

THE FRIENDS OF FORT TRUMBULL WELCOME

MATTHEW WARSHAUER

PROFESSOR, AUTHOR, and EDITOR



The Friends of Fort Trumbull will open their 2013 season on the War of 1812, by welcoming Professor Matthew Warshauer as their April 25th speaker. Professor Warshauer, who joined the faculty at Central Connecticut State University in the fall of 1997, has been-from 2003-2011- the editor of *Connecticut History*. In 2010, serving as the coordinator of *Connecticut Commemorates the Civil War*, he organized the collaborative endeavor of numerous historical societies and organizations to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War.

His first book, *Andrew Jackson and the Politics of Civil Law*, was called by *The New Yorker*, “Lucid and well-researched”. Professor Warshauer’s examination of Andrew Jackson’s seizure of emergency powers during the War of 1812, became a very relevant issue after Sept. 11, 2001.

In an interview in *The Courant*, referring to the detainees at Guantanamo Bay and the suspension of habeas corpus, he said, “We’re facing the same thing right now”. He has written extensively on the delicate balance between promoting national security and civil rights.

In his article, “The Hartford Convention”, which appeared in the locally produced book, *The Rockets’ Red Glare, The War of 1812 and Connecticut*, he quoted an article that appeared in 1814 in the *Connecticut Courant*. The people who opposed the war of 1812 wrote, “The Union, which is a union of sovereignties, has been violated by deserting some of them, while others have been unnecessarily defended, by drawing all the resources from some states which were endangered to defend others which were not.” Although they were referring to the conduct of a war, this quote illustrates the sectional rivalries at that time and echoes the complaints of Hurricane Sandy victims in 2012 and 2013, as they waited interminably for Congress to approve emergency funds for clean-up in New England, New York and New Jersey. As Pearl Buck once said, “If you want to understand today, you have to search yesterday.”

Professor Warshauer will help us to understand the causes of the War of 1812, its repercussions, and Connecticut’s role in the conflict. The presentation will be at 7 p.m. at Fort Trumbull, New London, in the Conference Center which is behind the Visitors Center. The lecture is open to the public and new members are always welcome. Seating is limited.