



Making Kelleys Island History Everybody's Business

Kelleys Island Historical Association

Volume 3, Issue 3

Summer, 2006

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Lydia Bechtel donates artifacts



The Kelleys Island Historical Association was pleased and honored to receive artifacts

from **Lydia Dwelle Ohlemacher Bechtel** this spring. Most have been on display on the altar in the KIHA German Reformed Church building during this summer. In this newsletter we have included photos (page 3) of a few of the donated items, especially for our members that have not been able to visit the museum.

Lydia has been instrumental in the Kelleys Island Historical Association, since before it began. She has been one of our strongest, most consistent, and most generous donors, both in volunteer hours and financially. Thank you Lydia for your tremendous, and ongoing generosity!

Lydia and her family decided to donate these items at this time because they have recently sold their family's island home.

While you may not think you have beautiful Kelleys Island furniture to donate, remember that even seemingly inconsequential pieces of paper may have meaning for a historical display. If you find Kelleys Island related material such as old boat or plane schedules, newspaper ads, etc., instead of throwing them out, please contact the KIHA or one of its board members.

2006 Tour of Homes huge success!

Weather, loads of hard work and a wonderful selection of homes, all led to an especially successful 2006 Tour of Homes. Nearly 150 people attended the tour and a profit of over \$2600 was netted to the association.

A special highlight of the day was a 4 p.m. mini-concert of the **Kelleys Island Singers** at the Old Town Hall.

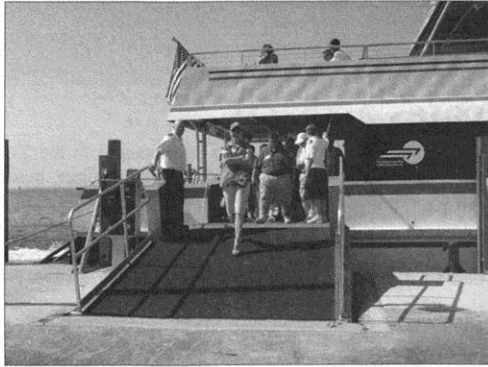
We especially want to thank the homeowners who opened up their residences to the public and to the benefit of the KIHA museum fund. The homeowners who participated in this year's event were **Werner and Joan Minshall, Frances Minshall, Edward and Rita Violand, Caroline and Edward Jorski, Betty, Kim, and Kevin Pape, Jackie and Gary Finger, and Chief Ronald Ehrbar and the Village Council** for use of the Police Station and the Town Hall. Over sixty KIHA volunteers worked on the event. Some baked cookies and some acted as host/hostess/carparkers at the sites. A special thank you to the organizers of the House Tour, **Carol and Ed Frindt, Annalee, and Jan Ransom.**

The bakers and on site volunteers were **Jerry and Marge Alaburda, Drew and Donna Algase, Ray and Lori Arnold, Kelli Bias, Bonnie Blatt, Ann Brown, Claudia Brown, Charlie and Carol Burns, Patty Johnson, June Campbell, Marge Clapper, Byron and Shirley Crabill, Frank and Carol Dobson, Anne Eddowes, Ronald Ehrbar, Vicki Finnegan, Carole Geschke, Bill and Ferne Gorchester, Chuck and Diane Hacker, Lori Hayes, Sally Hiller, Stu Humphrey, Jennifer Koba, Jacquie Kranyak, Norm and Gye Landis, Pete and Sam Legere, Dee Mack, Sharon McIntire, Arti Mader, Cindy Merkel, Ray and Bonnie Meyers, Mary Ann Pileski, Laura Jean Pohorence, Raleigh and Joan Quillin, Bob and Jan Ransom, Pat Seeholzer, Barbara Shadle, Susan Stacho, Sonia Taylor, Jane Wick, Lawson and Peggy Wideman, Mary Ellen Wilke, Roger and Madeleine Williams, Frank and Chris Yako, and the Audubon Club and the Island Singers.**

Please consider opening your home for one of our annual tours in the future.

PIB visitors guests of KI Historical Association

As the board works toward the opening of our new museum, late last summer they visited the Lake Erie Islands Historical Society (LEIHS). LEIHS Director **Susie Cooper** generously



shared valuable information on the variety of successful projects that LEIHS has accomplished over the years.

While having discussions, Susie expressed an interest in offering a trip to Kelleys Island to her members as a possible fund raiser for KIHA. For several years her group has taken day-trips to Rattlesnake, North Bass and Middle Bass Islands. She asked if KIHA could put together a fun, interesting and historic day for her members, and the KIHA Board worked with the KI community and businesses to accomplish it.

On Wed., June 28, 66 LEIHS members disembarked from the **Jet Express** for a full-Kelleys Island day.



The group loaded into **Casino** rental golfcarts that KIHA volunteer **Fred Walcott** had prepared for the group. They were split into five sub-groups led by KIHA volunteers: **Claudia Brown, Byron Crabill, Ed and Carol Frindt, Peggy Cooney and Jacquie Kranyak**. The five groups visited the following locations on a rotating basis: **Chuck Herndon's Art Galleries**, which included a visit with the artist; the **KIHA old and new museums**; the exterior of the **Kelley Mansion**, for an update on all of the work **Ed and Fran Kuchar** have done to date; **Glacial Grooves**; a stop to view the quarry operation from the road; a

visit to the country's smallest **Brew Pub**; and then lunch at one of the five downtown restaurants--**Bag the Moon Saloon, Village Pump, Captain's Corner, Casino, and Caddy Shack**. A scheduled visit to the **Cameron House/Jorski's Bed & Breakfast** had to be cancelled due to a family emergency.

After lunch, the directors of **Camp Patmos** came by with their tour tram and brought all, who were interested, out to the camp for a brief ride-around tour and description of the extensive camp, which is under the leadership of **Tim Richardson**, and is doing many new things. The tour tram next took the PIB group to Glacial Grooves and back into



town, where a number of the guests set off to shop and or frequent the downtown restaurants--several having expressed a desire for a Brandy Alexander.

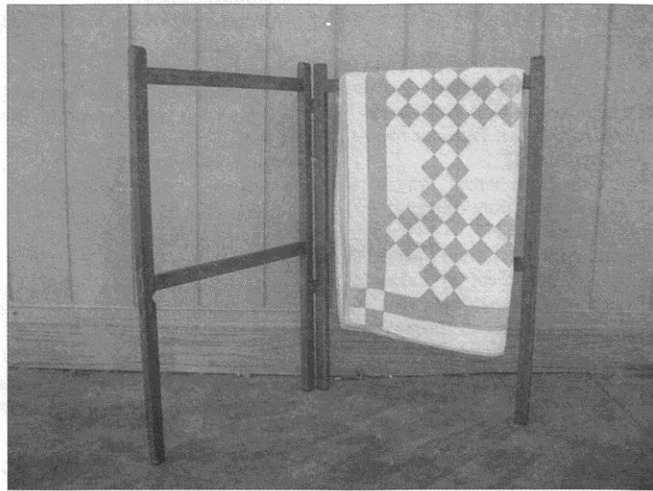
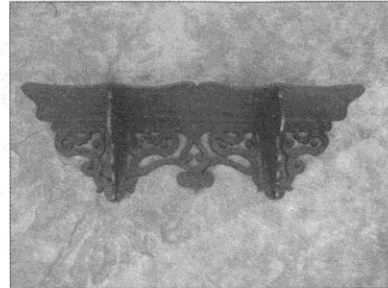
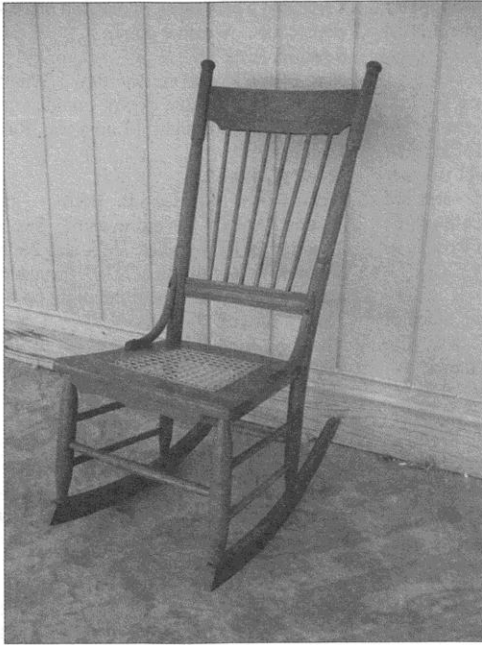
Many of the LEIHS visitors expressed pleasure at the events of their day, most were especially impressed with **Chuck Herndon's art**, the new historical museum, and many expressed a desire to come back to visit their island neighbor again soon, with a hope to see even more.

At the end of the day Susie Cooper proudly handed over a



check for over \$2,000 to KIHA from the LEIHS. After expenses were paid to island businesses,—who had all reduced their rates for KIHA—for the food, beer tasting with French fries, and golf cart rentals, KIHA was able to deposit over \$1200 into the building fund.

Up close with some of the Bechtel donations



Final excerpt 1948 Rosella (Elfers) Beatty Diary



This is the final installment of the Rosella Beatty diary that we had printed a portion of in our last two newsletters. See Rosella's background information on pg. 5.

Sunday, June 6

Went down for High Mass - wasn't any. Rainy and windy day. Gerry (daughter) went back at 9:30 PM.

Monday, June 7

Raining. Ila (daughter) went back on 8AM boat. Washing. Hope I can get it out. *(New entry)* Got it dry and ironed. Called Ila for flowers for O. P. Lay. [Oscar P. Lay - head of Lay Bros. Fisheries]

Tuesday, June 8

Cold. Fire in furnace. Henny (husband) went to O. P. Lay funeral. *No entries for Wed, Thurs or Fri.*

Saturday, June 12

Fair. Kids came home. Wayne (son) came for summer from college.

Sunday, June 13

Mr. and Mrs. Mix from Lakewood in Stinson. Took them to Lakeside in cruiser. Picked up slot machine. Trudy, Ella and Jimmy came in from Put-In-Bay. [Trudy Woiske, Ella, and Jimmy - friends of Rosella and Henny]

Monday, June 14

Fair in AM. Heavy rain at night. Went to choral practice in Community Church. Anniversary 26 years. Got

crystal set from Gerry, Ila and Mary Ellen (third daughter). Wayne started work on house.

Tuesday, Jun 15

Birthday (half way?) Leaving for Ind. with Mildred this AM. *(New entry)* Arrived in Indianapolis at 5:30 PM. Went to Esther's at night - Esther & Aunt Mary on porch - very surprised to see us. Hitchcocks and Cains came in for the evening. [friends of Rosella & Henny Beatty]

Wednesday, June 16

Warm. Went shopping. Had lunch at Block's with Mill. Gladys F. was with us. Had a lawn supper at Esther's. All the relatives there.

Thursday, June 17

Clear day. Had tea with Aunt Freda at Ayres (?) - Went to Cains for a picnic supper in yard. Aunt Mary looked bad in her sleep but got up ok.

Friday, June 18

Started home at 7 AM. Got in Sandusky at 5:30. Came in on 8 PM boat. Severe thunderstorm that night - struck tree in Ward's yard

Saturday, June 19

Kids came in as usual. Rainy day.

Sunday, June 20

Went to P-I-B Legion parade and yachting get together. Forty hours opened. Bl. Sac. *(Blessed Sacrament)* pastor conducted.

Monday, June 21

Washed and ironed - Mass in AM. Services at night.

Tuesday, June 22

Forty hours continued. Can't get caught up from Ind. trip - so tired! No more trips!!

Wednesday, June 23

Collected for Community Fireworks. Hot. 95.

Thursday, June 24

Practiced for singing for the 4th - at Com. Church. Had a picnic supper in Vi's dining room. Ella and Trudy and kids. Had spaghetti.

Friday, June 25

(Written on the diagonal across the whole page:) Just can't keep up with things!

Saturday, June 26

Wayne & Henny & Don went to Greater

Cleveland Yacht races. Took 2nd place in chance race. Weather good.

Sunday, June 27

Had Mama come up for day. Wayne called - they won 2nd trophy - single crew race. Rained all night. [Mama was Rose Lange]

Monday, June 28

Went down to see P. Beltz - had Quincy. At 8:30 bad storm came. Strong S. winds for 10 minutes. Mix and 2 others came in on Stinson at 8:30. Persuaded them to stay over - spent the night on the "Mary Ellen."

Tuesday, June 29

Rains a little every day. Went to choral practice at Community Church. At 8:30 PM it poured rain.

Wednesday, June 30

Fresh west winds. Went to town on Cruiser at 9:30. Wayne drove into Crestline to get a door for Nelson's car. Paul B. brought boat home - very choppy. Went to Choral practice in town hall at 8:00 PM. [Paul Brown]

Thursday, July 1

Fair and cool. Carpenters started at 2 PM.

Friday, July 2

Raining and cool. 3 long distance calls around 6 PM. Gerry, Marion & Sparks brother. Mix and Dougherty came in for fish supper. Charley B. also here but Mickey too sick to eat. Kaempfes came around 9 PM. Finally made it down town about 11 PM. Didn't stay long. Cains and Ellen came. [Mike Cains] [Charley Bockerman and his wife Mickey Bockerman surname aka Bookerman]

Saturday, July 3

Beautiful clear day.

Sunday, July 4

Chorus successful in town hall. Good crowd. Watched fireworks after from the "M.E." out in lake. Mrs. Gilliland and Whitmans arrived on 10 AM boat. Mrs. G. failed since 3 years ago.

Monday, July 5

Gerry home on vacation. Went to Middle Bass and gang came up here after - made lunch. Took Madeline and Cappy and baby to Lakeside at 7 PM. [Madeleine (Lange) Russell and her husband Cappy Russell with baby Jane]

© Jeri Yoest

2006 Calendar

Butterfly Festival
Saturday, Sept. 9

The KIHA Board meets on the third Thursday of the month at 4:45 p.m. in the office behind the Old Stone Church. If you have anything that you would like the Board to know or discuss, please contact President Mike Feyedelem, or another Board member before a Board meeting, or write to the Kelleys Island Historical Association; P. O. Box 328, Kelleys Island, OH 43438.

If you have any comments or suggestions, please address them to a Board Member or to the President.

Betzenheimer donates another gorgeous quilt to KIHA

Teri Betzenheimer has once again given KIHA a quilt to be raffled off, this time in memory of **Jack Betzenheimer**.

The quilt is a beautiful combination of greens, ochre's and rust browns. Members, captained by **Fran Minshall** donated their time to go to Islandfest with a booth to sell quilt tickets and she and her helpers plan to do the same for Homecoming.

When one door shuts...a big thank you is due

A big KIHA thank you is given to **James McIntire** and **Michael Feyedelem** who worked on the doors to the church, which had not been closing properly for some time.

They sanded and planed down the old paint on the double doors until they could be opened and closed easily.

Memorials & Donations

Donations were given to the Building Fund by:

Charles and Cynthia Herndon
Robert Goff in memory of **Alvan B. Milkove**;

Nancy Stoetzer and **Annalee** in memory of **Betsy Walcott**;

Anne Sennish in memory of **Anne Ludu**;

Paul and Lois Brown, and **Annalee** in memory of **Sue Clepper**;

Annalee in memory of **Dawn Kekelik**;

Anne Sennish in memory of **Bob Larson**;

Judy DuShane in memory of **Donna E. Humphrey**.

Financial notes

President Michael Feyedelem reports that the profit on the Lake Erie Islands Historical Society Tour was \$1,270. The profit on the Home Tour was \$2,644.61.

Rosella's Diary background

Rosella's Diary (1948) was given to **Ila (Beatty) (Himmelein) Dick's** daughter **Jeri (Himmelein) (Dick) Yoest** by her Grandmother **Rosella (Elfers) Beatty**.

Rosella was born June 15, 1903 and passed from this life in May, 1985. She was raised on Kelleys Island, the daughter of **Rose Moross** and **Walter Elfers**. Rosella took piano lessons as a young girl, about age 12, traveling by ferry by herself with her music. After twelve lessons she decided she had an ear for music and stopped her lessons. Rosella played piano for silent movies at the Casino and dances and masquerades at the Town Hall.

She also played the organ at St. Michael's Church for forty years. She served on the Kelleys Island School Board and she was the first woman to be elected to Kelleys Island Village Council.

Rosella married **Henry "Henny" T. Beatty**. Their children were **Wayne,**

Ila, Gerry, Ronny, and Mary Ellen. In addition, they had three children who died in infancy.

Through reading Rosella's daily entries, you can get a pretty good sense of what life was like on Kelleys Island for a wife and mother in 1948. We are reprinting the entries here through the generosity of **Jeri Yoest**. Biographical information was written with the consultation of Rosella's daughters **Ila Dick** and **Gerry Bickley**. Rosella's home was the 2nd home behind the West home on Huntington Lane. In 1948 there were 500-600 year-round residents on Kelleys. Explanatory notes were added.

This concludes the second excerpt from Rosella (Elfers) Beatty's Diary. We expect to print more in upcoming issues. Please let us know if you enjoyed reading them. Thank you **Jeri** for sharing them with us!



Treasurer's report

General Fund: \$43,364.28
Checking Account: 4,862.46

Total : \$48,226.74

Sign of the times...



The construction of the exterior—Phase I—of the new museum is completed after nearly two decades of fund-raising, planning and hard work.

Phase II—raising funds for the completion of the interior, utilities, and curatorial work—is now underway.

The KIHA Board is exploring several funding ideas and plans for full completion within a couple years.

**MAKING KELLEYS ISLAND HISTORY
EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS**

Kelleys Island Historical Association
P.O. Box 328
Kelleys Island, OH 43438

A 501(C)3 organization.
All contributions are tax
deductible.

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Kelleys Island Historical Association

We're on the web!
kelleyslandhistorical.org

*All stories and photographs in this issue by
Claudia Brown.*

**Kelleys Island Historical Association
P. O. Box 328
Kelleys Island, Ohio 43438**

Membership Application

Name: _____

Summer address: (from / / to / /) P.O. Box _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____ - _____

Winter address: P. O. Box _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ - _____

Individual Membership (annual) \$10.00
 also check here for 2 or more Individual
memberships but just one newsletter sent to
one address
 Family Membership (annual) \$25.00
 Patron Membership (annual) \$100.00
 Life Membership \$500.00
(office use only below this line -----)
Paid: \$ _____
Received by: _____