Northeast Ohio Civil War Roundtable

THE COURIER



Clevelander and author - Kit Whipple

Our speaker, local historian and author Christopher (Kit) Whipple is a proud 7th generation Clevelander whose family arrived in 1832. His book "Cleveland's Colorful Characters" includes Camp Cleveland and actor Jim Backus, who grew up in Bratenahl of Mr. Magoo and Gilligan's Island fame. Kit's April evening topic will focus on the Cleveland Civil War military training facility Camp Cleveland which opened in July 1862. Almost 200 buildings, including a hospital, made up the beautifully landscaped Camp Cleveland. Kit's great great grandfather was stationed at Camp Cleveland which remained open for the remainer of the war, closing in August 1865. Join us as we learn of the importance and numerous stories that our guest speaker will share.

**** Invite a guest ****

TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026
SPEAKER, CHRISTOPHER (KIT) WHIPPLE
CAMP CLEVELAND

Northeast Ohio Civil War Roundtable

Evening Schedule

Meeting #251

Social - 6:00 p.m. Dinner - 6:30 p.m. Program - 7:30 p.m.

Member - $30.00 Non Member - $40.00

Guests Welcome



RSVP Contact - Event Coordinator, Franco

(440) 567-2414 or Email: francomichael2414@yahoo.com

Venue - Pine Ridge Country Club
30601 Pine Ridge Rd. Wickliffe, OH

PRESIDENT DALE FELLOWS' APRIL MESSAGE



President Dale Fellows

Fellow NEOCWRT members,

We had another fun and educational evening at our March dinner meeting.

Our speaker Phil Seyfrit, was suddenly unable to join us but thanks to Tena Kegg, we were able to view 2 excellent videos about the Battle of Richmond, Kentucky. The speaker felt terrible but did share with me some information and even a fun little quiz that we shared with everyone. All turned out well!

We also had a fun and educational field trip to Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia at the end of March.

The 20+ members and spouses were able to visit the Mariners Museum, Civil War battlefields, Fort Monroe, Yorktown Museum and battlefield, Jamestown, and of course, Colonial Williamsburg that is in full swing for the America 250 celebration!! We were able to hear some of the best re-enactors in the world share what was happening in 1776…Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, Martha Washington, etc.

Everyone arrived home safe and sound and are looking forward to our meeting on April 14th.

I hope to see you all at Pine Ridge Country Club on Tuesday, April 14th!

Dale

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2000 - Norty London (3) 2001 - Bob Baucher (4)
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Executive Board 2025-2026

Founders - Joseph Tirpak, NortonLondon
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Dave Lintern, Bob Tribby

1998Charters

Joe Abazzio, Dale Fellows, Ted Karle
Bill Meissner, John Sandy, Franco Sperrazzo



April Birthdays

April 16 - MichelleDay
April 18 - Kenny Godnavec



Yum, Yum, Yum,
Michelle Day
sweets for our sweet tooth
Thank you

NEOCWRT Info….

The January 12, 2027 program will be a debate with four club members.

The Debate Topic

"Was Gettysburg the turning point of the Civil War?"

We are looking for volunteers to prepare arguments for the debate. You don't have to be a scholar on this subject, your opinions will do just fine. Please contact Norty London at njj.london@gmail.com or 216/321-7695 to become a pioneer of debate for the North East Ohio Civil War Round Table.

Hope you enjoyed a blessed Passover and Easter





April2026-June 2026 Speaker Schedule President,Dale H. Fellows

*****

April14, 2026
Kit (Christopher) Whipple
ClevelandHistorian
"Civil War - Camp Cleveland"

May 12, 2026
Brian Kowell
Member - Cleveland Civil War Roundtable
"Horses of the Civil War"

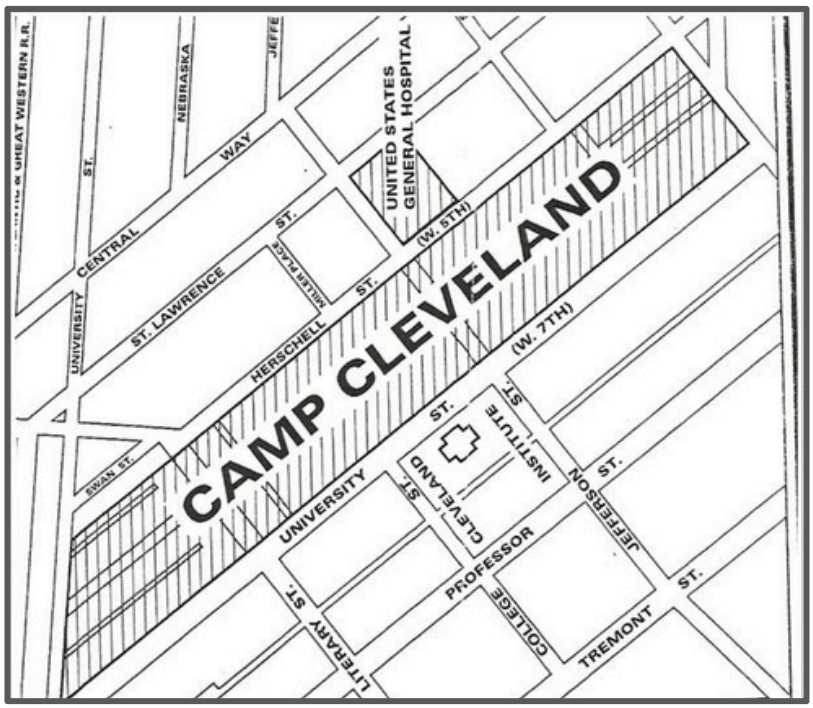
June 9, 2026
American 250 Celebration
and
Christopher Long - Roosevelt's D-Day Prayer



"The best way to predict your future is to create it."

Courier Editor, Tena Kegg
April 2026

CAMP CLEVELAND - CLEVELAND, OHIO



July 1862 – August 1865

Union militarycamp
primarily a training facility



Marker erected October 11, 2003

Average age of Recruit - age 26

Mustering Oath Taken by Incoming Soldiers at Camp Cleveland "I _____, do solemnly swear that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the United States of America, that I will serve them honestly and faithfully against all their enemies, whomsoever, that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States, and of the officers appointed over me, according to the Rules and Articles of War, so help me God."

Soldiers' typical daily routine— prior to being sent south—would be:

Reveille	6:00 AM
Roll Call	6:20 AM
Breakfast	7:00 AM
Policing Quarters	7:30 AM
Guard Mounting	8:00 AM
Sick Call	9:00 AM
Company Drill	9:30 AM
Recall	12:00 PM
Officers' Call for Recitatio	1:00 PM
Dress Parade and Roll Call	4:15 PM
Supper	5:00 PM
Tattoo and Roll Call	8:30 PM
Taps	8:30 PM



Camp Cleveland Barracks
made from unfinished pine the building was 20' wide x 60' long, housed 32 men and with a stove to heat. Men slept on un-planed wooden bunks, straw mattresses, knapsacks for a pillow.

United States General Hospital Cleveland (USGHC)

Construction of the pavilion-style hospital with 320 beds began in November 1862 and opened December of that year. The almost 4-acre complex included the 300 foot long main building and numerous detached buildings housing an office, mess house, forage house, and the morgue, which was in close proximity to the Pest House (the contagious disease ward). There was also a stable and stable sheds. A hospital reading room opened at 8:30 a.m. with a sign posted on the wall listing the strict rules:

- ***No card playing, loud talk or disorderly conduct.***
- ***Smoking is permitted but spitting on the floor is forbidden.***
- ***No whittling on tables or benches.***
- ***No papers or books may be taken out of the room without special permission of the chaplain.***

Soldiers with battle injuries from gunshot wounds, disease, and other illnesses often arrived at the Cleveland Union Depot and would be transported to the hospital. Volunteers and incoming recruits had their medical examinations and variola (smallpox) vaccintions handled by the hospital. Smallpox case ratio was 5 per a thousand men but there was only <u>ONE</u> Camp Cleveland resident who died from smallpox during the entire war!! Physicians would treat over 3,000 soldiers during Camp Cleveland's USGHC tenure.



United States General Hospital Cleveland (Interior view)

Brigadier General Dr. George Miller Sternberg

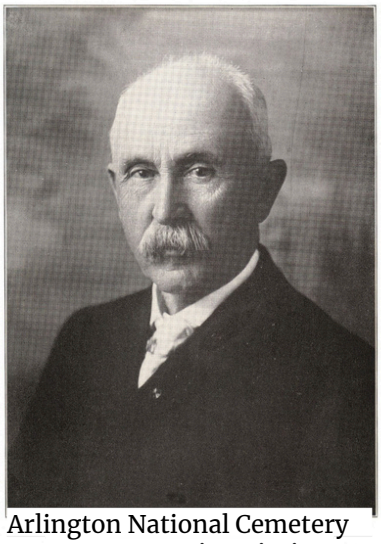
June 8, 1838 – November 3, 1915





- **May 28, 1861 - Assistant Surgeon in U.S. Army**
- **July21, 1861 - GeneralGeorge Sykes' division - captured at First Bll Run, escaped, rejoined command in defense of Washington**
- **Peninsula Campaign - Gaines' Mill, Malvern Hill, Harrison's Landing where he contracted typhoid fever**
- **Hospital duty - Lovell Hospital Portsmouth, RI and United States General Hospital Cleveland, OH**
- **March 13, 1865 - Brevets Captain & Major for faithful and meritorious service**
- **October 19, 1865 - married Louisa Russell**
- **Served at Jefferson Barracks, MO and Fort Harker, Ellsworth, KS**
- **July 15, 1867 - wife Louisa died from cholera during an epedemic at Fort Harker**
- **Married September 1, 1859 - Martha L. Pattison**
- **Dr. Sternberg survived typhoid and yellow fever**
- **1892 - wrote *Manual of Bacteriology***
- **Considered the 1st American Bacteriologist**
- **May 30, 1893 - appointed by President Grover Cleveland as 18th**
- **U.S. Surgeon General (1893-1902) and promoted to Brigadier General**
- **June 8, 1902 - retired from the Army after serving for 40 years**
- **Died - November 3, 1915 - buried in Arlington National Cemetery**

Dr. Sternberg assigned to
U.S. Army General Hospital Camp Cleveland
May 1864 - 1865 cclosing



Arlington National Cemetery
monument inscription

PioneerAmerican Bacteriologist, distinguished by his studies of the causation and prevention of infectious diseases, by his discovery of the microorganism causing pneumonia, and scientific investigations of yellow fever, which paved the way for the experimental demonstration of the mode of transmission of this pestilence. Veteran of three wars, breveted for bravery in action in the Civil War and the Nez Perce Wars. Served as Surgeon General of United States Army for period of nine years including the Spanish War. Founder of the Army Medical School. Scientist, author and philanthropist.

M. D., LL. D.[11]

Units at Camp Cleveland

Date Open: July 1862

Location: West 5th, Railroad St, West 7th, Marquardt St.

Units Organized:

1862

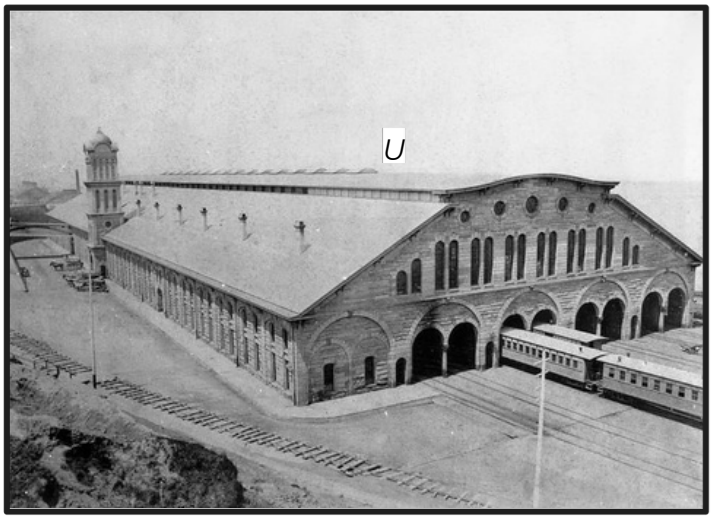
August - 103rd OVI,105th OVI, 19th Battery
September - 107th OVI
October - 10th Cavalry, 20th Battery
December - 6th Co. SS

1863

January - 124th OVI, 7th Co. SS
February - 5th Co. SS
July - 86th OVI – Unit Reorganized
August - 129th OVI
October - 125th OVI
November - 12th Cavalry

1864

April- 60th OVI – Unit Reorganized
May - 150th OVI, 164th OVI, 169th OVI
February - 5th Co. SS
October - 177th OVI, 2nd Light Battery



Union Depot c. 1867

Orginally built 1851-1853 withacost of over $75,000, destroyed by fire in 1864, rebuilt, and opened in 1866 as the largest depot at that time in the United States.
President-Elect Abraham Lincoln passed through this station on his Inaugural Tour and again via his Funeral Train on the way to his final rest in Springfield.
The important station saw thousands of troops pass through on their way to training camps. On the Union Depot pier Cleveland's Soldiers Aid Society built the Soldiers Home in December 1863 providing food, shelter, and medical care for over 50,000 soliders!

Northeast Ohio Civil War Roundtable

Williamsburg Field Trip

Our Phenomenal Guides, President Dale and Nancy Fellows



President Dale & Nancy Fellows

Travelers

Aaron Belcher,
Barb & Dave Conant,
Mike & Karen Driscoll,
Tim & Carla Garfield,
Cherie & Kenny Godnavec,
Scott Hagara,
John & Tena Kegg,
George & Sonia Maier,
Mark Mattern, Bob Pence,
Franco & Cyndy Sperrazzo











THE MARINERS MUSEUM NEWPORT NEWS, VA





The impressive 3200 lb figurehead from USS Navy steam frigate the Lancaster carved by John Haley Bellamy between 1880-1881





propeller and anchor from the Monitor

Dining at the Historic Shield's Tavern
on a wild and rainy evening by candlelight





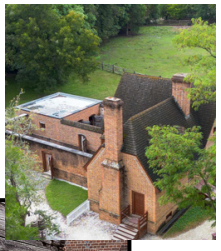




Colonial Williamsburg



The Courthouse





The Public Gaol (Jail)
(located closeto the Courthouse)
Blackbeard's pirates were capturedin 1718
and held here until they were hanged

Colonial Williamsburg



The Govenor's Palace
thelast Royal Govenor to occupy it was Govenor Dunmore and it would then become home to Governors Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry. In 1781 the main building burned down.



Buton Parish Church
1715
stillremainsactivetodayasan Episcopal parish





Home of Peyton Randolph
1st &3rdPresidentofthe Continental Congress



Bowden-Armistead House
built in1858 on Duke of Gloucester Streeton a lot once owned by Bruton Parish. Yes this Armistead family is related to Confederate General Lewis Armistead

The Capitol





Famous Christina Campbell's Tavern frequented by George Washington and very close to The Capitol

Adventures

















Memories





a super cute young patriot in Colonial Williamsburg



Patrick Henry

Yorktown





Battle of Big Bethel





some more pics to enjoy



Fort Monroe

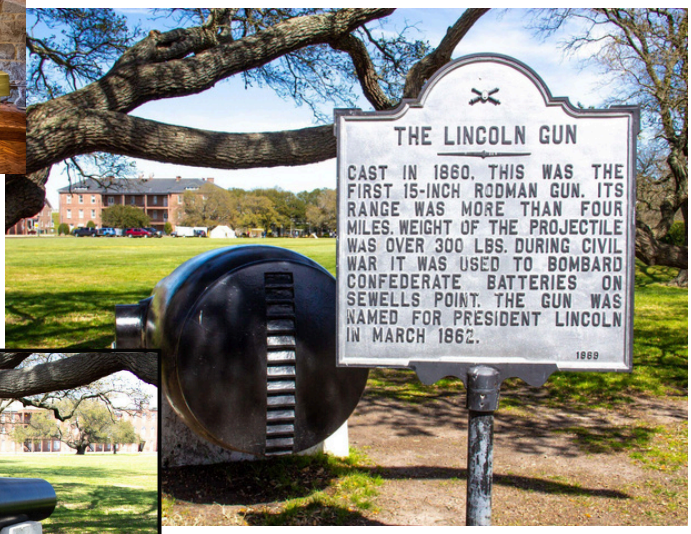




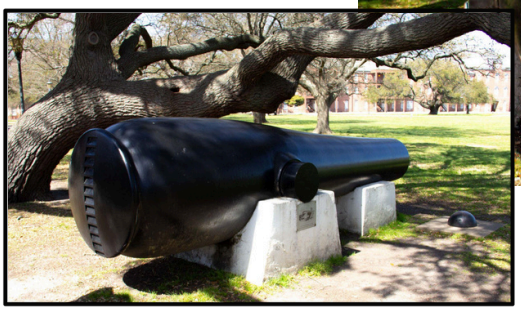
Quarters No. 1. Built in 1819. This is the oldest building at the fort. HQ of Benjamin Butler where he issued the famous Contraband Order. President Lincoln visited here May 6-11, 1862.











The 1880 cast of the 300 lb Lincoln Gun, that ha
d a phenomenal firing range of 4 miles

The cell in Fort Monroe where Confederate President Jefferson Davis was held for two years

Our Last Night enjoying Sal's Italian Restaurant

















Remembering our fallen leader 16th President Abraham Lincoln following his April 15, 1865 assissination. The nation mourned...



Ford Theatre draped in mourning bunting with armed pickets guarding the front of the crime scene (LOC)





Lincoln Funeral Train or known as The Lincoln Special (Cleveland Public Library, Photograph Collection

The Train traveled over 1600+ miles following the 1861 inaugural route. Arriving April 28, 1865 in Cleveland, for about 17 hours, where 50,000-100,000 paid their respects. Cleveland was the only outdoor public viewing. The train carried the President and son Willie's caskets though not a grief-stricken Mrs. Lincoln. There were approximately 300 passengers which included son, Robert Todd, dignitaries, family and friends.



A crowd gathers at the catafalque on Cleveland's Public Square to view the body of Abraham Lincoln, 28 Apr. 1865. WRHS.

Area Events

Library Tuesdays @Concord: The Declaration of Independence

On July 4, 1776, fifty six American patriots gathered in Philadelphia and signed a document announcing their intention to separate from Great Britain. The Declaration of Independence is one of the key documents in the history of this nation. Dr. John Foster of Mentor Public Library will present a lecture on the history of the Declaration, its importance in that moment, and its meaning for the country that we live in today.

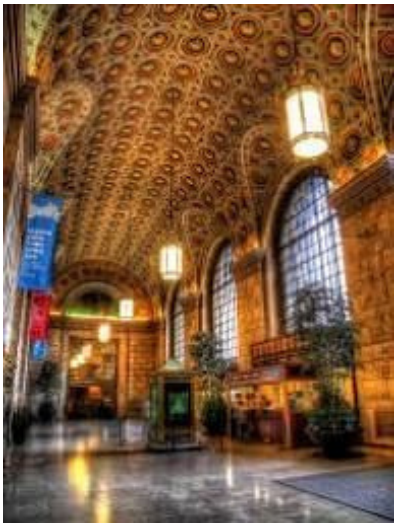
This program will be held at Concord Community Center, 7671 Auburn Rd, Painesville, OH 44077. Call (440) 639-4650 for reservations.

Concord Community Center
Tuesday, April 14, 2026
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
7671 Auburn Rd
Painesville Oh 44077



Willowick Public Library

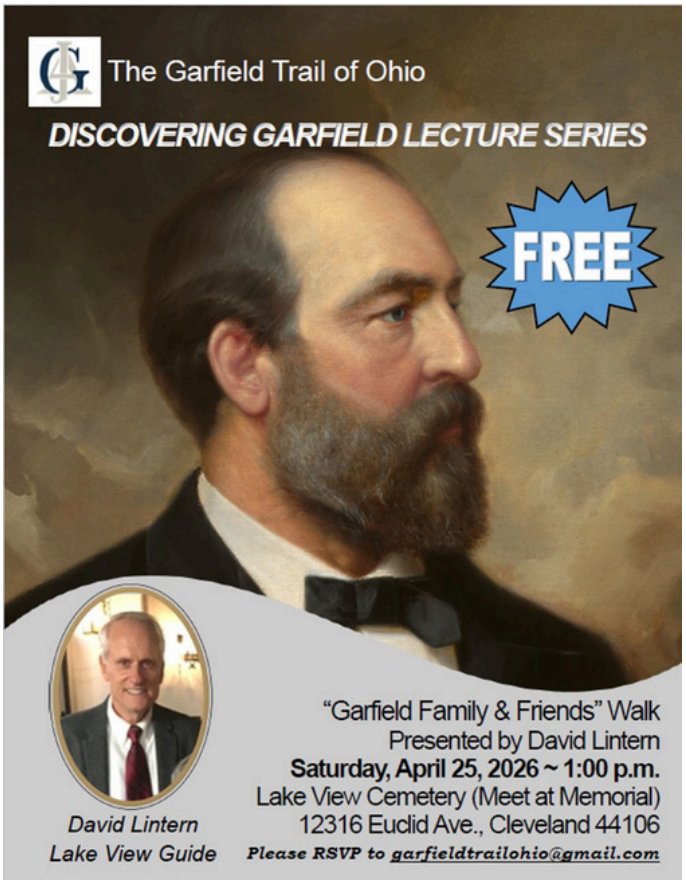
Date: Tuesday, April 21, 2026
Time: 6:30pm - 8:00pm
263 E. 305th St. Willowick



Cleveland's Union Terminal

In the 1930s, Cleveland sawterrific change. In spite of the Great Depression, our city held on with jobs and progress. Much of this progress was tied to the building of the Terminal Tower by the Van Sweringen brothers. These brothers had a future vision of Cleveland that hinged on its success as a railroad terminal. They saw a future in rail shipping and made certain that Cleveland was positioned to benefit from the building of a big, new terminal that welcomed commerce and personal travel. Discover some of the fascinating aspects of the Tower and the brothers who built it – along with the railroads that used this new terminal.

If you are a member of the Garfield Trail, NEOCWRT member Dave Lintern has a "Garfield Family & Friends" Walk available at Lake View Cemetery. See the flyer for details.





Opportunity to Honor the Little Ones buried at Woodlands Cemetery See the flyer for details.



Save the Date

Monday, June 15, 2026

3:00 p.m.

Smith Family/Chardon Road Cemetery

29017 Chardon Road (Rt. 6) Chardon, OH

Restoration, Rededication & Veteran Headstones Unveiling

Revolutionary War Veteran Edward Halstead

&

Civil War Veteran Ransom William White

Special thanks to Linda O'Brien/Founder Liberty Camp USA, Brian Massie, The Men of Honor, Lake County Recorder Becky Lynch, Troy Bailey, Cynthia Turk, NEOCWRT, and the many who contributed to make this day possible. Without their help this project would never have happened, and two American patriots would never be known!

Attend and see how your generosity is honoring those who have served our Country
See the flyer for details.