

Ohio National Road Association



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Spring 2011

R U Involved?

Greetings, National Roaders! What a busy year we have had along The Road, and there is still more to come! With so much happening, have you been involved lately?

Many of you took part in the six-state Caravan of the Bells—Ohio definitely held her own when it came to participation and activities during our portion of the trip. Englewood's "Welcome to Ohio" reception, a 1934 Buick, a horse and buggy ride with police escort, dedication of the National Road Condominiums, old-fashioned racing at National Trail Raceway, touring the National Road Museum, and a host of food choices — our out-of-state visitors were well treated by Ohio National Road Association members, who enthusiastically showed off some of our jewels along The Road. Although many helped and participated, kudos to **Marian Vance** and **Jonathan Beard** for organizing so many great events during the tour. Read more details inside this newsletter.

We welcome new Board members **Jane Balchan** and **Jeff Sewert**. You are joining a very active and enjoyable Board, and we look forward to your participation. At the same time, we have to say goodbye to two Board members retiring—**Bill Hart** and **Bil Kerrigan**. Thank you both for your years of service in promoting and perpetuating The Road.

Be sure to check out the rest of this newsletter for exciting ways to participate! From our Annual Yard Sale, attending Fund Raisers to support restoring some of our heritage along The Road, to purchasing souvenir playing cards, or just going out for a drive to explore life and history (and food!) along the National Road, choices abound!

I'll see you out On The Road!

Dean Ringle
2011 President

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150th Anniversary of the Civil War Observed

This year, the nation is commemorating the sesquicentennial of the start of the Civil War, which began before dawn on April 12, 1861 with the Confederate bombardment of the Union-held Fort Sumter in Charleston, South Carolina. You have heard of the subsequent Battle of Gettysburg in Pennsylvania. But did you know that during the same month and year as that famous battle, there was a Civil War skirmish along the National Road in Ohio? On July 24, 1863, General John Hunt Morgan and 600 of his Confederate cavalymen, known as Morgan's Raiders, paused in the Guernsey County town of Old Washington to look for food. They stopped at the American Hotel (now demolished) and while dining were attacked by pursuing Union forces led by Brig. General James Shackelford. The raiders returned gunfire and in the exchange, three Confederate soldiers were killed. Local residents buried their bodies in the Old Washington cemetery which overlooks the village. This stone and a Civil War Historical Marker now stand near where the Confederates were laid to rest.



May 1-7, 2011 National Road Bicentennial Caravan of the Bells

The six-state National Road Alliance celebrated the bicentennial of the beginning of construction on the National Road with a 700-mile Caravan of Bells. The journey began on May 1st at the end of the Road in Vandalia, Illinois and ended at the site of its beginning in Cumberland, Maryland on the 200th anniversary of the groundbreaking on May 7th. To honor the history of early travelers, the caravan carried brass harness bells which had been created to symbolize those worn on the harnesses of the draught teams that pulled the Conestoga wagons on the National Road. Starting with one bell from Illinois, a bell was added at each state line until the full set of six (for the number of states through which the Historic National Road crossed) was presented to the City of Cumberland. For a related colloquialism, see page 44 in ONRA's National Road *Traveler's Guide*.

Ohio's bell (the third of six) was added at the Wayne Co. Historical Museum in Richmond, when the Indiana National Road Association handed the bells off to the Ohio National Road Association on May 3rd. From there it was on to a reception in Englewood and an overnight stay. The next day, the caravan traveled through Montgomery, Miami, Clark, Madison and into Franklin County, where they were led by a horse-drawn wagon (and police escort!) along the historic route of the Road on East Main Street. After participating in a combined Bicentennial and Ribbon-cutting celebration with Columbus Mayor Mike Coleman and Columbus Compact Corporation CEO (and ONRA's own) Jon Beard at the newly created park and renovated Old National Road Condominiums in Olde Town East, the caravan was led by National Trail Raceway's El Camino and "sped" (literally) to the Race track near Hebron. A vintage truck club joined the convoy and proceeded via some old Road segments through Licking County, stopping at Eagle's Nest Monument and Muskingum County's Headley Inn/Smith House, then over the Y-bridge before stopping for the night. The next morning participants and guests were treated to breakfast and a tour at the National Road/Zane Grey Museum, before heading east to Cambridge for a brief ceremony on the lawn of the Guernsey County Courthouse. After lunch at the Deep Cut Tavern, the last stop in Ohio was at the site of the July 4, 1825 groundbreaking of Ohio's portion of the National Road, the Belmont County Courthouse in St. Clairsville. There Ohio said "goodbye" to the caravan, the fourth bell was added, and the Caravan of Bells was handed off to Jeremy Morris, who was representing the West Virginia National Road Association. For more photos/information about this event, visit our web site.

NOTE: As a consequence of all the inclement weather, the number of vehicles in the caravan varied from six to dozens, but a core group of three automobiles made the entire trip—a 1953 Ford Victoria driven by Ron and Shirley Stauffer of Portland, IN, a 1980 Mercedes driven by Debbie Wentz with passenger Mary Truitt, President of the National Road Association of Illinois, and a 1934 Buick carrying Gary and Marcie Kruger of Effingham, IL and their passenger Belinda Roddy of Martinsville, IL. A fourth car, driven by Paul Schubert of Bath, OH participated as far as St. Clairsville. We appreciated having them in Ohio!



Ohio National Road Interpretive Signage Project Continues



Three additional Ohio National Road Interpretive signs were unveiled since our Fall 2010 newsletter. The new signs included the Western Gateway sign, installed at the Rodeo Shop in Preble County (at left), plus Cambridge and Peters Creek "S" Bridge. Watch our web site for upcoming unveiling ceremonies being planned for the Y-bridge, Zanesville, Old Stone House and more!



ONRA Playing Cards



Ohio Historic National Road playing cards are now available for a donation of \$10 per deck (quantity discounts are offered). Purchase online using Paypal or print out an order form from on our web site and mail it with your check or money order. Questions? Contact ONRA Byway Coordinator Melanie Runkel at 937-521-2129. Hurry—don't miss out!

Milestone Awards

The 2010 ONRA Milestone Awards were presented at their Annual Meeting held Nov. 15th at the Great Southern Hotel in Columbus. Zanesville's Nelson T. Gant Foundation was the recipient of the Milestone Preservation Award, and ONRA's recent-past President Cyndie Gerken was surprised to be awarded the Milestone Leadership Award. Go to our web site to find the form needed to nominate a person or organization to be a 2011 Milestone Award recipient.

Come Join the Journey!

www.ohionationalroad.org

Date of Sale:
June 1, 2011
-
June 5, 2011

Time of Sale:
Individual sales vary

Yard sales will take place from Ohio's Belmont County to Richmond, IN along the Historic National Road (US 40)



6th Annual National Road Yard Sale

Ohio National Road Association

The 6th Annual National Road Yard Sale will be held from June 1-June 5, 2011.

For Sale

Don't Miss "Super Saturday" on June 4th!

How Can You Participate?

- Be one of the many shoppers
- Grab your antiques, collectibles, clothing, furniture, glassware, baby items, etc. and put it in your yard
- Join in one of the Community Yard Sales along the National Road (US 40)

- Antiques
- Collectibles
- Clothing
- Furniture
- Household items
- Kid's items/Toys
- Books/DVDs
- And Much Much More!!!

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SAVE THE DATE!! Our October 22, 2010 fundraiser for the Glenn A. Harper Endowment for Preservation on the Historic National Road in Ohio was a huge success, with net proceeds of \$6,170.41! In order to launch the Fund this year, we need to reach our initial goal of \$10,000 and we are just \$1,800.00 short! Contribute anytime and/or watch our web site for the opportunity to help put us over the top at a Fall fundraiser to be held in Lewisburg, Ohio on **September 16, 2011**.

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 donating to a Special Project, Endowment Fund, or Merchandise

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, FUND OR MISC:

- **SPECIAL PROJECT** \$ _____
- **ENDOWMENT FUND** \$ _____
- **COOKBOOK, PIN, CARDS** \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Thank you for supporting ONRA!



SEND FORM AND PAYMENT TO:
Ohio National Road Association
c/o Melanie Runkel—Byway Coordinator
3130 East National Road—Suite 2A
Springfield, Ohio 45505

-or-

Join, contribute or purchase online at
www.ohionationalroad.org

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

Spring 2011 Newsletter

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

