

Ohio National Road Association



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Spring 2013

ONRA members,

Let me begin my term as ONRA President by introducing myself. As an elected official, I served 26 years as a Trustee in Harrison Township, Licking County, OH, and for the past 8+ years as a Licking County Commissioner. Concurrently, on the private-sector side, I've owned and managed a real estate brokerage and auction company for 35+ years. I am a self-professed National Road "nut," having served on the ONRA Board, guided numerous National Road bus trips and co-authored our Traveler's Guide. I am proud to lead the organization for the next two years, and to serve with Vice President Mary Ellen Weingartner, Treasurer Marian Vance and Secretary Nancy Campbell. We look forward to continuing ONRA's forward momentum in our numerous projects, including the installation of more Interpretive Signs, the restoration or replacement of twenty or more Ohio National Road mile makers, and the update of our Corridor Management Plan.

There have been several changes to the Board since our Fall newsletter. We thank out-going President Dean Ringle for his leadership and are pleased he will continue as a Franklin County representative. We miss the smiling face and immeasurable contributions of one of ONRA's founding fathers, Ed Kemper, who chose not to be re-appointed to his Montgomery County seat. Long-time Board members Charla Devine, Matthew Hill, and Greg Zelenitz stepped off the Board this year and we thank them all for their outstanding service. Our appreciation goes to departing ex officio Darlene Steele and Belmont County rep Jeana Paglialunga, and we welcome Dr. John Mattox who now fills Jeana's seat on the Board. And finally we thank ex officio Frank Quinn for his years of dedication to ONRA, and are pleased that Christie Chapman has joined us in his place. Hope to see you "on the Road!"

Doug Smith,
ONRA President

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AN ALL — AMERICAN ROAD NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY





Hebron Boasts New Museum



Photo by Cindy Stemm from Newark Advocate.

The Hebron Historical Society (HHS) held a Grand Opening for its new museum on April 6, 2013. A good crowd was in attendance, including members who helped cut the ribbon (pictured L to R) Margaret Bickle, Jack Justice, Hebron Mayor Clifford Mason and HHS President John Winchell. Licking County Commissioners Tim Bubb, Duane Flowers, and Doug Smith also stopped by to offer their congratulations. Many local history mementos and artifacts are on display at this unique Licking County site which is located on the Historic National Road/US 40 in the Village Shopping Center at 137 West Main Street in Hebron, OH 43025. The museum is open Monday & Friday from 1-4 PM, Saturday from 10AM-1PM and by appointment. Admission is free, but donations are welcomed. Call (740) 975-5808 with questions or to schedule an appointment.

Ohio Byway Conference

Several ONRA Board members attended the annual Ohio Byway Links conference held April 17th and 18th at Perrysburg, Ohio, including President Doug Smith, Vice President Mary Ellen Weingartner and Treasurer Marian Vance. The fast-paced two day event featured much interaction and networking with other byway leaders from around Ohio as well as classroom-type sessions on Thursday, 4/18. Several tours of historic sites in Northwest Ohio were attended by most of those who were registered for the conference. More detailed information about the conference was presented at ONRA's May 28th bi-monthly Board meeting at the Health Dept. building in Columbus.

We've Moved !

For the first time in its 14-year history, ONRA's "home" is no longer in Springfield! With our Board leadership in eastern Ohio, it was a logical evolution to re-locate our office to a more convenient location. So effective April 8th, 2013 our Byway Coordinator Services were moved from Clark County to Licking County. Gerald Newton and Chris Harkness of the Licking County Planning Commission have taken over as our Byway Coordinators, and are located at 20 S. Second Street in Newark, OH. (By coincidence this is the same Chris who served as our Byway Coordinator when he worked for TCC in Springfield!) It is with sincere and heartfelt appreciation that we say goodbye to the Clark County-Springfield TCC, which has served us so well for so many years. From that office, Thea Walsh became our very first Byway Coordinator and eventually became the TCC Director. Subsequent coordinators including Kate Hoffmann, Chris Harkness, Zach Balassone, Glen Massie, Louis Agresta and most recently Melanie Runkel have each provided excellent assistance, as has the current TCC Director Scott Schmid. A special "thank you" goes to TCC's Brian Mercer who worked to organize us and kept our financial records superbly.

Ohio Historic National Road US 40 Yard Sale Days

Over 225 miles of Roadside Treasures!



May 29 – June 2, 2013

June 1st is Super Saturday

**You'll find everything from antiques, collectibles
and furniture to housewares, children's items,
baked goods & much more!**

**Local participation varies, so check area
listings for sales near you.**



Walking (yes, walking!) the National Road



Collegeville, PA resident Dave Brown was recently in Ohio as part of a journey that he calls a "Walk Across America to Benefit the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund." He walks in memory of his wife Joan Chermack Brown, who died from ovarian cancer in 2011. An avid walker, Brown decided he wanted to walk the National Road after his wife gave him a copy of a book by Thomas R. Vale titled *US 40 Today: Thirty Years of Landscape Change in America*. He began walking from Atlantic City, NJ on February 28, 2013 and will continue his walk to San Francisco, CA on the National Road (US Route 40) and US Route 50 to raise awareness about ovarian cancer and raise funds for ovarian cancer research. He averages 14 miles a day and plans to reach his final destination on Columbus Day, October 14, 2013. Dave is pictured here with Cyndie Gerken (ONRA Past-President, Miami County Board representative and cancer survivor), who walked with Dave on a cold and rainy Thursday, April 11, 2013 (Day 43 of his walk) through part of

Clark County into Miami County. Also walking with Dave on that Wednesday and Thursday was London, OH resident, Jim Gilkey, who snapped this photo. Follow Dave's trek across the country by visiting his blog www.ocjoan.blogspot.com.

Milestone Awards Presented



ONRA held its Annual Meeting on November 16, 2012 at the historic Red Brick Tavern on the National Road in Madison County. After fellowship and a delicious meal, the business meeting was held, at which the new officers were announced and the Annual Awards were presented. The winners of the 2012 Milestone Preservation Award were Cris Cummins & Madonna Christy (shown at left) "for their commitment to the preservation of the Red Brick Tavern on the National Road in Lafayette, Ohio." Winner of the 2012 Milestone Leadership Award was Franklin County's Mike Peppe (at right) "for his dogged persistence and dedication to the implementation of ONRA's Interpretive Signage Project." Congratulations!



National Road Ramblings



The Black Horse Inn in Morristown.

A recent eastern end Road trip revealed some disheartening discoveries concerning several structures and areas. The Black Horse Inn at Morristown continues to deteriorate as it awaits new ownership. We are told the current asking price is around \$25K, so if any of you are seeking a project, this imperiled property will more than fill the bill. The brick drover's tavern west of Morristown (shown in our Fall 2012 newsletter) is awaiting demolition, even though it continued to self-demolish in spite of itself just a few weeks ago. Here's an observation on parts of the National Register historic district within Morristown itself. The level of deferred maintenance overall in numerous properties within the core of the town continues to discourage those of us interested in historic preservation, although private property preservation cannot be mandated. Sometimes disappointment reigns supreme.

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 ☐ \$ _____
- ART PRINT, PIN, CARDS ☐ \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Thank you for supporting ONRA!



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Ohio National Road Association
c/o Chris Harkness—Byway Coordinator
20 South Second Street
Newark, Ohio 43055

-or-

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Spring 2013 Newsletter

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