



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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DONATIONS 1985-2002

\$115,635

**2002 DONATIONS OF \$13,376 WERE MADE TO
THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:**

Central Virginia Battlefield Trust, Civil War Preservation Trust,
Brandy Station Foundation, Hudson Mohawk Industrial Gateway,
WMHT, Evergreen Cemetery, Shiloh National Military Park, South
Mountain Heritage Society, NYS Military Heritage Institute

**COMING ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22ND
At PROCTOR'S THEATER, SCHENECTADY
JEFF SHAARA'S**

GODS AND GENERALS

**RON MAXWELL AND VARIOUS CAST MEMBERS WILL
BE PRESENT FOR THIS 2ND DAY PREMIER
SPONSORED BY CDCWRT
YOU MUST ATTEND THIS ONCE IN A LIFETIME EVENT**

January Meeting
Friday 01/10/03
Guilderland Library
Route 20 Western Ave.
Guilderland, NY

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

CDCWRT MEETING

The January meeting of the CDCWRT will be held on Friday, January 10th, at the Guilderland Public Library. The social hour will start at 6:00pm, with a business meeting at 7:00pm. The scheduled program will start at 7:30. The library will be available until 10:00pm, so please plan on relaxing and socializing.

January is our traditional Potpourri Night when several of our members present short programs. The first speaker will be Maxine Getty who will talk about "Mary Livermore - The War Years." Last January Maxine talked about the experiences of a Northern woman, Mary Livermore, on a Virginian plantation. Maxine discussed Mary's secular and religious education, and her marriage. This year's presentation deals with Mary's involvement with the Civil War.

Our second speaker will be Larry Arnold, who will talk about "The Garrett Smith Brigade."

The final speaker of the evening will be Mike Sperenza, who will discuss and demonstrate "Cartridge Making." Mike also presented last January, and discussed

rope-making. During the Civil War, the Watervliet Arsenal produced ammunition.

Members are encouraged to bring a favorite artifact or display to share with the membership. Please contact Joe Stracuzzi or Sue Knost if a display table is required. Friday will also be the night for our annual Civil War Magazine Exchange. Please donate your old military magazines to the Round Table and purchase new used magazines for \$0.50 apiece.

Friday is also Civil War T-Shirt Night. The weather outside may be frightful, but the library temperature will be delightful, so wear that new t-shirt. If you don't have one, there's nothing to fear! Come topless and you can purchase our famous "The Original New York Yankees Civil War Baseball T-Shirt" for \$14, ALL SIZES, including S, M, L, XL, XXL and XXXL.

DECEMBER MEETING

A lively crowd was present at the Holiday December meeting to hear Bob Mulligan talk about War Gaming. Bob covered the development of gaming, which for the most part has occurred during the past fifty years. He brought for our perusal numerous sets of military figures for different scenarios. Bob discussed with enthusiasm his defense of the village of Borodino in Napoleon's push to Moscow in 1812. This occurred at a national war-gaming convention in the U.S. This was followed by a bounty of cakes and cookies and snacks that were brought by many.

Prior to the lecture, the Round Table held its annual election. Your new officers and board, elected unanimously, are:

<i>President</i>	<i>Joe Stracuzzi</i>
<i>Vice-President</i>	<i>Matt George</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Rosemary Nichols</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Lew Warner</i>

At-Large
At-Large
At-Large

Cindy Schechter
Fran McCashion
Mike Spaulding

Congratulations to all, and success for this coming year.

BOARD MEETING

The December Board Meeting was held on December 19th. Because checks for year-end events were not yet complete, an approximate amount was noted in each account. The general account has \$3600, while the preservation account has \$6800. The Remembrance Weekend activities and the Tunison statue unveiling netted \$441. The Victorian Stroll in Troy netted \$423. A large contingent of members has signed up for the April Full Duty Banquet in Vermont (see below). Our scheduled banquet speaker has a conflict. Given the many activities in April, the Board decided to CANCEL our April meeting/banquet in Albany, and use the Vermont meeting as our April meeting.

UP-COMING EVENTS

February 7th, Friday, the regular meeting will be held at the Guilderland Library. The topic will be announced next month.

February 15-16th, the Stamp and Cover Show will be held at the I-90 Quality Inn. The RT will do a special cancellation.

March 7th-9th, 2003 is the spring bare bones trip to Gettysburg. Mark this date on your calendar. The projected cost of the trip will be \$199 per person, double occupancy, and includes bus transportation, room, tours, and banquet at the Dobbins House. Our tour guides are expected to be Charlie Fennell and Scott Hartwig, two of the most knowledgeable guides at Gettysburg. Bus driver tip is NOT included in this projected price.

Because of an early Easter next year, the trip is set for this particular weekend. Hotel rates will also go up early next year. If you do not want to tramp the battlefield, the trip will take place on the same weekend as the Civil War Women's Conference in Gettysburg. More details will follow in later newsletters.

The Full Duty Banquet in Montpelier, VT on April 12, 2003 is the annual event of several Round Tables in Vermont and New Hampshire. This year's guest speaker will be **Ken Burns**. The trip is a definite go. As of this date we have a 47-passenger bus that is full, and the rooms in the Capitol Plaza Hotel are reserved. There will be a special tour of the Capitol building and its Civil War artifacts. On the return trip we will see gravesites of several famous Civil War soldiers (O. O. Howard and Stannard) at Lakeview Cemetery in Burlington.

A short stand-by list is developing, in case of a cancellation. The rush to purchase tickets before the deadline is over, and now there is time to take care of the balance of the cost. The banquet ticket is **\$35.00**, and includes a **\$5.00** ticket to the huge raffle. This year there will be four big prizes: two Don Troiani prints, "**Fire on Caroline Street**" donated by CDCWRT, and "**Jackson Is with Us**" donated by the Civil War Preservation Trust. Additional prizes include a 3-night stay at the Brickhouse Inn B&B in Gettysburg, and a reproduction musket. Additional raffle tickets will be available at the door. The bus cost **\$44.00**, and the hotel room is **\$50.00** per person, double occupancy. Attendees have already paid a \$50 deposit. Joe Stracuzzi will be happy to accept payments in two installments between now and March 31,

2003. If you have a preference in a roommate, send a note with your installment, and Joe will try to match you up. This should be a great weekend. Deposits should be mailed to Joe Stracuzzi, 3 Bradbury Street, Clifton Park, NY 12065.

MISCELLANEOUS

Q. Who are the only 2 Confederate generals buried in Arlington National Cemetery? Joe Wheeler & Marcus J Wright.

Q. If Lee rode Traveler, and Grant rode Cincinnati, who rode Custis Lee? George Armstrong Custer

Q. How many future presidents served in the military during the Civil War? SEVEN! Ulysses S. Grant, Rutherford B. Hayes, James A. Garfield, Chester A. Arthur, Benjamin Harrison, William McKinley, and Emil Frey. Frey rose from sergeant to brevet major while serving with the 24th and 82nd Illinois VI Regiments. He became president of Switzerland on January 1, 1894, and is the only Civil War veteran known to have risen to the post of chief executive of a foreign nation.

Free, including delivery, approximately 50 years of *National Geographic*. Contact member, Mr. Luman Rundell, 966-8585.

DUES! DUES! DUES! DUES! DUES!

Remember that starting January 1st, 2003, the yearly dues have been increased to \$25. This was announced several newsletters ago. The increase is to cover increased operating expenses

JOE'S JOTTINGS

By Joe Stracuzzi

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND I THANK YOU ALL. I would like to thank the

membership of this Round Table for electing me to the Presidency for the upcoming year. I only hope that I do as good a job as Matt Farina, and with your support and guidance I should be able to come close. In particular I thank Jon Olson for the yeoman like effort he put into developing and maintaining our web site. Jon, you deserve the relaxation, but you will be missed at our board meetings. Also, thanks to Paul Rivenburgh, for the outstanding work he did as a board member, cachet salesman and treasurer. You too will be missed at our board meetings. A reminder to both of these gentlemen and the membership in general, that the board meetings are open to all. The only restriction is that you have no vote. Thank you to the re-elected board members, Fran and Cindy: please keep me in line and on my toes. Thank you, Mike Spaulding, our new board member, but a hard working cachet designer and willing worker at any task asked of him. I thank Lew Warner for stepping into the treasurer vacancy; he has done a lot of work in the background on displays and set-up. A special thank you to Rosemary Nichols, who actually volunteered early for the secretary position. Thank you Matt George for stepping up to the vice-presidency. Matt and I work well together, but then Matt works well with everyone. Thank you Sue Knost for continuing as program chair. Your meeting programs and cachet program for sales has helped to make the Round Table what it is today. Lastly, a great thank you to Dr. Matt Farina for all he has done over the years for the Round Table – the double terms as president, his travel and work at our sales opportunities, and his excellent out-pouring of information through our newsletter. Thanks again, Matt, Sue, the board (new and old members), and of course the membership, for your past and hopefully future support.