

# Kelleys Island Historical Association

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January, 2016



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**KIHA Board**  
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## History in the Making on Kelleys Island in Early winter

Tom Bartlett and Gary Finger are pictured here with King. In the last several weeks before the latest cold spell, this stunning bird called a Couch's Kingbird made history living in the cedar woods and around Finger's barn. According to The Cornell Lab of Ornithology, the Couch's Kingbird is a large brightly colored flycatcher of southern Texas and Mexico. It is similar to the more widespread Tropical Kingbird. The two were considered the same species for nearly one hundred years, but they can be separated by voice and subtle morphological characters. Tom Bartlett was able to set up a net and catch the bird to study it up close and obtain a few feathers to send to The Cleveland Museum of Natural History where a DNA test will be done.

While spending time on the island after the holidays, and while it was still relatively warm, Tom spotted several bluebirds, a loon, and a young Magnolia Warbler. Thanks to Gary and Jackie for their keen eyes and Tom Bartlett for his further study and love of birds. Remember to Like [Bird Kelleys Island](#) to keep up with all the Island birding news.



## It is time to Renew your Membership!

Your renewal membership form is inside. Remember you can renew online at [Join Now](#). Some really good news--for the first time, if you join as a PATRON or LIFE MEMBER-we will send you a **free** copy of the Norman Hills book-*The History of Kelleys Island*. Just our way of saying Thanks for Supporting Us.

# The Kelleys Island Historical Newsletter

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**OUR VISITORS LAST YEAR** - This was a banner year. We had at least 2114 visitors (counted from all those who signed in) and they came from at 25 states including Alaska, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Nevada, Nebraska, Arizona and Montana. Internationally – our reputation must have preceded us – we logged in travelers from Canada, Puerto Rico, Sweden, Netherlands, Germany, Scotland and France. And we are becoming a popular place for groups to visit. Our thanks to Leslie Korenko and Cindy Herndon for giving talks to some of these groups: The Boy Scouts, Laurel School, The Road Scholars, Shores & Islands, UAW Local 86, and Hawken School just to name a few.

**OUR ONLINE PRESENCE** – Leslie loves digging into statistics and she offers these: On Facebook we now have 727 followers! Our Website? Last year we had over 9000 visitors with 13,500 page views, 90% were first-time visitors and 33% were from Russia. 60% of our visitors are under 34, men make up 54% of our visitors, and 92% viewed our website on a desktop computer.

## HERE'S WHERE WE SAY THANKS!

**OUR MEMBERS** – We have 232 members. Of these, 33 are LIFE members: Teri Behrends, Peg Bradburn, Jody Brausch, Catherine Christie, Ila Dick, Jack & Rita Eaton, Anne Eddowes, Mike & Vi Feyedelem, Charles & Cindy Herndon, Rose & David Herndon, Frederick Himmelein, Rick Holmes, Robert & Nancy Howley, Bobby Jo Kennedy & Chris Kipfer, Alison Kobs, John & Judy Kobs, John Kobs II, Ed & Fran Kuchar, Knut Lahrs, Bob Luckay, Ed & Carol Nofziger, Kevin, Kim & Betty Pape, Roger & Lynne Renwick, Daniel Schmoltdt, Jodie & Scott Smith, John & Dee Spirk, Phil & Valerie Stichter, Fred & Elizabeth Stueber, Carol Vogler-Bright, Fred & Betsy Walcott, Madeleine & Roger Williams, Ned & Linda Williams, and Steve & Sally Williams-Weary.

Thanks to our PATRON MEMBERS: Diane Creamer, Sherry Eddy, Tom & Dee Hartley, Mary Jo Lacamp, Mollie T. Sevcik, Gerald West, and Robert & Jane Wick.

And to our BUSINESS MEMBERS on the last page.

**DONATIONS** - Let's face it, history museums are not money makers. As a result, we rely heavily on donations. We send out only one request for donations each year. We would like to thank the following members who so generously gave to us as part of our year-end drive:

**In memory/honor of** Leland Bandeen & Dr. Rex Bandeen by Ruth Lange Bandeen; Milt & Jane Blatt by Bill Blatt; Steve Budzilek by Dee & John Spirk; Captain Mike Feyedelem U. S. Navy by Mike & Vi Feyedelem; Colonel Chris Feyedelem U. S. M. C. by Mike & Vi Feyedelem; Kay Herndon by Dr. & Mrs. William Bruner II; Mary Ellen Huntley by Geraldine Betzenheimer; Janet Killam by Leo Goldner; Russ Matso & Sis McKillips by Jack & Mary Ellen Thinnis; Michael & Paula Savulak by Debbie Henderson; Charles & Theresa Seeholzer and their descendants by Louise Seeholzer

**General Donations** - Tom & Janet Beck; Ken & Polly Burns; Andy & Sherry Eddy; Jim & Karen Erne; Mark Gridley; Mark & Jackie Kettunen; Alison Kobs; Gary Kornblith & Carol Lasser; Duane & Lenore Kuentz; Pete & Sam Legere; Robert Lehman (in honor of the people that keep the Historical Assoc. working for all to enjoy!); Bill & Cindy Leonard; James McKillips; Allan & Diane Nickles; Bill & MaryAnn Player; George & Mary Beth Quillin; Lynne & Roger Renwick; Christopher Rienhart; Dianne Scott; Fred Walcott; William & Marie Wiles; Kathryn Yoakum

**Special Thanks** - We particularly want to thank these Members who went the extra mile: Bob & Nancy Howley; John & Judith Kobs (who said: Thank you for your good work) and Barbara O'Connor.

**SOME EXTRA ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS** - GUNDLACH - As you might know, the compressor failed on our furnace this summer which left us without air conditioning for quite a while. Since the unit was out of warranty, the bill came to \$3300 to replace it. The good news is that our secretary negotiated a refund of more than 1/3 of this cost. Our thanks to Gundlach for working with us on that.

**LAKE DISPOSAL** – We don't have a lot of trash, but when we do, Elic Watkins magically takes it away for us. We can't thank him enough.

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**MENTION US WHEN YOU SHOP** - More and more places give back a little when you shop. The best part is you don't have to do anything except mention our name.

**GORDON FOOD SERVICE/GFS** – You know how they ask if you are shopping for a business? Just say **YES – THE KELLEYS ISLAND HIST ASS** (I know, that is really funny, but that is how they list us). We get the points and we use them for paper products.

**AMAZON.com** – Really, who doesn't shop Amazon? If you do, instead of typing in Amazon.com, go through [Smile.Amazon.com](http://Smile.Amazon.com). Shop as usual. We get a small credit for your purchase. (No, we do not get any details about the sales, just a statement about how much we earned.) YOU shop, WE benefit.

**TAX SEASON COMETH** – If you make a donation to us, remember it is tax deductible. And remember to check the History box on your tax return. These funds go into a pool that is used for grants.

**ADDITIONS TO OUR COLLECTION** - It is so rewarding when we get items from people who say they "found this on the island years ago." Remember we are always looking for bits of Island history. Do you even remember who those people are in those black and white photos? What about that little thing you found in the woods so many years ago or got at a yard sale? Remember, these are pieces of island history and we would sure love to have them. Better us than the trash heap when someone 'helps' you spring clean by dumping all that old stuff!

We got loads of boxes containing so many paper items since October and here is a taste of what we added to our collection: **ROBERT QUILLIN**, a postcard of the dock at Lakeside Ohio. Mounted on same sheet is a train ticket for the Northwestern Ohio Railway and Power Co. undated, c1925. **GRUESER-YOUNT** – An album of photos of the Island and Kelley's Mansion. Taken prior to 1987. **LEE & BARB SHADLE** - 4 boxes of items covering a variety of subjects including magazines, *The Firelands Pioneer* (1900), Charter of the Kelleys Island Boat Club and constitution, photographs, vintage t-shirts, Newsletter – *The Island Scene* (1993, 94), aerial maps, *Kelleys Life*, *Put-in-Bay Gazettes*, and whole lot more we haven't had a chance to inventory yet. **DOT SIMONDS** – Scale, Meat Cleaver and hand crank meat grinder. **CINDY HOLMES**, Framed B&W photo of 17 ladies. **JANE WICK** – A small pitcher, likely pewter, blackened by a fire, partially cleaned, c1877, engraved "*Island House.*" **BILL & JUNE CAMPBELL**, Kelleys Island School memorabilia including *The Kelleys Island Book of Questions and Answers*, written by the Students of Kelleys Island School, 1997-98, and school yearbooks. **GERALDINE BETZENHEIMER**-Magazines containing articles about the Island, tourist brochures and ferry schedules, old *Fun Finders*, *The School Spirit* newspaper (1964/65), fishing knife, net needles, Maccabee medallion, photographs, promotional items from various bars, a Fire Dept. badge, 1972 plat map, letter from 1956 by Iva Erne describing the Island, War Ration Books, various hunting and trapping licenses issued to Lawrence Betzenheimer, and quite a bit more. **LAURA RIEDY SMITH**, a vintage souvenir sweatshirt and t-shirt. **BARBARA WENDT**, Kelleys Island school bell originally obtained from Frank Hamilton and given to Gordon Wendt.

We'll share a few tidbits about the bell and the Island House pitcher in the spring newsletter.

**PSSST** – What's the password!

Announcing a Kelleys Island Historical Association Gala Event to raise money for the museum. The Event is planned for July 30th, 2016 on the east side of Kelleys Island at *Breakers*, the home of Fred and Betsy Stueber and Cindy and Chuck Herndon. We expect this to be an historical happening with a Roaring Twenties theme. Do not miss it. More details to come.



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**KIHA RECEIVES AN AWARD** - It was with great pleasure that we accepted an award from the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board (part of the Ohio Historical Society State Archives) for our efforts in bringing our inventory online so that people could search the database. They wrote: "We commend the Association and volunteers for the strides that have been taken to gain intellectual control over the archival collections in your possession through inventorying and processing, which have resulted in both the ease of staff access to the collections and an increase in public access to the unique collections. You truly have shown how to successfully use the resources at your disposal to bring access to your collections to a whole new level!" Our thanks to Leslie Korenko for pulling this grant package together, she is pictured here accepting the award from Ron Davidson of the Sandusky Library in his capacity of OHRAB member.



This past year, several people have used the online database to locate items relating to their families. We shared our system with other small area museums and they were excited to discover how easy it was to put THEIR inventory online. We were happy to share how we did it.

## HISTORIC MARKER OPPORTUNITY



After dedicating our new marker, Leslie got another grant for the Village for the Kelley family home – The Island House - now the downtown park. The dedication of that marker will occur this summer. The good news is that there **MAY BE MORE GRANTS AVAILABLE** from the Pomeroy Foundation. If you would like to have a marker in YOUR yard, just let us know. We will review the sites that are submitted, and Leslie will write the grant for you. The Pomeroy Foundation pays the cost of the marker (about \$2400) and you would have to pay for the installation and ferry fees. Let us know if you are interested.

Ohio Historic Markers can be applied for by anyone, but require quite a bit of research. Markers chronicle important historical events and sites. Places to think about historic markers are The State Park old ice storage and stone oven, the fish dock on the north side, or maybe even your home!

## Americorps Working with The Kelleys Island Historical Association.

An Americorps representative is working with The Kelleys Island Historical Association this year. She has visited once and started working on Past Perfect cataloging items in the collection. We are so pleased to introduce her to you, members and the Kelleys Island Community. We look forward to her assistance in many areas to improve our museum.

Meet Wendy Bromfield: "Hello, I am Wendy Bromfield. Since childhood I have been fascinated by history. My atavistic proclivities were perhaps inspired by a certain aesthetic appeal for a simpler time. But a mature understanding of history has revealed that history is anything but simple! In what other discipline can we examine the complexity and the richness of human endeavor? My passion for history inspired me to receive a Bachelors in History from Hiram College, and a Masters Degree in History from Utah State University. Most of my studies focused on Native Americans, the American West, religion, and folklore. I am also fascinated by English history, and make a point of traveling, at least once a year to the Western U.S., Wisconsin, or Vermont. This past year I went on a most magical trip to the U.K. where I was steeped in nature and the delicious history and foodways of the regions I visited. On days off in Ohio you can find me playing with my Alaskan Malamutes, camping, enjoying historical sites, or picking fruit in one of the many orchards! I have just left an 11 year retail management career in the supplement industry, to come home to history! I have started the MLIS (Library Science) program at Kent State University, and am excited to be an Americorps member, as I see this as the start of the career I was meant to have when I was derailed years ago. I am excited to share my love of history with others, and to help Ohio museums to become even greater!"

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## KELLEYS ISLAND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

P O BOX 328, KELLEYS ISLAND OH 43438

www.KelleysIslandHistorical.org

e-mail: KImuseum@msn.com Facebook: Kelleys Island History Museum

### *It's time to renew your membership for 2016*

Use this as my mailing address:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

I'm thinking of volunteering: \_\_\_\_\_ 2-hr shift at the Gift Shop, \_\_\_\_\_ Use my special skill  
which is \_\_\_\_\_

Please send my newsletters by email \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

#### Membership Categories

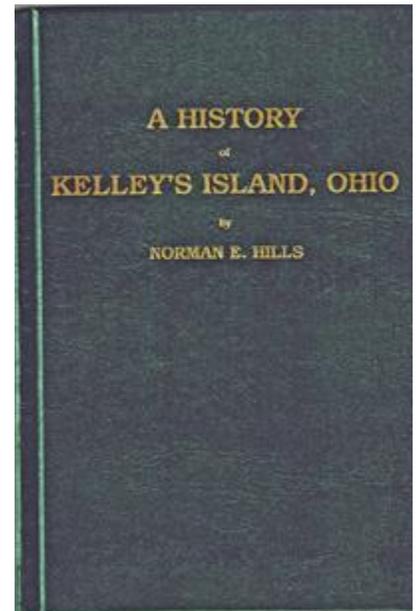
- \$30 Individual Member
- \$40 Family Member
- \$100 Business Member  
Includes small ad in each issue of  
our newsletter and a link on our  
website
- \$100 Patron Member
- \$500 LIFE member
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Donation

Remember, if you join as a PATRON or as a LIFE MEMBER, your membership is fully tax deductible.

AND as our way of saying thanks for supporting us as a PATRON or LIFE MEMBER

We will send you a FREE GIFT  
a copy of the Norman Hills history book –  
The History of Kelleys Island.

This is our way of saying THANKS for supporting us!!



Kelleys Island Historical Association  
PO Box 328  
Kelleys Island Ohio 43438

We are 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

## THANKS TO OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS



**Vi's Island Treasures** – One very unique Island gift shop is located next to the Kelleys Mansion. You can't miss the purple door! You can find 14kt. gold and sterling jewelry, Swarovski crystal sunglasses, frogs by Kitty Critters, nautical gifts, McCalls candles, a fine line of one-of-a-kind clothing. 419-746-2268 Website: [Vi's Island Treasures](http://Vi's Island Treasures)



**The Kelleys Island Brewery** - Patti and Doug are shaking things up, changing the Kelleys Island Brewery from a full service, daily operation restaurant and microbrewery to a CRAFT BEER TAPROOM and an affordable private rental venue (for weddings and other gatherings). Make sure to check out the menu in the taproom. Website: [KI Brewery](http://KI Brewery)



**Lake Disposal Services of Northern Ohio** - Spend more time relaxing -- let us pick up your trash! Residential and commercial containers, senior discount, large item pick up. Website: [Lake Disposal](http://Lake Disposal) email: [LakeDisposal@yahoo.com](mailto:LakeDisposal@yahoo.com), 877-582-6800



**Crafts Lakeview Lane** - Five comfortable cottages with kitchens and a 4-room motel near the lake, all located on a short quiet lane. This is one of the Island's few winter rentals.

There is also a boat launch and bait shop.

email [KelleysIsland@cros.net](mailto:KelleysIsland@cros.net), website: [Crafts](http://Crafts)



**Unc'l Dik's** - Just a little off the beaten path, at the end of Division St. you'll find hand dipped Toft's ice cream (to cool you down), hot dresses and jewelry (to dress you up), snacks (to feed your body) and a small general store (for almost all your needs). Located at 833 Division St, website: [Unc'l Diks](http://Unc'l Diks)



**The Charles Herndon Galleries and Sculpture Gardens** are located on the east side of the island at the end of Dwelle Lane near the airport. On the grounds overlooking the lake are two studios, two galleries, and a ten acre sculpture garden. The collection includes large and small stone sculptures, bronze sculpture, acrylic paintings, drawings, and photographs. <http://www.charlesherndon.com/419746-2249>.