The Hayes Presidential Library & Museums was recently honored with a prestigious national award for its preservation and interpretation of state and local history during its centennial in 2016. The American Association for State and Local History gave HPLM a Leadership in History Award at the AASLH conference in September in Austin, Texas.

“It’s such an honor to have national recognition for our centennial projects,” said Christie Weininger, HPLM executive director. The centennial included the grand Centennial Celebration during Memorial Day weekend 2016 and Hayes Family reunion, the museum’s $1.8 million renovation and all-new exhibits and other programs HPLM offered in celebration of its centennial.

HPLM staff members receive the award at the AASLH conference in September in Austin, Texas. Pictured are: AASLH President and CEO John Dichtl and HPLM staff members Kathy Boukissen, Kevin Moore, Dustin McLochlin and Christie Weininger.
‘A New Path Forward’ for HPLM

Maggie Wilson started as the new education coordinator in September. She will work with the new curatorial and education department at the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums to create a dynamic and distinctive array of educational programs, events and exhibits. She also will continue programs like Second Saturdays R 4 Kids and work with teachers and schools to provide curriculum-based learning opportunities for students. She is looking forward to working with the HPLM team and learning more about President Hayes.

“It’s not enough to be busy, so are the ants. The question is, what are we busy about?”
— Henry David Thoreau

The goal of this new division is to revolutionize the way people learn about Rutherford and Lucy Hayes by helping them apply skills they demonstrated, such as conflict resolution, to modern situations.

Our goal is to teach good history while helping people develop tools for addressing real-life problems such as racism, bullying and drug addiction. We also want to create an educated American citizenry who understands how government functions and the role citizens can play in it.

Having established a new identity and substantially updated our infrastructure, the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums has put itself on a new path forward, solidly placed on a foundation built by all who came before us.

The strategic plan ensures that we are a dynamic and evolving organization, responsive to the needs of the public we serve and prepared to take our place on a national stage.

To see for yourself what we will be busy about over the next three years, check out the strategic plan on our website, rbhayes.org!

I extend my hearty thanks our staff, board, members and individuals from businesses and organizations from our community and around the state of Ohio who assisted with the development of our plan. Your input, advice and expertise made a difference! A full list of acknowledgments is included in the plan.

Education coordinator, library technician hired

The Hayes Presidential Library & Museums recently hired a new education coordinator and library technician.

Maggie Wilson started as the new education coordinator in September. She will work with the new curatorial and education department at the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums to create a dynamic and distinctive array of educational programs, events and exhibits.

She also will continue programs like Second Saturdays R 4 Kids and work with teachers and schools to provide curriculum-based learning opportunities for students. She is looking forward to working with the HPLM team and learning more about President Hayes.

“When everyone works together so well and is very passionate,” Wilson said. “It just seems like a great, positive place to work and something I want to be a part of.”

Wilson most recently worked as a docent and substitute tour coordinator at the Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens in Akron. She has bachelor’s degree in history from Heidelberg University and is working on her master’s degree in museum studies at Johns Hopkins University.

In the library, Drew Balduff started as the new library technician in July. Balduff, of Castalia, helps patrons with our property and engage the public with programming.

A key feature in the plan is the reorganization of staff to form an entirely new division: Curatorial and Education.

The last piece of that plan just fell into place in September when our new education coordinator, Maggie Wilson, officially joined the team (Meet Maggie! See the article below, or drop by the museum to say hello.)

Drew Balduff has a bachelor’s degree in English from Bowling Green State University and a master’s degree in library science from the University of Pittsburgh.

“I thought this was a really great opportunity to provide reference services in a unique setting,” Balduff said. “The library has its own niche as a presidential library. I’ve always been intrigued by libraries in museums and am really looking forward to all the wonderful opportunities ahead.”
Visitors have special connection to U.S.S. Spiegel Grove bell in Hayes Museum

Rickey and Punky Dias of Sacramento, California, travel the country to visit the sites of first ladies, who Punky enjoys studying. But the couple had an additional reason for putting the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums on their travel list last summer.

The Hayes Museum houses the bell from the ship “U.S.S. Spiegel Grove,” on which Rickey served in the U.S. Navy when the ship made its maiden voyage in 1955.

“We knew the bell was here, and I had to see it,” said Rickey, who was a member of the ship’s original crew who worked as a plank owner. “This is an honor for me. It means a lot to see it.”

The ship is named in honor of President Hayes’ estate, Spiegel Grove. It was christened on Nov. 10, 1955, in Pascagoula, Mississippi, by Hayes relative Martha Baker Hayes.

The ship was decommissioned on Oct. 1, 1989. It was purposely sunk on May 17, 2002, off the coast of Key Largo for the artificial reef and is a popular destination for divers.

The ship’s bell is a point of interest to many visitors, especially those who have a connection to it.

In July, Evan Graver of Kenton, Ohio, who visits presidential homes across the country, was surprised when he arrived at HPLM and learned the President Hayes’ estate was called Spiegel Grove.

He asked the staff member Dan Baker whether the name was related to the ship. Dan explained the connection and directed him to see the ship’s bell, which is located in the museum weapons room. The bell is on loan to HPLM from the Department of the Navy, Naval History and Heritage Command.

Graver, a U.S. Navy veteran, dove on the ship and knew its history. “It’s an incredible ship to explore,” he said. “It’s huge. Coral has grown all over it, and there are so many fish you can see there.”

The Spiegel Grove was a docking ship for landing boats, which accounts for its massive size, Graver said. The ship measures 510 feet. During his dives there, he has seen sharks, eels, Goliath grouper and more.

Gateway, continued from page 1

“This museum has evolved over the years from the old museum model of labeling artifacts in a display case to a much greater degree of explaining how the historic items fit in the big picture of our history.

“We need to continue to improve the telling of our story.”

Other projects that the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums would like to fund through Gateway to the Future are painting the wood trim on the outside of the Hayes Home lantern, the set of windows at the top of the home that offers a 360-degree view of Spiegel Grove and adding a display case for President Hayes’ papers and books in the library.

Gateway to the Future also would continue to fund daily operations and HPLM’s educational programs and classes.

“I’m involved in this campaign because I think it is important for the Hayes family to support the library, the museum and the preservation of the house in a visible, public way,” Jean Hayes said. “The Hayes Presidential Library & Museums is a place where interesting and valuable family records and artifacts are kept safe and made available to the public.

“These items belong not just to the family, but to all Americans and our history.”
For modern Americans, grabbing hamburgers to grill for dinner or making an ice cream sundae on a hot day is as simple as opening the refrigerator or freezer. This wasn’t always the case. Cold beverages, frozen treats and refrigerated perishables were once the exclusive luxury of the affluent. Beginning in the early 19th century, the ice harvesting industry revolutionized the lives of common people by providing them with cheap, abundant ice.

One of the biggest ice producers was Lake Erie and its Sandusky Bay. The latest special exhibit at the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library & Museums, “Ice for Everybody: Lake Erie and America’s Ice Harvesting Industry” will explain the story of how the Sandusky area became the center of a century-long mammoth industry that changed the way Americans lived. The exhibit will be open Nov. 3 – Feb. 25.

“The only connection most people have with this topic is the first three minutes of the Disney movie ‘Frozen,’ and that’s unfortunate,” said Kevin Moore, associate curator of artifacts. “We are all connected to this topic, and we don’t even know it.

“Why is beef a staple of the American diet today? Ice-refrigerated train cars allowed a massive meat packing industry to develop. There is much of our modern culture, particularly as it relates to food and drink, that owes its existence to the ice harvesting industry.”

Through historic photos from the museum’s Charles E. Frohman Collection and artifacts, such as an icebox and tools used in the trade, this exhibit will show the impact Northwest Ohio icemen and their work on the frozen lake and

Did you know? Sandusky was major ice maker

Curator of Manuscripts Nan Card shares information from the Hayes’ Presidential Library & Museums’ vast manuscript collections.

Sandusky, Ohio, was the largest ice producer west of New York City during the latter half of the 19th century.

Noted for its solid, “crystal blue, clear as glass” ice, the city became known as the “Ice Capital of the Great Lakes.”

Icemen eagerly watched the waters of Lake Erie until they froze to a depth of 8 to 16 inches. For as long as “good ice making” weather held, as many as 2,000 Sanduskirians endured 10-hour days of harsh winds and frigid temperatures for a daily wage of $2.

Harvesting quality ice depended on selecting the perfect field. Great care was taken to locate solid ice containing little snow or slush. Draft horses fitted with steel-cleat horseshoes pulled scrapers and planes to create a smooth surface free of snow.

Marking plows followed to score the ice at right angles in 2-foot squares. Harvester then guided teams pulling cutting plows over the scored ice. Sawyers wielding ice saws finished the job by separating each block from the field.

Finally, “pikers” using 16-foot poles floated the “cakes” down an open channel to the shoreline where men pushed the blocks up planks to a conveyor that carried the ice to a storage shed.

During winter 1911, Sandusky commercial photographer Ernst Niebergall documented the farmers and fishermen as they harvested just over 10,000 tons. Years later, the late Charles Frohman purchased his glass negatives and donated them to the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums. Many of them appear online at “Lake Erie’s Yesterdays.” Other Niebergall prints are part of the Manuscripts Division’s collections.

That 1911 harvest was only a quarter of the ice brought in the previous year and a mere fraction harvested during the “golden age” of the 1870s and 1880s.

During those heydays as much as 400,000 tons were stored or shipped each winter. The ice was used to preserve the more than 30,000 pounds of fish caught daily during the season. Sandusky also provided most of Ohio’s cities with ice, including 90 percent of that consumed by Cleveland.

According to the local papers, the Sandusky “crystal quality ice put the murky, sewer-tainted Cleveland ice to shame.” Dealers in cities as distant as St. Louis ordered ice from Sandusky. As many as 500 ice-laden rail cars left Sandusky each day during harvesting.

By 1920, the industry had begun to wane, but local fisheries and breweries continued to harvest ice until 1941 when, for the last time, the icemen ventured onto Lake Erie to bring in the final crop of Sandusky “crystal, blue” ice.
Family donates $45,000 in books to library

When Earl R. McLoney learned his great-great uncle was a Union soldier who died in the Civil War, he began reading as many Civil War books as he could and visiting battlefields.

It was the beginning of a lifelong interest in the Civil War. Through the decades, McLoney, a family doctor in Norwalk, Ohio, amassed a collection of an estimated 550 Civil War books, many of which focused on Civil War surgery and medicine, and artifacts. He participated in historical and Civil War organizations.

“As long as I can remember, I collected Civil War stuff,” said his eldest daughter, Karen Stormer of Troy. “As kids, we visited every battlefield at least once.”

After Earl and his wife, Evelyn, died, the family wanted to find a good home for his beloved collection of books, valued at $45,000. After much research and searching, they decided to donate the collection to the Hayes Presidential Library.

The McLoneys’ three children – Stormer, Gail Klein of Delphos and Dr. Mark McLoney of Cleveland – and their families made the donation Aug. 26. The collection ranges in books from the 1860s to 2010 and covers topics including medical books, regimental histories and personal memoirs.

“It’s valuable especially for the medical part,” said Becky Hill, head librarian at the Hayes Presidential Library. “The personal memoirs are valuable. Those are primary sources.”

When the books are cataloged and entered into online databases, more researchers will know they are available at the Hayes Presidential Library, Hill said.

“Our goal was to have it all together as much as possible,” Klein said. “It’s nice the collection will be intact here. I know our dad would be pleased.”

The Hayes Presidential Library is a fitting place for the books because President Rutherford B. Hayes served in the Civil War and rose to the rank of general.

Hayes also cataloged and carefully preserved his books and artifacts, just as Earl did with his, Mark said.

“I’m just excited that something my dad loved and took so much pride in is going to have a good home,” Mark said.

Exhibit, continued from page 4

bay had on a national industry. The exhibit also will feature videos of locals who remember the days when their food was refrigerated in iceboxes with big blocks of ice.

The exhibit takes its name from an 1881 New York Times article detailing the ice harvesting boom. The newspaper said there was “plenty of ice for everybody.”

As artificial refrigeration was developed, the industry began to wane and was gone by the end of the 1940s.

“Ice harvesting is the nation’s forgotten industry,” Moore said. “It employed tens of thousands of farmhands, laborers and railway workers through the winter when they would otherwise be desperate for work. At the industry’s peak, these icemen annually harvested 25 million tons of ice from the country’s waterways. That’s significant.”

Award, continued from page 1

“The organization’s centennial in 2016 was the catalyst for transformational change, providing the opportunity to redesign 8,000 square feet of exhibit space, make repairs, add accessibility features and increase the museum’s presence in their town,” according to AASLH.

“This comprehensive revitalization and rebranding of the nation’s first presidential library sets an important precedent for relevance and continual re-evaluation of mission and audience.”

HPLM staff members Weininger; Kathy Boukissen, director of development; Dustin McLochlin, curator; and Kevin Moore, associate curator of artifacts, attended the conference and received the award on behalf of HPLM.

“The Leadership in History Awards are AASLH’s highest distinction and the winners represent the best in the field,” said Trina Nelson Thomas, AASLH awards chairman.

The awards are meant to establish and encourage standards of excellence in the collection, preservation and interpretation of state and local history in order to make the past more meaningful to all Americans. These awards serve as an inspiration to others in the field.

AASLH is a not-for-profit professional organization of individuals and institutions working to preserve and promote history.
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**June 15 - Sept. 12, 2017**

**Cash and pledges = $176,468**

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Meghan Wonderly
Two popular holiday traditions return to the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library & Museums this Christmas season: The “Hayes Train Special” model train display and horse-drawn sleigh rides through Spiegel Grove.

The “Hayes Train Special” opens the season on Nov. 24 and will delight visitors with its interactive Victorian display through Jan. 7.

A Christmas tradition at the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums since 1994, the display winds through a holiday winter wonderland that recalls the days of President Rutherford B. Hayes.

Each year, model train enthusiasts help staff design a layout with different features for this 12-foot-by-24-foot display. Visitors can blow the train whistle, run the Ferris wheel, lower the crossing gates and more with interactive buttons.

The “Hayes Train Special” has been a favorite of kids and adults, and some families come each year to see it.

The display started when Dana Lamberjack, a high school student from Findlay, raised money to buy a train and track to put under a Christmas tree in the Hayes Home for her Children of the American Revolution project.

In the following years, the train display moved to the museum. Lamberjack’s advisor, Marjorie Knight, and her husband, Gordon W. Knight, came from Columbus to set up the display and donated items to add to it.

In another Christmas tradition, South Creek Clydesdales will offer horse-drawn sleigh and trolley rides through Spiegel Grove from 1 to 4 p.m. Dec. 26-31.

Cost is $3 per rider ages 3 and older. Kids 2 and younger ride for free. Tickets are offered on a first-come, first-served basis, and no reservations are taken.

A horse-drawn trolley may be used in addition to or in place of the sleigh depending on demand and South Creek’s staffing levels. Rides can take place whether or not there is snow.

At the end of the holiday season, visitors can get help and advice for sprucing up their model trains at the Model Train Clinic from 1 to 4 p.m. Jan. 6. Veteran model train hobbyists lead the clinic. Admission is $2 or free with the purchase of a regular museum ticket.
Local man donates time, materials for desks

When the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums was undergoing renovation, it needed new desks for ticket sales and the Museum Store.

The desks are among the first things visitors see when they enter the museum/library building, so they needed to be special.

Enter Bob Grayson, of Fremont, who runs a local painting company and does woodworking and carpentry in his spare time.

Grayson, recruited by HPLM board member Richard Smith, volunteered his time during the winter 2015-2016 to custom build the two desks. Grayson also donated most of the wood, including cherry trees he had harvested in Rice Township, just outside Fremont.

“It’s my contribution to the museum,” Grayson said. “I enjoyed doing it, and I learned a lot in the process.”

The Fremont Company donated the granite counter tops for the stately looking desks. More than a year after they were installed, the desks still look like new.

“They’re built to last,” Grayson said.

When you become part of ‘history’

Kathy Boukissen
Director of Development

What an eye-opening experience visiting the Ohio History Connection’s exhibit “1950s: Building the American Dream.” It features a Lustron Home, a prefab enameled steel home made in Ohio.

They promote it as “Go Back to the 1950s.” Hey there…I lived in that period; and younger people are looking through the home as “history?” You mean not everyone remembers using a phone with a cord and staying in one place while you talk? Or when ironing was a daily occurrence with a board or a peddle push machine? Doesn’t everyone have brothers that had chenille cowboy bedspreads? Remember when TVs had only three channels and you sat and read from a book…no iPads?

History is FUN! I enjoyed stepping back in time and remembering a lifestyle that was much different. Just like so many aspects of history, there is always something to be learned and it is a reminder that decisions we make today will impact future generations.

They may not understand these decisions, but as later generations research our generation, they will come to learn from our mistakes and our accomplishments.

Looking back is fun and interesting. Embrace your museums, exhibits and libraries; they have information that shape who we are today.

We hope you appreciate the historic value of the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums and invest in this year’s Gateway to the Future campaign. Your gift impacts our future educational programming. Thank you!
Get social with HPLM

Get live updates, see photos and video from events, share your photos from the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums and more by following HPLM’s social media pages.

Don’t miss a single #ThrowbackThursday or #MuseumMonday!

Find HPLM on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram at @rbhayespres. HPLM also has a YouTube account.

Staff member to read Vietnam Wall names

Julie Mayle, Hayes Presidential Library & Museums associate curator of manuscripts, has been selected to read the names of Vietnam Veterans listed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial wall in Washington, D.C., on Nov. 10 in honor of Veterans Day, which is Nov. 11.

Mayle will begin reading at 4:14 p.m. at the wall. One of the names she will read is Lance Cpl. Miguel Keith, who was a member of her father’s Marine Corps unit. Keith was killed in action on May 8, 1970 and was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and Congressional Medial of Honor.

“It is truly a privilege and an honor to have been given this opportunity,” Mayle said. “It’s about taking the time to pay tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

As part of the commemoration of the wall’s 35th anniversary, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund will have people read the names of the more than 58,000 service members listed on the wall. This process will take a few days and involve readers from across the country.

Hayes Library offers genealogy classes

Learn to trace your family history, make a family tree, find details of your house’s past and more through genealogy classes offered at the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library & Museums.

The “Learning About Your Past” series classes cover a variety of topics and levels of genealogy. Becky Hill, head librarian at the Hayes Presidential Library and an experienced genealogist, leads these classes.

Times are 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Cost is $10 per person and can be paid the day of class or online at rbhayes.org. Preregister to Hill at bhill@rbhayes.org. Classes are sponsored by RootsMagic, Inc.

Upcoming classes are:


• Feb. 17 – Make a Family Tree on Ancestry.com – Head Librarian Becky Hill and Dustin Austin will give an overview on how to create an online family tree with an Ancestry.com subscription. Audience participation will be encouraged.

• March 3 – Beginning Genealogy – Learn to get started doing your family history, especially using the resources available at the Hayes Presidential Library.

• March 24 – Using Free Genealogy Websites – Learn how to utilize the free genealogical websites in family history research. Such internet sources as the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums’ Ohio Obituary Index, along with FamilySearch.org, USGenweb.org, Worldcat.org, EllisIsland.org and other popular websites will be explored in depth.

• April 7 – Ancestry.com & Paid Genealogy Websites – Learn how to make the most of the paid subscription sites available at the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums – Ancestry.com, FindMyPast, Fold3; HeritageQuest, MyHeritage.com, NewspaperArchives and AmericanAncestors.org.
The National Park Service National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom recently added the home of Lucy and Rutherford Hayes at Spiegel Grove to its registry.

Joining this network of sites is a great achievement and showcases a part of the Hayes’ past that is often overshadowed.

Although the home was not a stop on the Underground Railroad, it does serve as a commemoration to a couple who worked to end slavery.

For those of us who have studied Rutherford’s life, we know that he was a lawyer in Cincinnati during the 1850s and joined the northern army after the outbreak of the Civil War. What strikes me about this era of Rutherford’s life, however, is how it complicates my assumptions of this eventual president.

Since I have begun studying this man, I have seen him as a steady, moderate force in his moment in history.

In the tumultuous time of Reconstruction, civil service reform and currency problems, Hayes found a path that, while not always noncontroversial, seemed to have a moderating impact on American politics. This image of Hayes does not necessarily match what I see when he was a lawyer and warrior working to end slavery.

Hayes explained, “As a young lawyer, from the passage of the Fugitive Slave Law until the war I was often engaged in Slave Cases (sic) for the fugitives—having an understanding with Levi Coffin and other Directors and Officers (sic) of the U.R.R. that my services would be freely given….

“I should say that there came to my knowledge forty cases; but of this number only three or four came to the ears of the public, and during three or four winters this thing [defending escaped slaves] was an important part of my life.” He even remarks that he “never went to bed without expecting to be called out by Levi Coffin.”

Two cases have been recorded and remembered about Hayes’ defense of escaped slaves.

One involved a slave named Lewis who did not wait for the verdict of his case and decided to make a run for it. Hayes wrote that Lewis “slipped out under the table at which we were sitting, and crawled along under the legs of a row of fellows, and was taken to a buggy in a lane nearby, and was spirited on.”

His most important case involved a young girl named Rosetta Armstead in 1855. Working with the famous Salmon P. Chase, Hayes made the closing argument for Armstead, which reportedly resulted in “unrestrainable applause” from the courtroom audience. Chase wrote that Hayes “acquitted himself with great distinction in the defense of Rosetta.” The court declared Armstead free under both U.S. and Ohio law.

Hayes’ resolve to see the end of slavery is magnified when we consider his decision to go to war at the age of 38. What is most striking about his choice is the reason he fought.

Very early in the conflict, Hayes laid out his views on the slavery question, writing, “We are at the same high call here today—freedom, freedom for all. We all know that is the essence of this contest.”

He continued his thoughts: “I am gradually drifting to the opinion that this Rebellion can only be crushed finally by either the execution of all the traitors or the abolition of slavery. Crushed, I mean, so as to remove all danger of its breaking out again in the future.”

When contraband slaves surrendered themselves to Hayes, he ensured they were allowed to head north, even recommending some for employment on his uncle’s property. He also trusted and encouraged contrabands who made it to his regiment.

Hayes was concerned to keep escaped slaves safe, noting, “there is little present danger of attempt to recapture them under the Fugitive Bill, but it may be done hereafter.” He concluded, “Slavery is getting death-blows. As an ‘institution,’ it perishes in this war. It will take years to get rid of the debris, but the ‘sacred’ is gone.”

These are not the words and actions of a man who had a moderate view on slavery. As we continue to do research on Rutherford and Lucy, we may continue to be surprised with the unrelenting resolve of this important couple.

Their home, unquestionably, deserves a place in the memory of the Network to Freedom.
Nature at the Grove

Huge turnout on beautiful day

Hundreds of people came to GroveFest: Nature at the Grove, the annual outdoors event at the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums that took place June 24. From hands-on activities to pony rides, petting zoos and live animal demonstrations, visitors learned about nature in the picturesque setting of Spiegel Grove, the 25-acre wooded estate of Rutherford and Lucy Hayes.