



# Indiana Lincoln Highway Association

Preserving & Promoting the 1913 and 1928 Routes  
of the Lincoln Highway in Indiana

801 West Washington Street  
South Bend, IN 46601

[www.indianalincolnhighway.org](http://www.indianalincolnhighway.org)



Volume 21, Issue 2

October 2021



## Indiana Byways Conference November 4-5 in Metamora

The Whitewater Canal National Scenic Byway is hosting this conference so the eight Indiana Byways can work together to "Increase Visitor Engagement along Your Byway." Location is the historic depot at 19067 U.S. 52.

There is no charge for attendance at the Conference, however reservations for Thursday evening's dinner are required. Contact Candy Yurcak with Whitewater by October 29<sup>th</sup> at [copperron@aol.com](mailto:copperron@aol.com).

A block of rooms has been reserved at Cobblestone Inn & Suites, 9135 S.R. 101 in Brookville (approximately 8 miles from the conference center). A reduced nightly rate of \$90.00 will be granted when making your reservation mentioning the Whitewater Canal Byway Association Conference on November 4 & 5.

Thursday's agenda includes exploring the Whitewater Canal Byway, networking, and dinner. Friday offers many workshops, updates from each Byway, and concludes by 2:30. See attachments for complete agenda and details of the Scavenge Find.



Historic New Carlisle



Jennie Rae's Restaurant

## Join us for an October Outing

We invite you to the Fall Gathering of the Indiana Lincoln Highway Association on October 30.

9:30 a.m. EDT - Meet at Historic New Carlisle Museum - 112 E. Michigan St. Ample parking is available in the lot behind the museum – the back door will be open.

9:30 – 10:45 EDT - Dana Groves, Director, will lead a tour of the Museum and give a presentation on New Carlisle history and recent historic preservation efforts. Guests may walk down the block to view the Lincoln Highway Kiosk and murals on downtown buildings.

10:45 – 11:00 EDT - Drive the LH to Jennie Rae's Restaurant in nearby Rolling Prairie – 5201 E. US 20. [www.jennieraes.com](http://www.jennieraes.com) This is the former Bob's Bar-B-Q-- check out the Bob's memorabilia inside the restaurant.

11:15 – 1:30 EDT – Business meeting and lunch in a separate room at Jennie Rae's. We will each order off the menu for lunch on our own. The business meeting will also be available on Zoom beginning at 11:15 EDT at this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82739208933> or by phone by dialing 1 312 626 6799 and entering meeting ID 82739208933. Agenda and background information will be provided in advance to expedite the meeting. **There is no charge for this event, but we need to hear from each of you who will attend so we have an accurate count for the venues and can send you meeting materials. Please register by October 27<sup>th</sup> by email, mail, or phone – see p. 3 for INLHA contact information.**

FYI – Jennie Rae's is on Central Daylight time. Times listed above are all EDT for consistency sake.

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## Summer Scenes

### Lincolnway/Ironwood Beautification

By Joyce Chambers

Bev Gillespie and I joined ladies of the Progress Club of South Bend on May 22 to weed, clean up, and plant marigolds on the bottom tier of the viaduct planters. The Progress Club President asked me if we would like them to plant flowers and I said, "Yes, of course!" I'm happy that they still want to be a part of that history – beautification of the LH. They had funded the upkeep from 2009 – 2019. A nice surprise and a showing of kindness—a young man, Zeru Nkosi (graduate of Mishawaka H. S. and former Marine) pulled up and offered to take away six FULL trash bags of weeds!



Weeding and planting marigolds



Zeru Nkosi

### Encounter Elkhart

The INLHA held its spring meeting on June 12, beginning at the newly renovated 1920s Lerner Theater where we were treated to a backstage tour and even got to hear the organ! We adjourned to the Convention and Visitor Bureau for a presentation on Elkhart history by Larry App. Following lunch we held our business meeting which was also offered on Zoom. Bruce Johnson of La Porte was elected to the INLHA Board.



Lerner Theater view from stage



Bourbon Panels

### Bourbon Panel Dedication

On June 15, two Lincoln Highway historical panels were dedicated at the corner of the Lincoln Highway and S.R. 19 in downtown Bourbon. This project was initiated by the Town of Bourbon in cooperation with the Indiana Lincoln Highway Association to tell the story of the Highway as it transverses America, as well as its positive impact on Bourbon in the 1920s. INLHA President Jeff Blair, Bourbon Town Council President Ward Byers, and Terry Clemons participated in the dedication.

## Insights in History

In conjunction with the upcoming designation of The History Museum/Studebaker National Museum in South Bend as one of our three new modern "Control Station" sites, the INLHA was invited to provide the program for the monthly *Insights in History* group on October 6. Jeff Blair gave a PowerPoint talk on the history of the Lincoln Highway and its Indiana roots. He then gave a pictorial tour of his favorite places from his travels along the road, ending with a description of Control Stations and the new banner to be placed at the Museum.

We received the following note from Marilyn Thompson, program coordinator: "I am so thrilled with Jeff's presentation last Wednesday! Please convey our deep gratitude to him for providing an interesting and informative program on the Lincoln Highway. Many, many of those in the audience told me afterwards how much they enjoyed his talk. His PowerPoint was right on target and his responses to all the questions were perfect. I know how much time it takes to prepare a presentation like this and I thank both of you very much. It will be great to be a Control Station for the Lincoln Highway!"



Jeff Blair at Insights in History program

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## In Memoriam

LHA member **Judy McCollough**, 83, passed away on September 6. She worked as the Archive Manager at the Marshall County Historical Society Museum and participated in several Lincoln Highway BUY-WAY Yard Sales. Judy lived on the farm on the Lincoln Highway in Bourbon that had a barn with an original *Chew Mail Pouch Tobacco* sign--until it was stolen in 2018. At that time she wrote of the sign: "It would have been painted originally after the Highway went through in 1928-1929. My husband's grandfather gave the land off of his farm that was needed for the road and provided two teams of horses. His father worked one of them to lay the new roadbed for the 1928 Lincoln Highway." Peace to her memory.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### OCTOBER 30, 2021 ~ INLHA OCTOBER OUTING -

NEW CARLISLE – HISTORIC NEW CARLISLE MUSEUM WITH LUNCH AND MEETING AT JENNIE RAE’S RESTAURANT

### NOVEMBER 4-5 ~ INDIANA BYWAYS CONFERENCE

– METAMORA HOSTED BY WHITEWATER CANAL SCENIC BYWAY

### JUNE 11-19, 2022 ~ LINCOLN HIGHWAY “EASTERN TOUR” FROM NEW YORK CITY TO JOLIET, IL

### JUNE 20-24, 2022 ~ LINCOLN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CONFERENCE – JOLIET, IL

## INLHA Board of Directors

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### Amazon Smile now on mobile app!

Make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you! Simply follow the instructions below to select "Indiana Lincoln Highway Association Inc." as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. They'll donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us. **INLHA received \$16.26 during the last fiscal year.**

How it works:

1. Open the Amazon app on your phone
2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features
3. Select "Indiana Lincoln Highway Association Inc." as your charity
4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app

### Photo Credits

- P. 1 National Scenic Byways Foundation  
 Dana Groves  
 Beverly Gillespie
- P. 2 Beverly Gillespie
- P. 3 Jeff Blair  
 Bruce Johnson
- P. 4 Judy Greeson



## U.S. 30 Drag Strip

By Jeff Blair

It's a mile off the original LH through Merrillville near Ainsworth and Deep River, south on Clay Street, close to current U.S. 30. In the 1960s, WLS radio station in Chicago played rock and roll music and routinely advertised...

*"Sunday! Sunday! Sunday! Come on down to the U.S. 30 Drag Strip to watch the 'funny cars'. See 'Big Daddy' Don Garlits and others race all afternoon!"*

Everyone in northern Indiana and all of Chicagoland knew about the U.S. 30 Drag Strip and the hot rods and hot cars racing there. The track shut down for good in 1984. I was by there on August 19 and could see remnants of its former glory. The land is for sale now and obviously overgrown.

## INLHA Board Changes

We thank **Dyan Wheeler Quilter** and **Brad Miller** as they complete their terms as Directors on the INLHA Board. **Dyan** worked at Deep River County Park and collaborated with Bruce Butgereit in piloting the "modern" Control Station project at that site. **Brad**, as the Director of Indiana Landmarks' Northwest Field Office, was our advocate in Lake and Porter Counties. He has recently taken a similar job in Portland, ME.



LHA Educator of the Year Award - 2011

We welcome **Bruce Johnson** of La Porte, elected to the Board at our Annual Meeting in June. Currently the La Porte County Historian, Bruce is a retired educator, avid traveler/photographer, and longtime INLHA member. He was named the LHA's Outstanding Educator of the Year in 2011 for working with his 4<sup>th</sup> grade students to raise money to purchase two Lincoln Highway signs (for the portion of the 1928 LH that runs through their school district) in commemoration of Abraham Lincoln's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday.

# My Trip on the 1913 and 1928 LH Routes – Part 1

By Judy Greeson

LHA member Judy Greeson, is a Hoosier from Indianapolis but living in Clinton, TN. Her interest in the Lincoln Highway stems from her love of traveling the non-Interstate roads in America. Judy is also a long-time auto racing fan. The fact that the founder of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Carl G. Fisher, was a conceiver of the Lincoln Highway sparked her interest in this first coast-to-coast highway.



Author Judy Greeson



Cindy's Diner

In the past few years, I have traveled parts of the Lincoln Highway from Fort Wayne east to Elizabeth, N.J. using my 2013 Ford Transit Van. In July 2019, I found my way to Times Square in New York City (taking the commuter train from Elizabeth, choosing not to challenge NYC traffic). Due to COVID-19 in 2020, my plans to travel the entire length of the Lincoln Highway were curtailed. In the meantime, I discovered folks and resources of the INLHA. I met President Jeff Blair in Indianapolis in May, who introduced me to the Turn-by-Turn Guides to drive the Indiana routes ([Map / Directions | Indiana Lincoln Highway Association](#)). This document was a blessing of the year's delay. In this report I have put in **Bold Face Type** towns and sites mentioned in the Turn-by-Turn Guide and will refer to this document as "the Guide".

I traveled from my Tennessee home to Huntington, IN (where I lived from 1970-76), arriving on June 10<sup>th</sup> and visited longtime friends. On Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup> I started my trip at the **Fort Wayne (FW) Visitor's Center** with its concrete marker and Control Station banner. I drove over the **FW Harrison Bridge** after a lunch stop at **Cindy's Diner**. My timing to begin this trip was planned to meet other members of the INLHA in Elkhart on Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. Before I arrived in **Elkhart** Friday evening, I managed to find Lincoln Highway sites (as listed in the Guide) of the **FW Venice Restaurant**, **Churubusco's Magic Wand**, **Merriam, Wolf Lake, JR's Dari Sweet, Kimmell**, an **original brick section of the LH** and **Ligonier**.



Magic Wand



Original Brick Section



Havilah Beardsly House

In **Goshen**, I was able to visit **Fidler Pond Park**, the **Carnegie Library** (1903), and drive past the **Goshen Theater**, the **Olympia Candy Kitchen**, and the **Old Bag Factory**. Also, a surprise find was an 1896 iron bridge in Goshen across the LH route from the Old Bag Factory. And, finally, early in the evening I drove through the villages of **Midway** and **Dunlap**.

Early on Saturday morning the Indiana LHA group gathered at the restored **Lerner Theater** in **Elkhart**. This was my first opportunity to meet in person Beverly Gillespie, Carol Blair, Joyce Chambers, Bruce Johnson, and others. Our business meeting took place in the **Elkhart Visitor's Center**. After leaving the group, I spent the afternoon at the **RV/MH Hall of Fame** dedicated to the RVing way to travel through the years. For an evening meal it was "necessary" to make a detour back east 12 miles to Middlebury to eat at Das Dutchman Essenhaus. For anyone within reasonable driving distance, this restaurant is a must stop.

My Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, in Elkhart was spent worshipping outdoors at the First Presbyterian Church, followed by tours at two historic houses: Ruthmere and the 1848 home of Havilah Beardsley, founder of the city of Elkhart. Traveling on to **Mishawaka** brought me to **Laing Park**. This spot was mentioned in our INLHA meeting as a possible location for a Lincoln Highway commemorative park. An evening treat of peppermint ice cream was partaken at the **Bonnie Doon Drive-In**.

Visiting **South Bend** was a major event venue of this trip. I spent the better part of three days there. I visited the **University of Notre Dame** (the Basilica, Golden Dome, Grotto and University Library). The **Studebaker National Museum** and **The History Museum** demanded two days of my attention. Eating an evening meal at both **Café Navarre** (at the junction of the LH and the Dixie Highway), and the **Volcano Restaurant** were culinary events.



**Golden Dome at Notre Dame** LH kiosk in downtown **New Carlisle** The town of **New Carlisle**, straight out of the Hoosier small town brochures, was one of my favorite stops. New Carlisle had older homes, building murals, flowers planted on the main street and the Town Hall with its LH commemorative marker and historic interpretive panels. I also experienced a perfect weather day with cloudless blue skies.

Judy's journey will be continued in the next Newsletter.