

# Silver Hills Historical Society, Inc.

### THE

## **CLARION**

### Inside This Issue

Tuley Homestead Historical Presentation

Annual Membership Meeting & Year End Update

Tribute To Miriam
Thornton

Looking Ahead 2015 Events

2014 Membership



## Tuley Homestead Historical Presentation Saturday, October 25, 2014

The Silver Hills Neighbood Association and the Silver Hills Historical Society social gathering Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at the Parnell Center was an evening of good food with friends and neighbors. It was followed by an entertaining historical presentation about the Tuley Homestead and three short stories as told by Squire George Tuley, Nathalie Tuley and Charlotte Tuley. Joining the community of Silver Hills for the event were two direct descendants from the Tuley family of New Albany.

The Society recognizes and thanks the following individuals who participated in setting up tables and decorations: Jean Caesar, Nancy and George Everbach, Emilie Kelso and Bobby Alless. Also special

thanks to Tom and Linda Childers for their kind support for the Silver Hills community.

Linda Tuley Westbrook and her father, Eugene Tuley traveled from Kansas and Missouri to briefly connect with their heritage, a family established here in New Albany and on Caney Knob, Silver Hills.

It began with the founding of New Albany by three brothers in 1813, Abner, Joel and Nathaniel Scribner. The Tuley family made their way to New Albany by way of South Carolina, Virginia By 1821, the Tuleys Kentucky. were well established in the wholesale grocery business. Mary Crane Woodruff was the oldest daughter born to Seth Woodruff, a Colorful fellow from New Jersey. Seth moved his family to New

Albany in 1816. He was a bricklayer by trade, owned a tavern on Upper High Street (Main Street), and became a judge and an ordained minster. He worked by day, held court in his tavern and preached on Sundays.

At the age of 18, Mary Crane Woodruff met and fell in love with Charles Paxson. They were married December 15, 1821. Charles Paxson came to New Albany by way of Philadelphia and established a grist and saw mill. On the day they were married Charles gifted Mary a tract of land on Caney Knob, land extending from a line south of Knob Avenue to Corydon Pike, east to Falling Run Creek and west to lower Camp Avenue, property overlooking the Ohio River Valley with a grand view of the City below.

Charles Paxson left for New Orleans in the fall of 1822 never to return. He contracted Yellow Fever and died. Mary married Col. Preston Floyd Tuley two years later and from 1825 to 1884 gave birth to nine children: Col. William Floyd Tuley, Squire George Tuley, Edward Preston Tuley, Charles Paxson Tuley, Benjamin Tuley, Lucette Tuley Priscilla Tuley, Seth Tuley and Thomas Jefferson Tuley.

The first to make their home on Caney Knob was Squire George Tuley c. 1852 followed by Col. William W. Tuley and his wife, c.1867. Charlotte Shortly thereafter, Benjamin and Seth Tuley built their homes. In all there were four Tuley houses built on the Tuley property. Squire George Tuley farmed the land developed a thriving strawberry business. The land became known as Highland Farm. The homes of Benjamin and Col. William Tuley were located on the ridge overlooking the Ohio River Valley on property given the name Clifton Heights.

George Tuley's first house was built on the property where Greystone Gables is located today. The house was destroyed by fire and in 1891 George he built a new house, which stands today. All four Tuley homes are still standing on what was once Highland Farm. The two story home belonging to



Seth and Nathalie Tuley is pictured on the front page. Today the house is remarkably intact and still resembles the original home. Seth Tuley drew much attention to his family when in 1877 he faked his death and disappeared from New Albany. For seven years he was believed to be dead. His wife, Nathalie set up her home as a boarding house for those in need of rest from what ailed them. In 1884 Seth was discovered alive living and working in Washington D.C. and was returned to his family. He admitted to running away ashamed of his financial standing in the community. Seth was reunited with his wife and children and they all moved back to Washington. Their home on Silver Hills was sold to James V. Kelso. In 1891 Highland

farm was subdivided into lots for residential development.

We were very fortunate to have two direct descendants from the Tuley family join us for the historic event, Linda Tuley Westbrook and Eugene Tuley both descendants of Edward Preston Tuley, both pictured above.

To cap off the historic evening, three actors volunteered to portray, Squire George Tuley, Nathalie Tuley and Charlotte Tuley. Each told a delightful story about their character. I want to thank Mandy Dick, Janice Sidebottom and Jamie Eiler, pictured above, for a touching performance.

The Tuley story with pictures will eventually be added to the Society website.

## Year End Update Annual Membership Meeting

The Silver Hills Historical Society annual membership meeting was held in conjunction with the pot luck dinner and Tuley Homestead historical presentation Saturday, October 25, 2014. The meeting was called to order and our Secretary, Ric Manning, read the minutes from the previous meeting held in December 2013. The Society Treasurer, Jim Stein, reported a current account balance of \$10,213 with no outstanding debts. Current membership stands at 101 active and honorary members. The Society celebrates its second year anniversary. In the past 24 months we have filed articles of incorporation, applied and received 501(c)3 tax exempt status, developed a website, published four newsletters and hosted five historic events. We've come a long way in a very short time. I attribute our success

directly to the wonderful support received from the Society members and the community of Silver Hills. Research continues to bring forth discovery after discovery broadening the scope of the Hill's historical heritage. With everyone's commitment and patronage we will eventually establish a small museum on Silver Hills where pictures, stories and artifacts will be placed on permanent display for the community of Silver Hills to enjoy. This is a Society goal for the future. History takes us down the path of those who came before us leaving us with the sense of who we are today. It might be a sentimental journey driven by nostalgia but history retraces our heritage defining how we have come to cherish and love the beautiful community of Silver Hills. *Kelly Garnighan* - Director

**Miriam M. Thornton**, a descendent of the Moser family, founders of the Moser Leather Company *c.1878*, New Albany, passed away Friday, September 19, 2014 at the age of 92. Miriam Thornton married James W. Thornton and in 1955 they built a beautiful home on the right side of Crestview Drive as you enter Crestview from Sunset Drive. Crestview was developed *c. 1946*. James W. Thornton was the Vice President and Treasurer at the George Moser Leather Company. Mrs. Thornton was a resident of Silver Hills for 59 years. Her two children, Mary Anne Thornton and James A. Thornton, survive Mrs. Thornton.

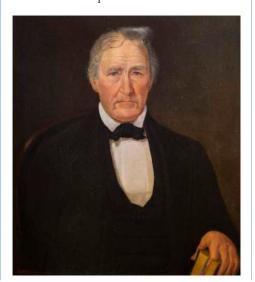
### Looking Ahead 2015 Historical Events

George W. Morrison Art Exhibit Saturday, May 30, 2015



George W. Morrison, pictured above with his daughter, Mary, at their home on Silver Hills, was one of the first to establish his home on the Knob. G. W. Morrison came to New Albany by way of Baltimore and Connersville, Indiana in 1843 and established himself as an artist. His specialty was portrait painting. He held high rank as a portrait painter. "Hundreds of portraits painted by George Morrison adorn the homes of New Albany and many more are to be found in the homes of Louisville." "He was perfect in every detail of his art. landscape painter he produced many fine pictures" His

most renowned landscape picture is on permanent display at the New Albany Floyd County Library. The painting is a view of New Albany from Silver Hills. Several of his portraits are on permanent display at the library The portrait below is a Morrison painting of Judge Seth Woodruff, an early settler in New Albany and father of Mary Crane Woodruff Tuley. The one-day exhibit will be held at the Silver Heights Parnell Center. It will be open to the public by ticket from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. The exhibit will be followed by a catered dinner and historical presentation about the



life of George W. Morrison. Hills Historical Society members and residents of Silver Hills are welcome at no charge. The event will be a wonderful opportunity to view many of Morrison's original works and learn about a highly recognized renowned artist who made his life on Caney Knob/Silver Hills in New Albany, Indiana. For more information, visit the Silver Hills Historical website SilverHillsHistoricalSociety.org.

Dawson Hollow
The Story of An African
American Community On
Silver Hills
Saturday Evening
October 24, 2015

Guest speaker, Pam Peters, will present the historical story about the African American residents who made their home on Silver Hills on the Dawson property located in the woods at the west end of Adams Street. Pam Peters is a local historian of African American history in New Albany. A descendent of the Dawson family will be our special guest.

## Silver Hills Historical Society Members © Patrons 2014

### Mary C. Tuley (\$500 - \$1,000)

Caesar, Robert & Jean Cicarella, Ann C. Carnighan Carnighan, Harry E. Carnighan, Kelly & Barbara Everbach, Nancy & George Stein, Nicholas F. Wilson, Elizabeth & Michael R. Wolff, Tom & Carla

### G.W. Morrison (\$200 - \$499)

Brown, Helen & Ken Knable, Al & Jessica Westbrook, Linda Tuley Minnich, Alex

#### Resident (\$100 - 199)

Alpha Club Gohmann, Kathleen M. Hammer, Helen "Bunny Shaw Hess, Gloria Senn, Bob & Rita Sisk, John R. Elsa Haddad Sonne, Irvin & Daine Tuley, Eugene P.

#### Honory Members

Daugherty, Dorothy Ellis, Margaret Jordan Hammer, Helen "Bunny" Hublar, Chester

Stein, John E. Jr. Roberts, Dorice Ruckman, David J.

### General Membership

Banet, Anne Barksdale, David & Debbie Benjamin, Brage Berry, Mia & Sebastein Bonn, Candice Bowling, Stanley & Beth Breece, Anthony T. Breece, James E. Jr. & Jane Breece, James III & Susan Bundy, Molly Cannon, Barbara Caudill, Anne F. Coulter, Katie Craig, Ronald W. & Beverly Culwell, Diane S. Denny, Joyce R. Detenber, Steve & Cathy Dodge, Victoria (Gohmann)

Ellis, Raymond Charles II Ellis, Wiley William Elsby, Robert & Ruth Ann Endris, Nathan Eplion, Cherie & David Erni, Joe & Betty Finn, Jill Fry, Jim & Geneva Garner, Mary

Garner, William

Gohmann, Julie & Stan Farrell Gohmann, Steve & Myra Gray, Barbara Gregorinci, Nancy (Ellis) Guarnaschelli, John Hamilton, Bob & Michelle Hansford, Carol Sue Hansford, Leslie Anne Hauffaker, Alice (Sloan) Hardy, Gayle Hawkins, Lynn A. Haywood, Rod & Linda Hocker, Carol Holland, Christine (Kelso) Hottois, Michael & Georgett Kleier Houchen, Mary Ann Jakoby, Gary & Kristina Jenks, Richard Kelso, Emilie Kelso, Robert Kiser, Gregg

Tyler, Scott & Alison Williams, Paul & Carolyn Kraft, Kurt & Dorothy Wolfe, Alice (Erni) Kraft, Ben & Katie Lipps, Bobby Lorch, Mathew & Kelly Maetschke, Bill & Sharon Manning, Ric & Jeannene Mason, Kay McDonald, Ernest Means, Mary (Terstegge

Minton, John Meyer, Jason, Andrea & Family Murphy, Diane M.

Parker, Eloise Kelley Petters, Pam Pruitt, Betty Rahe, Steven Rider, Barbara Robinson, William & Donna Schroeder, Greg & Marcia Schultz, Mike & Jenifer Smith, Sara Sprecher, Jeremy & Kirsten Stein, Jim & Gail Stein, Louis & Paula Stein, Nancy Stein, Pete & Martha Stern, Walt Streepey, Robert & Helen Stumler, Irv & Pat Summers, Edward Tate, Patrica & Michael Terry, Joy

Director - Kelly Carnighan Co-Director - Robert Caesar Secretary - Ric Manning Treasurer - Jim Stein

**Board Members** Anne Banet Nancy Everbach Knable, Alfred

Silver Hills Historical Society PO Box 2025 New Albany, IN 47150