THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GENERAL LEW WALLACE STUDY & MUSEUM

FROM THE STUDY

November 2013

Volume 14, Issue 3



GENERAL LEW WALLACE STUDY & MUSEUM

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7th Annual Holiday Tea Returns to Elston, Lane Place

Erin Gobel Associate Director/Education

On Friday, December 6, the 7th Annual Holiday Tea & Fashion Show returns to the Elston Homestead and Lane Place. This event allows ticket holders a rare chance to see two of Crawfordsville's most prestigious historic homes and enjoy holiday merriment, while supporting the Museum.



Dee Hohlbein, Barb South, Marie Stocks & Joyce Pyle model fashions from healthcliff in 2012

The Elston Homestead, located on Pike Street, was

> the childhood home of Susan Elston Wallace. The house, now home to Wabash College President, Gregory Hess, and his wife, Lora, will be decorated for the holiday season by Milligan's Flow-

ers & Gifts. Event goers can also enjoy an interactive fashion show

continued on page 4



Visitors TASTE Best of County

Stephanie Cain

Visitor Services The 7th Annual TASTE of Montgomery County was a rousing success, thanks to approximately 2100 visitors, 19 vendors, and 3 amazing musical acts. Even the weather cooperated and delivered a sunny day.

Popular local band KSW@G opened the day's musical festivities. Band members Stephanie Pool, Ken Ton Lee, Wayne Lehr, and Chris "Gooch" Andel, performed country and pop hits from the 1950s to the present.

Lafayette's Big Swing Band, 18 members strong, brought rave reviews from the afternoon crowd with swing music and big band favorites. To close out the evening, Lafayette native Michael Kelsey brought together a talented group of performers, including nationally-recognized harmonica player L.D. Miller. The Michael Kelsey Group provided an exciting acoustic guitar experience and had a crowd of dancers kicking up their heels all evening.

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Museum Staff Director Larry Paarlberg 765-362-5769 Ext. 101 lpaarlberg@ben-hur.com

Associate Director/Collections Amanda McGuire 765-362-5769 Ext. 100 amcguire@ben-hur.com

Associate Director/Education Erin Gobel 765-362-5769 Ext. 102 egobel@ben-hur.com

> Visitor Services Stephanie Cain 765-362-5769 Ext. 105 scain@ben-hur.com

> Grounds Manager Deb King 765-362-5769 Ext. 103 dking@ben-hur.com

Notes From The Director



This past summer the American Alliance of Museums shared some surprising statistics related to the impact that arts and culture in general, and museums in particular, have on the American

economy. These included:

•850 million visits each year to American museums. In contrast, attendance for all major league sporting events and theme parks combined was 483 million visits.

•Museum volunteers contribute in excess of one million hours of service every WEEK!

•Museums spend \$2 billion annually on educational activities and have 55 million visits each year from school groups.

•Museums employ 400,000 Americans and directly contribute \$21 billion to the U.S. economy each year, in addition to indirect contributions.

These statistics are impressive and important to remember, but they are not the whole story. Museums also are the keepers of cultural heritage in a changing world. Maintaining this heritage at an international, national, state, regional, local and even personal level is a fundamental service provided by museums. In March 2013, the Tampa Bay Times ran an article by Bruce Feiler entitled "Every Family needs a story of its own to tell." In his article Feiler states that with the disintegration of the traditional family, "the single most important thing you can do for your family may be the simplest of all: develop a strong family narrative." Understanding family history, good times and bad, successes and failures, can strengthen generational bonds and empower children. Sara Duke, a psychologist who works with children with learning disabilities, noticed that students who knew a lot about their families tended to do better when they faced stressful challenges. Her husband, a psychologist at Emory University put her observations to the test in a research study he called the "Do you know?" study. After a battery of tests, the results strongly indicated that the more children knew about their family's history, the stronger their sense of control over their lives, the higher their self-esteem, the greater their emotional resilience and the more successfully they believed their families functioned. The "Do you know?" scale turned out to be the best single predictor of children's emotional health and happiness. Children who know something of their family's trials and tribulations have a strong sense of belonging to something bigger than themselves and feel less alone as they face challenges.

This year GLWSM has addressed this issue with our annual exhibit entitled: Generations: The Descendants of Lew & Susan Wallace. This exhibit, in the Lynne D. Hohlbein Education Room in the Carriage House, shared some of the successes and challenges of Lew and Susan's son and grandchildren. It looked at Wallace family traits that surfaced time and again. Our programming supported this exhibit, sharing information on ways that individuals can begin to develop their own personal family narratives through primary source research, photo and document preservation and writing so that stories can be remembered and shared through the generations.

The Museum works to keep the memory of Lew Wallace and his remarkable story alive and pertinent. We also do our best to be a contributor to the local economy. Perhaps most importantly, we hope that we encourage the Montgomery County community and our regional visitors to consider their family stories and the impact that current and past generations will have on the future. Children need to know where they come from, both their family and their community, if they are going to step into the future with confidence.

Making a Historic Difference Campaign

Since its initiation earlier this year, the Making A Historic Difference campaign for the upgrade of the electrical system in the Study and the restoration of the interior paint finishes has made great progress. We have raised over **\$230,000** toward our goal of **\$300,000**! We hope to raise the remaining funds as quickly as possible so that we can begin this work that will

completely transform the interior presentation of the Study. Just imagine walking into the Study with the intricate fresco in the vault highlighting aspects of Lew's military career—lighted with almost 50 light bulbs sparkling in gilded splendor!

We appreciate every donor who has contributed through pledge or gift to date. We could not be where we are without you! To make contributing as easy as possible, gifts can be made with a personal check, by going to www. ben-hur.com and making an on-line gift or by contributing through a brokerage account established at Hoosier Heartland State Bank for this project. If you would like to access the brokerage account, contact Terry Daniels (tdaniels@madisonreps.com) or Brad Monts (bmonts@myhhsb.com).

One very effective way you can make a tremendous difference

to this campaign is through a gift from your IRA. Don't Miss Out on This Tax-Smart Opportunity!

Congress recently reinstated a law that allows individuals 70 1/2 and older to transfer up to \$100,000 from an IRA directly to a qualified charity – such as the General Lew Wallace Study & Museum – without having to pay income taxes on the money.



Associate Director Erin Gobel updates the campaign fundraising sign near the courthouse

Known as the IRA charitable rollover, this law has been extended to the end of 2013.

Your gift will qualify under this law if:

* You are 70 1/2 or older at the time of your gift.

* You transfer up to \$100,000 directly from you IRA. This opportunity applies only to IRAs and not to other types of retirement plans. * You transfer funds outright to one or more qualified charities. The legislation does not permit direct transfers to charitable trusts, donor advised funds, charitable gift annuities, or supporting organizations.

If you took a distribution from your IRA in December 2012 and then made a gift prior to February 1, 2013, the law allows you to treat it as a direct transfer.

Why Consider This Donation Option? The transfer generates neither taxable income nor a tax deduction, so you benefit even if you do not itemize your tax deductions.

Also, if you have not yet taken your required minimum distribution for the year, your IRA charitable rollover gift can satisfy all or part of that requirement. Contact your investment advisor for more information about this opportunity to Make A Historic Difference!!



Holiday Tea, continued

continued from page 1

featuring models and fashions from local boutique *heathcliff*. Tea will be served, complete with coffee, sweets, and savory snacks provided by Bon Appétit. Door prizes, generously provided by local merchants, will be awarded throughout the afternoon. Visitors can

also enjoy live holiday music from the Wabash College T-Tones.

Lane Place, located on Water Street, was once the home of Henry Lane

(Left) Ginny Maharry & Johanna Herring with the Johanna cake and (right) a beautiful holiday wreath designed by Laura Conners on display in 2012

and his wife Joanna, sister of Susan Wallace. Lane Place will be decorated with oneof-a-kind holiday collections, including creches and Santas. The popular "Making Spirits Bright" Holiday wreath sale will also be on display at Lane Place. Local artists and designers have created unique holiday wreaths that will be available for purchase. These beautiful, handcrafted wreaths make great holidays presents to give or to keep for years to come!

Pattison Pavilion, a gazebo located on the grounds of Lane Place, will also be decorated for the holidays and a special bird house prize will be raffled off at the Pavilion. "Our Holiday Tea has become a popular way to welcome in the holiday season," said Larry Paarlberg, Museum Director.



"The museum is fortunate to have such willing and generous organizations, including Lane Place, Wabash Col-

lege and other local businesses and individuals, support our event. This year we are so excited to help welcome Lora Hess

to our community."

Make a day of it! In addition to down-

town shopping before the Tea, guests can also make plans to attend "Scrooge: The Stingiest Man in Town," performed by the Sugar Creek Players at the Vanity Theater at 7:30 p.m. The play will run December 6-8 and 13-15. For more information about the play and for tickets, please visit www.sugarcreekplayers.org.

Reservations for the Holiday Tea & Fashion Show are \$25 per person and due by December 4. To reserve places for you and your guests, call the General Lew Wallace Study & Museum at (765)362-5769 or visit our website at <u>www.ben-hur.com</u>.



Holiday Tea

Schedule of Events

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2013

3:00-6:00p.m. Tea, sweets & savories served, Holiday floral arrangment display Elston Homestead

3:00-6:00p.m. Special holiday collections display Lane Place

> 3:30-6:00p.m. healthcliff Fashion show Elston Homestead

4:00-6:00p.m. Door prize drawings Elston Homestead

4:00-6:00p.m. "Making Spirits Bright" Holiday Wreath Sale Lane Place

> *5:15 p.m.* Live holiday music Elston Homestead

Taste, continued

Every year we award two sets of awards: Judges' Choice and People's Choice. This year our celebrity judges included Lauren Lowrey from Indy's Channel 8 and her husband Blake Lewis, Crawfordsville Planning Director Brandy Allen, and Elizabeth Rentschler from Lafayette's NewsChannel 18.

The judges named El Charro the Best Entree winner for marinated

pork tacos, Big Dipper the Best Dessert winner for the peach cobbler with ice cream and Bon Appétit the winner for **Best Booth Presentation** for their "Princesses and Pirates" kid-friendly booth.

The People's Choice Best Entree award went to The

Juniper Spoon for their grilled pizza, while the Best Booth Presentation was awarded to Bon Appétit.

Make sure you mark August 23, 2014, on your calendar for the 8th Annual TASTE of Montgomerv

County. We're already hard at work brainstorming ways to make it the best TASTE ever, and we hope you'll be there with us.

attendees are able to support the Study while enjoying wonderful local food and music. To see



photos and videos taken at this vear's TASTE, visit our Flickr account here: http://

more



Because proceeds from the Taste go toward funding educational programs and outreach events,

(Above) Judges and Taste Committee Members hand bit.ly/1aufuhV. out awards; (Left) Visitors You can also enjoy the Coal Creek Winery booth

keep up-to-date on TASTE news on Facebook at: http://on.fb.me/17RPKKx.

We'd also like to thank our many generous sponsors of this event. For a full list, please see page 10.

New Website Design

If you've visited our website recently, you probably noticed some changes. Technology is constantly changing, and as a result, our online presence must be adaptable to keep up with those changes. In order to remain relevant and attractive to tourists who have ever-increasing demands on their time and attention, we want to maintain a strong web presence for the Study.

Over 35% of our 2013 website traffic so far has come from mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets; unfortunately, our

website wasn't built with a design that would respond to the various screen sizes. Our new design will adapt the display for optimal viewing across devices from iPhones to iPads to 23" computer monitors.

Our new site design will eventually incorporate an online gift shop and e-book sales. Our blog will no longer be located at wallacestudy. blogspot.com but will be self-hosted at www.ben-hur.com/blog. Our presence on social networks such as Twitter, Facebook, and Pinterest will be better integrated

with our website as well. We will continue to support online memberships and online donations, and this year for the first time Holiday Tea tickets are available to purchase by credit card on our website at www.ben-hur.com/ programs/holiday-tea/.

We hope you like the new website design. If you have any comments, questions, or suggestions, we are always happy to receive feedback from our members, supporters, and friends. Email scain@ben-hur.com for more information.

Lew Wallace & American Beauty Roses

Larry Paarlberg Museum Director

Among his many interests, General Lew Wallace was an avid gardener. In April 1904, Lew wrote a letter to the Heller Brothers of New Castle, Indiana. In this letter, on file at the Indiana Histori-

cal Society, Wallace sent a check for one dozen American Beauty Roses, asking for "vigorous bushes."

When Lew ordered these roses, the mania for American Beauty Roses was at its height. It is not known whether or not the roses were delivered to Wallace's home, but if they were, it is likely they did not survive long. Just as quickly as the American Beauty Rose gained fame, it began to decline. Also, the long-stemmed American Beauty Rose proved to be a fickle beauty which bloomed

only once a year. It was (Top) *A* very particular about the climate and soil conditions in which it was grown and prone to disease making broad distribution of the plant an issue. Added to this was the practical difficulty of displaying a large flower with a twelvefoot stem!

At the turn of the twentieth century, natural gas wells brought heat, light and prosperity to communities in eastern Indiana including New Castle. Horticulturalists took advantage of this opportunity of cheap heat and began breeding new varieties of flowers in hot houses. One of the new flowers was a giant rose with buds the size of goose eggs. Among these entrepreneurs were Myer and Herbert Heller, owners of the South Park Floral Company. New Castle even became known as "The Rose City," due to its large number of greenhouses for roses.



After years of careful cross breeding, the long stemmed American Beauty Rose made its first national appearance in September of 1901 at the Inter-



(Top) An advertisement for the Heller national Brothers' Roses courtesy of the Indiana Historical Society; (Right) a row of Heller Brothers greenhouses in New Castle

er Show in Kansas City.

The rose blooms were carefully tended by growers standing on ladders and when they were unveiled the response was immediate. Growers from all over the world flocked to New Castle.

Eventually the mania for American Beauty roses went international. Roses with six-foot stems sold retail for \$72.00 a dozen and those with twelve-foot stems cost even more. These roses quickly became symbols of wealth. Rose sales continued for a few more years but as the gas boom dwindled and then failed in New Castle, companies such as South Park Floral faced the critical issue of heating their greenhouses. The death knell for the American Beauty came on March 11, 1917, when tornados swept into New Castle destroying many greenhouses.

New varieties of roses soon became more attractive to consumers than the dramatic long-stemmed American Beauty and the plant stock began disappearing. By the early 1930s

the American Beauty was almost impossible to find and by the early 1940s it was extinct. The name, however, still had a cachet and it wasn't long before a newly introduced hybrid tea rose was christened as the new American Beauty. It is this American Beauty

that is available today eclipsing the memory of the original.

With Lew Wallace's interest in the exotic and unusual, his passion for horticulture, and his penchant for innovation, it is no wonder that he placed this order for the long stemmed American Beauty. A bouquet of American Beauty roses were even placed on his casket when he died in 1905. This floral innovation was every bit as unique, intriguing and dramatic as the General himself. In spite of its attributes, coming at the end of the Gilded Age, this rose was not, however, well suited to the coming austerity of the twentieth century.

Collections Corner: Ben-Hur Beech Painting

Amanda McGuire Associate Director: Collections

This painting of the Ben-Hur beech

tree was donated to the museum earlier this year by Daryl Foy. It provides us with a different view of the tree than the large, full tree depicted in photographs from Lew Wallace's time.

A note on the back of the painting says,

"The last year of its life from Mary Frances Abraham, Jan. 1 - 1907." The tree was struck by lightning later that year and had to be taken

From the Garden: Dahlias

Grounds Manager

The Study's gardens have grown and bloomed profusely this year!

The weather has been great for the gardens and the fall is looking to have a colorful array of leaves. One of the highlights of the Ben-Hur garden has been the dinner plate dahlias. The dahlia tubers were planted at the end of May, in front of the Study,

an area of full sun. The foliage appeared within a few weeks. I fertilized them once a month and kept them well-watered throughout the summer. The dinner plate dahlias grew between 3-5 feet tall and had double blossoms 6-12 inches across. down in 1908. In its place, Henry Wallace placed a bronze copy of the marble statue of Lew Wallace that

stands in Statuary Hall in Washington, D.C.

This tree played a major role in Wallace's



He often took a rocking chair and lapboard out to sit under its branch-

es and is where he wrote most of the novel, *Ben-Hur*.

Lew described this special tree in "How I Came to Write Ben-Hur" in 1893:

Its spreading branches droop to the ground...and under them I am shut in as by the walls of a towering green tent. How often while lending me its protection and fragrant coolness, it has been the sole witness of my struggle to whip an obstinate thought into comeliness of expression; and how often, out of respect for me, it has maintained a dignified silence when it might have laughed at my discomfiture.

Thomas Edison, a reddish purple and *Garden Wonder*, a dark red were the first to bloom. *Kevin Floodlight*, a creamy yellow and

Fleurel, a pure white blossom soon followed. The white dahlia was by far the largest, with a blossom 11" across. I will dig up the tubers, lay them out to dry and store them (in peat moss) in a cool dark place for winter. Hopefully, next year the tubers will grow and continue to be the regal

queen among the flowers.

The moat garden and the magnolia trees continue to astound me with their success and growth. Thanks to a Community Engagement grant from the Montgomery County Community Foundation, the moat garden, recreated this summer, has been a big hit with visitors! The addition of gravel paths surrounding the moat garden and leading to the Study's back terrace, combined with the moat interpretive sign, finished the moat garden project.

Thanks to IMI (Irving Materials Incorporated) and plant manager Joe Orr, the gravel pathway will be extended beyond the moat area. Phase II of the project will see a second circular garden being planted and the gravel pathway extended toward the reflecting pool. The path will lead the visitor to the David Wallace monument, which will be replanted, on towards the pool area. Combined with the interpretive signs, visitors will be able to envision Lew's landscape from the 1890s.



Study Scrapbook









Clockwise from top right: Stephanie Cain poses with Bishop Gregory of Nyssa during his visit; Larry Paarlberg speaks to students from New Market Elementary in October; Anne Moore helps children screen items uncovered during History Beneath Us in September; Wabash freshmen made Taste clean-up a breeze in August; and Bernie O'Bryan (as Lew Wallace), Lauren Lowrey and Blake Lewis award El Charro with Best Entree at the Taste.

New 2014 Calendar on Sale

Just in time for holiday shopping, a new 2014 calendar is on sale in the Carriage House gift shop for only \$10.

The calendar features 12 beautiful pictures of the Study and grounds and flowers throughout the seasons.

These calendars would make great presents for coworkers, family or friends.



Best of all, all proceeds from gift shop sales directly benefit the museum! Also,

all members at the Governor-level and above recieve a 10% discount in our gift shop.

Make sure to stop by and purchase your copy today!

General Lew Wallace deserves his place in history. Help us preserve that place.

Membership to the **Lew Wallace Study Preservation Society** begins with your annual contribution of \$25 or more. Membership offers discounts and complimentary admission and event tickets.

Lieutenant Level-\$25 (Individual)

- Complimentary admission for 1
- Subscription to newsletter

Major General Level—\$50 (Family)

- Complimentary admission for family
- Subscription to newsletter

Governor Level—\$100 (Sustainer)

- Major General-level benefits, plus
- 10% discount in museum shop



- Governor-level benefits, plus
- 2 tickets to the annual Taste of Montgomery County

Ben-Hur Level-\$500+ (Patron)

- Ambassador Level benefits, plus
- 1 ticket to the annual Holiday Tea

Name_	
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Please clip & mail your membership information to LWSPS, PO Box 662, Crawfordsville, IN 47933

Enclosed is my check payable to the Lew Wallace Study Preservation Society
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General Lew Wallace Study & Museum Contributions

Every member and donor matters a great deal to us and we appreciate your support. We have made every attempt to ensure the accuracy of this list. If we have made an error in your listing, please contact us immediately.

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2013 Holiday Tea

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Calendar of Events

Thursday & Friday, November 28-29, 2013- Museum closed for Thanksgiving

Friday, December 6, 2013- Holiday Tea & Fashion Show (see p. 1 for details)

Saturday, December 14, 2013- Last day of 2013 Season

Tuesday, February 4, 2014- Museum opens for 2014 Season

Tuesday, March 11, 2014- Annual Exhibit Opens (see p. 12 for details)

Saturday, April 5th, **2014**- Civil War Trust Park Day- Join us for this annual event cleaning up the grounds and preparing for spring.

Thursday, April 10, 2014- Gail Stephens will speak about Lew Wallace's impact on Maryland in 1864.

Saturday, April 12, 2014- City of Crawfordsville Easter Egg Hunt- This annual city-wide event returns to Study grounds.



Donor Spotlight: Hoosier Heartland State Bank

Hoosier Heartland State Bank (HHSB) is a significant contributor to the Making A Historic Difference Campaign at the General Lew Wallace Study & Museum. HHSB has also supported the Taste for several years. Beyond their financial contribution, the bank recently made a presentation to the museum board of trustees that identified an option for donors wishing to secure a sound future for themselves and for charities that are special to them.

A Fixed-Indexed Annuity is a conservative investment option

that allows donors to preserve their principal, generate growth and maintain control of their principal even as they give money to a favored charity. Donors may also get an immediate tax deduction.

This is an intriguing option for charitable giving by those donors who wish to make a difference, but who also wish to protect their assets and their heirs. Please consider this option as you visit with your financial advisors.



For more information, please give Terry Daniels at Hoosier Heartland State Bank a call at (765) 361-3343, email him at tdaniels@madisonreps.com, or stop by HHSB at 1661 U.S. 231 South.



GENERAL LEW WALLACE STUDY & MUSEUM

200 Wallace Avenue PO Box 662 Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933 Phone: 765-362-5769 Email: study@ben-hur.com www.ben-hur.com PRSRT STD Nonprofit US Postage Paid Crawfordsville IN Permit No. 8

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

1864 Exhibit to Open March 11



A drawing of the slave chain by Benson Lossing

As we look toward the end of the year and the closing of our 2013 exhibit, *Generations: The Descendants of Lew & Susan Wallace*, plans are already well underway for the 2014 exhibit. Next year, in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of 1864, the exhibit will examine Lew Wallace's military career in 1864, including his appointment to the Middle Department in Baltimore, his heroic actions at the Battle of Monocacy and the opening of one of the nation's first Freedman's Bureaus. One of the highlights of the exhibit will certainly be a slave chain that Lew ordered removed from Maggie Toogood, on loan from Oberlin College.

In 2015, we will conclude Wallace's Civil War experiences with

his time in Mexico at the end of the war and his service on the tribunals that tried the Lincoln Conspirators and Commander Wirz of Andersonville in 1865. In 2016, in celebration of Indiana's bicentennial, we will look at the Wallace, Noble, Test, Elston and Harrison families among others, and their impact on early Indiana statehood. In 2017 we will focus on the impact of *Ben-Hur* on popular culture.