



Making Kelleys Island History Everybody's Business

Kelleys Island Historical Association

Volume 5, Issue III

Summer, 2008

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Weather couldn't dampen 2008 Home Tour

This year's Historic Home Tour held on July 12th was a huge success despite a day of off and on rainy weather. Many deeply felt thank you's go to Co-Chairs **Annalee, Carolee Frindt & Ed Frindt, & Jan Ransom** as well as the numerous volunteers this trio gathered and assigned to make the day go so smoothly. These volunteers worked throughout the day as host and hostesses at all of the sites, answering questions and warmly guiding the guests safely and informatively through each home.

Our deepest thanks, of course, go to the homeowners who so graciously opened up their homes to the public for KIHA's benefit.

Tim Richardson director of **Camp Patmos** created the event brochures, and **Jacquie Kranyak** did the publicity.

This year's event raised \$2,052 for the Kelleys Is-

land Historical Association. Those funds were applied to our Building Fund to help meet the \$40,000 matching grant amount.

Homeowners

- Janice Bertsch
- Richard & Paula Biers
- Bill & Barb Coleman
- Camp Patmos
- Chuck & Diane Hacker
- The Huber/Schneider Family
- Camp Patmos

Volunteer Host and Hostesses, Ticket Sellers, Bakers & Parking Directors

Jan Ransom, Carolee Frindt, Jasmine Frindt, Sonya Taylor, June Campbell, Lori Hayes, Joan Quinlan, Jane Wick, Gye Landis, Artie Mader, June Schodowski, Carol Schnittker, Norm Landis, Frank Dodson, Chris Yako, Frank Yako, Madeleine Williams, Fran Minshall, Pat Seeholzer, Roger Williams, Annalee, Denny Witt-

man, Nancy May, Bob May, Ann Eddowes, Peggy Cooney, Cindy Merkle, Laura VonBenken, Peggy Wideman, Joe Rysek, Steve Merkle, Ed Frindt, Stuart Crotser, Mary Wielke, Leslie Korenko, Dick Wielke, Bob Ransom, Bill Stacho, Dee Mack, Vicki Finnegan, Byron Crabill, Shirley Crabill, Terri Dobbins, Gary Kowell, Wendy Kowell, Kathy Thomas, Ruth Bradshaw, Garland Bradshaw, Kathy McCafferty, Bernie McCafferty, Phyllis Humphrey, Lawson Wideman, Phyllis Pahler, Mary Ann Pileski, Elaine Lickfelt Kelly Bias.

Sharon McIntire manned the museum and gave history talks all day.

Annalee always caps off the day's events with a potluck dinner for the volunteers at her home, making a warm and friendly finish to a really great day.

Another fantastic job! Thank you one and all!

Shipwreck show success

Sharon McIntire

The Shipwreck Show on June 21st was well attended by about 45 people. **Georgann & Mike Wachter** were wonderful speakers and their video show which depicted thunderstorms on Lake Erie, ended up being quite appropriate on this rainy Saturday.

Attendees learned not only about the shipwrecks around Kelleys Island but about 13 recently located Lake Erie as well.

Donations and book sales during the event totaled \$360. for the KIHA building fund.

A special big thank you goes to all who attended and **Pat Seeholzer, George and Elsie Homegardner, Ila Dick, Jim McIntire** and **Anne Eddowes** for all their help in setting up for the event.

The Wachter's books are available for purchase in the museum for anyone who missed the talk.

William S. Webb family donates Civil War correspondence—

An ongoing series of the KIHA Newsletter

Through the generosity of family members of William S. Webb, we were given transcripts of letters that Mr. Webb wrote to his family during his 100 days service in The Civil War. Since the Kelleys Island men left as a company from the island, they, initially at least, stayed together and thus Mr. Webb's letters sometimes include mention of other islanders who were also fighting. It is not often that a person has the opportunity to relive history.

William S. Webb was married to Elizabeth Kelley and three children—Sarah, Isabelle and Charles. In 1860, William S. Webb is listed on the Census as a stone mason earning \$8,000 a year.

William S. Webb went to war in 1864 and he wrote letters home to his family on Kelleys Island. Captain Webb's daughter Sarah copied his letters into a notebook. William D. Webb is the great-grandson of this Kelleys Island Civil War soldier and his grand-daughter, Katia Duey, transcribed the letters from the notebook. Katia Duey is currently attending Temple University. We sincerely thank the William D. Webb family for their interest in their own family history and that of Kelleys Island—and for the opportunity they have given the Kelleys Island Historical Association to share this wonderful story.

William S. Webb was first stationed at Johnson's Island in Sandusky Bay, along with other Kelleys Island soldiers. (Added information will appear in [] .)

Point of Rocks, Va.—June 28th, 1864, 7 o'C A.M.

Outside Intrenchments, On Picket

My Dear Wife & Children Sarah, Belle & Charlie,

Your letter of the 19th (No.8) reached me a half hour since. I am out as Captain of a detachment of the Picket Guard having relieved the old guard last night at 8 o'C. Our mail was brought from Camp to us this morning by Wm. Kelley & H. Hayes. I see by all the letters rec'd that you have heard nothing from us by letter since we left Washington, or had not up to date of 19th... You will (if you have not already) get a bag full of letters at the Island when they do get there.

During the Battles before Petersburg there was no communication with Washington, and our regular line of mail boats was only established a few days since. We are jogging along about the old style, only there are not so many men being moved back and forth as heretofore. I think there must be a letter of yours missing. I think the last I rec'd was No. 6 June 16th...

I cannot say how many I have written you since we arrived here, but have written very often... You will doubtless receive them all in due time. Since our Reg't returned from building the Fort on the James River near Malvern Hill of which I wrote you in my last, we have been on duty only in the night manning the Intrenchments from 8 o'C P.M. until daylight with the entire strength of the Reg't.

On Monday night the programme was changed. Three Co's of our Reg't man the Breastworks at night. One Company goes out on picket 24 hours (outside the Breastworks) and the other six Companies have the night in quarters. On Monday night this new arrangement took effect and three Co's including mine were ordered to the Breastworks and Co. E went out on picket. I took command of the entire Breastworks' force for the first half of the night. Capt. M of Co. G to

relieve me at 12 o'C. Just before my time was up there were some demonstrations on our front which looked suspicious. A new Rebel camp had established itself in plain sight from our Breastworks and the camp fires burned all along the lines. These camp fires were extinguished rather suddenly about 11 o'C and about 11 1/2 o'C, a single bright fire shone up for 20 minutes and was extinguished. At a little before 12 the sound of axes was plainly heard and of trees falling. Word was sent our Brigade Commandant, who came down, got on the Breastworks with me, obtained from me the range of the fires and heard the noise in our front. He told me to remain, that he would send me a force of 150 dismounted Cavalry to place in a gap in our lines, two companies of the 134th to be placed in another position, and 40 men to be placed in a Redan just in my front. (A Redan is a small entrenchment of logs and earth protected by a battis(sp?) outside of the Breastworks). That they would report to me and he would come himself with 800 men to be placed in reserve in the woods in our rear. He said he had no doubt but that I was correct in my supposition that the Rebs were building a battery either to shell us in the Breastworks or to protect a dash of their own upon us. The dispositions were made to receive them, and he left with the request that I would continue in charge until daylight which I did, nothing occurred during the night and we have as yet not heard from any Battery, though we may at any time.

Last evening I was ordered with 54 men to relieve the picket guard, so that brings me on two nights in succession, though last night I got some sleep. My health was never better, hardly ever as good through the hot weather as now, with the exception of my eyes. The dust and heat have affected them though they are doing well now.

Our boys would be glad to be on picket duty all the time, as we get out of the dust and heat of the camp and lie in the shade of the woods, only keeping a sharp lookout for the "Johnny Rebs," as they are called here. The duty is not dangerous either as Veterans hold the advanced lines of picket in exposed places. I say not dangerous, I mean comparatively not dangerous, and I have no fear that I shall lose one of my boys from any other than sickness or their own carelessness.

You may say to one and all that there is no danger of our being deliberately led into a fight. If attacked in our position, of course, we are here to hold those positions and will have to take our chances. Were it not for the heat I would much prefer to stay here the balance of our time than to be moved, and as long as we keep well, as at present, I shall hope we shall not be moved again until "moved" home. The heat is very oppressive during the day and the flies, of which there are myriads, are a most intolerable nuisance giving you no rest for a moment during the day so that sleep in the daytime in camp is merely impossible. Therefore we consider picketing as most welcome relief.

Our boys were pretty well up to the expedition to the James River and have pretty well recovered again. Frank Kelley was quite sick and has done no duty since but is getting along well. I make it a point to keep our sick away from

Cont. on pg. 4

Gift shop news

Sharon McIntire

Once again this year we have received a masterfully crafted, handmade quilt by **Teri Betzenheimer**. This year's queen-sized quilt is tan, beige, peach and light brown. It is titled "*Dawns Island Star*" in loving memory of her **Aunt Dawn (Seeholzer) Kekelik**. Quilt tickets are \$1 a chance or six for \$5.

In addition we have received another of **Byron Crabill's** beautiful woodcarvings. This year's piece is entitled "**Cold Feet**." The woodcarving is of two penguins, a father and child. Tickets are \$5. apiece and only 100 tickets will be sold.

Thanks so much to Teri and Byron for all their work and their continued generosity to the Kelleys Island Historical Association.

The drawing is customarily held on the Saturday of the Butterfly Festival at

We now have Claudia Brown's book for sale in our gift shop "*Kelleys Island, an Island Story*," in addition to many other new books.

Be sure to stop in and check us out!

More Gift shop notes...

We strongly encourage all of our Gift shop volunteers to ask museum's visitors to please sign our guest book. This information has been very helpful when we write grants to different foundations because they always ask us, "How many visitors do you have at the museum each year?"

As of July 21 of this year, we have had nearly 1500 guests sign the book. They have listed such home locations as our surrounding states, plus Maryland,

Montana, Oregon, Idaho, & California. Foreign countries include Canada, Singapore, Mexico, Russia, Puerto Rico, Argentina, Norway, and the United Kingdom. Two visitors were from China who signed in Chinese and English!

One gentleman, from California, who was on his honeymoon to Niagara Falls, had made it a point to visit the island before heading home. His father—**Herman Koster**, who was born on the island in 1900, and his grandfather, were from the island. He was totally amazed that there was a **Koster's Dock** and at all the additional information he discovered.

He was so excited that he got on his cell phone and called his sister in Idaho and brother in Nevada to tell them he was on Kelleys Island. The KIHA also has received a postcard from the **Ramseys Family** thanking us for such a wonderful time on Kelleys Island and especially the time they spent at our museum. They plan on returning soon.

Art Show

This year's annual KIHA Art Show, held on August 2nd, was well attended by the public and had several artists displaying their wares.

Artists with displays this year were **Cindy Herndon, Claudia Brown, Michael Rudinoff, Annalee, Barb Weltman, Patti Stafford, Duncan Creed, Joe Corso, and Carol Geschke.**

Our quilt table was managed by **Frances Minshall** and **Ila Dick** had our woodcarving on display as well. Thanks to everyone for a successful show!

LEIHS visits KI, donates funds to KIHA

For the third time, the Lake Erie Islands Historical Society members spent the last Wednesday in June as guests of KIHA.

This year we brought them back to **Chuck Herndon's** marvelous **Art Galleries**, a tour of **Sun and Surf Bed & Breakfast**, a visit to the **Old Stone Church** and KIHA's new and old Museums, and then a wine tasting, a history, and a delicious luncheon at the **Kelleys Island Wine Company**. The day was capped off by an after lunch tour of the island along with a visit to **Glacial Grooves** and a stop to view the **LaFarge Quarry** from the road.

Thanks to **Chuck & Cindy Herndon, Terry & Beth Kranyak, Sharon McIntire, Ann Eddowes, Kirt & Robbie Zettler, Gerry Bickley, Marlena Mielke, Ila Dick, Mike Feyedelem, Jacquie Kranyak, Ted Klonaris, Madeleine Williams** and especially to **Camp Patmos** who loaned us their tram and driver for the entire day!

LEIHS donated all the funds they collected from their 35 guests for the day—after paying their fare on the Jet Boat—to KIHA, so after we paid for the luncheon and wine tasting, we were able to give \$368 from LEIHS into the Building Fund's coffers.

Thank you LEIHS. We hope you come back again!

Building update

Interior construction begins

We told you last month that all of the rough plumbing was in the new building.

On August 6 the electrical work was



begun. Wires and telephone lines are being installed. Quotes are being sought on the rest of the work.

It's happening. We'll keep you updated right here. Or stop by and take a peek for yourself.

William S. Webb letters (cont. from pg. 2)

the Hospital if possible and am satisfied we have less sickness in consequence. **Wm. D. K.** had a very severe attack yesterday afternoon of cramping and griping of the bowels. I had nothing else at hand on the moment but some whiskey which I applied as a wash, **Mr. Worden** and myself rubbing his stomach and bowels briskly for a few moments and thus relieving him almost as if by magic. He was all right in an hour and this morning brought out our mail and coffee for breakfast. **H. Hayes** is head cook for the Co. and **John Wing** has charge of my cooking and c (that is my mess, including **Bristol, Lange, Erastus** and myself) and is thus relieved from all other duty. Let **Mrs. Wing** know this. He does not have to go on guard nor on fatigue duty, in fact is relieved from all duty except cooking.

Our mess fares hard for provisions as we, not being allowed to draw rations, have to buy them, and as but very little can be bought, we live very plain. I found that using coffee all the time would not answer especially as the coffee issued here is miserable stuff, so I quit using it and am using tea, but as no green tea can be obtained here at any price, I am using black tea. (You know how I abominated black tea when at home.) We have not since we arrived here had a single article for our table that you would have set before me at home, still I eat as much as I can get and am satisfied that my health is thus kept good. It astonishes me to find myself eating fat salt bacon, bread half sour all the time, and drinking black tea, with no milk and sweetened with brown sugar. No vegetables to be obtained, and up to yesterday nothing had been issued except Hard bread, Coffee, Pork and Bacon. Yesterday we had issued to the boys besides these, Rice, Sauerkraut, Molasses and a peck of Potatoes for 70 men. The officers you will remember cannot draw these but I had presented me from the Surgeons quarters a pail full of string beans. You know how fond I am of string beans and it happens that not one of my mess besides myself eats string beans at all, I gave them all to the boys. Mind I do not complain of my living as long as I am healthy, as at present, for I believe my good health is attributable to my light eating.

I weighed yesterday 123 lbs. We bought some pickles but had to throw them away. I got a few dried peaches and yesterday **John** found some dried apples and cooked a few for me just before I came out. Neither of my Lieutenants or **Erastus** are with me. The Orderly never goes on picket nor the Lieut's unless the Company, as a Company, are ordered out. The detail this time was for myself, 48 men, 2 Serg. and 4 Corporals. I have eight men from another Company. We are in "Confound" ignorance of Grant's movements, but only know that a small force is here now... I am seated on the edge of a Rifle pit under the shade of a shanty made of branches of trees uniting and keeping off the flies. **Jerry** is just behind me writing. **Oscar** and **Ohlemacher** are asleep at my right, and one of my Toledo boys is on guard. My company is occupying the Rifle Pits for a quarter of a mile each side of me writing, sleeping...in the shade. The music from a dozen bands reaches us from inside the Breastworks, all banging away at tunes that have become as familiar as household words. The boom of an occasional big gun from our works or the "Rebs" and the sharp crack of an Enfield rifle a way off at some point of our picket guard, serve as interludes to the lazy repose which we are just now enjoying. We are relieved at 8 o'C.P.M. today.

We will continue with this letter and others from the series in our next newsletter.

Our Deepest and most Heartfelt Condolences to the Families of:

Ned Haig
Jesse Martin
Robert Overcashier
Laurie Palmer
Jonathan Pejeau

Have your business advertised in the
KIHA newsletter

See back page to join

LAKE ERIE
ISLANDS
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 25
25 Town Hall Place, Put-in-Bay, OH 43456
419-285-2804

Vi's Island Treasures

125 Division Street
Kelleys Island, Ohio 43438



Vi and Mike Feyedelem
419 746-2268
kivifey@aol.com

Custom Island charms

Chamilia Jewelry Hawaiian shell jewelry Swarovski crystal jewelry Second Nature yard decorations Many collectables
Leaded glass wind chimes Bird feeders Scented candles

50/50 Raffle Winners

May—Betty Rettig—\$85.00
June—Betty Rettig—\$87.50
July—Peggy Cooney—\$100.00

Butterfly Festival
Saturday, Sept. 6

Quilt Raffle Drawing — 4 p.m.

Our sincerest thanks to our very generous donors

Ila Dick and Roger Williams

•**Al & Florence Jeffrey**—One certificate of stock worth five shares of *Kelley's Island Wine Co.* at \$100. per share, sold to **H.C. Huntington**, dated March 25th, 1873. Attached note stating "Certificate of Stock owned in 1873 by **Addison Kelley**, who is believed to have been the second white child born in Rockport." Lent by **C.J. Gutman**.

A newspaper clipping, dated 9/7/34 from **Charles C. Webb**, Mount Vernon, N.Y. To the Editor of *Plain Dealer*: About **Datus** (his grandfather) and **Irad Kelley** on Kelley's Island.

•**Geraldine Betzenheimer**—A framed cross stitch picture of an Eagle and "In God We Trust" made by her Mother, **Iva Riedy Erne** in 1965.

•**Jeri & Kyle Yoest**—Cigarette Disposal Container for outside the Church and Museum.

•**Jacob Waffner**—An exhibit and replica of Inscription Rock as an Ohio History Fair Participant - 2008

•**Byron Crabill**—wood carving by Byron of two Penguin's titled "*Cold Feet*" to be raffled.

•**Bench in memory of Betsy Wolcott**—from the Madhatter's - Betsy's dear island lady friends.

•**Kip & Barb Ohlemacher**—**Lydia Bechtel's** oil painting *Hydrangea* scanned. Note paper and prints to sell in Gift Shop.

A 24" x 36" enlarged picture of a postcard of **Alfred (Scoop) McKillips, Arthur Kugler and Sylvester Dwelle** posing with an 80 pound sturgeon they caught near Kelleys Island on April 29, 1935. The largest ever at that time

•**P. Greene**—Original **Lay Bros.** Gillnet box; Picture of tug boat *Astoria* that burned and sank near Toledo, Ohio; Porthole from the sunken boat; Anchor wench from 1820 sailing schooner after it sank; Six trapnet cans; Porthole metal cover; Two trapnet weights; Boat Compass.

•**Barb Shadle**—Gingerbread and front doors from the **Gus Kelley House**; Framed picture's of the **Frank Kirby, Chipewa and Evening Star**—(The *Evening Star* is signed, RFM (2/18/50 [Robert F. Moysey]); A framed sign *Island Queen*, **Kelleys Island Wine Co.**; Framed picture of **Lee & Barb Shadle** house on the bank next to **Pop-eye's**. (Built by **Charlie & Lizzie Lange Martin**). Done by **Rick Holmes**, July, 1994; wench; chain fall.

•**Jack & Karen Terry**—A large metal ring which was located deep in the sand off Sunrise Point. Believed to be a porthole frame from the shipwreck *The Prince*.

•**Barb Coleman**—18 *Hill's History Book Indexes* for resale at the gift shop.

•**Teri Betzenheimer**—another beautiful handmade quilt by Teri to be raffled Sept. 6 at 4 p.m., called *Dawn's Island Star* in memory of her aunt **Dawn Seeholzer Kekelik**.

•**Lyon Baumler**- A lard press, maybe a grape or apple press, belonging to his mother's uncle, **Burt Christofel**, who was his grandma **Dwelle's** brother.

•**Lyle & Gerry Bickley**—a dining room table with two leaves,

four chairs and buffet that belonged to **Logan and Catherine Martin Bickley** to be used in the parsonage.

•**Kurt & Melissa Rueterbush**—Tiger Brand metal paper-weight. advertising *The Kelley Island Lime & Transport Company*.

•**Carol Shelton**—Six Kelleys Island Petroglyph pins for sale in the gift shop.

•**Carol Vogler Bright**—15 copies of *Naked Truth* and 5 copies of *Making Waves in the Gene Pool*, books for resale in our Gift Shop, including shipping and handling. Carol is the author of both books, which cover events in her life on Kelleys Island.

•**Sharon Lavy**—Three 4x4 reprint photos dated 7/1972 showing students uncovering Glacial Grooves

•**Nadine Mack**—Indian artifact collection

•**Lee A. Cavano**—Arrowhead found in 1988 in a load of fill dumped from the quarry

•**Ted & Lisa Klonaris**—One glass display case

•**Joe Corso**—Note cards for gift shop

Memorials and honorariums

•**Katy P. Reutener** in memory of **Russ Matso**

•**Anne Sennish** in memory of **Laurie Palmer, Jesse Martin, Bob Overcashier, Ned Haig, Lester Colbert, Anne Steuber and Jonathan Pejeau**

•**Annalee** in memory of **Robert Erne** and **Sam Oakes** and in honor of the 101st Birthday of **Mrs. Hiller**

•**Pam & Geraldine Betzenheimer** in memory of **Lydia Bechtel**

•**Lyle & Gerry Bickley** in memory of **Lydia Bechtel, Jesse Martin, Bob Overcashier and Laurie Palmer**

•**Paul & Lois Brown** in memory of **Lydia Bechtel**

•**June Campbell** in memory of **Jesse Martin**

•**Ila Dick** in memory of **Jesse Martin, Ned Haig, Laurie Palmer, and Joseph Riedy** and in honor of **Ed and Carol Jorski's 50th Anniversary**

•**Judy DuShane** in memory of **Lydia Bechtel, Robert Erne, Claude Smith, Dr. Richard Wilke and Jesse Martin**

•**Anne Eddowes** in memory of **Lydia Bechtel**

•**Barbara Galloway** in memory of **Lydia Bechtel**

•**George & Elsie Homegardner** in memory of **Bob Overcashier**

•**Nadine Mack** in memory of **Lydia Bechtel**

•**The Monger Family** in memory of **Ned Haig**

•**William & Therese Stevenson** in memory of **Lydia Bechtel**

•**J. Verber** in memory of **Lydia Bechtel**

•**Roger & Madeleine Williams** in memory of **Bob Overcashier**

For the Building Fund

Lydia Bechtel, major bequest

Robert & Nancy Howley, bequest for the Building Fund, and they have become our **newest Life Members!**

**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.

©



Kelleys Island Historical Association

We're on the web!

kelleysislandhistorical.org

Kelleys Island Historical Association

P. O. Box 328

Kelleys Island, Ohio 43438

Membership Application—Membership runs from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31

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: _____ - _____

Membership Categories

All fees are annual except Life membership

() Individual Membership \$15

() also check here for 2 or more Individual memberships but just one newsletter sent to one address

() Family Membership \$25

() Business Membership \$30—includes business card size ad in one issue of newsletter

() Patron Membership \$100

() Life Membership \$500—once

All memberships are annual except Life Membership.

(office use only below this line -----)

Paid: \$

Received by: _____