

KELLEYS ISLAND'S NEW HISTORY MUSEUM PART 3 OFFICIALLY OPENS JUNE 26, 2010

The new museum and gift shop officially opened on June 26, 2010. Our hours of operation were from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week. And we were, once again, able to run by an all-volunteer staff. Volunteers were recruited by Fran Minshall and worked the entire summer. The volunteers included: Pat Seeholzer, Leslie Korenko, Ed Frindt, Charlotte Halliwill, Knut Lahrs, Mary Ann Pileski, Carol Dodson, Shirley Crabill, Elsie Homegardner, Anne Eddowes, Fran Minshall, and Sharon McIntire; along with substitute Lori Arnold.

A huge thank you goes to all of these dedicated volunteers who made it possible for us to be open for the hundreds of interested islanders and island visitors to see our beautiful new museum, while learning about Kelleys Island's rich history.

The very first visitor to the new museum was member Ted Blatt.

The museum back in 2010



The museum area was pretty basic.



The museum today.



OLD STONE CHURCH RESTORED

Once the move was complete, work began on restoring the church.

On Aug. 6th and 8th Ed Frindt gathered a number of island volunteers to clean and put the Old Stone Church back to its original state, after dutifully serving as the museum for the Kelleys Island Historical Association for over 25 years. After completing the new museum and gift shop, it was time to bring the lovingly stored pews, piano

and other church artifacts back into their home.

On Aug. 6th the church was cleaned until it shined. Everything was vacuumed and the floors and benches were washed with Murphy's Oil Soap. It looks—and smells—wonderful. The workers that day were: Ed Frindt, Chuck Hacker, Fred Walcott, Roger Williams, and Frank Yako

On Aug. 8th the following volunteers moved the furniture back into the Church, cleaning it as it arrived. That date's helpers were: Tim Richardson, Josh Cross, Jon Lundwall, and his baby daughter Abigail, who are all from Camp Patmos. They worked alongside: Carol and Ed Frindt, Gary Kowell, Sharon and Jim McIntire, Scott Stevenson (brought his flatbed) Elsie and George Homegardner, Pat Hayes (supervised moving the piano, which had been in the Kelley House), and Teri Betzenheimer. Another Flatbed Trailer was lent by Jean and John Kuyoth. Mike Feyedelem supplied the vacuum.

These people restored the church after the big move to the new building.



This marks a true milestone for KIHA. With no paid workers, except for the construction crew, the association has gathered all the monies, built the new museum, arranged it, filled it, opened a new gift shop and made tremendous progress toward restoring the Old Stone Church.

The KIHA Board voted to pay for professional painters to scrape, paint and caulk all the outside windows and church doors. In addition, seven of the church's chairs were professionally refurbished. Landscaping mulch was paid for in the front of the new museum and leveling and planting of grass seed was completed behind the new building. Blacktopping of the parking lot was completed in September.

Throughout the years dozens have worked and donated many hours, time and money. Thanks to all of them, all who helped out with the Church renewal and thanks to all of our volunteers! There is still work to be done inside the Church, and in the museum gift shop next summer, so please consider volunteering and becoming a part of Kelleys Island history!

Leslie created a tour of the museum on the museum's website – just click on [Tours/Videos](#)