



Ohio National Road Association

President: Dean Ringle
Vice President: Doug Smith

Byway Coordination Services
C/O Clark Co. – Springfield TCC
3130 East National Road– Suite 2A
Springfield, Ohio 45505

Phone: 937-521-2129
Email: mrunkel@clarkcountyohio.gov
Web-site: www.ohionationalroad.org

★ ★ ★ *An All – American Road National Scenic Byway* ★ ★ ★

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Ohio National Road Association Announces Its 2011 Milestone Awards

Ohio National Road Association (ONRA) President Dean Ringle congratulates Springfield's Jim and Nike Lagos as the winners of the ONRA 2011 Milestone Preservation Award, and Columbus' Jonathan Beard as the winner of the 2011 Milestone Leadership Award. The awards were presented at the Association's Annual Meeting which was held at the Spaghetti Warehouse in Columbus on November 15, 2011.

Jim and Nike Lagos were recognized for their "steadfast commitment to and investment in the preservation and revitalization of downtown Springfield through the restoration and rehabilitation of the historic Bushnell Building, located on Main Street, the original route of the National Road."

ONRA Board ex officio member and Columbus businessman Jonathan Beard received the Milestone Leadership Award "for his unwavering efforts to promote the original route of the National Road through downtown Columbus, and for his continued accomplishments in the renovation and rejuvenation of east Columbus neighborhoods along the National Road." Jon was instrumental in the addition of a four-page East Main Street section in the fourth edition of ONRA's popular booklet, *A Traveler's Guide to the Historic National Road in Ohio*.

The National Road ranks as one of our nation's most unique roadways, designated as both a *National Scenic Byway* and an *All-American Road* by the Federal Highway Department in 2002. Initiated in 1806, it was America's first interstate highway, paving the way for settlement of the west. During the early years of the automobile era, it was one of the nation's most heavily traveled east-west arteries. In the last decade, interest in protecting and preserving the historical richness of the sites along the Road, has led to increased interest and involvement of individuals and grassroots organizations, such as ONRA, in all six National Road states. For more information, go to ONRA's web site www.ohionationalroad.org. Further questions regarding the Ohio National Road Association or its Glenn A. Harper Endowment for Preservation on the Historic National Road in Ohio should be addressed to Byway Coordinator Melanie Runkel, Phone: (937) 521-2129, E-mail address: onra@clarkcountyohio.gov.

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