



ALONG THE LINCOLN HIGHWAY



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE IOWA LINCOLN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION

Volume 13, Number 3

AUTUMN 2008

IOWA LHA AWARDED A \$37,130 GRANT

Submitted by Jeff Benson

The State Historical Society of Iowa has awarded the Iowa Lincoln Highway Association a REAP/Historic Resources Development Program grant of \$37,130 for the historical interpretation panels at the Greene County Lincoln Highway Interpretive Site in the Lions Club Tree Park east of Grand Junction. The funding comes from the Resource Enhancement and Acquisition Program and will be matched with \$18,570 in cash and in-kind contributions from Greene County, the Iowa Lincoln Highway Association and volunteers.

Visitors to the site can view one railroad, three highways and four bridges, spanning nearly 100 years of transportation history. In *The Lincoln Highway: Iowa* Greg Franzwa termed this site "one of the most remarkable places on the Lincoln Highway" and "this unique four-bridge site . . . could be one of the most important tourist magnets on the Lincoln Highway." In *The Lincoln Highway: Mainstreet Across America*, Drake Hokanson chose this site as illustrative of the four types of roads that have evolved in the automobile age. This site presents the opportunity to tell the story of westward expansion, the evolution of the modern highway system and the history of highway and bridge design and construction. The grant funds will provide the historic interpretation to tell those

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

stories at this site.

In 1997 the Iowa Department of Transportation awarded this project the first of several important enhancement grants to support Lincoln Highway resources across Iowa. Built with that grant were an identification sign, entrance drive, parking, deck and seating for group presentations, trail, structures that identify the states and Iowa counties that the Lincoln Highway passes through and the structures for some of the interpretive panels. The most visible element is a set of "decade markers" that demonstrate the growth of population, road pavement and automobile ownership from 1910 to 1990.



Greene County Interpretive Site
(Photo by Jeff Benson)

With the new grant, Greene County will build four remaining structures for interpretive panels. Historian James Hippen and the Lincoln Highway Association's "Noble Sojourner" Lyell

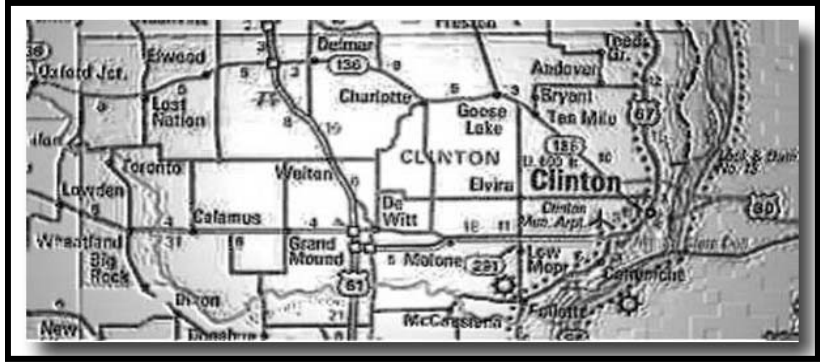
(Iowa LHA Grant continued on page 4)



www.lincolnhighwayassoc.org/iowa

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



Anybody who has followed this column and what has been promoted on these pages in the last few issues should probably know what I planned to write about in this issue. Hmm...I wonder... Oh yeah, the little event we had in August, the first Iowa LHA River to River Motor Tour.

I must say, when I presented this idea to the group a few years ago, I wondered if something like this would work. Sure, I had organized tours on the "other road" east of the Mississippi a few years ago, but there, the tour format was already in place, and even though I had new ideas and a route that had never been driven on that tour, the groundwork had been laid. This was a totally new endeavour in Iowa.

With the support of the officers and county consuls, we went full speed ahead. And I have to say putting this tour together was a lot of work, but also a lot of fun. Thank you Tammy for being my right hand gal and supporting me! And a big **THANK YOU** to all of the county consuls, towns and civic organizations who helped with the tour stop planning and setup.

Now, to the rest of the story. I hoped for 50 cars to register. By early June then count was struck at 30 and I wondered if \$4.00/gallon gas was going to keep the numbers down. But by early July the registrations started coming in and by August 7, the day before, we had 52 registered. When it was all said and done, we had a total of 60 cars. We had anywhere from 45-50 cars all the way through the tour. We also signed up **35 NEW IOWA LHA MEMBERS!!**

We had three participants from Wisconsin. One car from Minnesota got as far as Dubuque before their radiator went bad and they had to cancel their plans and head back home. One participant came from Manchester, MO, and I met him through the Route 66 tours. He came to check out the Lincoln Highway, and we're glad to have him and his wife aboard as Iowa LHA members. Linn & Clinton County led the way for tour participants, but we did get a lot of interest from the west. We had at least four cars from Potawatamie County do the tour from start to finish.

We saw a 1929 Model A Truck, a 1930 Model A Ford, a 1948 Plymouth with a teardrop camper, a late 60's Imperial towing an Airstream camper, 1957

Chevy's, Corvette's, Mustangs, Don't forget the 1983 Cadillac Hearse who caused traffic to pull over as we rolled down the road. We were thinking we were a 330 mile funeral procession. There were many, many others too numerous to mention. Oh yes, lest I forget, we had one Volvo on the tour as well.

Friday, after departing Clinton with unbelievably perfect August weather (58 degrees when we left), we stopped in DeWitt and had breakfast while observing the construction progress of the German Hausbarn. We stopped in Lowden and were treated to German pastries, drinks and live music. Tables were decorated with real flowers, and the townsfolk were at their best. We had a great lunch in Clarence, with the proceeds going to their 2009 sesquicentennial. Those Cedar County communities love their Lincoln Highway! We stopped in Mount Vernon and saw the Union Pacific Railroad bridge and then to Cedar Rapids to the Linn Co. History Center. Unfortunately some of the folks missed this stop. If you get to Cedar Rapids again, do stop here. It is well worth the time to check it out. Friday night was a group dinner at the Ox Yoke Inn in Amana, with 47 attending.

Saturday, we were greeted with a bit of rain early as we left Cedar Rapids, but it quit by the time we reached Youngville for breakfast. The skies cleared by the time we reached Belle Plaine and stopped at the museum, Herring Hotel, and Preston's Station. Ron Preston was there to meet and greet us. We saw the Lincoln Highway Bridge in Tama, and had lunch in State Center. Lunch was served by the FireLites, the wives of the firefighters and the proceeds went to their fund for helping out families who are affected by fire damage. A quick stop at Colo's Reed/Niland Corners was followed by a stop in Ames at the Main Street Depot.

Sunday we departed Ames, and headed for Ogden then to Jefferson, for a breakfast stop. We had a long drive from Jefferson to Denison where we met new Crawford County Consul Deb Rothmeyer at the Park Motel. When we left the Park Motel we went to Woodbine to Brickstreet Station where we were greeted with grilled burgers and picnic fare and

(Between The Rivers continued on page 6)

Iowa Members Attend National Lincoln Highway Conference By Sandii Huemann-Kelly

The 16th annual Lincoln Highway Conference, "Rails - Trails & Highway Tales" was held June 17-21, 2008 in Evanston, Wyoming. Iowa Lincoln Highway Association members from Jefferson, Cedar Rapids, Vinton, Earling, Woodbine and Ames attended. The conference featured two days of tours on the Lincoln Highway and a day of seminars.



Iowa Lincoln Highway Association (ILHA) members recognized at the Conference Awards ceremony included "Meritorious Achievement Award" presented to Bob Owens of Jefferson, "State Director of the Year" to Jeff LaFollette of Clinton and Life Membership Certificate to Dorothy Scott of Ames.



Jeff LaFollette receiving Director of the Year Award

Owens is a founding member of the Lincoln Highway Association which reorganized in Iowa sixteen years ago and serves as the Greene County Consul. Owens is a longtime greeter at the Iowa clubhouse in Jefferson. LaFollette is also ILHA newsletter editor and headed up a three day, east to west River to River motor tour across the Iowa Lincoln Highway on August 8-10, 2008.

Two new features at the annual conference were grant awards from the Lincoln Highway Association Endowment Fund and the inception of an art and photography show at the conference.

The Herring Hotel in Belle Plaine was awarded a \$5000 grant for their preservation efforts from the Endowment. Michael Kelly and Sandra Huemann-Kelly of Vinton exhibited photographs in the first ever Lincoln Highway Conference Art and Photo show. The 2009 national conference will be held in South Bend, Indiana. Details about the national organization and the Iowa chapter are available at: www.lincolnhighwayassoc.org/iowa

Left: Keith Whitlatch & Jeff LaFollette present award to Kristine Pope and Jim Morrow for grant award of \$5000 from LHA Endowment Fund for restoration of Herring Hotel in Belle Plaine
Below: Dorothy Scott, Ames receives Life membership certificate and Bob Owens receives his Meritorious Achievement Awards in Evanston, Wyoming



Keith Whitlatch, Iowa LHA President greets Illinois LHA President, Wayne Silvius at the July 12, 2008 Iowa-Illinois joint LHA meeting held at Palisades-Kepler State Park near Mount Vernon. Attendees were able to catch a glimpse of the Grant Wood "American Gothic" barn mural as they entered the park.

(All Photos Courtesy of Mike Kelly)

(Iowa LHA Grant continued from page 1)

Henry will write the panel texts and select images. Graphic Artist Jennie Bailey will design the eight panels. Once the panels are fabricated, they will be installed at the site in the spring of 2009. This interpretive site will then join completed Lincoln Highway Interpretive sites in five other counties across Iowa, all part of a state-wide interpretive program developed by the Iowa Lincoln Highway Association. Such interpretive sites are helping the Lincoln Highway to become a living museum of highway history. **L**

WELCOME OUR NEW CRAWFORD COUNTY CONSUL

After a long period that this position was open, the Crawford County Consul position has been filled. The Iowa Lincoln Highway Association extends a warm welcome to Deb Rothmeyer of Denison, Iowa. Deb lives in Denison and works at the historic Park Motel. She married her husband Vince in October of 2000, and as she says, that is what brought her to Denison. Deb has been employed at the Park Motel for seven years.

Deb has two children, Jennifer, age 24 and Ryan, age 22. Ryan is attending college studying law enforcement to be a police officer. Deb also has three step children and four grandsons.

Deb has a Cocker Spaniel named Jade, a cockatiel named Sassy, some fish and she would have more animals if her hubby would let her. Besides the Lincoln Highway, Deb's hobbies include tracing her family tree, scrap booking, card making, crafts, sewing, surfing the internet, and working in the yard. Please join us in welcoming Deb to the Iowa LHA as our newest county consul. She can be contacted by phone at 712-263-8356 or drop her an e-mail at debbie44@frontiernet.net. **L**



"Hawk A" Model A Restorers Club celebrates International Model A Day on July 26, 2008 at Benton County's Lincoln Highway Landmark, Youngville Café
(Photo Courtesy of Mike Kelly)

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

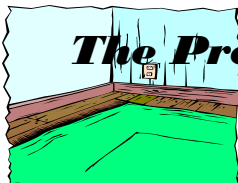
President	Keith Whitlatch	(563) 942-6670
Vice-President	Kathy Dirks	(712) 755-7474
Secretary	Jeff Benson	(515) 233-1445
Treasurer	Joyce Ausberger	(515) 386-4521
State Director	Jeff LaFollette	(563) 349-3047

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (COUNTY CONSULS)

Clinton County	Jeff LaFollette	(563) 349-3047
Cedar County	Keith Whitlatch	(563) 945-6670
Linn County	Van & Bev Becker	IowaLHA@ImOnMail.com
Benton County	Mike Kelly	(319) 472-5183
Tama County	Allan Richards	(641) 484-4981
Marshall County	Harlan Quick	(641) 483-2440
Story County	Margaret Elbert	(515) 233-1445
Boone County	Joe Moore	(515) 432-6174
	Ed Mondt	(515) 432-2343
Greene County	Bob Owens	(515) 386-3419
	Joyce Ausberger	(515) 386-4521
Carroll County	VACANT	
Crawford County	Deb Rothmeyer	(712) 263-8356
Harrison County	Marshall & Rita Schichilone	(712) 647-3030
Pottawattamie County	Brett Ford	(712) 545-3283

SUPPORT STAFF

Membership Coordinator	Cecil Stewart
Newsletter Editor	Jeff LaFollette
Noble Sojourner	Lyell Henry
Iowa Artist in Residence	John Fitzsimmons



The President's Corner

By Keith Whitlatch,
ILHA President

There's an old saying, "Time flies when you're having fun", and I have had lots of fun the past two years as President of the Iowa Lincoln Highway Association. Such wonderful people to be associated with – caring for the Old Lincoln Highway, and sharing hopes, plans and ideas to continue encouraging others to share in our love of this historic piece of history that "ribboned" its way across our beautiful country from coast to coast.

It seems like only yesterday at Sutliff when I agreed to serve as president. Now, we'll have a new president, Kathy Dirks, who will do a great job, and we will elect a new vice-president. Who will step forward?

I've met a lot of wonderful people and seen a lot of interesting places along the way. I've learned so much about the Lincoln Highway. I also realize that the county consuls and others that make up the board are extremely knowledgeable on "the old highway". It is my wish that we work hard to get a consul from each county.

I also had a chance to finally meet Brett Ford while on our motor tour across Iowa. Although his job keeps him quite busy, he's a strong member of our group. By the way, does anyone else think he resembles the ranger on the "Red Green Show"?

A couple weeks ago, Lois, Van, Bev and I had the privilege of attending the wedding of Jeff and Tammy. The wedding was held in the "Olde St. Ann's Church" in the Scott County Park by the Pioneer Village. It was a beautiful wedding. Our best wishes to the happy couple. The reception was held in the pavilion at Duck Creek Park in Davenport. Jeff and Tammy do know how to throw a great party. The food was great. The music was good – if a little on the loud side.

The Auto Tour across the Lincoln Highway was wonderful, thanks to Tammy and Jeff's hours and hours of preparation. We got to visit with so many wonderful people, both on the tour and those that welcomed us as we drove through the towns. Thank you all. Let's hope we can do it again. I stand ready to help in any way, Jeff, if you wish to do it. Anyone who missed the tour missed a great adventure.

I leave as president with the feeling that our State Chapter is strong and healthy. Thanks to everyone who helped me, or tolerated me as your president the past two years. I look forward to seeing many of you at Colo in October, and at all the meetings in the years to come. **The Olde Retired Cedar County Sheriff,**

Keith L. Whitlatch



The Olde Retired Cedar County Sheriff (Photo Courtesy of Tammy LaFollette)



CHECK OUT THIS OFFER!

Get a copy of Brian Butko's book "Greetings from the Lincoln Highway" for only \$22.00 plus \$4.00 postage
Contact Joyce Ausberger at 515-386-4521

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

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| William Beckley | Tipton, Cedar L |
| Merrill Cottington | Boone, Boone L |
| Joel Dohrmann | DeWitt, Clinton, L |
| Richard Gerot | Iowa City, Johnson |
| Richard Grieve | Ames, Story L |
| Bob & Mary Hansen | Crescent,
Pottawattamie L |
| Den & Connie Havener | DeWitt, Clinton L |
| Bruce Heitz | Dubuque, Dubuque |
| Alan Kirshen | Red Oak,
Montgomery |
| Stan Mizerny | New Liberty, Scott |
| Dave Pepper | Boone, Boone L |
| Jerry Rewerts | Nevada, Story L |
| Deb Rothmeyer | Denison, Crawford L |
| Ken Ruegsegger | West Liberty,
Muscatine |
| Ellie Sedersten | Honey Creek
Pottawattamie L |
| Robert Thiel | Delmar, Clinton L |
| Ray & Rosemary Tigges | Dubuque, Dubuque |
| Donald Vogler | Bellevue, Dubuque |
| Norm & Kathy Herbst | Brookfield, WI |
| Werner & Jan Langenbach | New Hope, MN |
| John Urban | Racine, WI |
- L (Denotes a Lincoln Highway County)

**LINCOLN HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER POST
BEING PROPOSED AT STATE LEVEL**

Submitted by Allan Richards

The Lincoln Highway Association, in concert with the Governor's Office for the State of Iowa, are looking to propose the creation of a Lincoln Highway Commissioner to be appointed by the governor, whom will act as a liaison with the governor's office.

The Lincoln Highway Commissioner would promote, protect, and provide information within and outside state government concerning issues related to the Lincoln Highway, America's Main Street. The legislation, goals, and reasons for the new commissioner are yet to be written. Your support in developing and supporting this effort is encouraged, as the executive committee is supporting this idea. However, any input is important whether pro or con is necessary to achieve the common goal of energizing life on the Lincoln Highway.

Comments should be sent to any County Consul. You should also contact your state legislator in support of passing legislation creating a Lincoln Highway Commissioner.

L

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

Please visit our website for more information and to download an advertising rate sheet. Information about advertising on our website is also available. Check us out at:

www.lincolnhighwayassoc.org/iowa

Upcoming LHA State Meetings

- October 11, '08 Colo Community Center, Colo
- January 10, '09 Tama
- April 11, '09 To Be Announced
- July 11, '09 To Be Announced

(Between the Rivers continued from Page 2)

River to River t-shirts and a walking tour of the historic buildings in Woodbine. Iowa LHA Vice-President Kathy Dirks greeted us at the Iowa Welcome Center outside of Missouri Valley, and had more food and their wonderful cherry drink (yum). The tour had to come to an end sometime and we ended at the Hitchcock Nature Center in Pottawattamie County where we were greeted by Brett Ford, our County Consul from the great county of Pottawattamie.

No tour is perfect, and we had a few glitches as well. And since this was a first time tour, it was also a learning experience. We now have a format and a template for future tours. We have many communities along the Lincoln Highway in Iowa, meaning we have many opportunities to stop and see different things on future tours. And at the October meeting in Colo, we'll discuss plans for a 2nd River to River tour. I already have ideas for next year, the main one being we reverse the tour, starting in the west and ending in the east. Keep an eye on this newsletter or our website for information. But before I get too far ahead of myself, I especially want to thank all 60 participants who signed up for the tour. Whether you came for all three days, two days, one day or just part of a day, your support was tremendous and greatly appreciated. And we thank the people who came on the tour and were signed up as new members. We are glad to have you aboard and we hope to see you at meetings or other Iowa LHA events. And I want to say again. If you enjoyed the tour, tell a friend, if you didn't, tell me. Thank you again, and I hope to see you between the rivers...and then some!

L



**Jumpstarting the Model A at Youngville's
Apple Daze on September 21
(Photo courtesy of Mike Kelly)**

MOTOR TOUR PHOTO MEMORIES

PHOTOS COURTESY OF BRYAN OSBERG & CATHIE NICHOLS



Lining Up to Begin The Tour-Clinton



Our Musical Entertainment-Lowden



Arriving for Lunch-Clarence



Arriving at Youngville Café-Benton Co.



Preston's Station-Belle Plaine



Lincoln Highway Bridge Park-Tama



Reed/Niland Corners-Colo



Moss Marker on LH-Greene County



Brickstreet Station-Woodbine



Hitchcock Nature Center
Near Honey Creek
Pottawattamie County

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU WHO PARTICIPATED ON THE FIRST IOWA LHA MOTOR TOUR. AND TO ALL THE COMMUNITIES WHO HOSTED US ON OUR TOUR STOPS. WE ARE PLANNING FOR A TOUR IN 2009. PLEASE LOOK FOR UPDATES FOR THE 2009 TOUR ON OUR WEBSITE AND ALSO HERE IN THIS NEWSLETTER! IF YOU DIDN'T MAKE THE TOUR THIS YEAR, WE HOPE TO SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

PICK UP YOUR FRIENDS, OR JUST GO SOLO, HOWEVER YOU GET THERE, MEET US IN COLO

Come and join us for the last meeting of the Iowa LHA for 2008. This time we'll be in Colo, where the Lincoln and Jefferson Highways meet. The meeting will be conducted at the **Colo Community Center** which is located at **209 Main St.** There will be plenty of parking on Main St. for everyone who plans to attend. The Colo Development Group will be providing coffee, donuts, and rolls beginning at 9:00 AM. President Keith Whitlatch will drop the gavel around 9:30 AM. This will be Keith's last meeting as our association president. Vice-President Kathy Dirks will take over the reins beginning in January 2009 to serve her two year term as president. This meeting is an election meeting, as we will be voting for a new vice-president. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer are up for election as well. If you are interested in running for one of these spots, be sure to attend. Otherwise, come on out and exercise your right as a Iowa LHA member and vote. Lunch will be after the meeting, sometime around noon. Details about lunch are still being worked out. I recently received word that the café is currently closed, so we will not be eating lunch there. Afterward we will head to the Reed/Niland corners to see the restored gas station, and motel and view one of the two presidential corners in Iowa, where Lincoln and Jefferson meet, and we might take a little road trip. So come out for a drive, enjoy the early fall weather and enjoy the Lincoln Highway one more time before the cold of winter sets in. **L**

Directions from the west: Follow US 30 east to a sign directing you to turn left into Colo. This turns into West St. Follow West St to Main St and turn right and look for the Community Center. From the Old Lincoln Highway, turn right onto West St. and follow to Main St. Turn left onto Main St and look for the Community Center.

Directions from the east: Follow US 30 west past the junction with US 65 and look for a sign directing you to turn into Colo. Turn right on West St. and follow to Main St. then turn right onto Main St and look for the Community Center. From the Old Lincoln Highway, drive past Reed/Niland Corners and turn left at West St. Follow West St. to Main St. Turn left at Main St. and look for the Community Center.

In This Issue...

Iowa LHA Members Receive Awards & Iowa LHA Receives Grant

FIRST CLASS

Iowa Lincoln Highway Association
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