



IOWA LINCOLN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION

Fall 2021 Newsletter | Volume 26, No. 3

President's Corner

by Mary Helen Preston

As I write this President's Corner, it was exactly a year ago when the derecho made its way across Central Iowa impacting most of us. For the most part, our communities have recovered. There's still rebuilding to do, but I believe we'll come back better than before.

From what we've seen at Preston's, more and more travelers are getting out to explore our great state and travel the Lincoln Highway!

I recently received a press release from AAA The Auto Club Group indicating the same:

According to a new AAA Travel survey (from late June) 75% of Iowans feel more comfortable traveling now than they did three months ago.

Throughout the year, the majority of Iowa travelers have felt comfortable using their personal vehicle for a road trip.

Two-thirds (67%) of Iowans have already traveled or plan to take a trip in 2021. Over half of those (58%) will take their next trip sometime between July and September. Travel volumes have greatly increased from the 48% of Iowans who traveled in 2020.

This is great news for us along the Lincoln Highway!

We've talked about how 2021 is our year to welcome travelers BACK and promote the Lincoln Highway in our communities. This survey shows just how important our self-promotion is. Let's continue to get out there and share our stories!

Thank you to everyone who attended our April meeting in State Center. Thank you, Harlan, for your hospitality. It was nice to have an in-person meeting. Thank you again for continuing to humor me as we attempt to set a plan for our future.

I know it was a long day and our focus waned as the day went on but I believe the day opened the door for us to continue having open and frank discussions on how we move forward to sustain and grow the Association.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any comments or thoughts as we continue to brainstorm and have discussions as we set the building blocks for our future.

Once again, I close out President's Corner with "**synergy**." Synergy is defined as "*the interaction or cooperation of two or more organizations, substances, or other agents to produce a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate effects.*"

It will take ALL of us to plan, execute and sustain the Iowa Lincoln Highway Association. Thank you for your time and passion.



Corn flattened from derecho
Toledo, IA

Stay in the Know!

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

www.iowalincolnhighway.com/latest-news



@ IowaLincolnHighwayAssociation

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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.

The Facts About That!

Fun & interesting facts about this great state!

“Arabella Mansfield (May 23, 1846 - August 1, 1911), born Belle Aurelia Babb, became the first female lawyer in the United States in 1869. After challenging an Iowa state law restricting the bar exam to only males in court and winning, Mansfield took the bar and earned high scores.

Because of her, Iowa amended the state’s licensing statute and became the first to accept women and minorities into its bar.”

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arabella_Mansfield



THIS NEWSLETTER IS MANAGED BY



PRAIRIE *of Iowa* RIVERS

Remembering JR Manning

by Mary Helen Preston

In August, we lost a friend of the Lincoln Highway, JR Manning.

JR and I were Lincoln Highway Facebook friends for some time. I had the pleasure of meeting JR in May at the unveiling of our interpretive panel and it was as if we had known each other for some years.

He was a supporter of the Iowa Lincoln Highway Association and the Lincoln Highway Association. He was sincerely interested in what we were doing at Preston's and was looking forward to seeing the Station preserved and restored.



From JR's Obituary:

You may have seen J.R.'s award-winning writing/photos specializing in non-fiction subjects of a historical nature in such places as The Restorer Magazine (Model A Club of America), Wheeling the A (Wisconsin Chapter) as Loose Lug Nuts, Landmarkhunter.com, Bridgehunter.com, Doors Open Milwaukee, Old Milwaukee and Wisconsin Memories Group. J.R. was a founding member of the Ford Model A Foundation, a member of the Wisconsin Chapter, Great Lake A's Chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America, Singlefest and held many positions in these organizations.

You may have met J.R. on a road trip, The Lincoln Highway 2003 Cross Country Tour in Sonja, his 1929 Model A., the Lake Geneva Poker Rally, historic sites in any number of states or his quest to go to all of Wisconsin's twenty-seven counties.

It doesn't matter where or how, you remember J.R. if you met him. He had a twinkle in his eye, an offer to help and a kind word.

JR, his quick wit and smile will be missed by many of us.

Preston's Corner Update!

by Mary Helen Preston

Over the summer, Garry and I took a major step toward keeping our promise to preserve and restore the Station and the rest of the buildings located on Preston's Corner. We knew the time could come when we would need to remove the signs. The reality came in August. This was a bittersweet weekend for us but we knew we had to take a step back in order to move forward. The removal of the signs was a major step in the preservation portion for us to continue the Legacy. With the signs being down, Martin Gardner Architecture, P.C., can begin the process of preparing a master stabilization and rehabilitation plan for us so we preserve and restore properly.

This project is being made possible through a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation.



Before (top) & After (Bottom)

Preston's has partnered with Amazon Smile as a featured charitable organization. What does this mean? When you shop through smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to Preston's. There is **NO COST** to you - Amazon contributes to our efforts to preserve and protect Preston's. With more and more individuals shopping through Amazon this is a perfect opportunity for us. What we ask of you is to shop through smile.amazon.com and select Preston's Station Historic District as your charity to support our efforts to continue the Legacy.

Here's our link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/82-1813452>.

Thank you in advance for your support.



Access the Amazon Smile account by scanning the QR code!

Let's Meet Lisa!

by Lisa Cassady - Prairie Rivers of Iowa Staff

Hello! My name is Lisa Cassady, the newest employee and development and event coordinator for *Prairie Rivers of Iowa*. When I am not organizing our latest events or assisting with development at Prairie Rivers, I am running my own business, *Iowa Eats Well*, providing fresh produce, homemade baked goods, and jam to customers at farmers markets in Story County. I grew up on a farm in St. Mary's, Iowa, and spent many years doing agricultural communications.

After graduating from Iowa State University, I moved to St. Louis, MO. I lived there for many years and owned a house on the National Register of Historic Places built in 1895.

I currently live off the Lincoln Highway in Nevada, Iowa, where I am active in serving my community and helping to create a community garden on the ground of the Nevada Historical Society's Evergreen Lane.

In my free time, I enjoy baking, gardening, and trail running with my dog Shelby.

I look forward to meeting and working with you all!



Higgi's Veterans Campground
Secure RV Spots for Rent in Grand Jct. IA
604 Railroad, Grand Jct. IA
2 Blocks South, 1 Block West of Casey's
Electric, Water, Sewer
Call 515-370-0637 for more info

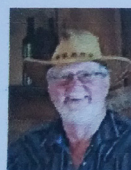


Dale Higgins Professional Auction Co.

Est. 1973

Licensed Real Estate Agent

603 Railroad St.
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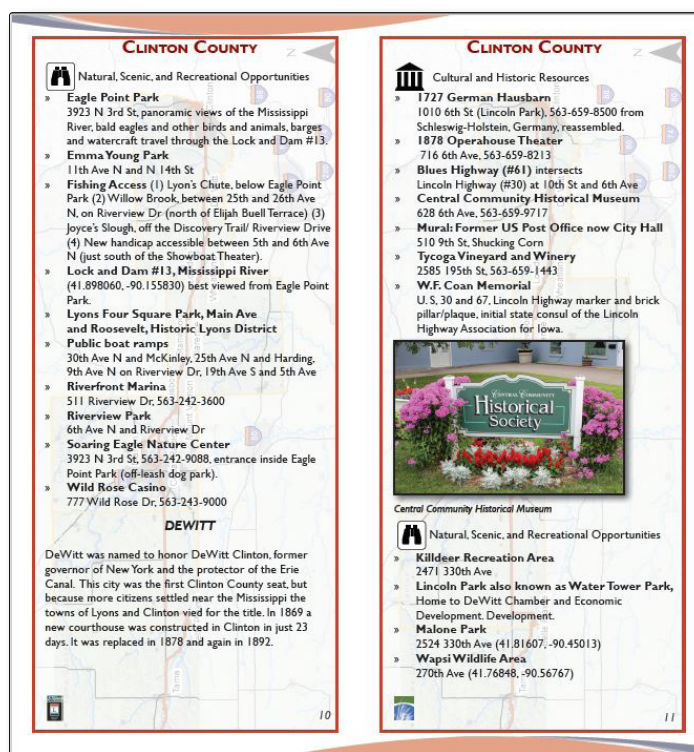
New Byway Travel Guide!

by Joshua Benda - *Prarie Rivers of Iowa Staff*

For the past several months, I have had the opportunity of working with the entire *Prarie Rivers of Iowa* team on a new “Iowa Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway - A National Scenic Byway” activity guide!



Cover of Brochure



Example: Clinton County

This project has been an enormous undertaking, as it required a completely new design concept and understanding of how activity guides function in today’s world. Since most people use their phones to track down their favorite spots, the activity guide was designed to be viewed on a mobile device safely as well as in print.

This project has been a great honor to create. I enjoy learning about all the towns located on the Lincoln Highway; their history, attractions, and beauty have captivated me. This project has made me want to spend more time next summer traveling the Lincoln Highway to visit in person.

I truly hope you enjoy using the activity guide as much as I have enjoyed working on it! We are working hard to get it to print so you can begin exploring all the beauty found on our Iowa Lincoln Highway.

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

Visit one of Iowa's most interesting railroad collections

YOUR AD HERE

Business Card Size Ad: Single Ad placed on an inside page of the 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 the 4th Free

An advertisement form can be found on our website or you can contact Joyce for information: bobjoyce@netins.net

Welcome VP Dale Higgins

by Bob and Joyce Ausberger

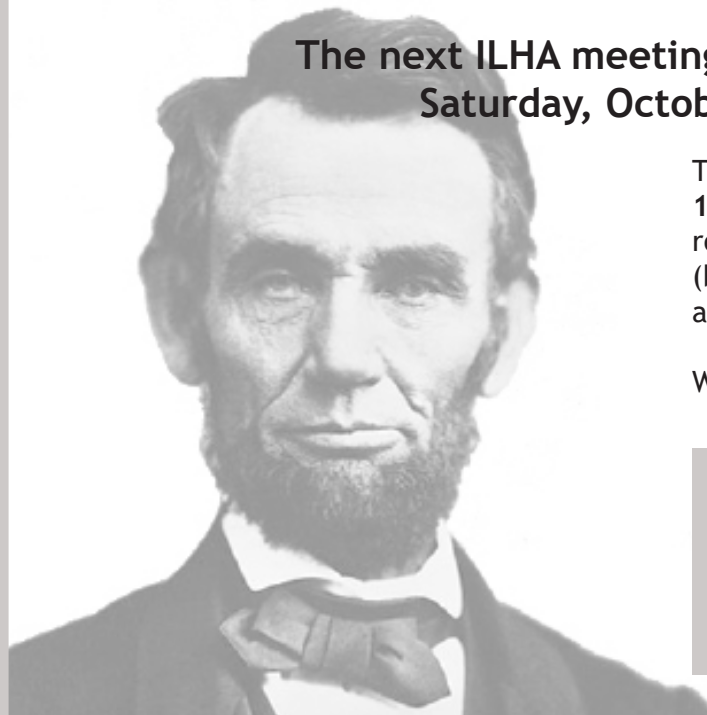
Since Dale was elected vice president of the Iowa Lincoln Highway Association he never has really been introduced to the membership. So let us do that. We have known Dale for a number of years, but have gotten better acquainted through some of our work sessions and meetings in Grand Junction. He was always in the East Greene school district, while our family was just over the line in the Jefferson district.

Originally the Higgins clan came to the United States from England and settled south of Chicago near the towns of Wilmington and Braidwood. They settled near what is now Route 66. Great Great Grandfather is buried in a cemetery only a stones throw from the now famous byway. Some of the clan is still there; however, Dale's strain moved to Iowa. The Higginses opened the first coal mine in Illinois. The property along with the inactive coal mine are still owned by the family who stayed in Illinois. Dale still has artifacts and fossils from the mine. He visits back there regularly. Dale was born in the Greene County hospital in Jefferson in 1952 and eventually was part of a farm family of 8 children. They never got into town very often, but part of Dale's interest in history began on those visits to Grand Junction. In the 50's it was a thriving and active farming and railroad center. Dale remembers 5 grocery stores, 2 theaters, several hardware stores, 2 banks, and 3 auto dealerships. There were 2 farm implement dealers and 19 places to buy gas. The Lincoln Highway was busy with 3500 cars and 700 trucks passing down mainstreet daily. Dale went to school in all three East Greene Schools and just barely missed out on a murder on the steps of the Dana School. The murderer was found guilty but hung himself while in jail.

Dale served two years in the service after graduation and then worked for the school as a mechanic. He then opened his own mechanics shop on Main Street. By this time U.S 30 had been moved north of town. In 1992, at the urging of some of his customers, Dale attended an auctioneering school at Mankato, Minnesota. He is still in that business today.

Through the years, Dale has collected tons of stuff dealing with the Lincoln Highway, Grand Junction, Greene County, and beyond. Some of his prized items include 4 display cases of Lincoln Highway items, which I hope will be on display at a future meeting in Jefferson. He also has one of the best corn and hybrid corn displays in Iowa. The display is centered around the Turner Hybrid company, which was in Grand Junction. Turner was the man who taught Henry Wallace about hybrid breeding. Wallace later started the Pioneer hybrid company.

We hope to see a good crowd in October!



**The next ILHA meeting will be held in person
Saturday, October 9th at 9:30AM**

The meeting will be held at **Family Table Restaurant, 1525 Radiant Rd in Carroll** (located on the frontage road). Please let Mary Helen or Barbara Hackfort (bjhackfort@westianet.net) know if you will be attending so we can plan accordingly.

We look forward to seeing you in Carroll!

Upcoming Iowa LHA Meetings
January 2022
Location: Zoom

FIRST CLASS

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



Place
Stamp
Here