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# The Camp Griffin Gazette

News and Information from the Green Mountain Civil War Round Table

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**AND DON'T FORGET: WE'RE ON FACEBOOK!**

## “THE LIVES AND STRUGGLES OF UNION VETERANS AFTER THE CIVIL WAR”

**DR. BRIAN JORDAN**

**TUESDAY JUNE 21, 2016**

**BUGBEE SENIOR CENTER**

**WHITE RIVER JCT., VT**

**6 p.m. – Social Hour**

**6:15 - Catered Buffet Dinner by Big Fatty's**

**6:45 – Business Meeting**

**Program and question and answer period  
to follow business meeting.**

**Book raffle. Adjournment**

**For members to attend the meeting, the cost is  
\$2.00 per person, non-members, \$5.00 each.  
If you would like to join us for the buffet, the price  
will be \$12.00 per person. For reservations please  
contact Gail Blake by Monday noon, June 20, 2016.  
802- 296-2919 or at [auntis@comcast.net](mailto:auntis@comcast.net)**

**Meal will be:**

**Meat Lasagna  
Garden Salad  
Rolls or Bread  
Dessert**

## **DR. BRIAN MATTHEW**

Dr. Brian Matthew Jordan is assistant professor of history at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas, where he teaches undergraduate and graduate courses on the American Civil War and Reconstruction. Dr. Jordan earned the M.A., M.Phil., and Ph.D. degrees in History at Yale University, where his dissertation, supervised by David W. Blight, earned the 2014 George Washington Egleston Prize (for Best U.S. History Dissertation) and the 2014 John Addison Porter Prize, a university-wide award. His more than fifty reviews, articles, and scholarly essays have appeared in *Civil War History*, *The Journal of the Civil War Era*, *The Journal of Military History*, *Civil War News*, and *The Civil War Monitor*.

Most recently, he is the author of *Marching Home: Union Veterans and Their Unending Civil War* (Liveright/W.W. Norton, 2015), which scored reviews in the pages of the *Washington Post*, *Foreign Affairs*, and the *Wall Street Journal*. A narrative history of the men who won the war but couldn't bear the peace, *Marching Home* was named **one of three finalists for the 2016 Pulitzer Prize in History** and received the 2016 Governor John Andrew Award of the Union Club of Boston. At present, Jordan is editing a volume of essays about the lives of Civil War veterans, working on a book about the election of 1868, and finishing a life of Benjamin Butler. A native of northeastern Ohio but now a proud Texan, he serves as the book review editor for *The Civil War Monitor*.

Dr. Jordan will speak about the lives and struggles of Union veterans in the decades immediately after the Civil War.

Paperback copies of his book will be available for purchase at the meeting for \$20 each.

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## Other Round Table Meetings and Happenings

### June 6 - SUGAR RIVER CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

7PM - 9:00PM - EARL M. BOURDON CENTER,  
67 Maple Ave, Claremont, NH. Keeping building on your left, drive toward back of building to Arts & Crafts room entrance. Program: The Sugar River Civil War Round Table is proud to announce that **Sgt. David Nelson of 5th NH Volunteers Reenactors, also of the NH Sons of Union Veterans, and founder of New Hampshire Battle Flags Restoration Committee**, will be speaking on the history and plight of **NH's endangered Civil War battle flags** now housed in the State Capitol. Anyone interested is invited to attend. We will also have a petition to be signed requesting NH Legislators to restart preservation procedures. Anyone with similar interests is welcome. Contact Eric at 603-298-7776 or [a1yankeebarber@yahoo.com](mailto:a1yankeebarber@yahoo.com)

**June 15- NEKCWRT-** Jeanne L. Austin on Mary Ann Bickerdyke. For more information, contact Joan Huguenin at 802-754-6402 or [PoohBahToo@hotmail.com](mailto:PoohBahToo@hotmail.com)

**June 17 - CWRT of NH - Bill Hallett - "C.S.S. Shenandoah and the End of the Civil War."**  
[www.cwrt-nh.org](http://www.cwrt-nh.org) email: [cwrtnh@gmail.com](mailto:cwrtnh@gmail.com)

**Vermont History Expo - Tunbridge, Vermont - June 18-19 - H2 o - The Power of Water in Vermont History**

**Sunday, June 26 - Saint-Gaudens' National Historic Site, Cornish, NH - A monumental bronze cast of Augustus Saint-Gaudens' sculpture *Abraham Lincoln: The Man* (also known as the "Standing Lincoln"), will find a permanent home in Cornish, New Hampshire, at Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site.**

The placement of the 12 ft. bronze cast on the grounds will be the culmination of the park's golden anniversary celebration. The Standing Lincoln will be the first new sculptural addition to the park's landscape since the *Shaw Memorial* bronze was unveiled in 1997.

In 1885, Saint-Gaudens began working on modeling a monument of Abraham Lincoln for Lincoln Park, Chicago. Saint-Gaudens's friend and attorney, Charles Beaman, enticed the artist to come to Cornish to work on the piece, promising that the area had "many Lincoln-shaped men" who could be used as models. The Standing Lincoln became the first monument Saint-Gaudens would complete in Cornish. Robert Todd Lincoln, the president's son, remarked that Saint-Gaudens's monument was the very best of the many Lincoln likenesses he had ever seen.

Because of its quality, as well as its subject, the monument has been recast several times, usually for diplomatic purposes. In 1920, a cast was presented to Great Britain and placed in Parliament Square. In 1964, as a symbol of Mexican and American friendship, President Lyndon Johnson presented a copy of the statue to Mexico where it

was placed in Parque Lincoln in Mexico City. President Johnson would sign the legislation creating Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site soon afterwards, and a smaller bust from the Standing Lincoln was presented to Johnson at the same time. This bust of Lincoln by Saint-Gaudens, can be seen in many Oval Office photos of presidents since that time.

"The Standing Lincoln is in many ways the reason we have a National Park in Cornish today," said Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site Superintendent Rick Kendall. "Saint-Gaudens moved to Cornish specifically to work on this piece, and found a local model to pose for the sculpture. It would be the first monument he would complete here in New Hampshire. And finally, the popularity of the piece and its use in sculptural diplomacy undoubtedly greased the gears that would ultimately see President Johnson sign the legislation creating the park. We would not have a national park in Cornish without this piece, so it is very fitting that a cast of the Standing Lincoln will finally be placed in the park landscape." The new monument will be unveiled at a public event in Sunday, June 26, 2016, the centennial of the National Park Service. Festivities will begin at 1:00 with prelude music by the 12th New Hampshire Regiment Serenade Band. Following at 2:00 with the dedication ceremony with speakers, including Lincoln scholar, Harold Holzer.

Because it is not every day that a new monument is placed on the park grounds, the park has many ways for you to stay engaged on the steps of the project. You can follow the project's progress via updates on the park Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/SaintGaudensNPS](http://www.facebook.com/SaintGaudensNPS)), as well as on a project blog ([www.sgnhs.wordpress.com](http://www.sgnhs.wordpress.com)). (The above is from the Saint-Gaudens' National Historic web site.)

**June 26 - Emerson Village Community Center, Hampstead, NH - 2-4 P.M. - Don Streeter will present a slide program on the Civil War monuments of New Hampshire and why they were chosen.**

## GENERAL STANNARD HOUSE PROJECT

As most of you are probably aware, there is an effort going on to stabilize and restore General Stannard's house in Milton, Vermont. For more information on donating to this project, please check out their web site or mail a donation to:

General Stannard House Fund  
c/o Milton Historical Society  
13 School Street  
Milton, VT 05468

<http://www.generalstannardhouse.org/donate.html>

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## VERMONT CEDAR CREEK EVENT

(Lew and I received the following message from Eric Campbell, Ranger at Cedar Creek.)

Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park (located in Middletown, Virginia) is planning a special event, "Vermont at Cedar Creek Weekend" on June 24-26. This event will consist of a series of free special ranger programs, a "History at Sunset" program, living history encampments and demonstrations, along with the re-dedication of the 8<sup>th</sup> Vermont Monument, which was restored by the National Park Service last year. All of these programs and activities will explore the role Vermont troops played in the Battle of Cedar Creek, fought on October 19, 1864.

I am reaching out to all of your publications and organizations, in the hopes that you can help us promote this event throughout Vermont.

The highlights of the weekend's activities and programs include:

- Participation of noted Vermont historian Howard Coffin, who has written and lectured extensively on Vermont in the Civil War, and State Senator Joseph Benning, who was instrumental in the creation of a Vermont state historical marker on the battlefield, dedicated during the battle's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration in 2014. Coffin will begin the weekend's events by speaking on Vermont in the Civil War during the "History at Sunset" program on Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup>. Both Coffin and Benning will also participate in the re-dedication of the 8<sup>th</sup> Vermont Monument on Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Living history encampment and firing demonstrations by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vermont "Hemlocks"
- Re-dedication of the 8<sup>th</sup> Vermont monument --The story of the 8<sup>th</sup> Vermont is one of the most famous incidents related to battle. Belonging to a brigade that sacrificed itself during the early morning hours of the battle, the regiment lost nearly 70 percent of its men. In 1885, a simple monument was erected to honor the sacrifices of the regiment, one of only three veteran-placed monuments on the battlefield. The National Park Service cleaned and refurbished the monument and the surrounding commemorative fencing last fall, restoring it its original appearance.

Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park (CEBE) is a fairly new unit of the National Park Service. Although created in 2002, public operations didn't begin until 2010, and the NPS Visitor Contact Station only opened in 2013. We are still attempting to better promote the park and the various programs, events and activities of the National Park Service and its partners.

Any assistance you can provide us in helping to spread the word about this special event would be much appreciated.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, suggestions, ideas concerning additional organizations, Vermont media or individuals that the park should contact, etc.

Sincerely,  
Eric Campbell

## EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

As most of you are aware, we also had a request from Eric Campbell regarding a local Boy Scout who is working on replacing all of the old broken down wire fencing near the 8<sup>th</sup> Vermont monument with an historic Virginia worm fence. This fence line is located behind and to the left (as you look at the front of the monument) of the monument. It is probably 30 yards away on either side.

The park can cover most of the cost for the fencing material, but the scout still needs to raise about \$800 to cover the remaining costs. The original iron (and somewhat ornamental) fence that surrounds the monument was put up by the veterans themselves. And that fence was just refurbished as part of the larger monument restoration project. (Lew and I saw this when we visited Cedar Creek last year.)

### The Eagle Scout candidate sent the following request to Eric:

Dear Sirs,  
I am an Eagle Scout candidate with Boy Scout Troop 2, chartered in Winchester, Virginia. For my Eagle project, I intend to demolish an old cattle fence at the 8<sup>th</sup> Vermont Monument at the Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historic Park and replace it with a period-accurate Virginia wormwood fence. The existing fence is an eyesore and historically inaccurate, which detracts from the experience of visitors to the battlefield. In order to maintain historical accuracy, we will build the fence from rough-cut split rails rather than from modern-cut lumber. Our estimates indicate that the total cost for all materials will exceed \$4000. Because I know of your longstanding dedication to historical preservation and stewardship, I would like to ask if the [organization name] would be willing to provide a donation to help defray these costs. On June 25<sup>th</sup>, the National Park Service will host a re-dedication ceremony at the monument, and will issue a press release publicizing the names of our partners in the renovation process. If you should choose to donate, please make out the check to Boy Scout Troop 2, as regulations prohibit me from accepting checks made out in my name.

Thank you very much,  
Ryan Klopp

540-869-5907

**Note:** Our Round Table sent down a \$150 donation, but please feel free, if you haven't already, to send down a personal donation to:

BSA Troop #2  
281 Newell Drive  
Middletown, VA 22645  
Attention: Ryan Klopp, Eagle Scout Project (8th Vermont Monument)

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**Gail Blake**

Starting Balance: \$2966.86

Expenses:

Patrick Falci hotel: \$130

May Speaker: \$24 (syrup and meal)

Donation to CV Humane Society in Memory of Peggy

Cheever: \$50

Maple Street Catering: \$318.66 (meal, tax, and gratuity)

Name Tags: \$7

Deposits: \$410 (meals, dues, raffle, donations)

Petty Cash: \$57

Ending Balance: \$2,904.20

**WORLD WAR I GROUP**

Four people have started to meet monthly since this year is the centenary of the start of the war. We will cover topics in chronological order. At the moment, we are meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 1 pm in the Cafe next to the Coolidge, but this may change. If you want to come or want more information, contact Peter Sinclair [802-584-3280] or David Curtin [802-633-2536].

**Green Mountain Civil War Round Table**

**P.O. Box 982**

**White River Jct., VT 05001**

**Green Mountain Civil War Round Table**

**March 2016 - March 2017 Membership Rates**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Single \$20.00 (includes newsletter)

Student \$10.00 (includes newsletter)

Two Person \$35.00 (includes newsletter)

Family \$50.00 (includes newsletter)

Newsletter subscription alone – ten issues \$10.00

Is this a new membership

renewal

**PLEASE MAIL CHECKS DIRECTLY TO GAIL  
BLAKE, 55 ORRIZONTO ROAD, WHITE RIVER  
JCT., VT 05001.**