



604 Lafayette Street | Suite 202  
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# Dates to Remember

- March 7-13** - People's Choice Voting
- March 14-18** - Spring Break Camp
- March 16** - Registration Deadline for Grant Seeking 101 Workshop
- March 22** - Grant Seeking 101 Workshop
- March 31** - Golden Silo Awards Registration Deadline
- April 6** - Golden Silo Awards Luncheon
- April 27** - General & Interpretive Planning Grants Due Postmarked
- August 1** - Bus Grant Open



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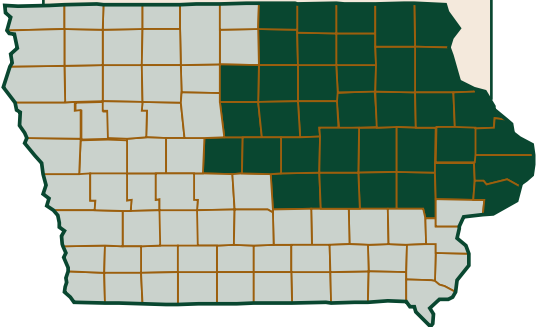


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Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area (SSNHA) is a federally designated heritage area and is an Affiliated Area of the National Park Service. Through the development of a network of sites, programs, and events in these 37 Iowa counties, SSNHA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



*The Newsletter is published by Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area. Please contact Aaron Steinmann, Editor, at (319) 234-4567 or email at [asteinmann@silosandsmokestacks.org](mailto:asteinmann@silosandsmokestacks.org) to submit story ideas.*

Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area

# Workshop



## Grant Seeking 101

*Turning Great Ideas into Compelling Proposals*

**TUESDAY, MARCH 22**

10:00 am – 3:30 pm  
Registration at 9:30 am  
Amdal-Odland Heritage Center  
523 W Water St, Decorah, IA  
(across the street from Vesterheim Museum)

Learn the fundamentals of identifying grant opportunities and writing successful proposals to secure grant funding for your organization. This workshop will focus on grant seeking from private sector sources (though basic techniques are also applicable to government requests).

**Registration Deadline March 16!**

\$45/person with a designated SSNHA Partner or Emerging Site  
\$55/person for all other participants  
*Fee includes lunch and materials.*

For more info call 319.234.4567 or visit [www.silosandsmokestacks.org](http://www.silosandsmokestacks.org)



Presenter Jeanie Lovell, CFRE, is Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations at Luther College. She also serves as co-director of the college's \$50-million Sesquicentennial Fund. During lunch, the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa and the McElroy Trust will share what they are specifically looking for in successful grant proposals.



Check out Silos & Smokestacks on the web at:  
**[silosandsmokestacks.org](http://silosandsmokestacks.org)**

*Or use your smart phone to scan this QR code*

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## Partnership Panel

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Eagle's Landing Vineyard & Winery, Marquette
- Tracey Kuehl**  
Family Museum, Bettendorf
- Dan McFarland**  
Hawkeye Buffalo Ranch, Fredericksburg
- Marcia McKelvey**  
Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum, Decorah
- Teresa McLaughlin**  
Reiman Gardens, Ames
- Barbara Mitchell**  
State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines
- Alex Oberle**  
University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls
- Rose Rohr**  
Jones County Historic Preservation Commission, Anamosa
- Amanda Schwartz**  
National Farm Toy Museum, Dyersville
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Top of Iowa Welcome Center, Northwood

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**Wednesday, April 6**  
Noon – 1:30 pm

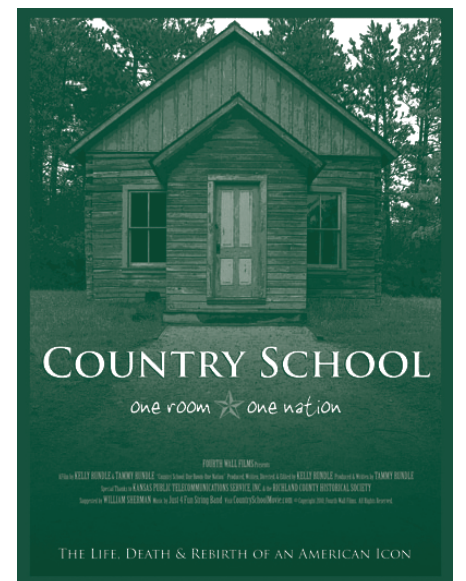
Sky Event Centre, Blacks Building  
501 Sycamore Street  
Waterloo, Iowa

Reservations must be received by  
**Wednesday, March 31, \$30 per person**  
Visit [silosandsmokestacks.org](http://silosandsmokestacks.org) for more information and to download the registration form.



## Guest Speakers

Kelly and Tammy Rundle, a husband and wife filmmaking team, will share *The Journey Behind*, a presentation chronicling their newest documentary feature film, *Country School: One Room – One Nation*. The film features several SSNHA historic sites, the lasting legacy of America's country schools, and the importance of preserving these one-room wonders. Highlights from the film will be shared.



## Silos & Smokestacks Funds Five Summer Internships

Silos & Smokestacks has awarded \$10,160 in grants through the 2011 Intern Grant Program; helping five SSNHA Partner Sites hire college interns this summer. The Intern Grant Program assists designated Partner Sites by covering up to 70% of an intern's wage. Intern projects will focus on preserving and telling stories related to American agriculture and include:



**A former Floyd County Museum intern displays her work.**

### Froelich General Store & Tractor Museum, Froelich, \$1,680

Home of the first gas-powered tractor, the intern will research the history of buildings on the museum grounds to create interpretive panels based on each buildings unique story.

**"We're proud to be able to offer these internships that will benefit both the interns and the Partner Sites." - Don Short, SSNHA President**

### Grout Museum District, Waterloo, \$2,170

The intern will gather information on local farmers to develop an upcoming exhibit based on current farming practices within the Heritage Area, entitled "It's Not Your Grandparent's Farm."

**See Interns, Page 3**

## Signing of the Heritage Area

It has been a long time coming, but the wait is nearly over. By the summer travel season, each SSNHA Partner Site will have received an outdoor sign of their choice to show visitors their affiliation with the Heritage Area. Partner Sites will receive either a place identification sign or a medallion retrofitted to their existing entrance sign.

Through an Iowa Statewide Transportation Enhancement Grant, a contract for construction of the Silos & Smokestacks Partner Site Identification Signs has been executed with Latimer/ASI of Grinnell. Pre-construction meetings have been held and we have been given notice to proceed, with signs scheduled to be installed no later than **June 30, 2011**.

The estimated construction cost to sign the Heritage Area is nearly \$95,000 with 70% to be paid by the Iowa Transportation Enhancement Grant, \$67,000, and 30% by a local match from John Deere, \$29,000.

We would like to thank the Iowa Department of Transportation, John Deere and all of the SSNHA Partner Sites who will be receiving signs. We are extremely excited to have the signs in the ground, further strengthening the connecting thread between all of the SSNHA Partner Sites.

**Sample Place Identification Medallion (Right) and Signs (Below)**





## Emerging Site Program Assists in Story Development

Since beginning the new Partner Site designation process in January 2010, SSNHA has formally designated 11 new Emerging Sites, with a number of sites currently in the process of becoming Emerging Sites. As part of a mutual agreement, an Emerging Site must sign a Memorandum of Understanding to work directly with SSNHA staff to further develop their agricultural stories. Once each site has effectively interpreted their story through exhibits, tours, brochures or programming, they become eligible for designation as an official SSNHA Partner Site.



Dysart Historical Society's Country School.



Preserves from Miss Effie's Country Flowers & Garden Stuff.

The addition of the Emerging Site designation to the Heritage Area is enhancing the capacity of the region by helping uncover new stories related to America's farming heritage. Emerging Sites such as the Harriman-Nielsen Historic Farm, located in Hampton, will have the opportunity to work directly with SSNHA staff as they interpret the story behind the farm. SSNHA would like to thank all of these sites for their efforts in preserving and telling their agricultural stories. If you would like to know more about partnering with SSNHA, please visit the "Partner" section at [www.silosandsmokestacks.org](http://www.silosandsmokestacks.org).

### Formally Designated Emerging Sites:

**Black Horse Inn**  
Sherrill

**Dysart Historical Society**  
Dysart

**Heritage Farm Park**  
Clermont

**Harriman-Nielsen Historic Farm**  
Hampton

**Miss Effie's Country Flowers & Garden Stuff**  
Donahue

**Norman Borlaug Boyhood & Birthplace Homes**  
Cresco

**Preston Heritage Museum**  
Dubuque

**Skunk River Bridge at Millgrove Access**  
Grinnell

**Tyden Farm**  
Dougherty

**Wilder Memorial Museum**  
Strawberry Point

**Winneshiek Wildberry Winery**  
Decorah

## Thank You Supporters!

SSNHA would like to thank the following contributors for their generous support during 2010. Their contributions go to help support programs like the Silos & Smokestacks Education Scholarship Fund:

- Central Iowa Tourism Region
- Colleen & Harry Carson
- Dennis & Mary Donlea
- Eastern Iowa Tourism Association
- Steve & Polly Eberhardt
- Phyllis Ewing
- Friends of Jackson County
- Hawkeye Buffalo Ranch (Dan McFarland)
- Tom Husnik
- Susan Judkins Josten
- Sherri Murphy
- National Association for Interpretation
- National Park Service
- Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc.
- Audrey Savage
- Dr. Joan Schreiber
- Jean Stowell
- George & Mary Ellen Warren

## Grant Programs Available to Help Preserve Agricultural Stories

With General and Interpretive Planning Grant deadlines quickly approaching, Silos & Smokestacks would like to remind applicants that SSNHA staff is available to answer questions and discuss potential projects prior to the submission deadline of **April 27, 2011**.

Recent examples of funded General Grant projects include the Johnson County Historical



Visitors check out the new exhibit, "A Home on the Farm: Changes in Farm Life in the Mid-20th Century."

Society's *A Home on the Farm: Changes in Farm Life in the Mid-20th Century* permanent exhibit, the National Farm Toy Museum's *History of the AGCO Corporation* exhibit, and the Grout Museum's Farm Life Video Project. Interpretive Planning Grants have helped fund projects like Motor Mill Historic Site's Visioning Plan and Interpretive Signage Planning at the Mathias Ham House and the Amana Colonies.

Eligible applicants include non-profit organizations, local or regional governments, or federally recognized Indian tribes, with projects based within the of the 37-county Heritage Area. Applicants must provide a 1-1 match to the grant request, with at least half of the applicant's contribution a cash match from a source other than federal funds. Grant applications and guidelines can be found under the "Grant" section at [www.silosandsmokestacks.org](http://www.silosandsmokestacks.org).

SSNHA Grant Programs		
	General	Interpretive Planning
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Preserve &amp; interpret America's agricultural &amp; agricultural industrial stories</li><li>• Enhance the sites' agricultural connection</li><li>• Raise the quality of the attraction</li><li>• Develop positive visitor experiences</li><li>• Build capacity of the Heritage Area</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assist sites &amp; organizations that need interpretive planning assistance in identifying their interpretive significance, story and/or themes as it relates to agriculture</li></ul>
Range of Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$50,000 available</li><li>• Awards range from \$1,000 to \$10,000</li><li>• All effort will be made to fully fund projects</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$10,000 available</li><li>• Maximum request is \$2,500</li><li>• Must identify professional service</li><li>• All effort will be made to fully fund projects</li></ul>
Eligible Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Interpretation, educational programs, marketing, event programs, interpretive exhibits &amp; signs</li><li>• Greater consideration given to projects that directly impact visitor experience</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Professional assistance by consultants, contractors, designers</li><li>• Research &amp; thematic writing</li><li>• Preliminary design &amp; layout of exhibit &amp; interpretive signs</li></ul>



## Silos & Smokestacks Partnership Profile

### The Carl & Mary Koehler History Center

One of the first SSNHA Partner Sites to be designated in 2001, the Carl & Mary Koehler History Center dates back to 1969 when it was the Linn County Historical Museum Association. Throughout the years the center has seen many changes, before moving to its current location in downtown Cedar Rapids in 1999. Providing a gateway orientation to Linn County, the center includes many permanent and changing exhibits preserving stories from prehistoric occupation and rural farming communities to urban immigration and the resulting industries.

Continuing with preservation of Linn County's history, the History Center brings corn production, processing, and innovation to the forefront with a new exhibit funded in part by Silos & Smokestacks, entitled *Corn Country*. Running through May 21, "Corn Country" examines and highlights the many ways corn helps to stimulate the local economy and lets people discover just how prevalent corn is in their

Visitors check out a Corn County Exhibit (Right).

Exterior view of the History Center (Below).



daily life. Visitors learn that corn is not just for eating, but can also be found in items such as soap, lipstick, toothpaste, charcoal, spark plugs, and laundry detergent. Additionally, the exhibit chronicles the history of corn production and its many technological changes.

Throughout the year, the History Center also hosts a variety of events to help share Linn County's story with visitors. An upcoming event entitled, *Your Grandpa and Grandma's Farm*,



further expands on the county's deep agricultural roots through telling the compelling story of Joshua Secrest, a successful livestock farmer who lost his farmstead during the Great Depression. The presentation will be held on April 21 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. with Rich Tyler presenting.

For more information on current and upcoming events or exhibits at the History Center, call 319-362-1501 or visit [www.historycenter.org](http://www.historycenter.org).

## Interns (cont.)

**Hurstville Interpretive Center, Maquoketa, \$1,838**

In partnership with the Natural Resource Conservation Service, the intern will plant a pollinator garden and create educational curriculum for 2011 summer camps. Intern will also research two small communities near historical sites owned by the Jackson County Conservation Board.

**Indian Creek Nature Center, Cedar Rapids, \$2,340**

A traditional Native-American garden will be planted by the intern to be used as part of summer camp curriculum. The intern will also help facilitate camp field trips to local farms near the nature center.

**Living History Farms, Urbandale, \$2,133**

Working as a costumed interpreter, the intern will spend the summer teaching visitors about pioneer life while completing chores on an authentic recreation of a historic farmstead.

Congratulations to each of these sites for their dedication to preserving and telling the story of American agriculture to visitors of all ages.

## "Exploring the Prairie" Educational Traveling Trunk

Thanks to a mini-grant from the National Association of Interpretation, an educational trunk based on the prairie curriculum located on Silos & Smokestacks award winning website, [www.campsilos.org](http://www.campsilos.org), will soon be available for teachers to use in classroom activities. The "Exploring the Prairie" trunk contains lessons that correlate with the website and primary resource materials that

can be used to facilitate classroom discussions. The trunk includes field guides, prairie seeds, buffalo fur/bones, interactive felt board, plant press, story books and a number of other great learning tools. For more information on this new resource, contact Angi Reid, SSNHA Education & Interpretation Manager, at 319-234-4567 or [areid@silosandsmokestacks.org](mailto:areid@silosandsmokestacks.org).



**The "Exploring the Prairie" Educational Traveling Trunk contains field guides, prairie seeds, a plant press, and a number of other great learning tools.**

## Volunteer Work on Cascade Historic Limestone Silo Receives National Recognition



Cascade Community Enhancement Corporation (CCEC) recently received national recognition as the first Preserve America Steward in the State of Iowa. The CCEC was recognized for their work on the Cascade Historic City Jailhouse and Cascade Historic Limestone Silo, a newly designated SSNHA Partner Site.

There are currently 34 Preserve America Stewards nationwide, each recognized for programs that have demonstrated a successful use of volunteer time and commitment in

order to help care for our historic heritage.

The efforts recognized by Preserve America Stewards are representative of the work found in countless communities throughout the Heritage Area and the CCEC would like to encourage other SSNHA Partner Sites to join them by applying for this outstanding recognition. For more information on the Preserve America Stewards program, visit [www.preserveamerica.gov/stewards.html](http://www.preserveamerica.gov/stewards.html).



**Dedication of the Cascade Historic Limestone Silo.**