

2026-2027
Quincy Gillmore Civil War Roundtable
Program Schedule

**The Quincy Gillmore Civil War Roundtable meets at Lorain County Community College
in the iLoft Building, second floor, room 205 (except where noted).
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.**

Monday, September 14, 2026
"How Oberlin Erupted into the Hotspot of Abolitionism"
Speaker – Kelly Boyer Sagert

Long before the Civil War, Ohio emerged as one of the nation's most influential centers of abolitionism. Driven by its commitment to equality, education, and social reform, the Oberlin community welcomed African American students, supported the Underground Railroad, and openly challenged slavery. Oberlin residents risked legal consequences to aid freedom seekers and became nationally known for their activism. This presentation explores the people, events, and ideals that transformed Oberlin into a powerful force in the fight against slavery.

Monday, October 5, 2026
"Shrouded Veteran"
Speaker – Frank Jastrezemski

Frank Jastrezemski, a history graduate from John Carroll University and Cleveland State University, is the author of numerous articles and two books. He is the founder of Shrouded Veterans, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to rescuing the graves of 19th-century veterans, particularly those from the Mexican-American War (1846-1848) and Civil War (1861-1865), by identifying, marking, and restoring them. His completed grave restoration projects can be seen on the Shrouded Veterans Facebook page.

Tuesday, November 10, 2026
"Lee Invades the North: A Comparison of the Antietam and Gettysburg Campaigns"
Speaker – Brad Gottfried

After receiving his Ph.D., Brad taught at three colleges before becoming the president of two colleges. At the end of his accomplished career, Brad retired in 2017 as the president of the College of Southern Maryland. He now devotes his time to writing and giving tours of the Antietam battlefield as a certified battlefield guide and the town of Gettysburg as a licensed town guide. He has written 22 books on Civil War subjects. Brad will also speak at other Civil War roundtables in the Cleveland area that week.

NOTE: Meeting site moved to the Elyria Central Library for this presentation.

Monday, December 7, 2026
“The Civil War in Kansas”
Speaker – Andrew Mangels

Andrew Mangels is the director of the Westlake Porter Public Library. Since moving with his family from Kansas City, Missouri to Westlake in 2007, Andrew has been involved in many community activities and organizations such as Kiwanis and Rotary. He also is the chair of the Advisory Board of Connecting for Kids, an organization serving families who have a concern about their child's development. In addition, Andrew is the president of the Carolyn L. Farrell Foundation, an organization that helps individuals and families cope with Alzheimer's and dementia illness.

Monday, February 1, 2027
“Abraham Lincoln”
Speaker – Mel Maurer

Mel is a past president of the Cleveland Civil War Roundtable and a member of the Lincoln Forum and the American Battlefield Trust.

Monday, March 1, 2027
“Civil War Medicine”
Speaker – Dr. Fred Marquinez

Dr. Fred Marquinez, Medical Oncologist and a Clinical Associate Professor of Internal Medicine at Northeast Ohio Medical University, was born in Akron and raised in Kent, Ohio. In addition to his civilian positions in medicine, Dr. Marquinez is a Flight Surgeon and the Commander of the 179th Medical Group in the 179th Cyberspace Wing, Ohio Air National Guard, United States Air Force.

Monday, April 5, 2027
“John Monteith: Elyria's Abolitionist Leader”
Speaker – Jim Jablonski

Jim is a founding member and past president of the Quincy Gillmore Civil War Roundtable.

May 3, 2027
“William Hoel: Riverboat Pilot/Civil War Hero”
Speaker – Brian Kowell

Brian was born and raised in Cuyahoga County. He graduated from Baldwin Wallace University in 1973 with a B.S. in biology. Brian is a member of the Cleveland Civil War Roundtable, a charter member of the Northeast Ohio Civil War Roundtable, and a member of Emerging Civil War.