

# Kelleys Island Historical Association

July 2017

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## Board Members

Teri Behrends (Vice President)  
Chris Carrig (Treasurer)  
Pat Fresch  
Chuck Herndon (President)  
Janet Killam  
Leslie Korenko (Secretary)  
Andrew Muskara  
Kevin Pape

Newsletter: Leslie Korenko  
Online Presence: Leslie Korenko

## Important Dates 2017

August 5 – Arts & Craft Show  
August 20 - Annual meeting and program  
September 9 - Yard sale and Butterfly Festival

## A HUSBAND MAKES HOTCAKES

(a story from 1872 from Leslie Korenko)

“It was about the buckwheat cakes. I told Maria Ann any fool could beat her making those cakes and she said I had better try it. So I did. I emptied the batter all out of the pitcher one evening and set the cakes myself. I got the flour and the salt and the water and... put in a liberal quantity of egg and shortening. I shortened with tallow from roast beef because I could not find any lard. The batter did not look right. I lighted my pipe and pondered. Yeast, yeast. To be sure I had forgotten the yeast. I went and woke up the baker and got 6¢ worth of yeast. I set the pitcher behind the sitting room stove and went to bed. In the morning I got up early and prepared to enjoy my triumph, but I didn't... that was yeast strong enough to raise the dead. The batter was running all over the carpet. I scraped it up and put it into another dish. Then I got a fire in the kitchen and put on the griddle.

The first lot of cakes stuck to the griddle. The second dittoed only more so. Maria came down and asked me what was burning. She advised me to grease the griddle. I did it. One end of the griddle got too hot and I dropped the thing on my tenderest corn while trying to turn it around. Finally, they were ready for breakfast and Maria got the other things ready. We sat down. My cakes did not have exactly the right flavor. I took one mouthful and it satisfied

me. I lost my appetite at once. Maria would not let me put one on her plate. I think those cakes may be reckoned a dead loss. The cat would not eat them. The dog ran off and stayed three days after one was offered him. The hens won't go within 10 feet of them. I threw them into the back yard and there has not been a pig on the premises since. Eat what is put before me now and do not allude to my mother's mode of cooking.” *Some things never change!*

**GET YOUR CALENDAR TODAY** - You will see a different side to some of the Islands surprisingly sexy men: a little hunky, a little provocative, and utterly charming. Ben Elfers, artist Chuck Herndon, wine aficionado Toby Zettler; our handsome heroes Russell Maust, Shawn Craig, Jack Hostal. Don't forget Mayor Arden Cooper! We also included some pillars of the community: Mr. Gary Finger, Brett Maiers, Ed Terry, and Paul Finnegan; and let us not forget Bobby Skeans, Mike Feyedelem, Pat Hayes, and Pete Legere.

Calendars are available for just \$20.00 (3/\$50) in our gift shop, in a few local shops and restaurants, and on our website [www.kelleysislandhistorical.org](http://www.kelleysislandhistorical.org). All profits will go towards repairing the floor and maintaining the our historic German Reformed Church and the church parsonage. This is a limited run so order your calendars now.



**OOOPS** – We apologize. Lake Disposal, one of our business members, noticed we had a wrong website address in their advertisement. It should be <http://www.lakedisposal.com/>. At least we got the phone number right. They provide a great service to Islanders.

### **ANNUAL MEETING – AUGUST 20 – SOME BIG CHANGES ARE AFOOT**

There will be two vacancies on the Board this year and a change to our by-laws on the ballot. Andrew Muskara and Kevin Pape have decided not to seek a second term. Both indicated that are not spending as much time on the Island as they wanted and as a result, they cannot dedicate the time they feel would best contribute to our organization.

Andrew brought a much needed young, fresh, new perspective to the Board. He set us up on Pinterest and Instagram and helped prepare the parsonage for our new Resale shop. His unique perspective has allowed the Board to expand its world view.

Kevin came to us with a solid background in Island history. He, his company Gray & Pape, and his mother, Betty Pape, worked tirelessly to research all the historic houses and sites on the Island, which ultimately led to the entire Island being declared a National Historic District. If you have researched your old home, you probably drew on their extensive research, not only about the house, but about the families who called this place their home. Kevin is very active in historic preservation, which allowed us to draw on a much larger pool of resources. His work with historic structures gave us direction on how to best manage the historic buildings in our care (The church and its parsonage).

**THE BY-LAWS CHANGE** – One suggestion that came out of the Needs Assessment was establishing term limits. The Board considered and accepted the recommendation to limit Board Members to two consecutive terms (6 years). If approved, term limits will start with this year's new Board members. It is not retroactive.

**NEW BOARD MEMBERS** - Board members serve a 3-year term and we have two vacancies. Nominations close on July 5 (45 days before the meeting). Candidates must be a member in good standing and ballots go out July 20 (30 days before the Annual Meeting). It looks like we will have several candidates to choose from this year.

**OUR GUEST SPEAKER** will be Kristen Fussell, PhD, Research Development and Grants Manager for the Ohio Sea Grant College Program and Stone Laboratory who will be speaking on Lake Erie's Critical Issues, the Harmful Algal Bloom, and Key Research Efforts.

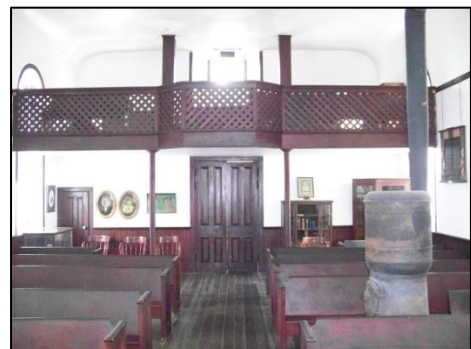
**KALAHARI** – Leslie attended the 3-day Ohio Genealogical Conference at Kalahari recently, helping people find out just a bit more about their Island roots. Two highlights were: Reconnected with Henry Timmon, who is connected with the Firelands Historical Society and Bill Pomeroy. Bill is the benefactor who allowed us to get our two historic markers on the Island. Leslie worked on the grants and the Pomeroy Foundation funded almost the entire amount. What a pleasure meeting him.

Henry & Marty Timmon (L) and Bill Pomeroy (R).



**A SAD GOODBYE** – It was with great sadness that we said goodbye to Carol Frindt. She passed away in May. Carol and Ed were great supporters of KIHA. Ed continues to volunteer at the museum but Carol's memory will certainly keep him company.

**WE ADDED A NEW BENEFIT FOR MEMBERS** – Looking for the perfect place to hold a wedding, meeting or a special celebration? Consider the [Old Stone Church](#). The rent is just \$250 but as a Member in good standing you will get a \$50 discount! Find out more at <http://www.kelleyslandhistorical.org/> and click on The Church.



### THE BOWLING ALLEY HOUSE by Kevin Pape

We've all passed it by, and wondered what the history was of this little, oddly long house. Thanks to Kevin Pape, here is everything you always wanted to know.

In 1886, the sons of Johann and Johanna Himmelein built a bowling alley (then known as a skittles alley) on the grounds of their Kelleys Island hotel. Today that skittles alley still stands in the shadow of the former Himmelein Hotel. But the lanes are silent now, having given way to the tread of footsteps down the long hallway of the summer cottage my family has enjoyed for four generations. The story about the endurance of these buildings and about the continuity of friendship between two families is a story that tells much about the power of place that historic buildings hold for us.

Johann and Johanna Himmelein were popular hosts to the guests who stayed with them in the residence they built on the south shore of Kelleys Island in 1859. So popular were they, that the couple enlarged their residence with the addition of two wings in 1875, and additional improvements were made in 1876: A two-story saloon and billiards room was constructed adjacent to the hotel and vineyards were planted which yielded about 200 barrels of wine annually. The Himmelein House continued as a thriving concern into the 1880s with construction of the skittles alley behind the saloon in 1886 which provided guests with a place where "one could partake of billiards, skittles and fine cigars," according to Nichols' 1900 Guide to Put-In-Bay, Bass Islands and Kelleys Island.

In those latter decades of the nineteenth century, as today, Kelleys Island was a popular resort area for summer tourists. And it was a particularly popular destination for families, like mine, from Cincinnati. The Pape family has been coming to Kelleys Island since at least 1866. The first account of my family's association with the Himmeleins occurs in 1889, though I suspect it was much earlier, when a page from the hotel's guest book registers a stay by my great grandmother and her two sons, Fritz and Arthur. After that, the family returned each summer to the Himmelein House and over the years a deep friendship developed between my grandfather, Fritz Pape, and the hotel's proprietor, Richard Himmelein.

When the hotel ceased operation around 1918, shares of the holdings were divided among heirs. Some family members received rights to the hotel building and Richard received property that included the saloon and bowling alley. Soon the saloon was razed and the two friends set about the task of converting the bowling alley to a summer residence between 1919 and 1922.

Their plan, which added a new front entrance and porch from which to enjoy the lake, was completed by Fred Dwelle and remains in place today. I still have the interior plan, laid out in my grandfather's hand, which retains much of the original feel of the bowling alley. Rooms are open to the rafters and

Now the Pape home, a 2-story saloon once graced the front of the building and 40 feet in the rear of the building was removed in 1943.



A small section of the saloon porch can be seen here on the far right of the Himmelein House Hotel.



The skittles alley was built behind the saloon. 21 balls were made out of the hearts of lignum vitae trees.





unfinished in the gable. Scrawls and hand prints on the raw ceiling boards still bear witness to the craft of carpenters and family members involved in the construction and conversion of the bowling alley.

Today, the former bowling alley has passed from my father to me and descendants of the Himmeleins still summer in the former hotel that stands next door. For me, these buildings represent more than significant expressions of architectural design and historical integrity. They stand as testimony to over a century of friendship and summer adventure; they provide tangible continuity between generations; and they serve as touchstones that connect the stories and lives of those who have gone before to those who are yet to come. This is the power of place that is Kelleys Island.

## HERE'S WHERE WE SAY THANKS!

**WE WELCOME NEW LIFE MEMBER** – Julia Johnson

**DONATIONS** – People are generous and we can prove it. So many people responded to our end of year fund drive. It is these generous people that allow us to continue sharing this Island's very interesting history. Our thanks to:

New LIFE members: Charles & Joy Martin; Chris Kipfer & Bobbie Jo Kennedy  
 Patron Members: Allen Nickles family; Jackie & Mark Kettunen; Robert & Jane Wick;  
 Tom & Dee Hartley  
 New Members: Bowling-Stankorb Family; John & Denise McGee and Bruce Beatty

**DONATIONS** –

**General** – Paul & Katheryn Yoakum; Brian Williams; Theresa Slaughter. In addition, Carol Vogler Bright donated 12 additional copies of her book Making Waves in the Gene Pool and a beautiful quilt.

**In Memory of:** Ila Dick – Clair & Richard Knowles, Friends of Ila Group (Stanley/McCabe/Armelin/Frazier/Summer/Fortune all of St. Petersburg FL); Karen Terry – John Terry and Kathleen Krzynowek; LaVerne Ehrbar – Caroline DeBoard; Bertha Heckel – Brian Williams; Carol Frindt – Anne Sennish

**Kroger and Amazon Smile** – Our thanks to all the people who take the time to register their [Kroger shopper card](#) and to the people who shop [Amazon Smile](#) – Between the two programs, we receive a little over \$200 each year. As more people shop that amount goes up.

**It's not too late** – You can still donate and help us continue to share our history. We acknowledge each and every donation so you will be ready at tax time. Since we are a 501(C)(3) corporation, your contributions are tax deductible. Your generosity keeps our doors open.

### ADDED TO OUR COLLECTION

Our thanks to Becky Overcasher for donating a Rubber stamp from the Bay View Cottage; a larger metal engraved stamp showing a picture of the Bay View Cottage Hotel; and a small Bible – once owned by Sarah Pringnitz. Becky was 11 years old when she found it in Sarah Trieschman's former home, in June 1960.

Also, our thanks to Ila Dick's family for donating a precious little baby cap. It is silk with loads of embroidery and lace. (The photo really does NOT do it justice!)

The horse tack that Judy DuShane donated last year gave us the idea that we should have a farm life display. We got permission to scavenge overlooked items from the barn near Judy's house, and thanks to Brian Keller, we found a sickle and hay fork. These, added to the plow blade that Bruce Korenko donated and the hewing axe and corn planter we already had, allowed us to create another unusual wall.

Thanks to Bruce Korenko for doing such a great job of hanging these oddly shaped items.



### QUILT DISPLAY

Thanks to Lee Brown, Jean Dwelle, Lydia Bechtel, LaVerne Ehrbar and her daughter Linda Hostal, we now have FIVE hand-sewn quilts on display in the museum. The Crazy Quilt



always generates gasps of astonishment as people look at the unusual fabrics and stitching. The white and red one dates back to 1892, and the others are embellished with small squares of blue and white and some pretty nice embroidery. But how do we display them? – on a drying rack that Gary and Jackie Finger donated some years back. It is quite large with three panels and was used for drying sheets at the former Bay View Hotel.

### TERI'S QUILT

What can we say but WOW! Teri did something a little different this year: a nautical theme in pale blues and greens that she named Drift Away. Of course she has the Kelleys Island decal down in the corner. This year she honors the memory of her cousin - Ila Beatty Himmelein Dick. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 (buy five and get the 6th one for FREE!). You can get them at the museum or you can download the tickets - then just print the sheet, fill out the stubs, and send them in with your check and we will enter you.



[Click here for the Quilt tickets](#)

[Click here for the 50/50 Raffle tickets](#)

Don't worry about the color when you print them out.

**OWN A PIECE OF HISTORY** – Now that we replaced all the windows in the church, we are selling them for just \$85.00 each. You get one upper and lower window as shown in this picture.

**THE FIRST WATERLINE: 1894** - "John Reinheimer is going to put in quite a system of water works up Division Street. He will lay a two-inch main from his wharf up as far as his dwelling house (a little over 2000 ft.) and parties living on or off the street will tap with ¾-inch pipe. Mr. Reinheimer will have a 5,000 gallon tank and a pump run by steam power on his wharf so there will be no waiting for wind as with a windmill. Besides the convenience of the thing, it should lessen insurance rates along the line of water works, especially the stores, etc." (May 1894)



Kelleys Island Historical Association  
PO Box 328  
Kelleys Island Ohio 43438

We are a 501 c 3 organization  
Your contributions are deductible.

**Let's make history together!**

www.KelleysIslandHistorical.org  
Facebook: Kelleys Island History Museum  
Instagram: KImuseum

## PLEASE Support OUR Businesses



**Vi's Island Treasures**  
419-746-2268  
<http://www.kelleysislandchamber.com/place/vis-island-treasures/>



**Lake Disposal Services  
of Northern Ohio**  
<http://www.lakedisposal.com/>  
877-582-6800



**Caddy Shack Square**  
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whole family.  
<http://caddyshacksquare.com/>

## MEMBERS

**CHARLES HERNDON GALLERIES**

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