



Kelleys Island Historical Association

Volumn 11, Issue 1

www.KelleysIsland Historical.org

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2014 Events

August 2- Art Show
 August 9-Annual Meeting
 September 6-Butterfly
 Festival and Flea Market

Tin Goose Presentation
 Watch For The Date

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Winter Accomplishments for KIHA

The **German Reformed Church** had some major work done at the end of 2013 and in the months of January, February. The heat pump system was installed in December. In doing so floor problems were found and addressed. The cracks and holes in the walls of the church were attended to and the surface was ready for paint. During the last months the team, of **Steve James** and **Patti Fresch** painted the entire inside of the church. The wood work is being treated now. We are proud to inform you that the German Reformed Church is looking and feeling good. Take an opportunity to see the improvements, sit in a pew, and meditate the past and present.

Frozen Pipes Burst at The KIHA Museum



On January 10th, several of us were meeting at The Museum to prepare the winter newsletter. Chuck's account of the event follows. "As I entered the building I became immediately aware that we had a problem. I walked into two inches of water and what turned out to be cellulose fiber all over the floor. I ran to the back where I saw and heard water spurting from pipes overhead. I ran to the other end, located the water shut off and cut the supply. The ceiling in the work area in the northeastern corner and out to the mid section in front of the garage door was falling down or had already fallen. On top of the drywall we had about 12 inches of cellulose insulation. That was all over the place, covering up much of the material stored in that part of the building. I opened the door and tried to squidge water out. That worked for awhile but a snow drift blocked the flow. We called **Bobby Skeans** to bring **Gary Finger's** plow truck down to clear the way out for the water. Both my plow truck and Steve James' were not functioning. We called Steve, he and Patti arrived on the scene, followed by **Bernie Koshla** who heard the need through EMS radio call to Bobby. For the next couple of hours we managed tocontinued on next page

Continued from pg. 1 ... to get most of the water out of the museum and work area. Drywall and wet cardboard were thrown out onto a pile behind the museum. That was followed by wet cellulose insulation. Nothing was harmed in the museum area because most artifacts are up on stands or hang on the walls.

In the back area some materials of value were destroyed or rendered functionless. Our collections managed to do ok. There was some damage to items for the gift shop and materials stored for next year's yard sale were more or less trashed.

The pipes that failed were the feeders to the back sink, thin brittle plastic partially buried in cellulose insulation. The pipes were not protected enough to withstand the fifty below wind chill, froze, split open and released the water on thawing out. Steve and Patti had been in the building the late afternoon of the day before the break and saw no problem then. We are lucky it did not go on longer. After the initial water removal we saw that any building heat would chimney out through the damaged or missing ceiling. Photos were taken and then lunch.

I located tarps to cover the ceiling and Cindy and I returned to meet Patti and Steve. We worked until dark shoveling and sweeping, bagging, hauling, and sorting or saving what we could from the northeast quadrant. The pendant drywall with its overburden of wet cellulose was brought down and tarps stapled in place to minimize heat loss." A big thanks to all of the island people who came immediately to help. Insurance has been contacted and connections made. As I write this, the drywall damage has been repaired and the room repainted. Then KIHA members and volunteers will need to clean and reorganize as well as prepare the new exhibits for the 2014 season.



To the left, pictures of water floating throughout the museum. Cellulose insulation floating in the water complicated clean up.

Below: The Old Stone Church looking simply beautiful after its plaster job, paint, and floor refurbishing.

We thank all those who made donations to assist with this project.

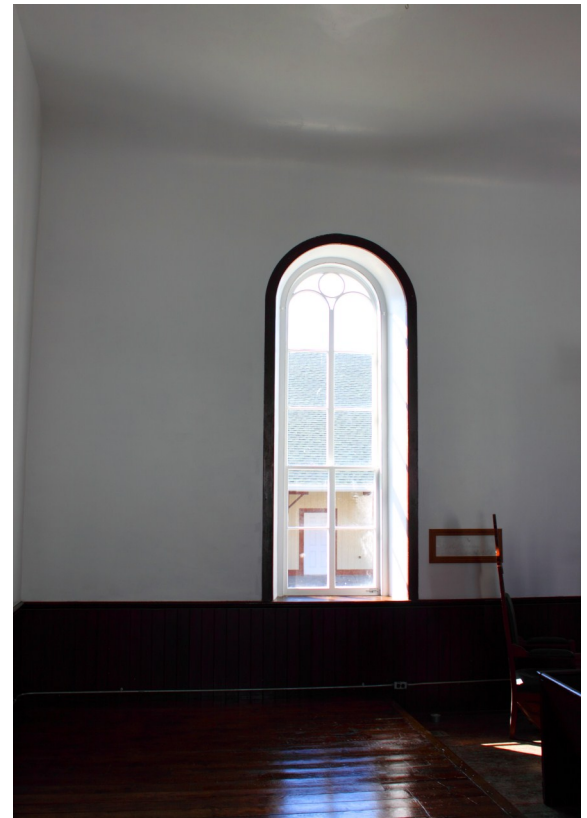
A big thanks to all those who put many hours into making this lovely edifice even more special.

DONATIONS FOR CHURCH RENOVATIONS

In December we sent out a letter outlining the repairs that we were making to The Old Stone Church. As a result, many of our members made contributions to that project.

Thank you: Dan Ahner, Lee and Nick Alexakos, Ruth Bandeen, Thom and Janet Beck, Dr. William and Susan Bruner II, Ken and Polly Burns, Graham and Sandra Dickens, Sherry Eddy, James and Karen Erne, Albert and Marilyn Fresch, Dan and Elizabeth Fresch, Don and Anneliese Haas, Deborah Herwick, Carol Krzynowek, David Lambros, Cynthia and Bill Leonard, Ralph and Beverly Luck, Bob Luckay, Jim, Emmie, Jill, and Mark McKillips, Allen, Diane, and Erie Nickles, Barbara O'Connor, Dave Paterniti, Bob and Carol Schnittker, Chuck and Jane Schodowski, Anne Shaw, John Sinkovic, Jodie and Scott Smith, John and Dee Spirk.

A special thanks to Robert and Nancy Howley.



Frances Minshall is Remembered Fondly

By Cindy Herndon

Frances Minshall was a charter member of The Kelleys Island Historical Association. Sadly, she passed away on a crisp, cold morning, March 2nd, 2014, on Kelleys Island.

She loved Kelleys Island and her many friends she developed here over the years. She spent a great deal of time on the island with her husband and three sons. In the latter years she has been seen frequently volunteering at The Historical Museum and in the park selling raffle tickets for the annual quilt made by **Board Member Terri Betzenheimer Behrends**. Terri commented that Franny loved dogs. Most of the time the family had Chesapeake Bay Retrievers and Franny took them everywhere. When working the Park Quilt Raffle, her dog was under the table. Terri reports that one of the biggest worries after The New Museum was built was a sign that said "No dogs allowed" No one wanted to be the person that said she would have to leave her dog at home. We will surely miss her."

Franny's passions were catching as we shared time with her over the years. I remember watching her pit cherries and then make great pies, then freeze more for winter baking. I do that now...and whenever I make a pie, I think of her. She also introduced us to cherry tomatoes and every spring would be certain I had cherry tomatoes plants. She gave us ever-bearing raspberries to grow, and when I needed more, I ordered that variety. She taught us that a weeny roast can be elegant and so fun. She had them annually in front of her island home. She taught us to eat well and not too much,(not all of us learned that skill, but still try) and to be an independent woman, and to give time of yourself , to volunteer. She commented to me a year ago, "Volunteer to tell "daytrippers" why KI History is so important to US History." She went on to say, "There is a certain pride one feels when you understand the people and the events that went on before your time. It makes you want to pass it on to the next generation. Besides it is also FUN."

Frances Minshall made me feel special and had the ability to get along well with her island friends as well as the elite of Washington.



Franny in the years from the fifties to the seventies was often seen as captain on the family boat *The Three Captains*. She had originally asked **Jake Martin** to take her out and teach her to drive the boat without family on board. She told me he was a great teacher.

Board Member Jeri Himmelein Yoest shares: "My first memory of Franny was of her pulling The Three Captains into Koster's dock, and walking up the bank to visit my **grandmother Roela Himmelein** on the porch of The Himmelein Hotel. She was probably dressed in a bikini top and khaki shorts, with that glorious blonde hair all akimbo from the boat ride. She wouldn't have carried a purse, because there would be no need for one: The keys to the boat would have been left in the ignition, and a comb for her hair would have been a silly convention for a boat captain (it should have been called *The Four Captains!*) She certainly had no need for an ID, as everyone knew **Franny**."

She walked with an air of confidence and competence, not the least encumbered by three little boys who were (almost) always in tow.

Recently she had become an advisor on The Oral History Project that we have undertaken at the Museum. She provided me with a book that was relevant to the topic, and helped develop the questions that will be the basis of upcoming interviews. This endeavor, of course, led to reminiscence about **Franny's** life on Kelleys Island, and she cackled with delight at her memories of escapades with **Lizzie Martin**, and a particular twinkle in her eye as she told of her memory of the boisterous *shivarre* that was held for **Bob and Bibber Overcasher**.

I once told her that I considered her to be part of the wallpaper of my life: constant, out of mind but always in the background, lovely and unassuming, lending color and texture to the scene. She nodded at this, accepting my intention that she be complimented."

Memorial contributions made in the name

Frances Minshall

Paul and Lois Brown, Anne Eddowes, Cindy and Chuck Herndon, Laura Jean Pohorence, Joseph and Margaret Sears of Potomac, MD, Pat Seeholzer, Anne Sennish, Walter Haverford Attorneys At Law

Picture on left: Frances Minshall with grandson Bill Minshall on *The Three Captains*

Summer Intern coming to assist KIHA in 2014

We are pleased to announce that The Kelleys Island Historical Museum will have a summer intern. She is **Elizabeth Learmonth** coming to us from Kent State University. She is working on a Masters in Library and Information Science, specializing in Museum Studies. Prior to this education, Elizabeth graduated from Miami University in 2002 with a BS in Art Education.

Elizabeth states, "I am especially interested in small museums because of their close relationships with communities they represent and the unique and personal stories they have the opportunity to tell. I began visiting Kelleys Island when my best friend's parents bought a home there in the 90's. I spent several summers working for Doug and Patti at The Brewery, and have been fortunate to see the island as a community, not simply a vacation destination. I am very much looking forward to spending my time at The KIHA Museum this summer and becoming part of the community in a new way"

Ford Tri-Motor Exhibit

Elizabeth will assist us in an exhibit on The Ford Tri-Motor this summer. **Dick McMonagle** donated his negatives (from a Brownie camera) taken of the plane crash on July 3rd, 1954 which crashed on take off from Kelleys Island. These are being developed and will be on display at the museum. Other connections are being made with The Liberty Museum in Port Clinton and with **Dale Hartlaub** of Sandusky who donated his Tim Goose Collection to the Liberty Museum. Mr Hartlaub is a Tin Goose Enthusiast and can tell a good story about this Ford Tri-Motor. We are currently setting a date for him to come to Kelleys Island to share his **stories**.



GIFT SHOP NEWS by Bev Luck

May is just around the corner and the museum gift shop is preparing to open its doors. We are going to have a wide range of great new gift items this summer.

We have Scout Bags with fun nautical colors. Ideal for Kelleys Island travel, going to the beach, boating, hiking...and there are lots of sizes for dry and cold goods, whatever you like!

We have wonderful 4" tumbled marble stone coasters with a non-skid cork backing that have the (nautical) chart of Kelleys Island printed on them, and they are made in the USA.

Back by popular demand we are once again offering the tall ships coffee mugs. We have jewelry for her, a shirt for him, along with many new gift items this year.

Our media selection includes many books by our own island authors on topics ranging from when wine grapes were grown on the island to current history topics.

Last but not least, keeping with the theme that Kelleys Island is known for its many different birds and butterflies, we have some new puzzles. Our (historical) toys, models, books, and games are sure to delight children of all ages, as well as the young at heart.

On a special note, from one of our multi-generational families on Kelleys Island, artist, **Dale Leidheiser**, we have two framed, signed, limited editions of the tall ship, U.S. Brig Niagara. These are a must see!

A STORY ABOUT CROWS

Those living on Kelleys Island year round see many crows. In spring or summer, Bob Overcasher and some of his male companions would take a baby crow from the nest (with feathers, but not yet able to fly) **Becky Overcasher** recalls that her **Grandma Overcasher** would put the baby bird in a big cage. She lovingly fed it and talked to it until it would know words. She would then slowly orient the bird back to nature, by the time leaves fell, the bird was gone. Tammy was Becky's favorite crow. Visit <http://chonday.com/Videos/crowintelige2>

THE 2014 QUILT RAFFLE

The 2014 Quilt made by **Terri Betzenheimer Behrends** is in process. This year she dedicates her quilt to her aunt, **Ruth Seeholzer Perruchon**. Ruth was her mother's sister and was one of ten children, 8 girls, two boys, all born in the same house on Kelleys Island. Terri reports that if you asked how old she was, her response was "born 2-2-20". She was 92 when she passed away in 2013. After high school, Ruth went to New York, stayed with her aunt, and went to beautician school. Ruth worked in Sandusky for a short time, married my **Uncle Bill(Hops)** and when he came back from the World War II, he built her a beauty shop behind their home on Woodford Road. She cut hair for all the summer people and islanders for many many years, and when she closed the shop, she would go to people's homes to take care of their hair cuts and more. Ruth worked the morning shift at *Bag The Moon*, and at noon would walk down the hill to see her sister, **Dawn Kekelik**, who worked at *The Casino*. She would have a cup of coffee (or maybe a short beer) and a cigarette, before she would go home to sit on the porch, waving to everyone that went by.

Ruth always carried a Crown Royal bag for a purse, which held her cigarettes and a little money. She loved to go to *The Village Pump*, and **Gary** even put a special chair for her outside the kitchen so she could have a cigarette, and not have to stand outside the front door with all the "hoodlums". In her last years she lived with my cousin, **Nancy Owill**, who took wonderful care of her. She loved Kelleys Island, as we all do, and never wanted to leave. She is buried on Kelleys Island by her husband, Bill, and her son, **Ned**. Terri lovingly reports; "We miss her terribly and loved her very much." So start purchasing tickets soon for The 2014 Quilt Raffle, and along the way, be sure to thank Terri for her years of effort in making quilts for KIHA. We so appreciate her efforts and involvement.

Coming soon to your mailbox: you will be receiving your membership card in the mail along with tickets the Quilt Raffle and 50/50 raffle. Just mail them back with your payment and you will be entered into both raffles.

Memorial Donations

We apologize for not sending out acknowledgements to everyone. We had a difficult time identifying which donations came in and when, after the transition from Roger Williams to the current acting secretary. As a result, we do not have an accurate list of donations made in May, June, and July of last year. A new system is in place now, which should make tracking and acknowledging donations much easier. We would like to thank the following people for their donations and express our condolences to the families who lost loved ones or good friends last year.

In the name of: Donation made by:

Robert Beckman Richard and Cathy Schlesselman
Marv Byer Joel Byer
Helen Fitzgerald Tom and Beth Voltz
Lois Giles Madeline and Roger Williams
Poppy Hodgson Anne Sennish
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 lon, Phyllis and Anthony Motto, Ila Dick, Mary Kirner

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 ndon

Frank Pohorence Chuck and Cindy Herndon, Ruth
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 zanne L. Turnquist

Judson Sprandel Laura Jean Pohorence

Ned Whalen Chuck and Cindy Herndon, Frederick
 and Betsy Stueber

Nora Zettler Chuck and Cindy Herndon, Kirt Zettler

No Specific Designation Donations : THANK YOU.

Lynn and Roger Renwick, Tom and Sonia Taylor, Pat
 Seeholzer, and Becky Overcashier

*In appreciation for Paul Brown a donation was made by
 Jude and Joanne Theibert

For donations in memory of **Frances Minshall**, please
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To email us: info@KelleysIslandHistorical.org or KI-museum@msn.com

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Kelleys Island Historical Association

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Mike Stoker, Steve James, and Ben Krzynowek

These folks got down and dirty doing work under the church, repairing cracks, and paint-
ing The Old Stone Church as well as cleaning up the mess in The Museum...along with
Board Member, Patti Fresch (not pictured)

A job well done, be sure to thank them along they way.

Kelleys Island Historical Association

P O Box 328, Kelleys Island OH 43438

www.KelleysIslandHistorical.org

e-mail: KImuseum@msn.com or info@KelleysIslandHistorical.org

It is time to renew your membership for 2014

Send my newsletter to:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone No. (____) _____ - _____

E-Mail _____@_____

Business Members – Your website address is _____

We will contact you about the appearance of your link on our website.

Membership Categories

() \$15 Individual Member

() \$25 Family Member

() \$100 Business Member

Includes small ad in each issue of our newsletter and a link on our website

() \$100 Patron Member

Receive a free gift as a Patron

() \$500 LIFE member

ARTIFACTS AND COLLECTIONS

Great strides were made over the last two winters in cataloging and acknowledging artifact donations. We are sure we missed a few, but here is a list of what we received in 2013. We hope to have a complete inventory of our collection in a searchable data base on our website. Big job.

2013.7 Janine Bonezzi - Karl Miller diaries, misc. letters, pictures, and postcards.

2013.27 Steve James donated large Square cut nails found in a big piece of driftwood.

2013.33 Muriel & Al Frasca - Before and after pictures of the steamboat Chippewa.

2013-45 Shirley Mckillips - Photograph of the West Bay Dock with railroad trestle, conveyor belt enclosure and boat loading with stone.

2013.34 Pam Kudelka – A CD with pictures from a photo album she brought into the museum containing pictures of the Hamilton family including: Dean, Wilson Shannon, William J., Raymond & Alice, Raymond's daughters Lois and Phillis and a mail boat picture with Fisher and Alf Erne.

2013.35 Patty Robinson - 14 prayer books/hymnals and one ticket to Passion Play at Kelleys Hall. These were found in the attic of Tom Joyce rental (former rectory of St. Michael's church). C1950's some in French and German.

2013.36 George Anders - Photo album 1880's, 1890's, including the Hamilton Winery, St. Michael's under construction, KI Baseball team, the Tourist, Captain Frank Hamilton, School, Anne Riedy c1932 (Louis F. Michel's grandmother) Bathing Beach with N side dock equipped, St. Michaels dedication, John Baptist Riedy, and Anna Gertrude Miller Riedy C1931.

2013.37 Anne Sennish - Booklets – Battle of Lake Erie and catalogue of War Relics deposited in Birchard Library, Fremont OH. Photographs - W B. Dalhfuro (sp?), Surgeon on the Lawrence or Niagara, miscellaneous pictures, articles posters and ferry schedules.

2013.38 Dave Young -A German-English dictionary that belonged to his step-grandfather, John Frederick Koster.

2013.40 Dave Young - Family genealogy of Rev. Ernest Koehne who served on Kelleys Island at the Evangelical Church.

2013.41 - Alvin Boryk, Candle lighter – found in attic of 125 Kaempfe cottage.

2013.42 – Anonymous - Blueprints for Rotary Kiln Plant for White Rock Dept. of KI Lime & Transport Co. and Fine Screening Plant – wiring diagram of conveyor galleries

2013.43 David Glick - Photographs – Kelleys Mansion (plus negative), Frank Hamilton Christmas Card, picture of schooner Lotus & tug Boscobel, inscriptions on Inscription Rock (and negative), 3 boats at a dock with a building on the end (May not be Kelleys Is.) Scow Lillie, Steamer Grandon, Steamer American Eagle. These boats did serve the island and surrounding areas.

2013-44 Robert Lehman - Collection of old Put-in-Bay Gazette newspapers and Kelleys Life newspapers

One of Frances Minshall's stories mentioned Shivaree. What is a Shivaree? *Shivaree is an old custom involving a groom's male friends making a loud disturbance until the groom paid the men off with cigars and the boys with candy. Cowbells, horns, tin pans, and shotguns were used to create the aggravating noise .*