

Kelleys Island Historical Association

October 1, 2018

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Chris Carrig (Treasurer)
Pat Fresch
Chuck Herndon (President)
Janet Killam
Leslie Korenko (Secretary)
Dawn Soldner
Ned Williams
Fred Walcott

Newsletter: Leslie Korenko
Online Presence: Leslie Korenko

2018 ELECTIONS & ANNUAL MEETING **THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AND SOME PERSONAL** **COMMENTS**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS - Over the last year the Kelleys Island Historical Association has continued to move forward on building restoration and improvements. A 200 amp. electric service has been installed in the Parsonage. We have engaged in a contract with Moyer Construction to support the floor in the church. Work was begun, but was interrupted when the raised floor at the east end of the church was found to be dry rotted and unsafe. Mr. Moyer is searching for an adequate supply of old wood to replace it. The tangle of bushes near the outhouse was cut down, and the outhouse further stabilized. In the museum we have had a humidifier installed in the furnace system to prevent the excessive dryness of the heated air from damaging our objects, photographs and documents. The window project for the church was completed and the trim was painted. The leaking chimney area on the Parsonage was repaired by Bruce Korenko and the damaged area of plaster under it repaired by Ted Rybus. The open trap door to the cistern

was repaired by Ray Shafer.

Leslie Korenko has been keeping up with our online presence. She has photographed over a thousand objects in our inventory and has extensively researched new donations to our collection, of which there have been many. Dawn Soldner's son, Daniel Soldner Jr., was very patient with our suggestions as he developed a new logo for the Association, which will help greatly with our branding. Leslie has been busy putting together walking tours of many of our historic buildings.

OUR INVESTMENTS - To mitigate the adverse effects of the proposed communications tower, the tower company has given the Association a grant of \$50,000 for historic preservation. The money has been invested in Vanguard until we are certain how best to put it to use. New signage has been installed in front of the museum and on the parsonage. June Campbell wrote up a planned training program for our volunteers that we have yet to put in motion.

The money we have invested in Vanguard Funds, independent of the \$50,000 grant money, has appreciated from about \$114,00 to \$164,910, about \$51,000 in a couple of years. I have been saying, and continue to, that this is a start on our endowment fund, money we shouldn't touch except in emergency. When it appreciates enough, or when it is supplemented by others, we will be able to utilize a small percentage each year in running our building and programs.

THE GIFT SHOP & RESALE SHOP - Last year we got by without hiring a gift shop manager, thanks to Patti Fresch and a long list of volunteers. We decided to hire a manager this year. Beth Rybus was our first manager. She put together a complete inventory of the items we had purchased for resale and she organized the gift shop in a way she thought more efficient. Unfortunately the responsibility she had for the parsonage resale shop brought her stricter definition of rules and regulations into nonconformity with the ongoing volunteer effort there. She resigned and was replaced by Lisa Fugita, whose resume was perfect for the job.

Unfortunately she found the required hours conflicted with her personal life and had to quit. We made it through the rest of the season as we had the year before - again thanks to the volunteers.

Last fall the resale shop brought in about as much money in 37 days as the gift shop in 117 days. This year Sonia and her gang of volunteers have brought in about \$8,000. Plans to do something else with the parsonage have been put on hold.

THE MUSEUM - This year's displays on electricity on Kelleys Island and vintage bathing suits will give way next year to an exhibition on commercial fishing. In addition to her yearly work on the quilt (a money making enterprise for us but not for her) Teri Betzenheimer Behrends will be throwing a net around the fishing exhibition.

We have been blessed with many contributions to our collection this year. Thank you all. And a special thank you to John and Judy Kobs for their very generous contribution of \$5,000 to the Association. I had said something to them about giving up my job here and they told me, "No, you can't do that. We like what you've been doing." So, I'm sticking with it for a while.

THE MURDER MYSTERY - This last week's Murder Mystery Masquerade was a great party. Thank you to Dawn Soldner and her committee and to Jodie and Scot Smith for the use of their great property. The party brought in around \$15,000, which we will put to great use.

LOOKING FORWARD - Next year we should be sure to have the church stabilized, the east floor re-layed. I hope also that we can give further consideration to purchasing the Haas lot to the south of the Museum. We need about \$60,000 [in donations earmarked for the purchase] to make this happen. That's a **lot** for us. It can ensure future expansion space for the museum.

ELECTION RESULTS

We welcome back to the Board Teri Behrends and Janet Killam. And we thank Lisa Fujita for throwing her hat in the ring. While Lisa did not secure a Board seat, we hope that she will continue to work with us both as a volunteer and in lending her impressive experience in museum management.

THE ARTS & CRAFT SHOW

We had a nicely rounded group of artists at the Arts & Craft Show. So many people walked away with treasures. In case you missed it, we have all the vendors listed on our website – so you can check out their websites and order that something that you missed while they were here. <http://www.kelleysislandhistorical.org/arts---crafts-show.html>

SO, WHO DIED AT THE MURDER MYSTERY EVENT?



It wasn't until the final moments of the event that we found out which one of the guests was the murderer (it was the victim's wife, Dawn Soldier). What a great time. Chef Brittney served up a luscious meal that included shrimp, grilled chicken, spicy gumbo and quite a bit more. Denise Feasby provided dessert – a lovely cheesecake with fruit topping. There were costumes too! Check out 100 photos from the event on our website:

<http://www.kelleysislandhistorical.org/masquerade.html>

The wine pull was quite the success as people searched online for the value of the bottle they purchased. Our thanks to all the people who contributed to the dinner, the event, the wine pull, and the silent auction. We should have a full list in the next issue of this newsletter.

1944 - A SECTION OF THE GLACIAL GROOVES REMOVED



In a series of letters written by Norman Hills in 1944 to Roger Williams Sr. while he was in the Army Airforce in England, Norman writes about a section of the Glacial Grooves that was removed for display in Michigan. “April 12 – Prof. Nickell spent 15 days getting out a large sample of Glacial Groove. \$800 has been spent on the project but Neuman may not be able to handle the truck and load.” “May 9 – The groove specimen weighed about 8000 pounds and was conveyed to the Cranbrook Museum by truck, which was sent down to Sandusky and towed on a scow to the Island and back by the *Messenger*. It was loaded in two hours. The groove arrived but the floor of the museum had to be shored up.”

The Cranbrook Institute of Science is Michigan’s Museum of Natural History in Bloomfield Hills. We contacted the Curator of Earth and Life Sciences and discovered that the groove is still on display there and they provided us with this photo. They call the specimen Groovy Rock. You can see the hand-tool marks on the left and drill marks on the right. They were pretty excited when we shared copies of these letters.



1914 - ANOTHER MICHIGAN CONNECTION

Stone from the Kelley’s Island Lime & Transport Co. quarry on the Island was used to build Henry Ford’s estate built in 1914. The 13,000 ft., 56-room residence was named Fair Lane and was built with rough-hewn limestone to harmonize with the surrounding countryside. It is sometimes referred to as “the castle made of fossils.”



OUR NEW GATE

Thanks to Tom Pieratt for solving a problem we just recently realized we had. For years we used a plastic chain to serve as the entrance gate between the gift shop and the museum. Recently someone fell trying to step over the chain instead of unhooking it. Tom immediately offered the perfect solution! He used a section of fence (part of the fence in front of the William D. Kelley house) and created a really nice swinging gate. We have the best volunteers in the world here – and some really talented ones too. Thanks Tom.

AND THE WINNERS ARE

50/50 for July – John Stock of Sandusky OH

50/50 for August – Danielle Fresch, Vermilion OH

50/50 for September – James McKillips of Okemos MI

The Quilt – The lucky winner is Deanna Allensworth of Sandusky

Now this was funny - On the back of the 50/50 tickets we found these notes: “Picking this ticket will feed one starving child in Wellington OH for a whole month. Please pick it now!” and another one “PICK ME! PICK ME!”



THAT REMARKABLE CHAIR

(OH WAIT, MAYBE IT'S A TABLE)

Gary and Jackie Finger donated this table/chair, once a part of the furnishings of the Bayview Cottage Hotel, originally owned by William R. Moysey. The house burned in 1896 and Moysey built a new house on the site. The next owner was William and Nellie Overcashier. It was through Becky Overcashier that we learned a little of the history of the chair. It should be noted that it was Jodie Smith who did all the research into this unique, likely custom-made piece of furniture. She drew on the expertise of some very knowledgeable people. For many years this chair/table was stored at the parsonage house. But with the opening as a resale shop, it was time that we allowed it an important place in the museum. Stop by and read the whole history.



WE BID A SAD GOODBYE

Lee W. Brown, 96, of Kelleys Island and Sandusky passed away peacefully on Friday, July 20, 2018, surrounded by his family at Stein Hospice Care Center following a brief illness. Lee was born April 6, 1922, on Kelleys Island, Ohio, to the late Lee and Helen Brown. He attended St. Michael's Catholic School and graduated from Estes School on Kelleys Island. A mass at St. Michaels Church on Kelleys Island will be announced at a later date. Lee was a long-time supporter of the Kelleys Island Historical Assoc. and contributed many items to the museum. We will miss him greatly.

We also said goodbye to Geraldine Betzenheimer. If you didn't know her personally, you probably relished the taste of the many items she donated to our annual bake sales or pieced together the puzzles she donated each year. We figure there had to be over 100 of them over the years.



**Kelleys Island
Historical
Association**

OUR NEW LOGO

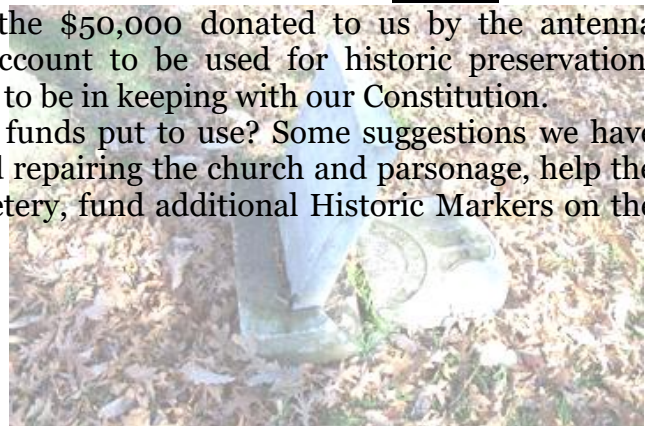
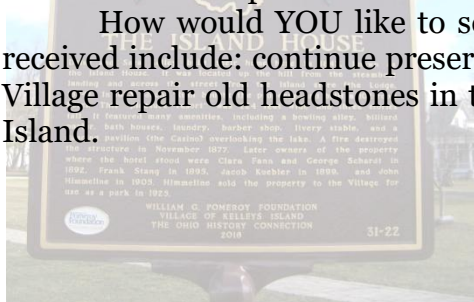
We cannot thank Daniel Soldner Jr. enough for volunteering to create a logo for us and we are so pleased with the result. Since we were established in 1980 we have used the church, the foundation of this organization, to represent us. Today, we are so much more. In keeping with our efforts to update our organization, we chose to honor our roots by featuring the fan light above the church door. We believe that using the church door honors our roots (it's where we began) and the initials, KIHA (the initials that most Islanders know us by) better represents where we are today. With this new logo, we open the door to our Island's history.



WE ARE LOOKING FOR SUGGESTIONS – WE NEED YOUR HELP

As you know, we now have access to the \$50,000 donated to us by the antenna company. The funds are in a special account to be used for historic preservation, education and improvements. These need to be in keeping with our Constitution.

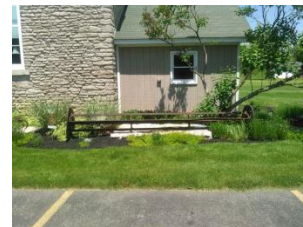
How would YOU like to see these funds put to use? Some suggestions we have received include: continue preserving and repairing the church and parsonage, help the Village repair old headstones in the cemetery, fund additional Historic Markers on the Island.



ADDED TO OUR COLLECTION

We ran out of space in the last issue – so this is a catch up list.

FISHING NET REEL – this is probably one of the larger pieces that we have received. We are so glad we don't have to store it indoors. The reel is 15 ft. long and was used to pull fishing nets out of the boats when they came into dock. A nice one is still on display at Koster's Dock/Unique Marker. This is on permanent loan to us from the Kelleys Island State Park.



TIM HERZOG - 7 identical lightweight tokens: J.M.- PR. Kelley's Island Ohio, Good for 5 cents in trade. It was suggested that it represented Joe Matso, proprietor.

BRUCE KORENKO – A radiant heat Toaster c1915 made by The Electrahot Mfg. Co. Winslows Syrup bottle c1911. Metal Parking signs from the old ball diamond. Magazines: Lakeland Boating March 1968, July 1967, August 1963, January 1968 and The Wonderful World of Ohio, October 1967, December 1967

BEATTY FAMILY - Full page advertisement in the Sandusky Daily News, August 31, 1934: The Kelley's Island Centennial and Home Coming, 3 days September 1, 2, 3. Boot Camp Uniform: hat and blouse/coat, from WWI United States Coast Guard worn by Orlo Beatty.

AARON COLEMAN - A US Marine Corp Service hat that was issued to Aaron Coleman in March 2004 while in boot camp.

TOM BARTLETT - Additional Bird Banding Avian Research Projects were donated ranging from 2005 to 2017 reports. Now a complete set for our library.

JIM SELFE - Desk lamp Owned by James' grandfather, Edwin Selfe. Postcard photograph of Herbert James Selfe September 1910. Book –The Life and Public Services of Hon. Abraham, published 1860. Book – Sketches and Stories of the Lake Erie Islands, Perry Centennial Edition 1813-1913.

TERI BETZENHEIMER-BEHRENDIS – Ohio Magazine February 1984. Nice long article on page 18: "A Wing and a Prayer – Father John Sherbno ministers to the people of the Lake Erie islands. Photograph of Alice (Seeholzer) Olwill in a bathing suit taken in the mid 1950's

LAKE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Statement of Condition card, January 1, 1904, Kelley (sp) Island Lime & Transport Co.

SHELLEY STEIN - A glass plate negative which was used between the years 1851-1880s. It is the original Kelleys Island Wine Co., c1866 and a photograph of the Kelleys Island Wine Co. and the smaller building in the rear which was likely Carpenter's original winery building.

MICKI WILES – KI School yearbooks 1976, 1975, 1974

JOHN & JEANNE SABOL – Commercial Kraut Cutter, The Indianapolis Kraut Cutter, pat. Apr. 18.1905 and a Milk Can.

LARRY & PAMELA PEAVER - 1957 Plat Maps: Lot one, page 14-A and B Carpenters Point.

KEVIN WITCHER – Several photos, histories and brochures featuring the *Mystic Isle* ferry boat that served Put-in-Bay.

OLD NEWS

October 10, 1894 "Pure Food Laws – Rules for Guidance of Wine and Liquor Dealers in Ohio

WINES – The laws of Ohio on the subject of wines are very clear and strict. Pure wine must be the fermented juice of the grape and nothing else, and only such wines can be sold and branded or labeled as "pure wine." When, however, process of clarification have been used, or white or crystallized sugar have been added, then the laws of Ohio say that such wines must be sold, branded and labeled as "wine." And the word "pure" must not be used.

All Sweet Catawba, Sherry, or Port wines, imported or native, and all wines sweetened or fortified must be sold as "compounded wine" and must be so branded and labeled. Every bottle of wine held in stock must be labeled according to all the above instructions."

Kelleys Island Historical Association
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Kelleys Island Ohio 43438

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

Let's make history together!

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