

THE DISPATCH

The Civil War Round Table of New York, Inc.

Volume 63, No. 1

572nd Meeting

September 2013

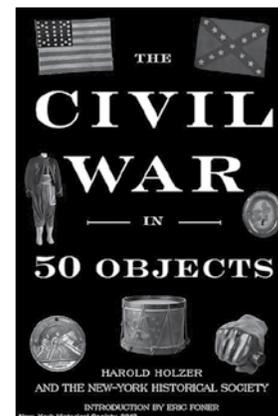


- Guest:
Harold Holzer
Civil War in 50 Objects
- Cost:
Members: \$40
Non-Members: \$50
- Date:
Wednesday,
September 11th
- Place:
The Three West Club,
3 West 51st Street,
- Time:
Dinner at 6:00 pm,
Doors open 5:30 pm,
Cash Bar 5:30 – 7 pm

You must call 718-341-9811 by September 4th, if you plan to attend the September meeting. We need to know how many people to order food for.

Harold Holzer

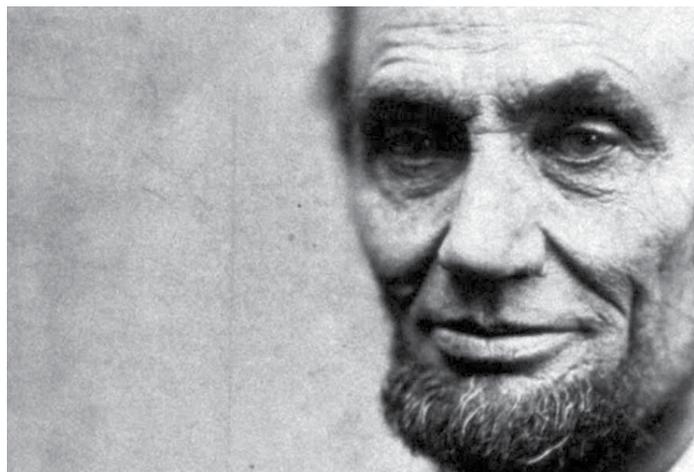
Our September speaker is the best known member of the CWRNTNY, and one of the country's leading authorities on Abraham Lincoln and the political culture of the Civil War era. A prolific writer and lecturer, he has authored, co-authored, and edited 46 books. His latest is *The Civil War in 50 Objects*, written for the New-York Historical Society. His other recent volumes include *1863: Lincoln's Pivotal Year*, co-edited with Sara Gabbard; *Lincoln: How Abraham Lincoln Ended Slavery in America*, the official young adult companion book to the Steven Spielberg film; and *Emancipation Lincoln: The Emancipation Proclamation in Text, Context, and Memory* (Harvard University Press). His other recent books are: *The New York Times Complete Civil War*, co-edited with Craig L. Symonds; and *Lincoln on War*; a collection of the 16th president's letters and speeches. In 2013 Harold was one of 10 historians invited by the U.S. Senate to contribute essays (his on the Emancipation Proclamation) to the official portfolio of the second inauguration of President Barack Obama.



56TH ANNUAL BATTLEFIELD TOUR UPDATE

This year, we're headed to the Shenandoah Valley on October 11-13th to explore the 1864 Campaign.

We have our full quota on the bus right now, but we're taking names for the waiting list. Call 718-341-9811 to add your name to the list, or if you have any questions.



2013 • MEETING SCHEDULE • 2013

• **October 9th** •
Robert E.L. Krick
Overview of the 7 days

• **November 13th** •
Lt. Col. David Sirey
West Point Night

• **December 11th** •
Pat Schroeder
Duryee's Fire Zouaves

President's Message

Victory for Grant at Vicksburg! Victory for Meade at Gettysburg! Victory for Rosecrans for maneuvering Bragg out of Tennessee! What a summer for the Union! Oh, but what reversals lay in wait in September—150 years ago!

Welcome to another brand-new season of the Civil War Round Table of New York. It is both my honor and pleasure to serve you as your new president.

Your new officers and board members are excited to continue the 60+ year history of our club in its ongoing mission to “promote the social, educational, literary and other historically related activities...of the people and events associated with the American Civil War.”

We hope you feel as we do that the Round Table has been successful in its mission. We also hope that you will mark the second Wednesday of your calendars from this September to next June and join us to hear some of the very best Civil War historians, authors, and “legends” that will speak at the club this season. As always, we will present our most prestigious awards—The Fletcher Pratt Award for best non-fiction Civil War Book and the Barondess/Lincoln Prize. (Remember last year’s fantastic meeting with Harold Holzer and Tony Kushner?) We will continue our “West Point Night” and “Lee/Jackson Night” traditions, and our Battlefield Tour in October will be the Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1864—which is already sold out. And we will always support battlefield preservation with every donation we make in our speakers’ names.

As New York City’s Civil War Headquarters, our goal is to keep you up-to-date on current events, inform you on what was happening 150 years ago, and make sure your experience with the CWRTNY is great fun and as rewarding as it can be.

I urge you to share your interest, invite your friends, bring your family, enjoy great speakers, stimulate your Civil War imagination, and, most importantly, celebrate the Sesquicentennial with us!

— Martin Smith

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Dues are due

If you haven't already paid your dues, please send your checks in now. After October, the price rises to \$50. If we don't hear from you by January 1, we will be obliged to drop your name from our mailing lists. Sorry about that.

We now have three yearly dues categories:

	Individual	Family
First Category	\$40	\$60
Second Category	\$50	\$75
Third Category	\$100	\$150

You may choose any appropriate amount to send in, but it will be greatly appreciated if you are able to remit the amounts in the second or third categories.

Out-of-towners (75 miles or more) and students (full or part time and under 25) pay \$15.00 unless you are covered by your parent's payment. If you joined up between January and March 2013, you owe only \$15.00. If you joined up in April, May, or June, you get a freebie.

**Send dues to Treasurer Bud Livingston
71-16 66th Street, Glendale, NY 11385**

Do not include your dues and dinner payment on the same check.

August/September during the Civil War

1861

August 10 – Nathaniel Lyon, former captain, now general, who had practically evicted the Confederates from Missouri, attacks them with an inferior force and loses his life at the battle of Wilson’s Creek.

September 3 – Leonidas Polk, not quite a political general (since he was a West Point graduate), although he acts like one, decides to invade neutral Kentucky and ends its neutrality, much to the detriment of the rebel cause.

1862

August 30 – Déjà Vu all over again. This time it is John Pope retreating instead of Irvin McDowell at Bull Run.

September 13 – Finders keepers; losers weepers. The famous “lost” order is lost, and then found, and it has a profound effect on the Battle of Antietam.

A DUEL IN ARKANSAS

The Marmaduke-Walker duel was fought during the Civil War between Confederate Brigadier Generals John Sappington Marmaduke and Lucius Marshall Walker. Marmaduke was originally from Missouri and was the son of a former governor. Walker was originally from Kentucky and nephew of President James K. Polk. Disagreement arose between the two in the summer of 1863 over military actions as Helena and Little Rock where Walker failed to carry out operations as planned and exposed Marmaduke and his men to enemy troops. Marmaduke attempted to meet with Walker to discuss the events, but Walker did not want to leave his post. Marmaduke requested removal from Walker’s cavalry and stated that if denied, he would retire from action altogether. General Sterling Price granted the transfer, and when rumors reached Walker about Marmaduke’s questioning of Walker’s courage, Walker began a letter exchange asking for explanation.

On September 6, 1863, Marmaduke and Walker met at the Godfrey LeFevre plantation just seven miles from Little



NEW | NEW | NEW | NEW

We are emailing the Dispatch. If you want it sent via email, please let the editor know: EABudlivingston@gmail.com.

1863

August 8 – Robert E. Lee offers to resign. Can you imagine who else could possibly take his place? Jefferson Davis couldn’t either.

September 5 – Minister Charles Francis Adams threatens Lord Russell with war if two ironclad rams are released to the Confederates by the “neutral” Brits. After only two years and five months, England decides not to push its luck any more and the rams never reach the South.

1864

August 5 – Admiral Farragut damns the torpedoes (mines) and closes Mobile as a Confederate port.

September 5 – Uncle Billy Sherman fairly wins Atlanta and then, on the 7th, evicts its inhabitants, some 446 families. For them, war is Hell, indeed.

Rock to settle their differences, neither expressing disapproval of the series of letters and subsequent events that had led them there. At fifteen paces, they shot with no results. On the second shot, Marmaduke fatally wounded Walker, who died the next day in Little Rock.

Marmaduke faced arrest and imprisonment under the 1820 Arkansas law prohibiting duels. After being placed under arrest by Price, he was soon released so as not to create more animosity amongst the troops. Marmaduke never faced charges but felt great remorse for his actions. The following year he was captured by the enemy and also elevated to major general, the last appointed of this rank in the Confederacy. He went on to be elected governor of Missouri in 1884 and died in 1887.

From the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture*.

Thanks to Jan Sarna of the Arkansas CWRT for this information.

New Recruits

Jose Alvarado from Bud’s Civil War class

David Brody who learned about us from the web site

Norbert Weissberg a friend of Joan McDonough

Robert Casale who is interested in Sumter-Gettysburg and who heard about us through Mike Connors’s radio show.

A LETTER FROM FORT PICKENS TO AN OLD FRIEND, APRIL 23, 1861

My Dear Bragg {near Barrancas, Florida},

...A democrat of the Breckenridge school, I *now* believe that the party was broken up, simply to bring about secession, and unfortunately the course of events in the North has enabled the leaders to drag the people with them. With all their wrongs, I think the South has not been just to themselves, nor generous to their friends in the North, in breaking off from them at the first partial defeat, the loss of the executive; all the other branches of government being in their hands. It is not a case in which I, born under the flag, can feel justified in deserting it, however much my sympathies were with my Southern friends in the immediate question at issue, and however much it pains me to be arrayed against them. I regret deeply that the secession leaders should have pursued such a course that except by dishonoring their flag, degrading their government and humiliating themselves, their friends in the North could force an amicable separation. I am not much surprised at it however, many things hitherto inexplicable in the administration of the War Department in the last eight years, are now explained, and I fear that war was considered a necessity to a final separation, and the consolidation of the power of the engineer and leaders of the movement, and as such, determined on long ago. I have felt positively certain for the last six weeks that your president would force a collision, if possible

under circumstances which would make the government appear to the aggressor before the election could take place in Virginia, and it has come to pass as I expected. Notwithstanding this and the results that may immediately follow, I firmly believe that the unity of our people will be eventually restored. We may have to suffer much. We may separate with or without further conflict, but we will be re-united, if necessary under new institutions, strong enough to secure all our rights. We shall again be one of the great powers of the earth and the name of America will supersede that of Northerner and Southerner.

Many thanks for the newspaper slips, and the items of news you give me. I understand that Mansfield Lovell is with you. Pray remember me to him...

Your true and sincere friend,
Henry J. Hunt.

Copied at Gettysburg NMP Library dated?
Source?



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OF NEW YORK

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