



Kelleys Island Historical Association, Inc.

Kelleys Island, Ohio 43438

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BUILDING PLANS GO FORWARD

In the next few months, members and friends of the Association will receive special mailings of information relative to the construction of the new museum. While the Island itself has been in its quiescent stage during this past winter, work has progressed at a steady pace on planning and fund-raising techniques, necessary preliminaries for the construction of the museum itself. O. Hugh Lange, "Fritz" Ziegler, Cindy Herndon, and representatives of the Columbus College of Art and Design have busied themselves for the imminent fund-raising drive, scheduled to begin in earnest within the new few months.

Meanwhile, special gifts and memorials have been and are being received by Treasurer Lydia Rechtel for inclusion in the especially established Building Fund. Thus members and friends do not have to delay making their tax-free donations to this worthy Association project.

BELL TOWER REFURBISHING

With the completion of the interior renovation of the Old Stone Church, the only project left to accomplish is the refurbishing and repair work on the bell tower. With the help and advice of Mike Priebe and Danny Ahner, materials for the necessary repair have been obtained. Russ Matso and Robby Holmes will be in charge of the actual work.

The major task will be to raise the 2000+ lb. bell so that a new floor and covering can be installed in the bell tower. Once this is accomplished, the entire restoration of the Old Stone Church, which began nearly a decade ago, will be completed.

PLANT SALE — MAY 16TH

ORDER NOW!

Order blank enclosed.

SUMMER SCHEDULE:

INTERESTING & INNOVATIVE

Cindy Herndon, the Association's Vice President and Program Chairman, has planned a veritable feast of activities for members and friends during the coming "season."

The three regular programs (June 13, July 11, and September 19) are of considerable interest to the general public.

The first regular meeting program (June 13) will feature an illustrated talk on Lake Erie ships and shipping. We're a long time removed from the days of the old sailing vessels and none now living can recall the days when steamboats regularly stopped at Kelleys to take on fuel, harvested from the dense forests which once covered the Island. However, within the last century, larger and larger ships, powered by coal-fired boilers and diesel engines have pushed, pulled, and carried passengers, freight, and bulk goods throughout the extent of the Great Lakes.

There are fewer commercial ships now than in the past for those now plying the lake waters carry cargoes many times greater than their predecessors. By the same token, the present era has seen a steady increase in the number and types of tour boats.

Kelleys has been and continues to be both an observer and participant in these interesting changes in shipping in all of its varied phases.

On Sept. 19, as a highlight of the Association's Annual Butterfly Festival, the summer entomologist from Ohio State's Stone Laboratory on Gibraltar Island will acquaint us with the interesting life histories not only of the Monarch Butterfly, but with those other insect lives indigenous to Lake Erie and the Islands.

One of the most interesting programs ever sponsored by the Association was the one devoted to commercial fishing in the Western Basin of Lake Erie. Unfortunately time constraints then did not permit much in the way of reminiscing by former Kelleys Island commercial fishermen. In order to remedy that situation, a pot-luck dinner at the Pavilion (4:00 P.M.) will provide an opportunity for members, friends, and fishermen to share their experiences and expertise.

Members and friends are encouraged to participate in this unique event. Bring along a favorite "dish" to share as well as your own table service.

Summer Programs, continued:

In the past few years, the Art Show (July 18) has assumed a steady increase in public interest and participation. Again this year, Annalee has taken on the responsibility of putting the show together. Members and friends are urged to participate, either as exhibitors or attendees.

Another annual event of the Association will be the Tour of Homes (June 20). Under the leadership of Ila Dick, the public is invited to visit historic and/or interesting homes and buildings on the Island. Each year a new selection of such ordinarily closed and private places is made -- and this year will be no exception. Tickets for the tour will be available through Association officers prior to the tour or on June 20th in the Town Park.

The Association views these events not only as a means of "showing off" the uniqueness of Kelleys Island to members, friends, summer people, and tourists, but to encourage the general public to become members of the Kelleys Island Historical Association.

OLD ERA CLOSES: NEW ONE OPENS

Just two years shy of the age of the American Republic when Lincoln gave his now famous Gettysburg Address, Matso's Place (The Lodge) is changing hands. After sixty-five years and two generations in the same family ownership (the oldest family-operated business on the Island), Russ and Bea have opted for "retirement." The bar and restaurant has been sold (to the Kuchar family), though it undoubtedly will continue as a favorite meeting place for both Islanders and summer people.

However, never ones to idle away their hours, Bea and Russ have already lined up projects which should take at least a couple more generations of the Matso family to complete. As a matter of fact, their "new life," freed from the long hours and busy routines of "Matso's Place," gives them new directions and even greater opportunities to apply their considerable skills and energies.

Though not connected with their "retirement," Russ and Bea were honored last November by the Kelleys Island Historical Association for their long years of indefatigable service. Presented with a suitably etched crystal bowl, Association members and friends gathered to pay just tribute to this truly amazing duo who have contributed so much to the continued success of our organizations. Congratulations --- and thanks!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: 1992

May 16, 1992 -- Plant Sale

(See attached for order blank and other information.)

June 13, 1992: Regular Meeting. Program on Lake Erie ships and shipping.

June 20, 1992: Tour of Homes

If you would like to show your home, get in touch with Ila Dick, Kelleys Island, Ohio.

July 11, 1992: Regular Meeting.

Pot Luck at the Pavilion, 4:00 P.M., honoring the commercial fishermen of Kelleys Island.

July 11, 1992: Art Show, 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

If you would like to display any of your art creations, contact Annalee, Kelleys Island, Ohio.

(Or at: 20295 Silver Springs Drive, P.O. Box 112, Northville, Michigan, 48167.)

August 8, 1992: Annual Meeting

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

September 19, 1992: Butterfly Festival

Save your saleable articles for Auction and Craft Tables. For information, contact Marge Clapper, Kelleys Island, Ohio.

*Aside from the July 11th meeting, all other regular meeting -- including the Annual Meeting -- will be held at the Old Stone Church at 2:00 P.M.

**As part of the Butterfly Festival, an entomologist from The Ohio State University will speak on the Monarch Butterfly and other types of insect life on Kelleys Island.

MEMORIALS

BUILDING FUND MEMORIALS

In memory of Mary Williams

by Boni M. Turoczy

In memory of Claude Smith

by Mr. & Mrs. Paul Brown

In memory of Wm. Haynes, Lola Neuman, and Carolyn Ahlers

by Ronald & Lydia Bechtel

In memory of Carolyn Ahlers and Lola Neuman

by Russell and Bea Matso

In memory of Claude Smith

by James & Arlynn Lyle

In memory of Mrs. Harold Neuman

by Frank and Laura Jean Pohorence

GENERAL FUND MEMORIALS

In memory of Claude Smith

by Ronald & Lydia Bechtel

In memory of Mary Williams

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

In memory of Claude Smith

by Adelia Peters

In memory of Claude Smith

by Duke and Judy DuShane