



**Kelleys Island
Historical
Association**

Kelleys Island Historical Association

July 1, 2019

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Important Dates 2019

August 3 – Arts & Crafts Show
August 11 – Annual Meeting
Sept. 7 – Yard sale

PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING

“Volunteerism is a boon to our society... Almost 25 percent of Americans volunteer their time and talents at one time or another. Many readers besides you wrote describing the satisfaction they have derived in addition to what they learned...” From Dear Abby

AMAZON DONATES TO KIHA

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as amazon.com. The difference is that when customers shop at Smile.Amazon.com, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate .05% of that price to the KIHA. [Sign up today](#). Don't worry, if you forget and go to the regular Amazon site – a little reminder will appear in the upper left corner – just click that and you will automatically log in. It is so easy – and they are so generous – Go AmazonSmile.

THE ARTS & CRAFT SHOW

Save the date – August 3 from 10-4 on the grounds of the history museum. Everyone always asks – why aren't there more Island artists at the show? We wonder the same thing. The space is free [so why not sign up](#) and try your hand at selling your crafts, art work, etc.

WIN THIS GEM ELECTRIC CAR

Something new this year. Thanks to the generosity of Peter J. Thinnes Jr. we are raffling this (hardly used) yellow GEM electric car. It is the 2002 model and has only 245 miles on it and includes newer batteries and a charger. It is perfect for the Island.



Tickets are available at the museum, online, or by mail (send us a check and we will send you your ticket stub) and are just \$20 each. We can't thank Jack and Mary Ellen enough for their generosity and their thinking of us as they leave the Island. And don't forget this year's quilt raffle (Thanks to Teri Betzenheimer-Behrends).



OLD ISLAND NEWSPAPERS ONLINE NOW

KELLEYS LIFE - Read the current issue on our website – then take a look at older issues. Leslie has loaded as many issues as she could find (2016-2019) and KIHA member John Fisher located issues from 2009-2013. We do so love packrats! We can't thank him enough. We are still missing PDFs for 2014-2015 and a few odd ones here and there – a treasure trove of information.
SEASCAPE 1989-1992 – Editor: Carol Krzynowek – almost all the issues are here.

THE PERCHIE PRESS 1992-1993 - Editor: Tim Sullivan – we have them all!

It takes quite some time to get each newspaper online. First you have to find all the issues. Then read each newsletter and type up a contents paragraph to help people find items of interest (this is the fun part), and finally, each page has to be scanned in and formatted into a PDF file (not so much fun). That's why these always seem to appear after a long, slow winter! Our thanks to Leslie Korenko for the hours of work she has put into this project. It is important that we don't lose our Island's history. It is hard to imagine that a newsletter from 1989 is already 30 years old.

DONATIONS were made by J. Roger & Lynn Renwick and in memory of Bea Matso and Dot Simonds. Both Bea and Dot will be missed.

50/50 WINNER – The 50/50 winner for MAY is George Leonard of Kelleys Island

ARE WE IN YOUR WILL?

Gruesome, right? And not something you want to talk about. But Estate Planning is something everyone will have to deal with some time or another. It is surprising how many times someone has come into the museum and told us – “We have (name something from the Island) that you would probably be interested in.” Sure, we get really excited that there is another piece of Island history out there – but that is where it usually ends because they are not ready to give it up.

What will happen to your treasured Island memory when someone else takes possession? We would hate to see it tossed out as trash because you failed to remember your promise to us. Since you review your estate plans every so often (and everyone should) why not add a letter of intent or a codicil to your will granting that Island treasure to the Kelleys Island Historical Assoc. We can assure that it receives the protection and honor that it deserves, and your contribution to the Island’s history will be recorded for posterity.

OPENING DAY AT THE MUSEUM

Wow, what a day – about 120 people came in and we took **28 photos of people** holding their Kelleys Island coffee mugs (a free gift for coming in). We thank Alexi Panehal (one of our new volunteers) and Patti Fresch for helping out. One surprise – Jim Selfe stayed most of the day and became sort of a living exhibit as he told stories about Elizabeth Selfe (our mysterious disappearance). Jim is a descent of the Selfe family.

Here are some of the other visitors we had so far this year. Two road Scholar groups (L) enjoyed a personal tour of the museum and Leslie’s slideshow presentation on the history of Kelleys Island. Sandy Erne & ‘Him” (a private joke) (Middle) stopped by and we hosted a tour of the museum for the Lake Erie Islands International Consortium conference.



AN APOLOGY

Remember this great photo of Mike & Vi that appeared in our last newsletter? Well, it came from KIHA member Rick Holmes. We apologize for not giving him credit – but as is often the case, photos are picked up from Facebook and sent over to us with nothing more than a “Here’s a cute picture....” We cannot always figure out where they came from originally. Glad to have this cleared up.



Speaking of old photos – there have been loads of wonderful pictures shared online by Rick Holmes and re-shared over to the Kelleys Island History Museum Facebook page. We always “share” these so that the original poster gets the credit. Another person who has been posting some really special photos is Chuck Beerck.

OUR DISPLAYS FOR 2019

This year we have two exhibits – the history of the Kelleys Island Landowners Assoc. Its roots go back to the fight with the State which had planned on taking over most of the Island and turning it into a State Park Resort. There were plans for a golf course, an Indian village, a lodge and other amenities. A stalwart group of Islanders banded together and on August 31, 1974, 300 people in 50 decorated watercraft carrying protest signs and smoke bombs invaded Browns Marina near Lakeside. The invasion went viral. This was the Kelleys Island Navy and the formation of the Kelleys Island Landowners Assoc. (our thanks to Janet Killam for creating this display).

Our other display expands our original permanent display about commercial fishing. Teri Betzenheimer-Behrends gathered many artifacts, documents and photos to tell the history of this important industry here on the Island.



FACEBOOK SHARES

This post was really interesting - 50th Anniversary of Vermilion Flood of '69. - James Biel wrote: I was 12 years old and my Dad Jerry Lesiak and Brothers Owners/Builders of Sunrise Point Motel on Kelley's Island were partnered with Bert Miller owner of Miller Marine on Kelley's on a 1949-50 28' Chris Craft twin screw cabin cruiser called the San-Nan and during this flood She was in Vermilion lagoon being serviced and painted etc... When this flood hit, She was in one of the boat house buildings and they had to sink her so She wouldn't float though the roof. I remember Bert and my dad Jerry recollecting on what to do as there was no insurance for this situation. She had 3-4' of mud in her and her scags shafts and rudders were bent. They repaired her and we had many more years of enjoyment. Thank You. Regards, James R. Biel

NEWS FROM THE PAST - July 7, 1894 (after having been given the right to vote in April) - "The women voters of Kelley's Island met at the residence of Mrs. E. K. Huntington on the evening of Saturday, July 7th. The object of the meeting was to discuss woman's suffrage, its duties and privileges. Sixteen ladies were present, who finally decided to form a Woman's Suffrage society. Officers were elected and a committee on constitution appointed, after which the meeting adjourned to meet next Saturday evening. Secretary"

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Their support means so much to us and we encourage you to tell them that you appreciate their support of the Kelleys Island Historical Assoc.

Make sure you tell them how much you (and we) appreciate their support.

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!

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