



Kelleys Island Historical Association

Volume 5, Issue IV

Fall, 2008

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'Round the clock devotion to KIHA

Our board members truly exemplify devotion to preserving our island's history. They volunteer countless hours to not just the meetings and events you see scheduled, but they literally have the organization in their thoughts and on their minds as they go through their daily routines.

One recent example was when **E. Anne Eddowes** was driving down Perkins Avenue in Sandusky. She passed a Pharmor Drugstore that was going out of business. There were large signs saying, "FIXTURES FOR SALE." Anne stopped to see if anything would be useful in the Museum's new building.

She quickly spotted some storage shelves for the back room, two display cases, and a couple of heavy duty stock carts that were possibilities. The **KIHA Board** swiftly authorized

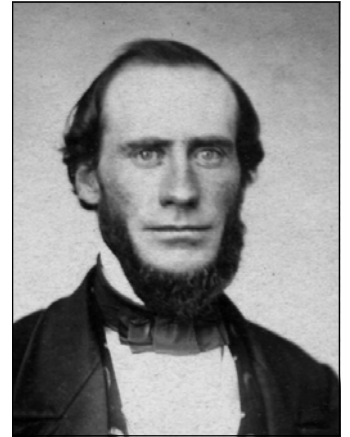
Anne to buy the units.

At that point, Anne had to figure out how to get everything transported to the island. After some research, she decided to rent a truck. She convinced the people selling the shelves to load the truck. Then KIHA members were on hand at KI to unload them.

On the way to Marblehead, **Ila Dick** was behind the truck, hoping to make the 11:00 boat to help unload the shelves. There was a delay while a large load blocked the road. At that point, Ila noticed the truck and realized that it must be Anne. So, they arrived at the boat about the same time, and Ila knew that she would be on time to unload the truck.

At the museum, **Mike Feyedelem, Jim McIntire, Roger Williams, Ila Dick, and Anne Eddowes** unloaded the shelves and stored them in

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William S. Webb photos

Islander **Anne Senish**, who is a direct descendant of **Datus Kelley**, one of the original two Kelley brothers who purchased and began to settle Kelleys Island in the early Nineteenth Century, found a couple of photos of **William S. Webb** in her collection.

It is William S. Webb whose Civil War letters we've been running in our newsletter. On page 2 we have another one of him in his uniform. Thanks Anne!

26th Annual Butterfly Festival recap

Sharon McIntire

Saturday, September 6, 2008 was a busy day at the KIHA as once again we hosted the annual Butterfly Festival. Over 50 volunteers worked to make the day a very successful event.

Without further ado, the final results and winners of our annual raffles were:

Bake Sale -	\$ 122.50
Artists Tables-	\$ 25.00
Hot Food Sales -	\$ 220.88
Yard Sale -	\$1,150.40

Season total sales for the **Terri Betzenheimer's** quilt "Dawn's Island Star" - **\$2,360** - winner **Deb Burris of Port Clinton**.

Season total sales for **Byron Crabill's** woodcarving "Cold Feet" - **\$500** - winner **Linda Krakora of Kelleys Island/Cleveland**

Season total sales for **Joe Corso's** painting "Zion Church" - **\$310** - winner **Linda Parsons of Mayslick, Kentucky**

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William S. Webb family donates Civil War correspondence—

An ongoing series of the KIHA Newsletter

Through the generosity of family members of **William S. Webb**, we were given transcripts of letters that Mr. Webb wrote to his family during his 100 days service in The Civil War. Since the Kelleys Island men left as a company from the island, they, initially at least, stayed together and thus Mr. Webb's letters sometimes include mention of other islanders who were also fighting. It is not often that a person has the opportunity to relive history.

William S. Webb was married to **Elizabeth Kelley** and three children—**Sarah, Isabelle** and **Charles**. In 1860, William S. Webb is listed on the Census as a stone mason earning \$8,000 a year.

William S. Webb went to war in 1864 and he wrote letters home to his family on Kelleys Island. Captain Webb's daughter Sarah copied his letters into a notebook. **William D. Webb** is the great-grandson of this Kelleys Island Civil War soldier and his grand-daughter, **Katia Duey**, transcribed the letters from the notebook. Katia Duey is currently attending Temple University. We sincerely thank the William D. Webb family for their interest in their own family history and that of Kelleys Island—and for the opportunity they have given the Kelleys Island Historical Association to share this wonderful story.

William S. Webb was first stationed at **Johnson's Island** in **Sandusky Bay**, along with other Kelleys Island soldiers. (Added information will appear in [] .)

Point of Rocks Virginia, June 28, 1864 (continued from our Summer issue)

Deserters are coming in all the time and we of the Picket Guard are about as much on the watch for these as for the pickets of the "Rebs" and we have instructions to be very careful not to fire on them. I had a conversation with a Capt. of the 3rd Virginia who came in day before yesterday. He had only 15 men left of his company and said they would all be in that night if they could get through the lines. There was a squad came in that night whether his men or not I did not learn. From the cloud of dust yesterday morning at Petersburg it is supposed that the Rebs were leaving there. A deserter who came in also reported that many were leaving but that they are evacuating, I do not believe.

The Chaplain informed me yesterday that he saw an article in some paper in which **Gov. Brough** (Ohio's Gov.) stated that the O.N.G.'s (Ohio National Guard) here ought not to have been sent here, that no such disposition of them was intended by himself, and that the President stated in reply that it was done without his knowledge. The Chaplain also says he saw in the *Cincinnati Gazette* a statement that Gov. Brough had perfected arrangements by which the time of the "100-day men" was to be counted from the 2nd of May, that is that our time was to be up in 100 days from that date. I hope that is the case. Not a Reg't, not an Officer, not a private that I know of, but that considers it a breach of good faith on the part of someone. The effects of it will be very apparent in the fall election, especially if kept over their time.

Whenever you see any statement of and reg't of O.N.G.'s having "volunteered to go to the front" you may without any fear of contradiction set it down as false, wickedly false: they all volunteered as we did, knew nothing about it until we got our orders. We heard the 132nd and 134th had volunteered

also. They are both now in our Brigade and preceded us here, both almost mutinied at being sent here and their short period of service left for which the O.N.G.'s were called out is all that has kept down a more tangible show of insubordination. All are pretty well quieted now as their term of service shortens, and those reports of counting our time from the 2nd of May, or of our being discharged in 90 days from



that time...all have the effects of allaying or modifying expressions of feeling on the subject. As for myself I intend to the utmost of my ability to do my duty and if my Country is benefitted by my services I shall be thankful that I have to the extent of my opportunity been enabled to render those services, but shall in common with my fellow soldiers reserve the right of calling to account at the proper time anyone who may endeavor to place me in a false position.

In a conversation with the Chaplain the other day in relation to the report that we had volunteered to show the effects of the report at home I handed him your letter written after you had just heard it, he read a part of it referring to that subject and handing me the letter remarked, "the man who has such a wife as that has a fortune," and the big tears followed each other down his cheeks as he turned his head the other way, his eyes were not the only ones from which the involuntary tear started at that moment, nor was his the only tongue that was incapable of giving utterance to the thoughts that caused those tears. Poor fellow! He had not received a line from his wife since leaving **Johnson's Island**.

...I have just gone along the picket line occupied by my boys and find most of them enjoying a good sound snooze except the one man at each rifle pit who is on duty. It is growing quite warm as the sun approaches the meridian but a fine breeze is rustling among the leaves of our shelter shanties, and all are enjoying it and glad to be out of the smoke, dust, and heat of the camp. **Jerry's** health is being improved by the campaign. **Lester, Dan**, in fact all of the boys are well, only disappointed that our letters from here had not reached their friends.

I rec'd a letter from **Sister Caroline**, tell her I thank her for her kind consideration and will endeavor to repay her, my letters are for all who wish to hear from me, and I endeavor to write such information as may be of interest to all. In writing for all I cannot go into details as others can and if my letters seem too general in their tone you must attribute it to the right cause. It is my purpose and constant endeavor to take every possible care of the health of my command, and if I can relieve the feelings of their friends at home by keeping them informed of the situation here I also consider it my duty to do so.

When the Reg't marched on that fatigue expedition there were only 9 men left in my Co. (including the cooks and Jerry

The match is met

Last year when we applied for grants from several foundations, we received a challenge from two of them. Both **The Randolph J. and Estelle M. Dorn Foundation** and the **Frost-Parker Foundation** said that if we could raise \$40,000 from other grants and collectibles by January 1, 2009, they would match it with \$20,000 from each—a \$40,000 total.

By mid-August, we had received the following:

The Sidney Frohman Foundation	\$10,000
The Sandusky/Erie County Community Foundation	10,000
The Wightman/Wieber Charitable Foundation	5,840
The Mylander Foundation	1,200
Stock contributed by Madeline and Rogers Williams and sold	4,758
Bequest from Lydia Bechtel's Estate	5,000
Gift from Bob Howly, Jr.	1,000
Proceeds from several summer programs and events	<u>3,110</u>
Total	\$40,908

Butterfly Festival recap, Cont. from pg. 1

A great many special **Thank You's** need to be given.

First to **Terri, Byron** and **Joe** for the generous donation of their artistic works! The returns on their donations were among our best ever!

Secondly, to festival chairman **Annalee** for her work organizing and carrying out the event and all its myriad of details.

Next to all of the workers—The setting up and tear down of tables, tents, and acquiring the benches was done by **Annalee, Frank Dotson, Ray Meyers, Fred Walcott, Greg & Geri Smith, Marty Perez, Joe Corso, Bob Ransom, Mike Feyedelem, Ed Frindt, George Homegardner, Shirley Crabill, Stephanie Allen, and Jim McIntire**. The benches were loaned to us by **Dale** at the 4-H Camp for the day.

The Bake Sale was made possible by 22 ladies who baked items. **Laura Jean Pohorence** made phone calls and **E. Anne Eddowes** took care of the sales. The 22 bakers were **Bonnie Blatt, Ila Dick, Mary Lou Gilles, Bernie Koshla, Nadine Mack, Bonnie Myers, Frances Minshall, Diane Nickles, Mary Ann Pileski, Pat Seeholzer, Ann Sennish, Dottie Simonds, Madeleine Williams, Lori Hayes, Phyllis Humphrey, Geraldine Betzenheimer, Carol Jorski, Laura Jean Pohorence, June Schodowski, E. Anne Eddowes,** and island grown tomatoes by **Sharon McIntire**.

The Yard Sale was a whopping success this year due to the donations from **Cindy and Rick Holmes** of 12 boxes of new items, and additional donations from **Sandy Alexander,** and **Barb Behlen**. Set-up of items was managed by **Sharon McIntire, Karen Terry, Elsie** and **George Homegardner,** and **Greg Ritchie**. Workers for the day were led by **Sandy Kilko,** who took care of advertising and encouraged businesses to donate items. Sandy's troops included: **Bonnie Meyers, Cindy Merkel, Elsie Homegardner, Sharon** and

Shortly after we reached this amount, we notified the representatives of the two foundations. We are happy to report to the membership that we have now received \$20,000 from each of the foundations.

This means that we have the funds necessary to complete the new building. If all goes well, it should be finished by next summer. We'll continue working on grants for museum displays, landscaping, and other needs.

Building update

Interior construction continues...In August we passed state inspections on plumbing and electrical. Painting and staining of the exterior is now completed.

Ductwork is being fabricated for our air conditioning. Our propane tank should be installed around October 1st, which means the building to be heated this winter to allow interior work to continue under a general contractor.

It's happening!!!



Pat and Lori Hayes do butterfly tagging demo. Photo by Lloyd Burns.

Jim McIntire, Karen Terry, Guy Landis, & Ruth Bradshaw.

Hot Food Sales were chaired by **Jan and Bob Ransom** who purchased AND cooked the food, set-up and tore down their tables, got the required health permit, an served all day. The **Island Market** donated snacks. Servers for the day also included **Anne Sennish, Pat Seeholzer, May Lou Gilles, Norm Landis, and Stephanie Allen.**

Local artists **Annalee, Joe Corso,** and **Patti Safford** had items for sale.

Pat and Lori Hayes set-up the KI Audubon Club table and once again presented the 26th annual program on the Monarch Butterfly and its life cycle. This year 35 people attended, 38 monarchs were tagged and released with 12 adopted in a special program that the Audubon Club offers. All people were encouraged not to cut milkweed as their habitat is being destroyed. Children received butterfly tattoos and a truly interesting and educational good time was had by all.

Raffle tickets for the final day of sales on the quilt, wood-carving & painting were sold by **Frances Minshall, Ila Dick, Madeleine Williams, Byron and Shirley Crabill, and Terri Betzenheimer.**

Museum gift shop volunteer workers were **Karen Terry** and **Sharon McIntire.**

All of these volunteers made the day a truly successful event. The KIHA Board thanks them from the bottom of our hearts. They are all members who care about the preservation of our island's history!

William S. Webb letters, from pg. 2

whom I had detailed as Co. Clerk with me) who did not consider themselves fit to go, while other companies, but a few men stronger, had from 17 to 21 left. The Colonel complimented me on the fact. I gave **Geo. Bookerman** a draft on **Alfred** (Kelley) for \$5 which he wished to send to his wife, see her or Alfred and explain to her, or have him, that she can draw the money at the store by presenting the draft. **George** may not explain it to her.

I wrote the other day to **Sarah, Belle** and **Charlie** each separately. I hope those letters will come to hand safely. I wrote you the day before I wrote them and I think the day after but have forgotten the dates. There is a rumor in camp that we are to be relieved by the 18th Corps soon, and if that is so we shall be moved to **City Point** 4 miles from here, at the junction of the **James and Appomattox Rivers**, or to **Harri-son's Landing** 25 miles down the river. I do not credit the report.

The opinion is entirely prevalent throughout the Brigade that our 100 days is to be counted from May 2nd and that we shall start from here time enough to reach home and be mustered out within the 100 days, this, if true, will shorten up our figures previously made by 13 or 14 days. I hope it may be so.

For the past two days the Rebel Battery which was throwing shot so persistently at our signal station has not fired a gun, probably having become disgusted at their want of success. It has done no damage except to kill one mule in our works and make one hole in the roof of a house through which one of the shot passed. Have just returned from the rifle pit occupied by **Morris, Dan, Oscar, Titus** and **Capers**, where I was handed a "company letter," it consisted of letters from several of the girls at home to the boys of **Holbrook's Sunday School**. Among other items of interest to myself was the fact that "Sarah will be at home next Friday," she is doubtless there now, **Alida** says to "spend the rest of the summer." This will render home less lonely during my absence. I find that it has been as dry in Kelley's Island as Bermuda Hundred. It has made two attempts to rain within the last 48 hours but failed each time. I shall very anxiously expect to receive letters from home by the next mail announcing the reception of letters from "Co. K" since we arrived at Bermuda Hundred.

Henry Ohlamaker had a very narrow escape by accidental discharge of gun which fell from the stack, fortunately he was not at all injured. These lessons will teach us all to be careful. I have written as long as my eyes will allow and must close this epistle. Do my letters seem too long? I can hardly write less, still I feel that I hardly say enough in substance whatever I may accomplish in the quantity of words. Tell **Emeline** that **Dan** is first rate, also the same to **Caroline** for **Lester**. Tell "**Zina**," **Sarah Mitchell** and **Belle Dean** that their husbands are still well and in good spirits. Tell **Alfred** not to pay anything more on Real Estate indebtedness at present. Write as heretofore every other day at least, number your letters. My best respects to "everybody." Tell **Nellie** I have not forgotten her and hope to be soon able to sit down to one of her nicely cooked dinners. My best respects to **Susan** and John and all my men. Our picket is taking dinner now.

Your Aff. Husband & Father
Wm. S. Webb

We will continue with this Mr. Webb's next letter in our next newsletter.

'Round the clock work for KIHA, from Pg. 1

the parish house until the new building is finished.

All in all, it was a productive event. It was particularly exciting for Anne, because she had not driven a large truck for 20 years. The fixtures and transportation cost \$900, which has been generously donated by Anne to the organization.

In a final economy of movement, Anne utilized the truck's return trip to take several large items left over from the **Treasure Island Day** sale at the Museum to Goodwill. These items were loaded by the same volunteers, who while always willing, aren't getting any younger. It would sure be nice to see our younger members step up to take more of an active role of volunteerism. We have loads of exciting work coming right around the corner!

A Kelleys Island memory..Jake the navigator

In July, 1944, I was able to take a leave from my Navy training in Boston, and decided to visit my mother on Kelleys Island. Dad was in France with the 9th Air Force at the time.

After months of Navy chow, I was ready for Mom's home cooking! The train arrived in Cleveland at about midnight, after the long ride from Boston. My buddy's father met us at the station and took me to Rt 2, at the west end of Rocky River, where I started hitch hiking at about 1 AM. Traffic was pretty light, with gas and tire rationing in effect, but I finally got picked up. Things were great until we ran into fog off the lake. At times it was so thick I ran along the side of the road with my white hat waving to keep the driver on the pavement. No edge lines then!

We pulled into Sandusky about 6 a.m., and the kind driver delivered me to **Neuman's Dock**. About 6:30, **Jake**, skipper of the **Mascot**, showed up. After explaining that I was waiting for the 8 AM boat to Kelleys, Jake said I might as well keep him company in the wheelhouse.

At that time, Neuman had a contract to haul workers to a site on **Cedar Point**, leaving at 7 a.m. The fog was still very thick when 7 a.m. arrived, but Jake didn't seem to mind. "I can't see very far anyhow," said Jake, who wore rather thick glasses, so he navigated by compass and time. We chugged slowly out and over to the Cedar Point shore, seeing nothing but fog all the way.

"I think we're there," said Jake, who stopped the engine, and gave a short whistle blast. A voice from the fog said "over here about 200 feet," so Jake backed up, and came in again about 200 feet to port, right at the dock!

We waited there for about a half hour after unloading the workers, and suddenly the fog lifted. The trip back to the Neuman Dock, and then on to Kelleys was uneventful, but riding the **Mascot** was always an adventure. Jake certainly gave me a fine lesson in dead reckoning navigation that morning!

I have spoken with several long time Islanders who remember Jake very well, and many of you have your own "Jake the Navigator" stories, or other similar adventures.

The KIHA Newsletter would be most happy to receive stories of your island memories.

Roger Williams

Annual meeting notes

On Saturday, August 9, the KIHA held its annual meeting. Thirty-seven members in good standing were in attendance. One of our best turn outs ever!

The treasurer, **Greg Ritchie**, reported that all tax returns for 2005, 2006, and 2007 have been filed with no penalties.

E. Anne Eddowes reported on all the grants we have received which has allowed us to start work on the interior of the new building.

Memberships have increased to 192, as reported by Membership Secretary **Roger Williams**.

New building progress reports were given on plumbing, electrical, HVAC, and inside work. The three Board members re-elected for a three year term from 2008 to 2011 were **Mike Feyedelem**, **E. Anne Eddowes**, and **Sharon Brunell McIntire**.

KIHA concern

The KIHA Board members would like to express a concern to fellow members. The purpose of our Historical Association is to help preserve the history of Kelleys Island. If you have any island artifacts, please consider donating these items to our museum.

Recently we have seen island artifacts for sale on E-Bay or in yard sales. We encourage all islanders to help fill our new museum by preserving items from our past. We are a 501(C)3 organization, meaning that all contributions are tax deductible.



Treasurer's Report

Checking	\$ 71,352
Savings	\$ 69,486
ETrade	\$ 4,746
Total Assets	\$145,584

Gift Shop news

We have added some new items recently to the gift shop. Postcards of the island done by **Kim Bolden**, Erie Petroglyph pins and necklaces done by artist **Carol Shelton** of images from Inscription Rock, more **Joe Corso** cards, and **Bob Adamov** books are now for sale.

Bob Adamov is the best selling mystery author who uses the islands as the back setting for his novels. His five books we now have in our collection, are: *Rainbow's End*, *Pierce the Veil*, *When Rainbow's Walk*, *Promised*

Land, and his latest, *The Other Side of Hell*. This newest book includes a **Mike "Mad Dog" Adams** 11 song CD with the book purchase.

Raffle tickets are now available to win a handmade butterfly pillow made by **Barb Behlen** for our Building Fund. Only 100 tickets will be sold at \$1. a chance. The drawing will be held upon selling the 100th ticket. Don't miss out on this beautiful embroidered pillow.

Coming soon will be **Frances Toepfer** note cards, based upon paintings of the island.

Gift Shop volunteers

A huge thank you goes to all the gift shop volunteers who worked throughout the summer. We were opened 7 days a week from 11am to 5pm daily from June 6th through September 7th.

Thank you's go to **Pat Seeholzer**, **Frances Minshall**, **Cindy Herndon**, **Vickie Finnegan**, **Ed Frindt**, **Madeleine Williams**, **Mary Ann Pileski**, **Elsie Homegardner**, **Shirley Crabill**, **Nadine Mack**, **Karen Terry**, **E. Anne Eddowes**, and **Sharon McIntire**. Substitutes were **Fred Walcott** and **Lori Arnold**. Thank you one and all! We hope to see you back again next year!

In September the museum was open from 11 to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, and then Thursday through Sunday. In October we will be open from 12 Noon to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays until Halloween.

Guest Book update

In the last issue we reported that nearly 1500 guests to the museum had signed our guest book as of 7/21/08.

As of 9/10/08 we have had an additional **1400** guests from Ohio and the states of S. Carolina, Wisconsin, Virginia, New Jersey, New York, Louisiana, Arizona, Florida, Texas, Connecticut, Oklahoma, Massachusetts, South Dakota, and Rhode Island. New foreign countries listed include Peru and Macedonia. On September 7th we had 29 Pelee Islanders visit.

Special thoughts

While we couldn't be prouder of, or happier about, our fantastic gift shop volunteers, it should be noted that the **KIHA Recording Secretary Sharon McIntire** for three years now, has managed the gift shop, found, scheduled and coordinated all of the volunteers, balanced the gift shop records, cleaned, stocked and re-stocked the store, and worked every shift there was no volunteer for. In 2006 and 2007 that was a heck of a lot of shifts. We'd also like to thank her husband **Jim McIntire**, who not only also helps the association a great deal, but patiently puts up with the time that Sharon devotes to the organization.

In addition, she has fulfilled her duties as corresponding secretary, helped out at every KIHA event, coordinated efforts for the LEIHS visit, assisted with many other things the association is working on, and much more.

While some might say it is expected of a board member to give and perhaps even give a lot, Sharon has gone way beyond those norms and we should all extend our thanks to her, and hopefully think about volunteering in the gift shop next year.

50/50 Raffle Winners

Aug. - **Carol Krzynowek of Port Clinton \$97.50**
Sept. - **Mrs. Nancy McKeen of Sandusky \$57.50**

**MAKING KELLEYS ISLAND HISTORY
EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS**

Kelleys Island Historical Association

P.O. Box 328

Kelleys Island, OH 43438

A 501(C)3 organization.
All contributions are tax
deductible.



Kelleys Island Historical Association

We're on the web!

kelleysislandhistorical.org

Kelleys Island Historical Association

P. O. Box 328

Kelleys Island, Ohio 43438

Membership Application—Membership runs from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31

Name: _____

Summer address: (from / / to / /)

P.O. Box _____

Street: _____

City: _____ **State:** ____ **Zip:** _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____ - _____

Winter address: P. O. Box _____

Street: _____

City: _____ **State:** ____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ - _____

Membership Categories

All fees are annual except Life membership
 Individual Membership \$15
 also check here for 2 or more Individual memberships but just one newsletter sent to one address

Family Membership \$25
 Business Membership \$30—includes business card size ad in one issue of newsletter
 Patron Membership \$100
 Life Membership \$500—once

All memberships are annual except Life Membership.

(office use only below this line -----)

Paid: \$

Received by: _____