## The Filson Historical Society

#### February 2011 Programs

1310 South Third Street Louisville, Kentucky 40208

## The Great Louisville Tornado of 1890

Keven McQueen The Filson Historical Society Friday, February 4 - Noon



Local author Keven McQueen's latest book, *The Great Louisville Tornado of 1890*, chronicles one of the worst American natural disasters of the nineteenth century, with tales of harrowing rescues and rebuilding. The tornado that touched down in Louisville carved

a path of unprecedented destruction from Main Street to the end of town. Nearly eight hundred buildings in the city were destroyed, and over one hundred people perished. In all, the storm produced over twenty-five tornados that day, and it remains the twenty-fifth deadliest storm in U.S. history. McQueen's thoroughly researched book presents fascinating findings that sometimes challenge the official record of the disaster.

McQueen has been an instructor of composition and literature in the Department of English and Theatre at Eastern Kentucky University since 1989. His books include Kentucky Book of the Dead, Offbeat Kentuckians, More Offbeat Kentuckians, and Cassius M. Clay, Freedom's Champion.

There is no cost for this event, though reservations are suggested.

## Kentucky African Americans and the Civil War

Alicestyne Turley The Filson Historical Society Tuesday, February 15 - Noon

Over 20,000 soldiers and 800 sailors in the Civil War were African Americans from Kentucky. This included several Underground Railroad escapees. These Kentuckians actively participated in



the formation of the nation's first officially recognized African American military units and recruiting stations, in addition to taking part in key battles throughout the war. Alicestyne

Turley, in her lecture at The Filson, will highlight the important role of Kentucky African Americans who heeded Lincoln's call to war to preserve the Union, thereby providing a test of the strength of Lincoln's signature on the Emancipation Proclamation. She will also speak on how African American military enlistment and their record of military service provided far-reaching social and political challenges and consequences for post-war America, ushering in a new era in American race relations.

Turley is a professor in the Pan-African Studies Department at the University of Louisville, and the Director of the University's Underground Railroad Research Institute. She founded the Institute at Georgetown College in 2001, which relocated to the University of Louisville in 2009. She currently serves as a Board Member on the Kentucky Historic Preservation Review Board, and is a newly appointed member of the Jefferson County Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission.

There is no cost for this event, though reservations are suggested.

#### Blues Night Tenth Street Blues Band

The Filson Historical Society
Friday, February 25
Doors - 7 p.m., Music - 7:30 p.m.
Cost: \$20 - Filson Members,

\$25 - Non-Members

For the sixth year in a row, you can drink in the sounds of the blues and enjoy perusing blues memorabilia while immersed in the ambiance of the historic Ferguson Mansion. The Filson Historical Society will be hosting the 10th



Street Blues Band as part of our focus on Black History Month this February.

Blues is a strong aspect of Louisville's vibrant musical history. Local blues legends such as Sylvester Weaver, who recorded the first blues guitar record in 1923, and Sara Martin called our River City home.

The Tenth Street Blues Band has brought the blues alive for over ten years, and will entertain

you with 1950's and '60's hits at this annual event. The band has performed at The Kentucky Folk Life Festival in Frankfort and in blues clubs and festivals all over the state.

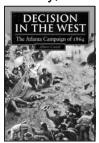
Wine, beer, soft drinks and light refreshments will be served. Doors will open at 7 p.m., with music beginning at 7:30 p.m. The cost for this event is \$20 for Filson members and \$25 for non-members. Reservations are required.

#### Book Discussion - Decision in the West: The Atlanta Campaign of 1864 by Albert E. Castel

A. Glenn Crothers

The Filson Historical Society

Monday, February 28 - 3:30 p.m.



In Decision in the West: The Atlanta Campaign of 1864, Albert E. Castel provides a richly detailed and thoroughly researched history of the Civil War's Atlanta Campaign. This Lincoln Prize-winning book gives a full and balanced treatment to the operations of

both the Union and Confederate armies from the perspective of the common soldiers, as well as the top generals. Written in present tense to give a sense of immediacy and greater realism, *Decision in the West* demonstrates more definitively than any previous book how the capture of Atlanta by Sherman's army occurred and why it assured Northern victory in the Civil War.

Albert Castel is widely recognized as one of the most respected historians of the Civil War. He is also the author of *General Sterling Price and the Civil War in the West, Civil War Kansas*, and *The Presidency of Andrew Johnson*.

Professor Crothers is the Director of Research at The Filson Institute and specializes in southern United States history before 1865.

There is no cost for this event. Reservations are required.

# Save the Date - Gallery Tour February 10 - Noon

Lessons in Likeness: Portrait Painters in Kentucky and the Ohio River Valley, 1802-1920

The Filson is conducting gallery tours in conjunction with the publication of Estill Curtis Pennington's Lessons in Likeness: Portrait Painters in Kentucky and the Ohio River Valley, 1802-1920. These guided tours are designed to provide unique insights into portraits in The Filson's collection, spanning all three floors of the Ferguson Mansion.



The Filson Historical Society holds some 400 portraits painted by a wide variety of artists in Kentucky and the Ohio River Valley, representing one of the most extensive holdings available for study in the region. Lessons in Likeness: Portrait Painters in Kentucky and the Ohio River Valley, 1802-1920 features an extensive selection of The Filson's paintings, in addition to biographical notes on each artist and a cultural chronology. The result is a vivid portrayal of regional portraiture.

The tours are limited in capacity, so reservations are necessary. Call The Filson for your reservation at (502) 635-5083.

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Our Mission: To collect, preserve and tell the significant stories of Kentucky and the Ohio Valley history and culture

Reservations are important to ensure seating. Now enjoy the convenience of our new online registration system.

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