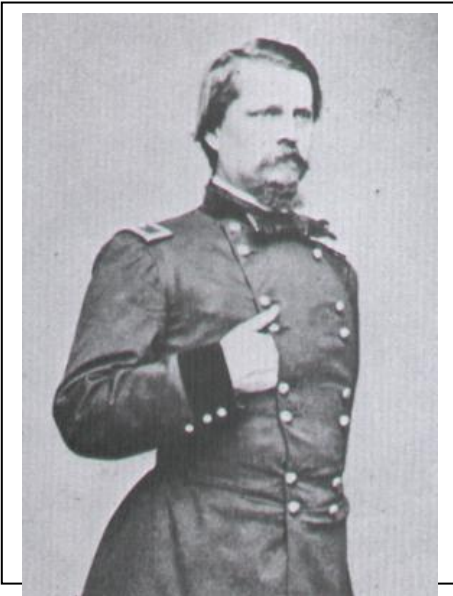
Capital District Civil War Round Table

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CDCWRT's web site: www.cdcwrt.org

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WINFIELD SCOTT HANCOCK, THE SUPERB

On the evening of May 5, 1862, after the day's battle at Williamsburg, Virginia, Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan in a telegram to Washington, D.C. summarized the combat performance of Winfield Scott Hancock, one of his brigade commanders, thusly: "*Hancock was superb today.*" The characterization was so appropriate that until his death, this general was always known as "Hancock the Superb." He was the most acclaimed Federal subordinate general of the war. He distinguished himself in every major action of the Army of the Potomac, but his greatest moment came at Gettysburg, where his performance on each of the three days was a critical component of the Union victory. He was seriously wounded at Pickett's charge. Our speaker for the May meeting of the Round Table, J.J. Jennings, will discuss Hancock's wound and its effect on Hancock for the rest of his life. He died a few days before his 62nd birthday, which would have been on February 14, 1886.

MAY MEETING
FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 13TH
GUILDERLAND PUBLIC
LIBRARY
WESTERN AVE. ROUTE 20
GUILDERLAND, NY

SOCIAL MEETING	6:00-7:00
BUSINESS MEETING	7:00-7:30
PRESENTATION	7:30-9:00

CDCWRT MEETING

The May meeting of the CDCWRT will be held at the Guilderland Public Library on Friday evening, May 13th. Our speaker is NOT superstitious. He is J.J. Jennings, one of our own members of the Round Table. His topic is entitled, "CSI: Gettysburg ...The Wounding and Death of Major-General Winfield Scott Hancock."

At the culmination of Pickett's charge, Gen. Hancock was seriously wounded when a Minie ball passed through part of his saddle and lodged in his groin. Hancock stayed on the field until victory was assured, and then was taken for treatment. Our speaker, J.J., will discuss what happened to Hancock and how he was able to live with the aftermath of his injury until his death in 1886.

This is Part Three of our CSI Series. Part One was "CSI: Chancellorsville ... The Wounding and Death of Stonewall Jackson." Part Two was "CSI: Gettysburg ... The Wounding and Death of Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain." The first two parts were written, produced, directed and narrated by Matt Farina of MF-TV. Part Three has been written, produced, directed and will be narrated by J.J. Jennings of

JJJ-TV. J.J. is a former U.S. Marine, and has been an admirer of Hancock, the Superb, for a number of years.

UP-COMING EVENTS

Saturday, May 14th, is the Annual Open House at Peebles Island from 9:00am to 4:00pm. This is the NYS historical preservation facility, which is open to the public with demonstrations of how various artifacts are preserved and restored. The RT and other preservation groups have information tables at the open house. 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 one mile down the road.

Monday, May 23rd, is Game Day at Cooperstown. The RT usually participates in the day's activities, and raises monies for preservation by selling our special cachets and T-shirts. Volunteers are being sought.

The June Meeting of the CDCWRT will be held on Friday, June 10th at the Guilderland Library. Our speaker will be RT member, Ray Wemple, who will talk about 'THE CIVIL WAR: A BIRD'S EYE VIEW.' Ray will discuss the daring and courageous aeronauts who risked life and limb for the Army of the Potomac during the Peninsular Campaign.

Peterboro Civil War Days will be held on Saturday and Sunday, June 11th and 12th. This small village on route 20 near Syracuse was a stop on the Underground Railroad. Each year the village sponsors a Civil War weekend with encampments, presentations, entertainment and period foods. A number of Civil War groups participate, including the RT with a commemorative postal cancellation. **The Smithfield Community Center in Peterboro will be the home of**

the National Abolitionist Hall of Fame and Museum. The NPS has designated the Gerrit Smith Estate in Peterboro as a National Historic Landmark.

On Saturday & Sunday, June 18-19th, the New York State Military Museum in Saratoga will have a Civil War Weekend and Encampment. Save these dates on your calendar; more details will appear in next month's newsletter.

Gettysburg – 142nd Anniversary – Friday, July 1st to Monday, July 4th. This is always an exciting event with many tours provided by the Park Service, free lectures by authors at the Greystone Bookstore tent, and the daily re-enactments. This is also a major event for the RT to raise money for preservation activities. The RT will have a block of rooms in the nearby motel. Rates will be higher this year however. Budget cuts for the Park Service may also impact upon the number of guided tour available to the public. More details will follow.

Civil War Days in Troy will be held on Saturday, July 9th and Sunday July 10th. The site will be in Troy's Prospect Park. This has been held at the King Solomon Masonic Temple the past several years, but it had become popular and has outgrown that site. Prospect Park allows for a larger venue. Activities include an encampment and a re-enactment of a Civil War battle. There will be other types of entertainment. The RT will need volunteers for our information tables.

On Monday, July 11th, at 1:00pm, there will be a History Teachers' Summer Institute at Union College. We are looking for volunteers to present in a mini-conference for the teachers, entitled, *Teaching the Civil War*. Interested

members should contact president, Matt George for details.

On Sunday, July 17th, the Round Table will have its annual picnic at Thatcher State Park, south of Albany. The picnic will be at the Horseshoe 2 area, which is near the swimming pool. Reserve this date now.

Sunday, July 31st, is Induction Day at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown. The RT will have a booth for sales of cachets and T-shirts. Volunteers are being sought.

Chamberlain Days in Maine will be held on Wednesday, August 10th through Saturday, August 13th. President, Matt George has attended this activity several times. He states it is a great experience for Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain fans, and will give anyone more details about the event.

THIS AMBITIOUS SCHEDULE OF EVENTS IN WHICH YOUR ROUND TABLE PARTICIPATES, NEEDS PEOPLE POWER TO CARRY OUT ITS MISSION. WHY NOT VOLUNTEER TO HELP AT ONE EVENT.

LINCOLN MEN AND SONS OF DIXIE - A New Feature of *The Dispatch*. If you have a Civil War relative who was a soldier, please send a brief biography and a picture, if available, to the editor.

WHAT'S THAT MEAN?

If you lick at the mailing label on your newsletter, you will note a date above your name. That is when your annual dues are due! The "DD" means "DUES DUE." The pink slip that is sometimes in your newsletter also serves as a reminder that you are past your DD date. This is meant as a gentle reminder, and not a stern warning.