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‘Rivals Unto Death’: Author Rick Beyer probes competition between Hamilton and Burr

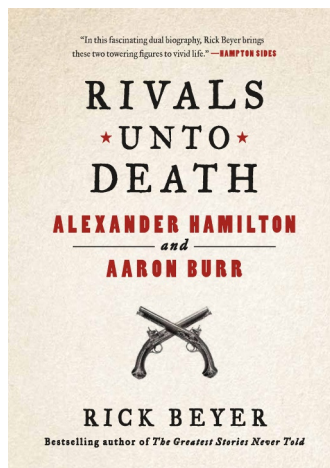


Rick Beyer

On October 20 at 2:00 p.m., Rick Beyer will give a talk about Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr, and their intertwined careers.

As Beyer points out, it is the most famous duel in American history. But what prompted the sitting Vice President of the United States unand the former Treasury Secretary to settle their differences with guns blazing? Rick Beyer, author of *Rivals Unto Death*, explores the intricate 30-year rivalry that led to their deadly encounter, following them through battlefields, courtrooms, bedrooms (!) and arguably the wildest presidential election in history -- all the way to their day of destiny in Weekhawken New Jersey.

Rick Beyer is a *New York Times* best-selling author and an award-winning documentary filmmaker. His most recent book, *Rivals*



Unto Death, Hachette Books, 2017, is a compelling account of the Hamilton-Burr rivalry. Beyer co-authored (with Elizabeth Sayles) *The Ghost Army of World War II*, a New York Times bestseller, and pro-

2 pm October 20
Northgate
1873 Old Louisquiset
Pike, Lincoln, RI
Free Event

duced the companion PBS documentary. He has also made films for The History Channel, A&E, and National Geographic and penned the popular *Greatest Stories Never Told* series of history books. A graduate of Dartmouth College, he lives in Chicago, IL. Beyer visited Northgate in 2018 to talk about *The Ghost Army* and the secret work done in Woonsocket making the unit's amazing inflatable tanks.

BVHS Welcomes Visitors on Great Road Day



BVHS and Lime Rock Grange Signs



Upstairs at the Toll House



Clockwise from top left: Ford Model A at North Gate! The toll house common room with the Manville dollhouses, the Pawtucket Quilt, Avery Lord Photograph of Saylesville Highlands/Central Falls, Inside the Arnold's Lonsdale Bakery.
Photos by Jim Hendrickson



Uncovering History: Cemetery Restoration Continues



Johnelle Bergeron at St. James Cemetery

Cemetery (Woonsocket Historical Cemetery # 9), which looked like a neglected patch of woodland until they began to restore it this summer. Many of the stones were completely buried under composted leaves. They have researched the graves and made fascinating discoveries. Private Richard Davis of Co. K 1st Rhode Island Volunteers, the state's first Civil War casualty, was buried there.

In Pawtucket., plans are going forward for a cleanup of St. Mary's Cemetery on October 26. Life Scout Luke Dussault from Troop 1 Georgiaville contacted Ken Postle about doing his Eagle Project at the parish's historic cemetery. They met with the



Bill Greenwood, Luke Dussault, Pastor Mark and Michaele Mattaliano Dussault

pastor at St. Mary's, who is supporting this effort. They plan on restoring one of the oldest sections of cemetery, where many Irish immigrants are buried. Ken Postle writes on Facebook: "The original land was donated to the Catholic immigrant community by a Protestant Mill owner family to encourage immigrants (continued on p.4)



Thomas Hughes Stone
St. Mary's Cemetery

There was a great article in the Woonsocket Call on September 15 about the wonderful work done by Greg Duhamel, Johnelle Bergeron, Denise Brandenburg, Christine Williams, Bing Kusbaska, Kamden Voller, and the other volunteers who have been cleaning up the St. James/Bernon

Visiting H. P. Lovecraft's Secret Lincoln Hideaway



Quinsnicket Pond

By Francine Jackson

It seems the wonders of the Blackstone Valley area often leak into other parts of Rhode Island. An unusual tale has to do with one of the most prolific horror writers of the early 20th century, who, although he is now known throughout the world, in his lifetime he was considered a hack writer, and died in virtual poverty. Howard Phillips (H.P.) Lovecraft was born in Rhode Island, and, except for a three-year stint in New York before his

brief marriage failed, lived his life, and died, in this state. Lovecraft is buried in Swan Point Cemetery; the actual placement, though, is not listed, as enthusiastic followers of his have made attempts to take him home. Therefore, his coffin is within the bounds of his family plot, but the actual position is known only to the workers who put him there.

Despite living much of his life in the capital city, he often spent much of his writing time in Lincoln. It

appears he would take the outbound trolley to what is now known as Lincoln Woods, sit down by a pond, and write, where he would not be disturbed unleashing the incredible worlds only he knew, until he could put them down on paper. His favorite spot seemed to be, not the main body of water now known as Olney Pond, but a smaller, often overlooked, tiny body called Quinsnicket Pond, located to the north of the park, almost across the street from The Lodge Pub.

Getting there isn't the easiest. You must climb a rocky outcrop, Quinsnicket Hill, and keep moving until you swear you are almost in the middle of Breakneck Hill Road. But, the results are worth it: Little Quinsnicket Pond is indeed a little-known, peaceful section of the Park where anyone could come with paint or writing materials,



H. P. Lovecraft, taken in June 1934 by Lucius B. Truesdell.
Wikipedia

knowing they will not be disturbed. Not much is known about it, including whether it is swimmable, but to just sit above it, enjoying the serenity of this area, it is obvious why Lovecraft used this setting to create his now world-renowned creatures. He even wrote a poem for his fortress of solitude, entitled Quinsnicket Park, published in S.T. Joshi's 2001 "The Ancient Track: Complete Poetical Works of H.P. Lovecraft." Although a bit long to reproduce here, it is a fitting testimony to Lovecraft's fascination with the beauty of this tiny part of Lincoln Woods.

In 1933, Lovecraft wrote to Clark Ashton Smith: "This afternoon I am north of the town — in the Quinsnicket or Lincoln Woods region which I have haunted all my life. I am seated at the bend of a road, looking off across the descending countryside toward Scott's Pond and the distant village of Saylesville beyond — a vista so idyllic that I cannot resist trying to convey an idea of it on this sheet. Whenever I see a landscape like this — whose beauty can't possibly be captured in words — I could kick myself or the Fates for my inability to draw and paint. Today [October 22] is one of the last days I'll be able to do any reading or writing outdoors; for the temperature is falling and I can't steer my finger-muscles when it's much under 70 degrees." Quote from Vol.2, No 5, The Cthulhu Prayer Society Newsletter, <http://www.poetspress.org/cthulhu13.pdf>



Lincoln Woods near Breakneck Hill, Google Maps

Upcoming Events at North Gate

**Most events are free.
Everyone is welcome.
Donations are gratefully accepted.**

2:00-4:00 pm, Sunday, October 20: *Rivals Unto Death.* Rick Beyer, author of *The Ghost Army*, will give a talk about his book on Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr, and the three decades of their intertwined political careers and rivalry leading up to the famous duel.

2:00-4:00 pm, Sunday, November 17: National Park Ranger Josh Bell will introduce the work of William Draper, from Hopedale, MA, listed as a combat artist, who was embedded during World War II with several naval campaigns. He will explain how Draper was given this incredible opportunity, and show much of his beautiful artwork, both during and after the war.



Josh Bell

Cemetery Restoration



Alexander Williams Memorial Stone

(continued from p. 2) to labor in the factory here.”

Many of the stones are partially buried. They are kicking off the cleanup at 8:30 am on Saturday, October 26th, and need donations of “dirt, water, snacks, helping hands, and applause for the kids.” There will be bathroom

access at the church.

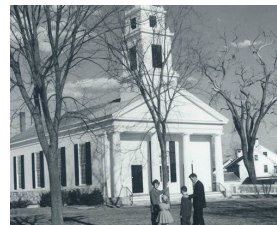
At left is a photograph of Alexander Williams’s new veteran’s stone at the Hix Cemetery in Rehoboth. Ken Postle spoke at a ceremony on September 22 to honor Williams, a black civil war naval veteran buried there in an unmarked grave. Beverly Baker from Rehoboth requested the stone.

Follow the amazing discoveries made by the groups doing cemetery restoration at the Facebook group “River Road and Blackstone River Valley Cemeteries” at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1664974860414600/?fref=nf>

Pictures are courtesy of Ken Postle and Greg Duhamel and are from the Facebook page.

Cemetery Cleanup:
8:30 am, October 26:
St. Mary’s Cemetery in Pawtucket, 103 Pine St, Pawtucket, RI 02860
All welcome!

“Slatersville in Progress”



Slatersville Congregational Church

Christian de Rezendes, the filmmaker and creator of the historical documentary series, *Slatersville: America’s First Mill Village*, is arranging a series of screenings of *Slatersville-In-Progress*, excerpts of the

film. Two screenings have been scheduled in 2019.

7 pm, October 25, 2019: Slatersville Congregational Church., 25 Green St, Slatersville, RI. *No Man’s Land - How religion and Sunday school paved the way through Slatersville’s rocky beginnings* (a selection from *Slatersville*).

10 am-Noon, November 6, 2019, Gaige Hall 200, Rhode Island College, 600 Mt Pleasant Ave, Providence, RI. *Portuguese Alley* (a selection from *Slatersville*) follows *Alzira’s Story*.

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