

# Kelleys Island Historical Association

Volume 12 Issue 2 Page 1

July, 2015

## PICTURE



KIHA Board Members and Treasurer first Meeting of 2015, June 9th, 2015. All were present.

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### KIHA Board

Chuck Herndon President  
Leslie Korenko Secretary  
Ila Dick  
Terri Betzenheimer Behrends  
Patti Fresch  
Kevin Pape  
Andrew Muskara  
Jeri Himmelein Yoest  
Fred Walcott

DeeDee Ritchie Treasurer  
Cindy Herndon Newsletter

## Some important points to share from our last Board meeting:

Our **new gift shop manager** is Shirley Selig. She will be working with volunteers and Bev Luck to continue ordering unique gifts. The museum is exploring a museum director and/or volunteers through Americorps. In this search we are hoping to partner with another local museum.

**Cataloging and scanning** has been a big project. Leslie added over 1000 items to our inventory. You can search our inventory online by clicking **Our Collection** and downloading the 70+ pages as a Word document, then search for your subject of person. **Donations** of items to the museum are very special. When making a donation please fill out the donation form, three Board members need to accept the item being donated – and be sure to tell us the story behind the item – we love stories. There also links for making donations, purchasing books and renewing your membership.

The **website** has been updated and has loads of information. We regularly post Island history tidbits. If you missed something click on **Yesterday's News** to catch up. In case you forgot, our website is [www.KelleysIslandHistorical.org](http://www.KelleysIslandHistorical.org). You will find general meeting schedules, forms, and newsletters, videos, photos, and loads more.

Jeri Yoest spearheaded our **Oral History project** and has already transcribed several. Next comes editing for a complete video. She had a great time interviewing Mary Ellen Bauman, Ila Dick, Sis McKillips, and Jake Martin, who just recently passed away.

**The International Museum Day** on May 16th, 2015 was a great success. We had over 100 visitors, it was our first day open and the opening of our **Sport Fishing Exhibit**. It also connected us with the other participating museums in Sandusky and Put-in-Bay. We will be doing this again next year and are excited to be in league with the Maritime Museum, the Merry-go-Round Museum, the Follett house and more.

## OUR NEW GARDEN



In May, Terri Behrends and Cindy Herndon planted a wide variety of plants along the side of the Old Stone Church. Terri has been weeding and watering (the weeding being a herculean task due to all the rain). The plantings are doing well.

Another spot along the Old Stone Church will be a butterfly/pollinating garden under supervision of master gardener, Sharon Devine and the Kelleys Island Field Station Ambassador Students.

## Board Member Andrew Muskara graduates from Hawken



"I graduated from Hawken School on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 after spending the last 4 weeks of my senior year working on my Hawken Project. Hawken Project is an option that seniors have to pursue something that interests them for the month prior to graduation. In my case, a couple of friends and I chose to build a log cabin in the woods behind my house in Gates Mills. This was quite a large task for the four of us to take on and originally we had planned to finish the cabin by June 3<sup>rd</sup>, but we had a major setback after two of our close friends were killed in a car accident. By the time June 3<sup>rd</sup> came around we still had to build the roof, install the door and windows, and fill in the gaps between the logs with a mortar like substance called chinking. So we

continued working past our deadline and into the summer. We are currently piecing together the metal roof and we hope to have the whole cabin finished by July."

This is the log cabin that Andrew built as part of a school project.

Andrew is going to OSU. He is interested in history and will continue his role as a Board Member for KIHA. We are thankful to have him.

Andrew was helpful with the current exhibit on Sport Fishing. He made a special trip to International Museum Day to help with the exhibit. We extend sympathy to him, classmates, and families of the young men killed in May.



## YESTERDAY'S NEWS

*August 1878* – "The [Himmelein] hotel is open during the bass fishing season, and boats, minnows, etc., can be procured by guests upon application. A new boat house has just been built near the hotel and is well supplied with small craft of the kind used by anglers. Fishermen will find the accommodations at the Himmelein house first-class in all respects. The hotel is only 3 minutes walk from the steamboat landing. There are water works on the grounds, and the house has all the modern improvements and conveniences. The rates are \$10.50 per week or \$2 per day."

*May 1878* – "Our pound fishermen caught about 75 sturgeon this morning. They looked rather belligerent as they laid on the dock."

# The Kelleys Island Historical Association Newsletter

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**NEWSLETTERS** - As if she wasn't busy enough, Leslie has been scanning our old newsletters and posting them on our website. What a trove of information. The first newsletter came out in September 1986, but our next one (that we can find) is from November 1998. Do you have any of the old issues that are not on our list? See how we have grown. <https://kimuseum-public.sharepoint.com/newsletters>

## CHECK OUT THESE VERY EASY WAYS TO HELP US OUT:

**GFS** - Remember, if you shop at GORDON FOOD SERVICE, give them our name so we get credit for your purchase. Last year we had enough credits to buy paper supplies for the museum. It is such an easy thing to do. Here is the card (cut it out and keep it in your wallet) or tell them it is for KELLEYS ISLAND HIST ASS (That should get a chuckle because that's how they really have us listed!).

**AMAZON** - Do you shop at AMAZON.COM? Do us a favor and shop through [CLICK HERE & use this portal](#) instead. It's the same site, just a different link. For every purchase made, KIHA will receive .5% from Amazon (and it doesn't cost YOU a penny). When you go to the site, just choose us from the search list – and shop your heart out! The cut and paste link is <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/34-1329728>



**GFS**  
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**Marketplace**

**Commercial Savings Program**

- No Membership Fee
- Over 3,000 Products
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Visit us at [www.gfsmarketplace.com](http://www.gfsmarketplace.com) or call Customer Service at 1-800-968-6525. (8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. EST Mon.–Fri.)



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**HISTORIC PLAQUE** – It is with great pleasure and pride that can announce that we will have one of those beautiful Historic Marker plaques in front of the German Reformed Church, summarizing the history of the stone church and the parsonage. Our thanks to the Pomeroy Foundation and Ohio History Connection for making this possible. In honor of this auspicious event, we will be holding a Dedication Ceremony on August 8 right after the guest speaker. There will be refreshments and we hope to have a BIG turnout to show our appreciation for this honor. Our thanks to Leslie Korenko for writing the grant and shepherding it through the many steps required.

**ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW** – AUGUST 1, 10-4 - We already have 12 artists, authors and artisans signed up for our August 1st Arts & Crafts Show at the Museum. You can view the list and download the form if YOU want to participate, at <https://kimuseum-public.sharepoint.com/events-meetings> or [www.KelleysIslandHistorical.org](http://www.KelleysIslandHistorical.org) click on Events & Meetings.

## ITEMS ADDED TO OUR COLLECTION:

- 2014.13 VOGLER-BRIGHT – various reprints of photographs from the 1970's
- 2014.14 MICKEY WIDENER - Photograph of Johnny Widener in the cockpit of the Ford Tri-Motor airplane. In the Fall of 1965.
- 2014.15 SMITH MALISON - small painting of the steamboat dock by Sally Smith Malison, and photograph of four children: Marilyn Blatt and "Bunny" Smith, Don Erne, "Sally" Smith, eating peaches in grandpa's wheel barrow.
- 2014.16 LANGE/ROHRS - Marriage License/certificate for John W. Lange and Lizzie Rohrs who were married April 7, 1892
- 2015.1 JIM SELFE - Photograph of Jim Selfe, son of Elizabeth Selfe. He was interviewed when his mother Elizabeth disappeared in June 1877.
- 2015.2 NATALIE MALISON – Photographs of the Becker family
- 2015.3 RICK TALLINI – Photographs of the dynamiting of Bookerman Road
- 2015.4 LANGE FAMILY – Home movies with short segments that include: the *Mascot*, *G. A. Boecking*, *Messenger*, Ford Tri-Motor, and miscellaneous Island scenes.
- 2015.5 SCHEELE MEMOIRS – Found in the former Scheele home, including photographs, certificates and letter. Arnold Scheele was a famous painter who lived on the island.  
MISCELLANEOUS newspaper clippings from 1914-1921. Donated by David Glick
- 2015.5 JERRY WEST-BUCKBOARD – An incredible donation of a wood buckboard used to deliver barrels of wine and milk to the island dock. Included are four wine barrels.

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We would like to thank the following people for their generosity.

## DONATIONS:

**In memory of Daniel Neuman** – John & Judy Kobs

**In memory of Henry 'Henny' T. & Rosella Elfers Beatty** - Jeri Himmelein Yoest.

(Jeri wrote: June is a special month for our family. Henny converted to Catholicism and made his First Holy Communion on June 14, 1922, so that he and Rosella could be married the same day in St. Michael's Church. Henny was 21 and Rosella would celebrate her 19th birthday the next day. June 15, 1922.)

**In memory of Jake Martin** – Alison Kobs, John & Judy Kobs, Tom & Beth Voltz, Michael & Wendy Miller, Tammy & David Slauterbeck, Pearl Charles Pasco, Richard & Pat Babcock

**In memory of ROBERT SCHNITTKER** – Anne Sennish, John Melching, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Reinheimer, Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Northup, Mr. and Mrs. John Sabol, Heidi Schlesselman, Pat Seeholzer, Fraternal Order of Police #17, Ruth Bandeen

**In memory of FRANCES WILLIAMS** - Anne Sennish

**In memory of AMY BABIS** – David Sharron

**In memory of MARLINE SWASEY** (Marlene was the daughter of Sis McKillips) – Joan & Ralph Chamberlain, Shirley McKillips

**In memory of MAGGIE HODGSON** – Anne Sennish

**In memory of SHIRLEY TOMCHO** - Mary Kay Pershing, Diane Sviatko

**In memory of JOHN LANGE** – Raymond & Mary Martin

## GENERAL DONATIONS

James Selfe

Ritchie Financial Group

Esther Carlson

## AND THE WINNER OF THE MAY AND JUNE 50/50 RAFFLES ARE:

The winner of the May 50/50 raffle is Lenny Augustyniak. Lenny walked away with \$107.00.

The June winner is Dianna Tesauro. It's not too late to get your tickets for the monthly raffles.

Stop by or ask for some tickets by email – yes, we WILL send some out to you.

## ANNUAL MEETING

August 8, 2015

1:00 Speaker

2:00 Dedication of Historic Plaque and refreshments

2:30 Annual meeting

3:00 Organizational meeting of the board to elect Officers

Since this year our displays will feature sport fishing and ice fishing, our GUEST SPEAKER will be Tory Gabriel, from the Sea Grant/OSU, who will talk about The History of Lake Erie Fishing. He is part of the research teams studying Lake Erie and will have current information to share as well.

A little about TORY A. GABRIEL - Tony is the Extension Educator with the Ohio Sea Grant Program, The Ohio State University. He has worked Stone Lab as a Biological Field Station Assistant. He grew up in Lancaster, OH (just south of Columbus) and graduated from Bloom-Carroll High School. His field of research is Applied Fisheries & Life Science Education. His favorite thing about Stone Lab is that "the classes are inherently hands-on and field oriented, so they're a blast. Students can't help but be motivated and learn about the unique ecosystem around them."



Two **Board Positions expire** this year. The terms expiring are Ila Dick and Terri Betzenhemer-Behrends. Ila has declined to serve another term and Janet Killam decided to run. Ballots are in the mail.

**FACEBOOK** – Remember to follow us on Facebook – we post some really interesting things! We are Kelleys Island History Museum.

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KELLEY, KELLEY'S, KELLEYS' or KELLY ISLAND - *The spelling of the island's name has caused problems for islanders for many years. But it started in April 1864, when the gauntlet was thrown down by Cleveland newspapers on how to 'correctly' spell the name of Kelley's Island. There is no argument that the island was named after the Kelley family, but why is it so difficult for everyone to spell? Our current problem is the constant dropping of the second 'e' from the Village's name.*

April 27 – “Kelley’s Island or Kelley Island? - That’s the question. The Cleveland Herald, in copying a couple of items from the Register, says: Will our usually correct friends of the Register allow us to criticize their use of one word? They should say Kelley Island, not Kelley’s Island.” *The Register responded, “Certainly. But your criticism is mere assertion. You say ‘they should say’ so and not so, but adduce no argument or authority in support of your assertion. Now for the facts: The island in question was formerly, and within the memory of many of our citizens, the property of a man named Cunningham, and was then known as Cunningham’s Island. Afterwards the island was purchased by the Messrs. Kelley, when the name was changed by a special act of the Legislature to ‘Kelley’s Island,’ and annexed to Erie County, since which time it has ever been known as ‘Kelley’s Island.’ Will our friends of the Herald ‘fall-in’ and use the name of one of the most celebrated islands of Lake Erie correctly, or stick to their text?”*

*The Herald was not to be corrected and a few days later it was “Kelley’s Island, or Kelley Island, again – We supposed a ‘mere assertion’ would instantly suggest to our well educated neighbor the impropriety of which we complain. Kelley’s Island signifies the ownership of the island; that it belongs to a man named Kelley. The intention in such cases is to perpetuate a name, not the ownership. As the Register uses the name, it would appear that the island belongs to a Mr. Kelley. That is not true now, nor according to the Register’s showing, was it ever true. The island was owned by two persons of the name Kelley, and assuming the name as the Register proposes to use it to be correct, the apostrophe is in the wrong place; it should be Kelleys’ Island, not Kelley’s Island. Any way you can fix it, the name is not right; it should be Kelley Island, taking its name from its former owners.”*

*The Editor of the Register was quick to correct the Herald reporter. “The Herald seems determined to stick to what it says should be the name of the beautiful island of Lake Erie, which forms a township of Erie county. If the editor of the Herald will take the trouble to turn to the local laws of Ohio, passed by the Legislature of 1842-3, page 300, he will there find an enactment of which the following is a copy:*

*‘AN ACT, to attach Kelley’s Island to the county of Erie.*

*SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, That the Island in Lake Erie, formerly known as Cunningham’s Island, now called Kelley’s Island, and formerly part of the county of Ottawa, shall thereafter be attached to, and form part of, the county of Erie.’*

Grammatically, the Herald is right and we have no doubt the name of the Island would have been written in the plural possessive, if it had been generally known at that early day, that the Island was owned jointly by I. & D. [Irak & Datus] Kelley, instead of Mr. I. Kelley, alone. But the facts are, Mr. I. Kelley was never a resident of the Island and, as only Mr. D. Kelley was known as its proprietor, it was so written, and as we have both custom and law for it, it would not be good policy to change its name, unless by an enactment of the legislature.

In legal papers ‘Kelley Island’ would not stand before our courts, and it would be the height of nonsense for the people to write it in common-place business one way, and those who administer the law, another.”

Misspelled souvenirs still abound. The Kelleys Island Landowners Assoc. came up with a creative solution to an apron with the wrong spelling.



Even the State wrestles with the spelling of the Island’s name as anyone looking for directions to the island can attest.



Kelleys Island Historical Association  
PO Box 328  
Kelleys Island Ohio 43438

A 501 c 3 organization  
Your contributions are deductible.

**Let's make history together!**  
[www.KelleysIslandHistorical.org](http://www.KelleysIslandHistorical.org)  
Facebook – Kelleys Island History Museum

Please support our Business Members – tell them you saw their ad in the History Museum newsletter



### **The Kelleys Island Brewery**

The restaurant makes the most of what we know about making island visitors welcome and comfortable. The Microbrewery enables us to bottle a bit of Kelleys Island magic and offer it to beer lovers both on and off the island.

Owner: Patti Johnson

[islandpj419@gmail.com](mailto:islandpj419@gmail.com) <http://kelleysislandbrewpub.com/>

### **Vi's Island Treasures**

This unique Island gift shop is located right next to the historic Kelleys Mansion in an old stone building. You can find 14kt. gold and sterling jewelry, Swarovski crystal sunglasses, frogs by Kitty Critters, snowmen by Wallaraye, nautical gifts, McCalls candles, a fine line of one-of-a-kind clothing.

Vi Feyedelem [kivify@aol.com](mailto:kivify@aol.com)



## **This year's Quilt in Memory of Florence McKillips**

by Terri Betzenheimer Behrends

In 1994 my Aunt Sis, (Florence "Sis" McKillips) who at that time was on the Board of the Kelleys Island Historical Association, asked me if I would make a quilt as a donation, that could be raffled off as a fund raiser. Previous to this, her son-in-law, Russ Matso, made several wooden clocks for the fund raiser. It is now 2015 and I have done a quilt every year since. This year the quilt is in memory of my Aunt Sis, who passed away on my birthday in 2013. She and her four brothers, Jack, Alvin, Lawrence (her twin brother), and Francie Betzenheimer, were born in the parsonage next to the church, and she lived until 2011 when she moved down the street to live with her daughter, Beatrice Matso. The parsonage house has never had running water, there is a cistern under the house and a pump in the kitchen, and that is how they got their water. She never had an indoor bathroom until she was 90 years old and moved in with Bea.



She was a very kind and loving woman who worked hard all her life. She was a very active member of the Zion United Methodist Church and was the church secretary for 60 years. She loved working outdoors in her yard and flower garden. She loved her family, grandchildren, and friends very much and we miss her every day.