



# Along The Lincoln Highway

Volume 20, Number 1

Spring 2015

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE IOWA LINCOLN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION

### President's Corner

By Deb Rothmeyer, President

First, I would like to thank everyone for coming to the January meeting in State Center, and also for your support and understanding.

There is not a lot going on right now. I have been working with Jeannie Sieck, Lincoln Highway Bridge Park Tama-Toledo, by sending a support letter from Lincoln Highway Association and just helping her with ideas.

I like the idea of listing the farmers market along the Iowa Lincoln Highway. It will bring people into the area.

The 2017 conference is coming along great and I will have more information in the coming months for you. I am looking forward to seeing everyone for the April meeting in Council Bluffs.



### Upcoming Iowa LHA Meetings

April 11, 2015	Council Bluffs
July 11, 2015	Clinton
October 10, 2015	Denison
Jan, 2016	TBD

### Table of Contents

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Pg. 1</b> President's Corner<br>Byway Updates                | <b>Pg. 5</b> Featured Upcoming Events                      |
| <b>Pg. 2</b> Officer List<br>National Conference                | <b>Pg. 6</b> January Meeting Recap<br>Meet the LHHB Intern |
| <b>Pg. 3</b> Mystery Place                                      | <b>Pg. 7</b> Events on the Lincoln                         |
| <b>Pg. 4</b> Lincoln Highway Bridge<br>Corridor Management Plan | <b>Pg. 8</b> Farmer's Markets                              |

### Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway Updates

By Jan Gammon  
Prairie Rivers of Iowa



In January, 2015, I started as the new Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway Coordinator at Prairie Rivers of Iowa. So let me introduce myself.

My background has been in historic preservation. I served as the coordinator for the Nevada (Iowa) Historical Society and served on the Nevada (Iowa) Historic Preservation Commission for several years. I helped the Society manage their museum displays, Victorian house, and 8-acre farm site- complete with a large home, carriage house, and several outbuildings. The Commission conducted historical surveys of properties in the community (including the Lincoln Highway). In 2003, during the sesquicentennial festivities for Nevada, based on survey information, the downtown was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

I have two grown children and my husband works for the City of Ames in the Engineering department. We have lived in Nevada, Iowa since 1980. In 2006, I returned to Iowa State University for a Master of Public Administration degree, which I received in 2009. My goal was to work in the areas of economic development, heritage tourism, and historic preservation. And now I have found the perfect position! In my first few days, I attended my first Iowa Lincoln Highway Association meeting in State Center...

*Continued on page 7*

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.

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**National Lincoln Highway Conference  
& Henry Joy Tour**

By Bob Ausberger

For the first time, the conference will not be in a location on the Lincoln Highway as the conference is in Ann Arbor, MI and the tours will be in Detroit, MI. The conference headquarters is at the Ann Arbor Holiday Inn-3600 Plymouth Rd. 41805, exit 41 of U. S. 23, 734-769-9800 The University of Michigan at Ann Arbor is the location of the Lincoln Highway Archives. Detroit was the location of the original Lincoln Highway headquarters.

Monday is registration day. If you want to go on the pre-conference tour, meet Monday between 9am and 10am in Bristol, Indiana. The location will be announced on the website. We will follow the official route to Ann Arbor and register at the Holiday Inn at that time.



Tuesday, we travel to Detroit and options are to visit Greenfield Village, Henry Ford Museum, and the Rouge Assembly plant (where the new F150 pickup is made). Fees are \$13 and \$14 for these tours.

Wednesday, a Detroit Tour will take us to see some of the architectural gems that remain in the somewhat ravaged and distressed city. We will see some of the Packard Plant.

On Thursday, presentations and seminars will fill the morning and in the afternoon we will visit the archives in the Bentley Library. Henry B. Joy, Roy Chappin and Jens Jensen papers are all housed there.

Friday, the LHA annual meeting will be held in the morning. You can join the Henry Joy Auto Tour if you like, which includes a tour and dinner at the Packard Proving grounds. The LHA website has more information about the tour. It starts Saturday in Utica, MI and ends in San Francisco on July 8th. Overnight in Iowa is in Ames on Monday, June 29th.

Conference committee contact to sign up is JoyceChambers47@aol.com, 574 210 0262 and Conference website is: <http://indianalincolnhighway.org/lha2015>.

**Iowa Lincoln Highway Association Map Packs are available! Updated in 2013 with route corrections, the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway route, and more. Map Packs are available for \$10 each from:**

**bobjoyce@netins.net  
Lincoln Highway Museum  
P.O. Box 224 Grand Junction, IA 50127**

## Mystery Place

By Van Becker

The Mystery Photo this month will be extra easy to identify as I have included “Then” and “Now” photos of this well-traveled section of the Lincoln Highway. As always, the question is: “Where is it?” To help, carefully consider these three clues.

1. Both photographers were facing west. The photographer for the recent photo was also hungry.
2. The black Jeep in the recent photo was not available for the earlier photo.
3. The location is a short walk to the cemetery.

If you think you can identify the Mystery Place, send an email to [lincolnhighway@prcd.org](mailto:lincolnhighway@prcd.org) or call 515-232-0048. Contact us with the correct information and we will take your name and contact information. We then will hold a random drawing on March 31 for a winner to receive a 2013 Iowa Lincoln Highway Map Pack! This is to accommodate for the varying time and travel the postal system can take and to give all a fair try.



© Van Becker

## Last Issue's Mystery Place



The abandoned gas station location is on the south side of the LH/hwy 30 just one mile east of the Lincoln Highway Lions Club Tree Park in Grand Junction, IA.

**NOTE:** We will do the Mystery Place differently starting with this issue. Since the postal system doesn't deliver to all of Iowa on the same day, contact us with your answer and if correct, we will enter your information into a random drawing.

**The James H. Andrew Railroad Museum and History Center**  
at the Boone and Scenic Valley Railroad

**November 1 through May 22**  
Monday - Friday 10 am - 4 pm  
Saturday Noon - 4 pm  
Closed Sunday

**May 23 through October 31**  
Sunday - Thursday 10 am - 4 pm  
Friday and Saturday 10 am - 5 pm

[www.iowarailwaymuseum.org](http://www.iowarailwaymuseum.org)  
Visit one of Iowa's most interesting railroad collections

## YOUR AD HERE

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

RATES: 1 Issue-\$10 2 Issues-\$20  
3 Issues-\$30 Buy 3 Get 4th FREE

Contact Joyce for more information:  
[bobjoyce@netins.net](mailto:bobjoyce@netins.net)

Are there upcoming events happening in YOUR community? Spread the word with an article in the newsletter, by posting on [www.iowabyways.org](http://www.iowabyways.org), or by adding an event to the ILHA website.

Contact the editor for more information at [lincolnhighway@prcd.org](mailto:lincolnhighway@prcd.org)

**ALL ABILITY CYCLES** 101 N Chestnut St.  
Jefferson, IA 50129

**Everyone Can Ride**

John Brunow  
515-396-8900 or  
[john@allabilitycycles.com](mailto:john@allabilitycycles.com)



## Tama-Toledo Lincoln Highway Bridge Park

By Jeannie Sieck, Tama County Consul

We are hosting a Meet and Greet/Volunteer appreciation day event on Saturday March 28th from 1:30-3:30 pm at the Fellowship Hall in Christ United Methodist Church (301 N Broadway) in Toledo. Coffee and cookies will be served. The public is invited. All LHA members are encouraged to attend as well.

At this event, we will share our goals and plans for the coming year with the community as well as introduce our officers and thank the many volunteers who have helped us. We are hoping for a large crowd!

We did apply for a National Lincoln Highway Association grant and will know at the National Conference in June if we receive funding.

The Park will host two large events this summer. On Friday May 15th, the Opening Ceremony for the Annual Lincoln Highway Bridge Festival will feature special acts with children and Abraham Lincoln. Afterwards, Mr. Lincoln will be downtown enjoying the ice cream social, wine tasting, and all the other fun activities. Abe and the children will be on a float in Saturday's parade. Please join us. It will be Fun! Fun! Fun!

On Friday August 14th and Saturday August 15th, we will hold our annual fundraiser, Lincoln Highway Buy-Way Yard



Tama Lincoln Highway Bridge Park Memorial

Sales, in the Lincoln Park and along the Lincoln Highway. We are hoping for sale locations from Chelsea, through Tama, and to the Meskwaki Powwow grounds! People can donate items or join us along the Lincoln Highway even if they don't already live along the route. We have asked antique vendors, collectors, and craftsmen to join us. There will be music and food in the park and of course, our famous "Lincoln Dog."

Prior to all of this fun, we have much work to do and need lots of volunteers to help with Clean-up Days in late March and April along the Mud Creek and at the Memorial and Flagpole/Rock area. We need supplies and manpower to remove debris, trim trees and bushes, remove vines and weeds. We need rich dirt and more mulch for the gardens and new perennials. Volunteers are needed throughout the summer to help plant, water and weed the Friendship Garden. We would like to add electric service and water to the park. We are currently carrying water from the Mud Creek in buckets! We have plans to extend

our Friendship Garden and hope to add an informational kiosk for visitors learn more about the Lincoln Highway and the Bridge as well as Tama and Toledo. This will help us promote, educate, and contribute to the economy of our town.

The organization has put the word out for volunteers and donations through many avenues of marketing and promotion. We are looking to businesses and associations for support, sponsorship, and contributions. We are also working with two city councils and other elected officials. Sweet Repeats, a local business, has an ongoing fundraiser offering Lincoln Highway Bridge key chains, cups, or T-shirts depending on the level of the donation.

As you can see, we have a lot planned for the year. Together, we can do anything!

**L**



The Lincoln Highway Bridge and Friendship Garden in Tama.

## Corridor Management Planning Update

By John Mazzeo, CMP Project Coordinator

This winter, the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway's Corridor Management Planning process moved into a new, public, phase. In February, we held the first in a series of public meetings to introduce the Lincoln Highway, and the concept of a Corridor Management Plan, to residents around the state.

You may recall from previous issues of this newsletter that a Corridor Management Plan (CMP) is a written document setting out a long-term plan for a byway and its important resources. The Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway's original CMP was created before the Lincoln Highway was designated as an Iowa Byway, so it no longer reflects the priorities of the ILHA or of Lincoln Highway communities and residents. The new revision of the CMP will reflect the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway as an active and thriving part of Iowa's past and present heritage...

*Continued on page 5*

## Featured Events Along the Lincoln

### Sweldest Little Spring Tea on the Lincoln Highway

Sunday, April 12

2 p.m.

First Lutheran Church Family Center  
Belle Plaine, Iowa

What better way to celebrate spring than with old and new friends at a fabulous afternoon tea? You can savor brewed tea, tea sandwiches, cakes, cookies, and other delicacies, while you enjoy live music and a portrayal of Alice Roosevelt. Come early (doors open at 1:30) for a photo and art exhibit, punch, and conversation. Tickets are \$15, and include door prize chances. Group discounts available.

For more information, visit [belleplaineeventspawner.weebly.com](http://belleplaineeventspawner.weebly.com). Reservations are required; call 319-434-2079 or e-mail [belleplaineeventspawner@gmail.com](mailto:belleplaineeventspawner@gmail.com). Proceeds go to restore Belle Plaine's historic Herring Hotel and benefit scholarships for lifelong learners.

### Classic Car Roll Ins at Reed-Niland Corner

Location: Colo, Iowa

Date: 2nd and 4th Sundays (June, July, August and Sept.)

Time: 2-4pm

Facebook: Reed-Niland Corner or Niland's Cafe

Website: [www.reednilandcorner.org](http://www.reednilandcorner.org)

### The Welcome Center Farmers Market

Thursday May 21 – Thursday October 15, 2015

3:30 – 6:30 pm

At the Harrison County Welcome Center.

On market Thursdays, the village/welcome center also remains open until 6:30 pm. For an update of activities and events throughout the farmers market season, people can like our Facebook page "Harrison County Iowa Welcome Center." If you have any questions, feel free to ask Kathy Dirks, Harrison County LHA Consul, as she serves as co-market manager.

These events and more along the Lincoln Highway are listed on page 7.



The first two Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway Corridor Management Plan public meetings were held in February in State Center (bottom) and Jefferson (top). Several additional meetings will be held all across the state this spring.

*CMP Update continued from page 4*

Public meetings were held on February 12 in State Center, for the State Center and Colo communities, and February 17 in Jefferson, for the Greene County area. Local residents, ILHA members, elected officials, business owners, and others came out to share their ideas on the Lincoln Highway's important assets and their dreams for what the Lincoln Highway could be in the future. Each meeting featured great discussions and we are very appreciative for the time and energy of all attendees. We will be taking all these ideas and developing priorities for the whole byway and for future activities in each community.

Introductory Public meetings will be scheduled in other Lincoln Highway communities across the state this spring. At least one will be held in each of the 13 Lincoln Highway counties. We hope you will join us at the meeting in your community this spring. As always, to stay informed about the latest CMP activities in your community, sign up for our email list (visit [www.prrcd.org/cmp](http://www.prrcd.org/cmp) and click the blue "sign up" button), email me at [lincolncmp@prrcd.org](mailto:lincolncmp@prrcd.org), or call me at 515-216-4005. Looking forward to seeing you later this spring!



CMP Project Coordinator John Mazzello leading the latest CMP Meeting.

## ILHA January Meeting Recap

By Jan Gammon,  
Prairie Rivers of Iowa

The Lincoln Highway Association met on January 10, 2015 at the Community Hall in State Center. With some funding from LHA, an intern from ISU, Paul Ehrsam, has been hired at Prairie Rivers of Iowa to help with the LHA website and other projects. He was introduced to the group as well as Jan Gammon, the new Iowa Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway Coordinator, who is also housed at Prairie Rivers of Iowa. She was elected as the secretary for the ILHA.

The ILHA will support the Tama-Toledo Bridge Park project and help with the application for the National Lincoln Highway Association grant for bridge repairs and improvements to the park.

In June, the 2015 National Conference will be held in Ann Arbor, MI. Joyce Ausberger encouraged everyone to attend and will look into transportation by bus. The 2016 Conference is tentatively set for New Jersey and the 2017 in Denison, Iowa. The conference center at the Boulders is reserved and more information will follow in the coming months.

The Auto tour will be Aug 21, 22, 23 and is \$30 for an Iowa or National member or \$40 for a non-member (will include a 1-year membership).

The City of Marion is interested in working with ILHA on their railroad bridge/bike path project. Jeff Benson and John Mazzello will talk to them about adding Lincoln Highway information into their plans.

Transportation Day will be January 27th at the State Capitol and the 10 cent gas tax will be the main topic discussed. It is a good time for groups to talk to legislators on transportation issues. Everyone is encouraged to attend. The State Byways, including the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway, will have a booth in the Capitol rotunda.

The Corridor Management Plan is coming along nicely for the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway. Two public meetings are planned in February for State Center/Colo and Jefferson/Scranton/Grand Junction.

After the meeting, the group toured the renovated 1895 Benson Building to be used by NuCara Pharmacy and the 1932 Home Oil Gas Station that is now home to State Center's Police Department.

The next meeting will be April 11th at St. Francis (238 S 16th) in Council Bluffs. at 9:00 a.m. Lunch is at 12:30 at Dixie Quick's, 157W Broadway. Check out the menu at <http://dixiequicks.com>

**L**

## Meet Your New LHHB Intern

By Paul Ehrsam



Hi there, my name is Paul Ehrsam and I am your new Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway Online Communications intern. Some of you might have met me at the meeting on January 10th, but for those of you who didn't, here is little about myself.

I am currently a senior at Iowa State University, pursuing a bachelor's degree in Advertising with a minor in design studies. Before moving to Ames for college, I grew up in Greenfield, Iowa

Through Prairie Rivers of Iowa, I will be helping out with the Lincoln Highway Association website, the Facebook page, newsletter, and anything else you might need me to do. I look forward to meeting those of you I haven't met yet, and continuing to work with you to get the word out about this great American highway.

**L**



Iowa Lincoln Highway Assn. Treasurer Joyce Ausberger, Jeannie Parr, President Deb Rothmeyer and Iowa LH State Director Dean Parr at the quarterly meeting State Center, IA.



Byway Updates continued from page 1

...and was elected Secretary for your organization. I am more than happy to serve in this role! I also attended the Travel industry's Legislative Showcase and Transportation Day at the State Capitol. In February, John Mazzello and I presented at Corridor Management Plan public meetings. My next focus will be on a new energy conservation program, Greening the Lincoln, which will be piloted in Jefferson in the coming months. It certainly has been busy and I hope to visit with more of you and your communities in the near future.

**L**

*We invite you to share your photos and stories of the Lincoln Highway. Submit photos and stories to: Newsletter Editor, Prairie Rivers of Iowa*

2402 S. Duff Ave  
Ames, IA 50010  
lincolnhighway@prrcd.org

**The Nebraska Chapter of the LHA lost two of its top leaders during December 2014 (via the Nebraska Lincoln Highway Association)**



**President - Robert "Bob" Stubblefield** of Shelton died on December 17, 2014. Bob served as National Director from Nebraska from 1999 to 2005. He was co-chairman of the LHA conference in Grand Island, NE in 2001, and recently he and his wife Lennie co-chaired the LHA Conference in Kearney in 2013, celebrating the Lincoln Highway Centennial. He was an avid collector of LH memorabilia and helped establish the LH Visitors Center at

Shelton, where a lot of his collection is on display. Bob is survived by his wife, Lenore "Lennie, two sons, Scott and Mark, two daughters, Stephany and Susan, their spouses, 8 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren.



**Vice President - William "Bill" Bauer** of Lincoln died in Lincoln on December 11, 2014. Bill was a very active LHA member, always participating in Chapter meetings. He had attended many of the National LHA conferences. Bill is survived by his wife Shirley and two sons, James of Lincoln and Jonathan of Slat Lake City, Utah, and one granddaughter,

Sophie of Salt Lake City. He was also a member of the Walter P. Chrysler Club and collected model cars and car magazines.

**Events on Along the Lincoln Highway**

Date	City	Event
March 28	Toledo	Meet and greet/ Volunteer Appreciation day at the Fellowship hall at the Christ United Methodist Church from 1:30-3:30 pm.
April 11	Council Bluffs	ILHA Meeting
April 12	Bell Plaine	Swellest Little Spring Tea on the Lincoln Highway: 2 pm First Lutheran Church Family Center visit <a href="http://belleplaineeventsplanner.weebly.com">belleplaineeventsplanner.weebly.com</a> for more info
April 18 & 25	Nevada	The Nevada Community Historical Society is holding a murder mystery dinner at 5 p.m. at Evergreen Lane, 1204 H Ave, in Nevada
May 21- Oct 15	Missouri Valley	The Welcome Center Farmers Market will be every Thursday from May 21- Oct 15 from 3:30-6:30 p.m. at the Harrison County Welcome Center, for updates in Farmer's Market activities like the "Harrison County Iowa Welcome Center" Facebook Page
May 22- Oct 9	State Center	15th Season of State Center Farmers Market from 5-7 p.m. each Friday evening on south side of West Main Street
May 23- Sept 6	State Center	Memorial Day to Labor Day weekend historic Watson's Grocery, located at 106 West Main Street, State Center, open for tours from 1-4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays or by appointment call (641-751-2014)
June 5 June 26 July 17 August 7	State Center	State Center Lion's Club Barbecued Pork Fundraisers from 5-7 p.m. State Center Farmer's Market, West Main Street
June 19- June 21	State Center	58th Annual State Center Rose Festival
June 14 & 28 July 12 & 26 Aug 9 & 23 Sept 13 & 27	Colo	Classic Car Roll Ins at Reed-Niland Corner 2-4 p.m. Food and beverages available
June 22-26	Ann Arbor, Mich.	Lincoln Highway National Conference
June 10-12	Colo	Colo Crossroads "Magic at the Crossroads" celebrating the crossroads of the Lincoln and Jefferson Highways
July 11	Clinton	ILHA Meeting

## Farmer's Markets Along the Byway

The Lincoln Highway has many markets available to residents and visitors all summer long.  
Check the internet for times.

**Ames** - North Grand Mall : Wed and Sat  
Main Street : Thurs

**Belle Plaine** - West of Pizza Hut : Fri

**Carroll** - Depot : Wed and Sat

**Cedar Rapids** - Green Square Park : Sat  
New Bo : Sat and Sun  
Noelridge : Mon, Wed, Fri

**Clinton** - Four Square Park : Wed and Sat

**Council Bluffs** - W Broadway : Thurs  
River City : Sat

**Marshalltown** - Cartwright Pavilion : Wed and Sat  
Main Street : Thurs  
Linn Street : Fri and Sat

**Cedar Rapids** - Green Square Park : Sat

**Colo** - Niland Café : Thurs

**Denison** - South 7th and #30 : Thurs

**DeWitt** - Lincoln Park : Mon

**Jefferson** - Courthouse Square : Tues

**LeGrand** - City Park : Mon

**Marion** - City Park : Wed and Sat

**Mount Vernon** - Community Center : Thurs

**Nevada** - City Hall : Tuesday

**State Center** - West Main St : Fri

**Toledo** - East side of Courthouse : Fri

**Vail** - Vail City Park : Mon

**Missouri Valley** - Welcome Center : Thurs

In this issue....

National Conference & Henry Joy Tour, Tama Bridge Park News, Byway Update, & more!

**FIRST CLASS**

Place  
Stamp  
Here

[www.iowalincolinhighway.org](http://www.iowalincolinhighway.org)



Iowa Lincoln Highway Association  
P.O. Box 224  
Grand Junction, Iowa 50107





## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE IOWA LINCOLN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION

### President's Corner

By Deb Rothmeyer, President,  
Iowa Lincoln Highway Association

Greetings from Denison! Wow! This weather has been up and down. Hot, warm, and then cold. I can't wait for it to warm up!

I am so very proud to be your President and am looking forward to a year promoting our beloved Lincoln Highway. As the warm weather approaches, we should all be looking toward our individual community celebrations, and promoting the Lincoln Highway.

The Lincoln Highway Buy Way yard sale has a sign-up on the Lincoln Highway Web site, so start signing up! A map of locations will be added later as people start signing up their sales.

The conference for 2017 is coming along great. Tours are in place and the food and entertainment have been put together.

**REMINDER:** Don't forget to submit information about your individual communities so that anyone accessing our website will be able to plan their personal driving tours across our state. You can send information via email to: [lincolnhighway@prrcd.org](mailto:lincolnhighway@prrcd.org), phone: (515)232-0048, or mail: 2402 S. Duff Ave Ames, IA 50010

I also would like to extend a thank you to Prairie Rivers of Iowa for all the work that is being done in assisting the Association in various areas.

Hope to see you at the July 11th, 2015 meeting in Clinton, Iowa at the Pizza Ranch (1347 11th St N). We are taking our vacation in Clinton to see all the wonderful sites.

Happy travelling!



### Upcoming Iowa LHA Meetings

July 11, 2015	Clinton
October 10, 2015	Denison
Jan, 2016	TBD
April, 2016	TBD

### Table of Contents

<b>Pg.1</b> Presidents Corner Jeff Benson Tribute	<b>Pg.5</b> CMP Update Jeff Benson Obit.
<b>Pg.2</b> Officer List	<b>Pg.6</b> ILHA April Meeting Recap LH Updates
<b>Pg.3</b> Mystery PLace	<b>Pg.7</b> Free and upcoming events along the Lincoln
<b>Pg.4</b> Bridge Park and Byway update Jefferson Bell Tower Festival	<b>Pg.8</b> Local Food Cycle Tribute to Boy Scout effort

### A Tribute to Jeff Benson

By Bob Auseberger, Greene County

The phone call we never want or expect to get is one where a person such as Jeff Benson has passed away. We received that call Wednesday, about noon, and were devastated. Over the past 25 years he and his wife Margaret have been such an important part of our lives. They were one of our hero couples, and he was certainly a hero to our Lincoln Highway family.

He was creative, positive, and adventurous in both work and play. It was always fun to visit Jeff and Margaret. Many times the reason was a Lincoln Highway "situation" and always the issues were softened by discussions about their personal lives. They were always up to something whether it was with the kids, their home, yard, garden, camping, or planning a trip. As we talked, the Lincoln Highway issue would blend in and become just part of the visit, and the sharp edges of a seemingly insurmountable problem would taper and solutions would appear. One of my regrets is that we never did get the farm compost delivered for their garden. However, we did get the wheel over to them, and had fun with a highly upscale discussion of where and how the wheel could best be displayed in their backyard/garden.

Joyce and I always learned something new about Jeff in our discussions and were especially entertained with stories about his high school and college days. Did you know that he helped organize a rock band and was quite an accomplished musician?

In the early years of our Lincoln Highway organization Jeff and Margaret were very active. They served as the second presidents and later Jeff served as secretary. He will be remembered for his handling of the Lions Club Tree Park interpretive site situation and ushering it to near completion.

*Continued on page 2*

**ILHA Officers, Board of Directors,  
County Consuls, and Staff**

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<b>Secretary</b>		
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**The Next ILHA meeting will be  
July 11th, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in  
Clinton, Iowa at the Pizza Ranch  
(1347 11th St N)**

*A Tribute to Jeff Benson continued from Page 1*



Unveiling of Byway Sign (Jeff Benson, front right) © IVRCD

His last act was to bring an explaining sign. He and Troy worked hard to keep that project moving forward. Of course the sign still hasn't been placed, and now I can't visit with Jeff about this issue.

In this project, one can see some of his many good qualities—fund raising when last minute money was needed or being able to break down complex issues into simpler parts that could be solved one at a time. And

especially important being able to reduce personality issues so that the project problems could be worked on. He was adamant about the highway being a museum and that our duties were to preserve it and its roadside features so that a story could be told about the development of the highway and road system in our country. He and Lyell developed the plan for a hierarchy of interpretive sites many years ago. This plan continues to be the guide for telling this story.

I don't remember Jeff telling jokes, but he had a great sense of humor. One day during a planning session for the Lions Club Tree Park (on the Lincoln Highway, east of Grand Junction) we were discussing monetary compensation for the "big shots" as Jeff sometimes referred to them. He suggested that the historians, architect, graphic designer, and landscape architect get equal compensation. This suggestion caused quite an uproar. Amongst shouting and disagreement, Jeff said, "Wait, wait, this was just a dream and forget that I said it."

"Context Sensitive Design" was a byword for Jeff. A country road, city street, or cross-country highway, park, bike trail, pedestrian island, etc. was not just a piece of dirt, rock, concrete or asphalt with a fore slope and back slope. To him, it represented a place in time and space. The past, present, and future needed to be reckoned with and this required planning, time, and sometimes more planning, and many times strange and unknown involvement of science, history, culture or other human or inhuman activity.

Jeff gave great presentations and programs including an adult education series at Iowa State. He was good at captivating an audience and ending these in a timely manner. He was punctual with starting and ending meetings but always took time afterwards to work with people on their particular issues.

I am sure that Jeff will want Margaret and the kids to carry on and that he will want the Lincoln Highway Association to carry on. His other friends, acquaintances, and people involved in projects and his job with the city will surely feel this same challenge. Let's live up to his expectations.

**L**

## Mystery Place

By Van Becker

As with all Mystery Photos, I have four very special clues to make the location of this summer photo extra easy to identify.

The question is: Where is this Lincoln Highway planter?

1. This summer the LHA National Conference is in Michigan. This photo is 520 miles west of the conference site.
2. The photo is of the north side of the planter.
3. The BWN is to the southeast of this mystery location and the UP is to the north.
4. For years, but sadly, no more, a black knight watched over this site from across the Lincoln Highway.

If you think you can identify the Mystery Place, send an email to [lincolnhighway@prrcd.org](mailto:lincolnhighway@prrcd.org) or call 515-232-0048. Call with the correct information and we will take your name and contact information. We then will hold a random drawing for a winner to receive a 2013 Iowa Lincoln Highway Map Pack! This is to accomodate for the varying time and travel the postal system can take and to give all a fair try.



© Van Becker



## Last Issue's Mystery Place

The photos are of the "east end of the viaduct in Mt. Vernon, Iowa." Of course, it is on the Lincoln Highway on what is also known today as 1st Street East. The vintage photo was taken in the early teens and I took the second photo just this spring. Congrats to our winner, Bob Crawford of Newport, MN.



Kids in front of the Tama County Courthouse © LHBPO



Abe at Tama Bridge Park © LHBPO

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## Lincoln Highway Bridge Park Update

By Dana Davis Hanson, VP of the Tama-Toledo LHBPO

We have been very busy with the Lincoln Highway Bridge Park Organization (LHBPO) in Tama/Toledo this spring! One of our biggest projects was educating our youth on the history and importance of the LH in hopes that they will carry on the tradition of preserving it in the future. Allan Richards, one of our members, made several presentations to the elementary and high school students at South Tama Schools.

The 4th grade class took a special interest in the LH and they have been involved in many of our activities. They made a large confetti mural of the LH bridge that was on display at the State LH meeting last fall. The mural has since been on display at the Tama County Courthouse and may one day make it to the National meeting. On 4/23 this group of 120+ students came by bus to the courthouse to welcome John Mazzello, Janice Gammon and other supporters that came to learn more about the LH Corridor Management Plan. On May Day, the same group of 4th graders came out to the LH Bridge Park to clean up trash, pick up sticks and plant flowers. Their teachers and their principal, Jim Bugge were very supportive in the projects and all are very deserving of an extra-special "thank-you"!

On 5/15 the LHBPO staged a kick-off and flag raising ceremony at the park for the local Lincoln Highway Festival. The mayor of Tama, Dan Zimmerman, was on hand to open the kick-off. Allan Richards talked about the LH history and the significance of it in our community. Abe Lincoln (AKA Lance Mack) made an appearance and gave an inspiring rendition of the Gettysburg Address. The 4th grade students proudly sang the Star Spangled Banner. The local American Legion was on hand to present the American flag to the Boy Scouts that raised the flag. It was a wonderful ceremony and we were so pleased to see the community come out and show their support!

Of course no festival is complete without a parade! The LHBPO worked hard to build a float to enter in the parade, or maybe it just seemed hard because we were all inexperienced at float building. It all came together just in time for the parade Saturday morning. Whew! Around the float were Iowa maps that the 4th graders had traced the LH. Abe Lincoln sat tall in a large antique chair in front of a large American flag. Colleen Davis, the President of our organization, and some of the students rode along with Abe to throw out the candy. It all went so fast and we spent hours getting ready!

Our next adventure will be the Lincoln Highway Buy-Way Yard Sale in August. We hope to once again fill the park with vendors and have other locals along the route participate too. This is really only our second year at this, but we hope to grow each and every year. Maybe one day we will reach across the whole town. Even better, across the whole state of Iowa!! Let us know if you are interested in being involved, we need to get this going!

We also have been continuing our efforts to restore and preserve the Lincoln Highway Bridge in Tama. The bridge is such an icon in our community and visitors who travel the highway continue to make this a point of interest along the route. We are working with the city to find funding through grants and

donations to make the necessary repairs. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the bridge. We have added new bushes and flowers to the park area and it should be beautiful when in bloom this summer. We are still working on our plans to build a large informational kiosk at the park. You know how the saying goes...we have plenty of big ideas, but little money. So, we continue in our fundraising, so that one day this will become a reality for us and for the community.

If you are interested in following us and our adventures you can find us on Facebook at: Lincoln Highway Bridge Park Org. Tama/Toledo, IA.

**L**

## Jefferson Bell Tower Festival 2015

June 12-13

Jefferson's annual festival promises a weekend full of family-friendly fun and entertainment. Nestled in the middle of Greene County's county seat, the festival is home to a broad spectrum of activities.

From free shows on the plaza stage, to events and attractions like craft and food vendors, the fun run and walk, basketball tournament, and the beverage garden with its nightly musical entertainment, to a couple of events with a bit of a twist. The Bell Tower Festival was the place to be the second weekend of June!

**L**



Abe at Tama Bridge Park © LHBPO

## Corridor Management Plan Update

By John Mazzello, Program Coord. Prairie Rivers

The last few months have been very busy ones for the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway's Corridor Management Plan project. As you'll recall, a Corridor Management Plan, or CMP, is a long-term planning tool that identifies the byway area's strengths and opportunities, and lays out a strategy for enhancing the roadway. A major part of the CMP planning process is engaging with byway communities in order to gather priorities from residents, leaders, and organizations.

Since February, we have held community meetings in 13 Lincoln Highway communities: State Center, Jefferson, Lowden, Clinton, Boone, Belle Plaine, Ames, Toledo, Marion, Missouri Valley, Denison, Carroll, and Nevada. At each meeting, we had a great conversation about the Lincoln Highway, its important locations and assets, and each community's dreams for how the roadway might enhance the local area. Specifically, we considered the "intrinsic qualities," or the things that make the Lincoln Highway unique in six areas: historic, cultural, recreational, scenic, natural, and archaeological. From these meetings, we are assembling community priorities and strategies for reaching these goals.

More than 150 Iowans have participated in these meetings so far, including many Lincoln Highway Association members. Also represented have been business owners, elected officials, government employees, leaders of community groups, and local residents. Thank you to all the ILHA members who have attended meetings or given input on this project so far. We especially appreciate the help of the members who assisted with securing meeting spaces, providing refreshments, or organizing meetings.

Meetings are currently being planned for this summer in Mt. Vernon-Lisbon, Marshalltown, and Council Bluffs. Please look for more information in your local newspaper, on the Iowa Lincoln Highway Association's Facebook page, at our website at [www.prrcd.org/cmp](http://www.prrcd.org/cmp), or by phone at 515-232-0048. If you were unable to make the meeting in your area and would like to learn more about the CMP project and provide your input on your local area, please call or email [lincolncmp@prrcd.org](mailto:lincolncmp@prrcd.org). As members of the ILHA, you have an important and unique perspective on the Lincoln Highway, and it is critical that we include your ideas in the CMP. We invite you to get involved with this exciting project!

**L**



CMP meeting in Harrison County © Jan Gammon



## Jeff Benson (1952-2015)

By Adams Funeral Home

Jeffrey Donald Benson was born on June 28, 1952, the second child of Donald and Martha Benson, in Lawrence, Kansas. The family moved to Ames in 1958 when Donald accepted a position as an assistant Professor in the English

Department at Iowa State University. As a boy, Jeff attended the original Edwards School, followed by Welch Junior High and finally graduated from Ames High School in 1970. After spending two years at Carlton College in Northfield, Minnesota, he returned to Ames to attend a community college. While there, he studied design and eventually found work in several engineering companies.

Early in his career, he pursued an interest in landscape architecture and interned for The Design Collaborative at Ames design firm in Ames. He worked under the direction of James Sinatra and David L. Dahlquist, landscape architects.

Throughout his professional career, Jeff became a distinguished landscape architect through his project achievements and subsequent services to the profession. He was perhaps the one of the few to pass the State of Iowa registration examination and immediately become fully registered before earning a degree in Landscape Architecture. Following his registration, he then enrolled at Iowa State to receive a B.S. degree in Landscape Architecture and continued on to receive a Master's Degree in Community and Regional Planning. In 2001, he was employed by the City of Ames Planning Department and thus held the position for 14 years. While in this position, he was responsible for many projects for the beauty and betterment of Ames. In the 1980's, he played instrumental roles in the design and development of many major products including: the Gateway Hills and Green Hills developments in Ames and the State Historical Building landscape at the State Capitol.

Jeff's success in his personal life was also mirrored in his personal life. On April 27, 1980 he married Margaret Elbert, of Ames. They have been happily married for 35 years. Jeff and Margaret have contributed many years of service and leadership to the Lincoln Highway Association. Jeff also served on the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway Advisory Board and the Byways of Iowa Coalition.

Jeff died on Tuesday, May 26, 2015, surrounded by his wife and family, at Mary Greeley Medical Center in Ames. Memorials can be made to the Iowa Lincoln Highway Association, PO Box 224 Grand Junction, IA 50107 or the Ames Historical Society, 416 Douglas Avenue # 101, Ames, IA 50010.

**L**

## ILHA April Meeting Recap

By Jan Gammon, LHHB Coord.  
Prairie Rivers of Iowa

The Lincoln Highway Association gathered in Council Bluffs on April 11, 2015. The meeting was held at the St. Francis Center and called to order by President Deb Rothmeyer. Mayor Walsh welcomed the LHA to the city of Council Bluffs and thanked the group for their efforts over the years. The Lincoln Highway has been very important to his community and to Iowa.

The minutes of the January meeting and the Treasurer's Report were approved. State Director Dean Parr gave a membership number update and our totals to date in Iowa are 285. Dean and Van Becker urged everyone to sign up to attend the National Convention in Ann Arbor, MI this June. Discounted hotel rooms are going fast, so get your reservations in.

Jessica Johnson, from Prairie Rivers of Iowa, joined the group via phone and gave an overview of the new look for the LHA website.

The Spring LHA newsletter was distributed recently. Prairie Rivers of Iowa also shared that the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway is the first of the Iowa Byway series in the magazine "Edible Iowa." That edition just came out and features the Youngville café, the Lucky Pig in Ogden and other food options along the Byway.

Prairie Rivers of Iowa is also hosting public Corridor Management Planning (CMP) meetings in communities along the Byway. Everyone is encouraged to attend the meeting in their county. After the CMP is completed, an Interpretive Plan will be done. A current Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) will help place two interpretive panels in the Lions Tree Park near Grand Junction and the Lincoln Prairie Park in Ogden. These signs will be in the same design all of the Byways are adopting.

The Lincoln Highway Bridge Park Tama-Toledo group applied for the National Lincoln Highway Association Grant and Tama County LHA has submitted a teacher for the National Educator Award. The Grant will be awarded at the National Convention in June. It appears they have won the educator award. Congratulations!

The 2015 Auto Tour is finalizing the tour route. The 2017 National Convention will be in Denison, Iowa. Deb Rothmeyer and Jeannie Parr are the chairs for the convention and say preparations are well under way. It is unclear if the Grand Junction overpass will be completed in time for the Convention, but we hope so.

Greene County is working on a new brochure and John Fitzsimmons is doing some artwork for it. He also repainted a metal sign that will be hung in the restored gas station in State Center, now used as the police station. Bob Owens would like an article written about Portage Tires in the newsletter and submitted to the national magazine, The Forum. There is a building near the Eureka Bridge in Greene County that has an ad for Portage Tires painted on the outside and hopefully the building will be restored as an auto-related museum.

County reports were then given. Boone will be celebrating their 150th this year. It will be in conjunction with their Pufferbilly Days. Youngville Café will try to extend their hours. Tama is continuing to work on their kiosk, garden, and working on saving a tourist cabin. Harrison County has had some restaurants move to different locations and some new ones start up.

The next Lincoln Highway Association meeting will be in July 11th at the Pizza Ranch (1347 11th St N) in Clinton, Iowa.

**L**

## 9 Free Places Along Lincoln Highway Through Iowa

Scott Berka shared a link to the US Long Cuts blog about travels they take across America. (Name is the opposite of Short Cuts- you get the idea.) They included nice photos and an article about traveling the Lincoln Highway last summer. <http://www.uslongcuts.com/road-trips/historic-routes/9-free-places-along-the-lincoln-highway-through-iowa/>

Here's an excerpt:

"The Lincoln Highway, the first transcontinental highway in the United States, dedicated on October 31, 1913, originally stretched 3,389 miles from New York City to San Francisco. The route length decreased over time as the highway was rerouted for better efficiency. Last summer we took the Lincoln Highway partway through Iowa, west to east, stopping at several sites, all free (except lunch, of course), along the way, some for a quick photo and others that required a little more time."

They traveled from Crescent to Tama. Check out the blog and add your own comments if you'd like.

**L**



# Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway Updates

By Jan Gammon, LHHB Coord.

Prairie Rivers of Iowa

This spring has been a busy time! John Mazzeo and I have travelled the Lincoln Highway, holding Corridor Management Plan meetings and visiting many of your communities. I have enjoyed meeting everyone and hearing stories of the Lincoln Highway.

As part of the state Byway system, I am to keep the DOT's Byway website up-to-date with events and attractions. I have researched what is happening in each county and have started listing at least one activity in each county. I will keep expanding the list.

This summer I hope to attend several festivals. I started out the season by attending the Lincoln Highway Bridge Festival in mid-May. The folks in Tama have done a wonderful job on the park and everyone was having a good time at the carnival and food booths. As my website events list expands, so does my personal list of what I want to attend!

At a Motorcycle Forum in late April, I met a group of cyclists that are going from west to east on the Lincoln Highway over the Fourth of July holiday. They are hoping to frequent mom-and-pop businesses, attend some events, and enjoy the scenery. I have done some research for their trip and shared it with them.

The Iowa Byways will also be at a Harley Owner (H.O.G.) rally in July and we will be promoting travelling the Lincoln Highway with them. We have also sent Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway brochures to a Goldwing group that wants to travel the Byway. If you see motorcycles on the road this summer, it might be one of these groups!

The two conservation-related interpretative signs are in the fabrication phase and should be installed late summer/early fall in Ogden and Grand Junction area. We will host an unveiling ceremony and all LHA members will be invited to attend.

I will be attending the LHA convention in June and hope to learn even more about the association and the highway as we tour the University of Michigan archives. See you on the Lincoln Highway!

**L**



After the meeting members enjoy lunch at Dixie Quicks.

© Jan Gammon

# Events Along the Lincoln Highway

**June 18 - June 21** - 58th Annual State Center Rose Festival

**(June 14 & 28, July 12 & 26, August 9 & 23, September 13 & 27)** - Classic Car Roll Ins at Reed-Niland Corner 2-4 pm

**June 22-26** - 2015 Lincoln Highway National Conference in Ann Arbor, MI

**June 27 - July 8** - Henry B. Joy Tour (Detroit to San Francisco)

**July 4** - Lincoln Highway Antiques Extravaganza is creating a Pedestrian Mall with booths up and down three blocks of Mount Vernon's Uptown Business District. Mount Vernon's historic First Street will be closed to traffic.

**July 10-12** - Colo Crossroads Festival "Magic at the Crossroads" celebrating the crossroads of the Lincoln and Jefferson Highways.

**July 11** - Iowa Lincoln Highway Association Meeting: 9:00 a.m. in Clinton, IA at the Pizza Ranch (1347 11th St N)

**July 24** - 3rd Annual Depot Dog & Sweet Corn Feed + Bring Your Tractor to Town Night (Antique Tractor Show): 5:00 - 7:00 pm State Center Farmers Market

**July 31** - Council Bluffs Public Library will be holding a celebration this July 21st at noon to honor The Boys Scouts involvement with activities along the Lincoln Highway. More information on page 8.

**July 31 - August 2** - 31st Annual Mid-Iowa Antique Power Show, Marshall County Sheriff's Office grounds along U. S. HWY 30, east of State Center

**August 13-15** - Lincoln Highway Buy-Way Yard Sale (visit our Facebook page). Please note, selected communities will have yard sales- not statewide nor continuous across Iowa. Sign up on our website [www.iowalincolnhighway.org](http://www.iowalincolnhighway.org)

**August 14** - Franks From Us, customer appreciation event, from 5:00 - 7:00 pm, at State Center Farmers Market

**August 28-30**- Lincoln Highway Days in Nevada: Parade Sat at 10 am, food, crafts, games. Full schedule available in July at Nevada Chamber website [www.nevadaiaowa.org](http://www.nevadaiaowa.org)

**August 30** - Local Food Cycle 8:30 a.m. This year's ride is through eastern Story County with the final stop being at Niland's Café. Music and more delicious treats will be held at the historic Reed/Niland Corner. Sign up today at [www.prrcd.org/bike](http://www.prrcd.org/bike)

**October 9** - Watson's Fall Festival from 5:00 - 7:00 pm, in area around Watson's Grocery Store on West Main Street, State Center

## Event to pay tribute to the 1928 Boy Scout effort

On October 31, 1913, Council Bluffs was the first city in Iowa to dedicate the Lincoln Highway. Several years later, in 1928, the Boy Scouts of America adopted the Lincoln Highway and installed concrete marker signs. That summer, select Boy Scouts traveled from New York to the Golden Gate on a "Lincoln Highway Safety Tour". To honor all of these great Lincoln Highway events, the Council Bluffs Public Library will be holding a celebration this July 21st at noon.

The Lincoln Highway Association has asked the Mid-American Boy Scout Council to be there as we pay tribute to the Boy Scouts' gestures so many years ago. Also honored, in remembrance, will be the last surviving Boy Scout to make the cross-state trip, Bernard Queneau. He died in 2014, at the age of 102. The LHA is asking other businesses along the Lincoln Highway to be involved in this celebration.

Please join us for this important event as past and present Boy Scouts and their involvement with the Lincoln Highway are honored on July 21st at the Council Bluffs Library.

## Local Food Cycle

The Local Food Cycle is a special event where bike riders tour local farms, meet farmers and eat delicious culinary delights prepared by area chefs. This year's ride is through eastern Story County with the final stop being at Niland's Café. Music and more delicious treats will be held at the historic Reed/Niland Corner. Sign up today at [www.prrcd.org/bike](http://www.prrcd.org/bike)

Date: Sunday, August 30th, 2015

Start time: 8:30 A.M.

Start/End Location: Story County Fair Grounds 220 H Ave Nevada,

Before August 8th – \$45/biker

After August 8th – \$55/biker

College Students – \$35/biker

(must show student ID at registration)

Total miles = 34.5

(if you take the optional hayride the total biking miles = 26.6)

Proceeds from this event support future local food events and natural resource programming, including the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway.

In this issue....

## A Tribute to Jeff Benson, CMP Update, 9 Free Places along the Lincoln

The Next ILHA meeting will be  
July 11th, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in Clinton, Iowa at the Pizza Ranch (1347 11th St N)

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## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE IOWA LINCOLN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION

### President's Corner

By Deb Rothmeyer, President  
Iowa Lincoln Highway Association

WOW! Summer is almost gone. Time has gone by fast! I can't believe it's almost time for another meeting. I had a great time in July and August. I was able to take my family and travel our beloved Lincoln Highway. We drove to Clinton for the July LHA meeting. It's a beautiful drive, traveling the Lincoln Highway! We stayed at a cabin along the Mississippi River, watched the barges go by, and saw how the lock and dam works. It was just amazing!

We toured the Sawmill Museum, Crystal Cave, the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium and also toured the Fulton Windmill. We had a wonderful time site seeing!

Then we were on to Jefferson, Iowa and stayed at Spring Lake at the Cottonwood Cabin. Beautiful cabins! We enjoyed ourselves while fishing, paddling, and boating. We toured uptown Jefferson. WOW! They have done a beautiful job. We visited the courthouse and rode the elevator to the observation deck in the Mahanay Bell Tower. It was just beautiful!

Now back to business. We are going back to the old way of doing meetings - alternating business meetings and general meetings with tours.

Keep traveling our beloved Lincoln Highway!



### Upcoming Iowa LHA Meetings

Oct 10, 2015	Denison, General
Jan, 2016	Jefferson, Business
April, 2016	Belle Plaine, General
July, 2016	Missouri Valley, Business

Following the location of each meeting there is a description of what type of meeting will be held, business or general. Alternating meetings was discussed in this month's President's Corner.



© Osburg

### Table of Contents

<b>Pg.1</b> Presidents Corner Let the Good Times Roll	<b>Pg.5</b> CMP/LH Update Paranormal Investigation
<b>Pg.2</b> Officer List	<b>Pg.6</b> First Woman to Travel Solo on LH Linn Co.-Bloomington Rd. Bridge
<b>Pg.3</b> Mystery Place Directions to Meeting	<b>Pg.7</b> Portage Rubber Company
<b>Pg.4</b> Another Historic Building Saved on Lincoln Henry Joy Tour Group	<b>Pg.8</b> Clinton County Hi-way Gardens

### Let the Good Times Roll

By Caron Osberg

The good times were rolling as the 2015 ILHA Motor Tour took off in Kearney, Nebraska this August. On pre-tour sightseeing we explored in the Great Platte River Road Archway Museum with a leisurely visit through the exhibit and then out along the trail that leads to a Pawnee earth lodge and a prairie sod house. Along the trail were different art forms depicting the bison that once roamed the prairies. Following a boxed lunch, we went to the Classic Car Museum and spent hours looking over a collection of about 200 classic cars from every era of automotive history.

On Friday, we took off to see history along the Lincoln Highway, trying to keep to the original route as much as possible. We saw local landmarks such as a huge covered wagon pulled by two oxen and an old service station that has been converted into a bank. We drove past the site of the 1733 Watson Ranch, which was located 1,733 miles from both Boston and San Francisco. It was the home of a huge ranching operation that involved the introduction of alfalfa to the United States. Lenore Stubblefield of the Nebraska Association welcomed us to the Lincoln Highway Center in Shelton, NE. We got a tour of the center as well as the bank and enjoyed Lenore's hospitality.

Kensinger's Service Station, which is still in operation in Grand Island, is located right in front of an original Seedling Mile that we all walked on before leaving for Columbus. The Merrick County Courthouse in Central City is the site of the first Lincoln Highway Association meeting. In Duncan, NE there was a double line of trees that stood alongside the Lincoln Highway, now just a grass-covered park area.

Continued on page 2

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.



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*Let the Good Times Roll, Continued from page 1*

As you stand at one end, you can see how the trees would have lined the road. The Andrew Jackson Higgins Memorial and a 9/11 Memorial in Columbus stand side-by-side in tribute to the military heroes of our country.

Saturday began at the historic Oak Ballroom in Schuyler. This beautiful building was constructed by the WPA in 1936 and we learned the entire park was created from the drive and actions of one local man who wanted to keep his community happy and healthy. There's no doubt one person can make a huge difference in the lives of many people!

We drove three miles of original brick-paved Lincoln Highway, but stopped along the way to take photos and learn a little about the Highway. At Boys' Town in Omaha, we had a lunch prepared by the caring staff and then the Vice Mayor of Boys' Town took us on a tour to show us the history of Father Flanagan's famous home for abandoned children. Located on the Lincoln Highway, it was possible for boys to get rides to the home from truck drivers passing through Omaha.

The Durham Museum in Omaha is in the historic and beautifully preserved Union Station with exhibits showing life during the age of the railroad. Some of us took refreshment in the original soda fountain before heading out to our hotels and a fun, relaxed banquet with door prizes and plenty of time to chat and relax.

Sunday's stops were of a different nature. We headed to Crescent, Iowa to see Don's Garage, which is full of cars Don has purchased over the years. It was an up-close visit with Don, his wife and this fine collection of cars, some of which we've never seen before! Our trip to the Hitchcock Nature Center began with a talk alongside the cut of the original Lincoln Highway, which is now covered in grass and crops. The DeSoto Wildlife Refuge was alive with birds, water, and prairie grasses; the views of the Loess Hills were stunning!

Saying goodbye at the Harrison County Welcome Center was made sweeter by a wine tasting and a gift of homemade apple pie made with Harrison County apples. Delicious! Outside the center is a map of the United States depicting the route of the Lincoln Highway, a Lincoln Highway outlook and a fun exhibit showing the progression of the Lincoln Highway from dirt road to concrete pavement. The center has enough to keep you busy for a nice visit any day this autumn.

While traveling through Nebraska, consider taking some time to visit these national treasures. If you haven't been on an ILHA Motor Tour, you're really missing something!



*Vice Mayor of Boys Town  
Leading Tour Omaha, NE.*

*Taken on old LH Duncan, NE.*

## Mystery Place

By Van Becker



© Van Becker

This photo comes with the standard four clues.

1. This quaint motel is still open for business.
2. It is on the south side of the Lincoln Highway.
3. The motel rooms are within walking distance to cold beer.
4. This building is visible from space on Google Earth.

The question is: where is it located?



## Last Issue's Mystery Place

The mystery photo in the summer 2015 newsletter is in the far east side of Boone, Iowa. It is located on the southeast corner of Mamie Eisenhower Avenue (Old US 30) and Snedden Drive.

If you think you can identify the Mystery Place, send an email to [lincolnhighway@prrcd.org](mailto:lincolnhighway@prrcd.org) or call 515-232-0048. Call with the correct information and we will take your name and contact information. We then will hold a random drawing for a winner to receive a 2013 Iowa Lincoln Highway Map Pack! This is to accommodate for the varying time and travel the postal system can take and to give all a fair try.

## The Next ILHA meeting will be October 10, 2015 in Denison, Iowa at Cronk's Restaurant. Refreshments at 9:00 AM, general meeting to follow.

The address is 812 4th Ave South in Denison, IA. If coming on Highway 30 from the east, Cronk's restaurant is in the next block after the S 9th St. intersection. It is on the north side just before 30 changes to 4 lanes. If coming from the west on Highway 30, you will merge on to Highway 59 briefly and then exit on to Highway 30 heading east. The road is four lane for a few feet. At the change to two lane, Cronk's will be on the north side and across the street from the Bamboo Village Chinese Cafe.



Pre-tour Group Picture at the Arch

© Osburg

## More pictures of the 2015 IALHA Tour are available on the website.



The LINCOLN HOTEL in Lowden, Iowa is seeking a NEW INNKEEPER. The current owners are looking to retire.

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## The James H. Andrew Railroad Museum and History Center

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[www.iowarailwaymuseum.org](http://www.iowarailwaymuseum.org)

Visit one of Iowa's most interesting railroad collections



## Another Historic Building Saved Along Lincoln

By Harlan Quick, Marshall County Consul

The remarkable row of historic buildings, which sits along State Center's Main Street will soon see another addition to its collection of restored 1895 structures. This is the last building that the State Center Development Association needs to restore in the 100th block of West Main, a street sitting along the 1922 route of the Lincoln Highway as it winds its way through Central Iowa.

The Evans Café Building, originally a two-story structure, was built in 1895 after two fires wiped out the entire block of buildings, leaving only the Bishop Building at the west end of the block. The first occupant of the Evans Café Building was E. P. Snyder, who ran a restaurant on its first floor and a hotel on its second floor.

In the early 1910's, a widow, named Emma Evans, and her son, Oscar, acquired the building after expanding their family's bakery business into a restaurant and bakery, thus the present-day name for the building, the Evans Café Building. The Evans family continued to operate their restaurant and bakery at this site until 1925, when they both retired from the restaurant business.

Through the years, the building was leased to other restaurateurs. The Evans family continued to own the building until the death of Oscar's widow, Maude Evans, in 1951. That year, the Central Iowa Telephone Company bought the building, remodeling the two-story structure into the one-story structure we see today.

The telephone company later sold the building and it was turned into a private residence. Fred Zeller, the last resident to live here, sold the building to the State Center Development Association this past March. The Development Association is renovating the building for retail use. With design assistance from the Iowa Main Street program, the SCDA plans to restore the building's interior, replace the second story, and return its street-side facade to its original 1895 appearance.

Another building in State Center's Remarkable Row will soon be resurrected for future generations to see as they travel the historic Lincoln Highway through Central Iowa.



1895 Evan's Café Building



Current Evan's Café Building



Proposed Evan's Café Building

© Harlan Quick



© Allen Robinson



Visiting the Lincoln Highway Garden

## Henry Joy Tour Group

By Allen Robinson

There was a good showing for the group that came from Ames with the Henry Joy driving tour on June 30th. A few (but not all) continued on to Jefferson to check out the sights on the square downtown. I think about half the group probably bypassed Greene County altogether to head directly to Woodbine on US Highway 30. The Joy Group gathered in the Lincoln Highway Garden that Bob and Joyce are developing on Main Street just down the block from the Greene County Lincoln Highway Museum and across the street from the new community center that is now under construction.



Attend 17th Annual  
**Watson's Fall Festival**  
October 9th along the Lincoln Highway  
in State Center from 5:00-7:00



## **Corridor Management Plan and Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway Update**

By Jan Gammon, LHHB Coord.  
Prairie Rivers of Iowa

At the end of July, John Mazzello left the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway program. He had been living in upper New York State and telecommuting for a while. He decided to take a job closer to home as he and his wife are expecting their first child this fall. We wish the best to both of them!

Prior to his departure, John held the last two community input meetings in Council Bluffs and Mount Vernon/Lisbon. These two groups had great ideas and all of the notes for the 15 community meetings can be found at [www.prrcd.org/cmp](http://www.prrcd.org/cmp).

Jan Gammon, coordinator of the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway, has assumed John's duties with the Corridor Management Plan. Part of the process is to conduct an Economic Impact Study to develop a baseline and then repeat the study sometime in the future to determine the impact the Byway has on the communities and counties it travels through.

Surveys for visitors to the Byway corridor have been placed in the following locations: Sawmill Museum in Clinton, Lincoln Café and Wine Bar in Mt. Vernon, Belle Plaine Museum in Belle Plaine, King Tower in Tama, John Ernest Vineyard and Winery, Reed-Niland in Colo, Greene County LHA Museum in Grand Junction, Mahanay Bell Tower in Jefferson, Cronk's in Denison, Harrison County Historical Village and Welcome Center in Missouri Valley, and the Union Pacific Museum in Council Bluffs. The survey will go through October, so if you know of another location where we could obtain visitor information, please let Jan know at 515-232-0048.

A test-run of resident surveys was done at Lincoln Highway Days in Nevada at the end of August and the survey will be placed on-line in the next month. We will email the link out to Chambers, Historical Societies, and other interested parties to gather Byway resident's opinions.

The Byway has been busy traveling the route this summer- delivering survey packets, helping Linn County residents with information about their bridge (see article), enjoying the Meskwaki Pow Wow, attending Nevada and Story County planning meetings about wayfinding and management plans, promoting the DOT's Byway program at a H.O.G. (Harley Owners) Rally in Des Moines, delivering a missing Byway sign to

Benton County for installation, and attending National Scenic Byway training in Millersburg, Ohio.

We are about halfway through the Corridor Management Plan process and will be holding more meetings with officials and residents in each county in the coming months.

**L**

## **Paranormal Investigation at Reed- Niland- Colo**

By Sandii Huemann-Kelly, Webmistress

When strange things happen, as they have been at Niland's Cafe, one has to wonder if there may be an explanation or perhaps some paranormal activity going on. Over the past several years employees have noticed little things such as unexplained noises, taps and tugs, aprons untied and the coffee pot turned off when it should be on. These mischievous activities caused some staff to wonder if there was potential paranormal activity.

In April, requests for an investigation were sent to the three main groups who specialize in this type of investigation in Iowa. Two proposals resulted the Eastern Iowa Paranormal (EIP) group being called upon to conduct the investigation. The investigative team included four members of the EIP group along with the current cafe operator and her husband. From 9:00 PM until about 2:00 AM beginning on April 17, 2015, various sessions were conducted using the latest in infrared cameras, specialized recording devices and other methods.

The findings seem to validate some activity, particularly in the café kitchen and the restored gas station at Reed-Niland. If you are interested in the findings, visit <http://easterniowaparanormal.com/> and look under Case files. The noises in the kitchen area, even when closed, presented a challenge to get recordings without extra noises (freezer motor, ice machine, etc.) so perhaps a future investigation will be done to further isolate those noises and gather more information.

**L**

## First Woman to Travel Solo on the Lincoln Highway

Condensed from Lucianne Boardman's press release

Silent screen star Anita King made the first female solo drive on the Lincoln Highway across America. Three sisters are following in her footsteps as they recreate the journey of their great, great aunt Anita. Lucianne Boardman, Aleta Beckman Wilke, and Heather Pancratz left San Francisco on September 7 and arrived in New York one week later. Boardman is the only sister to have met their great, great aunt, but the sisters have an appreciation for her accomplishments and hope to inspire young girls everywhere as they blog and share a photo journal of the event.

Ms. Anita King was born Anna Keppen in Michigan City, Indiana and orphaned at the age of 16. She and her eight siblings were left to fend for themselves until she relocated to Chicago, seeking employment on the stage and reinventing herself as Anita King. Actress Lillian Russell encouraged Anita to try motion pictures in Hollywood and soon Anita followed her dream to become a famous actress in Hollywood. She starred in more than 19 silent movies, many of them directed by Cecil B. DeMille.

King was challenged by DeMille and director Jesse Lasky to drive the newly christened Lincoln Highway from San Francisco to New York. She started out on September 1, 1915 and completed the trip in 49 days without a mechanic or security- demonstrating a woman's strength at a time when women were considered secondary citizens. She was dubbed the Paramount Girl and her journey was a goldmine for the Paramount studio who gave her a rigorous itinerary to meet fans and conduct public event in cities along the way. Newspapers told stories of defending herself against a coyote attack, changing tires, and completing general maintenance along the way. It took her 49 days to make the journey.

She took the fame and publicity and started a shelter for runaway girls in Hollywood who found themselves friendless and victimized by the Hollywood machine. This cause was picked up by Cecil B. DeMille's wife, Constance.

The reenactment took place on the 100th year anniversary of Anita's trip and the three sisters retraced her steps, stopped at some of the same places Anita did, and tried to make her journey in seven days. Read their BlogSpot- [anitakingfilmstar.blogspot.com](http://anitakingfilmstar.blogspot.com) or contact Ms. Lucianne Boardman at [luciannefd@gmail.com](mailto:luciannefd@gmail.com).

**L**



Steven Rider (right) donated a 1928 full page ad from the Des Moines Register and several other LH articles to Bob Ausberger (left) at the Ann Arbor conference in June. Mike Kelly has digitized and restored the original and will have copies available to display along the route. Also pictured: Russell Rein, who coordinated the transfer.

## Linn County- Bloomington Road Bridge

By Jan Gammon, LHHB Coord.

Prairie Rivers of Iowa

During a Corridor Management Plan community input meeting in Marion this past spring, resident Allan Viktor mentioned that a bridge on Bloomington Road that crosses Big Creek on the loop section of the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway was scheduled to be replaced this next year. Steve Gannon, Linn County Engineer, stated that bids were to be let for the project in September.

This summer, Mr. Viktor asked the Board to reconsider other options for the bridge. He used information from the 2012 DOT bridge inspection report and from the Tallgrass Historians, LC's "Inventory of County-Owned Historic Sites and Properties in Linn County" written in 2010 as well as testimonials from local farmers and residents to present his case to the Board.

Bloomington Road was the original Lincoln Highway but after diverting the route to Mount Vernon Road instead and bypassing Marion altogether, this road was never paved and today remains gravel. This current bridge replaced a Bowstring Bridge on a different alignment of the creek. The original abutments are visible and were at one time considered as a location for interpretation. This bridge was built in 1925, after the Lincoln Highway was moved, according to the DOT inspection report and the Tallgrass Historians, LLC report. Although it is 90 years old and one of the few truss-type bridges in the County, it is not being considered for the National Register as it falls out of context with the Lincoln Highway's association with Bloomington Road. It is on a loop of the Byway, however, and is an important feature in telling the story of rivers, roads, and the Lincoln Highway. Today, art classes visit the bridge area to draw and paint the prairie landscape, creek, and bridge. Many kids ride bikes to the bridge and fish the area.

In the DOT inspection, the bridge scored 50 out of 100 points (the higher the score, the worse the bridge.) Other bridges in Linn County scored in the 70's. It does have a weight limit of 10 tons, which has been in force for several years. The DOT traffic count is 90 cars per day, but locals think it is more like 10 per day. If farmers need to move equipment, they go a different way and avoid the bridge altogether. It is a quiet and quaint gravel section of road. Resident Jackie Moore said if this was made into a 2-lane bridge, everyone would start using it as a short cut to Marion and cause more traffic at another already bad intersection.

The 2010 Tallgrass report says, "Whatever problems on this bridge that may be causing that low rating, they certainly could be easily corrected through a rehabilitation project. There is actually very little black rust or section loss on this bridge's trusses, even on the traditionally troublesome areas such as the bottom chord

*Continued on page 7*

connections.”

Steve Gannon, Linn County Engineer, said he thought the last time it was painted was 1946. He started in the Engineering Department in 1974 and he knows it has not been painted since he has been there. Gannon states it will cost \$1.5-2 million to repair, in his estimation. The cost to rebuild is \$550,000 and they have about \$300,000 in Federal dollars to use towards a newly built bridge.

The Board weighed information and made a decision on September 2nd by a vote of 4-1 to remove the old bridge and replace it with a new one. Citizens may try to appeal the decision.

**L**



[http://www.historicbridges.org/b\\_c\\_ia\\_linn.htm](http://www.historicbridges.org/b_c_ia_linn.htm)

## Portage Rubber Company

By Bob Auseberger and Jan Gammon

This spring, just west of Jefferson, Iowa, Randy Monthei removed some tar paper from an old shed on his property and discovered a ghost sign for Portage Tires. The sign is in pretty good shape on the 110 year-old shed. An overhang and the tar paper had protected it from the elements.

The shed is along the Lincoln Highway, the first transcontinental road, and was used as advertising for the tire company. Many early travelers drove along this route and often structures like this along the road were used to advertise auto-related items. Not a lot of information is available on the Portage Tire Company, but we have found some about the company and its relationship to the tire industry and the Akron/Barberton area.

The Portage Rubber Company was started in Barberton, OH in 1910. The Indians had used this area as a portage or “carrying place” between Lake Erie and the Ohio River. The name Portage is used often in the area around Barberton and Akron. An example is the Portage Lakes which is a nearby string of lakes. There is also a Portage township and a Portage County.

Barberton is very close to Akron, OH and is a “planned industrial community” with Lake Anna in the

center, surrounded by a circle of homes that are encircled by manufacturing and a rail line. Ohio Columbus (O.C.) Barber inherited his father’s matchstick company and in 1891 it was consolidated under the name Diamond Match Company. He became known as “America’s Match King”. He bought 550 acres of land 5 miles from Akron and hoped he’d find natural gas to aid in manufacturing strawboard boxes. The Portage Strawboard Company was created as he needed boxes for his matches. The land he had bought was not suitable for his needs, so he created and designed the town Barberton instead and found other manufacturers to set up factories and manufacturing in the community, like Portage Tires.

Nearby Akron was known as the “Rubber Manufacturing Headquarters of the World” and produced more than half of the world’s tires and rubber goods in the early 1900’s. Every rubber article, from the tiniest rubber washer to dirigibles, was made in this area.

Almost all of the rubber was imported from Brazil. Cotton was also used in the manufacturing of early tires. The Salt River of Arizona, the sand dunes of Southern California and along the Nile saw mammoth cotton plantations develop. In New England, cotton and spinning mills flourished to create the millions of yards of fabric required in this rubber industry.

The first rubber product was a fire hose created by Goodrich and the first tires were solid rubber bands for wheels of high bicycles in the 1890’s. Then as the automobile came on the scene, manufacturing needs changed.

In 1898, Frank Augustus (F.A.) Seiberling co-founded the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company with his brother, Charles, in Akron. In 1921, Goodyear was reorganized and refinanced. Charles and F.A. resigned and then F.A. established the Seiberling Rubber Co. He acquired the factory of the former Portage Tire and Rubber in Barberton. We can surmise then that Portage Tire had a life of less than 11 years. Firestone bought Seiberling’s plant in 1965 and then in 1980 the plant closed down, putting 1,000 workers out of business.

Today there are three companies that use the factory site. They recycle pallets, recycle polymer and compounds, and make carbon black for rail use.

**L**



**Due to minimal spacing,  
July’s meeting minutes will be  
available on the website.**



## Clinton County

By Cathie Nichols, Clinton County Consul

Joe Goodlove reported on the closing of the old LH bridges at the last LHA meeting. Dewitt Parks & Rec. successfully celebrated their second year of Tunes In Town. This is a program held every Tuesday evening from June through August in Lincoln Park, on the old Lincoln Highway. From 6:00-8:00 PM there is live music and food, from various artists and vendors. This year we started and ended the season with a car show, and in July there was a motorcycle show. Put this on your radar for next summer!

We are planning a cleanup of the old pony truss bridge at Syracuse, on the old Lincoln Highway between Calamus and Wheatland. This bridge has been on several of our Auto Tours, and is in need of some TLC. We are looking into trying to get it painted next summer, possibly by the Boy Scouts. The cleanup will be Sunday, October 4, from 1:00 PM to whenever we're done.

**L**

## Hi-Way Gardens Inducted into the Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame

Article submitted by Joe Goodlove

The Hi-way Gardens, located in Stanwood, was inducted into the Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame over the Labor Day weekend in Arnold's Park, Iowa. The Hi-Way Gardens was a swinging venue for decades. The ballroom was located in Stanwood on the Lincoln Highway (Hwy 30) and began operating in the early 1920's.

The ballroom was built by Robert McClellan and Elwood Reseweher as an open-air dance pavilion. In 1936, McClellan bought out his partner and enclosed the dance floor, added a lunch room and bar, and served alcoholic beverages for the first time.

Over the many years that Robert and Grace McClellan ran the ballroom, they featured big bands and famous singers like Wayne King, Tiny Hill, Guy Lombardo, Lawrence Welk, Hank Thompson and Brazo Valley Boys, Jerry Lee Lewis and Conway Twitty. They also supported local bands- Leo Greco and the Pioneers, Tom Owen's Cowboys, Kenny Hofer, the Escorts, Dale Thomas and the Bandera Boys, the Untouchables, Deliverance, the XL's and many more.

The couple operated the ballroom until Grace was killed by a car on Jan 1, 1967 while walking home from the ballroom after a New Year's Party. Bob sold the ballroom in 1972 and it changed hands a few more times. In 1979, George Bush appeared there while running for President of the United States. A wrecking ball took the ballroom down in February 2007.

**L**

In this issue....

**ILHA Tour Coverage, A Historic Building Saved, Paranormal Investivation**

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# Along The Lincoln Highway



Volume 20, Number 4

Winter 2015

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE IOWA LINCOLN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION

### President's Corner

By Deb Rothmeyer, President  
Iowa Lincoln Highway Association

Wow! I can't believe its November already. The year 2015 has flown by. My hubby and I traveled our beloved Lincoln Highway during the last part of October; it was beautiful as the leaves were changing.

I went back to Clinton for 3 days and visited the Saw Mill Museum. Wow! I was impressed!

I want to thank everyone that participated in the Lincoln Highway Buyway yard sale. All reports indicate this was a good year.

Plans for the 2017 conference that will be in Denison, Iowa are coming along great. Tours are set up, speakers are lined up, and the town of Denison is hosting two nights with food, music, a show and more.

Just to let you know, I will be gone the first part of December and will be returning around the 15th. If anything arises that needs to be addressed immediately, please call the Parr residence and they would be glad to help.

See you all in Scranton for the January business meeting!



© Joe Goodlove

Local Cub Scouts and volunteers installing a Lincoln Highway marker  
Front Row (L-R): Jayden Nabb, Carter Horman, Peyton Clark, Hunter Lohman and Johnny Amina. Back Row: Beryl Esbaum, former Boy Scout, Dale Axline, Barry Hoffmeier, Joe Goodlove and Kirk Stinke.

Also helping was former Boy Scout Rex McCrieght

### Table of Contents

<b>Pg.1</b> President's Corner Lowden Installs Marker	<b>Pg.5</b> Lincoln Hotel in Lowden
<b>Pg.2</b> Officer List Apple Daze	<b>Pg.6</b> CMP ILH Update ILHA Intern
<b>Pg.3</b> Mystery Place 2015 Iowa Motor Tour	<b>Pg.7</b> Lincoln Highway Merchandise Christmas Celebration in State Center
<b>Pg.4</b> Bridge in Linn Co. Lincoln Highway Survey Jeff Benson Endowment	<b>Pg.8</b> Meeting Information Greene Co. Brochure

### Lowden Installs Original Lincoln Highway Marker

Lowden Sun News, provided by Joe Goodlove

Approximately 2,430 Lincoln Highway markers were installed by the Boy Scouts of America on Sept. 1, 1928. To commemorate the event, members of Lowden's Cub Scout Troop No. 160, former Boy Scouts, and volunteers installed a recovered Lincoln Highway Marker in the Lowden City park. The marker was recovered in Clinton for the Lincoln Highway Association by LHA member Joe Goodlove of Lowden. In a joint effort by Joe and Lowden resident, Barry Hoffmeier, the marker was acquired from the ILHA for the City of Lowden.

The Lincoln Highway was named by the Lincoln Highway Association on July 1, 1913 to honor Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States. The LHA wanted to create the nation's first transcontinental highway and thought a patriotic name would sell the project to investors. The Lincoln Highway originally ran coast to coast for 3,389 miles from New York's Time Square to San Francisco's Lincoln Park and ran through 13 states. Due to realignments and improvements, the route was shortened to 3,142 miles by 1924. The Highway was marked by signs with a red, white, and blue rectangle, with a large blue "L" and the words "Lincoln Highway" stenciled in the white portion.

In 1926, the American Association of State Highway Officials and the Joint Board on Interstate Highways created a more uniform sign and numbering system to identify the nation's highways. Most of the Lincoln Highway route became US Highway 30, with portions becoming US 1 in the East and US 40, US 50, and US 93 in the West. Due to realignment, today's Highway 30 aligns with less than 25% of the original 1913-1928 Lincoln Highway route.

With the numbering system in effect, the LHA embarked on one final effort to mark the route of the Lincoln Highway and

*Continued on page 2*

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.

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**Clean Up Day**

The cleanup day at the Pony Truss Bridge in Clinton County was not held. Cathie Nichols will reorganize the event in late March of 2016. Be sure to watch the ILHA website and Facebook page closer to March for more information.

*Lowden Installs Original Highway Marker, Cont. from page 1*

to honor Abraham Lincoln. The LHA approved the casting of 3,000 concrete markers, which would be placed along the Lincoln Highway. The markers carried the familiar red, white, and blue Lincoln Highway symbol. Also, each marker had a bronze inset of Lincoln's bust and the words; "This Highway Dedicated to Abraham Lincoln."

On September 1, 1928, the LHA partnered with the Boy Scouts of America to install 2,436 of these markers along the Lincoln Highway, from coast to coast.

To some, the first transcontinental highway united the nation that Lincoln fought to save and made the Lincoln Highway a fitting symbol to remember the 16th President.

**L**

**Apple Daze**

Photos and Article by Mike Kelly

Youngville held its Annual Fall Festival on Sept. 27th. The celebration pre-dates the opening of the cafe in 2003 and has been known as Apple Daze since then. Front row parking is always reserved for the Hawkeye Model A Club and the Antique Automobile Club of Cedar Rapids. These long-time friends and benefactors played a huge role in the restoration of Youngville with donations toward matching funds that made the project possible.



Our two antique gas engine displays are always popular and Lyell Krug, known as the "apple peeler guy," always brings a unique and sometimes mysterious display from his kitchen gadget collection.



In keeping with his tradition of keeping you guessing, the identity of this gadget will be in the next newsletter. Here's a clue. It was used in the preparation of one of today's most popular pies.

**L**



## Mystery Photo

By Van Becker



© Van Becker

1. This photo is an unmistakable landmark on the Lincoln Highway.
2. The building is NOT in Iowa.
3. There is a 1928 marker out front dedicated by Boy Scouts.
4. Photos of this building have appeared numerous times in the Forum.
5. In the entire length of the Lincoln Highway, there is only one other site that can compare with the unique status of this building/site.

The question is: where was this photo taken and what is this building's name and what is it used for?

## Last Issue's Mystery Photo

The mystery photo in the fall 2015 newsletter is located one half mile east of the Benton/Linn county line on the Lincoln Highway. It is known as the Ced-Rel Motel. The Ced-Rel Supper Club is adjacent to the west. The two businesses share a neon sign along the highway. The motel is at 11901 16th Ave. South West, Cedar Rapids.



© Van Becker

If you think you can identify the Mystery Place, send an email to [lincolnhighway@prrcd.org](mailto:lincolnhighway@prrcd.org) or call 515-232-0048. Call with the correct information and we will take your name and contact information. We then will hold a random drawing for a winner to receive a 2013 Iowa Lincoln Highway Map Pack! This is to accommodate for the varying time and travel the postal system can take and to give all a fair try.

## 2015 Iowa Motor Tour

By Bryan Osberg

Pictured are the participants in the 2015 ILHA Iowa Motor Tour. The group traveled from NE and ended at the Harrison County Historical Village and Welcome Center. Ideas and planning are beginning for the 2016 Iowa LHA Motor Tour. There will be dates and details in the next newsletter.



© Osberg

Taken on old LH in Duncan, NE

## YOUR AD HERE

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

**1 Issue: \$10, 2 Issues: \$20  
3 Issues: \$30, Buy 3 Get 4th Free**

Contact joyce for more information:  
[bobjoyce@netins.net](mailto:bobjoyce@netins.net)



The LINCOLN HOTEL in Lowden, Iowa is seeking a NEW INNKEEPER. The current owners are looking to retire.

For details contact Elizabeth Norton  
563-941-7563  
[www.lincolnhoteliowa.com](http://www.lincolnhoteliowa.com)

**Niland's Cafe & Colo Motel**  
Crossroads of the Lincoln & Jefferson Highways  
Great Food With a Side of History

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(641) 377 (FOOD) / 3663  
FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

Sandra Huemann-Kelly  
Cell: (319) 573-5711  
[nilandcafe@gmail.com](mailto:nilandcafe@gmail.com)

**The James H. Andrew Railroad Museum and History Center**  
at the Boone and Scenic Valley Railroad

November 1 through May 22  
Monday - Friday 10 am - 4 pm  
Saturday Noon - 4 pm  
Closed Sunday

May 23 through October 31  
Sunday - Thursday 10 am - 4 pm  
Friday and Saturday 10 am - 5 pm

www.iowarailwaymuseum.org

Visit one of Iowa's most interesting railroad collections

## Bridge on Bloomington Road in Linn County

Jan Gammon, LHHB Coord.

Prairie Rivers of Iowa

Bob and Joyce Ausberger have talked to Linn County farmer, Allan Viktor, about the 90-year-old bridge in Linn County that goes over Big Creek. Mr. Viktor owns the land around the bridge and was trying to save it from the wrecking ball. In September it was scheduled to be replaced, but local residents appealed to the Board of Supervisors to save it. The Board voted to go ahead with replacement. Demolition began in November of 2015.

**L**



Take the Economic Impact Baseline Survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s9Y95BXW>  
for a chance to win a prize!

For more information about the survey read Jan Gammon's CMP and LHA Update

**Due to minimal spacing,  
October's meeting minutes will  
be available on the website.**

## Jeff Benson Family Iowa Lincoln Highway Endowment

Condensed by Meredith Ponder, ILHA Intern

A fund has been established at the Story County Community Foundation in order to help fund the Jeff Benson Family Iowa Lincoln Highway Endowment. This is an Endow Iowa fund, which allows Iowa tax payers to take a tax credit equal to 25% of a gift in addition to the normal federal deduction for charitable gifts.

This fund was set up by Jeff's loved ones who wanted to honor his memory by utilizing an innovative program to give back to something that he was passionate about and that reflected his values. For more information please review the Jeff Benson Memorial Form located on the ILHA website.

Please direct donation questions to the Story County Community Foundation by calling (515) 232-9200 or emailing [storycounty@storycountyfoundation.org](mailto:storycounty@storycountyfoundation.org)

Please mail donations to:

Story County Community Foundation  
P.O. Box 1666  
Ames, IA 50010

**L**



**Jeff Benson  
1952 - 2015**

## Lincoln Hotel in Lowden Celebrates 100 Years

Lowden Sun News, Provided by Joe Goodlove

The Lincoln Hotel in Lowden, Iowa celebrates its 100th birthday this year. The Lincoln Hotel is a Lincoln Highway gem that is featured in both Brian Butko's *Greetings from the Lincoln Highway* and Drake Hokinson's *The Lincoln Highway: Main Street across America*. The Hotel has served travelers on the Lincoln Highway since Celia Dean Clemens opened for business on June 17, 1915. On that day, guests paid \$2 per day for a room and could enjoy a steak dinner for 75 cents. The contemporary prairie-style architecture gave the hotel a modern twist at the time. The electric lights, steam heat, and the bathroom with running water provided comforts not always available to travelers in 1915. The Lincoln Hotel was the only lodging between Clinton and Cedar Rapids when it was built and Celia enjoyed a brisk business, servicing both the rail and highway travelers.

The Hotel stood in witness of the progress of the Lincoln Highway. The highway was originally a dirt road. On April 27, 1917 paving began in Lowden and was complete through Cedar County on Oct. 27 of that year. On September 7, 1925 the Lowden City Council ordered all hitching posts on the streets of the business district be removed within 30 days. Autocross guests first purchased buckets of gasoline at the livery stable on the north side of the hotel. Later gasoline became available at the general store and in the early 20's the Hawkeye Filling Station opened. On Aug 14, 1925, the Freund Garage was making improvements and a new gas tank and pump were added along with the cement walk repaired to meet the increase in business. In 1928, H.C. Kaman & Sons erected a Standard Station and a Phillips 66 opened in November of 1934. The traffic kept coming; Model T's became Hudson's, the '57 Chevys became SUVs.

Celia remained the innkeeper for 31 years when she sold the business to John and Anna Stickpin who tended to the business for 10 years. Donna and Prince Hudson Jr. purchased it in 1956 and assigned the contract to Mary Louise Wiles within a year of ownership. Mary Louise ran the hotel for seven years. On Oct. 7, 1967, William and Arlene Cederberg purchased the business and Arlene ran it for 13 years. The building stood vacant until Lincolnway Hotel, Inc. purchased it for the purpose of historic preservation in 1991. Brad Norton and Sue Licht, on behalf of the

corporation, renovated the building. The hotel opened as an apartment building for low income housing in the spring of 1996. At that time the hotel was presented with the "Preservation at Its Best Award" from the Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance and had earned a spot on the List of Historic Places on the National Historic Register.

The hotel operated as a residential facility until 2001 when Brad and Elizabeth Norton purchased the business. Elizabeth took over management and gradually converted the apartments to five spacious suites with private baths. She also introduced an optional gourmet breakfast served either in the room or in the dining room. The seventh room offers a space for a massage therapist. Elizabeth has served travelers from as far as Vienna, Norway, and Germany, hosted family reunions with families coming together from both coasts of the United States, entertained the organizers of RAGBRAI, and provided the comforts of home to the many other travelers who travel the highway for business and pleasure.

After 100 years, six innkeepers, and an unknown number of guests who shared the comforts of the Lincoln Hotel, the Norton's, in their 60's, are now thinking of retirement and looking for a new keeper for this stately building and place of repose. The Lincoln Hotel will continue to serve highway travelers and witness change on the Lincoln Highway as it once again outlives its innkeepers.

**L**



©Peter Hoehnle



## CMP and LHHB Coordinator Report

By Jan Gammon, LHHB Coord.  
Prairie Rivers of Iowa

As part of the Corridor Management Plan process, we held 15 community meetings across the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway. The information that came out of these meetings will be used as we write up our plan in the coming year. More small meetings will be held with city administrators and government officials to blend our plans with their plans, when possible, for unified strategies along the Byway.

We are working on a “points of interest” map by intrinsic quality (Historical, Cultural, Recreational, Natural, Scenic, and Archeological) and will combine important points the residents suggested with points already identified.

We will use this same information to create a new brochure for the Byway. We received an Iowa Tourism Grant towards the creation of this new document and we are excited to get it designed and printed.

The Economic Impact Baseline Survey is coming along nicely. You still have time to respond electronically and you just might win a prize! For the Resident Survey, go to this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9Y95BXW>. If you are traveling more than 30 miles from home and want to fill out the Visitor Survey please use this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/W7T39ZM>. We hope to share some interesting data in the coming months!

As the coordinator of the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway and a resident of Nevada, I have attended a DOT, Story County Board of Supervisor, and Nevada City Council meetings regarding the changes to Highway 30 between Nevada and Ames. The DOT has presented the City with 2 proposals. The one preferred, will do away with any at-grade crossings between the two towns and add an interchange just east of I35 near the new churches and DOT garage and an interchange at 610th (also known as Airport Rd or W 18th St). It will also close off the 6th St (Main Street) exit. The only way to enter Nevada then will be at 19th St (McDonald's exit) or at 610th (Airport Rd/W 18th).

Farmers and truckers are upset because they need to travel to the Lincoln Highway where the Co-op, LincolnWay ethanol plant, and new DuPont Cellulose Plant are located. They will have to drive several miles to gain access to the Lincoln Highway. Travel on these new interchanges is not conducive to large equipment and their line-of-sight for other traffic. Several of them farm both sides of Highway 30, and it will cost more in fuel to go around to an access point rather than just cross the road.

Residents are upset, especially rural folks to the south, as they need to go miles out of their way- to either Ames or Nevada- to even access Highway 30. Visitors from the east, if missing the 19th St (McDonald's exit) will probably keep driving to Ames rather than taking a convoluted exit and backtracking to a new road that will lead to Main St.

Business people are upset because the exit to Main St will be closed off. Downtown Nevada struggles as it is. Vetter Farm Equipment spent 8.5 million in a new facility to be near Highway 30. They will find themselves on a dead-end road with no access to the highway. Case IH training center, across the road from Vetter, trains several thousand people every year and they won't have easy access either.

For all of the reasons above, semi, truck, farm equipment, resident, and visitor traffic will increase on Lincoln Highway. This will increase the accidents on the road and deter anyone from using the bike path that was installed a few years ago.

The Nevada City Council met November 23rd and voted to “reject the proposed plan and create a task force to look into other alternatives.”

**L**

## Meet Your LHHB Intern

By Meredith Ponder

Hello! My name is Meredith Ponder and I am your Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway Communications intern. I met some of you at the ILHA meeting in Denison on October 10th, but for those of you who I haven't met, here is a little background about me.



I am a senior at Iowa State University double majoring in marketing and management. I am planning to graduate in December of 2016. I grew up in Prairie City, Iowa and graduated from Prairie City-Monroe High School in 2012.

I enjoy working with the Iowa Lincoln Highway Association, through Prairie Rivers of Iowa, where I also work as the marketing assistant. My favorite thing about this job is learning about a unique facet of Iowa's history and helping you educate Iowans about the beautiful Lincoln Highway.

**L**

## Missouri Valley

Products Available at Harrison County Historical Villiage and Welcome Center

Coffee Mugs  
T-Shirts and Sweatshirts  
Baseball Caps and Magnets  
Patches, Books, and more!

2931 Monroe Ave in Missouri Valley

## Belle Plaine

Products Available at Belle Plaine Area Museum

Key Chains  
6-Inch Rulers  
T-Shirts  
Coffee Cups  
Bumper Stickers



901 Main Street in Belle Plaine

## Colo

Products Available at Reed Niland

Coffee Mugs and Key Chains  
Post Cards, Pens, Pencils,  
Books by Brian Butko and more!

24 Lincoln Hwy in Colo

## Check out these small business to purchase your Lincoln Highway Merchandise

Don't see what you're looking for? Check out the National Lincoln Highway Trading Post at: [www.lhtp.com](http://www.lhtp.com)

## Watkins

Products Available at the Youngville Café

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T-Shirts  
Benton Co. Lincoln Highway  
Centennial Photo Book

Open during Spring and Summer

2409 73rd St. in Watkins

## Tama

Products Available at Sweet Repeats

Coffee Mugs, T-Shirts  
Key Chains, Bumper Stickers



418 State Street in Tama

## Grand Junction

Products Available at Greene County Lincoln Highway Museum

Plaques and Markers  
T-Shirts and Map Packs  
Books and Postcards  
Magnets, Hats, and more!

200 Main Street in Grand Junction

## Old-Fashioned Christmas in State Center

By Marcia Quick

The holiday season is here, and with it came State Center's 16th Annual Old-fashioned Christmas on Main, held Friday, December 4. The events kicked off early, at 8:15 a.m., with "A Christmas Carol", a one-man show by actor Duffy Hudson, in the High School Auditorium. The citywide celebration featured holiday open houses at area businesses beginning at 1:00 p.m. There was caroling along Main Street in the afternoon by WMHS singers. Chainsaw artist Pat Doyle performed his chainsaw magic throughout the afternoon and evening at the corner of East Main Street and 1st Avenue South. Nearby, a silent auction ran from 1:00 p.m. till 7:00 p.m. in the Main Street Office Suites. Down the street, the Annual West Marshall High School Holiday Art Show was held in Jacobson Portrait Studio. Across the street, a life-sized Nativity scene was nestled under the City's stately Christmas tree between Garry's Barber Shop and Central State Bank.

The evening's activities kicked off at 5:00 p.m. when a horse-drawn trolley dropped Santa and Mrs. Claus off at historic Watson's Grocery Store. There were free horse-drawn trolley rides, with pick-up and drop-off on West Main throughout the evening. Musician John Schumacher played guitar in Hometown Foods. There were Craft and Food Fairs from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m. in four convenient locations along Main Street: the first floor of City Hall, Mitchell Family Funeral Home, David Beary Enterprises, and Soleil Tanning & Fitness. The evening ended with a live auction at St. Andrew's Grill & Bar.

In addition to two fine local restaurants, members of First Presbyterian Church served their annual spaghetti dinner in the Community Hall, with vocal performances by the Heart of Iowa Sweet Adelines and the Marshalltown Men's Chorus. At the Remarkable Rose Floral & Gifts, the State Center Development Association served tasty soups and sandwiches. Afterwards, there was s'more-making along the street outside.

We hope you joined us along the historic Lincoln Highway in downtown State Center, but if not, mark your calendar for next year for December 2nd for the 17th Annual Old-fashioned Christmas on Main!



**The Next ILHA meeting will be January 9, 2015 in Scranton, Iowa at the Community Center. Refreshments at 9:00 AM, business meeting to follow.**

The address is 900 Madison in Scranton, Iowa. If coming from either the east or west on the US 30, turn south onto Hwy25 (also known as E Ave or Locust Ave). Continue south. A block after State Street, turn east (left) onto Madison. Continue east, past Main Street. In the next block, at the corner of Lincoln St and Madison, you should see the Community Center on Madison.

**Upcoming Iowa LHA Meetings**

<b>January 9, 2016</b>	<b>Scranton, Business</b>
<b>April 9, 2016</b>	<b>Belle Plaine, General</b>
<b>July 9, 2016</b>	<b>Missouri Valley, Business</b>

**In this quarter's issue....**



**Historic Greene County Attractions and Evolution of Transportation**

By Joyce Ausberger

Prairie Rivers of Iowa, Bob Ausberger and John Fitzsimmons worked together to produce the Greene County brochure. John did the artwork and Bob provided the transportation history. Prairie Rivers of Iowa provided the brochure layout. Bob had gotten the idea of a Lincoln Highway map across Greene County with attractions seen along the route from a Route 66 brochure he picked up many years ago. The Greene County Community Foundation provided the matching funds for the brochure. Look for the brochure in Greene County Communities.

**L**

**Apple Daze Recap, Lincoln Hotel 100 Year Anniversary, Jeff Benson Endowment, and more!**

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