



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

James A. Garfield National Historic Site
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James A. Garfield National Historic Site Fall/Winter 2012 Special Events & Programs

September

Saturday, September 29—10 a.m.-4 p.m.

National Public Lands Day—A Fee-Free Day!

National Public Lands Day is set aside each year for Americans to reflect on and celebrate national parks, fish and wildlife refuges, national forests, and other areas set aside for the benefit and enjoyment of the people. Tour the Garfield home, enjoy the museum exhibits and film, walk the grounds, and learn more than you ever thought possible about Mentor's own President Garfield! Free of charge; no entrance fees charged at any National Park Service sites on Public Lands Day!

Saturday, September 29—1 p.m.

The Death of President James A. Garfield (Fee-free day!)

President James A. Garfield served just four months in office before being shot by Charles Guiteau on July 2, 1881. The president lingered for over two months, finally dying on September 19, 1881. In recognition of the 131st anniversary of Garfield's death, join a National Park Service ranger for a presentation about the circumstances of the shooting, the president's medical care, and his death and funeral. Free of charge.

Saturday, September 29—2 p.m.

***Giant in the Shadows: The Life of Robert T. Lincoln Program and Book Signing by
Author Jason Emerson (Fee-free day!)***

Acclaimed Lincoln historian and author Jason Emerson visits James A. Garfield NHS to discuss his new book *Giant in the Shadows: The Life of Robert T. Lincoln*. This book is the first new biography of Robert Todd Lincoln in 50 years. Robert T. Lincoln was the only son of Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln to survive to adulthood, and in 1881 he became Secretary of War under President James A. Garfield. Emerson will speak about the relationship between R.T. Lincoln and J.A. Garfield and will sign copies of *Giant in the Shadows*, which is available for purchase in the site's Eastern National bookstore. Program is free of charge.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

October

Saturday, October 6—11 a.m.

Behind the Scenes Tour

See the Garfield home and property as you've never seen it before! This special two-hour tour takes you into rooms in the Garfield house not open to the normal public tour, including the basement and attic. You'll also explore the windmill, barn, and other outbuildings. Cost is \$15.00 per person. Reservations recommended; please call 440-255-8722. Minimum age is 16. Please wear comfortable walking shoes and be prepared to climb steps without difficulty.

Wednesday, October 10—12 p.m. at Mentor Public Library (8215 Mentor Avenue)

***The Battle of Perryville: Major Battles of the Civil War Lunchtime Speaker Series
A Civil War 150th Anniversary Program***

Join James A. Garfield NHS staff and volunteers at Mentor Public Library on the second Wednesday of each month for a new talk on "Major Battles of the Civil War!" The October 8, 1862 battle of Perryville, Kentucky will be discussed this month. Perryville was a tactical victory for Gen. Braxton Bragg and the Confederacy, but an eventual retreat set the stage for the battle of Stone's River at the end of 1862. Program is free of charge; attendees are welcome to bring lunch and eat during the talk.

Saturday, October 20—11 a.m.

James A. Garfield and the Civil War Tour—A Civil War 150th Anniversary Program

This informative program is a must for both casual and dedicated Civil War buffs. It explores James A. Garfield's Civil War service to the Union, including his roles at the battles of Middle Creek and Chickamauga. This 90-minute tour begins in the visitor center and then proceeds to the Garfield home and emphasizes Garfield's time as a soldier. Cost is \$15.00 per person. Reservations recommended; please call 440-255-8722.

Wednesday, October 24 and Thursday, October 25—6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Poe in Person: An Evening with Edgar Allan Poe

Edgar Allan Poe was America's most famous writer of the macabre, and several of his works were among the personal collection of James A. Garfield. Visit for special performances of several Poe stories and poems by David Keltz, America's foremost Poe living historian! NEW STORY THIS YEAR: See David Keltz do *The Pit and Pendulum*, which he has never performed at James A. Garfield NHS! This event is intended for those 16 years and older. Cost is \$15.00/per ticket per performance. Tickets are limited and required. Please call 440-255-8722 for more information or to reserve tickets. Tickets on sale beginning Monday, October 1.

BOTH NIGHTS: 6 p.m. show is *The Raven* and *The Tell-Tale Heart*

8 p.m. show is *The Raven* and *The Pit and the Pendulum*

November

Saturday, November 3—11 a.m.

Behind the Scenes Tour

See the Garfield home and property as you've never seen it before! This special two-hour tour takes you into rooms in the Garfield house not open to the normal public tour, including the basement and attic. You'll also explore the windmill, barn, and other outbuildings. Cost is \$15.00 per person. Reservations recommended; please call 440-255-8722. Minimum age is 16. Please wear comfortable walking shoes and be prepared to climb steps without difficulty.

Saturday, November 3—1 p.m.

The Campaign and Election of 1880

As Election Day 2012 approaches, take a break from the commercials, debates, and polls to learn more about the campaign of 1880, when Republican James A. Garfield faced Democrat Winfield Scott Hancock. What were the issues? How did the candidates campaign? How did anyone know what a candidate believed in the days before Facebook, Twitter, and 24-hour news channels? Learn all of this and more at this presentation! Free of charge.

Saturday, November 10-Sunday November 11—12 p.m.-5 p.m.

Veterans Day Weekend—Fee Free Days!

The Secretary of the Interior has designated Veterans Day weekend as fee-free at all National Park Service sites. Visit on Saturday, November 10 or Sunday, November 11 during the site's normal hours (12 p.m.-5 p.m.) for free entrance to the site. Walk the grounds, check out the museum exhibits, watch the film, and take a guided tour of the Garfield home for free!

Wednesday, November 14—12 p.m. at Mentor Public Library (8215 Mentor Avenue)

***The Battle of Stone's River: Major Battles of the Civil War Lunchtime Speaker Series
A Civil War 150th Anniversary Program***

Join James A. Garfield NHS staff and volunteers at Mentor Public Library on the second Wednesday of each month for a new talk on "Major Battles of the Civil War!" Following up on October's talk on Perryville, November's installment examines the December 1862-January 1863 battle of Stone's River, Tennessee. Stone's River is considered a draw, though the Union's repulse of two major Confederate attacks and the subsequent Southern withdrawal provided a much-needed boost to Union morale. Program is free of charge; attendees are welcome to bring lunch and eat during the talk.

Saturday, November 17—11 a.m.

James A. Garfield and the Civil War Tour—A Civil War 150th Anniversary Program

This informative program is a must for both casual and dedicated Civil War buffs. It explores James A. Garfield's Civil War service to the Union, including his roles at the battles of Middle Creek and Chickamauga. This 90-minute tour begins in the visitor center and then proceeds to the Garfield home and emphasizes Garfield's time as a soldier. Cost is \$15.00 per person. Reservations recommended; please call 440-255-8722.

Saturday, November 17—1 p.m.-4 p.m.

James A. Garfield Birthday Commemoration

James Abram Garfield was born 181 years ago TODAY! Learn more about his birth, education, family, military service, political career, presidency, and death during programs at his birth site (Garfield Birthplace in Moreland Hills), home (James A. Garfield NHS in Mentor), and burial place (Lakeview Cemetery in Cleveland). Free of charge (though anyone 16 and over wishing to tour the Garfield home is subject to the regular \$5.00 entrance fee).

December

Saturday, December 1—11 a.m.

Behind the Scenes Tour

See the Garfield home and property as you've never seen it before! This special two-hour tour takes you into rooms in the Garfield house not open to the normal public tour, including the basement and attic. You'll also explore the windmill, barn, and other outbuildings. Cost is \$15.00 per person. Reservations recommended; please call 440-255-8722. Minimum age is 16. Please wear comfortable walking shoes and be prepared to climb steps without difficulty.

Wednesday, December 12—12 p.m. at Mentor Public Library (8215 Mentor Avenue)
The Battle of Fredericksburg: Major Battles of the Civil War Lunchtime Speaker Series
A Civil War 150th Anniversary Program

Join James A. Garfield NHS staff and volunteers at Mentor Public Library on the second Wednesday of each month for a new talk on "Major Battles of the Civil War!" December's installment examines the battle of Fredericksburg, Virginia, fought in December 1862 and one of the Confederacy's most resounding and one-sided victories. Program is free of charge; attendees are welcome to bring lunch and eat during the talk.

Saturday, December 15—11 a.m.

James A. Garfield and the Civil War Tour—A Civil War 150th Anniversary Program

This informative program is a must for both casual and dedicated Civil War buffs. It explores James A. Garfield's Civil War service to the Union, including his roles at the battles of Middle Creek and Chickamauga. This 90-minute tour begins in the visitor center and then proceeds to the Garfield home and emphasizes Garfield's time as a soldier. Cost is \$15.00 per person. Reservations recommended; please call 440-255-8722.