



The Dispatch

Newsletter of the

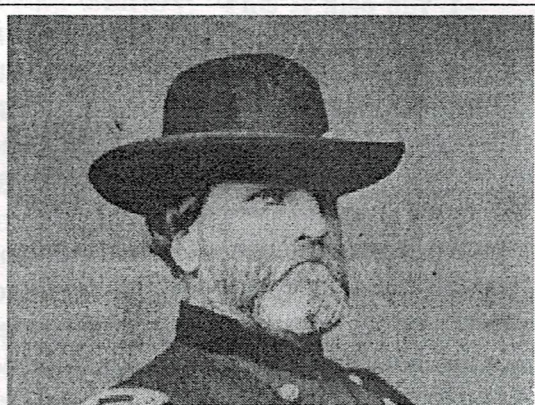
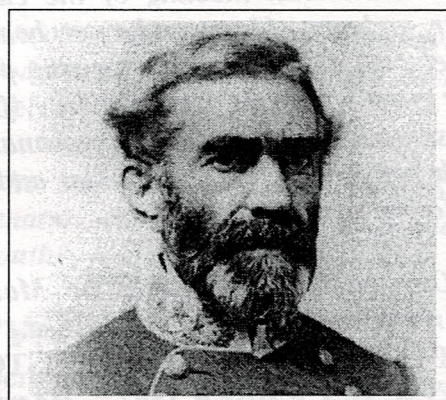
Capital District Civil War Round Table

P.O. Box 14871, Albany, NY 12212-4871

CDCWRT's web site: timesunion.com/communities/cdcwrt

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SOME OF THE CAST OF THE BATTLE OF STONES RIVER

Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans, Commander, Army of the Cumberland (upper left)

Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas, Center, Army of Cumberland (lower left)

Gen. Braxton Bragg, Commander, Army of Tennessee (upper right)

Lieut. Gen. William J. Hardee, Hardee's Corps, Army of Tennessee (lower right)

December Meeting

Friday 12/12/03

Guilderland Public Library

Route 20 Western Ave.

Guilderland, NY

SOCIAL HOUR	6:00PM
BUSINESS MEETING	7:00PM
PROGRAM	7:30PM
PARTY	8:30PM

CDCWRT MEETING

The December meeting of the CDCWRT will be held in the Guilderland Public Library on Friday 12, 2003 at 7:30pm. This is our last meeting of the calendar year, and new officers and a new board will be elected at the business meeting prior to our guest speaker's presentation. After the presentation, there will be a seasonal party with soft drinks, coffee, cookies and other delicious snacks.

Our guest speaker will be Mark W. Johnson, and his talk is entitled, "THE CAPITAL DISTRICT AT STONES RIVER, DECEMBER 1862." He will talk about the Battle of Stones River, focusing on the experiences of three Regular Army officers with strong ties to the Albany area: Lieutenant Colonel Oliver Shepard, a native of Clifton Park and an 1840 West Point graduate, Major Frederick Townsend, a graduate of Union College who twice served as the Adjutant General of New York State, and Lieutenant Frederick Phisterer, who would earn the Medal of Honor during this battle and would later be dubbed "the father of the New York National Guard."

Major Johnson, a combat veteran and graduate of the United States Military Academy, is currently serving as an ROTC instructor at Siena College in Loudonville. He is also a doctoral student in history at the State University at Albany.

Mark is author of the recently published book, "That Body of Brave Men: The U.S. Regular Infantry and the Civil War in the West." His book is a unit history of four Regular Army regiments (the 15th, 16th, 18th and 19th U.S. Infantry Regiments) that campaigned in the Civil War's Western Theater. They formed the celebrated "Regular Brigade" in the Army of the Cumberland. The book is the product of more than 14 years of extensive research, and breaks new ground on the pivotal role played by Regular Army units in the Civil War. Copies of the book will be available for signing after the meeting.

NOVEMBER MEETING

The November Conference was a resounding success in every sense of the word. The location of the conference at the NYS Military Museum was perfect. The exhibits and tours of the gun vault were thoroughly enjoyed by all. The speakers were all excellent in their presentations. Much of the research was original, and a great deal of new information and concepts were imparted to the audience. The banquet was well attended and the food was good. Roxanne Wegman got the raffle prize she wanted, thanks to J.J. The only downside was the need to depart from the dining room unexpectedly because of a scheduling error by the hotel. Troy Harmon was unable to complete the summary of his presentation. Special kudos to Sue Knost, who organized this conference. If this woman were appointed Postmaster General, Big Brown would be in trouble!

BOARD MEETING

The Board has put forth the following slate of candidates for the up-coming elections at the December meeting.

<i>President</i>	<i>Joe Stracuzzi</i>
<i>Vice-President</i>	<i>Matt George</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Lew Warner</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Rosemary Nichols</i>
<i>At-Large</i>	<i>Mike Spaulding</i>
<i>At-Large</i>	<i>Fran McCashion</i>
<i>At-Large</i>	<i>Chris Kolakowski</i>

Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the December elections. Any member in good standing, may run for any office.

UP-COMING EVENTS

First Night in Albany, December 31, 2003 will find the CDCWRT at City Hall providing a special postal cancellation. If you attend, make sure to visit the site, and buy a special cachet. Better yet, why not volunteer to help at the table for an hour. Please contact Sue or Joe Stracuzzi.

Our next meeting will be our Potpourri Meeting on Friday, January 9, 2004 at Guilderland Library. This is also our T-shirt night, and our Annual Magazine Exchange. Our member speakers will be Rosemary Nichols, talking about Ben Butler, and Kathy Sheehan, talking about Uncle Sam. If you wish to donate used magazines, bring them to the December or January meeting.

Our Spring Muster will be a 3-day weekend starting on Friday, April 24, 2004. The trip will cover the Wilderness and Spotsylvania battles. We will fly to Baltimore and bus to Virginia. Deposits for this trip will be due in January, so plan your

savings accordingly. More details in our next month's newsletter.

TRIVIA QUESTION

ANSWERS to so you think you know the South?

1. *Which of the four border-states was least likely to depart from the Union?* DELAWARE
2. *Which southern state supplied the most union troops?* TENNESSEE
3. *Which state was bordered by three slave states and three free states?* KENTUCKY
4. *Lincoln once said he hoped to have God on his side, but he must have KENTUCKY. (which state)?*
5. *Who was the one southern U.S. senator who did not go with the South?* ANDREW JOHNSON

PARTY! PARTY! PARTY!

Members are asked to bring a seasonal favorite snack to the party, December 12th. There will be Civil War items for sale as gifts for your special person. There will be books, special cachets from the 140th of Gettysburg, T-Shirts, and framed art just to mention a few. There will also be some unique, one of a kind, special castings. All are tax free, and proceeds support your RT.

Several regular volunteers are being sought to help Stan Bergman, who handles refreshments. While many have helped out in recent meetings, we are seeking two consistent volunteers to assist Stan at each meeting. If enough apply, we could rotate meetings. See Joe Stracuzzi if interested.