



The Iowa

Preservationist

Fall 2009

Volume 19 Issue 4

Inside this Issue

New Name, Same Mission!	1
Iowa in the Forefront of Country School Preservation	1
President's Corner	2
Partner's Page: USDA Rural Energy for America Program	3
Iowa Executive Order 17 Encourages Preservation	3
Calendar	4
Membership Form	5
Take Action! Update	6

New Name, Same Mission!

IHPA to Become Preservation Iowa in 2010

With all of the new energy, activities, and initiatives the Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance has undertaken in the last twelve months and will introduce in the coming year, the biggest news is yet to come. Starting in January 2010, we will unveil our new look, programs, and name. The Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance will soon become Preservation Iowa.

This new brand identity has been brainstormed, formulated, and refined through the leadership of the IHPA Board of Directors in partnership with many entities including Grandview University's Graphic Arts and Communication Department, the National Trust for Historic Preservation as well as input from other statewide nonprofit organizations, professional branding firms, and IHPA membership.

The goal of this rebranding effort is to reflect the evolution of the IHPA through its eighteen year history and propel us, as an organization, into the next generation of historic preservation in Iowa. The name Preservation Iowa also aligns closer with the branding and mar-

keting efforts of the National Trust for Historic Preservation through its Preservation Nation website and activities.

The Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance was created in 1991 to forge partnerships in historic preservation and to provide advocacy, education, and recognition to Iowa's historic preservation activities. Over the years, the IHPA has expanded its programs and initiatives to grow and evolve with the changing world of preservation in the state.

"With this new brand identity, we intend to build upon the long history of the organization and its vision, mission, and dedication to Iowa's historic preservation efforts," says Michael Wagler, IHPA Vice President.

So as we welcome a new year in January, please help us usher in a new chapter in Iowa's historic preservation movement. Keep your eyes out for Preservation Iowa's new logo, updated website, brochures, marketing materials, and merchandise, as well as a fresh look for *The Iowa Preservationist* newsletter.

Iowa in the Forefront of Country School Preservation 10th Annual Country Schoolhouse Conference

You read a great deal about Iowa's one-room country schools in the Country School Association of America (CSAA) newsletter with good reason. The Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance continues to sponsor its annual Country School Conference highlighting the counties that value their one-room schoolhouse heritage. Spearheaded by CSAA's Bill Sherman of Des Moines (also an IHPA Board Member), the conference continues to draw attendees from across the United

Continued on Page 5.



Amish school, Charity Flats, in Buchanan County. Photo courtesy of Bill Sherman.

Board of Directors

**Rod Scott, President
Iowa Falls**

**Michael Wagler, VP
Ankeny**

**Sheriffa Jones, Secretary
Spencer**

**Martha Hayes, Treasurer
Mt. Pleasant**

Jim Boyt, Des Moines

Laura Carstens, Dubuque

**Naura Heiman Godar, West
Des Moines**

Bill Sherman, Des Moines

**George Wakeman, Sioux
City**

IHPA Board Advisors

**Sam Erickson, Iowa Advisor
to the National Trust, Des
Moines**

**Barbara Mitchell, State
Historical Society of Iowa,
Des Moines**

**Jennifer Sandy, National
Trust for Historic
Preservation, Chicago**

**Dan Tindall, Iowa Advisor
to the National Trust,
Grinnell**

***"The Iowa Preservationist"*
is published quarterly as a
benefit to members of
IHPA, a 501(c)(3)
organization.**

**IHPA
P.O. Box 814
Mt. Pleasant, Iowa 52641
641.373.1171**

President's Corner News from Rod Scott

This is the last newsletter of 2009. This year we have continued our assistance with Iowa's disaster recovery efforts through active partnerships with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Iowa Homeland Security, Iowa Department of Economic Development, and the State Historical Society of Iowa.

In this issue of the newsletter we are announcing the unveiling of our new name and look for the organization. Many of the statewide historic preservation organizations in America have successfully rebranded themselves with a newer image while continuing to develop programs and services and as always advocacy for historic preservation across the state.

At the writing of this article, the IHPA is working to re-secure the professional services of Mr. David Adelman who represented the IHPA at the Iowa General Assembly last year. You say: "How can a nonprofit organization do this?" Well, we followed the guidance of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and a national nonprofit research article produced in the early 1990s to establish the ability to utilize up to twenty percent of our annual budget for lobbying by declaring the 501h option with the IRS. Our funding for Mr. Adelman was provided by our members who had an interest in increasing the historic rehabilitation income tax credits and included re-developers, cities, chambers of commerce, and Main Street organizations. Our coalition efforts were successful in that the credits were more than doubled and hundreds of millions of dollars of commercial rehabilitation projects have now begun in our historic Iowa community core areas. These projects are providing good jobs and purchasing materials in a time of what some are calling the "super recession." The finished projects will provide spaces that are more energy efficient as well as providing a more stable property tax base for our communities while also often providing more income-adjusted living spaces nearer to work for the non-management workers in our communities that can't really afford to live in new housing at the edge of town.

We are now faced with a challenge to simultaneously advocate for the newly introduced federal commercial and historic homeowner income tax credit bills in Congress, while defending the state income tax credits program. The bad situation that developed with the Film Income Tax Credits program at the Iowa Department of Economic Development has had a ripple effect to all income tax credits programs and our program is now under the microscope. The IHPA is sure that our historic rehabilitation credits program is clean and utilized in the way it was meant to; however, we must gather all of the information we have available to us and are asking any of our membership or anyone else reading this edition to contact me at rod.scott@mchsi with your success story of historic rehabilitation that utilized our state income tax credits program. We will be submitting these testimonials into the record at the Governor's office and the Iowa General Assembly in order to assist them in understanding the full value of rehabilitating our irreplaceable historic resources into vital contributing structures in our communities.

This is only a small sample of the work we and all of our valuable members are involved with. We are proud of what we were able to accomplish this year and we could not have done it without you! When your membership renewal comes in the mail, please consider increasing your membership level and let us know where you would be interested in volunteering. If you are reading this and would like to join us, you can do so now securely on our web site.

Thank you for your continued support of this important organization!

Partner's Page

USDA Rural Energy for America Program

The Rural Energy for America (REAP) Program, through the USDA Rural Development (RD), offers grants, guaranteed loans, and combination grant/guaranteed loans to help agricultural producers and rural small businesses. These funds can be used to purchase and install renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements in rural areas. If you are an agricultural producer or rural business and need assistance with energy savings this is a wonderful grant program.

Grants are also available to eligible entities to conduct and promote energy audits and provide recommendations and information on how to improve the energy efficiency of the operations of the agricultural producers and rural small businesses; and to use renewable energy technologies and resources in the operations.

Renewable energy projects may consist of: renewable biomass, anaerobic digester, geothermal–electric generation, geothermal–direct use, hydropower–30 megawatts or less, hydrogen, small and large wind, small and large solar, and ocean (including tidal, wave, current, and thermal). Energy efficiency improvement projects require that an energy audit verify the savings and benefits.

Helpful information on the Section 9007 program can be found at: www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia/rbs.html. Click on the red box in the chart–titled Section 9007 Rural Energy for America (REAP) Program or visit www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia to contact your local USDA RD office. Grant writers are available to assist with the process and ensure that your grant application is submitted complete and correct.

If you have questions, or need additional information, please call the Iowa USDA RD State Office at (515) 284-4714.

Contributed by Sheriffa Jones

Iowa Executive Order 17 Encourages Preservation

Governor Chet Culver has again shown his leadership in acknowledging historic preservation as an important issue in Iowa. Iowa Executive Order 17, signed on September 25, 2009, requires state agencies to make every attempt possible to locate their facilities in Cultural and Entertainment Districts, historic districts, and historic buildings.

The executive order acknowledges the value of historic building rehabilitation and reuse as opposed to new construction at the edge of town, which has been the model for our society since the end of World War II. Historic buildings are often near reliable public transportation and low to moderate income populations, quite unlike the recent location of the Iowa Department of Transportation building north of Des Moines in what I can only describe as a “corn field development.”

The new executive order encourages following the sustainable design guidelines of the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System. It also requires state agencies to work with the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs and the Iowa Main Street program in implementing the order.

Iowa's Executive Order 17 evolved from a similar Federal executive order, signed on May 21, 1996, by then-President Clinton. Federal Executive Order #13006 encouraged Federal agencies to locate their facilities in historic properties and central cities.

We hope all of our historic Iowa communities celebrate this legislation and promote this opportunity. Our thanks for the advocacy on this initiative goes out to the “west coast” Iowa community of Sioux City, and especially redeveloper, preservationist, and IHPA member Lew Weinberg (with assistance from board member and past President of IHPA, George Wakeman).

Contributed by Rod Scott

Recent Actions on the National Register of Historic Places

Tyden Farm No. 6 Farmstead Historic District, near Dougherty, Floyd County. Listed June 11, 2009.

Earle & Lebosquet Block, Des Moines, Polk County. Listed June 11, 2009.

Hotel Randolph, Des Moines, Polk County. Listed June 11, 2009.

Big Stone Mills, Spillville, Winneshiek County. Listed July 15, 2009.

Roswell and Elizabeth Garst Farmstead Historic District, near Coon Rapids, Guthrie County. Listed August 12, 2009.

William and Mary (Messersmith) Seerley Barn and Milkhouse–Smokehouse, near Earlham, Madison County. Listed August 20, 2009.

The Fowler Company Building, Waterloo, Black Hawk County. Listed September 16, 2009.

John and Marie (Palen) Schrup Farmstead Historic District, near Dubuque, Dubuque County. Listed September 16, 2009.

Kent Union Chapel and Cemetery, near Brooklyn, Poweshiek County. Listed September 16, 2009.

Calendar of Events

Ongoing Events

Through Mar 31, 2010 ■ Exhibit: Lizards on the Loose! National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium, 350 E. 3rd Street in the Port of Dubuque, Dubuque, Iowa. For more information: www.rivermuseum.com.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE YOUR EVENTS ON THIS PAGE AND OUR ONLINE CALENDAR? EMAIL THE INFORMATION TO US AT EVENTS@IOWAPRESERVATION.ORG

December 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

December 2009

Dec 1 (5:30 pm - 7:30 pm) ■ Bruce more: Santa, Snacks, and Stories. Bruce more, 2160 Linden Drive SE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. For more information: www.bruce more.org.

Dec 2-17 ■ Bruce more: A Douglas Family Christmas. Bruce more, 2160 Linden Drive SE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. For more information: www.bruce more.org.

Dec 7 (10:00 am) ■ IHPA Annual Meeting. West Des Moines Community Center, 217 5th Street, 2nd Floor, Veterans Memorial Room, West Des Moines, Iowa.

January 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January 2010

Jan 8 ■ Deadline: 2010 America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places. For more information: www.preservationnation.org/issues/11-most-endangered/.

Jan 13 ■ Deadline: Interpreting America's Historic Places Grants. For more information: www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/IAHP_Implementation.html.

February 2010

Feb 17 ■ Cultural Advocacy Day. The State Capitol, Des Moines, Iowa. For more information: www.iowaculturalcoalition.org.

February 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March 2010

Mar 8-10 ■ Workshop: Preservation of Historic Iron and Steel Bridges. Lansing Community College, Lansing, Michigan. For more information: www.lcc.edu/tet/welding/.

March 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



In October, several IHPA members traveled to Nashville, Tennessee for the National Preservation Conference. Along the way, board members George Wakeman and Rod Scott stopped to take pictures for the National Trust for Historic Preservation's This Place Matters initiative. In Metropolis, Illinois, they partnered with Superman to encourage preservation of the town square. And, in Paducah, Kentucky, they



expressed their disdain of vinyl windows with a little help from a Holstein (look carefully between Rod and George).

Iowa in the Forefront of Country School Preservation Continued from Page 1

States, and this year Norway! The 2009 conference, “Celebrating 10 Years of Country School Preservation” was held October 2 and 3 at the Heartland Acres Agribition Center in Independence. Sixty participants enjoyed a full day of presentations and tours and a second-day bus tour of local schoolhouses and historic sites.

Presentations included: County School Preservation in Norway, by Leidulf Mydland from the Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research; Creating a Country School Curriculum and Generating Visitors, by Dale Williams, Reed School Director, Wisconsin Historical Society; How Networking Can Help Your County School by Caroline Bredenkamp, Jackson Country Preservationist; What’s for Lunch at the Country School, by Sarah Uthoff, Country School Researcher; Tourism and Implications for Country Schools by Carrie Koelker, Eastern Iowa Tourism Director and Candy Streed, Program Coordinator at Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area; Amish Schools Today by Mark Dewalt of Winthrop University, South Carolina; Planting Around a Country School by Sheralyn Hazen, Buchanan County Roadside Manager; and Creating the Agribition Center and Tour by Mike McGill, Events Manager and Leanne Harrison, President of the Buchanan County Historical Society.

Tours included the Summit School, the Wapsipinicon Mill, and Little Red Schoolhouse Antique Shop in Independence, an Amish schoolhouse, and the schoolhouse museum in Fredericksburg. The Farm House Bed and Breakfast and Winery hosted the group for lunch.

Congratulations to Bill Sherman, and the volunteers and presenters who created another successful schoolhouse program!

*Originally published online at www.csaatypepad.com
Reprinted with permission*



Restored public school museum in Hazelton.
Photo courtesy of Bill Sherman.



Become a Member!

Help us preserve Iowa’s historic resources by renewing your membership to IHPA or by becoming an IHPA member for the first time. Simply fill out the information below and send it to us with your check today! Any amount over \$10 is deductible.

Membership Levels

- \$20 Door (student rate)
- \$30 Pendant (individuals)
- \$50 Front Porch
- \$100 Cornice
- \$500 Cornerstone
- \$1,000 Schoolhouse
- \$5,000 Skyscraper

Volunteer

I’m interested in serving on the

- board of directors
- communications committee
- membership committee
- fundraising committee
- advocacy committee

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone (am): _____

Phone (pm): _____

Email: _____

Return to:

P.O. Box 814

Mt. Pleasant, Iowa 52641

Renew Your Membership Today for 2010!

Secure Online Payments and Student Rates Now Available

As you consider your end-of-year giving, don’t forget to renew your membership for 2010. Simply fill out the form to the right and send it, along with a check, to the address at the bottom of the form. We now have secure online payment capabilities, too, thanks to the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Select the “Join online today” button at our website (www.iowapreservation.org/join.php) and pay through the National Trust’s secure online payment system.

Membership brings you four issues of *The Iowa Preservationist* each year and keeps you up to date on exciting preservation events across the state. We’ve introduced a new membership level for 2010: students may join at a reduced rate of \$20! So if you’re in high school, college, or graduate school, feel free to join at the reduced rate and don’t forget to tell your friends about the Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance, soon to become Preservation Iowa!



Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance
P.O. Box 814
Mt. Pleasant, Iowa 52641
www.iowapreservation.org

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 263
Mt. Pleasant, Iowa

Take Action! Update Disaster Recovery Continues

Since our last newsletter, IHPA has been working with FEMA, Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the State Historic Preservation Office, and disaster-affected communities to develop projects to compensate the communities for the adverse effect the federally funded disaster recovery projects have on historic resources (for example, if historic homes are to be removed as part of the buy-out process). IHPA is a signatory to each agreement resulting from consultation (known as a “Memorandum of Agreement” or “MOA”) and advocates for the maximum amount of preservation compensation for the communities.

Most projects relate to historical/architectural survey and nominations to the National Register of Historic Places. Other proposed projects are historic publications and interpretive panels. We have proposed projects that have a lasting benefit like National Register nominations, which increase the potential for rehabilitation of multiple historic structures through the state and federal historic rehabilitation income tax credit programs. These rehabilitations stimulate the local economy by encouraging materials purchases and local contracting for construction specialties. Rehabilitated buildings also stabilize and increase property values, helping to revitalize communities. By the next newsletter we should have most of the MOAs completed and the proposed projects underway.

A big breakthrough since the last newsletter is that FEMA and Iowa Homeland Security have agreed to allow



Progress being made at 1127 3rd St SE in Cedar Rapids. IHPA assisted the owners in accessing state and federal tax credits and a historic property tax exemption.

communities to arrange for what we call “whole house salvage” as a part of the acquisition and demolition hazard mitigation projects. This ability to remove historic structures from their current site and relocate them has encouraged several communities to make plans to relocate multiple historic homes. These relocated homes can then be redeveloped using historic rehabilitation income tax credits and other financial incentive programs from the Housing and Urban Development/Community Development Block Grant program and the Iowa Finance Authority. We will cover more on this exciting development in a future issue of *The Iowa Preservationist*.