

10-Year Designation Celebration a Success

Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area (SSNHA) celebrated its 10-Year mark since designation by the United States Congress in 1996. The celebration was held on Wednesday, November 15, 2006, at the Five Sullivan Brothers Convention Center in downtown Waterloo with over 200 supporters in attendance.

Money raised through Silent & Live Auctions, ticket sales and personal donations will provide the youth of Iowa with invaluable opportunities through the SSNHA Education Scholarship Fund.

Former Governor Robert D. Ray and Susan Judkins, of the Iowa League of Cities, played significant roles in the celebration planning, implementing and execution. Guests also heard from the local Cedar Falls Mayor Crews, Waterloo Mayor Hurley, and Evansdale Mayor Mardis. Former Governor Terry Branstad led the invocation before dinner.

The evening's keynote speaker was Mark Pearson. As co-host of WHO Radio's *Big Show*, a farmer, small businessman, stockbroker, raconteur and long-time host of Iowa Public Television's *Market To Market* program, Pearson kept



Former Governor Robert Ray & SSNHA Executive Director Don Short



Mark Pearson, Former Governor Branstad, Mrs. Ray, Keith Ervin, Susan Judkins, Kathie Ervin, Former Governor Ray and Robert Josten



Colleen Carson with her commissioned piece, "Serenity"

the crowd entertained with stories of his childhood in Iowa and his strong emotional ties to the state.

Items in the Silent Auction included overnight stays at SSNHA partner sites, local hotels and B&Bs, merchandise from SSNHA partner sites and also the Iowa Pork Producers Association. Other items included collector tractors, a Norman Borlaug piece and wine baskets.

The Live Auction featured four premier items. A child sized John Deere Gator was auctioned off along with a Backyard Burnout catered by SSNHA's very own Executive Director, Don Short. Also, an American Flag, flown in commemoration of SSNHA's 10-Year Designation, was part of the event along with a commissioned painting by Colleen Carson of Carson Art Gallery in Ackley, Iowa, a SSNHA partner site. The painting was completed specifically for the celebration and features a serene farm setting, set on the rolling hills of Iowa.

The limited edition painting, "Serenity" print will be available for purchase later this year.

Funds Raised for Education Scholarship

Two education programs are planned for 2007 with money raised at SSNHA's 10-Year Designation Celebration. Both programs are part of the Education Scholarship Fund.

- **The SSNHA Bus Grant Program** will give schools in the Heritage Area the opportunity to educate students about America's strong agricultural background. With the rising cost of fuel, many local schools have been forced to

- eliminate field trips. This program will assist schools in offering children the opportunity to learn firsthand about agricultural heritage and its global impacts through visits to Heritage Area partner sites.

- **The Internship Program**, planned for the summer of 2007, will provide partner sites with funding for interns focusing on telling the story of agriculture through preservation, conservation, interpretation, education and

graphic design. SSNHA, in collaboration with partner sites and colleges in the Heritage Area, will provide partner sites with qualified interns.

To apply for either program, contact Lynne Wagner, SSNHA Education Coordinator at lwagner@silosandsmokestacks.org or visit www.silosandsmokestacks.org and click on Grants.

Congress Designates 10 New National Heritage Areas

Ten new National Heritage Areas have joined the National Park Service family.

On September 29, the Senate passed S. 203, the National Heritage Areas Act of 2006. On October 12, the President signed the bill, which adds ten new national heritage areas to the National Park Service portfolio, including three in the West, one of which bridges two NPS regional offices. There are now 37 National Heritage Areas across 27 states. The new National Heritage Areas are:

Northeast Region: Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area (NJ)
Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area (MA and CT)
Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership (NY and VT)

Southeast Region:
Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area (GA)
Atchafalaya National Heritage Area (LA)
Gullah/Geechee Heritage Corridor (NC, SC, GA, and FL)

Midwest Region:
Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area (KS and MO)

Intermountain Region:
Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area (UT)
Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area (NM)

Pacific West Region:
Great Basin National Heritage Route (UT and NV)

For more information on national heritage areas and to learn about the other 27 areas, visit <http://www.cr.nps.gov/heritageareas/>.

Three Grant Programs Offered in 2007

Grant	Purpose	Due Date	More Info
General Grant	Support sites, attractions, and events to tell the story of American Agriculture.	Due postmarked June 1, 2007.	www.silosandsmokestacks.org/home/uploads/documents/grantapp2007.pdf Candy Streed cstreed@silosandsmokestacks.org
Bus Grant	Help schools in the heritage area fund the transportation costs associated with field study trips to SSNHA partner sites.	Accepting applications August 1, 2007. Will award grants until May 1, 2008 or until funds are depleted.	www.silosandsmokestacks.org/home/uploads/documents/ssnha__internprojectgrant_application.pdf Lynne Wagner lwagner@silosandsmokestacks.org
Intern Grant	Help provide up to 50% of a summer intern's wage at a SSNHA partner site.	Due postmarked January 22, 2007.	www.silosandsmokestacks.org/home/uploads/documents/bussing_grant.pdf Lynne Wagner lwagner@silosandsmokestacks.org

World Food Prize Motor Coach Tour

Agricultural scientists from around the world experienced Iowa's agricultural expertise this past harvest season. SSNHA partnered with the World Food Prize Foundation to host a motorcoach tour of the Heritage Area October 16 - 17, 2006, for 50 foreign USDA Norman Borlaug Fellows. The Fellows were visiting Iowa in celebration of the World Food Prize 2006 Harvest Festival.

The contingent, which included scientists from Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Costa Rica, India, Montenegro and Serbia, stopped first at a hog farm near Zearing. There they learned how a small producer co-op, known as Iowa Farm Families, raises their "Naturally Tender Pork" and market it directly to consumers. The guests also experienced the 1,000-head Stor-Del Dairy in Fredericksburg. The group toured the milking barn and learned about the dairy's daily operations, including use of on-farm embryo transfers.

A highlight of the tour was the group's visit to the boyhood home of Norman Borlaug. At the one-room schoolhouse where Norman Borlaug received his earliest education, they heard a presentation from Leon Hesser, author of the new Borlaug biography on the life of the 1970 Noble Peace Prize Laureate.

The tour wrapped up with a stop at the Polk County Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt, one of Iowa's largest prairie and wetlands restoration projects.

"We've been impressed not only by the technology we've seen on the farms, but also by the generosity and friendliness of every Iowan we've encountered."

-Nabi Hasan, a scientist from India

SSNHA Says Farewell to Jennifer

In late December, Jennifer Peterson, Silos & Smokestacks' Marketing & Public Relations Manager, moved to Chapel Hill, North Carolina, where her husband Marc has accepted a new position at the University of North Carolina. It is a great opportunity for their family, and we wish them all the best.

Jennifer has been a wonderful asset to the Heritage Area, and she will be missed. Good Luck Jennifer, Marc and Maya!



Are we supposed to be touching the artifacts, Jennifer?

Mystery Traveler Winner

Ushers Ferry Historic Village survived the Mystery Traveler Program and was the first partner site recognized by Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area. Mystery Travelers have been secretly traveling around the Heritage Area, evaluating partner sites based on their Heritage Area knowledge, displays and most importantly, their hospitality. Ushers Ferry Historic Village, located in Cedar Rapids, continuously does an outstanding job of expressing their enthusiastic interest in visitors. Congratulations



Mystery Traveler Winners: Usher's Ferry Historic Village in Cedar Rapids

Ushers Ferry Historic Village for a job well done!

Silos & Smokestacks Partnership Profile

Heritage Area School Houses

The Heritage Area is home to some of the finest country schools in Iowa. Many have been expanding their programming and interpretation. We would like to highlight just a few examples of what the Heritage Area partners are doing.



1876 Coralville Schoolhouse

Johnson County Historical Society manages the 1876 Coralville Schoolhouse Museum in Coralville. This two-story brick schoolhouse was built in 1876 and operated until 1951. Today, the school's downstairs classroom interprets what school in Iowa was like in the 1870s and the upstairs classroom interprets the one-room school and life in the 1940s. It is one of only three two-room Iowa schoolhouses listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

UNI Museums have recently

added new interpretation to the Marshall Center School, located on UNI's campus in Cedar Falls. In 2005, they received a grant from SSNHA to complete a new outdoor interpretive sign explaining the important role some 12,000 small rural schools played in building Iowa's nationally recognized education system.

Called *Country Schools*:

Community Crossroads, it tells of another important role these rural school buildings played. Often built at crossroads, the schools



Marshall Center School House-UNI Museums

became natural gathering places for spring picnics, temporary

church services, box socials, voting, Farm Bureau meetings and many other social activities.

Additionally, Bennington #4 School in rural Waterloo recently completed installation of a new



Bennington #4 School

low-profile interpretive sign telling the story of the role of the country school in American agriculture. Bennington continues to carry on their story through the selfless help of many volunteer workers, carrying on the tradition of helping your neighbor that these "community centers" once created.

To learn more about these schools visit www.silosandsmokestacks.org/sites/.

Teacher's Resource Fair

Know any teachers, administrators, or home school educators? If so, then encourage them to attend the SSNHA Teacher's Resource Fair on Monday, February 19, 2007, from 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Area Education Agency (AEA) 267.

This fun, information packed Teacher's Resource Fair will provide Pre-K - 12 teachers, administrators and home school educators a chance to discover all that regional cultural institutions have to offer in one easy location. Teachers will have the opportunity to network with over 20 representatives from museums, nature centers, and other SSNHA partner sites at their leisure, receive handy teacher's guides and brochures, and watch program demonstrations. Door prizes will be awarded every hour. The Area Education Agency (AEA) 267 is located at 3712 Cedar Heights Drive in Cedar Falls, IA. For details, contact Lynne Wagner, SSNHA Education Coordinator at lwagner@silosandsmokestacks.org.



Museum Collections Management on a Shoe String

A Collections Management Workshop

Learn through demonstrations and hands-on activities on how to care for, store, handle, clean, pack and move artifacts. Emphasis will be on best practices and inexpensive alternatives.

Wednesday, February 28, 2007

9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Instructors:

National Park Service and State Historical Society of Iowa staff who specialize in collections management



Register by February 14, 2007

Limited to 30 participants

To register, mail this form with payment to:

Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area

P.O. Box 2845, Waterloo, IA 50704

Ph: 319-234-4567 Fax: 319-234-8228

Make checks payable to Silos & Smokestacks

Cost:

\$30 per person affiliated with a designated SSNHA site or a member of Iowa Museum Association
\$40 per person for all other participants

Fee includes lunch, refreshments and materials.

Location:

Vesterheim Norwegian American Museum
3rd Floor of Westby Mason Torgerson Education Center
523 W. Water St., Decorah
Visit www.silosandsmokestacks.org/home/CMS/Resources/Workshops.php for more information.



Name(s): _____

Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____



209 West 5th Street | Suite E
Post Office Box 2845
Waterloo, Iowa 50704-2845

NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
WATERLOO, IA
PERMIT NO. 74

Dates to Remember

January 17 - SSNHA Board of Trustee Meeting

February 19 - SSNHA Teacher's Resource Fair (see pg. 3.)

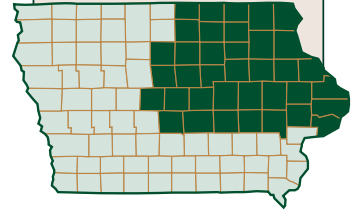
February 28 - Museum Collections Management on a Shoe String Workshop (see pg. 3.)

April 10 & 11 - SSNHA Annual Conference (see pg. 4.)

April 18 - SSNHA Board of Trustee Meeting



Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area (SSNHA) is a federally designated heritage area and is an Affiliated Area of the National Park Service. Through the development of a network of sites, programs, and events in these 37 Iowa counties, SSNHA interprets farm life, agribusiness, and rural communities – past and present.



The Newsletter is published by Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area. Please contact Candy Streed, Editor, at (319) 234-4567 or email at cstreed@silosandsmokestacks.org to submit story ideas.

Living Landscape
Cultivating Our Heritage

Save the Date

Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area Annual Conference

April 10 - 11, 2007
Five Sullivan Brothers Convention Center
Waterloo, Iowa

You won't want to miss out on this regional conference!
Visit www.silosandsmokestacks.org for more information.

An Affiliated Area of the

**Check out Silos & Smokestacks on the web at:
www.silosandsmokestacks.org**

Leadership Advisors

- Terry Branstad**
Former Iowa Governor, President & CEO, Des Moines University
- Ross Christensen**
Christensen, Christensen, Bigelow, Day
- Willard Jenkins**
Iowa House of Representatives
- Patty Judge**
Iowa Lt. Governor
- Susan Judkins**
Director of Government Affairs, Iowa League of Cities
- Ambassador Ken Quinn**
President, World Food Prize Foundation
- Robert Ray**
Former Iowa Governor, Ray Enterprises
- Neal Smith**
Former US Congressman, Attorney at Law
- Wythe Willey**
Attorney, Wythe Willey Law Office

Board of Trustees

- Fred Kirschenmann, Chair**
Distinguished Fellow, Leopold Center, Ames
- Dan Brown, Vice Chair**
Former State Director, USDA Rural Development, Iowa Falls
- Soo Greiman, Treasurer**
Owner, Greiman Farms, Inc., Waterloo
- Tom Husnik, Secretary**
District Sales Manager, Midwest Region, Pioneer & Crop Protection Sales & Marketing, Vinton
- Ron Birkenholz**
Director of Communications, Iowa Pork Producers Association, Clive
- Kristopher Einsweiler**
Manager, Drivetrain Operations, John Deere, Waterloo
- Jerry Enzler**
Executive Director, National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium, Dubuque
- Geoffrey Grimes**
Partner, Struxture Architects, Waterloo
- Robert Gunderson**
Retired President, Whink Products Co., Eldora
- Jim Hosch**
Retired Education Director, ISU County Extension, Elkader
- Ruby Triplett**
Community Leader, Moline, IL

Partnership Panel

- Kathy Bowermaster**
Iowa Division of Tourism, Des Moines
- Dianna Engelbrecht**
Farm House B&B, Fredericksburg
- Steve Johnson**
Vesterheim Norwegian American Museum, Decorah
- Phil Hemesath**
Farm Bureau District 1, Calmar
- Warren Johnson**
Limestone Bluffs Resource Conservation & Development, Maquoketa
- Samuel Lankford**
University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls
- Cheryl Schreier**
Herbert Hoover Historic Site, NPS, West Branch
- Sandy Scholl, Chair**
ISU Extension, Waterloo
- Doug Schroeder**
Fossil & Prairie Park and Center, Rockford
- Jean Stowell**
Top of Iowa Welcome Center, Northwood
- Paul Tabor**
Tabor Home Winery, Baldwin
- Jerome Thompson, Vice Chair**
State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines
- Larry Turner**
Central Iowa River Partnership, Belmond
- Margaret Wieting**
Johnston County Historical Society, Coralville
- Sandi Yoder**
Living History Farms, Urbandale

Staff

- Don Short**
Executive Director
- Peter Jorgensen**
Group Tour Manager
- Carol Klein**
Finance & Office Manager
- Joe Knobbe**
Group Tour Assistant
- Beth LeVan**
Program Assistant Intern
- Eric Pedretti**
Program Assistant Intern
- Candy Streed**
Program & Partnership Director
- Jodi Verbraken**
Special Events & Communication Coordinator
- Lynne Wagner**
Educational Coordinator