

James A. Garfield

Anna Di Tommaso

James A. Garfield took office in 1881. A 39 year old man named Charles Guiteau was desperately seeking a job, and decided to try his luck at the Whitehouse. After months, Guiteau still received no notices of employment, and did not receive replies to several letters he had written to the president. After reading an article in the local paper about how Garfield insisted on picking his own officeholders, Guiteau made up his mind, "if the president was out of the way, everything would go better." Convinced that God approved of his task, Guiteau began to make his plans. On July 2, 1881, Guiteau planned to meet Garfield at a train station where he would kill him. Guiteau fired two pistol shots upon the President, the second would eventually kill him. Guiteau was immediately tackled and taken to a nearby police station. Garfield did not die immediately. The president survived that day, and more than a few weeks afterward. Garfield was operated on 3 times, but a bullet was never found. Daily updates on the presidents condition were posted in the streets. 80 days after the shooting, Garfield finally died. Guiteau was hanged a year later.

Benjamin Harrison

Republican Party

Elections:

1. Harrison received 100,000 fewer popular votes than Cleveland.
2. Harrison carried the Electoral College 233 to 168.

His office:

1. At the end of his administration Harrison submitted to the Senate a treaty to annex Hawaii. (Grover Cleveland later withdrew it.)

2. Established an information center in 1889, which later became the Pan American Union.

Trivia:

1. Died in 1901.
2. Defeated in election of 1892 by Grover Cleveland.

Ulysses S. Grant

Sean Meckler

Republican

In 1868 defeated Democrat candidate, two-time New York Governor Horatio Seymour. In 1872 defeated Democrat/Liberal Republican candidate Horace Greeley, who died after the popular vote but before the electoral college. First presidential election during Reconstruction. Texas, Mississippi, and Virginia were not yet readmitted into the Union and could not vote. The Whiskey

Ring was a scandal exposed in 1875 involving diversion of tax revenues in a conspiracy among government agents, politicians, whiskey distillers, and distributors. A group of mostly Republican politicians were able to siphon off millions of dollars in federal taxes on liquor. Secretary of the Treasury, Benjamin H. Bristow exposed and broke up the ring. Grant was not directly involved in the ring, but came to be seen as the emblem of Republican corruption. Signed Treaty of Washington in 1871 which settled American claims against England concerning a British built Confederate ship, the "Alabama." Vetoed a bill to increase the amount of a legal tender currency. Signed bills promoting voting rights, supported amnesty for Confederate leaders and protection of civil rights. Graduated from West Point in 1843, middle of his class. At the time of election, was 46, the youngest man yet elected president.

President's Name:  
Rutherford B. Hayes

Party  
Republican

Election:

- 1) He achieved the presidency in the closest electoral contest in U.S. history, winning over Samuel J. Tilden by one electoral vote.
- 2) James G. Blaine of Maine, speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, was the leading contender for the Republican presidential nomination. However, a congressional investigating committee had recently charged Blaine with using his political influence to benefit a railroad company. The Republican national convention therefore nominated Hayes for president

Office:

- 1) Hayes's removal of the remaining army units from South Carolina and Louisiana marked the end of a decade of political and military reconstruction.
- 2) In 1879, Congress passed a law forbidding any ship to bring more than 15 Chinese to the United States on one trip. Hayes vetoed the law, which he felt amounted to exclusion of Chinese immigrants in violation of a treaty with China. He then sent envoys to China to negotiate a new treaty allowing the immigration to be regulated. He was fiercely assailed for his actions, particularly in California, where many of the Chinese immigrants settled.

Trivia:

- 1) For four years he served in the Union Army, resigned with the rank of major general.
- 2) The insistence of Hayes on American control helped to shape the policy that eventually produced a Panama Canal owned by the United States.

Ulysses S. Grant

Republican

In his election he ran against the first woman to run for presidency

He ran under the slogan " let us have peace"

He won 214 of 294 electoral votes

During his presidency he worked hard to pass the 15th amendment

He also angered many people in the south with his radical reconstruction plans

He was once fined \$20 for speeding on his horse

Even though he had throat cancer, he finished his memoirs and had them published with the help of Mark Twain.

**James Abram Garfield** (November 19, 1831 – September 19, 1881)

Republican

Election

In 1876 Garfield was a Republican member of the Electoral Commission that awarded 22 hotly-contested electoral votes to Rutherford B. Hayes in his contest for the Presidency against Samuel J. Tilden.

In the general election, Garfield defeated the Democratic candidate, Winfield Scott Hancock, another distinguished former Union Army general, by 214 electoral votes to 155.

Presidency

President Garfield took office on March 4, 1881.

His Vice President, Chester A. Arthur, of New York, was a member of the "Stalwarts," who advocated the retention of the patronage system and a tougher stance regarding the former Confederate states.

Trivia

Garfield could simultaneously write in Latin with one hand, and Ancient Greek with the other. Garfield found a new proof for the Pythagorean theorem in 1876.

## Rutherford B. Hayes-Republican

### Election

-Was chosen to run because of his clean background. The Republican Party was still dealing with scandals from the presidential term of Ulysses S. Grant.

-The votes during the election had to be re-counted as in the recent Bush-Gore election.

### Things Done in Office

-He withdrew troops from the South in 1877 ending reconstruction.

-He passed the Desert Land Act in an attempt to settle and cultivate arid and semi-arid land on the frontier.

### Trivia

-He was the first president to visit the west coast of the U.S. during his presidency.

-He was the first president to have his voice recorded. Thomas Edison recorded his voice with his new invention the phonograph.