



# Indiana Lincoln Highway Association

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

15493 State Road 23

Granger, IN 46530

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



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## Control Stations Sites Designated!



Jeff Blair at the new Control Station at the Ligonier Visitor Center

Thanks to a Historic Preservation Education Grant from Indiana Landmarks and Indiana Humanities in cooperation with the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the efforts of Jeff Blair and our partner venues, the INLHA was recently able to designate three new Control Station sites:

- Ligonier Visitor Center, Ligonier
- The History Museum/Studebaker National Museum, South Bend
- The La Porte County Historical Society Museum, La Porte

Read complete story on Page 4.



## Join Us in Plymouth

We invite you to the Fall Gathering of the Indiana Lincoln Highway Association on **Saturday, October 22**. \$12.50 includes snacks, box lunch, tip, and beverage.

9:00 a.m. EDT ~ Meet at the Marshall County Historical Society Museum, 123 N. Michigan St., Plymouth 46563  
<https://mchistoricalsociety.org/>

9:15 – 11:15 ~ Carpool together for a driving tour of Marshall County. Each vehicle will have a map and description of sights to see during the drive. Beginning at the Chief Menominee Memorial southwest of Plymouth, we will travel to the 1928 alignment of the LH via Ancilla College. We will see Donaldson, an original LH post, stop to hear the story of the restoration of a Mobil gas station, pass the LH Kiosk, Heminger Travel Lodge building, Inwood, and Bourbon. We will stop in Bourbon to see the town square and the Lincoln Highway panels, then return to Plymouth and the Marshall County Museum.

11:30 – 12:30 ~ Tour the Marshall County Museum and Crossroads Center and model train room.

12:30 – 2:30 ~ Box lunch and membership meeting. Agenda will include updates on current activities, plans for hosting the 2024 National LHA Conference, and more. The agenda and background information will be provided in advance to each registrant to expedite the meeting. **Please register by October 20 so we have an accurate count for lunch and can send you meeting materials.** Register by email, mail, or phone – see p. 3 for INLHA contact information and p. 2 for registration form.

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## New Board Member



Lou Donkle

I was raised along Lincoln Highway/US30 in Park Forest, Illinois and drove it every day to high school when I could drive, so it has long held a soft spot in my heart. While living in Indiana's La Porte and Porter counties during my adult life, the IN LHA caught my attention so I followed it from the email list until the June 2022 membership meeting at the La Porte County Historical Society Museum. Since I live in nearby Valparaiso and had never been to the museum before, attending the meeting, for me, was a two-fer. Next thing I knew I had been invited to join the board.

I am a retired engineer from the third succeeding company of Bethlehem Steel in Burns Harbor (ArcelorMittlall, now Cleveland-Cliffs) since 2018. I love domestic and international travel as well as all sailing sports and outdoor adventures. During the recent COVID spare time I have used my computer experience to learn about and use online genealogy platforms as well as for contributing to Google Maps and the Historical Marker DataBase which I enjoy as travel-related activities. In the same way, I look forward to helping the IN LHA to preserve and promote this national heritage for other travelers to find and enjoy.

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### Photo Credits

- P. 1 Bev Gillespie, Russell Rein
- P. 2 Lou Donkle, Fred Sachtleben
- P. 3 Kat Walker, Judy Greeson
- P. 4 LHA, Bev Gillespie

## In Memoriam



Fred constructing the LH Kiosk in La Porte

We were saddened to learn recently of the September 14, 2021 passing of a well-loved LHA member and former Indiana Chapter Board member, Fred Sachtleben, 83, of La Porte. A retired Ford Motor Company Engineer; Fred loved cars, was a member of the Michiana Antique Car Club, and enjoyed driving and showing his antique Mercury.

Fred was a true "volunteer" for INLHA events--helping to set up/take down the INLHA display table/s at area events. While also helping to staff the table, he enjoyed sharing the history of his father's experiences driving the Lincoln Highway to the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco in 1915. Fred and Jim Bevins (also deceased) of La Porte wrote the text and constructed/placed the Lincoln Highway kiosk that stands today near the restored railroad depot in La Porte.

Fred will truly be missed. He is survived by his wife, Patricia, three daughters and one son, six grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. RIP dear friend.

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## Welcome New Members!

- Lou Donkle - Valparaiso
- John Frybort – Goshen
- Elizabeth Geisen – Dyer
- Kristan Kuepker – Rolling Prairie
- J. Michael Miley – Plymouth
- Patrick Slebonick – South Bend

### INLHA Fall Event Registration Form

Please select the entree/s and return the form and payment by mail or email by October 20.

INLHA, 15493 State Road 23, Granger, IN 46530 ~ [lincolnhighwayassoc.office@yahoo.com](mailto:lincolnhighwayassoc.office@yahoo.com)

\_\_\_\_\_ (number @ \$12.50/person) – **Box Lunch** catered by Opie's Deli. Price includes lunch (sandwich, chips, cookie OR salad, cookie), tax, gratuity, and beverage. Please indicate the number of each choice:

\_\_\_\_\_ Opies Club Sandwich                      \_\_\_\_\_ Ultimate Ham (Rye, cheddar, ham, lettuce, tomato, pickles, dijonaise)

\_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Salad on pretzel bun                      \_\_\_\_\_ Chef Salad circle dressing choice: Ranch, Balsamic, or Sweet Onion Vinaigrette

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Online at [www.indianalincolnhighway.org](http://www.indianalincolnhighway.org) – please add \$.50 for processing fee.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**OCTOBER 22 ~ 9:00 EDT INLHA FALL GATHERING, MARSHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM, PLYMOUTH**

**MAY 2023 ~ INLHA SPRING GATHERING, PLACE AND TIME TBD**

**JUNE 12-16, 2023 ~ LINCOLN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CONFERENCE – FOLSOM, CA**

**AUGUST 10-12, 2023 ~ LINCOLN HIGHWAY BUY-WAY YARD SALE**

**JUNE 24-28, 2024 ~ LINCOLN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CONFERENCE – ELKHART, IN**



### INLHA Board of Directors

President: Jeff Blair  
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Secretary: Joyce Chambers  
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Lou Donkle Dave Parcell  
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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

## More Signs!

By Jeff Blair



Each year we travel the Lincoln Highway across Indiana reviewing the placements of our beautiful BYWAY signs ...in both directions along both the original 1913 route and the shorter alignment developed by the mid-1920s and marked by the Boy Scouts with cement posts in 1928. This summer we were able to add about 15 new signs in locations that enhance the drive for travelers and also did several replacements...due to snow plows, roundabout rerouting, vandalism, or accidents. The vandalism is interesting...it seems the signs are so attractive that folks want them on display in their garage or basement!

We work with more than **30** different highway and street department jurisdictions when new needs or replacements arise: 2 northern Indiana INDOT offices for state and federal roads like US 33 or US 30, 11 County road departments (think "Old 30" for example), and 21 towns and cities within the city limits. Almost all of these departments are super helpful and it is fun working with them on the correct placements.



Indiana Lincoln Highway Association members in Joliet  
**National Lincoln Highway Association Conference**

This year's Conference was in nearby Joliet, IL, June 20 – 24<sup>th</sup>. Eleven INLHA members enjoyed touring LH sites, visiting restored theaters complete with an organ concert, and listening to fascinating speakers among many other things. Pre-Conference auto tours on portions of the Dixie Highway and Route 66 were also offered. We were taking copious notes since our Indiana Chapter will host this event in Elkhart in June 2024!

# Modern-Day Control Stations in Indiana

By Beverly Gillespie



In 1918, the Lincoln Highway Association incorporated the concept of Control Stations and Control Station signs in that year's edition of *The Complete Official Road Guide of the Lincoln Highway*. According to the Guide, "By setting your speedometer in accordance with the figures given in this Guide, at any Control Station indicated, you will be able to follow the Association's logging with great accuracy, checking up any minor differences noted, at succeeding 'Control' points." They also identified Consuls, local citizens who could give the traveler information about the local area and on road conditions.

A century later in 2018, LHA member Bruce Butgereit conceived the idea of modern-day Control Station sites while working to enhance the Lincoln Highway display at Wood's Historic Grist Mill in Deep River County Park on the original 1913 LH in Lake County, Indiana. He researched the area and created a colorful informational banner that gave a brief history of the Lincoln Highway, described Control Stations and Consuls, and included historical photos and information about Lake County. Also included was a Control Station sign and LHA and Indiana LHA (INLHA) brochures. Because we hoped this concept would encourage today's travelers to stop and learn about the highway and the local community, we designated a similar Control Station at the Fort Wayne Visitor Center in 2020.

Encouraged by these successes, in 2021 the INLHA submitted a proposal and received a Historic Education Preservation Grant from Indiana Landmarks, Indiana Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities to establish three additional Control Station sites. Sites selected were the Ligonier Visitor Center, 800 Lincolnway South in Ligonier, The Studebaker National Museum/The History Museum, 808 W. Washington Street, South Bend, and The La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Avenue, La Porte.

Under the leadership of Jeff Blair and working closely with local historians, we personalized the original banner template with information and photos for each site, and each contributed to both the in-kind and monetary cost-share. The retractable vinyl banners are 33.5" x 80" and the reflective aluminum Control Station signs are 12" x 18".

We are pleased to announce that the sites have been publically designated: Ligonier on May 26, 2022, South Bend on June 10, and La Porte on June 11. We thank those with whom we collaborated at each site for their work and enthusiasm! And we invite YOU to visit these five Control Stations as you explore the Lincoln Highway through Indiana!



Jeff Blair, SNM Curator Kyle Sater, History Museum Deputy Director Kristie Erickson, and Marilyn Thompson in South Bend



State Representative Pressel, Jeff, La Porte Mayor Dermody, and County Historian & INLHA Board member Bruce Johnson in La Porte