

Ohio National Road Association



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Spring 2009

Dear Friends,

As incoming President, I would first like to thank Denna Johnson for her outstanding work as President of the Ohio National Road Association for the past two years. Her steadfast leadership and tireless fund-raising efforts were instrumental in our securing the required matching funds for the implementation of the Interpretive Signage Project. Her dedication to ONRA and its mission has been extraordinary. The Board and I offer our sincere appreciation and best wishes to her.

Secondly, the Association is most fortunate to welcome Doug Smith as our new Vice President. As co-author of the *Traveler's Guide* and self-proclaimed National Road "nut", Doug has long been our Ambassador as he gives talks, guides bus tours and writes articles proclaiming the virtues of both the National Road and our Association. He brings a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to the ONRA Board as we move forward with both our on-going and future projects.

My congratulations to former Byway Coordinator, Zachary Balassone, on his promotion and to his replacement, Glen Massie. My thanks to Zach for his good work on ONRA's behalf, and because he remains in the Springfield-Clark County Transportation Coordinating Committee, there will be true continuity in services. We say goodbye and thank you to Charla Devine for her service to the Board, and we greet three new Board members Larry Bicking, Nancy Campbell, and Scott Hockenbery. With seven past members accepting re-appointment, we have a very strong and experienced group of Trustees, and I am humbled to serve at such an exciting time in our Association's history.

This year looks to be productive, thanks to the amazing support of both our sponsors and the membership, as we move forward with the Signage Project. In the midst of the trying economic times, we were thrilled and proud to have reached our \$32,000 goal and could not have done it without all of you. I thank and applaud you for this achievement and look forward to seeing the interpretive signs go up along our treasured All-American Road.

We will also be having some fun this year with the two National Road bus trips, and I hope to meet many of you if you choose to join our journey along the Historic National Road.

Cyndie Gerken—President
Ohio National Road Association

Inside this Issue

Ohio National Road Bus Tour	2
National Road Yard Sale Days	2
Scenic Byway Grant Update	3
Thank You ONRA Members	3

★★★ AN ALL – AMERICAN ROAD NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY ★★★



Hit the Road with the Ohio National Road Association

National Road bus tours from Columbus to Wheeling W. Va., and from Columbus to Richmond, Indiana

Please plan to join us as we travel along Ohio's longest museum, all 228 miles of it, our National Road! See all the sights and sites along the way, with several layers of history transcending three centuries. The first tour from Columbus to Wheeling, West Virginia, will depart Reynoldsburg, Ohio at 7:30 a.m., on Saturday, April 25, 2009, and return at approximately 6 p.m. The Road Tour will form at the Wal-Mart store near State Route 256 and I-70 just east of Reynoldsburg, and will journey to Wheeling Island, where we'll visit the 1849 Wheeling suspension bridge along the Historic National Road. From there, it's west on the old Road, visiting such sites as Blaine Bridge, St. Clairsville, Great Western School and Lentz Tavern, Pike towns including Lloydsville, Morristown, Hendrysburg, Fairview, Middlebourne (with a stop at the S-bridge), Old Washington (with several stops in town), Cambridge (with a lunch break at Theo's downtown), Fairdale, to Cassell & New Concord - two more S-bridge stops, Norwich, Bridgeville, Zanesville, Mount Sterling, Gratiot, Brownsville, Linnville, Amsterdam, Jacksontown, Hebron, Luray, Kirkersville, Etna, Wagram, and finally, back to Reynoldsburg. In addition to the stops



mentioned, we'll be traveling the bypassed segments of the Road and stopping at several other important locations along the way. This will provide all of us with a hands-on look at our National Road. I will be serving as your travel guide for this first tour to the East end of the state.

The second tour will be from Columbus to Richmond, Indiana. We will depart from The Red Brick Tavern in Lafayette, Ohio at 7:30 a.m., on Saturday, October 17, 2009, and return at approximately 5:00 p.m. Several ONRA Board members will provide interpretation at the various stops, as we travel across Ohio, following the Road that helped build America. Tickets may be obtained by

contacting Glen Massie at gmassie@clarkcountyohio.gov.

Tickets are \$60.00 each, which includes a National Road *Traveler's Guide*, other materials, snacks, lunch, and just a darned good time for all. Hope to see you there!

Doug Smith, ONRA Vice President

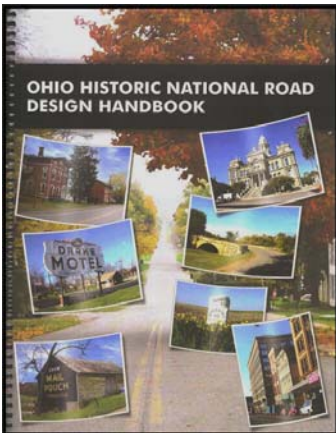
Over 700 Miles of Treasure Hunting

From Wednesday, May 27, 2009 through Sunday, May 31, 2009, you will be able to not only travel the Road and see the many historic sites, but also to join in the 4th Annual Historic National Road Yard Sale Days. Each year, along the 228 miles in Ohio, both the seller and the buyer participation rates have continued to rise. So whether you are looking for antiques, gently used items, toys, household goods, furniture, baby items or clothing, you will surely be able to find something you need or want. We are again hoping to make this year's Yard Sale Days an educational opportunity for the many byway travelers and sellers on the Historic National Road as Association Board members and your Byway Coordinator will also be traveling (and perhaps even shopping!) and passing out our informational materials and resources detailing the grand history of the National Road in Ohio. This will enable ONRA to further its mission of promoting the many historic treasures and splendor of the Road while providing a fun, five-day shopping extravaganza. The Yard Sale is a great tool to draw attention not only to our organization, but more importantly, to the Road. I thank you not only for your past support of the Historic National Road Yard Sale Days, but also for your continued participation on May 27-31. If you would like your yard sale listed on our website at www.ohionationalroad.org, please contact the Byway Coordinator Glen Massie via email at gmassie@clarkcountyohio.gov or by phone at (937) 521-2132.





Scenic Byway Grant Update



The National Scenic Byways Program has been an important tool that has enabled the Ohio National Road Association to accomplish many of our past projects. From 2000–2008, ONRA has received \$765,400 in grants for the following projects: the Corridor Management Plan, our Ohio Historic National Road Design Handbook, Brick Tavern Revitalization, the Interpretive Signage Project, and the newest 2008 grant titled “Increasing the Awareness of the Historic

National Road in Ohio” which funds the reprinting of the *Traveler’s Guide*, printing additional copies of the ONRA Rack Card, Design Guideline Handbook Workshops, and additional promotional resources. This grant will enable ONRA to reach a wider audience and replenish the supply of resources that are nearly depleted. The *Traveler’s Guide* has been a huge success, and several thousand copies have been distributed to persons throughout the United States. The reprinting of a planned 30,000–40,000 copies will enable ONRA to reach many more people. We are very thankful for the continued support of the National Scenic Byways Program which additionally funds the administrative services for ONRA’s Byway Coordinator.

In addition to the good news of the 2008 grants received, ONRA was also able to raise the matching funds needed to secure the \$160,000 grant for interpretive signage! After a year of fundraising, we met our goal just before the Annual Meeting on Nov. 18. We are very thankful for the widespread support that was received, and we are certain the Interpretive Signage Project will have a tremendous impact all along the Road. We could not have done it without the support of our Ohio National Road Association members, who contributed a total of \$7,045 toward the needed \$32,000 match, which will help to pay for the two Gateway Signs at each end of the state. The “Madonna of the Trail” sign has already been produced and, just as soon as the weather permits, it will be installed inside of Springfield’s Snyder Park in close proximity to the



statue that faces the Historic National Road. Listed below are the names of individuals or organizations who generously contributed. There are still several signs that are not yet sponsored, so if you would like to co-sponsor a sign that would display your family or company name for \$1,500 or to fully sponsor a sign for \$3,000 which will also display a logo, please contact Glen Massie, your ONRA Byway Coordinator.

Thank You to the Membership

The accomplishments of the Ohio National Road Association would not have been possible without the generous support of its’ membership. As was reported, we have reached the necessary \$32,000 match to secure the grant for implementation of the Interpretive Signage Project. Although the Board of Trustees was instrumental in seeking out signage sponsorships, without the Ohio National Road Association Members’ response to our call for sponsors of the two “Gateway Signs”, we would not have been able to reach our goal. Below is a list of the Gateway Signage Member Sponsors as well as the Signage Sponsors of the Interpretive Signage Project. We appreciate your help!

Member Sponsorships to Gateway Signs

Barbara Ann Weng Kimmell, Bonnie Young, Charla Devine, Crossroad Coins, Cyndie Gerken, David Kullman, Denna Johnson, Dorothy Johnson, Doug Smith, Ed Kemper, Ed Wagstaff, Elizabeth Reeb, Frank Quinn, Glenn Harper, Jan Livingston Brady, Judith B. Williams, June Miller, Laurence Bicking, LaVerne Blaser Brown, Liz Sperandeo, Lorna Hainesworth, Lynn Kartavich, Marian J. Vance, Mary Anne Reeves, Mary Beth Hirsch, Pat Henahan, Paul Fisher, Richard Grushon, Robert Daniels, Deborah Johnson, Rosa Lee Newkirk, Rosanna Moore, Sylvia Miller, Taylor Manufacturing, The Hoskinson Funeral Home, Thomas Williams, Wilson Furniture, and the Zanesville-Muskingum County Chamber of Commerce. *Thank you for all of your support!*

Signage Sponsorships

Belmont County Tourism Council
Della Selsor Trust
The Philip B. Johnson Family
Doug Smith Realty and Auction
Company

City of Englewood
Five Rivers MetroParks
Project Pride
Hadler Realty Company
Vandalia Butler Historical Society

Lagos and Lagos, P.L.L.
Springfield Township
The Rodeo Shop
Bill and Trish Eccles
William and Jan Hill

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 the Signage Project.

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 SIGNAGE PROJECT:

- **AMOUNT: \$** _____

TOTAL AMOUNT: \$ _____

Thank you for supporting ONRA!



SEND FORM AND PAYMENT TO:
Ohio National Road Association
C/O Glen Massie—Byway Coordinator
3130 East Main St.—Suite 2A
Springfield, Ohio 45505

Spring 2009 Newsletter

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

