

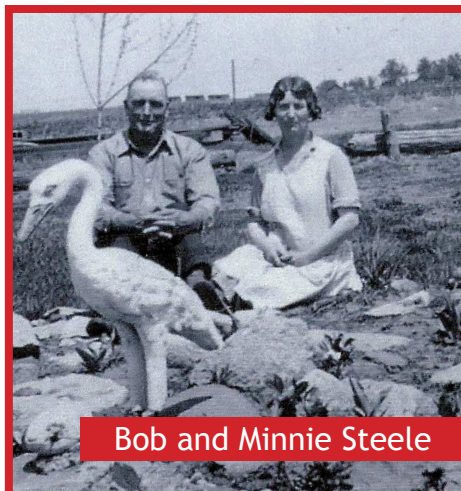


# Iowa Lincoln Highway Association

## Summer 2019 Newsletter

### Finding a Fresh Start Along the Lincoln By Barbara Hackfort

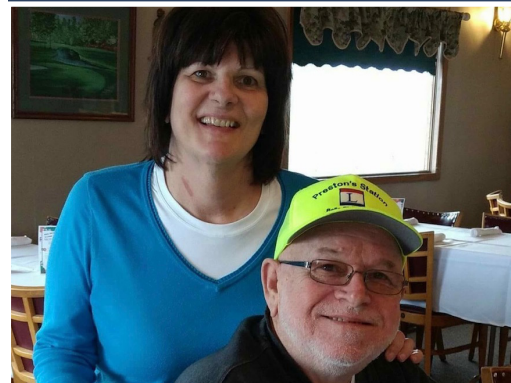
The Carroll County Historical Society recently received a copy of Raymond AmRhein's memoir recounting his childhood days in Carroll during the 1930s. Entitled "Names Evoke Memories," it records the roundabout journey with his family from Indiana, through Alabama, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Nebraska to Iowa. Coming into Carroll on Hwy 30 during a storm, their first night was spent at the Lincoln Highway Tourist Camp on the west side of town. Just a few weeks earlier the Historical Society had received photos of that tourist camp taken in the late 1920s and early 1930s. It was owned and operated by Bob and Minnie Steele.



Bob and Minnie Steele

What follows are excerpts from the memoir that trace the journey of a young family who, in 1928, after falling victim to the farm depression of the 1920s, travelled the Lincoln Highway to search for a new beginning, and found it in Carroll, thanks to

*Continued on page 5*



### President's Corner By Mary Helen Preston

Hello, please let me introduce myself. I'm Mary Helen Preston. Yes, I'm related to George and Ronald Preston. I'm George's granddaughter and Ronald's daughter. My husband, Garry Hevalow and I moved to Belle Plaine 2 years ago to preserve and restore the property. We live in the house behind Grandpa's Roadside Museum and the Station which sits on the old Lincoln Highway.

We are fourth generation owners and operations of Preston's Station and are dedicated to preserve the legacy. The Station itself was built in 1912, one year before the Lincoln Highway was dedicated. The Station was originally located at the corner of 7th Avenue and 19th Street and relocated to its present location when the Lincoln Highway was rerouted through Belle Plaine. I grew up being

*Continued on page 3*



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

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			Open Position		

### Mission Statement

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.

### Award for Sandra Huemann-Kelly

Congratulations to Sandra Huemann-Kelly for receiving the "Friend of the Highway" Award. The award was presented at the 8th Annual Jefferson Highway Association Conference in Natchitoches, Louisiana. Sandii ran Niland's Café and the Colo Motel at the Reed-Niland Corner from 2011 to 2018. The group highlighted her work in promoting and preserving the history of the Jefferson Highway.

Thank you to Sandii for her dedication to both the Jefferson and Lincoln Highways.

L







### Update on Cathie Nichols By Jan Gammon

As you may know our former ILHA president, Cathie Nichols of Clinton County was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. After the discovery, she resigned from her role of ILHA President.

Her husband provided this update following her surgery:

*Cathie was doing much better the first week at the skilled facility. She was walking long distances and climbing stairs. Then her feeding tube caught on a chair when she was getting up for therapy on May 10th or so. It pulled badly and hurt her. It appeared that the tube was working, but over the next few days she started to get weaker. The staff at the facility thought she'd caught a mild GI bug during one of the activities she had attended at the home and she was discharged on Thursday. By Friday morning she was much weaker. At her follow up appointment on the following Tuesday, we mentioned that there was a problem with the tube. Surgeon's nurse said for Norm to take her to the ER. So now she is back in the hospital in Iowa City. They replaced the feeding tube on Monday, May 20, and restarted the tube feedings. She was able to get the rest she needed and is now recovering in the comfort of her home before chemo and radiation.*

**L**

*Continued from President's Corner*  
told my great-grandfather, George (yes, my great-grandfather and grandfather are both George) purchased the Standard Oil Station in 1923. Now, the date when it was actually purchased and moved with a mule team seems to be up for grabs - while I grew up with 1923 recent research shows it could possibly be closer to 1928. I look forward into deep diving into historic research to learn more about my family's legacy and the Lincoln Highway.

I guess you could say, I've been interested and involved in the Lincoln Highway my entire life. Until 1993, when I spoke on behalf of my family at the National Convention in Ames did I realize the significance my family, especially my Grandpa, the Station, his Roadside Museum and the 3-room Motel played along the Lincoln Highway. It was Grandpa and Grandma's. The Station remains locked in time much as it did when Grandpa ceased operations in 1989.

After grandpa passed in 1993, dad became the caretaker and worked to continue the legacy. Dad had a keen sense of the importance the property played in history not only with the Lincoln Highway, but also Belle Plaine. Dad had the same passion and intuition grandpa did until he passed away in 2011. My husband and I are dedicated to preserving the Preston legacy along the Lincoln Highway and in Belle Plaine. Preston's Station Historic District will remain in our family and intact.

We are appreciative of the support from the Iowa Lincoln Highway Association and the Lincoln Highway Association, you are a valuable resource to us. We are only 2 years into our labor of love project and are excited to embark on the journey in front of us so all generations can appreciate and be inspired by the past.

**L**



**July 2**

Band: 34th Army Band Sidewinders 6-8 PM  
Food: Matthiesen's Catering

**July 9**

Band: Ron Lubbers 6-8 PM  
Food: The Depot

**July 16**

Band: Nutsy Turtle & Lori G 6-8 PM  
Food: Grand Mound Sportsmen's Club

**July 23**

Band: Jason Carl & The Whole Damn Band 6-8  
Food: Hillbilly Jack's BBQ

**July 30**

Band: Todd Striley and The Noise 6-8 PM  
Food: Hall of Fame Pizza & Wings

**August 13**

Band: 2 Man Bullet Band 6-8 PM  
Food: Matthiesen's Catering

**August 20**

Band: 10 of Soul 6-9 PM  
Food: The Lucky Frog Bar and Grill &  
DeWitt Nite Lions

**Aug. 27th Car Cruise-In**

Band: Tail Fins 6-9 PM  
Food: Hillbilly Jack's BBQ & Kelley Girls Pizza  
Chuckies Famous Breaded Tenderloin

**L**

**1919 Military Convoy Celebration**  
By Jan Gammon

First, the Military Vehicle Preservation Association (MVPA) will leave from Washington, D.C. on Sunday August 11th and will arrive in Iowa on August 22nd and spend the night in DeWitt. Their tentative schedule is listed below:

8/22 De Witt Overnight  
8/23 Lowden AM Break  
8/23 Cedar Rapids Lunch  
8/23 Belle Plaine PM Break  
8/23 Marshalltown Overnight  
8/24 Nevada AM Break (parade?)  
8/24 Boone Lunch  
8/24 Jefferson PM Break  
8/24 Denison Overnight  
8/25 ??? AM Break  
8/25 ??? Lunch

They may be a part of the Lincoln Highway Days parade in Nevada (parade at 10:00AM) and the last two locations are still being worked out. Flooding may put a crimp in plans. It's Iowa, we'll just have to wait and see.

The second group is the Lincoln Highway Association with classic and contemporary cars. They will leave D.C. on Friday August 30th and will arrive in Iowa on Friday September 6th. They will overnight in Marshalltown as well and the next night in Council Bluffs.

Be sure to wave at the groups as they travel through your portion of the state or wherever you are along the Lincoln Highway. Wave a hand or a flag. They'll be glad to wave back!

**L**



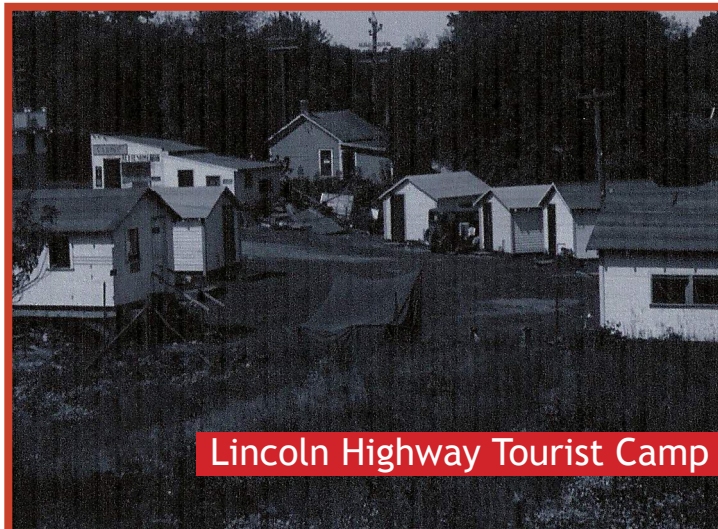
*Continued from Fresh Start*

the neighborly kindness of the owners of the Lincoln Highway Tourist Camp.

*They (Raymond's parents) turned east into Iowa at Council Bluffs and chose Highway 30 to carry them hopefully to the greener pastures they envisioned. We entered Carroll on Highway 30.*

*On the day we arrived, it was raining. Mother and Dad decided to wait out the storm at Bob Steele's tourist camp, which was located on Third Street near the intersection then of Highways 30 and 71. Highway 30, a graveled road, entered Carroll on Third Street from the west. Highway 71 from the south, also a graveled road, entered by turning east onto Third Street. The two highways proceeded easterly together on Third Street into Carroll. The camp was between the Mitchell residence on the west and the Winneke bottling works on the east. Bob and Minnie Steele convinced Mom and Dad that when the storm had passed they should not be in haste to leave. Carroll County just might be those greener pastures that had been eluding them.*

*Of course, when we arrived in Carroll, we knew no one, and my father and brothers, Roland and*



**Lincoln Highway Tourist Camp**

*Russell, had no jobs. Bob Steele came to the rescue. ... The employment he found for them was cutting cockle burrs in (a nearby) corn field.*

One of the names remembered by AmRhein in his memoir was Franzwa, which “conjures up great memories of the village blacksmith. As a youth, I always looked forward to the visits to the Franzwa blacksmith shop to have equipment repaired or horses shod.” Like his parents, Raymond would search for greener pastures. He left Carroll for California in June of 1940, the year after he graduated from Carroll High School with the Class of 1939. He kept in contact with his classmates through class reunions, either in person or by phone. He died in 2005.

**L**

### ***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*



**Museum Admission included with most train ride tickets!**

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

*Visit one of Iowa's most interesting railroad collections*

***Solid Ice and Other Stories from the Heartland***



***The storytelling techniques of an American artist***

***Ronald M. James and Donald E. Dakins***

*Solid Ice and Other Tales from the Heartland* is a book about life in Iowa in the 1920s, driving truck on the Lincoln Highway in the 1930s, and other stories from a time gone by.

Available for purchase on [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).

## Mystery Place By Mike Kelly

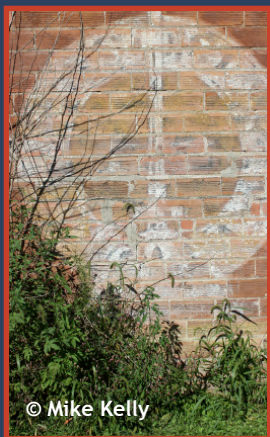
### This Issue's Mystery Place



An often repeated timeline along the highway is trees and outbuildings are replaced by corn and soybeans, but in this case they have survived and the cropland has disappeared. The farmhouse also survives for now.

A fake one once threatened Nilands Corner with complete destruction, A real one has left the Marshall Co. Courthouse in giant bandages, and the community in question has had more "twisters" pass through than any other in Iowa.

### Last Issue's Mystery Place



Congratulations to Van Becker for correctly submitting the correct answer. Last issue's photo was taken in Chelsea, Iowa. It's the remaining sign of a logo from the Viscosity Oil Company.

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.



Nancy & Ronny Hauser

Hours:  
M-F 10:30 AM - 5:30 PM  
Sat 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
[LincolnHwyTrdingCo@gmail.com](mailto:LincolnHwyTrdingCo@gmail.com)

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## Welcome new members of the Iowa Lincoln Highway Association!

Camanche Public Library, Camanche, IA  
Carl Anthony of Brooklyn, Iowa  
Clinton Public Library in Clinton, IA  
Jefferson Matters: Main Street  
Memorial Library in Wheatland, IA  
Rita Hart of Wheatland, IA  
Robert & Lynn Starr of Rogersville, MO  
Ronald & Audrey Lembke of De Smet, SD  
Waggoner Community Library in DeWitt

L

## Stay in the Know

Visit our website to read  
the minutes from our  
spring meeting.

[www.iowalincolnhighway.org/latest-news](http://www.iowalincolnhighway.org/latest-news)



## Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway Update By Jan Gammon, Coordinator

Summer already! We have a lot going on. I have been giving presentations about the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway to the Marshall County Board of Supervisors, Marshalltown City Council, and Story County Board of Supervisors. I'm working on scheduling more across the state.

I also gave a presentation at the Hudson Public Library on May 14th. There were 20 people in attendance and they seemed to enjoy the information shared with them. Hudson is not on the Lincoln Highway but is almost directly north of Tama, just on the south side of Cedar Falls. One lady is taking info to her Questers group- so the Lincoln Highway story is getting spread across Iowa!

As I write this, the Henry Ostermann panel and base is being manufactured. By the time this goes to print, we should have both. The City of Montour will install it in their Maple Hill Cemetery on the east side of town, near where Henry lost his life.

Allegra (Marketing and Printing Company) is working on a small booklet about the Lincoln Highway, 1919 Convoy, Eisenhower, and Mamie. We have seen a very preliminary sample. By the time this goes to print, we hope this is being printed as well. We will pass it out at

the Iowa State Fair in the Iowa Byways Booth.

The Military Vehicle Preservation Association (MPVA) will be doing their celebratory convoy in August and will be overnighing in DeWitt (Aug 22nd), Marshalltown (Aug 23rd) and Marshalltown (Aug 24th). The LHA Motor Convoy will overnight in Marshalltown on Sept 6th and in Council Bluffs on the Sept 7th. Marshalltown is super excited to host both groups. The MPVA calls their convoy the "longest Veterans Parade in the Nation." They try to connect with Veterans as they travel. The Iowa Veteran's Home is in Marshalltown and both the MPVA and the residents are excited to spend time together.

Several communities are celebrating their 150th this year- Grand Junction, Scranton, Westside, Dow City, and Carroll. I will try to get to as many of them as I can. The Westside celebration (Aug 24th) is the same day as the MPVA Convoy coming through my area, so I know I will not make it there.

I continue to work on Byway signage corrections and replacements as well as researching for the American Society of Civil Engineering Award.

I'll see you this summer on the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway!

L

Did you notice this issue's refreshed look? Email your thoughts or feedback to Meredith Ponder, newsletter editor, at [mponder@prrcd.org](mailto:mponder@prrcd.org).



**The next ILHA meeting will be July 13, 2019 in Missouri Valley, Iowa, at the Harrison County Historical Village and Welcome Center. Refreshments at 9:00 AM with business meeting to follow.**

The July ILHA meeting will be at the Harrison County Historical Village and Welcome Center. It is directly on the Lincoln Highway, 3 miles northeast of Missouri Valley on the west side of the road. Look for the blue "Welcome Center" signs. We will head to the Loose Moose in Missouri Valley for lunch around noon. It is located on the north side of the road between North 2nd St and North 3rd St at 209 E Erie St (also known as the Lincoln Highway).

Upcoming Iowa LHA Meetings

July 13: Harrison Co., Business  
October 12: Cedar Co., General  
January 2020: Location TBD, Business

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



Place  
Stamp  
Here