

# Kelleys Island Historical Association

April 1, 2018

## Inside This Issue

- 1 – Our new sign, Meet the Gift Shop Manager, Events
- 3 – Goodbye to Betty Pape, Member news, Fishing Nets-a story
- 4 – KI Walking Tours, We thank you, new items in our collection
- 6 – Our business supporters

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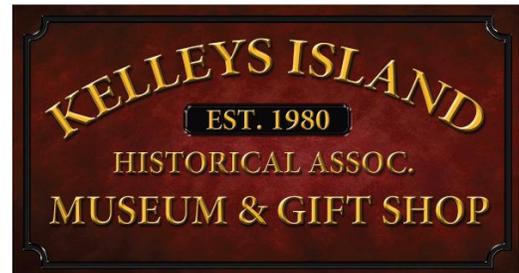
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## Important Dates 2018

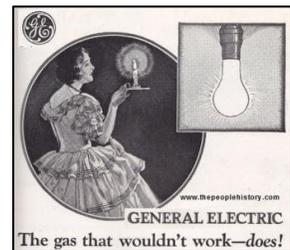
May 19 – Opening Day  
August 4 – Arts & Craft Show  
August 18 - Annual meeting and program  
September 8 - Yard sale & Butterfly Festival

**OUR NEW SIGN** – To fit our new, fresher attitude, we rethought our museum sign. The old sign was crisp, clean and quite modern in appearance, and while it prominently displayed the Kelleys Island Historical Assoc., it downplayed the Museum & Gift Shop, which are so very important to our mission. We went back to the drawing board and came up with this new, more dynamic sign. Make sure you stop by and take a look.



We are working on our new 2018 displays – the Island and how it gets its electricity and bathing beauties of the 1950's.

Outside we are building a large equipment display near the outhouse. What is that big rusting thing in your field or woods? We might have the perfect place for it at the museum.



**GIFT SHOP MANAGER** - Beth Rybus is our new Gift & Resale Shop manager. Beth once worked for the Canadian police force (think Mounties) and has had some retail experience. Her husband Ted is doing carpentry work for Ed Kuchar. We looked in recently and everything is moved around. It looks like the gift shop will have a whole new look this summer.

**WANT TO VOLUNTEER?** Just let us know if you can work a 2 or 4 hour shift in the museum or resale shop. It is soooo much fun and you meet the nicest people.

## OUR EVENT LIST FOR THIS YEAR

**May 19** – International Museum Day – This is our opening day and we unveil the 2018 feature display – There are two this year: Electricity and KI and Island Bathing Beauties of the 1950's.

**August 4 – Arts & Craft Show 10 to 2.** Join us and showcase your talent whether it is Music, Jewelry, Pottery, Writing, Painting, Knitting, Sewing, or that category that simply defies description. The space is free but you need to register (on our website under EVENTS).

**August 18 - Our Annual meeting** will be at the Old Stone Church. Watch for an announcement about our Guest Speaker. This is a great chance to tour the museum and church and we are planning something really special for our members this year.

**September 8 - Butterfly Festival and Island-wide yard sale.** Fortify yourself at our Bake Sale before touring the Island's yard sales, then come back at 11 a.m. for a presentation by Pat Hayes in the church on the Monarch Butterfly and a butterfly banding. You can even adopt a butterfly.



**SPRING CLEANING?** Remember, if it is too good to throw out, we would probably love to have it for our resale shop. We accept donations all summer, but please no fabric items (clothes, curtains, bed linens, etc). The best part is that you can probably find just what YOU are looking for here too. The stock changes almost daily as items come and go.

**June 20, 1894 - Concert and Dance - Today at Schardt's new hall, Kelley's Island.** The steamer Erie will run a ferry between Carpenter's Grove and Schardt's party rooms. Fare 10¢.

## *WE MOURN THE PASSING OF BETTY PAPE*

It was with incredible sadness that we learned that Betty had passed away. Betty supported KIHA by becoming a Life Member early on. Her impact on the history of the Island influenced our guiding principles: to find out everything you can about our history, document and preserve it, and give everyone access to that rich history.

After years of research, in April 1990, Betty and her son Kevin, published an extensive history of every historic house on the Island. It is incredible how much work went into this project. They searched documents and official records in Erie county offices and they interviewed home owners and 'old timers' to get histories on some of our most unique and oldest homes, families and businesses. Hundreds of homes were researched and photographed before submitting the package to the Ohio Historical Assoc. with a request that the Island be designated as a National Historic District.

Two years after the Island's recognition, Betty, Russ Matso and Michael Mielke compiled the Island's first tour guide, using much of the information she had gathered to bring the Island's houses alive. Many of us will remember her presence at the June 2003 meeting when she did a remarkable presentation on the Island's wineries as seen through the eyes of a visitor.

Betty was 97 years old and passed away on December 14, 2017. She was the loving wife of the late Bill Pape, cherished mother of Kevin (Kimberly) Pape and Jim (Amy) Pape.

### *SOME NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS*

**Jackie & Mark Kettunen** wrote: Thank you for all that you do to keep the history of Kelleys Island alive. **Jim Selfe** donated several boxes of promotional items for the Resale shop. And, after he read the January newsletter, he offered to loan us an Goose Neck desk lamp that his Great Grandfather (Edwin Selfe) used in his building contractor business in Glenville Ohio. We heard from **Carol (Kelley) Calvin**, daughter of Darlene Kelley who visited the Island several years ago. And yes, they are descendents of the Irad Kelley side of the family. **Thomas Miller** shared a little short story about the 1930's and George & Carrie Suhr's farm. **Daria** emailed us: In the late 1960's [Kelley's Mansion] was owned(?) by the Dominican sisters and was a girls summer camp. I worked as a counselor. Besides the mansion, the carriage house was still there (used as a dorm). Supposedly, the spiral staircase in the mansion was an item during the time it was built as it was a self supporting staircase. The mansion also had a rear stairway to servants quarters." She wondered if the mansion was still standing and we assured her it was. **Karen Robbins** wrote: I love your newsletters and look forward to each one. I'm also looking forward to this year's quilt event and the 50/50 drawings. I wish I could visit the Island more often. **Duane & Lee Kuentz**: Thank you for your hard work!

### *FISHING NETS - A SMALL STORY*

We were delighted to find this little story shared by **Thomas Miller** last summer. "It was a delight to find photos of my Uncle (Great) **George Suhr** displayed in your museum. My Father, **Thomas Cassius Miller III** (Tommy) born 1930, used to spend his summers on Kelleys at my great-grandparents (**George & Carrie Suhr**) farm. He would travel by train from Erie Pa. to do so. He told me that Uncle George's hands were so callused from handling the fishing nets that he could (and did) hold a honey bee in his cupped fist without the bee being able to sting him... Both photos [on display in the museum] show George with a cigarette in his mouth... Every year, right after the first roads were tarred, my Dad would take a deep breath and remark that the smell of the tar reminded him of the tarred fishing nets at Kelleys Island. Uncle George would sit for hours repairing nets and, no doubt, smoking cigarettes."



### *ANOTHER WALKING TOUR (Division St. to the History Museum)*

When **Leslie Korenko** finished the first walking tour of Kelleys Island (from the ferry dock to downtown) she realized that the tour would not be complete without a Part 2 (Division St. to the History Museum). You can view the tour on our [website](#) along with other interesting Island videos. There are lots of old photos so you can compare the old and the new along with some interesting tidbits about the Island's history.

There are links to both tours on the KIHA website [www.KelleysIslandHistorical.org](http://www.KelleysIslandHistorical.org) (click on Island History/videos) and some links are already on our [Facebook page](#). There MAY be additional tours, but only when she recuperates from doing these.



**A BIG THANK YOU** to **Scott Stevenson** for donating some much needed edging of the gardens at the church. What an improvement. **Teri Behrends** tries to keep up with the weeding and care of the gardens, but they can get away from her pretty fast. Thanks to a very dedicated **Bruce Korenko** for fixing a long-standing chimney leak that was causing damage inside the parsonage. And we welcome **Steve Mack of Stadtmiller Realty** as a new business member.



### *ADDED TO OUR COLLECTION*

**ANONYMOUS** - Metal bar, often called a spud bar or pry bar and a quarry stone cart currently on display in front of the museum. Found on quarry property.

**BRIAN KELLER** - A "Famous Ohio" horse-drawn riding cultivator and hay cutter arm. At one time it had a seat. It was found on what was once the Bauman family farm on E. Lakeshore.

**KNUT LAHRS** - An unusual shovel used by fisherman **George Beatty** on the North side to clean up a unique shack built on round pipes and elevated to catch fish guts and debris underneath. This is a metal implement that looks like a rusted shovel with round pieces cut out and a long handmade ice pick with T-shaped handle.



**PENNY KYLE** - A Vitalaire ice box. Before refrigerators, blocks of ice kept food cold.

**DELORES COLE** - Three old photographs: **William and Marcella Kelley** standing in front of their Lakefront home (the one with all the gingerbread); Street shot of three people standing in front of a very long white picket fence. A small portion of Kelley's House can be seen through the trees; and an aerial picture of downtown area including the old Casino building, small dock, the steamboat dock warehouse and a portion of Division Street and General Store.

**JOE & MARTHA WOLFE** - Travel 'sea' chest - Large rectangular trunk, brown with wood trim, slightly arched lid that belonged to Miss **C. K. Becker**, Kelley's Island.

**ED SPAYD** - **Neuman Boat Line** employee shirt.

**DAVID GLICK/LAKESIDE HERITAGE SOCIETY** - A collection of KI articles cut from the Peninsula News, 1910-1950's.

**JIM SELFE** - Letters chronically the history of the Soper family. **Elizabeth Selfe** married Thomas Soper.

**CINDY HOLMES** - A great collection of **Maccabees** clothing, booklets and medallions.

**ED TERRY** - Bank statements and cancelled checks from **Brown's General Store** from 1949 and 1951.



Kelleys Island Historical Association  
PO Box 328  
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We are a 501 c 3 organization  
Your contributions are tax deductible.

**Let's make history together!**

[www.KelleysIslandHistorical.org](http://www.KelleysIslandHistorical.org)

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