

## The Schuyler Family Fund

Earl Sargent Schuyler was born in 1890 in Illinois, but his family moved to North Judson when he was very young. His father started a dairy farm in the area, and Earl often helped to deliver the milk. He would travel from house to house, including to that of Clara Minnie Neupert, who would watch him from her window, not knowing that years later, on March 25, 1917, they would be married and would begin a large, loving family.

Clara was born in 1896 in North Judson. Her father, Chris Neupert, was an early North Judson business pioneer, investor, and banker. Her grandfather, George Neupert, was one of the founders of the local Lutheran Church. Chris' brothers were George Jr., a college music professor; Frank, a pharmacist; and Wm Otto, an electrical engineer. Chris also had two sisters, Rosa and Anna. The two-story, red brick building presently on the northwest corner of Lane and Sycamore Streets of North Judson was known in the early years as the Neupert building.



Right to left, back: Stuart, Lloyd, Paul, Clara Elizabeth, Arlowa, Kareen. Seated: Earl and Clara.



Both Clara and Earl graduated from North Judson High School. Earl earned his teaching degree at Indiana State Teacher's College, and after teaching in a one-room school house for a year, he then studied Agriculture at Purdue University and earned his degree in 1914. Clara spent some time studying music at Valparaiso University and enjoyed playing the piano and organ for many years at the United Methodist Church. Clara also played the piano in support of silent movies in those early years.

Both Earl and Clara were very hardworking, running their 200-acre farm, which consisted of about sixty cows, chickens, and horses for farming. Along with these responsibilities, they also cared for their family. All six of their children were born on the farm: Stuart, Lloyd, Clara Elizabeth, Arlowa, Paul, and Kareen. Clara took care of the entire family, including a hired man who was with them until World War II. She cooked, sewed their clothes, and canned food. Earl delivered milk in the mornings and supported his family by working on the farm.

As the children grew up, they each took piano and violin lessons, resulting from Clara's love for music. Arlowa especially liked the piano. Years later, she gave her own children lessons as well as

other children in the area. Clara Elizabeth inherited her mother's love of music as well. She enjoyed singing and playing both the violin and piano.

Besides musical talents, the Schuyler children were gifted in many other areas as well. Throughout high school, Paul pole-vaulted and played basketball. He was able to continue pole-vaulting at Purdue University and in the U.S. Army. While spending several months in Special Services, he won the right to represent the U.S. Army in an Inter-Service track meet, which was held to give military personnel an opportunity to qualify for the 1952 Olympic Trials. In the end, the Navy and Air Force pole-vaulters qualified. Paul's older brother, Stuart, and Stuart's family were stationed in San Diego at the time and were able to witness the meet in California. Paul also coached basketball at several schools, including Lowell high school, where he coached Leon "Jigger" Sirois, who competed at the Indianapolis 500 time trials a few years later. Lloyd, too, followed sports throughout his life and enjoyed bowling and playing golf.

Some of the Schuyler children loved the farm life, and others took up very diverse interests and pursued various careers. Kareen enjoyed living on the farm, driving the tractor, and raising the pigs. Lloyd also had a passion for farming, and he was dedicated to continuing the family business. After attending Purdue for a short time, he left to work on his parents' farm while also doing some work as a carpenter. He later moved to Texas and retired there.

Stuart, on the other hand, had a passion for flying airplanes, and he owned several of his own planes, which his son still flies today. After high school, he enlisted in the Marines and served for twenty-seven years. Paul followed a different career path and became a principal at Merrillville schools, where he started the state academic competitions. Clara Elizabeth also took a new direction. She attended business school in Illinois and worked as a secretary for AllState in Indianapolis.

Career opportunities took several of the children to various parts of the country; however, community was very important to the Schuyler family. Arlowa was very active in North Judson as a founding member of the Starke County Community Foundation, and she organized North Judson's park system, including the North Judson Town Park and Norwayne Field. She was also an active member of the First United Methodist Church. Clara Elizabeth, too, was involved in her church. Kareen, another active community member, served on the Park Board for several years, and she is a member of the Red Hat Society in Winamac, Ind. Their father, Earl, was a very active man in the community and served on the North Judson School Board.

The Schuyler family's love for community and family resulted in Arlowa's suggestion to start the Schuyler Family Fund. Eventually, all of the children agreed and took part in creating the fund in order to give back to the community that their family had been a part of for so long.

The Schuyler family is continuously evolving. Some have moved to various parts of Indiana; others have moved to other parts of the country. Stuart, the eldest of the Schuyler children sadly passed away in 2004, and Arlowa passed away in 2003. The Schuyler family continues to grow, however. Stuart's children, along with many of Earl and Clara's other grandchildren have started families of their own.

When Clara passed away, she had six children, twenty-seven grandchildren, and twenty-eight great-grandchildren. A number of great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren have been born since then. Kareen and her husband Dick alone have four children, fifteen grandchildren, and twenty-one great-grandchildren. As the Schuyler family continues to grow, their legacy lives on through the Schuyler Family Fund, which was created to benefit lives in the Starke County community, which impacted the lives of so many Schuyler family members for so many years.

