

## BIOSKETCH

### Christian J. Heidorf



In his civilian life, Chris Heidorf has worked in the chemical industry for 25 years in successive positions as production engineer, project engineer, safety and environmental specialist, chemical and environmental engineer and environmental consulting engineer. He is the author of two books on the Civil War, which include *Gettysburg*, *The 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary* and *Shoulder Arms!*, a history of the 22<sup>nd</sup> New York Volunteer Infantry. He has delivered presentations to many military organizations, historical societies, veteran organizations, school groups and was active in the Adirondack Civil War Round Table. He currently works with General Dynamics, Army Solutions providing training support for military units in the northeast. He also owns a small publishing house, Corner House Publishers which focuses on historical reprints of US social, economic, western and military histories.

He enlisted in the NY Army National Guard, field artillery, in Jan 1982. He was direct commissioned in the Chemical Corps that same year and began his commissioned career with the 156<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery. Three years later, he returned to field artillery and served with the 156<sup>th</sup> FA then with the 42<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division. In August of 2002, LTC Heidorf transferred to the US Army Reserve, the 98<sup>th</sup> Division, 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Command and General Staff College as an instructor. He was mobilized for service in Iraq on 8 SEP 04 and served there for approximately a year. He was assigned to the Coalition Police Assistance Training Team (CPATT) and served as a senior advisor with the 2<sup>nd</sup> BDE, Iraqi Commandos and as a project officer managing the reconstitution of Iraqi Police force elements in the Provinces of Anbar, Najaf, and Karbala. For his service in Iraq, he was awarded the Bronze Star, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Joint Services Achievement Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal and the Combat Action Badge. He retired from the ARNG September 30, 2010.

He currently lives in Gansevoort, NY with his wife Cindy. They established a Morgan Breeding farm in 2006, Dead Creek Ranch, located in Ft. Edward, Washington County, NY where they raise foundation, western working, foundation, military style Morgan horses along with gaited mules. His interests in and love of the Morgan horse grew out of his military history studies of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century US military, where the Morgan horse appeared time and again alongside such prominent figures such as Generals Phil Sheridan (*Rienzi*), Joshua Chamberline (*Charlamagne*) and Captain Kehoe (*Comanche*) in addition to the Morgans' service with the 5<sup>th</sup> NY and 1<sup>st</sup> Vermont Cavalry. These Morgans and many more like them were underlining examples of the breeds' loyalty, devotion to duty, stamina, versatility and composure under fire and the reason the breed commanded so much respect in the US military if not the civilian sector.

LTC (Ret) Heidorf conducts military demonstrations in period dress, circa 1863 and 1912-1918, and military salutes on his Morgan horse *Rebel*. He is currently working on establishment of an all black Morgan military salute team which will conduct military salutes for government, military, equine, public and private events in the northeast. He is an active member of the Vermont Morgan Horse Association and the American Morgan Horse Association.