

Ohio National Road Association



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WWW.OHIONATIONALROAD.ORG

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Fall 2009

Happy Autumn to ONRA members and friends,

Your Board of Trustees has been busy with a variety of exciting activities and projects. We were on the Road again, having held our July 28th meeting in Norwich at the Zane Grey/National Road Museum. Ohio is fortunate to have the only Museum dedicated to the Road, and their recent partnership with the John & Annie Glenn Historic Site will assure that it will remain open for many seasons to come. On August 27th, as a result of hard work by the Signage Committee, it was with great pride that I helped unveil the first of 30 Phase I Ohio National Road interpretive signs at Clark County's Madonna of the Trail. Then our September 22nd Board meeting was a western Rolling Retreat, during which we traveled from Richmond to South Vienna on the Historic National Road. Good times!

There have been several changes to the ONRA Board. My sincere gratitude goes to Lynn Kartavich for her service as Treasurer and to Denna Johnson for filling that position on an interim basis. Our thanks to Ray Martin for capably representing Madison County and we welcomed West Jefferson businessman Jeff Lowe into Ray's seat. Belmont County's Greg Zelenitz moved to ex officio as St. Clairsville store owner Jeana Paglialunga filled his seat. Bethel Twp. Administrator Michael Gebhart now represents Miami Co. and Muskingum Co. representative Doug Davis was replaced by former National Road Museum director Mary Ellen Weingartner. Recently, we bid adieu to Byway Coordinator, Glen Massie and have welcomed Louis Agresta into that position. Your ONRA Board and staff remain strong and committed to fulfilling the Association's mission. I hope you will plan to join us at ONRA's Annual Meeting being held on November 17th at Ohio's Statehouse in Columbus. Come to converse with your Board members, participate in the meeting and tour the Capitol.

The beautiful Fall colors provide an ideal backdrop to the sights and sites along the Ohio Historic National Road. I sincerely hope you will take the opportunity to find yourself there, and if you do, I can guarantee you will Enjoy the Journey!

Cyndie Gerken—President
 Ohio National Road Association

Inside this Issue

ONRA Board On the Road Again	2
Interpretive Sign Unveiled	3
Endowment Fund Announced	3
Annual Meeting Planned	3



ONRA Board of Trustees on the Road Again

National Road bus tour from South Vienna to Richmond, Indiana to Springfield, Ohio



meeting while deadheading west on I-70 to the Indiana line, where the group stopped at Richmond's National Road Visitor Center. From there they headed east on the National Road into Ohio's Preble County as Board members David Wesler, Jane Lightner, and Jan Livingston Brady provided interesting information on the history of the National Road. Then it was on into Montgomery County and the city of Englewood, where former Mayor and current ONRA Secretary, Ed Kemper took over as the tour guide. While in Englewood, the group visited the Randolph Township Historical Society's museum. After touring the facility, it was on to the Aullwood Audubon Center for a delicious lunch catered by Springfield's Joe's US 40 Grille. Next stop was the Historical Society of Vandalia-Butler for a tour of their expansive historic property, after which they followed the Road through Miami County to their final stop of the day for a guided tour of the Clark County Heritage Center. The photo at left was taken at the Springfield museum. The Western Rolling Retreat was a tremendous success and was enjoyed by all who participated. ONRA plans to have more fun and educational public bus tours in the future. For additional information, contact ONRA's Byway Coordinator Louis Agresta at 937-521-2134 or our web site www.ohionationalroad.org.

On September 22nd the ONRA Board of Trustees and their guests embarked on a Western Rolling Retreat on the Historic National Road. Their bus tour began at Johnson's Lamp Shop (formerly Buena Vista Tavern), just west of South Vienna in Clark County. The Board conducted their bi-monthly business

Olive Branch High School Listed on National Register

On July 23, 2009, Clark County's Olive Branch High School, located at 9710 W. National Road, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Olive Branch School Preservation Society (OBSPS), recently designated as a charitable, non-profit organization, will be planning a celebration in the near future. ONRA President Cyndie Gerken serves as OBSPS's Vice Chairman. For more information, click on "Preserve Olive Branch" at the District's web site www.tecumseh.k12.oh.us.



Don't forget the Ohio National Road Association

As the end of 2009 approaches and you consider your year-end charitable donations, remember that the Ohio National Road Association qualifies as a non-profit organization under IRS section 501(c)(3). Might we also suggest that ONRA memberships make excellent holiday gifts for your family or friends! Show you care by sharing your Road interest while supporting ONRA.

National Road speaker

ONRA Board member, Sylvia Miller, speaks about the National Road with a delightful program of history, stories and songs. To schedule her presentation, contact Sylvia at (614) 766-9974 or Ohio Humanities Council's Speakers Bureau (614) 461-7802.

ONRA Interpretive Panels

The Ohio National Road Interpretive Panels made a stop at the South Vienna Corn Festival and can still be viewed at the South Vienna Municipal Building. If you would like to reserve the panels for your event, contact Louis at 937-521-2134.



Blaine Bridge Nomination Approved

On August 28th, the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board met in Columbus and recommended that the nomination of the Blaine Hill "S" Bridge be submitted to the National Park Service in Washington, D.C., for their final approval and listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The nomination was written by ONRA board members Mike Peppe and Nancy Campbell. The three-arch stone bridge was the first of the stone bridges built in Ohio after the National Road was extended westward from Wheeling in 1825.



Madonna of the Trail Interpretive Sign Unveiled

ONRA's Interpretive Signage Project was kicked off with the unveiling of the Madonna of the Trail Interpretive Sign on August 27th. The sign can be found near the statue along Route 40 at Clark County's Snyder Park which is located near Springfield, Ohio about 1 mile east of State Route 68. The ceremony was significant because the Madonna of the Trail Interpretive Sign is the first of 60 interpretive signs to be erected along the National Road in Ohio. Pictured at the ceremony are from left to right: ONRA Secretary Ed Kemper, Treasurer Denna Johnson, Clark County Commissioner John Detrick, ONRA President Cyndie Gerken, Board Members Marian Vance and Bill Hart, Springfield Parks and Recreation Director Tim Smith, and ONRA Board Member Paul Seibel. Thanks to our sponsors and donors for making this project a reality.



Glenn A. Harper Endowment Fund Announced

Ohio National Road Association founding member, Glenn Harper, was honored on May 26, 2009 at the ONRA Board Meeting. Mr. Harper recently retired from the ONRA Board after many years of distinguished service. Glenn was presented with official proclamations from each of the 10 National Road counties in Ohio as well as proclamations from the ONRA Board and Ohio Governor Ted Strickland. Mr. Harper's passion for the National Road and its preservation was additionally honored with the announcement of the [Glenn A. Harper Endowment for Preservation on the Ohio Historic National Road](#). This fund will be the source of matching funds or total funding for specifically selected preservation projects along Ohio's Historic National Road. The endowment was aptly named after Glenn Harper who has spent countless time and effort in bringing awareness to the preservation needs of the Road, and seeking the resources to remedy them. Pictured below is Licking County Commissioner and ONRA Vice President Doug Smith (right) presenting Glenn Harper with his Licking County proclamation. Once again ONRA would like to thank Glenn for all of his dedication and hard work!

The Fund is established and ready to accept donations. If you would like to contribute to the Endowment Fund, your tax-deductible donation should be sent to:

Springfield Foundation
 c/o The Glenn A. Harper Fund of OHNR
 4 W. Main St., Suite 825
 Springfield, Ohio 45502

Ohio National Road Association and all of its affiliated agencies would like to thank you in advance for your support. Without the generosity of ONRA members and associates such as you, projects such as these would cease to exist.



Annual Meeting to be Held at the Ohio Statehouse—November 17

Please plan to join us at this year's Annual Meeting to be held on Tuesday, November 17th at 5:30 p.m. in the grand Ohio Statehouse. Light hors d'oeuvres will be served, followed by the annual membership meeting, including presentation of the Association's 2009 Preservation Awards, and will be topped off by a guided tour of the Capitol. Invitations for this historic event have been sent and reservations are required. RSVP to ONRA Byway Coordinator Louis Agresta via snail mail, email or phone no later than Thursday, November 12th.



Membership Information

You have the opportunity to play an important role in the preservation and development of the National Road by becoming a Member of the Ohio National Road Association and by donating to a Special Project or the Endowment Fund.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT ONRA? _____

NEW MEMBERSHIP OR RENEWAL:

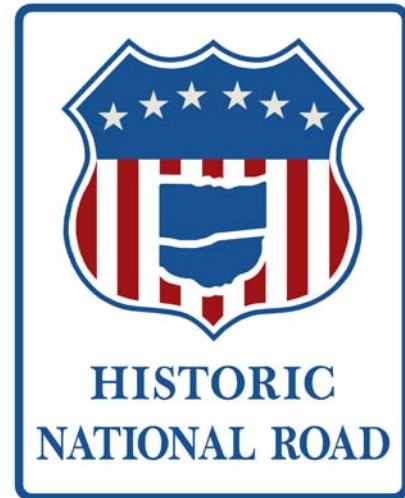
- INDIVIDUAL: \$30.00
- FAMILY: \$50.00
- BUSINESS: \$100.00

DONATION AMOUNT TO SPECIAL PROJECT OR ENDOWMENT:

- SPECIAL PROJECT \$ _____
- ENDOWMENT FUND \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Thank you for supporting ONRA!



SEND FORM AND PAYMENT TO:
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c/o Louis Agresta—Byway Coordinator
3130 East National Rd.—Suite 2A
Springfield, Ohio 45505

If you enjoy receiving this newsletter, be sure to renew your membership or join ONRA today!

Fall 2009 Newsletter

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Springfield, Ohio 45505



The Ohio
National Road
Association
would like to
thank its
sponsors:



CLARK COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD
TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE