



*Silver Hills*  
*Historical Society*

Issue 8, December 2016

THE CLARION

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## A Salute To A Great Year For Historical Events

The Silver Hills Historical Society closed out 2016 on a high note. The Historical Nature Trail and Wildlife Sanctuary was opened to the public in June with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Helen (Bunny) Hammer had the honor of cutting the ribbon. The trail opening was followed by a reception at the home of Becky and Bob Irvine.

The Floyd County Historical Society and the Silver Hills Historical Society collaborated in opening The Elsby building for a public tour in celebration of the building's centennial anniversary. The building opened in November 1916. Samuel Joseph Elsby founded



the German-American Bank & Trust Co. in 1915. He moved his family from English, Indiana to Silver Hills in 1918.

The Society hosted a fried chicken dinner at the Silver Heights Camp Grounds October 23<sup>rd</sup> followed by an historical presentation about the lifetime achievements of S. J. Elsby.

All in toll, an estimated 600 individuals participated in the historical events. It is

estimated 500 or more people have hiked the nature trail since the opening. Aside from Mother Nature's occasional tree falling and branches dropping, the trail has received the respect it deserves.

The members annual meeting was held October 23, 2016, where it was decided to add two more board of directors. Those elected to serve a three year term were: Kelly Carnighan, Robert Caesar, Al Knable, Nancy Everbach and Pat Stumler. The board elected the following officers for the coming year: Kelly Carnighan, Director, Robert Caesar, Co-Director, Jim Stein, Treasurer and Ric Manning, Secretary.

# Looking Ahead

Plans for 2017 include adding the name, Silver Hills, to the top of the Market Street Hill iron arch at the nature trail, and installing an historical marker at the beginning of the trolley car trail. It is also planned to place an historical marker at the top of Main Street Hill Road just above the driveway to the Wolff's house. The marker will historically document the road as originally Tuley Avenue (Tuley Carriageway) built by the Tuley family in 1868.

Ideas abound for historical events for the coming year. One is to recognize the historical significance of the Silver Heights Camp Grounds, established in 1888. The camp was one of the primary reasons the Silver Hills trolley car line was built.

Another idea is to pay tribute to the development of Crestview ca. 1946, by hosting a home tour and reception at the former Thornton home, a lovely two story brick house that sits back off entrance to Crestview from Sunset Dr.

An interesting idea for the fall event is to host a reception on the day of the "Great American Eclipse, the biggest and best solar eclipse in American History. On August 21, 2017, a total solar eclipse will be visible from coast to coast. It will be the first total eclipse visible only in the USA since the country's 1776 founding."¹ Read on below.

¹*Courier-Journal August 21, 2016*

## Thomas G. Morrison Sixty-Sixth Regiment,

**THE ECLIPSE OF 1869**, August 7<sup>th</sup>, was a total eclipse that lasted two and half minutes. Observations took place at the home of Col. Thomas G. Morrison on Silver Hills.

Nestled back in the woods at the end of a long driveway beginning at Adams Street, sits a home and property first occupied by Charles Ramsey. In 1867, Col. Morrison and his wife, Jesse, purchased the house and property from Newell F. Greene and wife. There they lived and raised a family until their deaths in 1903. Morrison and his wife both died a week apart, and were buried in the front yard. Col. Morrison's grave was marked by a stack of cannon balls.

Col. Morrison fought in the Civil War, where he lost one arm. The picture shows him before his fateful injury.

In 1891 the Morrison property was described in *The Public Press*, "Col. Thomas Morrison has an excellent idea regarding the improvement of the front of his place, which lies just south of



Morris McDonalds place. He is engaging in making terraces upon the front of the hill. He will fence his place, which extends from Mr. Jeff Conner's place on top of the hill, to the old Boiling Springs road. He will sow the entire place in grass, plant shade and fruit trees upon it, and otherwise greatly improve and beautify the place. When this improvement is completed, Col. Morrison will have one of the prettiest places on top of Silver Hills, and it will be "**Grand View**" in reality, as well as in Name."

## Lieutenant Colonel Indiana Infantry

In the fall of 1903, the same year that Thomas and his wife passed away, their house was completely destroyed by fire. It was nine years before the heirs sold the property to Mr. and Mrs. John Ziegelbauer, and a new house was built. The house that stands there today is in part, the former Ziegelbauer home.

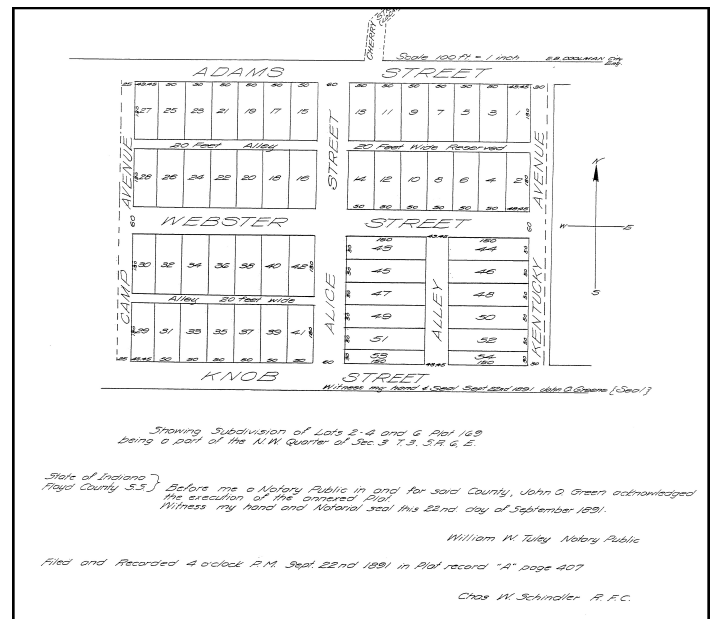
As the date approached for the eclipse of 1879, Dr. John Sloan, President of the New Albany Society of Natural History made arrangements with the Morrisons to occupy the crest of the knob, just west of the city, directly in front of the Morrison home. There was a wonderful full page article about the gathering, and the day's event published in the *New Albany Daily Ledger*, August 7, 1869. It's too long to reprint here but following is an excerpt describing the day. "It was now four o'clock. A yellowish tinge of peculiar murkiness began gradually to spread up from the horizon, growing deeper and deeper as the hand of the chronometer advanced. Less than half an hour remained until the dark edge of



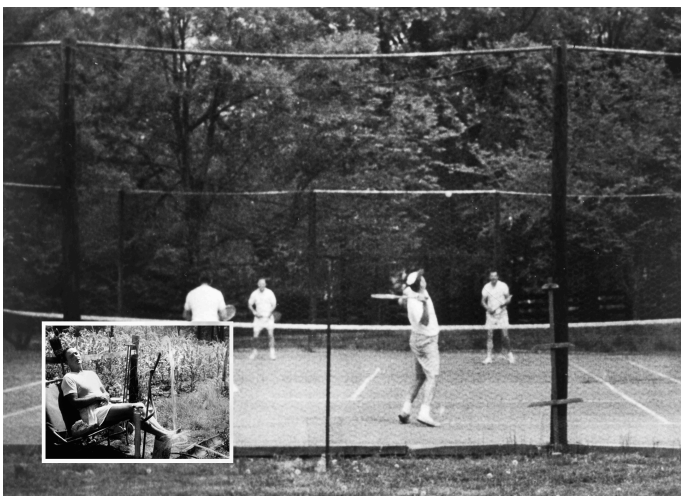
the moon would appear. The little bell struck 4:20. The excitement grew intense. A few minutes more, every observer was anxious to be the first discoverer. Many saw it even before the time calculated. Some saw the sun's disc flattening upon its upper edge. But no, Prof. Campbell was quietly watching through the large equatorial. Presently the announcement was made, and there sure enough on its northwestern limb, plainly visible to the naked eye, was the slightest imaginable indenture. A shout hailed the advent. The mystic little bell called the ten minutes, and the dark segment rapidly increased till quite a gap could be discerned with the naked eye. It was one of those awe inspiring occasions, when the grandeur of the universe blots out man in his littleness, and stamps the divinity upon the author of the wheeling worlds which sweep so majestically before us." August 21, 2017 is a great opportunity to step back in time and experience the event of the eclipse of 1869 on the property once occupied by Col. Thomas Morrison.

## Stanley R. Bowling (1932 – 2016) Gregory L. Schroeder (1948 – 2016)

**Stanley Russell Bowling**, 84 years of age, passed away Septebmer 28, 2016. Stanley and his wife, Beth, were both members of the Silver Hills Historical Society. Stanley was one of only a few surviving lifetime residents on Silver Hills. His grandfather, Andrew J. Bowling moved his family to Ridgeway on Silver Hills in 1915. Several years later Andrew built a two-story house at the corner of Webster and Camp Avenue. Webster has long been vacated but in 1933 the street ran between Kentucky (Maple Lane) and Camp Avenue. It was never more than a dirt road. Andrew and his wife, Margaret had four children. Stanley's father, Russell, was the youngest. Russell grew up on the Hill, and in 1931 married Catherine Ball. They had one child, Stanely R. Bowling. Stanley was the second generation Bowling raised on the Hill. Stanley's mother and father lived with Russell's parents at the corner of Webster and Camp. Russell died in 1957, and Margaret moved to the house at the corner of Adams and Camp. Catherine lived out her life in the house at the corner of Camp and Knob in



Oakwood, developed in 1891 by Annie and Andros Huncilman and Ralph Winstandley. Stanley is survived by his wife, Beth, and a daughter, Elizabeth.



**Gregory L. Schroeder**, passed away October 26, 2016 at the age of 68. Greg and his wife, Marcia, built a lovely home at the corner of Riddle Road and Highland Avenue in 1994. Both were members of the Silver Hills Historical Society. The property was once the site of the Wiley Ellis tennis court. The court dated back to the 1950's, and was the center of community entertainment for nearly 30 years. A true clay court, it was built by Wiley Ellis and Jeff Conner. Wiley taught the kids on Silver Hills how to play tennis, and on weekend mornings and summer evenings, the court was limited to adult play. Neighbors gathered to watch while the children played near by. The old water spout is in its original location and still works.

**The Elsby Building Tour Volunteers** who helped make the building tour a huge success deserve to be recognized. The following Society members worked five hours at various locations in the building guiding individuals and answering questions: David Barksdale, Barbara Carnighan, Kelly Carnighan, Ruth Anne and Robert Elsby, and family, Laurie Schrodtt (S.J. Elsby's great-great-granddaughter), and Gail and Jim Stein. We also thank the Louisville Antique Car Club for providing six antique Ford cars to help replicate the time period when the building first opened.

**Silver Hills Historical Society** celebrated its fourth year anniversary October 12, 2016. Anne Banet retired from the Board after serving several years. Pat Leist Stumler has joined the Board of Directors. At the risk of divulging her age, let's say Pat has lived on Silver Hills for many years.

## **2016 Membership List**

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

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

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

Breece, Jane & Jim  
Cody, Peggy & John T.  
Knable, Al & Jessica  
McIlvoy, Debbie & Bob  
Minnich, Alex  
Thorton, Mary Anne

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

Alpha Club  
Bedan, Fran & Rick  
Breece, Susan & James E. III  
Brown, Helen & Ken  
Guarnaschelli, Monica & Dominic  
Hammer, Helen "Bunny" Shaw  
Humphrey, Gary  
Irvine, Rebecca & Robert  
James, Julie M.  
Kraft, Dottie & Kurt  
Krupski, Annette K. & Kevin J.  
Pruitt, Betty  
Sonne, Irvin & Diane  
Sprecher, Kirsten & Jeremy J.  
Stein, Martha & Pete  
Tate, Patricia & Michael

### **Honory Members**

Daugherty, Dorothy  
Hammer, Helen "Bunny"  
Roberts, Dorice  
Stein, John E. Jr.

### **General Membership**

Anderson, Jim  
Banet, Anne  
Barksdale, David & Debbie  
Barlow, Sue & Fred  
Becht, Libbie & Steve  
Becht, Miranda & Philip Collins  
Bedan, Fran & Rick  
Benjamin, Brage  
Berry, Mia Maudlin & Sebastien  
Blunk, Lurene & Richard  
Bonn, Candice  
Bourdeau, Jerry Jordan Ellis  
Bowling, Beth & Stanley  
Britton, Eileen, Jerry & Thomas  
Brown, Greer  
Bryant, L. Joyce Sweet  
Bundy, Mary Lynn  
Bundy, Molly  
Cannon, Barbara  
Cannon, Tom  
Carnes, Margaret  
Caudill, Anne F.  
Clear, Karen & Pete  
Coulter, Katie  
Craig, Jan & Ron  
Crone, John  
Culwell, Diane S.  
Denny, Joyce R.  
Detenber, Cathy & Steve  
Dodge, Victoria (Gohmann)  
Ellis, Raymond Charles II  
Ellis, Wiley William  
Elsby, Robert & Ruth Ann  
Endris, Nathan  
Epler, Kent & Rick Milburn  
Eplion, Cherie & David  
Erni, Joe & Betty  
Finn, Jill  
Fry, Geneva & Jim  
Garner, William  
Gilstrap, Tim  
Gohmann, Julie & Stan Farrell  
Gohmann, Kathleen M.  
Gohmann, Myra & Steve  
Gray, Barbara

Gregorinci, Nancy (Ellis)  
Hall, Mary M.  
Hamilton, Bob & Michelle  
Hansford, Carol Sue  
Hansford, Leslie Anne  
Hardy, Gayle  
Huffaker, Alice (Sloan)  
Hawkins, Bonnie & Leland W.  
Hawkins, Lynn A.  
Haywood, Rod & Linda  
Hess, Charlotte  
Hesselman, Jim & Cary Wiger  
Hobble, Joe  
Hocker, Carol  
Holland, Christine (Kelso)  
Hottois, Michael & Georgette Kleier  
Houchen, Mary Ann  
Jakoby, Gary & Kristina  
Jenks, Richard  
Johnson, Susan & Gregory  
Kaelin, Suzanne  
Kelso, Emilie  
Kelso, Robert  
Kraft, Ben & Katie  
Lewis, Barb & Gerry  
Lipps, Bobby  
Lorch, Matthew & Kelly  
Maetschke, Sharon & Bill  
Manning, Ric & Jeannene  
Mason, Kay  
McDonald, Ernest  
McClure, Cecile  
Mean, Mary (Terstegge)  
Meyer, Jason, Andrea & Family  
Miller, Meegen & Kyle  
Minton, John  
Murphy, Diane M.  
Munroe, Susan & Richard  
Naville, Stephen  
O'Daniel, Deanna  
Proctor, Tiffany  
Parker, Eloise Kelley  
Peters, Pam & Kurt  
Price, Christina & Tim Hobbs  
Rahe, Steven  
Randolph, Meghan & Kirk

Rider, Barbara  
Robinson, William & Donna  
Roos, Tammy & James  
Ruckman, David  
Stark, Mary R.  
Schamel, Julie & Steve  
Schroeder, Greg & Marcia  
Schultz, Mike & Jenifer  
Scott-Downs, Susan Jane  
Senn, Rita & Bob  
Shope, Gregg Kaiser  
Sidebottom, Janice & Jamie  
Sisk, John R. & Elsa Haddad  
Smith, Ruth  
Smith, Sara  
Spears, Stella  
Stein, Jim & Gail  
Stein, Louis & Paula  
Stein, Nancy  
Stern, Walt  
Streepey, Robert & Helen  
Stumler, Pat & Irv  
Summers, Edward  
Sutter, Katie & Chris  
Trinkle, Lore & Bob  
Tuley, Eugene  
Tyler, Scott & Alison  
Westbrook, Linda (Tuley)  
Whitus, Laura Whelan  
Williams, Paul & Carolyn  
Witt, Loretta  
Witt, Linda K.  
Wolfe, Alice (Erni)  
Wolford, Mary & Carl

### **Officers**

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

### **Board Members**

Kelly Carnighan  
Robert Caesar  
Nancy Everbach  
Dr. Alfred Knable  
Pat Stumler