

Kelleys Island Historical Association

January 1, 2018

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Board Members

Teri Behrends (Vice President)
Chris Carrig (Treasurer)
Pat Fresch
Chuck Herndon (President)
Janet Killam
Leslie Korenko (Secretary)
Dawn Soldner
Ned Williams

Newsletter: Leslie Korenko
Online Presence: Leslie Korenko

Important Dates 2018

May 19 – Opening Day
August 4 – Arts & Craft Show
August 18 - Annual meeting and program
September 8 - Yard sale and Butterfly Festival

LOOKING BACK ON 2017 - Wow, what a year this has been. We tried to run the gift shop with all volunteers (thanks to Patti Fresch and Janet Killam) but while this was a successful endeavor, it was an incredibly time-consuming job for both these ladies. We opened a very successful resale shop in the parsonage. Again, this took a massive amount of work by some really dedicated and creative volunteers. It was so successful that the KIHA Board has committed to a 3-year run for the shop.

LOOKING FORWARD – Leslie is working on a display about the history of electricity on the Island and Sonia Taylor is doing one on bathing suits and the island's bathing beauties over the years. We are always looking for items to include so take a few minutes and search through your family archives and see what you have. Don't want to give it up? You can loan it to us for the season or send us a scanned copy of the item. Both work for us. We awarded a contract to Molnar Construction to shore up the sagging floor in the church. We have some special plans for a member appreciation party and, just maybe, another large scale fund-raiser (we are thinking maybe a murder mystery on Long Point!).

OUR NEW RESALE SHOP – If you didn't visit our new resale shop, you missed out on a lot of great deals. So how did this come about and why did it take us so long to open the doors? Late in 2015 Chuck and Leslie walked through the Parsonage and Leslie suggested a resale shop in the living room and yard sale storage in the back rooms. The Board agreed and one of our volunteers offered to paint the living room. Intentions were good, but it wasn't until October the next year that Bruce Korenko finally painted the room. We were ready to go.

Even though we were ready, no one wanted to take on the massive job of organizing all the stuff we had or volunteered to open the shop on a regular basis. When Chris Carrig volunteered to staff the shop, that was motivation for Janet Killam, Jodie Smith, Sonia Taylor, and a whole bunch of other people to finally make it happen. They cleaned, hauled unsellable and recyclable items, organized and staged not just the front room, but the entire downstairs! They were on a roll. They pulled in petite Ferne Gorchester and Mary Wilke put the bug in Ed Frindt's ear to get back to volunteering. Teri Behrends and Linda Hostal helped, Sonia's husband Coach was recruited to make display racks and he removed several doors for us. Jay Campbell did some heavy lifting.

Jodi hauled off garbage, took recyclables to the mainland and donated bed linens, blankets and comforters to the humane society. Bruce and Leslie Korenko prowled yard and house sales and hauled truckloads of items to the new shop. Some nights these workers stayed until dark. It was dirty, great exercise, and loads of fun. The new Odds & Ends Resale Shop at the Parsonage finally opened on Friday morning, August 11th and was a huge success!

It is amazing how fast items come and go. New arrivals are posted to the Kelleys Island Yard Sale and Kelleys Island History Museum Facebook pages. We are now the 'go to' place to donate usable items. And let us not forget that even though the shop is generally open when the Museum is open, Jordan Killam kept the house open well into the cold weather. And both Jodie and Sonia will still come down and open the shop by appointment (but with no heat it IS a bit cold)! Just email us and we will let them know, KImuseum@msn.com.



SOMETHING NEW ABOUT SOME THINGS OLD

THE NEW WALKING TOUR - Leslie Korenko was asked about doing a walking tour of Kelleys Island by the Erie County Historical Society (of which she is a Board Member). It sounded like fun. Four months later she realized there were already 40 sites along the route from the ferry boat dock down to the Museum of the Kelleys Island Historical Assoc. She broke it up into a now completed Part 1 (ferry dock to downtown) and is working on Part 2 (downtown to the museum). There MAY be additional tours but only when she recuperates from doing these. You can view the tour on YouTube.com (just search Kelleys Island Walking Tour) or use this direct link: <https://youtu.be/tiLZ718xXXU> . There are lots of old photos so you can compare the old and the new, as well as some interesting tidbits about the Island's history. There are also links on the KIHA website www.KelleysIslandHistorical.org.



VISITORS IN 2017 - We had 2,020 visitors (who signed in) from 28 states. This is up slightly from last year, and we are guessing that quite a few people and groups did not sign in. Our international visitors came from: Australia, Korea, United Kingdom, Canada, Poland and the West Indies.

A BIG THANK YOU to Scott Stevenson for donating some much needed edging of the gardens at the church. What an improvement. Teri Behrends tries to keep up with the weeding and care of the gardens, but they can get away from her pretty fast. Thanks to a very cold Bruce Korenko for fixing a long-standing chimney leak that was causing damage inside the parsonage.



ADDED TO OUR COLLECTION

MICHELLE STEIN – A vast collection of old bottles found by Kurt Boker. Some of the names include: “Prof. Callan’s World Renowned Brazillian Gum; The Kuebler Stang Brewery; Hall’s Catarrh Cure; Bryant’s Root Beer; Hires Household Extract; The Duffy Malt Whiskey Company; Hood’s Sarsa Parill; Weichel’s Creamery; and an incredibly rare short Milk bottle - Island Jersey Farm, Special Jersey Milk, from George A. Becker’s Island Jersey Farm and a Sweet Valley Wine Co. bottle.

CHUCK HERNDON - Ancient canoe prow, found on one of Lake Erie’s many early shorelines in Berlin Hts.

VERA IOANNOU - Book – Ideal Wreath of Song 1903.

JOHN C. ERNE - Photograph of 1932 graduates of Estes School (three women and six men). An alumni list prepared by Kurt Boker indicates that the graduates for this year were: Lewis Brown, Mary Dwelle, Andrew Erne, Francis Erne, Catherine Feyedelem, Laird Holbrook, Virginia Lange and George Sabo. Certificate of High School Graduation made out to Mr. Francis Erne, May 27, 1932. Kelley’s Island High School Diploma for Francis Erne dated May 27, 1932. Large, illustrated certificate made out to Francis J. Erne who served on the *U. S. S. Ashland*, bound South for the Equator, and for Espirito Santo, New Hebrides, the World War II Imperial Domain of the Golden Dragon Award, August 14, 1945. Panoramic photo of the U. S. Navy (either class or crew) dated February 1943.

CLAUDIA BROWN - Wicker doll buggy – Given to Cecilia “Ann” Riedy, who was born in 1920. The buggy is a 1920’s edition. There were also dolls including one of the first articulated dolls, another doll (Circa 1920) once owned by Mae Norris (Claudia’s aunt), and a small plastic baby doll from the 1950’s. Also a Tiny Tears doll, probably a first edition c1950-52.

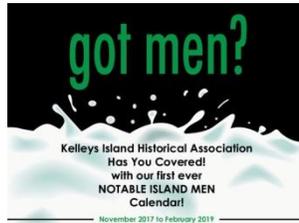


There are more items – which will be listed in the April 1 newsletter.

WHY IS YOUR SUPPORT SO IMPORTANT?

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP - Enclosed you will find a renewal form for your membership. You can also renew online [CLICK HERE](#) . We now offer an AUTOMATIC RENEWAL OPTION and, this year, we added a SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP at just \$5.00 per month.

As an added bonus – if you join as a PATRON, SUSTAINING MEMBER or LIFE member we will send you a FREE *GOT MEN CALENDAR!* It is good through the entire 2018 year. These are some of the Island's most recognizable men in flirty, charming and sexy photos.



Bump up your membership category and get this calendar as a bonus.

GRANTS – Anne Eddowes and Cindy Herndon worked on at least one grant package this year: for the church's floor support project. Among the items that grantors consider is the number of people that will benefit from a project. They take into account our number of visitors, the number of active memberships, and the amount of donations that we receive. That is why your continued support is so important to us.

WHERE DOES OUR OPERATING MONEY COME FROM? It has always been our goal to make the museum self-sufficient, and in the last few years we have accomplished that goal. Admissions, donations, the quilt and 50/50 raffles, gift shop sales, our annual solicitation letter, etc., have made that possible. Occasionally, we receive unexpected donations. These special donations are used to fund the improvements in the church and parsonage. Anne Eddowes has worked hard to get us grants, but we still have to come up with matching funds to complete the projects. Our fiscal year ends October 31 and here is where our money comes from and where it goes. Did you know that less than 17% of our income comes from memberships while 29% comes from donations. The gift shop is only profitable if we don't hire a manager (and it looks like we will have to hire one in 2018 – it is a big job for a volunteer). 8% of our income comes from our quilt and 50/50 raffles. On the expense side: 26% of our expenses go to maintenance and routine repairs, 15% for utilities, and 21% gift shop purchases.

As you can see, running a museum, particularly one that is funded by donations, fund raisers and memberships, and staffed by volunteers, is a costly endeavor.

Over the years we have undertaken some pretty big projects. As you know, the Church (built in 1866) and the Parsonage (built in 1888) are under our care. Due to the hard work of Anne Eddowes, a few great grants, and the generous support of some of our special donors, we have been able to stabilize and make repairs to both these buildings. This is far and beyond what we can accomplish through our regular income stream.

LARGE DONATION RECEIVED – Pierce Broadband donated \$50,000 to KIHA. A study revealed that the new 300 ft. antenna would significantly affect the Island's historic district in the West Bay area. Options were limited mainly to creating a 300 ft. pine tree to 'hide' it from view. After discussion with the company, we agreed to the donation in exchange for removing our objection to the project. These funds will be used to further protect and promote the Island's history and will allow us to explore historic projects like securing additional Historic Markers. The studies were not requested by KIHA, but part of the regular review process, and the funds did not come from or reduce the Village's income.

JANUARY 1894 - "Captain Magle of the steamer *American Eagle* reports that a large quantity of ice seven or eight inches in thickness has drifted from the north shore of the lake to Put-in-Bay. Much difficulty was encountered yesterday, January 2, in getting through the ice field at that harbor." On January 11 – "Mr. George Schardt came over from Kelley's yesterday with a sail boat after a cargo of gasoline. Sailboat navigation in January is something unusual in this latitude."

Kelleys Island Historical Association
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We are a 501 c 3 organization
Your contributions are deductible.

Let's make history together!

www.KelleysIslandHistorical.org
Facebook: Kelleys Island History Museum
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