

OCTOBER 11, 2017

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*“It’s More Than Rocket Science:
The Challenges of Spaceflight and
Their Extraordinary Solutions”*

Dr. Christopher Jones works at NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, VA. His current work includes strategic analysis of space technology investments, applications of in-space assembly to Mars exploration, and mission design for an Earth Science satellite. He obtained his Masters and Ph.D. in aerospace engineering from Georgia Tech in 2009 and 2016, respectively, and his Bachelors in mechanical engineering from the University of South Carolina in 2007.

This talk introduces some of the reasons, from physics to economics, why spaceflight has been and remains a challenging endeavor. Key questions that will be answered include: “What is the challenge?”, “Why does it matter?”, and “What’s the solution?” These challenges include the need for speed (not just altitude) to keep a spacecraft in orbit, and why low gravity and high radiation pose risks to the human body beyond Earth orbit. Some of the solutions will require new advances in technology and design, while others exist but pose economic challenges.



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Mark Schneider

Colonial Williamsburg
Foundation

*“Napoleon and the
Transformation of Europe”*



Mark Schneider was born and raised in the small town of Setauket, New York on Long Island. After high school, Mark moved to Virginia where he attended Christopher Newport University and received a B.A. in History. Mark then joined the U.S. Army where he served as a Cavalry Scout performing Armored Reconnaissance for the 1st Armored Division in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Germany and the United States. Upon completion of his tour of active duty, Mark started working for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in 1997. While at Colonial Williamsburg Mark has performed as a variety of different characters ranging from Mark Antony, James Madison, Benedict Arnold, Le Comte de Rochambeau and many others. Mark is now in the Nation Builder program where he performs as the Marquis de Lafayette. Mark also portrays Napoleon Bonaparte internationally and has appeared since 2005 in Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, and Russia.

Napoleon Bonaparte is known as one of the greatest generals in military history. The name Napoleon is often found alongside great leaders such as Alexander the Great, Hannibal, Julius Caesar and Frederick the Great. But Napoleon was more than just a great general, he was a reformer, lawmaker, patron of the Arts, man of the people, who spread the great ideas of the French Revolution across Europe.

In this performance you’ll meet Napoleon. You will also learn about these great reforms and how they benefited France and the Europe that he influenced.

