

Erie County Historical Society revamps website

03-10-2018 By TOM JACKSON, Sandusky Register



Register file photo/LUKE WARK

John Hildebrandt at Cedar Point in 2013, when Hildebrandt was the general manager (with a friend, officially unveiling the Gatekeeper ride.)

SANDUSKY

The Erie County Historical Society's members love to study the past, but they want the group's website to be up to date.

The society has carried out a major revamp of its website at www.eriecountyohiohistory.com, allowing residents to learn more about local history, and gives tourists new ideas on what to see when they are here.

Here are some of the major changes, according to John Hildebrandt, president of the historical society:

- A revamped home page, which now has a handy list of upcoming events
- A new walking tour of Vermilion, with links to the city's history
- A new Sandusky Old House Guild tour
- Updates to the section on historical markers, which gives the location and information about every historical marker in Erie County
- A page about the group's annual meeting
- Part two of a Kelleys Island history tour
- A major revamping of the section on museums and historic sites to make visits easier to plan. "Museums and historic sites are now grouped by community and include much additional information," Hildebrandt said

Hildebrandt said the renovation was carried out by Leslie Korenko. Korenko, Kelleys Island's resident historian. She is the author of several books about the island available for sale on Amazon and also is a member of the historical society's board. She also knows a lot about working on websites, Hildebrandt said.

Hildebrandt took over as president of the historical society in November. Retired as the general manager of Cedar Point, Hildebrandt is the author, with Marie Hildebrandt, of "Lake Erie Shores and Islands," a photo history of the area's vintage tourist attractions.

He said the historical society is committed to maintaining its website as a resource for people curious about local history. "It's organic. It's got to keep growing and changing," he said.