The first months of 2016 there has been a flurry of activity in the Village. The most significant are the visual changes, including the painting and restoration of the exterior of Elk Lick. Once Hayner House was painted in 2014, I was tasked with seeing to the needs of Elk Lick. The house had serious areas of peeling paint and holes created by birds. Once restoration was undertaken, it was discovered that the Yankee gutters leaked. All these areas were addressed by February, and painting commenced in March and was completed by the end of April. We chose paint colors appropriate to the 1870s since we interpret the interior for this time period.

To fund the restoration and painting, several grants were written. Funding for the restoration and painting of Elk Lick came from the William S. Rowe Foundation; Robert H. Reakirt Foundation, PNC Bank, Trustee; Oliver Family Foundation; and August A. Rendigs, Jr., Foundation.

Another project that spruced up the Village was the renovation of the public restrooms in the basement of Hayner House. Former Volunteer of the Year Mark Meckes undertook this project the first quarter of the year. This included new fixtures, paint, lighting, and more. The restrooms look marvelous and led one third grade girl here for a school visit to comment “This is pretty. I like the pink walls.” Funding for this project came from Wayne Purintun, an anonymous donor, and a discount from Lowes on the fixtures.

The education volunteers who work with school children are looking sharp these days, with many of them wearing new period clothing purchased through two grants. The Louise Taft Semple Foundation and the Sutphin Family Foundation provided funding so that we could expand the time periods we interpret for the school programs. This helps the children understand that those living in the early 1800s had different clothing from those who lived later in that century.

We would like to thank all the foundations, individuals, and organizations that helped supported the Village in these projects. Also we thank all the volunteers that helped make the clothing and worked on the bathroom renovation, and helped with the education programs. Special recognition goes out to our Volunteer of the Year, Jim Smith, and Junior Volunteer of the Year, Maggie Seeck, for all they did in 2015.

When you read this issue of the newsletter, the new accessibility ramp for Elk Lick will be complete. More information on this project will be shared once it is in use.
Saturday, August 13: In Singular Focus—Art show and sale

Come to the opening celebration of "In Singular Focus," an art show & sale presented by the Greater Milford Area Historical Society in Milford and the Heritage Village Museum in Sharon Woods.

In Singular Focus will open on Saturday, August 13, and will hang through September 11, 2016 at the Hayner House at Heritage Village Museum.

A portion of art sales will be retained by the non-profit presenters in support of their respective community programming.

**Time (for opening celebration on August 13):**
2 to 5 p.m.

**Best for:** teens and grown-ups

**Cost:** FREE

Saturday, August 20: 1840 Whig Rally

We’re hosting an 1840 election rally—come and find out if you’re on Team Van Buren or Team William Henry Harrison! Hear Harrison speak—along with local 1840 senator Thomas Morris. Learn campaign songs, make your campaign button, and print and cast your ballot. And watch out for a duel of honor during the day!

**Time:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Best for:** all ages

**Cost:** $5 adults, $3 for kids 5-12, **free** for kids under 4 and members.

Saturday, August 27: Raiders on the Ohio (Morgan’s Raid)

Heritage Village Museum is partnering with the Buffington Island Battlefield Preservation Foundation as they gather stories and oral histories in an effort to expand the knowledge and awareness of CSA General John Hunt Morgan’s Great Raid of 1863. Come to share your family’s stories, or to listen to the stories of others! These events are free to the public and all are welcome.

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Best for:** teens and adults

**Cost:** FREE
Coming soon to Heritage Village Museum!

Sunday, September 4: First Sunday at Heritage Village Museum

Throughout the summer, Heritage Village Museum has tour guides on duty on Wednesdays through Sundays. On the First Sunday of each month, we have extra volunteers in a few of our buildings so visitors get the chance to see a little bit more.

Time: 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Best for: all ages
Cost: $5 for ages 12 and up, $3 for ages 5 to 12, free for members and children under 4.

This is the last “First Sunday” of the season—come on out and visit!

Automatic Monthly Giving Program

As a friend of Heritage Village Museum, you can support the mission of Historic Southwest Ohio, Inc. each month with a donation using your credit card. By making this recurring gift, you will add to the financial stability of the Village. Just complete the form below and mail it or drop it off at the office.

_____ Yes, I want Historic Southwest Ohio, Inc. to charge my credit card monthly in the amount checked below. I understand I need to tell you when I no longer wish to give.

Choose amount: ___$50  ___$25  ___$15  ___$10  $(any amount greater than $5)

Cardholder name: ____________________________________________________________

Card number: ______________________________________________________________

Expiration Date: _____/______  3-digit security code: ____________

Cardholder signature: _______________________________________________________

_____ My employer, _______________________________, will match my gift.
Let's talk politics. Two candidates running for the presidency can be described like this: One is a member of the Washington elite, vetted by the former president, and is both a former US Secretary of State and US Senator from New York. The other is a wealthy man trying to run as the crusader for the “common man,” sick of a government that is not listening to them. That sound about right? What if I told you I was talking about Martin Van Buren and William Henry Harrison on the campaign trail of 1840?

The quest for the presidency in 1840 was between incumbent Democrat President Martin Van Buren and Whig candidate, William Henry Harrison. Van Buren was a New York native who had been a senator and later, the Secretary of State, appointed by Andrew Jackson. Harrison was a wealthy Virginia native whose grandfather signed the Declaration of Independence. He was known as an Indian Fighter, “Old Tippecanoe,” and Governor of the Indiana Territory. Harrison's permanent home was located in North Bend, Ohio, west of Cincinnati.

The Presidential Election of 1840 bears a striking resemblance to that of our current election cycle. Van Buren was at the helm during an economic downturn that led to the polarization of political opinion. Battle lines were drawn and once again the two-party system came to life. Politically biased newspapers sprang up or were purchased by the two political parties to extoll the virtues of their candidate, while disparaging the other. Accusations of media bias flew from both sides. Harrison became the first presidential candidate to speak on his own to the public. He also eschewed the flowery oratory of the past and spoke in a frank, direct way about the issues. He called the current government a “monarchy,” and promised that he would curtail the power of the presidency. He referred to himself as a simple farmer and stated that, “I say what I think.” Sitting president, Martin Van Buren, was castigated for being part of the “establishment,” prolonging the suffering of the common man.

The political rallies leading up to the 1840 election were boisterous and well attended. A Whig rally in Cincinnati was estimated to have 100,000 people in attendance with a parade stretching nearly three miles. John Quincy Adams, who was in attendance, commented on the crowd's “state of agitation” and their “belligerent and aggressive nature.” These rallies were often helped along in their boisterousness by the liberal distribution of hard cider. The singing of campaign songs and slogans by drunken revelers often wafted through the air to add to the din.

When the dust settled, William Henry Harrison found himself elected the ninth President of the United States. As most know, his tenure did not last long. Harrison fell ill after delivering his inaugural address. He never recovered. Harrison was in office for only 32 days. He has the unfortunate distinction of the shortest tenure and being the first president to die in office. What Harrison managed to accomplish reached far beyond his 32 days in office.

The modern campaign had been born. Replete with slogans, songs, memorabilia, public appearances by the candidate, manipulation of the media, and the use of negative campaigning, the precedent had been set for campaigns to follow.

Join us on Saturday, August 20, for a Whig Rally of our own! See page 2 for details.
The Children’s Page

What do you do when you have no toys handy to occupy the children? In the nineteenth-century, this was not a problem! Read on for a couple of activities that require no supplies but your imagination.

French and English

French and English is like tug of war—but without the rope. In Lydia Marie Childs’ 1833 book of children’s games (titled The Girl’s Own Book), the game is described like this: “This game being merely a trial of strength, may be thought unsuitable to little girls; but I know that families of brothers and sisters are very fond of it.

It consists of two parties, whose numbers are equal. A line is drawn on the ground, or on the floor, and the object of each of these parties is to draw the other entirely over it. When everyone is drawn over, the other side calls them prisoners and claim a victory. Those who join hands in the centre should be very careful not to let go suddenly, for this would be sure to occasion sudden and violent falls.” (Those of us who have played this game at Heritage Village Museum can attest to that!)

The Minister’s Cat

All players sit in a circle. The first player describes the minister’s cat with any adjective that starts with the letter "A".

Example: "The minister's cat is an adorable cat." The next player must also use the letter "A" - such as "The minister's cat is an angry cat.", and so on all the way around the circle. When it comes back to the first player the letter "B" is used - example: "The minister's cat is a bashful cat." Anyone who can't come up with an adjective or repeats one that was already used is out of the game.

Alternative: The first person uses an “A” adjective, the second person uses a “B” adjective, and so on.
Volunteers of the Year

At our June volunteer meeting, we announced our 2015 Volunteer of the Year and our 2015 Junior Volunteer of the Year. Both of them work closely with Education Director Steve Preston, who had some nice things to say about them:

Volunteer of the Year: Jim Smith

Jim Smith has just finished his first full year as an education volunteer. Jim is a former educator, among other careers. He speaks three languages and currently gives language lessons.

Jim enjoys interpreting the Fetter Store and Kemper Log Home for children. He also volunteers for Village special events and enjoys extra research on our buildings. Jim has the distinction of being the best dressed male volunteer for education programs.

Junior Volunteer of the Year: Maggie Seeck

Maggie Seeck is our Junior Volunteer of the Year. She is a sophomore at Ursuline Academy and the daughter of Molly and John Seeck.

As a “junior intern” this past summer, Maggie took on the research of the origins of the Benedict Cottage. Through her diligent work, the Village now has a clearer picture of the role this building played during the 19th century. Aside from her research endeavors, she helps out at most every Village special event.

Kroger Community Rewards

You can help Heritage Village Museum while you do your grocery shopping! Be sure to link your Kroger Plus Card to Historic Southwest Ohio at www.krogercommunityrewards.com. Our non-profit organization (NPO) number is 82559.
Donations needed

Are you cleaning out your closets, garage, or basement? Keep an eye out for these things Heritage Village Museum can use for upcoming projects:

- Bed sheets (all shapes, sizes, and colors)
- Tea cups (of any sort)
- Hinges

And if you wind up getting rid of a particle board entertainment center or set of shelves, we can use shelves that are about 15 by 24 inches.

Thanks for your help!
Mark your calendar for our family-friendly
Haunted Village
Friday and Saturday nights
from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
October 14 & 15, 21 & 22, 28 & 29

Board of Directors
President: Rob Carter, Vice President: Marshall Tucker, 2nd Vice President: John Seeck
Treasurer: George Euskirchen, Secretary: Wayne Purintun
Rudy Beaujon, Sally Connelly, Roxann Dieffenbach, Sonya Kirkland, Ann Klusmeier, Amy Roell, Park Board Liason

Check out our website,
www.heritagevillagecincinnati.org for all the latest news
and upcoming events happening at the Village!