





#### THE NEWSLETTER OF THE IOWA LINCOLN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION

#### Volume 13, Number 1

**SPRING 2008** 

#### IOWA-ILLINOIS JOINT MEETING- PART 2 TO BE HELD IN EASTERN IOWA

Last year in May several members of the lowa Lincoln Highway Association ventured east into Illinois and met up with members of the Illinois LHA for the first ever meeting of the two chapters. The meeting was in Franklin Grove at the National Headquarters. Now in



Land of Lincoln

lowa's turn to play host. Well, we have

2008, it is

we have a meeting planned and a spot for the gathering. Mark your calendars for July 12,

2008. The second joint meeting of the lowa and Illinois LHA's will meet at Palisades-Kepler Park on US 30 between Mount Vernon and Cedar Rapids. The lowa LHA will conduct a short business meeting from 9:30-11:00 AM. We will then enjoy a picnic style lunch beginning at 12:00 noon. The menu is yet to be determined, but rumor has it that our State Director is bringing his barbecue grill to cook for all who plan to attend. If you wish to attend, please RSVP to Jeff LaFollette by e-mail at jefflaf@peoplepc.com

THE LINCOLN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION SHALL IDENTIFY. INTERPRET AND IMPROVE ACCESS TO THE LINCOLN HIGHWAY AND ASSOCIATED SITES. PURSUE THE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO PREVENT FURTHER DETERIORATION. DESTRUCTION OR ALTERATION THE OΕ REMAINING SECTIONS. AND SEEK PUBLIC AWARENESS OF GOALS AND ACTIVITIES FOR PRESERVING AND DEVELOPING THE LH. RESEARCH FACILITATE LH, AND ABOUT THE MAGAZINE PUBLISH A FOR ARTICLES AND NEWS ACTIVITY RELEVANT TO THE LH, WORK WITH COMMUNITIES BUSINESSES TO PROMOTE THE LH AS A 0.000 B (OLUSIVEL) CHARITABLE AND EDUCATIONAL WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.

## EVANSTON, WYOMING HOSTS 2008 LHA 16TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Evanston, Wyoming located in the southwest corner of Wyoming near the border with Utah, is the host of this years 16th annual National LHA Conference. The conference's main events will take place in the restored historic Union Pacific Railroad machine shop located on Evanston's roundhouse and rail yards, that is home to one of the few remaining full functioning turntables west of the Mississippi River.

The 2008 conference will be unique in several ways. The tours will take you through both rugged canyons and desert badlands. Each attendee will receive a canvas tote bag replica of the old desert water bags that hung from car radiators traveling the early Lincoln Highway. All participants will also receive a replica of the recently discovered rare Lincoln Highway Notable Service medallion given to distinguished members of the LHA.

The conference hotel is the Best Western Dunmar Inn, the highest rated Best Western in Wyoming. Ask for the special Lincoln Highway conference rate.

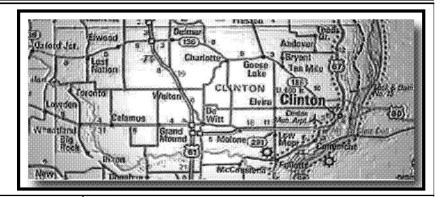
For more information or a registration form, go to the website www.lincolnhighwayassoc.org. Click on the 2008 National Conference link to learn more about this year's conference. See you there!



Iowa Lincoln Highway Association P.O. Box 14 Ogden, Iowa 50212

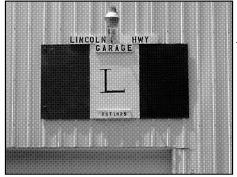
www.lincolnhighwayassoc.org/iowa

# Between The Rivers... and then some! By Jeff LaFollette



It's been a while since this column has graced the pages of this newsletter. I've been working on organizing the motor tour so I took a break from my usual time slot which would have been in the fall issue so I plugged this spot with information about the motor tour. So now I'm taking a break from motor tour duties to write a story again. And this time I'm going way past the boundaries of Clinton County. I'm going so far that I'm writing about a wonderful person we met in Pottawattamie County, and if you are in that vicinity, you just have to stop and meet him as well.

Tammy and I were mapping the route for the motor tour last July, and we were nearing the end of our



two day jour-We had ney. iust passed Hitchcock Nature Center and were continuing toward Council Bluffs. when in the town of Crescent. I spied a sign on a build-

ing that advertised "Lincoln Highway Garage EST. 1925". We stopped because I thought this would be a great photo opportunity. As I got out and walked around the grounds I saw a couple of old Jeeps outside, one in very good shape, and the other needing a little work. I asked a neighbor if he knew who owned the building, and he thought whomever owned it was inside. Tammy was waiting patiently in the truck and I sauntered over to tell her I was thinking about going inside. She told me "You know you want to and if you don't you'll kick yourself all the way home". She was right. I went in and entered what was a garage full of vintage vehicles. I found the door to an office and there was a man working on a car in the inner garage area. Well, believe me I'm glad that we stopped, and yes Tammy was right, I'd still be kicking myself today if I hadn't.

The owner of the Lincoln Highway Garage in Crescent, Iowa is an Iowa LHA member named Don

Willard. Don lives in Council Bluffs, and owns this building in Crescent where he keeps his collection of old vintage automobiles. Don owns 21 vehicles from the 1920's to the 1950's. As he told me, all the vehicles are licensed and titled except for one and all the vehicles run except for one. I didn't ask which one, I figured that would be a question for him the next time I traveled out that direction.

Don calls his collecting vehicles a bad habit by acquiring them, but he enjoys tinkering with them and showing them off. I asked him which ones were his favorites. He said all of them, but he did narrow it down to three. A 1921 Model T center door black sedan, a 1924 touring Model T, and a 1926 Model T Roadster. Among the other vehicles he also owns are a couple of vintage 1920's Model T trucks, and 1951 Ford 2 door coupe. You might think he's partial to Fords, but he also has a 1954 Chevrolet pick-up truck and the two Jeeps I mentioned earlier which are both 1942 models. I would have taken some pictures for this story, but the cars were parked pretty close together in his building and pictures just would not have done justice to the vehicles.

I asked Don if the building was once called the Lincoln Highway Garage and if it was built in 1925. He said "Nope, this is my garage on the Lincoln Highway and I was born in 1925, that's why I put the established date on it as I did. "This makes the story even more remarkable. Mr. Willard is 82 years young but looks much younger than his years. Then I realized after about 15 minutes of chatting that Tammy was still in the truck. I told him that my lady was waiting patiently in the truck and he said you better bring her in here to see everything too. So I did and she, like me, marveled at the cars and everything else that Don told and showed us.

Don told us that he was living in Persia, lowa in southern Harrison County and his family moved to Dunlap in 1929. Don, being all of four years old at the time remembers seeing a paved highway for the first time, the section of Lincoln Highway between Woodbine and Dunlap and how he was so amazed by it. He tells of that stretch of road being paved in 1928.

(Between the Rivers- continued on page 4)

## Ramblings Along the Lincoln Highway

Minutes of the Winter 2008 Iowa LHA Meeting State Center, Iowa 12 January 2007 Submitted by Jeff Benson, Secretary

President **Keith Whitlatch** called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. 22 members and guests were introduced. **Minutes of the October 13, 2007 General Meeting-** A correction to clarify that the motion approving payment of \$5000 was for **past** services of historian **Jim Hippen** on the Lions Club Tree Park Interpretive Site. The minutes

were then approved.

<u>Treasurer's Report</u>- Treasurer Joyce Ausberger reported income for the last quarter of 2007 of \$350 from lowa memberships, \$1230 from national memberships and \$2900 in donations. She reported expenses of \$838.20 for newsletter, \$193.10 for merchandise, \$26 for post office box, \$500 for the national endowment fund (approved previously by Board) and \$500 for the Harrison County Welcome Center (approved previously by Board). The 2007 year-end checking account balance is \$6699.27 and the year end investment account balance is \$5355.36. The Treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

<u>Membership Report</u>- Cecil Stewart reported no changes since last meeting.

State Director's Report—Jeff LaFollette reported that the 2008 national annual meeting to be held in Evanston, Wyoming June 17-21. A chairman is needed for the national awards committee. Each state may forward more than one application from local organizations for national LHA Endowment Fund. Since applications are due before the next lowa Board meeting, it was agreed that the state chapter will provide a letter of support for each application. Next year the state will have a process for reviewing and scoring grant applications to determine which are to be recommended to the national LHA Endowment Committee

#### **Items for Discussion**

A. River to River Motor Tour (August 8, 9, & 10, 2008) – Two registrations received plus a potential registration from an owner of a 1919 Stern. Arrangements for stops in Clinton and Dewitt confirmed. Other stops include Lowden, Clarence, overnight at Cedar Rapids, Young-ville Cafe, Belle Plaine, Tama Bridge, State Center, Reed/Niland corner at Colo, overnight in Ames and Boone, Jefferson, Denison, Woodbine, Hitchcock Nature Center in Pottawattamie County. Need donated items for raffle and goody bags. Bags could include information on commercial business sponsors.

B. **Advertising** – Recruitment for newsletter and web site. **Mike Kelly** will do prototype for a tabletop display

for membership recruitment.

- C. Heritage Byway No new information.
- D. **Standards for Kiosks** Discussion but no new actions at this time.
- E. **Iowa/Illinois joint meeting** After discussion all agreed to explore switching the April general membership meeting and the July board meeting, so that the July 12, 2008 meeting can be the joint general membership meeting with Illinois. Van Becker will check availability and costs of a shelter at **Pallisades-Kepler** State Park and **Jeff LaFollette** will discuss with Illinois chapter.
- F. **Upcoming Meetings** April 12 Board meeting in Denison, July 12 Membership meeting & tour at Palisades Kepler State Park, October 11 Membership meeting & tour at Colo Community Center and lunch at Reed /Niland Corner One-Stop.

#### <u>Highlights from County Consul Reports:</u>

<u>Clinton County</u> – Mr. Peanut ghost sign is demolished for highway project.

<u>Linn County</u> –Eighth and final interpretive kiosk installed.

**Benton County** – Working on installing kiosks at Youngville Station and other locations.

<u>Tama County</u> – Wall with Lincoln Highway mural tuck pointed. Historic Lincoln Highway church purchased by private non-profit, with County Consul **Allan Richards** as manager.

Marshall County – Extensive research by County Consul Harlan Quick led to new tabletop display on LH routes and connections in State Center. City owns historic gas station and offers portion for meetings.

<u>Story County</u> – Six historic motel units restored and open next week, register through Niland's Café.

<u>Greene County</u> – Clubhouse open Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. Eureka Bridge repair design progressing. Deep Rock station likely to be demolished.

<u>Crawford County</u> – **Kathy Dirks** working on arrangements for April meeting in Denison.

<u>Pottawattamie County</u> – Received grant to purchase more of Honey Creek grade. Planning and fundraising for Old Lincoln Highway Veteran Monument in Crescent.

Old Business – Allan Richards reported that due to new IRS regulations on non-profit organizations it would be helpful for all members to keep track of volunteer time and activity for a report at the end of 2008.

**Joyce Ausberger** will be co-Consul for Greene County.

President **Keith Whitlatch** adjourned the meeting 12:07 p.m.

#### (Between the Rivers- continued from Page 2)

Don and his family lived in Dunlap until 1933 but he has many memories of that nine mile section of paved road from Woodbine to Dunlap. He also lived in Dixon, Iowa in the 1950's and 1960's and has many memories of trips back home across Iowa from Wheatland to Pottawattamie County along the old Lincoln Highway.

Don is a member of the Midwest Antique Auto Club of Omaha, a club that has 60 members and does a lot of cruising. He hopes to be on the upcoming motor tour in August, and he is going to promote it to his club, which has many members living in the Council Bluffs area.

There is a pole in front of the building that has the familiar "L" painted on it like the poles you'll see scattered along the highway. This was painted by Don's son, Charles Willard who is also an lowa LHA member.

There was one more question I had to ask Don. With regard to today gas prices, I asked him if he thought he'd ever live to see \$3.00 a gallon gasoline prices, he said "That's all we talk about now" Then I asked him his earliest memory of the lowest gasoline price he

could remember. Without hesitation he said "12 cents a gallon, and oil was 10 cents a quart. You could take a dollar bill to the gas station get five gallons of gas for the Model T and two quarts of oil and get change back from the dollar bill". If gas hits \$4.00 a gallon this summer, that's \$1.00 for a quart of gasoline. Who would have ever thought gas would get that high?

So if you're traveling west on the Lincoln Highway and pass through Crescent, by all means take some time to stop in the Lincoln Highway Garage and say hello to Don Willard. He'll be glad to show you his cars and tell you a story or two. Believe me, you'll be glad you did! Until next time, I'll see you between the rivers...and then some.

Jeff LaFollette Cold Drink Sales & Service



BOTTLING GROUP

1905 S. Stark St. - PO Box 2043 - Davenport, IA 52809-2043 Tel 563 322 1791 or 800 456 3652 Fax: 563 322 0872

Email jeff.lafollette@cs-americas.com



#### **BURMA SHAVE JINGLES**

Hinky Dinky - Parley Voo - Cheer Up Face- The War - Is Thru - Burma Shave (1930)

Golfers! - If Fewer Strokes - Are What You Crave - You're Out Of The Rough - With - Burma Shave (1931)

Shaving Brush - Don't You Cry - You'll Be A - Shoe Dauber - By And By-Burma Shave (1933)

#### ILHA OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS (COUNTY CONSULS), AND STAFF. OFFICERS

		nt

Keith Whitlatch (563) 942-6670

Vice-President

Kathy Dirks (712) 755-7474

Secretary

Jeff Benson (515) 233-1445

**Treasurer** 

Joyce Ausberger (515) 386-4521

**State Director** 

Jeff LaFollette (563) 349-3047

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS (COUNTY CONSULS)

**Clinton County** 

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Cedar County

Keith Whitlatch

(563) 945-6670

**Linn County** 

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**Crawford County** 

VACANT

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(712) 647-3030

**Pottawattamie County** 

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#### SUPPORT STAFF

**Membership Coordinator** 

Cecil Stewart

**Newsletter Editor** 

Jeff LaFollette

Noble Sojourner

Lvell Henry

Iowa Artist in Residence

John Fitzsimmons



#### President's Corner

#### By Keith Whitlatch, ILHA President

I have recently been appointed as the Cedar County representative to the lowa Barn Foundation. As such I'm working with their president, **Jacqueline** (Jackie) Schmeal, of Nevada in reference to "A Barn Tour along Highway 30" (Lincoln Highway) on June 7 and 8. This is a free self-guided tour along the old highway, with one or more barns in each county available to view. I have lined up four barns in Cedar County, including the old barn on our farm, here at the site of the old village of "Shiloh". Barns within two or three miles of the Lincoln Highway are included.

In Greene County, the Ausberger Barn on Parkland Avenue, Jefferson, is included. She makes reference to our association in her narrative by saying "Google Lincoln Highway Association for more information about the highway and historic sites along the way." If you want a copy of the article earlier, her e-mail is <a href="mailto:jschmeal@earthlink.net">jschmeal@earthlink.net</a>; email her and she will send you a copy, or I will bring detailed copies to our next meeting for you all. I think it is important that our association "teams" with the Iowa Barn Foundation on this. Just like the ILHA has a county counsel for every county it passes through, the Barn Foundation has a representative in each county in Iowa. I think it behooves us to meet our counter-part in our respective counties.

This is the information sheet Ms. Schmeal is sending out regarding the tour "Barns Along Old Highway 30 (Old Lincoln Highway), to be open June 7 and 8." "Remember driving across lowa on "Old Highway 30?" Well, it wasn't called "ol" thirty or even Highway 30. It was just "thirty" - a busy two-lane highway that was lowa's trail to Chicago and the East and to California. The Lincoln Highway had been dedicated with much ceremony in 1913 at a time when it took 20 to 30 days to rumble from the ocean to ocean trek at approximately 18 miles an hour. Later, as we all enjoyed the convenience of the highway, we counted horses (200 points for a white horse) and wondered what was going on in busy farmsteads. We commented on proud barns and noted special cupolas and weather vanes. And, we watched tractors displace horses in the fields. Much of "Old 30" has been displaced by "new thirty". Modern farming methods have swallowed up countless numbers of these farms and barns along "old thirty", but some remain, reminding us of the "old days" and lowa's agricultural routes."

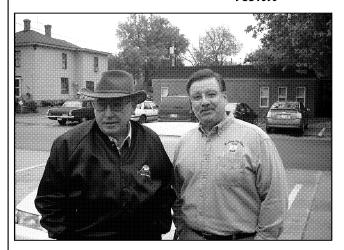
"Hard working lowa Barn Foundation county representatives along the old route searched for interesting barns that remain. Thanks go to Tom Ipsan, Roy Lidtke, Shirley Finken, Darrell Sunderman, Jim Jordan, Bill Stone,

Eleanor Ward, Roxanne Mehlisch, Mary Richards, Keith Whitlatch and Joe Lyon. Roy, who commutes from his Tama County farm to Chicago, was dedicated to this project and often visited barns en route to Chicago. "

Astonishingly, segments of "Old Highway 30" have been re-numbered - something unimaginable several decades ago. A few barns included on the tour are a couple miles from Highway 30 but are of special interest. Barns will be on tour Saturday, June 7 and Sunday, June 8 from 8:30 to 5:30 p.m. The tour is free and open to the public. A picnic and barn dance featuring the Barn Owls will be held on Saturday evening in the Community Center, Story County Fairgrounds, Nevada from 5:30 pm to 9 pm. To reach the fairgrounds, turn off Old US 30 at First Avenue, Nevada, and ao south to I Avenue. The cost of the picnic is \$10 per person (children are \$5). Checks should be made out to the Iowa Barn Foundation and sent to Roxanne Mehlisch 17590 730th Avenue, Zearing, IA 50278. Phone 641-487-7690.

Checks must be received by May 25. Questions ??? Call Roxanne at 641-487-7690 Also, Google Lincoln Highway Association for more information about the highway and historic sites along the way.

#### Keith



**President Keith & Former President Bob Stinson** 

#### See YOU on the Lincoln Highway! This issue's new members.

This issue s new members.			
Jim Anderlik	Iowa City, Johnson	L	
Elizabeth Guess	Churdan, Greene	L	
Edward Morello	Ogden, Boone	L	
Paul Slater	Ogden, Boone	L	
Harold Smith	Clinton, Clinton	L	
Don & Sheila Yanda	Cedar Rapids, Linn	L	
Lee & Luann Potratz	Belleville, WI		

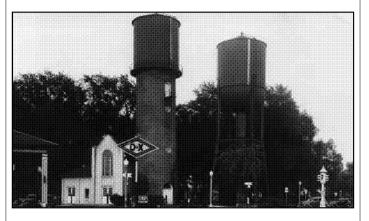
L (Denotes a Lincoln Highway County)

#### NAME THAT LINCOLN HIGHWAY SPOT

I must say that when Van Becker submitted this spot to discover, I had no idea that he would stump everyone. Congratulations to Van, on stumping almost the entire lowa LHA membership. Your editor and Tammy Loving found the spot on a trip out west last summer.



This spot is in Logan, lowa along the Lincoln Highway route through the heart of town. For those of you who don't know, Logan is located about 40 miles west of Denison. Don Willard of Crescent told me that this building that is now marked Clark's Pest Control was once a bank.



Now for this issue we have a new spot for you to try to solve where it is on the Lincoln Highway. This is from a postcard taken from an old photo of the road, possibly from the 1940's. The person who submitted this photo has agreed to have their name withheld until the next issue of "Along the Lincoln Highway" if somebody guesses the spot correctly. So if you wish to take a guess as to where on the Lincoln Highway this spot is located, then e-mail your guess to Jeff LaFollette at jefflaf@peoplepc.com L

#### IOWA LHA OFFERS OPPORTUNITY TO ADVERTISE IN NEWSLETTER AND ON WEBSITE

The lowa Lincoln highway Association is now accepting advertising for our quarterly newsletter and web page. We want to inform our members about this opportunity to reach lowa Lincoln Highway enthusiasts and supporters as well as others with travel and highway interests.

These advertising opportunities are reasonably priced and a great way for highway businesses such as restaurants, B&B's, motels, car dealers, and other businesses or tourist destinations to reach ILHA members and web visitors.

Please visit our website for more information and to download an advertising rate sheet.

#### www.lincolnhighwayassoc.org/iowa

We look forward to having you join us as a preferred advertiser and supporter. If you are not already a member of the lowa Lincoln Highway Association, our website also includes information on joinina.

Don't forget, in August, we will host the first state-wide tour of the lowa Lincoln Highway. This will also be a way to let our members know about your business. There are many other exciting and interesting things happening along the road in our state, and we don't want you to miss out. Contact web mistress Sandii Huemann-Kelly at shk@videoportraits.com or newsletter editor Jeff LaFollette through phone at 563-349-3047 or by e-mail at jefflaf@peoplepc.com.

#### **NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES**

Business card size ad: Single ad placed on an inside page of the newsletter in black and white. The card/ad should be in standard digital format (.jpg) or scanner ready. Double size business cards will double the price.

Rates: 1 issue- \$10 2 issues- \$20 3 or 4 issues- \$30 (Buy three and get 4th free)

Flyer: 1 page 8-1/2 X 11 provided by the customer inserted into our eight page newsletter

Rates: 1 page flyer– 1 issue- \$50

Upcoming LHA State Meetings
July 12, '08 Palisades-Kepler Park
Between Mount Vernon & Cedar Rapids
(Joint Meeting with Illinois LHA)
October 11, '08 Colo

January 10, '09 Tama

## COME AND JOIN US FOR THE FIRST EVER TOUR OF THE IOWA LINCOLN HIGHWAY THE RIVER TO RIVER MOTOR TOUR CLINTON COUNTY TO POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY AUGUST 8-10, 2008

#### FEATURING STOPS IN:

Clinton - Lowden- Mount Vernon- Cedar Rapids Youngville Café- Belle Plaine- State Center- Colo Boone- Jefferson- Woodbine- Honey Creek

See the site of the Lyons-Fulton Bridge in Clinton Walk on the Abandoned Lincoln Highway west of Lowden See the Famous Youngville Café in Benton County Visit the World Famous Lincoln Highway Bridge in Tama Tour Restored Reed/Niland corners in Colo See the Lincoln Highway Clubhouse in Jefferson Drive on the Brick Lincoln Highway in Woodbine Tour Ends in Hitchcock Nature Center near Honey Creek

Sponsored by the Iowa Lincoln Highway Association

#### REGISTRATION FORM

Any Vehicle - Any Model - Any Make
Registration Fee: \$20.00 per vehicle for Iowa LHA members
\$30.00 per vehicle for non-members (Includes one year membership to the Iowa LHA)
You may join or leave the tour at any point or at anytime.
The Iowa LHA is not responsible for accidents or injuries incurred on this motor tour

NAME		_ Phone	
ADDRESS			
CITY		STATE	ZIP
E-MAIL			
	Make checks or money orders pa	ayable to: lowa Lincol	n Highway Associatior

Mail To: lowa LHA Motor Tour c/o Jeff LaFollette 2130 W. 4<sup>th</sup> St. Davenport, IA 52802 More Tour Information: Jeff LaFollette: jefflaf@peoplepc.com 563-349-3047

A LIST OF HOTELS AND TOUR ITINERARY WILL BE MAILED TO YOU SOON AFTER WE RECEIVE YOUR TOUR REGISTRATION.

### HALLELUJAH!!! WINTER IS OVER!! LET'S ALL MEET IN DONNA REED'S HOME TOWN OF DENISON & CELEBRATE SPRING

The cold weather is **FINALLY** behind us. So let's celebrate springtime and take a drive to **Denison** for the Spring meeting of the lowa LHA. The meeting date is Saturday April 12, 2008, and the location is at **Cronk's Café** on the Lincoln Highway (US 30) in Denison. Coffee and cinnamon rolls will begin our morning at 9:00 AM. The meeting will begin around 9:30 when President **Keith Whitlatch** drops the gavel. Lunch will be served at

Cronk's and a soup, salad and sandwich bar will be available for \$5.95- tax and drink not included, or if you wish you can order from the menu. Directions to the meeting location are pretty simple: From east or west get on the Lincoln Highway (US 30), head to Denison and look for Cronk's

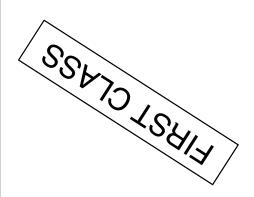
Vice-President **Kathy Dirks** has worked hard to put this meeting together in the absence of a county consul from Crawford County, and we thank her for her efforts. She has planned for us to take a tour of the historic Park Hotel and also a tour of the Donna Reed Performing Arts Center including the Donna Reed Museum, Opera House and soda fountain. There may be some other stops planned, so shake those winter blues, and come join us for an en-



joyable day. For those of you who plan to come out Friday evening, rooms are available at the **Park Hotel** (an lowa LHA member **712-263-4144**) The **Ho-Hum Motel**, a quaint little cabin-court type motel (**712-263-3843**), or the chain motels: **Days Inn** (**712-263-2500**)or **Super 8** (**712-263-5081**). The lowa LHA has not met in Crawford County in quite some time, so for our newer members it will be a chance to get acquainted with the hometown of Donna Reed, and also get a sneak peek at a motor tour stop for this summer's lowa LHA Motor tour. We hope you'll attend the meeting and enjoy the day in Denison.

In This Issue...

IA-IL Joint Meeting Planned & 2008 LHA Conference Information



Iowa Lincoln Highway Association P.O. Box 14 Ogden IA 50212