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**Topic: Confederate Naval Operations off New England**

**Speaker: Peter Vermilyea**

**Date: Thursday, March 23, 2017 at 7pm**

**Location: Stamford Historical Society**

**1508 High Ridge Rd. Stamford, CT 06903**

In the summer of 1863, the New York Times reported a “mysterious naval battle” off the coast of Mount Desert Island, known today as Acadia National Park. This battle, hardly no more than a skirmish between a few naval vessels, made national news and revealed the very real concerns Northerners had about the vulnerability of their seacoast. Historian and author Peter Vermilyea will explore the political and military context of those times and explain the fears of New Englanders during the Civil War.

Peter is an old friend of our Roundtable, having delivered outstanding talks to our group on *The Pursuit of Lee after Gettysburg, The Autumn Campaign of 1863 in* *the East* and *The Pipe Creek Option at Gettysburg*. He teaches history at Housatonic Valley Regional High School in Falls Village, CT and at Western Connecticut State University. A graduate of Gettysburg College, Peter is the Scholarship Director at his alma mater’s Civil War Institute and is an award winning author of five books and more than twenty articles, mostly on Civil War history.