

JUNE 1980 SUMMER EDITION

KELLEYS ISLAND Home Town News



in the limelight

NEWLYWEDS, DEB BLATT AND KEITH HAIG....
(See inside for more exclusive photos)

r.

No kid stuff

Third in a series of articles written by Emeline Kelley Huntington...
one of the early settlers on Kelleys Island..

" Going a mile to school was what took up my time 7 months in the yr.
Five & a half days in the week, and 4 of July, N.Y. and Christmas our
only holidays.

When there was snow on the ground there was lots of fun sliding down hill
and playing in the snow. Father had an old horse that was not required
to do any work. This I used to hitch to a sap sled (asled made to draw
maple sap in barrels to the fire to boil down & make maple sugar.) It
had no shafts so going down hill it was necessary for all to get off &
hold the sled back so it would not run on the heels of the horse. It
was great sport to get more girls on the sled than could ride very well.
Every little while one would tumble off in the snow.

In spring, father made a barrel or two of maple sugar, and some syrup.
Lorett & I started out in the mornng with an iron kettle between us on
a horse, expecting to boil down enough to get what we wanted to eat.
We spent our time playing, and keeping the sap boiling. It would some-
times boil over and put the fire out & sometimes would get nearly cold
for the want of fire. At night we had for our trouble two dresses so
black with dirt, sap and black off the kettle & torn it went into the
paper rags. Face & hands smutty enough for a blacksmith, and not the
ounce of sugar or even syrup to taste. But we did have lots of fun
with three of my brothers playing tag, hide & seek, etc. etc.

We expected to get a scolding for getting so dirty, but we looked
comically dirty and our mama had to laugh.

I came near forgetting to tell you about milking. Old Gent was a very
kind old cow, but very jealous. I milked her twice a day for several
years, and could make her shake her head and chase the other cows by
pretending I was going to milk them first. I learned to milk very
young. My brothers had to milk and they told me it would make my hands
large and strong to milk. In my scuffles with my older brothers,
the want of strength was a great trial. I would do anything if I was
only strong enough to shake them up as they did me, especially when
they washed my face with snow.

Page 1.

My first school house was a log building with three windows, one door, a punchion floor and an open fire place with stick & mud chimney. The mud was dug from under the floor, which made quite a hole and used often to put bad schollars in by raising a plank in the floor. There were cracks between the puncheons wide enough to drop quill pens & slat pencils into this hole. We were ordered to stand when we recited, read, or spelled, with our toes close to a crack in the floor to keep us in a line. Sometimes the bad boys in the hole stuck the old pens through the crack and pricked our bare feet. When I was ten yrs. old the township built a frame schoolhouse. The old one was so dark, father thought it best to put a small window in front of each desk and to prevent one schollar jiggling his neighbors elbows when writing a board partition was put between each desk.

It was a funny looking building inside and out, and I never saw one like it. Beauty of architecture was left out. It was an improvement over the log schoolhouse and more convenient than beautiful.

When I was 12 I was churning in the milk house one day and one of fathers workmen came along and leaning on the door, asked me if I would have him...I was mad and astonished! No, said I, what put that into your head? He said John (another workman). Then I was mad at John, but I would not please him by saying anything to let him know that Jim had said a word to me. It was my first Pop. No hearts broken.

My next Pop was a red-headed Irish boy named Sam. He was quite a poet good singer, and great chum of brother, Daniel. He would lend me his sled to slide down hill and often brought it up hill again for me.

I thought him clever and took his galantry very satisfactorly. One winter day Sam handed me a slip of paper with some verses the theme was all about "The girl on Lake Erie's shore." I never suspected I was the girl, until Dan got hold of it and teased me! He never let up on me until I was thoroughly mad at him and Sam. I wanted nothing more of Sam or his sled. There was no reason for being mad at Sam of course, for being selected as his best girl was a compliment, but he was the cause of my being most terribly teased & I wished him & his poetry in some hot place. Sam is still living, is STate Geologist in Iowa and a Judge of the courts. Is married and one daughter a minister in a respectable church in Cleveland.

To be continued next month.....



LOVE

ISLAND
STYLE

Keith Haig and Debby Blatt were united in marriage recently in a candlelight ceremony at St. Peter and Paul Church, Sandusky.

Even the weather cooperated in making this event one of spiritual impressiveness as well as graceful beauty. Twilight filtered through-out the hushed church as the wedding party, resplendent in white tuxedos and frothy pink formals, began the familiar wedding march to the altar. Debby's ready smile greeted all guests present and Keith never appeared happier, as he glowed.

A reception followed at the UAW hall. Guests were heard to comment repeatedly regarding seeing each other "dressed up". It was a happy reunion of old island friends and family as well as many mutual acquaintances.

Champaign flowed as easily as the conversation and music until the early hours of morning. No one was anxious to leave, and many guests lingered in the parking lot talking and sharing the warm spring breezes.

A special magic prevailed over the entire celebration, island lovers getting together can make it happen.

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PROUD PARENTS, TED AND BONNIE BLATT GREETED WEDDING GUESTS



STEALING THE SHOW: HOWARD BROWN III AND PAM HAIG WERE SHOW STOPPERS AS RING BEARER AND FLOWER GIRL

TOP ROW:
M/M Wm. McKillips
M/M Cecil Marchky
2nd row;
Newly weds embrace
Peggy Martin
Bottom Row:
John Liwosz Sr.
Marshall Bokerman
M/M Rbt. Baum

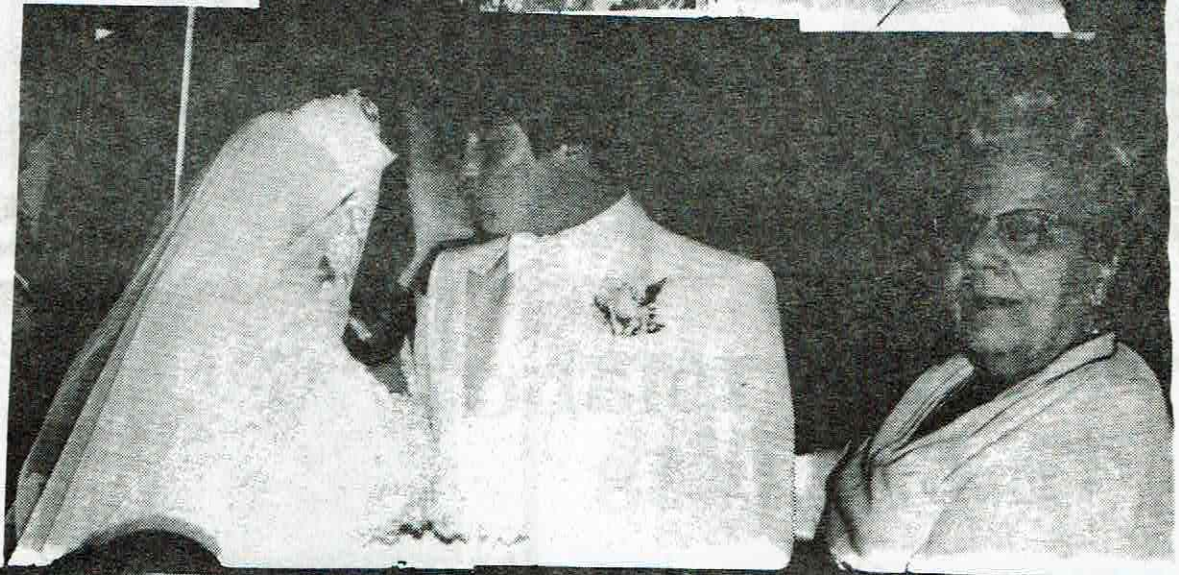


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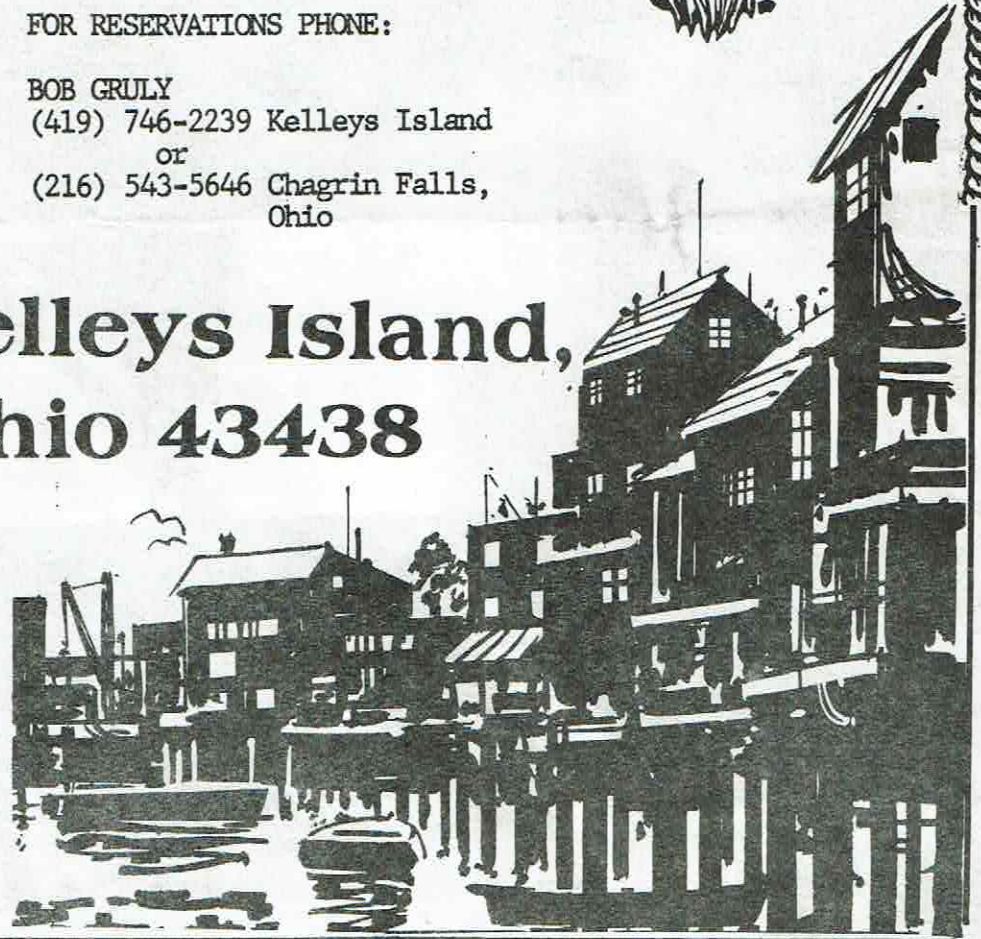
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Kelleys Island, Ohio 43438



Jake Martin (left) tries hard to convince Bob Schmittker (center) and Joe Onders (right) that Florida fishing is the greatest. Bob and Joe appear unimpressed.....



Thressa Bucsi watches Bridal Dance at recent Blatt-Haig reception

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Congratulations, Graduate

A tired, old world awaits your youth, your strength and your enthusiasm. You've passed an important milestone on the road to the future. May we join your many friends in wishing you a full measure of

good health, happiness and prosperity.

A born and raised Kelleys Islander, Paul Matso attended the area's vocational high school, EHOVE for the past two years. Majoring in carpentry, Paul is planning a career in the building field. He will be employed by the John Windish Construction Co. Sandusky.

He has been commuting back and forth to the island over the past two years by plane on a daily basis to attend school.

"The island is becoming more of a vacation resort than when I was growing up as a kid here," Paul said.

"We really had to work and be on our toes at all times because we knew that everyone in the community knew us and would report to our parents," he laughed.

The son of Bea and Russ Matso, Paul's grandfather Joe Matso, was a well known islander. He owned and operated the Lodge since 1927. Prior to this, the building was used as a grocery and general store.

KELLEYS ISLAND
HOME TOWN NEWS
C. Vogler Elfer
Editor/Publisher



PAUL MATSO



THE KELLEYS ISLAND GRADUATING CLASS OF 1968.....

Front row L to R: Laurie Reidy, Lizabeth Martin, Lenore Knapp
Back row: Jim Bugel, Terry Sun and Police Chief, Norbert McKillips.
Seen here ready to board their plane, the class was excited about
their senior class trip. McKillips escorted the class to the
airport.

VFW POST 9908 Kelleys Island, Ohio will sponsor a chicken barbeque dinner
on Saturday, June 28. Tickets are on sale at the club for \$4.00 each.
Their annual clambake is scheduled for August 23, 1980...mark your calen-
dars!

Large American Flags, suitable for an outdoor flag pole are on sale now
at the VFW for \$20.00 each. Let's all show our true "colors" on Memorial
Day and all summer long by flying the flag proudly!

Joe Onders, recently re-elected Commander, reminds everyone that BINGO IS
HELD EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT at the VFW. EVERYONE WELCOME!!

Going, Going Gone

BY MARY SCHOCK

Now that graduation day is drawing near again, and we have only one graduate on the Island this year, my thoughts recall my school years here.

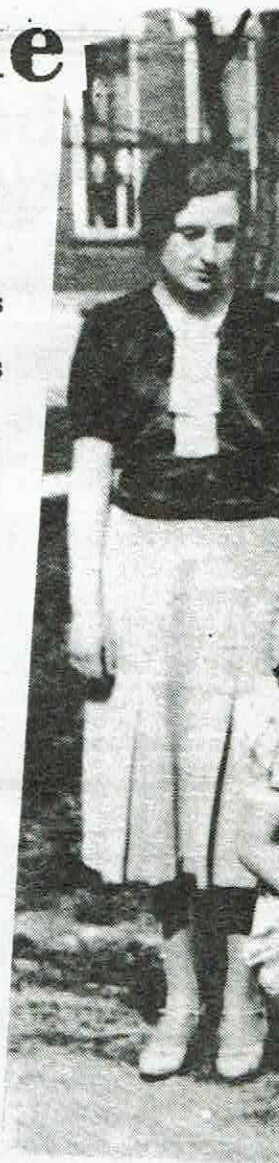
During my high school days there were about 50 students in high school and 12 in my graduating class. Mr. Downing was superintendent then and some of my teachers were: Twyla Hartley, Miss Hope, Mr. Nieman and Mr. Hinek. There were 3 teachers for the high school and we were offered many extra curricular activities to participate in. As an example; each teacher had to direct a play each winter. I was very active in this, having parts in 11 of the 12 plays during these years. There were also 3 literary societies which all had to take an active part in. Each society would provide a special program each month for the rest of the high school students.

There were public speaking contests which Mary Marchky excelled in by placing first here on the Island and also placing third when the competition was held at Berlin Hts., Ohio. Music festivals were held on the mainland each spring and the school band directed by Mrs. Downing participated. Volley ball games were held on the mainland and we competed with girls from neighboring schools, we had box socials, where the gentlemen bid on a box lunch and the privilege of sharing it with the young lady who had packed the box.

Almost any subject desired was taught in the school at that time from algebra to advanced trig and from biology through all the sciences. Foreign languages were offered, home ec and many other subjects.

After my graduation, I joined the dramatic club directed by Mr. Frank Hamilton. We were very active by putting on three plays each winter. This lasted until the quarry shut down and Lay Brothers stopped commercial fishing and the people with their families one by one were forced to move away from the Island.

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KELLEYS IS
Front Row:
Back Row:
Stanley Du



GRADUATING CLASS OF 1934.....
R: Helen Mervo, Lydia Dwelle, Eileen Murphy, Mary Perruchon, Hazel Duncan,
Eugeline Bonchi, Gene Haas, Don Lange, Raymond Feyedelen, Mike Semanition,
L, Mary Ellen Bauman.....

**LIVE
ENTERTAINMENT**



**ANDY WINKLER
&
THE ORANGE RIVER BAND**

**WILLIE'S
BANDWAGON**

**DIRTY DON'S
CASINO**

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KELLEYS ISLAND

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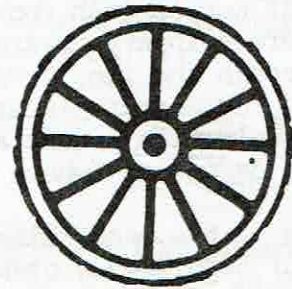
Six lively groups will again provide live entertainment at Dirty Dons CASINO This summer....From Ft. Myers, Fla. where they have been making thousands of people happy are: The Precious Ones, Pipers Alley, Ken and Karla, Lionsting, and opening this years season at THE CASINO, Andy Winkler and the Orange River Band. Also appearing in June, Willies Bandwagon.

Winkler recently received the "Entertainer of the Year" award at the Florida Country Music Association. Those who enjoyed him at THE CASINO last summer, will recall the top country chart tunes for which he is famous, also the classics, "Your Cheatin Heart, I'm So Lonesome I could Cry, and "Good Hearted Woman".

Orange River Band has new faces from far away places. Tom O'Neal is from Martin City Montana. Dave Clarke calls Michigan home, but spent a lot of time in Texas. Jack Brooks on percussion is from the Boston suburb of Peabody, Mass. He also performs magic tricks during breaks, including an enthralling stage show that includes sawing a lady in half!

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REALTY

KELLEYS ISLAND	746-2091
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Yesterday when we went to Cleveland, we saw a copy of the KELLEYS ISLAND HOME TOWN NEWS. Since I lived at Kelleys from 1925-1956 (and visited longer) I was really glad to hear about so many friends and family I knew.

Like the others, I have the best memories of the island, watching the big freighters load at the West Bay Dock, lawn fetes at each of the churches (including the Reformed Church) with all the good food, home-made ice cream and games of all kinds, all the "June Bugs" that piled up under the street lights and had to be shoveled up into trucks each morning...it was so much fun to step on them and then hear the crack, but they were slippery to step on, catching minnows at night to go fishing through the ice...everyone took a turn pulling up the nets and then headed for warmer places and friendly times at Charlie's or Joes, and what couple didn't take a turn at "parking" under the big buckeye tree at the carp trap (where the marina is now).

I think one of the best things God gave us is a memory, and mine is sure full of happy years of Kelleys Island, both as a child and a mother. It's so good there is someone who is doing such a fine job of uniting all those who love that big hunk of rock in Lake Erie. See you in August!!!

Dorothy Jean Hummell Schlesselman
Oyler
Hebron, Ohio 43025

I'm sorry that I am so late with the check. Wouldn't let our subscription lapse for the world. The paper is fantastic! Keep up the good work!

Pixie Schwartz
Lakewood, Ohio

We sure do enjoy the island paper. It brings back lots of happy memories of happy days for Don. We think its great you give so many people so much pleasure. Thanks so much.

Don/Mary Ellen Beatty
St. Joseph, Michigan

Heard you would like some more advertisers. Please sign us up and bill me. You can use the enclosed card as your guide. Thanks for a great little paper! Looks like its getting bigger all the time.

Norie/Bob Mielke
Sandusky, Ohio

Our gratitude to you and so many Islanders for their concern in our grief at the loss of our Dad.

Helen Whirnen & children
Lakewood, Ohio

PS: We find much joy in your ever growing paper!

We all thoroughly enjoy each
and every issue...KEEP THE
PRESSES ROLLING!!

Theresa Frobieter
Rocky River, Ohio

Wouldn't miss getting the News
for anything. Thanks for the
reminder ...

Harriet Milkove

Thanks so much for sending us
some of winter's issues of K.
I. Home Town News. Somehow we
got the idea you suspended pub-
lication during the winter.
Sure sorry we missed any of the
issues, we save them all. The
Pape family has been summering
on the island for four gener-
ations now, so we feel we're
almost Islanders. Though,
regretfully, we have not been
able to spend much time there
these last years because of
husband, Bill's illness. So
this is another reason we enjoy
your news of what's doing.
We particularly look forward to
your historic articles. KEEP
THEM COMING AND congratulations
on a great little paper.

M/M F.W. Pape
Cincinnati, Ohio

PS: Did you know our son, Kevin
was conducting an archeological
research project on the island
last summer to determine the
pattern of trade of the indians
which lived there?

Thanks for sending us a copy
of the K.I. Paper. The mailman
knew where to put it. Enclosed
is ck. for a subscription to it.
We have the Miller Boat Line
at Put In Bay and our picture was
in your paper on page showing
Fireman's Balls attendents.
Thanks again,

M/M Wm. Market
Miller Boat Line
Put-In-Bay, Ohio

Thanks for the payment reminder.
We do enjoy news so much and
would sure miss it. You're doing
a fine job.
Bud & I will not be on Island
much this summer. We are planning
to sell our home and move to
Fla. with the rest of Kelleys
Island. One could almost call
Ft. Myers, second Kelleys Island.

Mil & Bud Smallbrook
Dearborn Hts. Mich.

Still enjoying your publication
and look forward to it every
month. Charlotte & I still en-
joying the Florida weather, but
will miss our friends on the
Island until August.

Jack Evans
Hollywood, Fla.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...

What a surprise when I walked in an antique shop in Milan and there stood Ben Elfers after all these years I still remembered him! (Of course, who could forget a face like that.) We talked over old times on the Island! Then He told me about your Home Town News. I never knew there was a paper about the island. Just keep it coming! Have you ever thought about having a page for "What Happened to So and So?" If people want to inquire about somebody they used to know, or lost touch with, the people could put down their address and we could answer them direct. My husband and I took our three girls over last summer. I hand't been back since 1960. Well, you can imagine the change for me! The island has really changed. I didn't know any of the people. Those I thought I might know wouldn't remember me so I guess I just got cold feet.

Judith Schlesselman Bidila
1234 Marina Drive
Huron, Ohio 44839

Wouldn't want to miss a subscription. Thank you for your good work!

Mrs. J.V. Gerry
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

Sorry we didn't get the check to you sooner, but we just arrived home from Palm Beach. Joe and I had a very good time. But all in all, I'll take Kelleys Island ANYTIME. We do regret not getting a chance to visit the Bowman's, Mr. Harold Witacre, and lots of other friends. But when you go with a group, it's impossible to do what you would really like to do. If God is willing, we will try to do all that next year. Right now, we are very anxious to get to the ISLAND.

Joe & Arne Franjesh
Akron, Ohio

We enjoy Home Town News very much. Our cottage is in the Kaempe allotment. We have been there for 15 years and have been coming to the island over 25 years.

Mrs. Wesley Nimon
Lorain, Ohio

When I received the notice that said "TIME'S UP!" I rushed to see if it was signed by The Lord..What a relief when I realized it was just your subscription renewal notice! We appreciate your hours that must go into Home Town News.

Ed & Fran Kuchar
Hudson, Ohio

BACK HOME AGAIN AND HAPPY TO FIND SO MANY "SNOW BIRDS" back! Jake and Jessie Martin, Betty Ryan, Dawn Kekelik and Ruth Perruchon... Later on Theo and Franklin Clark showed up. We were finishing breakfast one morning and who should drive in but Mary and Don Williams! They had a present for us, a beautiful clock made from cypress wood! Another "Thank You" for house-setting. With Elmer Crafts gift of oranges and Jakie's grapefruit, we are the healthiest people on the island!

Jim and Eila Russell were another couple that took advantage of Neuman's "early freight run" on Tuesday before the regular ferry made it's first trip of the year. Jim nearly scared Lee (my husband) out of a year's growth! Lee had been checking Crafts home and usually walks over and checks Jim house as well. He got to their driveway and discovered an unfamiliar car parked there all loaded with electronic equipment. - the cottage back door was wide open. "Oh NO,!" thought Lee... "I've interrupted a robbery"! He walked to the door and knocked. A voice replied, "Who's there?" Lee answered, "Myers". The voice said "COME IN", and Lee entered to find Jim under the kitchen sink fixing a pipe! Boy, was that a relief!

The electronic equipment might well have been something necessary for the work Jim Russell and Father Sherbno of St. Michaels Church here have been working on. He has been setting up an amature radio station in the parish house so Father Sherbno, who recently received his amature licence will be able to talk around the world when he gets used to the system. Jim has the highest rating, that of "extra class" in the business and has been in the field of radio since 1912 when he was the first radio amature to be logged and heard overseas with his own home-made rig. This first set is now considered a relic and is in the wireless museum of Newington, Conn. Jim is an official FCC examiner and gave the test to father Sherbno. He is an official observer and Assistant Director of American Radio Relay League. His wife, Eila, has advanced to the 2nd highest rank in amature operators and is past president of the international group, Young Ladies Radio League Inc. They meet each week and talk world wide. Eila's call numbers are: WA8EBS, Jim is known as W8BU and Father Sherbno is called KA8 IXP. Joe Onders is also involved in the project at the parish house, and soon Kelleys Island may be a familiar word across the globe!

We celebrated Lee's birthday April 30th with daughter, Coralee, and later Son Bill took us out for Sunday brunch while on our trip. When we returned home to the island Marge and Al Rumel had us over for cake and coffee and then I took him out for a fish fry on Friday May 2nd. How's that for a record birthday celebration?

Our sick bay seems to be quieting down a bit! All I have heard so far is that Ellies Hughes is in good Samaritan for tests of some kind, and Eileen Martin is recovering nicely from her recent hospitalization. I look for both she and Harriet Martin to be returning to the family home "The Old Nest" soon. Rosetta Navorska, true to her reputation, is back on the island and walking with the aid of a walker. She fell and broke her hip several weeks ago, but refused to let it get the best of her!

When Vange Bugel stopped by one morning recently she told us they were going back to Florida for a long stay, 1½ to 2 years while Jim had a job there. We are all sorry to have them go, but wish them success and happiness!

We were told that the island suffered quite a storm while we were gone on our trip and we found plenty of evidence, planking ripped off in several places on our dock. Always something to repair!

I would like to take time to pay my own little tribute to what I consider a very remarkable lady...Mary Augusta McKillips! She, along with Ellies Hughes and Florence McKillips, is the very backbone of our little church on the corner, Zion United Methodist! She is "Johnny-On-The-Spot" for all social functions, Women of Zion's treasurer, and ready at our organ each Sunday morning...all this besides caring for Oscar, her husband, who is not at all well, and through it all, she is ALWAYS SO CHEERFUL AND SMILING. I love to greet her every Sunday AM as "Mary Sunshine!" More power to you, my dear!

LAST MINUTE NEWS....

Johnny Beck was hurt badly in an accident involving his jeep here on the island recently. Reports are that he is recovering, but the jeep is not.

Earl and Betty Bowman and Walter and "Tootie" Elfers returned from Florida recently, and that just about completes our list of "Snow Birds" .

Leslie McCall, daughter of Linda Vogler McCall, discovered the remains of an air-born balloon while walking in the woods behind her uncle, Ben Elfers. The note inside was from a youngster in Toledo. Quite a remote location to land a balloon! HELLO, TOLEDO!



While visiting Kelleys Island,
don't forget to visit

THE VILLAGE PUMP



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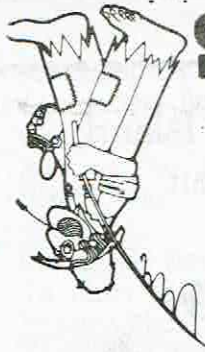
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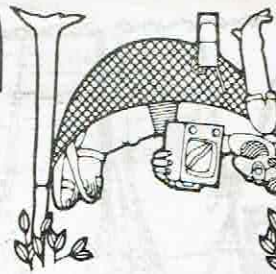
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TELLEYS ISLAND HOME TOWN NEWS
C.A. ELLERS Editor/Publisher
#1 Norwalk, Ohio 44857

one of a kind

THE FISH NET, a hand-craft and gift boutique, is the end result of a lot of hard work and cooperation by a partnership of island women. The shop is operated by Sharon Bianchi, Pat Seeholzer, Kim Watkins and Julie Kennedy and features unique items which express the handicraft islanders and island lovers.

Featuring such items as; quilted toss pillows, intricate hand-carved characatures, pen and ink drawings, tole paintings, macrame plant ha and wall hangings, jewelry, afgans, corn husk dolls, hand knitted ba clothes, wooden toys, hand made calico flowers and much more, surely and every shopping need is met at THE FISH NET. In addition, the sh which rests at the bottom of Division Street on the water's edge, is tastefully decorated in a nautical motif, to inspire your shopping t

So, when you are on Kelleys Island, make sure you stop and visit THE NET....And take home a gift of love....hand made by and for island l They are still accepting hand craft items on consignment for sale th