Happy New Year! The Hayes Presidential Library & Museums has just finished celebrating our 100th birthday - making us the oldest presidential library in the United States! And what a centennial it was…

The goals we set in our strategic plan in 2013 were big – and they were set with the intention to reflect everything for which our mission statement stands. The Hayes Presidential Library & Museums exists to enrich lives through the historical preservation of Spiegel Grove and to provide a greater understanding of President Hayes and his contributions to the State of Ohio, the country and his fellow Americans. As you can imagine, this was a very important process for a very important future.

The goals focused on value statements that we formed from what makes HPLM important to our staff, our board, our volunteers, our community and, most importantly, our visitors. They ranged from funding for the future sustainability of HPLM, the maintenance and preservation of our historic buildings and grounds, the renovation and reopening of a world-class museum that inspires curiosity about history and our place in it, and the development of a board and staff with the highest level of leadership, integrity and accountability. It is my great honor to say that we accomplished everything we set out to do by our deadline in 2016 and more!

Our development staff was extremely successful in the outstanding work it did with the Centennial Campaign, raising well over our goal of $1.3 million! This allowed us to renovate the museum, bringing its collections and the stories they tell to life in an exciting new way that will lead us into the future. Kathy Boukissen, our development director, and her team were also hard at work establishing our successful, on-going annual campaign called Gateway to the Future – which allows HPLM to continue to offer the educational programming and community involvement that so enriches all who visit and connect with us.

We were also able to reopen on Mondays through part of the year to further extend our educational programs and visiting hours. We updated our website and joined social media to connect to even more people and places. And, we hosted the largest gathering of Hayes family members EVER right here in Spiegel Grove to celebrate it all!

And this is just the beginning. We are thrilled to look forward and see what the next 100 years will bring. In fact, we are already beginning our next phase of planning to continue our mission of enriching lives and preserving important history. With the support of our generous corporate and individual donors, our dedicated board members, our loyal and hardworking staff and volunteers, the next 100 years should prove to be the best years yet!

President Hayes was quoted as saying “The bold enterprises are the successful ones. Take counsel of hopes rather than of fears to win in this business.” It is as if he could foresee the future of his beloved home, Spiegel Grove, and knew it would be in good hands for many years to come. Thank you to all that helped make this happen and that will have a role into the future!

Jennifer Barrett
Board of Trustees President
Centennial success

In 2016, the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums celebrated its 100th birthday with a year of events and major upgrades, including a new handicapped-accessible main entrance and complete museum renovation.

Photos, clockwise from top right: Hayes descendants ride in the Fremont Memorial Day parade during their reunion and grand Centennial Celebration Memorial Day weekend. Students are interviewed by NBC 24 during a tour of the museum. Hayes family members review genealogy records in the library. Staff member Kevin Moore, (left), congratulates Tim Emerlich of Bedford, Ohio, for winning the most Hayes-like beard contest during the Centennial Celebration. Staff member Kent McClary portrays HPLM founder Col. Webb Hayes during the Independence Day Concert.

Lift gives access for all into museum Weapons Room

Madeline Doble tests the lift into the museum Weapons Room. Doble is one of the lift sponsors.

All visitors to the Hayes Museum can go into the weapons room after a handicapped-accessible lift was installed from the lower level into the room last fall.

The lift can take people who were not able to climb the four steps into the room, which showcases historic weapons dating back to the American Revolution. The lift project was part of the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums’ $1.8 million museum renovation in 2016 and was sponsored by Unique Fabrications Inc., Skip and Ellen Honsperger and Wayne and Madeline Doble.

There are steps into that room because the contractor who built the 1922 museum addition made a mistake and built it lower than the rest of the building.

Website launched

The Hayes Presidential Library & Museums launched its new, improved website in October.

The web address, rbhayes.org, remains the same. The new site is modern, easier to navigate and mobile-friendly. Visitors can search HPLM’s manuscripts and artifacts collections, buy items online from the Museum Store, donate to HPLM, purchase memberships, use the Ohio Obituary Index and more.

The news section is updated with upcoming events and need-to-know information.
College names center in Hayes’ honor

Rutherford B. Hayes spent much of his life advocating for making education accessible to all.

For Hayes, a major part of education was helping people learn manual trades, which today are known as skilled trades.

“To make the boy equal to his fellows, let him be taught to make a living with the skilled labor of his hands,” Hayes wrote in his diary in 1892.

Hayes’ unwavering support for skilled trades is one of the reasons Terra State Community College renamed its skilled trades center the Rutherford B. Hayes Skilled Trades Center on Memorial Day during the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums Centennial Celebration.

“We have always had such a close working relationship with the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums and wanted to honor that relationship,” said Jerome Webster, the college’s president.

The two institutions have a similar mission of promoting education, and it was Hayes’ signature issue and passion.

“There was no better way to honor him than to rename the skilled trades center after him, someone who had such a love for the manual trades,” Webster said. “It really strengthens the relationship between our two institutions.”

The Rutherford B. Hayes Skilled Trades Center houses the HVAC-R, automotive and welding programs and computer labs and classrooms. The building opened in 2010 and is one of the most heavily used on campus. There are waiting lists for some of the skilled trades programs, Webster said.
Presidential fun: Rutherford & Lucy’s Centennial Goodwill Tour

During 2016, President Rutherford and First Lady Lucy Hayes – cutouts of them, at least – traveled the country and did everything from meeting school kids to playing with animals and landscaping.

The cutouts embarked on a Centennial Goodwill Tour in January 2016 to see the sites of the presidents and first ladies.

Staff of other presidential and first ladies’ sites took photos of them in different areas of the homes, museums and grounds. Each site sent creative and fun photos that were shared on social media with the hashtag #Hayes100.

At Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello, Rutherford played chess and took a nap in Jefferson’s bed. At the Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library, he used the phone booth, which was fitting because Hayes was the first president to have a phone in the White House.

Lucy met John Tyler’s grandson at Tyler’s estate of Sherwood Forest. She learned about bootlegging with Lou Hoover in an exhibit at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library & Museum and went fishing – her favorite hobby – with one of the Hoovers’ relatives.

In December, a group of staff, their families, board members and Hayes descendants took Rutherford and Lucy to the White House.

To see the cutouts’ travels, visit HPLM’s social media sites, or search the hashtag #Hayes100 on social media. HPLM can be found on Facebook at facebook.com/hayespresidentialcenter, on Twitter at @rbhayespres and on Instagram at rbhayespres.

“I just enjoy being here. I like the people. I like the atmosphere.”

-Amber Lewis, intern
For a special finish to the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library & Museums’ centennial year, staff, their families, board members and Hayes descendants visited Washington, D.C., in December and saw sites of the Hayes family influence.

The group of about 50 people toured the White House, the Capitol building, the Library of Congress, the Smithsonian National Museum of American History, Foundry United Methodist Church, Arlington National Cemetery and sites of the Civil War Battle of South Mountain in Middletown, Maryland.

Throughout the trip, the group was treated to behind-the-scenes looks at historic buildings and artifacts related to President Hayes and American history.

At the Capitol, they walked in the same areas and hallways Hayes would have frequented during his time in Congress and as president. The Library of Congress showed the group manuscripts and letters relating to Hayes, including a letter Hayes had written to Lucretia Garfield after her husband, James A. Garfield – a fellow Ohioan and Hayes’ successor – was shot.

The group toured Foundry United Methodist Church, which the Hayeses attended when it was in a different location. HPLM Executive Director Christie Weininger spoke to the group about Hayes’ complex and sometimes contradictory views on religion.

In the White House, they stood in the Red Parlor, where Hayes was sworn in as president two days before his official inauguration. He was sworn in early in part because his election was highly contested and controversial. During the group’s visit, the White House was decorated for Christmas, which added to the experience.

The White House also was a stop on the Centennial Goodwill
Tour for cutouts of President Rutherford and First Lady Lucy Hayes, and the group escorted the cutouts for this special visit.

At the Smithsonian National Museum of American History, the visitors saw a white-and-gold dress worn by Lucy Hayes, some of the china she had commissioned when she was in the White House and other interesting artifacts relating to the presidency and American history.

At Arlington National Cemetery, the group saw the Changing of the Guard Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and toured the cemetery. HPLM founder Col. Webb Cook Hayes was on the design committee that planned the tomb.

On the last stop, the group visited Middletown, Maryland, site of the Battle of South Mountain in the Civil War. Hayes, who was a lieutenant colonel at the time, was severely wounded in this battle and nearly lost his arm. The battle was pivotal but not well known because it happened a few days before the nearby Battle of Antietam, the bloodiest one-day battle in American history.

The group saw the home where Hayes stayed while he recovered, the area on the battlefield where he and the 23rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry fought and Zion Lutheran Church, which was a hospital for wounded soldiers from the Battle of South Mountain and Battle of Antietam.

“It is hard for a layman to understand military jargon when a battle is described, but to be able to stand in the field, see the lane on the hillside and the stone fence where the Confederates met Hayes’ men, made everything clear,” said Becky Hill, HPLM head librarian.
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In 2016, kids who attended the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums’ educational monthly program Second Saturdays R 4 Kids learned to paint on canvas, conducted electrical experiments, learned what it was like to be a Civil War soldier and more.

This year, they will have some of those opportunities again and new events through Second Saturdays R 4 Kids, which is open to kids through age 12.

Some months will feature a special event, and others will have a scavenger hunt available throughout the museum from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. On scavenger hunt days, participants can stop by and do the hunt any time during the day. Each scavenger hunt will have a theme, and kids will get a prize for completing it.

HPLM members at the family level and higher and their children and grandchildren are admitted to Second Saturdays R 4 Kids for free.

Events include: (See rbhayes.org for full 2017 schedule.)

- March 11 – 11 a.m. to noon. Kids can learn to paint with Artistry Uncorked. Cost for kids is $3. Canvas and use of supplies is included. There is no charge for adults to bring children to this program. Reservations are required and can be made by contacting Education Coordinator Dustin McLochlin at 419-332-2081, ext. 230, or dmclochlin@rbhayes.org.

- April 8 – 11 a.m. to noon. Kids can learn about First Lady Lucy Webb Hayes through historic crafts and recipes from the 19th century. Museum educators will share Lucy’s experiences at home and work with kids to make their own crafts and create recipes that Lucy herself might have made. Cost for kids is $1. There is no charge for adults to bring children to this program. Reservations are requested and can be made by contacting Education Coordinator Dustin McLochlin at 419-332-2081, ext. 230, or dmclochlin@rbhayes.org.

Bemis Company Foundation sponsored the December 2016 and January 2017 scavenger hunts. Century Die Co. sponsored the November 2016 event with Imagination Station.

“Second Saturdays R 4 Kids returns

Kids conduct electrical experiments with Imagination Station during the November Second Saturdays, which was sponsored by Century Die Co.

“I really enjoy it. That’s why social studies is my favorite subject in school.”
- Zoë Ramsey, regularly attends Second Saturdays R 4 Kids

“You get to do a lot of fun things. Some of my teachers say ‘You know so much about that president.’”
- Maggie Ramsey, regularly attends Second Saturdays R 4 Kids

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Cassandra Halbeisen
Carol & John Hall
Richard S. Hamilton
Joyce A. Hannex
Leslie J. Hayes
Scott & Kathy Hayes

Tim & Karin Hayes
William D. Hayes
M/M William Taylor Hayes
Becky Hill
Eric & Joli Holman
Carol Jeanne Jones
Jeff & Gwen Jones
Dr. Rebecca & Mr. Brian Kamber
Bill & Kate Kelley
Keye J. Koehl
Richard & June Knepper
Jill Carter Knuth
Randy & Judy Koebel
Larry Kramer
GH & Maxi Kuns
John & Alison Lauer
Terry & Susan Lemley
Ross & Blanchio McCormick
M/M James McGinnis
Dr. Larry & Sue Michaels
Military Order of the Loyal Legion U.S.
Blair & Anita Miller
Carol & Larry Miller
M/M John E. Miller
Jim & Kay Miranda
Barbara Moellmann
Ray & Rita Myers
Dr. Clifford M. Nelson
Lathrop B. Nelson, Jr.
Alan & Carol Norris
Sean O'Farrell
Birchard H. Ollinger
Donna L. Overholts
Rutherford H. Platt and Barbara Kirchner
Bill & Nan Platt
Gerald J. Porczak
M/M Thomas Potts
Miss Jeanne Reed
Glenn H. Rees
Dale & Kay Reiter
Corrie Rogers
Jim & Nancy Rothenhiel
Brent & Kay Saison
Dixie Sayre Miller Fund
Louis A. Schultz
H. Dennis Sears
Jon & Nancy Seifert
Ms. Erin Snook
Dr. Howard Stertew
Dr. Jim & Kelley Stertew
Ms. Dickie Stone
Synthoss Inc.
Winifred Tart
Scott A. Taylor
Hans & Cheryl Van Velzer
Dave & Linda Voelke
Paul & Karen Wagner
Thomas & Judy Waldsmith
Michael & Marilu Walersyck
Virginia (Penny) Walthier
Dr. Jerry Weitman
Wendt Key Team Realty, Ltd.
Beverly B. White, Esq.
Dr./Mrs. Walter Whittle
James A. Willey
Ronald L. Webster
Wonderly Collision, LLC
Herbert & Nancy Wright
Carolyn Young
Sandra L. Zenser
Zimmerman Paint Contractors Co.
Russ & Ruth Zimmerman
Tom & Mary Zimmerman
Take advantage of new membership benefits

We are focusing more and more on giving you the best value we can for your membership…wherever you live.

Your membership is very important to us because we want to keep you engaged and enlightened. Memberships are vital to the overall strength of our organization. Memberships start as low as $35.

One of our NEW benefits is our Membership 411. The purpose of Membership 411 is to acquaint you, as a member, with all your benefits. No two Membership 411s, which take place quarterly, are the same.

SOON, we will be putting Membership 411 sessions on our website so you can learn behind-the-scenes information from the comfort of your home. Kristina Smith and Gil Gonzalez are videoing and editing content to pique your interest on a multitude of information.

You will hear detailed information on each gallery from our education coordinator, Dustin McLochlin. Head Librarian Becky Hill will share genealogy, research and other library benefits. Curator of Manuscripts Nan Card will share information about our different collections. Annual Giving and Membership Coordinator Meghan Wonderly will acquaint you with our historical grounds, along with all your membership benefits.

JOIN TODAY – and remember memberships include unlimited tours of the museum and home for one full year.

The next Membership 411 sessions take place on-site and will be posted online. They are at 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 8, and 9 a.m. Saturday, March 11.

Topics covered will be:
• Manuscripts: the President Rutherford B. Hayes Collection
• Life in the White House Exhibit
• Boffin’s Bower on the grounds
For the full 2017 Membership 411 schedule, visit rbhayes.org.

Kathy Boukissen
Director of Development

Hayes Egg Roll is an Easter tradition

Kids ages 3-10 are invited to the annual Easter Egg Roll on April 15 at the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums. The event is from 2 to 3:30 p.m. on the lawn of the Hayes Home.

Kids can play a variety of old-fashioned egg games that replicate the famous White House Easter Egg Roll started by President Rutherford B. Hayes. Admission is free, and kids are asked to bring three hard-boiled, colored eggs to use in the games. Prizes are awarded in six age categories.

Face painting, corn hole games and craft activities will be available, and the Easter Bunny will make an appearance.

Each kid receives a balloon, a pass to the Hayes Home or museum and treats.

The event is sponsored by Root’s Poultry and Welly’s Horseradish and Seasonings.

Face-painting is a popular part of the annual Hayes Easter Egg Roll.
Researchers, authors use manuscripts collection

Each year, thousands of students, educators, local and family historians use collections from the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums Manuscripts Division to further their research. Whether with books, theses dissertations, classroom course work or family histories, the Manuscripts Division continually strives to meet the needs of researchers by building on its collections.

2016 was no exception. With help from thoughtful donors, the Manuscripts Division added numerous Hayes family photographs and documents, more than 2,000 local history photographs, an album of nearly 400 signatures of Confederate officers imprisoned on Johnson’s Island during the Civil War and more than 20 images of Eighth Kentucky Cavalrymen, who were part of John Hunt Morgan’s raiders.
Keeping Spiegel Grove beautiful

Spiegel Grove, the 25-acre estate of President Rutherford B. Hayes and home of the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums, also received upgrades in 2016. HPLM worked with the Fremont Tree and Beautification Committee to plant a seedling from the Oklahoma City bombing Survivor Tree, (left), on the grounds in April. It is believed to be the only seedling from the tree planted in Ohio.

The wood trim on the Hayes Home, (right), was painted, improving the look of the home and continuing the historic structure’s preservation. HPLM also published a walking tour brochure of the grounds so that visitors can see various historical points of interest on the site.

“The Hayes Presidential Library & Museums is our No. 1 asset in this community. I want to see it continue to be a viable asset our community can have for many generations down the road.”

-Dick Binau, volunteer and program sponsor
The special exhibit “Presidential Pop Culture: The Art of Influencing Perception” showcases the evolution of the American Presidency in pop culture. Through movies, music, TV, cartoons, toys and memorabilia, visitors gain insight into how pop culture shaped and influenced our perception of presidential hopefuls – winners and losers. Admission is included with the price of a museum ticket. Members are admitted for free. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Monday hours resume in April. Sponsored by KF Construction & Excavating LLC.