



# Along The Lincoln Highway



Volume 21, Number 3

Fall 2016

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE IOWA LINCOLN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION

### President's Corner

By Sean Fitzsimmons, President  
Iowa Lincoln Highway Association

Hello to all, I hope your summer has gone by slower than my own! The marker that survived the fall of the Boone Historical Society building's facade has been fixed. The masons that fixed it did not do an adequate job, so my father and I are planning on meeting with the head of Boone Historical Society to arrange a proper fix. She is interested in having my dad to do some touch-up painting on the marker too.

Another situation transpired when Dad and Meredith (the ILHA intern) were selling merchant memberships in Boone County. They heard that Ogden had resurfaced part of their main street and now something was missing. (I'm sure most of you know of the foot prints in the road on the west side of Ogden's main street). Meredith and my father talked to the street crew outside of city hall and were informed that the footprints were actually cut out of the road to preserve them and there are plans to place them in a park in Ogden. They would like to put up an interpretive panel in the park, explaining the legend of the foot prints.

I hope to see you all at the upcoming meeting,  
if Fareway grants me time off!  
Safe travels!



Due to space constraints, July's meeting minutes are available on our website.

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### Footprints in the Lincoln Highway

From The Lincoln Highway Iowa by  
Gregory M. Franzwa, 1995

*"On a summer day in 1929, shortly after the paving crews had moved on, some klutz stepped into the wet concrete as he attempted to cross the street. Realizing that the mix was still fluid, he hesitated, then preceded across the paving as fast as he could, and probably ducked into a saloon for another stiff belt before anyone caught onto what he had done.*

*The street itself was paved with a coarse river gravel, which has been worn down to a terrazzo-like appearance, not unlike a bank floor. Early in 1994 it was decided to top the original concrete with asphalt. But that would have covered over the footprints, which are rapidly becoming more widely known and appreciated. So it was decided instead to repair potholes with the same kind of aggregate as the original mix, keeping the footprints...and adding much more historical integrity than an asphalt overlay."*

The footprints have remained in the pavement since that day in 1929, and any improvements to the main street in Ogden have stopped just short of the prints, leaving them exposed to the elements and for residents and tourists to enjoy. That is, until mid-July 2016! The city street crews removed part of the footprints and have stored them safely in a city shed. They have been replaced with a fresh concrete patch in the pavement.

*Continued on page three.*

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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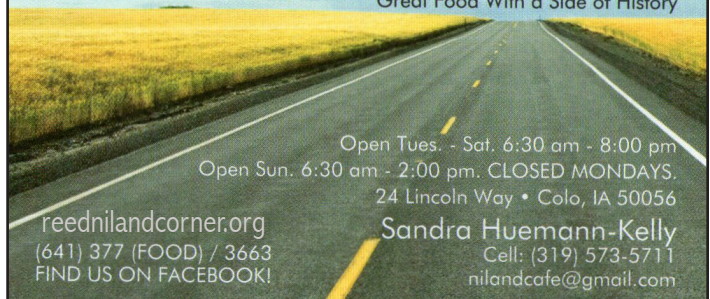
**Dan Julin**  
Sales Rep/Manager  
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Arcadia, Iowa 51430



Phone: 712-689-2435  
Fax: 712-689-2439  
Cell: 712790-7447  
danarcadiameats@netins.net

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

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

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

at the Boone and Scenic Valley Railroad

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**May 23 through October 31**

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## 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.

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

An advertisement form can be found on our website  
or you can contact Joyce for more information:

bobjoyce@netins.net

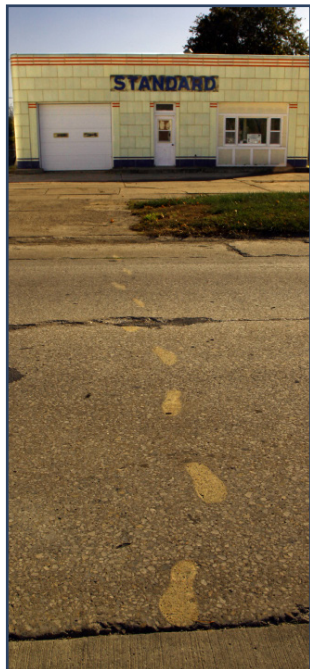


### Footprints in the Lincoln, Continued from page one

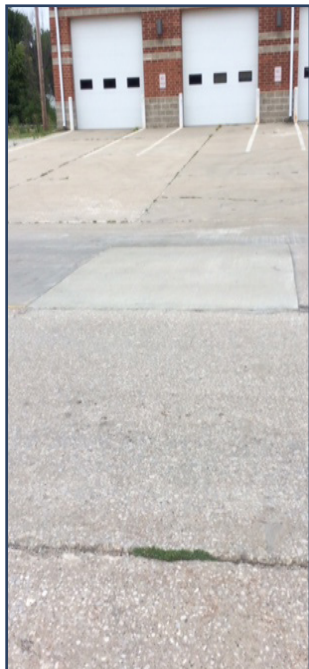
Plans are to place these footprints in a park within Ogden and add an interpretive panel explaining their history.

The city crews did not remove all of the footprints; just the more visible ones. However, if you look closely, you will still be able to see two or three footprints on the south side of the street. You just need to know where to look and take your time looking for them (and watch for traffic).

**L**



2015 Photograph,  
looking south



July 2016 Photograph,  
looking north

### Tama Bridge

By Jan Gammon, LHHB Coord.

Prairie Rivers of Iowa

The Lincoln Highway Bridge in Tama remains a concern to the Lincoln Highway Association, the Tama Historic Preservation Commission, and the citizens of Tama. Recently the Tama Historic Preservation Commission was reformed. Anne Micheal, chairman, and other members circulated a petition in Tama to draw the city's attention to the community's support in preserving this historic bridge. Over 400 people signed the petition.

The city is well aware of the importance of the bridge and is taking steps to make structural repairs. Judy Welch, Tama City Clerk, says "core samples were taken from the bridge testing for chloride levels and the test failed. This means the levels were higher than acceptable and would cause corrosion in any steel that is in the bridge. The City is awaiting word from the engineer as to his cost to engineer the project. After the engineer is hired he will start work on the specifications as to what needs to be repaired. The city wants to repair this bridge as it is important to City of Tama, the Tama Historic Preservation Commission, and the residents of Tama."

**L**



2016 Lincoln Highway Motor Tour  
Clinton, IA to Boone, IA



the  
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*owner and stylist*

amygale204@gmail.com  
515.788.2252

201 1/2 MAIN ST. EAST  
Grand Junction, Iowa





## CMP and LHHB Coordinator Report

By Jan Gammon, LHHB Coord.  
Prairie Rivers of Iowa

The Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway (LHHB) and the other Iowa Byways manned a booth at the Iowa State Fair this summer. The LHHB was proud to debut the recently published "Information Guide" that showcases information about locations, sites, and attractions along the Byway and is divided into the 6 intrinsic qualities that make a byway (archaeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational, and scenic.) This guide gives Byway visitors many ideas and choices to visit and experience.

The LHHB held another round of Corridor Management Plan meetings in August and September. Points of interest were identified and mapped. Suggested projects from the initial community input meetings as well as county and city plans were consulted, and the ideas prioritized into three different levels. The Byway and other agencies were identified as lead organizations and a timeline was assigned to each project. Maps and projects were open to the public for comment at the community meetings. The corrections are being made before the final Corridor Management Plan is given to the Iowa Department of Transportation for final approval. The final document will be available on-line and a link to that should appear in the next newsletter.

L

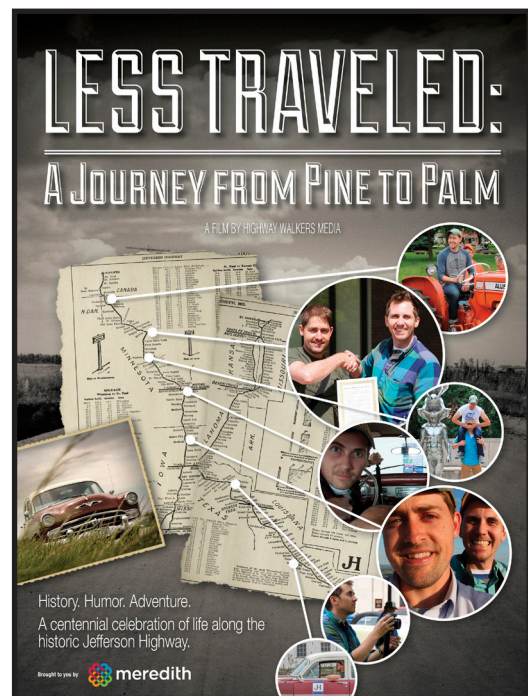


## Jefferson Highway Video

By Jan Gammon and Scott Berka  
Prairie Rivers of Iowa

Highway Walkers Media, an adventure documentary film company based in Leon, Iowa will, screen their film, "Less Traveled: A Journey from Pine to Palm" in a free showing at the Iowa Talent Factory, Thursday, September 22nd at 7:00 p.m. in Nevada, Iowa.

The film is about the Jefferson Highway which begins its 2,200 miles in Winnipeg, Manitoba and finishes in New Orleans. According to Josiah Laubenstein and Darrell Johnston, creators of the film, "The road never changes time zones, but it changes cultures frequently. The people in Winnipeg are different from the people in New Orleans. But different is good. It keeps things exciting."



The two traveled from Pine to Palm to create their hour-and-a half movie, which debuts in the centennial year for the road.

In Iowa, the Jefferson conjoins with the Lincoln Highway at the Reed-Niland Corner in Colo and travels with the Lincoln to Nevada, Iowa. Different alignments have it turning south outside of Nevada or going on into Ames before turning south. The Jefferson Highway was recently named as a new Byway in the Iowa Department of Transportation Byway program.

L

## Following the Lincoln Highway in Carroll County

By Barbara Hackfort, Carroll County Consul

On a warm and sunny day in August, three local Lincoln Highway enthusiasts, Francie O'Leary, Vicki Gach, and I, set out to explore the original Lincoln Highway through Carroll County. With our Lincoln Highway brochures in hand, and Francie's knowledge of the Lincoln Highway to guide us, our plan was to travel the route in our county, and also to extend a bit beyond into the bordering towns of Westside and Scranton to visit the unique sites both had to offer.

Due to construction work on the west end of East Third Street in Carroll, our journey began at the intersection of East Third and Highway 71, where we turned west up "Gilley's Hill," used by early motorists to test the power of their new engines. The pavement lasts only one mile, and we then continued on the well-maintained gravel road which took us all the way to Westside. Along the way there were a few miles where modern changes were not evident, and we could imagine the countryside as it was in the early days of the Lincoln Highway. Most surprising were the number of cement bridge railings remaining in use, despite the advances in the size of road equipment and farm machinery. Also remarkable were the number of cement posts and gateposts still marking farm places and property lines.

Although Westside is outside of Carroll County, we followed the Lincoln Highway signs along the route and continued our tour through the Crawford County town, passing by the house with the "eyebrow" window, and also stopping to see the remnants of the second foundation of the WWI Soldier Monument located on the school grounds. Leaving the original Lincoln route on the west side of town, we decided to visit the World War I Soldier Monument, located in the Westside Cemetery north of town. The statue of the soldier on the monument was once located on the Lincoln Highway with traffic directed around it.

After leaving Westside, we turned east, using "New 30" to get back to Carroll, where we picked up the Lincoln again on our way to Glidden, the location of the Merle Hay Monument at the Glidden Cemetery. Merle Hay was one of the first three American soldiers killed in combat in World War I,

and the monument, designed by Ding Darling, a Pulitzer-prize winning cartoonist for the Des Moines Register, is an historic landmark of national renown.

Allowing a side trip for lunch at the Dairy Mart in Glidden, we returned to the original highway through the business district of town. Continuing south, the pavement ended and we were back to driving on a gravel road. Turning left at the "T" intersection (remember to turn left again at the "Y" intersection that you will be coming to), we were now heading towards Ralston, looking for the "Gregory Markers." Along the route, we again saw several concrete property markers, two of which had an "L" etched on the posts. We soon came upon the Gregory Markers, which identified the west and east Gregory property lines, and they are a must-see for any Lincoln Highway traveler.

We were now at the eastern limits of Carroll County, but we could not end our journey without visiting the Skew Bridge and the Moss Markers, which were not that far ahead in Greene County. The Skew Bridge derives its name from the fact that it covers the natural flow of the creek, and so the railings are not directly across from one another. Coming next are the Moss Markers, built in 1924, and restored in 2001. Stopping to see the monuments built by a Civil War veteran, with the Lincoln sculptures once again intact, was like taking a step back into the past. We continued into Scranton to view the Lincoln Highway Boy Scout Marker, then took a short side trip to visit the Scranton Cemetery. The cemetery has some unusual monuments, which include a double pillar monument near the entrance, and several stone tree-trunk monuments, decorated with carved vines and flowers, marking family plots.

All in all, our day was a rewarding experience and an extraordinary opportunity to encounter our history. It was also an excellent reminder of the treasures to be found along the Lincoln Highway, and of the need to preserve them for future generations.

**L**



©Vicki Gach



## 2016 Motor Tour

By Caron Osburg

The 2016 Iowa Lincoln Highway Association Motor Tour was as much fun as state law would allow.

This year the tour began in Clinton, Iowa with a full three days' itinerary planned. But as so often happens, we gave folks a chance to travel in and provide a little something called a pre-tour. This year, we had almost 100% participation in the pre-tour travel, which was a beautiful, rural drive north into Galena, Illinois followed by a delicious supper at Timmerman's Supper Club in East Dubuque.

It was a hot, muggy day in Galena, but everyone found something to do from the long list of options that included wine tasting, walking tours, historical sites, restaurants and the popular guided trolley tour. Galena is a historic town situated with a small river running through the middle.

At the height of the town's prosperity, the river was much wider, deeper and an important part of the town's economy. Many people visited the historic DeSoto hotel to sit in air-conditioned comfort and watch an interesting video about the history of the town. Timmerman's Supper Club made our large group feel right at home and we enjoyed time at the bar, a delicious meal, and beautiful views of the Mississippi River.

The next morning, we visited with the owner of Smith Brothers General Store in Clinton. Browsing and remembering as we looked at the collection of goods, quite a few purchases were made to start the official portion of the tour.

We left Clinton and headed west to DeWitt where we were warmly met by a group of DeWitt residents along with the mayor. There we visited the Hausbarn and the Petro service station while some of our motorists went into the shopping district for a quick peek at the stores. Leaving DeWitt, we drove through Calamus and over two of the bridges near the pony truss bridge into Wheatland. We drove into Lowden to their lovely park for a generous Iowa pork chop lunch.

Leaving Lowden on the Herbert Hoover Highway, we drove to West Branch to visit the Herbert Hoover National Historic Site, which is the preservation of the neighborhood where Hoover grew up. We then proceeded to the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum, a real treat for all the history buffs in our group. Afterward, we drove into Coralville to visit the Antique Car Museum to see the large collection of cars and the exhibition of local history.

On Saturday, the group drove to the Amana Colonies via Highway 6 where a local Model A club was

showing a huge collection of cars. We drove through other Amana locations on our way to Belle Plaine to see the Belle Plaine Area Museum with its special area on the first floor devoted to the Lincoln Highway. Leaving the museum on the old Lincoln Highway, we stopped at the JEV Winery to taste wine and buy some bottles for our wine collections.

Stopping in Tama, we were happy to see a small group of Tama Lincoln Highway representatives greeting us near the bridge. We bought t-shirts and took a lot of photos, which can be seen on the Iowa Lincoln Highway Motor Tour Event 2016 Facebook page.

On Saturday night, the banquet was a time to relax over a good meal and plenty of conversations and laughter.

Sunday morning, we headed to State Center on the old Lincoln Highway to have donuts and coffee in the City Hall as well as to visit their rich collection of historic buildings: the converted service station that's now the police station, the train depot, the one-room schoolhouse, the barber shop museum and Watson's Grocery. As a bonus, the local fire department was running drills right on the Lincoln Highway in preparation for an upcoming competition!

We then headed to Colo and Niland Corner where the Jefferson and Lincoln Highways intersect and enjoyed a short visit of the grounds and the gas station. Then it was off to Ames for lunch.

After lunch and a video presentation in the Ames City Hall (which was once the Ames High School) we drove into Boone to the Mamie Doud Eisenhower birthplace to enjoy the beautiful weather, a private tour, and Mamie's own chocolate fudge and sugar cookies for an extra treat.

After some visiting and long goodbyes, the tour was over. Consider joining us next year for a memorable trip through the best of Iowa on the Lincoln Highway. If you're interested in viewing pictures, please visit: [www.iowalincolnhighway.org/motor-tour](http://www.iowalincolnhighway.org/motor-tour).

**L**



*Annual Model A car show in the Amanas*

## Clinton County Update

By Cathie Nichols, Clinton County Consul

We just finished up another great Lincoln Highway Motor Tour—thanks to Bryan and Caron Osberg! DeWitt welcomed the Motor Tour on Friday, where we visited the Hausbarn in Lincoln Park and the Petro Stop 1930s cottage gas station on the Lincoln Highway. As the tour was passing through the Syracuse Wildlife Area between Calamus and Wheatland, I asked participants to take a good look at the road and bridges and give me any ideas for funding, improvements, and future use. There were several good suggestions, and I'll be following up on those before our next general meeting in October.

If you haven't been getting emails about this, a section of 1921 Lincoln Highway with three original bridges dating to 1921 is being abandoned by Clinton County. The easement on this section has been offered to the Lincoln Highway Association at no charge, if we are interested in preserving it. The section is approximately two miles in length, and passes through the State wildlife area and the Clinton County Conservation river access and boat ramp. The Clinton County Historic Preservation Society is also interested in getting the section on the National Register for Historic Preservation. Apparently there was a plan for a multi-use recreation area made in 1997, but no more was done to follow up on it. There will be a discussion and time for questions at the October meeting.

**L**



©Cathie Nichols

An error was made in the Summer 2016 newsletter appearing in a story entitled "Whitlock Update," found on page seven. Our previous Iowa

Lincoln Highway Association's President is named Keith Whitlatch, and not Keith Whitlock as it appeared in print. We apologize for this error.

## Old Lincoln Hwy 30 Bar & Grille

1102 Main Street  
Scranton, IA 51462  
712-652-3188



### Last Issue's Mystery Place

The winner of last issue's mystery place is Van Becker! Congratulations, Van!



© Mike Kelly

The building is located on the back road that goes to Montour. It was built by the C.C.C. in the 1930s for Meskwaki Settlement to sell souvenirs to Lincoln Highway travelers.

### Mystery Place

By Mike Kelly

### This Issue's Mystery Place

This is on a less traveled and less known section of the Lincoln Highway that leads to a well known but very rarely traveled section.



© Mike Kelly

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. 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 15, 2016 in Jefferson, Iowa  
at Uptown Café.**

**Refreshments at 9:00 am,  
business meeting to follow.**

**The address is 108 W State Street, Jefferson.**

**Directions to Uptown Café:** If traveling the Lincoln Highway from either the west or the east, turn 1 block north at the intersection of State and Wilson, then left ½ block to the left (west). The café is on the north side of the street.

If traveling Highway 30 from the east or west, turn south on Hwy 4 into Jefferson, go over the railroad bridge and turn left (east) at State St for 1 ½ blocks. Café will be on your left on the north side of the street.

(The Café is northwest of the city square.)

**Upcoming Iowa LHA Meetings**

<b>October 2016</b>	<b>Jefferson, General</b>
<b>January 2017</b>	<b>Nevada, Business</b>
<b>April 2017</b>	<b>TBA, General</b>

**Merchant Membership Progress**

By Meredith Ponder, ILHA Intern

John Fitzsimmons and I sold Iowa Lincoln Highway Association Merchant Memberships to businesses in Boone County on July 26th and have seen some excitement from merchants. We have sold five memberships, but have contacts with at least five more businesses in the county who have an interest. Our sales total \$440 after one day's effort. We have spent the \$517.18 budget that was approved at the last meeting, on flyers, business cards, and window clings for the project. During the early months of fall sales are planned for Greene and Story counties. Currently the businesses who have purchased memberships are located on our website under the events tab and entitled "Places to Go."

There are two options for memberships; an \$80 membership features you on our website as a preferred business, but a \$100 membership features you on our website as a preferred business, and also includes a graphic to gain the attention of the viewer. Our website ([www.iowalincolnhighway.org](http://www.iowalincolnhighway.org)) reaches over 850 each month. Memberships are only offered to small town businesses. If you know of anyone who is interested in purchasing a Merchant Membership, or would like more information, please email me at [mponder@prrcd.org](mailto:mponder@prrcd.org).

**L**

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

**find updates on the Ogden Footprints, the Tama Bridge, the 2016 Motor Tour, and more!**

**FIRST CLASS**

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