



Kelleys Island Historical Association

Volume 4, Issue 1

Winter, 2007

Inside this issue:

William S. Webb Civil War letters	2-5
Board member resigns	2
Contributions & Memorials	5
2007 Calendar	5
Membership Application	6

Board Members

President
Mike Feyedelem
Vice President
Jacquie Kranyak
Recording Secretary
Sharon Brunell McIntire
Acting Treasurer
Mike Feyedelem
Newsletter
Claudia Brown (text) &
Jacquie Kranyak (design)
Patricia Johnson
Ways and Means
Mike Feyedelem
Acquisitions and Display
Ila Dick & Mike Feyedelem
Education
Mike Feyedelem

KIHA receives Mylander Grant

The KIHA Board is proud to announce we have been awarded a grant in the amount of \$2,450 from the **Mylander Foundation** in Sandusky, OH for the purchase of a flat document filing and storage cabinet.

Grant is a first for KIHA

In June **Ila Dick** e-mailed all Board members about the Mylander Foundation applications for grants up to \$2500 to 501(c)(3) organizations. **Sharon McIntire** called and requested the grant application which was then copied and sent to all Board members for inclusion at their July Board meeting.

After much discussion about all the items we will need for our new building, consensus was reached to ask for museum preservation items.

Currently the KIHA has large documents dating back to 1784 which are stored in closets and museum cleaning supplies in a Tupperware container. Ila volunteered to shop for the best prices, including shipping costs for these items on the internet. Sharon worked on the first grant draft. The application proposal was then revised many times with input from Board members, while **Claudia Brown** located and

copied the required accompanying documents. **Mike Feyedelem** provided the financial data. At the September Board meeting, with all information complete, the KIHA formally moved to apply for the grant prior to the October 2nd deadline.

Then, we waited... In November we were informed that the Mylander Foundation had awarded a \$2,450 grant to the KIHA for the purchase of a document filing and storage cabinet.

All KIHA Board members worked to make this happen and a big **THANK YOU** goes to the Mylander Foundation.

Kelleys Island Historical Association welcomes new Board Member Patricia Johnson



Patricia "Patti" Johnson describes herself as a third-generation island lover. Her grandfather **Dan Gibbons** and his wife **Ruth** bought property on the west side of the island, along **Lake Shore Drive**,

after Dan's friend **Sonny Elfers** turned down the purchase. After retiring from her job in Cleveland, Patti's grandmother, Ruth, Ruth's daughter **Pat**, and Pat's husband **Jay Johnson** opened various businesses to allow the family to enjoy their summer home on Kelleys Island.

They started their first ice cream stand on

the corner of **Cameron-Carpenter Road** and West Lakeshore Drive. Serving ice cream to the seasonal cottage families and campers was Patti's earliest memory of the island. Patti later began to run the family food business herself.

Patti writes that "Having the food and golf cart and bike rental business by the **Neuman Ferry Boat Line**, gave me access to the many comings and goings on the island. We have made diverse friends over the years and tried to give back to the island and our neighbors."

In 1999, Patti opened the **Kelleys Island Brew Pub**, an attempt to pair old world craftsmanship with newer trends in food. With the addition of bottled beer for export this year, they are hopeful that their company can remain on the island. The family's delicious ice cream treats remain.

Continued, Page 3

William S. Webb family donates Civil War correspondence

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. Through Mr. Webb's letters home we not only appreciate his devotion to his family and his country, but we also get to "rub shoulders" with some of the great leaders we read about in history books, like **President Abraham Lincoln** and **Florence Nightingale**.

In 1850 William S. Webb was 26 years old. He was listed on that year's census as a clerk, earning \$3,000. He was married to **Elizabeth Kelley** and they had a three year old daughter named **Sarah**. Elizabeth Kelley Webb was also 26 years old in 1850. By 1860, William Webb is listed on the census as a stone mason earning \$8,000 a year, with a family of three children: daughters Sarah 13, **Isabelle** 6, and a son **Charles** who was 1. Elizabeth Kelley was born in Ohio, as was her husband.

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 granddaughter, **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 stationed at **Johnson's Island** in **Sandusky Bay**, along with other Kelleys Island soldiers. Some of the other Kelleys Islanders,

who also enlisted for the 100-day service to their country, are named in the letters. They include **Huntington, Lange, and Mitchell**.

Johnson's Island, their first location of service, was used as a prisoner of war camp for rebel officers and some rebel soldiers. So let's begin the tale of a

Civil War soldier as told through letters written home. (Added information will appear in [] .)



**Head Dis. Co. K 130th Reg. O.N.G.
Johnson's Island, June 5th, 1864
10 O'clock P.M.
My Dear Wife,**

Very suddenly and unexpectedly, we this evening at Dress Parade rec'd orders, "to prepare three days Rations and be ready to march at an hour's notice." The news came like a thunderclap as no one anticipated such an order. We expected to leave tomorrow morning but Col. Phillips has just informed me that he thinks we cannot get away before Monday Noon, as transportation cannot be obtained before that time. We go by

Claudia Brown resigns from KIHA Board after several terms

Claudia Brown has resigned from the Kelleys Island Historical Association Board as of December 31, 2006. **Patricia "Patti" Johnson** was appointed to fill her position. Claudia leaves the board after serving several terms.

She is currently involved in writing a book on Kelleys Island for **Sandy** and **Don Alexander** of **Kel-**

leys Cove Gift Shop, located in downtown Kelleys Island. The book **Kelleys Island, an Island Story**, is scheduled to be published Spring, 2007.

After her retirement from the KIHA board, Claudia will continue to live on Kelleys Island and to work as the Village of Kelleys Island Clerk-Treasurer. Her interest

in local history will continue and she is sure to be seen as an active member of the Kelleys Island Historical Association.

The KIHA Board wishes to thank Claudia for her many years of service and heartfelt commitment to the organization, and will be counting on her continuing support.

William S. Webb Civil War Letters (cont.)

the Mansfield Road to Newark, thence to Wheeling and on to Washington having orders to report to Gen. Augus in command there.

Having made up my mind that I must be separated from my family for the 100 days I cannot say that I regret it very much.

Of course I had far rather stay near you, but if duty to my Country demands the Sacrifice I am ready. Many of the Company are despondent, but I endeavor to put a good face on it, and cheer up the despondent ones. **Elzina** [Elzina **Hamilton Huntington**, wife of **Erastus Huntington**] and **Mrs. Mitchell** are here, the latter controls her feelings some, but Elzina has cried constantly since the order was received. I am heartily glad no more of the Island folks are here as it would only make me additional trouble. I am "Officer of the Day" today and allowed Erastus and Mitchell to stay outside the lines tonight with their wives. For the last two nights we have kept double Guards with Counter-sign, so that no one could pass in or out our lines; The reason of this is that the Rebel prisoners have been detected in two or three attempts at escape by tunneling. Yesterday it was discovered that they had made considerable progress in tunneling to the Magazine with the intention doubtless of blowing it up; The powder has been removed and their work stopped. Why we are ordered to Washington I do not know or whether any bad news has been received; the Colonel knows of none.

We shall probably be obliged to leave a lot of things here unless **Mr. True** gets over tomorrow. I hope he may come. I had just been detailed to superintend the Building of a Wharf here, or rather an addition to the



old one by an order from Head Quarters and was to report there on Monday. In fact was ordered there today, but as **Col. Phillips** was sick, the Lt. Col. And Major gone and I "Officer of the Day," the Col. got me "relieved" from this duty undoubtedly as all officers undoubtedly as all officers are ordered to their Regiments. I should have liked this job as I was requested to furnish my own plans and was assured I should have all the men and materials I required to get the timber out and put it in quarry the stone, etc... The plan I submitted and which was approved was to extend the dock its full width into the Bay 50 ft. and would have kept me employed for some time. I was to take soundings on Monday morning. Most of my boys requested to be detailed with me on the job. And now my dear Wife, do not feel too sad, under this state of things for I feel assured it will be all right. You may feel more acutely than myself the separation sur-

rounded as I shall be by the cares and responsibilities of my position, but there will be hours when I too shall feel how lonely I am in the crowd. But I am confident in the anticipation that whatever may betide, my dear and loved Wife and Children shall never have a tinge of shame glow on their cheeks at any unworthy act on the part of their Husband and Fa-

ther.

You felt hurt that I did not write you oftener, but state of chaos in which every thing has been, my

Continued next page...

Patti Johnson joins KIHA Board

(From Pg. 1)

Patti's husband, **Doug Muranyi**, is the brewer, and her father, **Jay Johnson**, is the local storyteller.

Patti has written a tour guide of the island which will be available during the summer of 2007. It is a

walking and driving tour that highlights the history and nature that is our island treasure. Patti enjoys writing and would like to continue the KIHA Newsletter as a tool to communicate with and further the membership of this

growing organization. "The community of Kelleys Island is something I am grateful for. I believe we are responsible for the history of this place that we share, to carry it on into the next generations."

William S. Webb letters, Continued

manifold duties & etc prevented. I wrote you night before last after the entire camp was asleep. Tonight as Officer of the Day, with the charge to be fully on the alert for any outbreak at the Prison, with sentries doubled on our picket line, I am in my tent alone holding converse with my dearest best loved friend on earth, just on the eve of a wider separation by distance than we have ever been compelled to undergo.

If I find that we are located at Washington permanently will write you immediately and if possible have you visit that place while I am there. Will write you our exact position as soon as ascertained. I cannot be near enough to you to give anything more than general directions as to business, and I think these will be unnecessary. I know that **Mr. True** will be better than any one else I could have procured and shall rest easy about that. If I could be as well assured of your continued good health I should be perfectly satisfied. To this end I would say do take care of your health, do not expose yourself unnecessarily, and above all do not feel troubled about me, I feel that I shall get along, do my duty to my Country, to my family, good name, and return at the expiration of my period of service to enjoy with a pleasure enhanced by the brief separation, the joys of home, of the society of my loved ones, and of the consciousness of having endeavored to faithfully fulfill my duty to all.

I shall earnestly eagerly look for news from home, for words of hope and love and encouragement from her whose approval and love are dearer to me than all else beside. Kiss our dear Children for me, read them this letter, tell them their Father's first, last and only wish is for the health happiness and comfort of themselves and their dear Mother. And now (12:0'C. P.M.) Goodnight. Do not feel despondent but cheer up and cheer others who like you are separated from their friends but who not like you have not strength of mind to well bear up under it. Write **Aunt A** inform her where I am.

Your loving Husband
WM. S. WEBB

12 ½ O.C. in the morning



Have just returned from inspecting the Sentinels.

Sarah was here today, brought a perpetual Rose and planted it in front of my tent door. She left a few moments after the order was rec'd for our March. I had only time to bid the dear child goodbye, when she had to leave. She is aware that we have to leave. Poor child, she left badly. I must go to bed as I have to be up at 4 ½ OC in the morning. You will excuse this pencil scrawl,

but everything is packed up. Again, Good night.

W.S.W.

Sunday, 2 OC. P.M.

I have made application to have my Company detached from the 130th. Inspector **Gen. Sanford** who is here says it will be done. **White** of Columbus leaves for there tomorrow, he will lay the matter before **Gen. Heintzleman** and urge it. He says there is no doubt of it. Still I have much doubt. **Col. Aspen** who had just detailed me on special duty to Superintend the dock extension is doing his utmost to accomplish the purpose as he says he has no one else to take my place and does not know where to get another. However I have not much faith that we can get detached. Our Lt. Col. opposes it I am told.

In haste yours &c

Tell **Wells** that he must report to the Reg. as soon as possible

Wm S Webb

Washington, June 10, '64, Friday 11oC

Dear Wife

We arrived here at 8 oC this morning. We are not to stop here but go on towards the front, to guard lines of communications. We have not rec'd our orders but will get then during the day.

Are now waiting for breakfast: the right wing is off to Breakfast now. It is supposed we shall go to the "White House" at least that is the report but as yet we know nothing about it, I may have to send back some baggage if I do you may have some enquire at the Express office.

We are now standing in the street at the depot. I write on a knapsack. Will telegraph before I leave if I can.

Love to all,
In haste dear Wife I am
Yours Wm, S. Webb

Washington June 10th, Friday 1864 6 oC P.M.
My dear Wife

I wrote you this morning also telegraphed you. I seize a few moments time to write you again. We are ordered to go to "White House" some 20 or 30 miles from Richmond. There is great dissatisfaction in the Regiment at this order and I am told that Lt.Col. will go as being a paroled prisoner he should not. We take but very little baggage, and what we can do with the surplus I do not know. Everything is complete confusion and we can find out nothing. There is talk that Companies D & E & I will refuse but it will do no good. **George Waite** has just arrived. He lost his gun off the train the other side of Cumberland, went back, found it and has just arrived.

I suppose then without doubt we leave tomorrow, by boat for White House on the York River. This is supposed to be the new base of supplies for **Grant's Army**, being 24 miles in Grant's rear. We may see a little of war, actual war yet. I do not like the idea very well on account of the Company. There is less feeling in the company than I supposed there would be. All seem resigned.

I understand that **Ashley** is to be here tonight, perhaps only a rumor. (Later) Col. Ashley has just called, he is to introduce us as a Reg't to the **President** tomorrow. He says we shall only be stationed to guard fortifications &c in the rear. I had an interview with him, only a few moments of conversation, as he was surrounded by a crowd. Well dear Wife, I have written all I can at present. You had better direct your letters to Co. K, 130th Reg't, O.N.G. and add "To follow the Reg't." Write as often as you can, and send me the *Register*, even if it does not get through. I think most of the O.N.G. will be sent from here. Ashley is making a speech now. We are in barracks now awaiting transportation. I cannot write more than disconnected lines now. Excuse my writing at greater length and do not wait for me to write. Tell others to write to me, **Alfred, Hannah, Mr. C & Caroline** and all. **Sarah** and **Belle** of course, tell Belle I read her letter.

Your Affect Husband
Wm S Webb



Membership renewal

It's time to renew your memberships for another year. The individual membership has increased to \$15 a year. All other membership categories remain the same. Thank you to those that have already renewed for 2007. **And especially thank you to our Life Members!**

If you are on Kelleys Island this summer, please plan on stopping in and finding out how you can get more involved. Volunteers are always needed. The gift shop and the home tour (which promises to be even better than last year's) are run completely by volunteers. This is your museum and the Board (also all volunteer) cannot do it without your contributions, both financial and as workers. Be involved in how the island you love is portrayed. The Kelleys Island Historical Association is the keeper of the history. Lend us a hand. And remember that members get 10% off at the gift shop every day.

Memberships should be sent to KIHA, P.O.Box 328, Kelleys Island, OH 43438.

Memorials & Donations

Recently some items, papers and photographs, were donated by **Florence "Sis" McKillips**. We will have photographs and a description of the items in a future newsletter. Thank you "Sis".

2007 KIHA Calendar

Lake Erie Historical Association
2nd Annual KIHA Tour
Wednesday, June 27

Historical Home Tour
Saturday, July 7

Art Show
Saturday, Aug. 4

Butterfly Festival
Saturday, Sept. 8

**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!
kelleyslandhistorical.org

*All stories and photographs in this issue
by Claudia Brown.*

Kelleys Island Historical Association

P. O. Box 328

Kelleys Island, Ohio 43438

Membership Application

Name: _____

Summer address: (from / / to / /)

P.O. Box _____

Street: _____

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

E-mail: _____

Individual Membership (annual)
\$15.00

also check here for 2 or more Indi-
vidual memberships but just one news-
letter sent to one address

Family Membership (annual)
\$25.00

Patron Membership (annual)