SUMMER 2026 ISSUE II

Northeast Ohio Civil War Roundtable

THE COURIER



Thank you President Dale Fellows for your leadership during 2025-2026











Welcome to our 2026-2027 Officers

President - Cherie Godnavec
Vice President - Bob Pence
Secretary - Cyndy Sperrazzo
Treasurer - George Maier
Assistant Treasurer - Scott Hagara

SAVE THE DATE
FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 2026
CAVOTTA'S GARDEN CENTER

a 3rdgenerationfamily ownedhidden citytreasure
See flier included in the Summer Courier

Looking forward to 2026-2027











Summer Message from our 29th President

Hello everyone,

It is both an honor and a privilege to serve as the 29th President of our Northeast Ohio Civil War Roundtable. I look forward to working with all of you to continue the traditions that have made our organization such a valued community of historians, preservationists, and enthusiasts. As we gather throughout the coming year, I hope we will continue to learn from one another, explore new perspectives on Civil War history, and support the preservation of the battlefields, monuments, documents, and stories that connect us to our nation's past. Whether you are a longtime member or have recently joined us, your participation and passion are what make this organization thrive. I encourage everyone to attend our meetings, share your knowledge by contributing articles in The Courier, invite guests, and help us grow. Together, we can ensure that our group remains a welcoming place where history is studied, discussed, and appreciated. I look forward to seeing you this summer at Cavotta's on August 21st, bring your family and friends! Thank you for your continued support, and here's to another outstanding year together.

Sincerely,

Cherie L. Godnavec

Presidents

1998 - (1) Joseph Tirpak 1999 - (2) Rob Bayless
2000 - (3) Norton London2001 - (4) Bob Baucher 2002 - (5) Bob Battisti 2003 - (6) Frank Yannucci
2004 - (7) Ted Karle 2005 - (8) John Sandy
2006 - (9) Brent Morgan 2007 - (10) Mike Sears
2008 - (11) Bill Meissner 2009 - (12) Arlan Byrne
2010 - (13) Terry Reynolds
2011 - (14) Franco Sperrazzo
2012 - (15) Steve Abbey 2013 - (16) Tom Horvath
2014 - (17) Carl Dodaro 2015 - (18) Bernie Taub
2016 - (19) Bill Wilson 2017 - (20) Hudson Fowler
2018 - (21) David Lintern
2019 - (22) Kenny Godnavec
2020 - 2021 (23) Tom Horvath, Jr.
2021 - 2022 (24) Scott Hagara
2022 - 2023 (25) Paul Siedel
2023 - 2024 (26) Tena Kegg
2024 - 2025 (27) Darrell Schneider
2025 - 2026 (28) Dale H. Fellows
2026 - 2027 (29) Cherie L. Godnavec

Executive Board 2026-2027

Active Founder - Norton London
President - Cherie Godnavec
Vice President - Bob Pence
Secretary - Cyndy Sperrazzo
Treasurer - George Maier
Assistant Treasurer - Scott Hagara
Past Presidents -
Dale Fellows, Darrell Schneider, Tena Kegg
EventCoordinator - Franco Sperrazzo
Sergeant at Arms -
John Kegg, Mark Mattern
CourierEditor, Membership - Tena Kegg
Members at Large -
Scott Hagara, Dave Lintern

Active 1998 Charters

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

2026 – 2027 Northeast OhioCivil WarRoundtable Lecture Series

September 8, 2026
"The Importance of the D-Day Invasion at Normandy Beach"
Operation Overlord - Battle of the Bulge
What does it Mean to us Now?
Speaker - Dr. Gary Domanick

October 13, 2026
"The Sinking of the Sultana"
April 27, 1863
explosion, loss on the Mississippi River
Speaker - Ginnie Jeschelnig

November 10, 2026
"The Last Days of Stonewall Jackson"
his loss has been called one of the major turning points of the war
Speaker - Author, Chris Mackowski
Editor-in-Chief & Co-Founder - Emerging Civil War

December 8, 2026
Two Northern Civil War Spies risking it all in the South
Women in History
Ruth Pangrace - Elizabeth Van Lew
Jeannine Gaskin - Mary Elizabeth Bowser

January12, 2027
WasGettysburg REALLY TheTurning Point of the War?
Debate Moderator
NEOCWRTFounder - Norton London

February9,2027
"Monocacy-The Battle That Saved Washington"
learn of the battle led by
CSAGen.Jubal Early & US Gen. Lew Wallace
DarrellSchneider - NEOCWRT Past President
MarkMattern - NEOCWRT Member

March9,2027
Captain Charles Henry
42ndOVI1stRecruit, student of James A. Garfield
Speaker - John Bourisseau
Chagrin History Center

April 13, 2027
SecretService Agents to the Presidents
Speakers - Greg Truhan
Lydia Esparra Truhan

May 11, 2027
"Kilpatrick-Dahlgren Raid on Richmond"
Speaker - Brian Kowell
MemberofCleveland Civil War Roundtable

June 8, 2027
Celebratingthe 30thAnniversary
ofNortheastOhio Civil War Roundtable

Summer Birthdays ….



July & August Birthdays

July 13 - Scott Hagara
July 19 - Rich Miklaucic
July 20 - Mary Lintern
July 20 - Mark Paluckas
July 30 - Craig Stenger
August 1 - Judy Tirpak
August 23 - DarrellSchneider
August 25 - John Sandy
August 31 - Terri Sandy

We would like to share member birthday wishes in the Courier - contact Editor Tena with your special day
P.S. a promise - no ages will be mentioned

Thank you
President #28 Dale Fellows
&
Michelle Day
for the red, white, & blue cupcakes enjoyed to celebrate our America 250 June dinner

Tuesday, June 9, 2026













Enjoy the candid shots by our in house photographer Terri Sandy





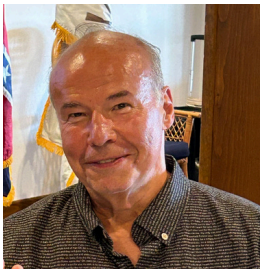




















The special evening continued























Smith Cemetery Rededication
June 15, 2026

a beautiful sunny day - 100 came to pay their respects honoring

Revolutionary War Veteran Edward Halstead &
Civil War Veteran Ransom William White



















You Are Invited

Northeast Ohio Civil War Roundtable



"Peopleloveitbecause it's unique, it's in the city, andtheylove the goats and chickens."
Angela Cavotta

CAVOTTA'S GARDEN CENTER

19603 NottinghamRd
Cleveland, OH 44110

Kindly Notice - 2026's summer time venue change

Friday - August 21, 2026
Time: 4:30pm - closing
It's a Friday...
arrive early for decent parking

The Farm

Music

Garden Bar

Garden Center

So Much Fun

Band 5:00-8:00 pm

$5cover charge at door
food-beverages - to purchase
(nowater bottles permitted)

Additional Parking - Now Available on the North Side of Redwood Ave. only a quick 2-minute walk across the street



Thank You For Your Generous Support

Time to support your NEOCWRT

Renewingyour Membership

2026 - 2027

Single-$55.00 Family-$75.00

Kickoff the season

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Treasurer George Maier & Assistant Treasurer Scott Hagara will accept your payment by Cash or Check (payable to NEOCWRT)

Paying by Check:

We request separate checks for Membership Renewal & September 8th dinner

You are welcome to mail your Membership Renewal prior to September 8, 2026

Mail to:
NEOCWRT
c/o George Maier, Treasurer
8695 Blue Heron Way
Mentor, OH 44060

Note of Thanks

to those who havecontributedtoThe Courier over the 2025-2026season

President DaleFellows,
John Sandy - Courier Contributor
Photographers - Carla Garfield, Cherie Godnavec, Bob Pence, Terri Sandy, Darrell Schneider, Cyndy Sperrazzo

Trouble receiving your Courier Edition please contact Editor Tena Kegg

Thank you to Morgan Lithograph for printing the 2026-2026 Rack Cards, 2025 Holiday flier



Kirtland Public Library

Tom Kaschalk
Cleveland's Neighborhood Taverns
Wednesday, July 15, 2026
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Community Room



Tom Kaschalk, founder of *MyCleveland History* , will be at Kirtland Public library to share stories from his book *Cleveland's Neighborhood Taverns: A Pub Crawl Through History*

We will journey through the streets of Cleveland and visit frontier saloons of olden days to more recent family-run bars that are built around a community. Registration is required. This program is

sponsored by the Friends of the Kirtland Public Library.



Cleveland & the Civil War - Lake View Cemetery

Landscapes,Landmarks and Legacies
CivilWarStoriesat Lake ViewCemetery
Wednesday, July 22, 2026
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Tickets $25.00

Uncover the stories of Clevelanders who answered the call during one of America's defining periods. This tour will start at the James A. Garfield Memorial and will be approximately 2 miles, on paved roads and grassy terrain that may be hilly or uneven at points and will last roughly 2 hours.

If the event is sold out and you would like to be added to the wait list, please contact Kim Bihler, Director of Donor Services at kbihler@lakeviewcemetery.com.

No physical tickets will be issued. Your name will be added to the event registration list for check-in on the day of the event.

Proceeds benefit the Lake View Cemetery Foundation's mission to preserve our arboretum and historic landscape and to fund educational programs. All sales are final. Tours and programs will go on regardless of rain, with refunds only if canceled and not rescheduled.

Monday University: Not Your Ordinary Joe @ Main
Monday,July 13, 2026
6:30pm – 7:30pm

Journalist and author Marc Bona will discuss his book Joe Thomas: Not Your Average Joe, the authorized biography of 2023 Pro Football Hall of Fame inductee Joe Thomas. Discover the story of one of the NFL's most dependable offensive linemen through interviews with family, friends, coaches, teammates, and Thomas himself. This engaging program offers an intimate look at the life, career, and character of a football legend.

This program is free and open to the public. The program will be held in the lower level of the Main Library in the Village Room. Call the library at 440.255.8811, ext. 247 for more information or register online.

Registration for Not Your Ordinary Joe begins June 29, 2026

Monday University:
Civil War on the Homefront,
Lucretia Garfield in Hiram, OH @ Main
Monday, August 10, 2026
6:30pm – 7:30pm

Step into the shoes of Lucretia Garfield, facing her husband's absence during the Civil War. Hear tales of her life as a young wife and mother in Hiram, OH: establishing their first home, raising a toddler, participating in homefront activities with other soldiers' wives, all while concerned about her husband, two brothers, and neighbors off fighting with the Union Army An excerpted letter or two between Gen. Garfield and Lucretia may be shared as part of the presentation. Presented by We Made History Member, Debbie Weinkamer. This program is free and open to the public. The program will be held in the lower level of the Main Library in the Village Room. Call the library at 440.255.8811, ext. 247 for more information or register online.

Registration for Civil War on the Homefront, Lucretia Garfield in Hiram, OH begins July 27, 2026.

Hale Farm & Village Civil War Weekend

Date - Saturday August 8 & Sunday,August 9, 2026
Time - 10:00am - 5:00pm each day

Ticket purchase, Event details

check out the official Hale Farm & Village Civil War Weekend Event Page



Soldiers from the 41st Ohio Infantry Regiment push the Confederates back as they reenact the Battle of Sailor's Creek during Civil War Weekend at Hale Farm & Village, Saturday, Aug. 9, 2025, in Bath, Ohio.
Jeff Lange, Akron Beacon Journal

Travel back 165 years and step into the drama, courage, and daily life of the Civil War era at Hale Farm & Village's Civil War Weekend, held August 8 and 9 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. This beloved living history event offers an exciting and immersive experience for history buffs, families, and curious minds of all ages.

Wander through authentic Federal and Confederate camps, meet historical figures, and witness the past come alive through dynamic presentations and demonstrations. You'll explore the real stories of 1861 told through the voices of reenactors, musicians, and expert interpreters from Northeast Ohio and across the country.

Featured activities include:

Stop by - Visit the CCWRT & NEOCWRT booth

- **Camp Chase Fifes & Drums bringing the music of the battlefield to life**
- **Encounters with President Abraham Lincoln, Mary Todd Lincoln and Jefferson Davis**
- **Thrilling Cavalry Demonstrations**
- **A chance for young guests to enlist in the Junior Militia**
- **And a reenactment of the Battle of Bull Run**

Whether you're a lifelong history enthusiast or just looking for a unique day out, there's something for everyone at Civil War Weekend. From muskets to bonnets, spy secrets to military drills, you'll experience the sights, sounds, and stories that shaped our nation, all right here in Northeast Ohio.

Dog Days of Summer Events…..



Fairview Park Branch
Tuesday, August04
7:00pm - 8:00pm
Meeting Room A&B
21255LorainRoadFairview Park, OH44126

WWII: The Code Breakers
Agripping look at the brilliant minds who worked in secrecy to turn the tides of World War II

The code breakers played a crucial role in the Allied victory by deciphering enemy communications, enabling the Allies to anticipate Axis movements and disrupt their plans.

Three of the most significant figures were:
- Alan Turing (British) — A leading codebreaker at Bletchley Park.
- Elizabeth Smith Friedman (American) — A pioneering cryptanalyst, she dismantled Nazi espionage networks in the Western Hemisphere.
- Marian Rejewski (Polish) — A mathematician who first broke Enigma in the 1930s using innovative mathematical techniques.

Presented by British-born Julie Koenig, an exceptional storyteller who brings history to life for modern audiences. A graduate of the University of Wolverhampton in England, she is a Fortune 500 sales and marketing professional.

