



Kelleys Island Historical Association, Inc.

Kelleys Island, Ohio 43438

Vol. V, No. 1

April, 1990

HISTORIC MARKER TO BE DEDICATED: On Saturday, May 19, 1990, The Kelleys Island Historical Association, in cooperation with the Kelleys Island Village Council, and the Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce, will dedicate a plaque to be placed on the Old Town Hall designating the entire Island as an Historic District. After much research and community effort, Kelleys Island is now on the National Register of Historic Places. This is a national recognition of the historic importance of Kelleys Island and attests to the entire community's interest in and support of the preservation of the unique heritage of our "Emerald Isle."

Much of the research necessary to achieve this national recognition was accomplished through the untiring efforts of Kevin and Betty Pape.

ACQUISITIONS AND EXHIBITS COMMITTEE: By action of the Association Board, recommendations of the Acquisitions & Exhibits Committee were approved. These include: (a) the determination of areas of interest around which to build the museum's permanent collection; (b) establishment of policies regarding the acquisition of artifacts for the permanent collection by gift, purchase, or loan; and (c) the creation of an accession and de-accession system.

It was further agreed that the permanent collection be limited to those fields in which Kelleys Island is unique; quarrying, viticulture, fishing, transportation, ethnic groups and island peoples, and tourism.

Special projects have been suggested for the carrying out of the above objectives.

KELLEYS ISLAND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Requests your presence to celebrate the dedication of the NATIONAL HISTORIC PLAQUE designating the entire Island as an **HISTORIC DISTRICT**

Saturday, May 19, 1990
Ceremony and Reception at
1:00 P.M., Old Town Hall
Division Street
Kelleys Island, Ohio

with election of officers, will be Aug. 11.

OLD STONE CHURCH RENOVATION CONTINUES:

With the outside painting of the Old Stone Church and parsonage nearly finished, the Association Board, through its president, is currently negotiating a contract with a local craftsman to repair and refurbish the interior. This work, both inside and out, should be completed by late summer.

DOCENTS NEEDED: In order to make the Old Stone Church and its exhibits more available to visitors, regular weekend hours of opening are to be established for the summer of 1990. For this purpose of acquainting the public with the church-museum and the work of the Kelleys Island Historical Assn., members and friends are encouraged to volunteer their time to serve as docents. Cindy Herndon is in charge of this project; please contact her if you can spare a few hours during the summer weekends for this essential work. A schedule is being set up and your early cooperation is solicited to complete it.

BAVARIAN WALL CLOCK: During the winter afternoons, when his business was not brisk,

1990 CALENDAR OF EVENTS:
May 19, 1:00 P.M., dedication of historic plaque.
June 23, Tour of Homes.
July 21, Art & Crafts Show.
Sept. 15, Butterfly Festival
Regular meetings of the Historical Association are held on the second Saturday of the summer months at 1:30 P.M. in the Old Stone Church. (June 9, July 14, Aug. 11, Sept. 8) The Annual Meeting,

Russ Matso was hard at work in his new workshop. The object of his labors was the crafting of a beautiful and intricately designed Bavarian Wall Clock. With its porcelain inlaid pendulum and pleasant-sounding chime, it is a treat for both eye and ear.

This product of Russ' skill and patience will be raffled off at the 1990 Butterfly Festival, the proceeds from which will benefit the Association. Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00. These may be purchased at the Old Stone Church, Matso's Bar & Restaurant, through Association Board members, or by mail. Help to support your Historical Association and secure for yourself a number of chances to add this Bavarian Wall Clock to your home's decor!

BAKE OVEN: The last remaining bake oven, a remnant of the early Island quarrying days, has been restored through the combined efforts of the Kelleys Island Historical Association and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

Located at the juncture of Division St. and Sand Beach Road, the oven had suffered serious deterioration from both weather and vandalism. Upon the initiation of the Association and the direction of Joseph J. Sommer, Director of the ODNR, it has been rebuilt and is ready for "inspection" by Island visitors. The Association wishes to extend its warmest thanks to Director Sommer and his Department for preserving this historic landmark!

THEY ALMOST BUILT TOO WELL: Summer residents and Island visitors will see a changed skyline when they return this year. The 80-year-old West Dock is no more!

Since 1910, this imposing structure dominated the western shoreline of Kelleys Island. However, as time passed, and particularly in recent years when it was out of use, wind, waves, ice, and vandals chipped away at its bins and walls. Long a favorite haunt for fishermen and sun-bathers, in the past few years it had become dangerous. Falling concrete and collapsing floors were constant hazards to life and limb. Its eventual demise was a foregone conclusion.

This past year, with the imminent reopening of the West Quarry, it became evident that the West Dock had to be demolished. Modern methods of quarrying and dock operation made it obsolete and the structure itself was beyond repair. The decision was made to

dynamite this old landmark, level the area, and build a new, modern dock.

But as it turned out, such was easier said than done. The demolition date was set for Nov. 7, 1989. The dynamite charges were placed at strategic intervals along the length of the structure and it was supposed to collapse after the first series of detonations. The charges exploded as planned, a mighty cloud of dust obscured the blasted dock from view. The deed was done -- or was it?

When the cloud of dust blew away, though, the dock still stood, as it had for the previous four score years. A few days later, a second attempt was made with similar results. The third time was the charm. The underpinnings finally gave way, but it wasn't until this past March that the work of wrecking balls and huge jackhammers was able to pound the huge concrete bins into oblivion.

By mid-summer a new west dock will be in operation; the stone boats again will fill their holds with crushed limestone. Thus, though the old landmark is gone, quarrying, Phoenix-like, is giving new life to the Island's economy and adding still another chapter to the Island's history.

NEW BOOKS IN ISLAND LIBRARY: Almost two years ago, the Historical Association voted to provide matching funds with the Erie County Library for the purchase of books dealing with historic preservation and restoration. Betty Pape, on behalf of the Association and the Erie County Library, prepared a bibliography of such volumes. These now have been placed in the Island's Library at the Estes School. They are valuable assets for the preserving of our historic heritage and the Association is proud to have been a part of this cooperative effort.

MEMORIAL GIFTS: In memory of Craig Brown by Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Bechtel.

In memory of Anne Sennish by Mr. & Mrs. John Neuman.

In memory of Lou Gigliotti by Mr. & Mrs. John Neuman, Mr. & Mrs. Harold Neuman, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Bechtel.

In memory of Jack Schock by Mr. & Mrs. Harold Neuman, Mr. & Mrs. John Neuman, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Bechtel.

In memory of Helen Brown, Monica Feyedelew Lawrence and Francis Betzenheimer, Henry Knapp by Marilyn Dauch.

In memory of Henry Knapp, Robert Ritchie, Robert Schwartz, James Terwilliger, Dr. Lester Towle, Edward Ehrbar, Richard Smolik,

Jack Schock by Mr. & Mrs. Harold Neuman,
Mr. & Mrs. John Neuman.

In memory of Jay Norris, Lawrence and
Francis Betzenheimer, Donald Haig, Mary
Schock by Ruth L. Bandeen.

In memory of Rodger Williams Sr. by
Susan H. Weston, Mr. & Mrs. Scott Paul
Brockmeier, Mr. & Mrs. Rodger Williams
Jr., Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Heider, Mr. &
Mrs. Charles Witte, Ned Hills.

In memory of Godfried and Mary Schock
by Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Bechtel, Mr. & Mrs.
John Mack.

In memory of Mary Marchky by Helen
Marchky.

In memory of Edward Ehrbar by Mr. &
Mrs. John Mack.

In memory of Dr. Lester Towle by Mr.
& Mrs. Paul Brown.

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION DUES:

\$5.00 per person, Annual Membership
\$100.00 Patron
\$500.00 Life

Make checks payable to: Kelleys Island
Historical Association,
P.O. Box 328,
Kelleys Island, Ohio, 43438.

ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE ASSOCIATION:

Hills' HISTORY OF KELLEYS ISLAND, \$8.00
COOKBOOK NO. 2, \$8.00
COMMEMORATIVE PLATE, \$15.00

Be sure to include your name, address, and
telephone number on all correspondence.