



# Along The Lincoln Highway



Volume 22, Number 3

Fall 2017

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE IOWA LINCOLN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION

## President's Corner By The Fitzsimmons Trio John, Amber, and Sean Fitzsimmons

The 2017 Lincoln Highway National Conference has now come and gone. It was an honor to be a part of the conference, and, in my personal opinion, it was one of the best conferences we've had to date. Every person I met expressed how much they were enjoying the festivities, and it was a good to see faces from around the different states along the Lincoln Highway.

The people and the businesses in Denison and along the tour route were integral to the success of our conference. The public was excited and enjoyed interacting with the guests in town. A big shout out to Boulders for going above and beyond by being flexible and helping accommodate everyone and for keeping up with the demand for their delicious food. Although most of the conference was smooth sailing, we did have some issues. At the Harrison County Welcome Center, we had a small problem with the bus, but we all worked together, fixed the issue, and continued on to have a great journey to Omaha.

Personally, I was excited to find a true Lincoln Highway relic in the antique shop in Denison. As I was browsing the wares, I found an original Ames Motor Court sign, advertising the tourist cabins once found along the Lincoln Highway. One day soon, the sign will be restored to its former glory and featured in my collection.

Thank you to everyone who came to the 2017 National Lincoln Highway Conference and contributed to making it a huge success. It was a memorable experience and set the bar high for the conferences to come. Also, kudos to Jeannie, Barb, and rest of the committee on a job well done!

**L**

## Table of Contents

Pg.1 Conference Recap	Pg.5 Youngville Update LHHB at the Fair
Pg.2 Officer List	Pg.6 Conference Photos
Pg.3 Recap Cont. Art Winners T-Shirts Available	Pg.7 LHHB Update Mystery Place
Pg.4 Interpretive Panels	Pg.8 Meeting Information

## National Conference Recap

By Jeannie Parr, 2017 Conference Co-Chair

It's a wrap! The 2017 Lincoln Highway Association's National Conference is in the history books. About 130 people gathered in Denison, Iowa to celebrate this historic road and the 25th anniversary of the reformation of the Lincoln Highway Association. The first day included some on-your-own tours at Templeton Rye in Templeton, Iowa and the German Hausbarn in nearby Manning. That evening, after registration, the group enjoyed an Opening Banquet at the Boulders Conference Center.

The first day trip went as far east as Ogden, IA. The group saw the Eureka Bridge, which started the renewed interest in the Lincoln Highway and led to forming the Greene County LHA, followed a year later with reforming the national organization. The bus stopped in Jefferson, Iowa where attendees could ride the glass elevator up to the top of the Mahanay Bell Tower and look out over the lush, green corn and soybean fields and see the Lincoln

*Continued on Page 3*

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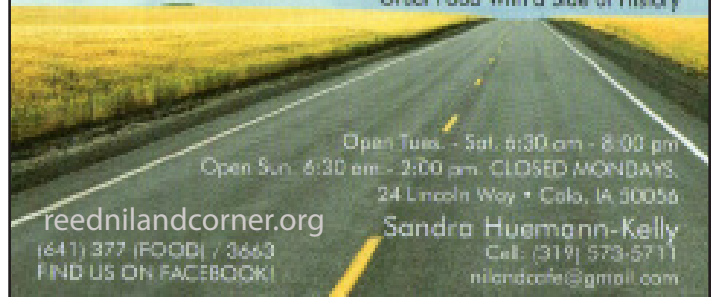
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## The James H. Andrew Railroad Museum and History Center

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*Continued from Conference Recap*

Highway travel across the landscape like gray ribbon. Restaurants of the attendees' choices were open to serve lunch to the crowd. Other stops included the Greene County LHA Museum and Garden, the Grand Junction Community Center for cookies and lemonade, and the Lion's Club Tree Park interpretive center. From the bus windows, the group saw the Moss Markers and the Gregory Markers.

The next day the two buses headed west to Woodbine where they drove down the original 11-block brick section of the Lincoln Highway and on to the Harrison County Historical Village and Welcome Center where they were treated with delicious cinnamon rolls, juice and coffee. A short movie about the Lincoln Highway was being shown. Attendees could also walk up to the overlook and enjoy the sweeping views of the Boyer River Valley. The museum buildings were open for viewing and people could enjoy the outdoor exhibits and interpretive panels. The buses were loaded (with a little snafu, but all turned out well) and headed to Council Bluffs where they enjoyed a box lunch in Bayliss Park, The Union Pacific Railroad Museum, and the Squirrel Cage Jail- all within a short walking distance of each other. Back on the buses, the group traveled through downtown Council Bluffs and over the Missouri River into Nebraska. They drove to a park to overlook the Lincoln Highway, past Automobile Row, past the Joslyn Castle, on the brick section in Elk Horn, and past Boystown.

Speakers Day included topics about food, traveling the Lincoln Highway in unique ways, the Glidden 1919 trip, Iowa's hidden treasures, and about the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway in Iowa. The evening Awards Banquet was held at Cronk's Restaurant, on the Lincoln Highway. And the next day, the Annual Meeting was held at Cronk's as well. Photos of the conference are available on the ILHA Facebook page.

Next year, in 2018, the national conference will be held in New Jersey, and a bus trip will take the group into Times Square to see the eastern terminus of this historic road. See you there!

**L**

## Art Winners at Conference By Joyce Ausberger

Jefferson students Rachael Danielson (left) and Lucas Ausberger tied for first place in an art show that was part of the 25th annual National Lincoln Highway Association Conference last month in Denison. They won \$85 each for their respective photos of the Bell Tower and courthouse rotunda, two landmarks along the Lincoln Highway in Greene County. Both will be seniors in the fall at Greene County High School.

**L**



## Conference T-Shirts Available!

If you didn't get your Conference T-shirt yet, some are still available at the Greene County LHA Museum in Grand Junction. Or contact Joyce Ausberger at [bobjoyce@netins.net](mailto:bobjoyce@netins.net) and she will get one in the mail to you. All sizes available for only \$10!

**L**





## Interpretive Panels Installed By Jan Gammon, LHHB Coord. Prairie Rivers of Iowa

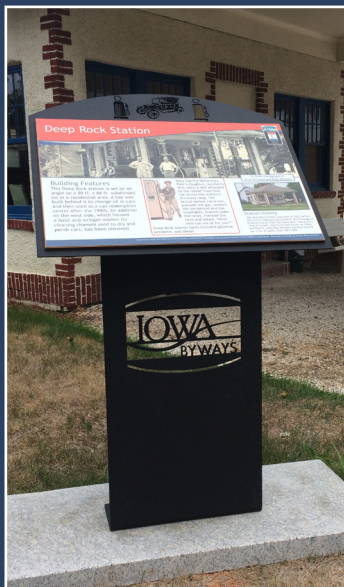
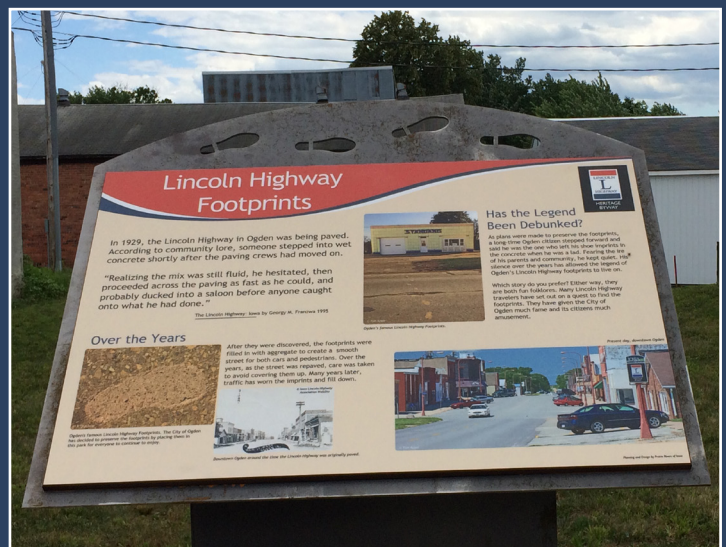
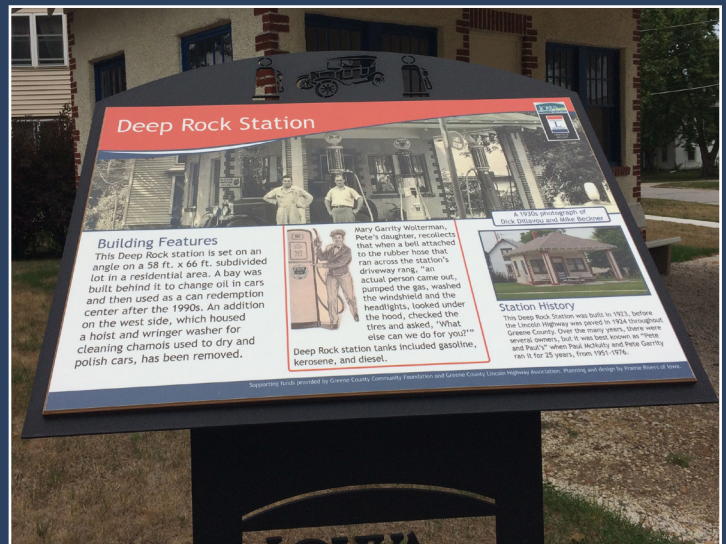
Check out the new interpretive panels that were recently installed! One is outside the Deep Rock gas station in Jefferson and explains the history of this iconic stop on the Lincoln Highway.

Another one has been installed temporarily in downtown Ogden at the site of a proposed pocket park near the new medical clinic. This panel tells the story of the footprints left in the pavement when the Lincoln Highway was paved in Ogden in the late 1920s. The prints have never been paved over during any street project. They were beginning to get worn-down and were losing visibility. The City of Ogden cut that segment of pavement out and will install the slab in the pocket park along with the interpretive panel for all to enjoy.

Other panels will be installed in Scranton near their oldest working water tower in Iowa and another in the garden outside the Greene County LHA Museum in Grand Junction.

These signs were created by Prairie Rivers of Iowa. More panels are being planned and they will be shared as they are installed.

**L**



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



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## Youngville Update

By Mike Kelly, Benton County Consul

Youngville has had an exceptionally busy season so far this year. Fortunately we have some of Iowa's hardest working volunteers to handle the overflow crowds. Aging is not really an issue with our volunteer staff as our 80+ year-olds do the work of any four 20-year-olds.

We are in the middle of a Membership Drive so if you would like to join or rejoin the ranks of Youngville supporters, act today. Dues are \$10 for individuals, \$25 for family, or \$200 for lifetime membership (\$250 after Jan. 1, 2018). Send name, complete address, email, and telephone number along with check to: Youngville Highway History Association PO Box 401 Newhall, IA 52315.

2018 will be a challenge for Youngville as the long awaited interchange construction project comes to our front door in the Spring. Look for updates on potential disruptions in the next issue and always keep up with us on our Facebook page at: Youngville Highway History Association.

**L**



### LHHB at the Iowa State Fair

By Jan Gammon, LHHB Coord.  
Prairie Rivers of Iowa

The Iowa Byways manned a booth again this year under the grandstands at the Iowa State Fair. Six of the eleven Byways were represented as well as a banner identifying the three new Byways in 2018. The White Pole Road, Bridges of Madison County, and The Jefferson Highway will all be added to the program.

The Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway sponsored 4 of the 11 days of the fair and among the many handouts they gave out during the duration of the fair were LHA's Historic Greene County and Iowa LHA membership brochures. Perhaps the Iowa LHA will grow their memberships from this exposure to fairgoers.

**L**

### Ornery Goat

Antiques and Collectibles

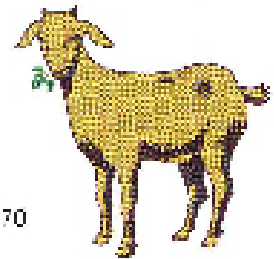
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## **Motor Tour Recap**

### **By Caron Osberg**

Another wonderful Iowa Lincoln Highway Motor Tour is in the books. This year, our group of about 20 people enjoyed a leisurely road trip visiting historical sights and meeting the people who share their love of history with visitors. There were beautiful vistas of the lovely Western Iowa landscape as well as good times among tour members.

There is something for everyone on each motor tour. We've shortened the distance we cover as well as the daily mileage. We meet with locals who share with us their passion for their hometowns and favorite historical moments in time. It's an experience you'll not get flying by on the interstate.

The trip this year began with a focus on Lewis & Clark and the Louisiana Purchase beginning in Sioux City, Iowa at the Sgt. Floyd monument followed by a tour of the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center and the Sgt. Floyd River Museum and Welcome Center. The Sioux City Railroad Museum is a must-see when you're in the area.

The Mid-America Transportation and Aviation Museum is a treasure trove of historical items you won't find anywhere else. The museum is located at the crash site of United Flight 232, which crash-landed in Sioux City on July 19, 1989. The memorial and memorabilia is a moving tribute and one you won't forget.

In Nebraska, we visited Fort Atkinson, which is the oldest military fort west of the Missouri River. It was built on a site the Lewis & Clark expedition had recommended.

Back in Iowa, we visited a slice of Iowa farm and family living history at Wisecup's Farm Museum at the Missouri Valley exit on I-29. The Harrison County Welcome Center is always a hit with a chance for both shopping and history lessons.

This year, our group visited the gravesite of Merle D. Hay, one of the first three soldiers killed in WWI. The Moss markers were put up on land donated by a Civil War veteran who believed the curve was better for motorists than a sharp right-angle turn. Jefferson was a good visit to the museum, the bell tower, the Thomas Jefferson garden and to see all the improvements being made on their Iowa Main Street award.

We ended our tour in beautiful Grand Junction with a specially prepared luncheon, a museum visit and a stroll through the Lincoln Highway garden, which is shaped like the United States. Some tour members can now say they've walked the length of the Lincoln Highway from Times Square to San Francisco.

Five things you need to know:

1. This is a guided tour, so you don't have to do anything but follow the car in front of you.
2. We visit historical sites small and large. You will meet the best people Iowa has to offer!
3. Newcomers are welcome: no matter the age or the mode of transportation.
4. You will see beautiful landscapes and some of the small towns that made America what it is today.
5. If you need to make a pit stop, detailed directions are provided so you can catch up at any time.



More photos available on the website.

**Prairie Rivers of Iowa  
has moved!**

2335 230th St  
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Ames, IA 50014  
Phone: 515-232-0048

**LHHB Update**  
**By Jan Gammon, LHHB Coord.**  
**Prairie Rivers of Iowa**

I cannot believe that summer is over. The Byway has been very busy these past few months. We were in the State Center's Rose Parade, in Glidden's 150th Celebration Parade, and just finished up an 11-day stint at the Iowa State Fair. The Byways of Iowa had a booth under the grandstands there and we gave out about 700 Iowa Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway Informational Guides and debuted our new Recreational and Camping Guide, which was also very popular.

We are also working with Preston's Historic District in Belle Plaine, Youngville in Benton County, and the Reed-Niland Corner in Colo on a large project. The Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway and Prairie Rivers of Iowa were selected to continue on to the second round of a very large grant which will help fund restoration at all three sites and the addition of interpretive panels, oral histories, and art. We will also be adding electric charging stations to encourage the new traveler to these iconic automobile stops. This is very exciting for us.

Don Kent in Grand Mound has spurred us to review where the signs are located in his town and we will be working with the City staff there to make some minor corrections. We are working our way across the state, making sure signs are installed where they should be and replacing those that have been damaged. The DOT has currently has limited signs for this process, but should be manufacturing more in the coming months.

Prairie Rivers of Iowa moved to a new location in Ames, so the Byway packed up and moved in early September. The email and phone number will remain the same, but be patient with us as we make this transition.

**L**



**Mystery Place**  
**By Mike Kelly**

**This Issue's Mystery Place**



These abandoned steps on a still active family farm led to the Lincoln Highway directly across from a historic lodging opportunity for Lincoln Highway motorists. Extra Clue: The lodging is NOT a Cabin Court, but an early version of what has become a million dollar industry.

**Last Issue's Mystery Place**



Caretaker's shed at the Rock Prairie (aka Ralls) Cemetery in Marshall County just east of Shady Oaks turn.

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 14, 2017 in Colo, Iowa at the Reed-Niland  
Refreshments at 9:00 AM general meeting to follow.

From Hwy 30 take Exit 164, go one mile north on Hwy. 65. Take "Lincoln Highway" exit to right. Turn left at stop sign and proceed to Niland's Cafe. Coffee and rolls compliments of Niland's Cafe at 9:00 AM. Meeting starts at 9:30 AM. Lunch will be onsite and cost \$9. The meal includes a beverage, chips, soup and sandwich bar, and dessert tray.



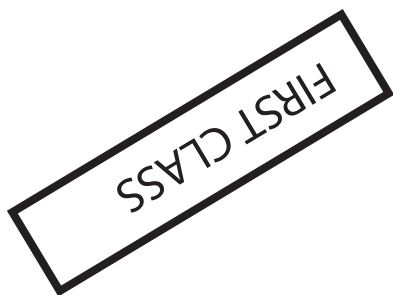
### Upcoming Iowa LHA Meetings

October 14, 2017: Reed-Niland in Colo, General

January 13, 2018: Location TBD, Business

April 2018: Location TBD, General

Content Sneak Peek: A recap of the National Conference, New Interpretive Panels, and more!



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



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