ONRA Members and Friends,

Fall finally appeared. The leaves stayed green and on the trees into much of October and only recently did some color show up. My sweet gum plantation is still mostly green. FYI, sweet gum doesn’t have much value in the forestry world, but its fall wardrobe makes up for that. Daylight continues to decrease and after we turn our clocks back the first weekend in November, I will be counting the days until the December 21 – winter, the shortest day of the year - when daylight is on an upward track again.

You should have received a notice about our annual meeting in advance of this newsletter. We decided to try a luncheon and meeting on Saturday, November 17 at Ann & Tony’s Restaurant in West Jefferson. We think members and guests may appreciate being able to travel in daylight. A reservation form is included in this newsletter.

Regarding our TAP II (mile marker) grant, I spent two days with ODOT staff marking locations for new mile markers in Guernsey and Belmont counties. There are, of course, many more missing stones than we can supply.

Muskingum County still needs to be flagged. In Licking County, only six targeted sites remain to be filled and then every mile in the county will have a marker in place.

As always, ONRA is seeking new sources of funding. Along with that is a search to fill several vacant board member positions. We recently accepted resignations from Dr. John Mattox (Belmont County) as he reduced some of his activities and from...
Vice President John Kile (Madison County) who left for medical reasons. I am very sad to report that John passed away shortly afterward.

I didn’t think I saw as much yard sale activity along the National Road/Route 40 this year and traffic seemed light. However, a friends of history group to which I belong made $350 last year and more than doubled their sales this year. They are already taking items for next year.

I attended the Ohio Byways Conference in New Paris, Ohio in August. This was part of a larger Midwest Byways Conference held over several days in Richmond, Indiana. Our field trip took us to Mercer County and the Land of the Cross-Tipped Churches. In addition to touring several beautiful historic churches, the day included lunch at a former seminary and a visit to the Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics, the second largest collection of its type in the United States. Bill Flood’s article provides more details about the entire conference.

I also attended the National Road Bicentennial Symposium in Washington, Pennsylvania. 2018 marks the bicentennial of the Eastern Legacy portion of the National Road from Cumberland, Maryland to Wheeling, (now West) Virginia. Presentations included the case for internal improvements that enabled the National Road; the Northwest Turnpike in Virginia designed to connect commerce to eastern Virginia; how the largely-German immigrant population in Wheeling opposed slavery and discussed breaking away from Virginia long before the Civil War; and what National Road organizations in Maryland, Pennsylvania and West Virginia are doing to promote heritage tourism. Albert Gallatin, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison offered executive views on the National Road.

Our updated membership brochure is now available. I will be mailing some to each board member and bringing some to the annual meeting. Speaking of membership, we will be sending out membership renewal notices soon.

I hope to see you on November 17th in West Jefferson,

-Elizabeth

John Kile (1933-2018)

I don’t think most of us had any idea what a large part of the West Jefferson community John Kile was. He graduated from West Jefferson High School where he played football, basketball and ran track; he was inducted into his high school’s Athletic Hall of Fame in 1995. Except for two years in the Army, he lived in and served West Jefferson. And, wow, did he serve. He led or served every organization in the community; was the voice of the West Jefferson Roughriders for 45 years and emceed local events for over 50 years. He knew about horses (pintos), was a Hudson aficionado, sold vehicles. He was ONRA’s vice-president and added personal insight to our executive board meetings. In addition to his wife, John is survived by a son, a daughter, six grandchildren, a brother and a sister.
New Paris, Ohio Hosts the Ohio Portion of the Midwest Scenic Byways Conference

The 2018 Midwest Scenic Byways Conference was held in multiple locations along the National Road in eastern Indiana and western Ohio September 22-24. The event brought leadership and guests from 15 states and several national organizations to address promotion, preservation, and travel on America’s scenic byways.

A main topic of discussion was why scenic byways are becoming so popular as travel destinations. Maree Forbes, principal of the National Travel Center said, “Visitors go on Byways to escape their lives, to experience the destinations’ stories.” Keynote speaker Sheila Scarborough of Tourism Currents discussed the value of byways providing authentic experiences in small towns and destinations along the way. She noted, “Travelers want the real deal and make the trek along these routes to get an experience they can’t get anywhere else.”

Another sentiment echoed by multiple speakers was scenic byways provide a reason for people to travel. Referring to pleasure vehicles like motorcycles, classic cars, and RVs, Leon Younger of Prose Consulting commented, “It’s like when you buy a boat and only use it twice or buy a golf membership and only use it 10 times and realize you probably paid $200 a round”; he then pointed out, “Scenic byways are a huge motivator for people to take those vehicles out road tripping.”

The Natural Springs Resort, located in New Paris right off Ohio’s stretch of the National Road/US 40 at the Ohio-Indiana line was selected as the location for Ohio’s portion of the conference. Members of ODOT and Ohio Byway Links spearheaded those events.

Natural Springs Resort was also the embarking point for the conference’s day-long bus tour of Ohio’s Land of Cross-Tipped Churches Byway. The Byway travels nearly 40 miles through Shelby, Auglaize, and Mercer counties focusing on three-dozen 19th and early 20th-century Catholic churches congregated in the area.

The bulk of the educational sessions were held in and around Richmond Indiana including at the Quaker Hill Conference Center, the Cope Environmental Center along the National Road, and the Huddleston Farmhouse Museum. Some of the more than 16 sessions included: Creating Byway Inventories; Marketing your Byway on a Shoestring; Maintaining Intrinsic Quality Integrity; and, Funding Byway Projects.

In addition to the Keynote speaker, presenters included Midwest state DOT Byway coordinators, several Midwest travel bloggers, and representatives from national organizations such as the National Scenic Byway Foundation and Scenic America.
A lot of changes have occurred along a two-mile stretch of Route 40 in Muskingum County:

Smith House next door to Headley Inn was auctioned off on August 11. Edward Smith built the large sandstone house in 1830 and opened an inn to cater to the busy traffic on the National Road. In 1860, his son Alex added a west wing to the structure. Ownership changed several times. The Smith House-Headley Inn-adjacent barn complex was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in the late 1970s. Derby Oil purchased the property for its office in the 1980s and used the building for several years. When Judith Lowther obtained the Smith House in 2000, it had sat vacant for many years. She opened an antiques and collectibles business and worked on restoring the building. After her death, her family, most of whom live out-of-state decided to sell the house, barn and 2.8 acres. Contents of the antique store were auctioned prior to the sale of the property. The new owners are Otto Luburgh and his wife, and many people were relieved that a local couple purchased this piece of history.

The Rock Zanesville congregation purchased the Route 40 Roadhouse this past summer. The group has rented the old Licking View Elementary School for two years and wanted to expand. The Roadhouse Restaurant, located between Route 40 and the original National Road, closed and much of the equipment sold at auction but the building did not. The Rock group had hoped to be ready to hold services in August, but the current estimate is the first part of next year.

Another construction project west of Smith House and the Roadhouse is across from Reciprocity Bridge. Precision Welding and Installation leveled a two-acre spot and moved an industrial trailer in as the office. The site seems to busy.
The Glenn A. Harper Endowment Fund

The Glenn A. Harper Endowment Fund for Preservation on the Ohio Historic National Road, has announced its 2018 award recipients.

They are:

$1000.00 to National Trail #348 of the International Questers, for ongoing repairs to the interior plaster walls of the Great Western School, a one room school constructed in 1870. The school, which is located on the National Road, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The building is used for programming and interpretation of nineteenth educational practices and life along the National Road.

$700.00 to the Morristown Historic Preservation Association, toward the creation of a National Road Landmark Signpost, to be erected near the Black Horse Tavern, an iconic landmark on the National Road. As proposed, the signpost would assist travelers by providing the mileage to distant buildings, sites and structures along the Road.

The Endowment Fund is sponsored by the Ohio National Road Association and managed by the Springfield Foundation. It honors Glenn Harper for his long service in helping to call attention to the significance of the National Road in Ohio and the preservation needs of this historic highway. The Fund provides matching grants to individuals, non-profit organizations and public agencies, to preserve, restore and rehabilitate historic buildings, sites, structures and objects, along the National Road/US 40.

Contributions to the Endowment may be made by contacting the Springfield Foundation at 937/324-8773.
ONRA ANNUAL BANQUET

When:  Saturday, November 17, 2018  
Social time begins at 11:15 am  
Luncheon at 12 noon, with annual meeting to follow meal

Where:  Ann & Tony’s Restaurant, 211 E. Main Street, West Jefferson, OH

Cost:  Choose from  
Lasagna $14  
Chicken Parmesan $14  
Salmon $20  

All meals include salad, vegetable, bread, beverage, tax and gratuity  
Alcoholic beverages and desserts are additional

Please come join us for an afternoon of fellowship, friendship and good food. Our luncheon and annual meeting are open to all current members of the Ohio National Road Association and guests. We’ll review the happenings of the past year and discuss plans for the future.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, November 14. We need to write a check to the restaurant.

DIRECTIONS:  Ann & Tony’s is on the south side of Route 40 at the east end of West Jefferson. There are two exits for West Jefferson. If driving I-70 west from Columbus, take the first exit, turn west (right) on Route 40, restaurant will be on your left. If driving I-70 east from Springfield take the first exit, turn east on Route 40 and go across town to restaurant or take second exit and follow directions above.

RSVP – ANNUAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON

NAME(S) ____________________________________________________________  
ADDRESS ______________________________________________________________________  
PHONE ___________________________ EMAIL ______________________________________  

_____ Lasagna $14  _____ Chicken Parmesan $14  _____ Salmon $20

TOTAL ENCLOSED:  $_____________________________  (Make checks payable to ONRA)

Thank you for supporting ONRA!

Pleas send form and payment to:

Ohio National Road Association  
c/o Cindy Morrow – Byway Coordinator  
20 South Second Street, Newark, Ohio 43055

Byway Links Treasurer at sharonstrouse@gmail.com or 330-231-3468
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 □
- **COMMUNITY ORG:** $100 □

**DONATION AMOUNT TO SPECIAL PROJECT, FUND OR MISC:**
- **SPECIAL PROJECT** □ $ ______________
- **ENDOWMENT FUND** □ $ ______________
- **ART PRINT, PIN, ARDS** □ $ ______________

**TOTAL ENCLOSED:** $ ______________________

Thank you for supporting ONRA!

SEND FORM AND PAYMENT TO:
Ohio National Road Association
c/o Cindy Morrow—Byway Coordinator
20 South Second Street
Newark, Ohio 43055
- or -
Join, contribute or purchase online at
www.ohionationalroad.org

Fall 2018 Newsletter

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

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Ohio National Road Association