

Silver Hills Historical Society

Issue 1, June 2013



NEW ALBANY HIGHLAND RAILWAY LINE TOUR & HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION

The Silver Hills Historical Society's first historical event was a huge success, attracting an estimated 200 people to the Scenic Railway Line Tour. An estimated 100 people attended the Society's historical marker reception held at the lovely home of Nancy & George Everbach's, site of the former Silver Hills Scenic Park, and there was a large crowd at the New Albany Highland Railway historical marker dedication ceremony.

Individuals traveled from as far north as Chicago and as far south as Florida to participate in the day's events. Tina Kelso Holland and her brother Robert (Bobby) Kelso were among the guests attending. Their great-great-grandfather, James Vance Kelso, was one of the founders of the Highland Railway in 1890. The Mayor of New Albany,



Jeff Gahan and his wife honored the occasion by attending the reception. Those with vivid memories of riding the Silver Hills trolley car were our special guests: Dorice Conner Roberts, Helen (Bunny) Hammer and Chester (Ted) Hublar. Charles Garing's daughter, Dorothy Garing Daugherty brought her family to the reception and marker dedication. Charles Garing was the oldest

motorman to retire in 1946 at the age of 65.

The Silver Hills trolley car line from the Market Street Hill crossing to the Main Street Hill crossing was open to the public Saturday, May 18, 2013 for the first time since the last car ran May 15, 1932. Families and individuals could walk the old roadbed through the woods of Silver Hills and experience the "*beauty and grandeur*" for themselves. Photographs were mounted along the trail to illustrate what the line and cars looked like when it first opened May 17, 1891.

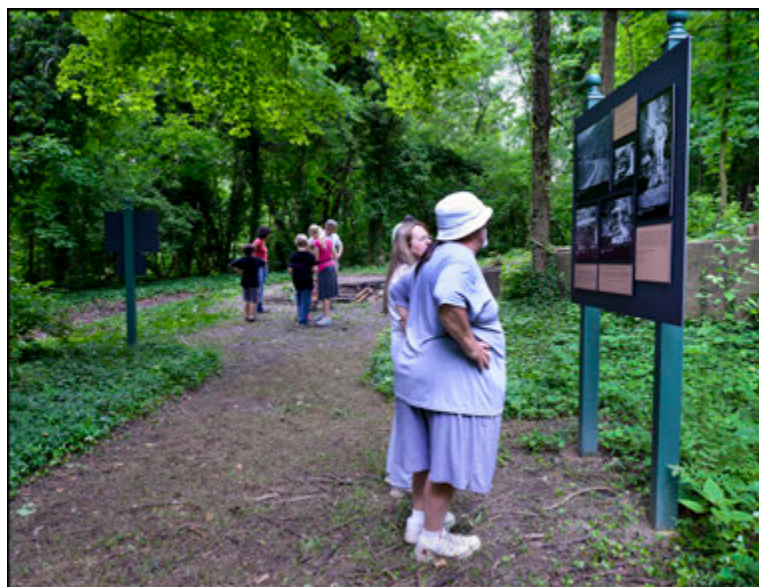
Those responsible for making the Scenic Railway Line Tour possible deserve special recognition for their willingness to put in long hours and hard labor to clear the roadbed and build bridges in preparation for

the event, a five month effort resulting in a beautiful trail. A sincere thank you to: Jim Stein, Ric Manning, Alex Minnich, Nancy Stein, Rachel Gish, Terry Becker, Greer Brown, Patrick Melton, and Jay Alles. The Society is grateful for those who volunteered for the event: Gail Stein, Nancy Stein, Rachel Stein, Jean Caesar, Barbara Carnighan, Bob Caesar, Ric Manning, Pete Stein, Jay Alles and Jim Stein. It would not have been possible to host this great historic tour without the passionate support from these volunteers.

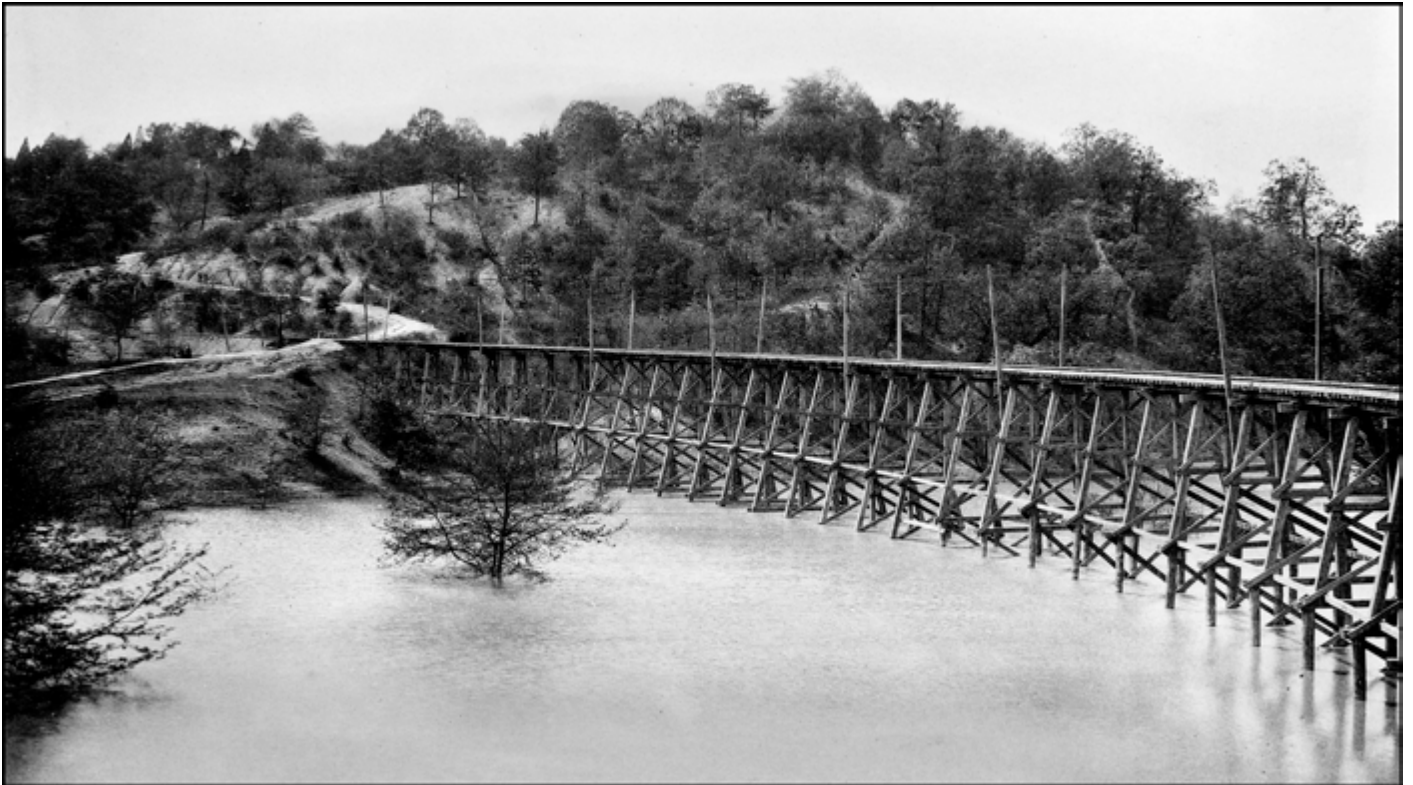


The Society graciously thanks Nancy & George Everbach for sponsoring and hosting the historical marker dedication reception at their lovely home. It was a beautiful setting for the celebration.

We pay special tribute to Harry Elsby Carnighan for his generous offer to present the New Albany Highland Railway historical marker. Harry is a life long resident of Silver Hills since his birth in 1928.



Above and left, trail beyond the second bridge crossing. Above, Pete Stein at second bridge and left, Main Street (Tuley Ave) crossing.



From The Director

The Society's mission as a charitable organization is "to provide stewardship for the Silver Hills community's history by nurturing respectful discovery, preservation, collection and public dissemination for the surrounding New Albany Floyd County community and maintain a museum and library and provide a variety of community based programs."

The first public event exceeded the Society's mission objective and clearly demonstrated our dedication to preserving the Hill's historical heritage.

I want to thank the members for joining together to make the Silver Hills Historical Society a wonderful experience for all to enjoy.

This is the first biennial Newsletter. The second issue will

publish in December.

We also anticipate having a website up and running by August.

The Society plans to schedule two historical presentations annually, to be announced.

If anyone has artifacts, pictures and/or documents of historical significance to Silver Hills and wish to share these items with the

Society, please contact the Director to discuss.

Please feel free to contact me with questions, comments or stories.

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Enjoy the summer days on the Hill for “*where, in all the world, can be found purer, fresher air than on our beautiful range of Silver Hills.*”¹

¹*Silver Hills and Advantages c. 1891*

Kelly Carnighan
Director

Co-Director - Bob Caesar
Secretary – Ric Manning
Treasurer – Jim Stein
Nancy Everbach – Board Member
Nancy Stein – Board Member
Kelly Carnighan – Board Member



Next Event
Russell Beeler
The Yearly Years of Aviation
In Southern Indiana

The Silver Hills Historical Society’s next presentation will be scheduled in October of this year. The Society will host the event in conjunction with the Silver Hills Neighborhood Association’s annual Fall meeting. Date TBA.

The program will be about the beloved Beeler family who lived on Silver Hills from 1912 to 1992.

Charles W. Arrington, author of the book, *Wings Over The Falls, A Century of Aviation in Southern Indiana*, will be our keynote speaker about Russell Beeler’s contribution to aviation in southern Indiana and his friendship with Charles Lindberg.

Russell Beeler was born in 1900. He moved to Silver Hills in 1912 with his family when his father, William H. Beeler purchased W. W. Tuley’s property at the east end of Riddle Road. Russell and his wife, Inez lived there until his death in 1980 and her death in 1992. I encourage everyone to join us for this wonderful presentation.

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