

Federal Appropriations Update

Congress has passed the 2006 Department of Interior appropriations bill and President Bush has indicated he will sign it. Six National Heritage Areas received a \$100,000 reduction while most received a \$50,000 reduction, including Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area.

The Senate passed the National Heritage Areas Partnership Act just before leaving for the August recess. The bill proposes a formalized program and criteria for National Heritage Areas much like the process for the National Register of Historic Places. Currently, there is not a formal process for the designation of a National Heritage Area. This act rectifies that by defining standards and requiring specific criteria of national significance before designation. The bill also provides limits of \$1 million per year for

any individual National Heritage Area with a total appropriation of \$25 million per year for the National Heritage Area program. The bill stipulates a cap of \$10 million per National Heritage Area over 15 years.

There are currently 27 National Heritage Areas and an additional 11 heritage areas are seeking federal designation. Dozens of aspiring heritage areas across the nation are observing the program.

“As more National Heritage Areas are designated, funding becomes more difficult to secure,” said Don Short, Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area Executive Director. “As additional heritage areas are designated, there are more organizations competing for funding from the limited amount appropriated to the program each year.”

Heritage Area Represented at Iowa State Fair

Heritage Area volunteers traveled to Des Moines August 11-21 to participate in the Silos & Smokestacks booth at the 2005 Iowa State Fair. As one of more than 30 exhibitors in the Iowa Tourism Building, the Silos & Smokestacks booth was staffed by representatives from its partner sites, Board of Trustees, Partnership Panel, Leadership Advisors, community and Heritage Area supporters and staff.



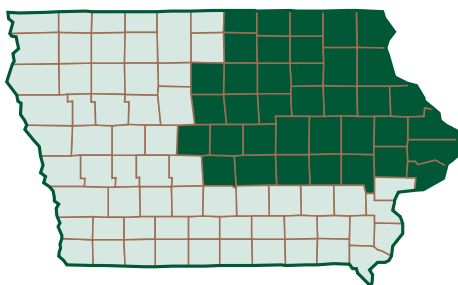
Silos & Smokestacks State Fair booth

Themed *America's Agricultural Heritage Area...It's Right in Your Own Backyard*, the booth resembled a real backyard. Elements to fit the theme included a John Deere windmill, white picket fence, porch glider, sidewalk and mural. The mural was created by 12 students from Black Hawk county who joined The Blue Ribbon Club, a two-week educational program developed by Silos & Smokestacks and the Waterloo

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SSNHA Grant Applications Due October 1st

The deadline for Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area's Grant Application is quickly approaching. A total of \$75,000 is available for projects that preserve and interpret America's agricultural stories through exhibit development, educational programs, interpretation, marketing, signs and event programming.



Grant awards may range from \$1,000 to \$10,000 and applicants must provide a 1-1 match to the grant request. Eligible applicants are non-profit organizations, local or

regional governments or federally recognized Indian tribes located in one of the 37 counties within the Heritage Area.

All applicants must complete an application form found at <http://www.silosandsmokestacks.org/4partner/grants.html> or call the office at (319) 234-4567 to request a hard copy. It is encouraged that all applicants contact Candy Streed prior to application to discuss eligibility.

All applications are due postmarked by October 1 to the Silos & Smokestacks office, P.O. Box 2845, Waterloo, IA 50704-2845.

Save the Date 2006 Annual Conference



March 21-22, 2006
Hotel Winneshiek, Decorah, Iowa

More information to come!

The Hotel Winneshiek Opera House and Conference Center features 31 luxurious guest rooms clustered around an open atrium. The Victorian Rose Restaurant offers creative cuisine in a fine dining atmosphere. For more information about the Hotel Winneshiek, go to www.hotelwinn.com.

SSNHA Grows With Addition of Two New Staff Members

In order to strengthen partnerships, better serve our communities, and implement programs, Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area (SSNHA) staff has grown and restructured. SSNHA welcomes two new staff members to the organization, Jennifer Peterson, Marketing & Public Relations Manager, and Lynne Wagner, Education Coordinator.

Jennifer Peterson will develop and implement marketing and public relations strategies for the Heritage Area. Prior to joining SSNHA, Jennifer was a Marketing Associate for Waverly Health Center.

As Education Coordinator, Lynne Wagner will create and promote educational programs for the Heritage Area. Lynne previously worked for the Grout Museum District as the Director of Education.

Be sure to contact SSNHA staff with questions or ideas.



Don Short
Executive Director



Peter Jorgensen
Group Tour Manager



Carol Klein
Finance and Office Manager



Joe Knobbe
Group Tour Assistant



Jennifer Peterson
Marketing & Public Relations Manager



Candy Streed
Program and Partnership Director



Jodi Verbraken
Special Events & Communication Coordinator



Lynne Wagner
Education Coordinator



Molly McCarthy
Program Assistant Intern



Emily Nauman
Program Assistant Intern

Congratulations National 19th Amendment Society

After 14 years of hard work, the National 19th Amendment Society opened the Carrie Lane Chapman Catt Girlhood Home near Charles City in August. In collaboration with the University of Northern Iowa and Silos & Smokestacks, this historic site tells the story of Chapman Catt from her childhood on the prairie through her integral part in the fight for women's suffrage.



NPS Assistance Available



Sue Pridemore, Heritage Area Partnership Coordinator for the National Park Service (NPS) Midwest Region, is available to assist SSNHA sites and aspiring partners with site planning and assessment, outdoor exhibits, and interpretative planning. Contact Candy Streed at cstreed@silosandsmokestacks.org or (319) 234-4567 to set up an appointment.

Two Heritage Area Communities Recognized for Historic Preservation

The communities of Dubuque and Davenport, both equally rich with heritage resources and historic pasts, have recently been designated as Preserve America Communities.

Dubuque, designated in September 2004, and Davenport, designated in June 2005, are the only two communities in the state that have been awarded with this unique designation. Dubuque and Davenport join 261 other communities in 43 states to preserve their heritage.

According to PreserveAmerica.gov, "a Preserve America Community recognizes communities that:

- protect and celebrate their heritage;

- use their historic assets for economic development and community revitalization; and
- encourage people to experience and appreciate local historic resources through education and heritage tourism."

To learn more about how your community can become a Preserve America Community, go to www.preserveamerica.gov/communities.html or call (202) 606-8503. Four application and designation cycles occur each year. The next designation deadline is December 1, 2005.

Silos & Smokestacks Partner Profile

Cedar Rapids Museum of Art

The Cedar Rapids Museum of Art (CRMA) recently opened The Grant Wood Studio & Visitor Center, the original studio where American artist Grant Wood lived and worked from 1924 through 1934. The loft studio was designed by the artist himself and was where the legendary *American Gothic* was painted.

In honor of its 100 year anniversary, The Cedar Rapids Museum of Art is celebrating with the opening of a major exhibition, *Grant Wood At 5 Turner Alley*, September 10 through December 4, 2005 at the Grant Wood Studio. The original *American Gothic* has returned to its

birthplace along with other Grant Wood paintings and decorative works on loan from museums and private collections from around the world. Many rarely seen pencil drawings, lithographs, book

illustrations and a collection of household objects and furnishings are also on display. These pieces, combined with more than 170 works of art from the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, come together to form the most comprehensive



Wood's American Gothic

Grant Wood collection to date.

In March, over 100 pieces from the *Grant Wood At 5 Turner Alley* exhibition will travel to the Smithsonian American

Art Museum's Renwick Gallery in

Washington, D.C. for the *Grant Wood's Studio: Birthplace of 'American Gothic'* exhibit.

The Grant Wood Studio & Visitor Center is owned and operated by the nearby Cedar Rapids Museum of Art; visit www.crma.org or call (319) 366-7503 for more information.



Grant Wood self portrait

State Fair, continued from page 1

Center for the Arts.

Before picking up a paintbrush, members of The Blue Ribbon Club learned about the importance of agriculture and agribusiness found in Black Hawk county.

After the students learned about Iowa pioneers from the Grout Museum District and visited Hansen's Dairy, a real working farm in Hudson, they portrayed what they saw onto the mural.

The finished product was an integration of rural and urban scenes and served as the focal point for the Heritage Area's booth at the Iowa State Fair.



The Blue Ribbon Club beginning to paint the mural.

SSNHA to Award IMA Conference Scholarships

Silos & Smokestacks is sponsoring scholarships for two individuals to attend the Iowa Museum Association (IMA) Conference on October 9-11 in Des Moines, Iowa. The scholarships will cover conference registration, conference sponsored meals, and IMA membership dues for one year.

Eligible applicants include staff, volunteers and interns of

designated SSNHA partner sites and points of interest. Applicants must submit a one page letter stating how attendance at the

conference will benefit their professional development or institution.



<http://www.iowamuseums.org>

Letters of application are due

September 23 by 5:00 p.m. to Candy Streed, P.O. Box 2845, Waterloo, IA 50704.



Sidewalk Art at 100 Days of Iowa

Silos & Smokestacks was represented at the 100 Days of Iowa at the Mississippi Valley Welcome Center in LeClaire, Iowa, on July 22. While visitors stopped by the Welcome Center for a quick stretch, they were able to learn more about the Heritage Area, pick up a Heritage Area Traveling Activity Book, and doodle on the sidewalk with chalk.

Staff Visit to Northeast Iowa

Silos staff hit the road for the first in a series of "Staff Road Trip Outings" to Heritage Area sites and points of interest. The purpose of these day trips is to familiarize SSNHA staff with the sites from a personal, hands-on perspective, appreciate the casual visitor experience, and understand the stories each site tells.

July's stops to Winneshiek and Allamakee Counties included The Carnegie Cultural Center with hosts Juanita & John Anderson; the Fort Atkinson State Preserve; The Dairy Center with Executive Director Mark Hotvedt; Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum with Volunteer Coordinator Martha Griesheimer; Seed Savers Exchange with Executive Director Kent Whealy; and Laura Ingalls Wilder Park & Museum.



Seed Savers Exchange, Decorah



Molly McCarthy, Silos staff, petting a calf at The Dairy Center, Calmar



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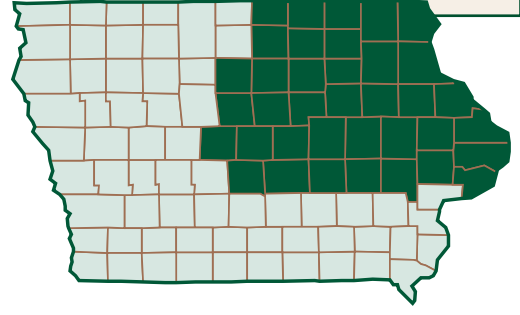
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Dates to Remember...

- October 1, 2005** - SSNHA Grant Application due postmarked. See pg. 1 for more information.
- October 9-11, 2005** - Iowa Museum Association Conference, Des Moines. See pg. 3 for more information.
- October 19, 2005** - SSNHA Trustee Meeting and Field Trip.
- October 24-26, 2005** - Iowa Tourism Conference, Council Bluffs.
- November 1, 2005** - Partnership Panel Meeting, Effigy Mounds, Harpers Ferry.
- March 21-22, 2006** - SSNHA Annual Conference, Decorah. See pg. 4 for more information.



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 Jennifer Peterson, Editor, at (319) 234-4567 or email at jpeterson@silosandsmokestacks.org to submit story ideas.

What's New in the Heritage Area?

- ◆ A new interpretive sign has been installed at **Bennington No. 4 School**. The sign is the first interpretive sign the site has to introduce the school's history to visitors.
- ◆ **Brucemore** has announced the opening of "The World Comes Home," a special exhibit housed in the Brucemore Visitor Center, that explores everyday life between 1945 and 1963. The exhibit will showcase a period in which the United States reached new heights of political and cultural power.
- ◆ **Ft. Atkinson State Preserve** recently received \$500,000 in a legislative boost to complete renovation work on the site's historic buildings.
- ◆ **Grundy County Heritage Museum's** "From Grasslands to Granaries" has been completed and is showcased in the Agricultural Hall. This 90-foot diorama depicts the four seasons of the prairie which then turned into plowed ground with a John Deere tractor.

◆The Dairy Center completed the Grazing Center, some 80 acres of fenced and seeded paddocks, to demonstrate a low capital, low cost style of milk production. An open house event is planned for Saturday, October 15, 2005.

If your site has additions, renovations or new exhibits, let us know by emailing Molly at mmccarthy@silosandsmokestacks.org.

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

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- 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 Secretary of Agriculture IDALS
- 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

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Education Director, ISU County Extension, Elkader
- Tom Husnik**
District Sales Manager, Midwest Region, Pioneer & Crop Protection Sales & Marketing, Vinton
- Michael Morrison**
President, North Iowa Area Community College, Mason City
- Wade Wagner**
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Partnership Panel

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Iowa Division of Tourism, Des Moines
- Robert Cole**
Community Leader, Mason City
- Phyllis Ewing, Chair**
Effigy Mounds National Monument, Harpers Ferry
- Geoffrey Grimes, Vice Chair**
StruXture Architects, Waterloo
- Phil Hemesath**
Farm Bureau District 1, Calmar
- Warren Johnson**
Limestone Bluffs Resource Conservation & Development, Maquoketa
- Samuel Lankford**
University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls
- Rod Marlatt**
Fayette Co. Conservation/Country Heritage Community, Elgin
- Bob Neymeyer**
Sullivan Brothers Veterans Museum/Grout Museum, Parkersburg
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ISU Extension, Waterloo
- Doug Schroeder**
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- Jerome Thompson**
State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines
- Mary Ellen Warren**
Community Leader, Waterloo
- Sandi Yoder**
Living History Farms, Urbandale

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