

**JAMES A. GARFIELD CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**  
**SPEAKERS BUREAU**

**Benjamin Frayser, JAGCWRT Commander (“Northeast Ohio’s James A. Garfield.”)**

- *MBA, Indiana Wesleyan University; BS, Management, Indiana Wesleyan University*
  - o Life and Times of James A. Garfield (Living Historian as James A. Garfield)
  - o Politics of the Civil War
  - o Various Civil War Battles, with focuses on Middle Creek, Chattanooga & Chickamauga, and Belmont

**Andrew C.M. Mizesak, JAGCWRT Adjutant**

- *Master of Applied Politics, The University of Akron*
- *Graduate Coursework in American History and Government, Ashland University*
- *BA, Political Science, Bowling Green State University*
- *Commissioned Colonel on the Staff of the Governor of Kentucky*
  - o Politics of the Civil War
  - o Ohio History and Government
  - o History of Congress
  - o Vexillology and Heraldry
  - o Northeast Ohio Townships
  - o James A. Garfield as an Ohio State Senator
  - o Presidential History with expertise in the elections of 1860, 1864, 1868, 1872, 1876, 1880; Constitutional History.
  - o Life and times of James R. Garfield.
  - o Battle of Petersburg; Battle of Cold Harbor; Battle of Gaines Farm
  - o CSA General John Bell Hood; USA General Catherinus P. Buckingham

**Dana E. Best-Mizesak, JAGCWRT Historian**

- *Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Anthropology, The University of Akron*
  - o Archaeology
  - o History of Northeast Ohio and Western Pennsylvania
  - o The Estate of President James Madison and the Civil War
  - o Women in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century

**Paul E. Pojman, JAGCWRT Librarian**

- *Master of Library Science Kent State University*
  - o Ohio Civil War Soldiers
  - o Burial Places of 42<sup>nd</sup> OVI Soldiers
  - o Publications

**Anita F. Beneditti, JAGCWRT Secretary (“Northeast Ohio’s Mrs. Garfield.”)**

- *B.A., Kent State University, Major-Literature, Minor-History*
- *Member of Lincoln’s Generals, Living History Museum Alliance*
- *Lake View Cemetery Docent & Substitute Guide*
  - o Living Historian of Lucretia Rudolph Garfield
  - o The Life and Times of Lucretia Rudolph Garfield
  - o Elizabeth Todd
  - o Women in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century

**Emily Griffith**

- o Living Historian
- o Women in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century
- o East Tennessee in the Civil War

**Rev. Dr. Skip Wilson, JAGCWRT Vice Chaplain**

- *Commanding Officer, 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Provisional Army of the Confederate States*

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### **John Spaziani, Living Historian**

- *Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering (BSME): Stevens Institute of Technology (Hoboken, New Jersey)*
- *Masters of Mechanical Engineering (MSME): State University of New York (Brooklyn, New York)*
- *Master of Business Administration (MBA): University of Lynchburg (Lynchburg, Virginia)*
- *Master of Arts, Counseling and Human Development (MA): Walsh University (Canton, Ohio)*
- *Licensed Professional Engineer (PE)*
- *Member, Civil War Heritage Foundation*
- General Samuel Cooper, Adjutant and Inspector General, CSA – The Highest-Ranking Confederate General\*
- Timothy Webster, Union Spy\*
- Lt. George Erasmus Dixon, Last Captain Confederate submarine, The Hunley\*
- Captain Elmer Otis, fourth Cavalry, Chief Mustering Officer, The Lincoln Guard
- Civil War PA Governor Curtin (in progress)

### **Gerald M. Payn, Abraham Lincoln Presenter**

- *M.S., College of Education, The University of Akron, Akron, Ohio*
- *B.S., College of Agriculture, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio*
- *Sergeant, Ohio Army National Guard, 1957-1963*
- *Member, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*
- *Life Member, National Association of Lincoln Presenters*
  - Abraham Lincoln Historian, including first person presentation living historian
  - Historian of the Civil War
  - Can present a “Lincoln/Douglas Debate” with Pastor Ken Hutchinson of North Canton
- The Lincoln children

***For additional information on these presenters, please email [JamesAGarfieldCWRT@gmail.com](mailto:JamesAGarfieldCWRT@gmail.com)***

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