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## Dates to Remember

**January 1** - 2011 General and Interpretive Planning Grant Applications Available

**February 1** - Internship Grant Applications Due

**February 1** - Spring Break Camp Registration Opens

**April 6** - Golden Silo Awards Luncheon

**April 27** - General and Interpretive Planning Grant Applications Due

# goGreen

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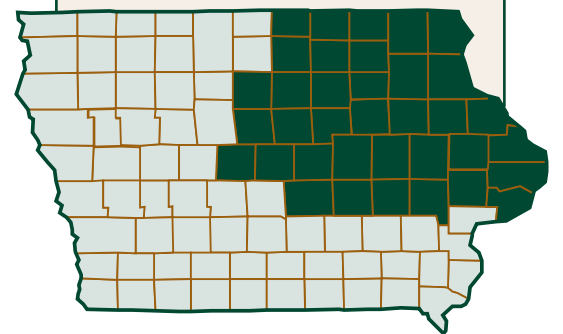
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Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area (SSNHA) is a federally designated heritage area and is an Affiliated Area of the National Park Service.

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.*

## You can connect Iowa students to their heritage!

SILOS & SMOKESTACKS  
EDUCATION  
SCHOLARSHIP  
FUND

Your gift will assist student learning by providing students with field trip experiences and connecting college students to valuable internships.

"Thank you for the hands on activities, all of the facts and history about the mill and Iowa's farming history."  
-Joyce L.



This grant made a huge difference for our intern and thousands of visitors who have benefited from her work."  
-Teresa McLaughlin, Reiman Gardens, Ames



To learn more visit [silosandsmokestacks.org](http://silosandsmokestacks.org) & click on Giving on the black bar at the bottom.

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

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- Roger Halvorson**  
Eagle's Landing Vineyard & Winery, Marquette
- Tracey Kuehl**  
Family Museum, Bettendorf
- Dan McFarland**  
Hawkeye Buffalo Ranch, Fredericksburg
- Marcia McKelvey**  
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- Teresa McLaughlin**  
Reiman Gardens, Ames
- Barbara Mitchell**  
State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines
- Alex Oberle**  
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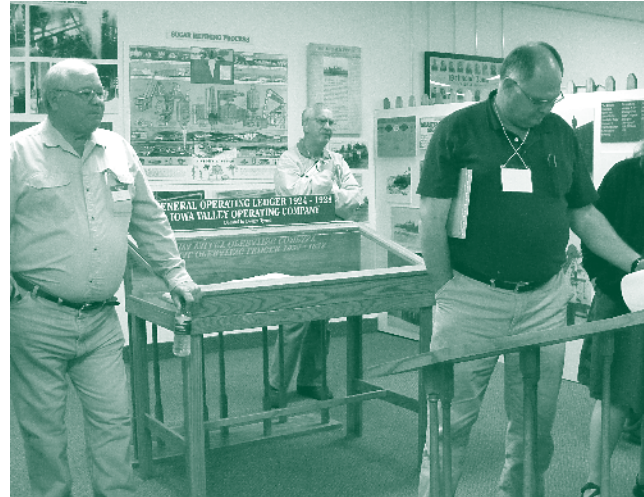
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## Five New Partner Sites Join SSNHA

**S**ilos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area is proud to welcome five new ag-related sites to the Heritage Area. There are now 108 Partner Sites designated to interpret different stories of American agriculture, ranging from dairy farms and museums to vineyards and tractor assembly plants. New Partner Site designations include: Belmond Historical Society Museum in Belmond, Cascade Historic Limestone Silo in Cascade, Eagles Landing Vineyard & Winery in Marquette, Museums of Story City in Story City, and Wagaman Mill & Museum in Lynnville.

Each SSNHA Partner Site works to interpret and preserve its own unique part of America's agricultural story. If you are interested in learning more about the process to become a Partner Site, please visit the Partner section at [www.silosandsmokestacks.org](http://www.silosandsmokestacks.org).



### Belmond Historical Society Museum, Belmond

The Museum features a permanent exhibit on the history of the sugar beet industry in Belmond, including the story of growing and refining sugar beets along with the economic impact on this farming community.



### Cascade Historic Limestone Silo, Cascade

Built in the early 1930s, this unique historic limestone silo is located on the North Fork Maquoketa River. Visitors to the site learn why the silo's location made it ideal for farmers to store feed for fattening livestock.

*See Partner Sites, Page 2*

## Photo Contest Showcases the Region's Rich Talent

**S**ilos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area's *Capture the Heart of America* photo contest continues to showcase the region's rich talent. During the fourth year of the contest, 553 photos were received from 129 entrants. Photos came from visitors as far away as Arizona and Virginia; as well as Illinois, Iowa and Minnesota.

Following the judges choosing their top picks, first place in each of the five categories was posted online for the public to determine the Best of Show. During the first week of November, nearly 600 visitors voted for their favorite photo, with "Sunset at Our State Fair," taken by Terry Kruse of Clive, Iowa, being named Best of Show. To view all of this year's entries, visit [www.silosandsmokestacks.org](http://www.silosandsmokestacks.org).

**See 2010 Photo Contest Winners, Page 2**



### First Place - Heritage Area Sites

"American Bison"  
Photo by Scott Fairbairn at Neal Smith Wildlife Refuge.



### First Place - Farm Life

"Chicks"  
Photo by Milind Deshpande in Iowa City.



### First Place - Images of the Past

"Isaacson Brothers Threshing 1914"  
Photo taken in Stratford. Submitted by Judy Isaacson.



### Best of Show

### First Place - Festivals & Fairs

"Sunset at Our State Fair"  
Photo by Terry Kruse at the Iowa State Fair.



### First Place - Farmscapes

"Summer Storm"  
Photo by Larry Mendenhall in St. Donatus.

## Partnership Panel Additions

The SSNHA Partnership Panel is made up of leaders from throughout the region and plays a key role in the development of the Heritage Area. We would like to welcome the following additions to the panel.



**Roger Halvorson,**  
Owner, Eagles  
Landing Vineyard  
& Winery,  
Marquette



**Barbara Mitchell,**  
Deputy State  
Historic  
Preservation  
Officer,  
Des Moines



**Alex Oberle,**  
Assistant  
Professor of  
Geography,  
University of  
Northern Iowa,  
Cedar Falls



**Tracey Kuehl,**  
Museum Director,  
Family Museum,  
Bettendorf



**Amanda Schwartz,**  
Museum Manager  
& Membership  
Coordinator,  
National Farm  
Toy Museum,  
Dyersville



**Marcia McKelvey,**  
Director of  
Administration,  
Vesterheim  
Norwegian-  
American  
Museum,  
Decorah

We would also like to say farewell and thank the following for their years of service on the panel: Jerome Thompson (six years), Kathy Bowermaster (six years), Steve Johnson (four years) and Terry Pitts (three years).

## Premiere of "Country School: One Room - One Nation"

One room schoolhouses were once an integral part of America's education system and instrumental in the evolution of our nation. During the 19th and early 20th centuries, these remnants of our nation's past could be found scattered throughout the countryside. With more than any other state, Iowa alone had 13,000 one-room schoolhouses. Even today, Iowa still has 3,000 existing buildings and 200 restored schools.

The latest film from Tammy and Kelly Rundle, "Country School: One Room - One Nation," explores the dramatic true story of Midwestern rural schools. Funded in part by a grant from Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area, the documentary includes footage and interviews from a number of SSNHA Partner Sites, including: 1830s Arriandeu Log Cabin and One-room Schoolhouse, Mathias Ham House Historic Site; 1875 One-room

Schoolhouse, Living History Farms; 1876 Coralville Schoolhouse Museum; 4-H Schoolhouse Museum; Bennington No. 4 School; Little Red Schoolhouse, Cedar Falls Historical Society; Locust School, Winneshiek County Historical Society; Marshall Center School, University of Northern Iowa Museums; and Vernon Township #5 Schoolhouse, Dows Historic District.

**"If we can understand the role that country schools played in our culture, then we can better understand who we are and how we evolved into the country, the state and the communities that we are."**  
- Bill Sherman, Preservationist

On November 19, the documentary made its world premiere at the State Historical Building in Des Moines, with future showings to be announced soon. For more info on the film, including a sneak preview, visit [www.countryschoolmovie.com](http://www.countryschoolmovie.com).

## Learning How to Tell Your Story

Alyson Mathis, Science and Education Outreach Coordinator for the Grand Canyon National Park, presents during the SSNHA workshop, Interpreting Your Story: The PAIR Model of Success. The workshop, held at the Mines of Spain E.B. Lyons Interpretive Center in Dubuque



on November 9, brought nearly 60 participants from around the region to learn from Mathis expertise.

## 2010 Photo Contest Winners (cont.)

### Second Place

*Farm Life*, Richard Isaacson, Coggon, IA; *Farmscapes*, Beth Burrell, Cedar Falls, IA; *Festivals & Fairs*, Joyce Meyer, Spillville, IA; *Heritage Area Sites*, Mitchell Palmer, Nevada, IA; *Images of the Past*, Paula Maxheim, Des Moines, IA.

### Third Place

*Farm Life*, Linda Hopper, Clear Lake, IA; *Farmscapes*, Scott Fairbairn, Prairie City, IA; *Festivals & Fairs*, Kim Adams, Ames, IA; *Heritage Area Sites*, Bob Rude, Coralville, IA; *Images of the Past*; Craig Richmond, Evansdale, IA.

## Partner Sites (cont.)



**Eagles Landing Vineyard & Winery, Marquette**  
Located along the banks of the Mississippi River, Eagles Landing treats visitors to a true taste of Iowa. Guests can find a variety of products made from grapes grown in the vineyard; including jams, jellies, table syrups and the wineries award winning wine.



**Museums of Story City, Story City**  
The four museum sites in Story City tell of the hardships and successes of the Scandinavian and pioneer immigrants. Visitors learn about the transformation of the prairie into rich productive farmland along with the development and sustainment of a thriving community.



**Wagaman Mill & Museum, Lynnville**  
Built in 1846 by John R. Sparks as a paddle wheel saw mill on the North Skunk River, the mill was converted into a grist mill in 1848 with a hydraulic turbine added in 1868 to allow year-round operation. Through an interactive tour, visitors learn of the mill's history producing flour, animal feed, meal and electric power.

## Silos & Smokestacks Partnership Profile

### Family Museum

Dedicated to enriching the lives of children, the Family Museum, in Bettendorf, is a playground of wonders. With more than 44,000 square feet of exhibit and program space, the museum lets children discover the world around them through a variety of unique learning experiences.

Focused primarily on youth ages eight and younger, the museum's collection includes a number of interactive exhibits. Whether it be the outdoor fun of the "Kingdom for Kids Playground" or the sights and sounds of "Rhythm Alley," each exhibit offers a new adventure. To keep children engaged, the museum also hosts three to four traveling exhibits each year, with the current exhibit, "Moneyville," explaining the history and evolution of commerce in a way kids can understand.

Part of the museum's permanent exhibits, "Amazing Acres," lets children learn about agriculture and the connection of

A young museum guest explores "Amazing Acres."



food production to the consumer. From "driving" a John Deere combine through the cornfields at harvest time to pumping bio-fuel at the gas station, children discover how agriculture affects us all in a fun and entertaining way.

To help expand on the local connection of "Amazing Acres," the museum recently hired two summer interns, funded in part by a grant from Silos & Smokestacks. During their work with the museum, the interns researched the lost onion farming industry



Entrance to the Family Museum, located in Bettendorf.

in Pleasant Valley and East Bettendorf to create new hands-on activities for the exhibit. Titled "Fun with Onions!" the activity teaches about the tools used in onion farming and explains why the industry left the area.

One of 16 locations within the Heritage Area where visitors can obtain the National Park Service Passport Cancellation Stamp, the museum is also a great place for children to start their own collections. To learn more about the museum, visit [www.familymuseum.org](http://www.familymuseum.org) or call (563) 344-4106.

## SSNHA Featured in NTHP Cultural Heritage Tourism Survival Toolkit

Showcasing the effectiveness of the National Heritage Area (NHA) model for cultural/heritage preservation, Silos & Smokestacks NHA joins the Alliance of National Heritage Areas, Essex NHA in Massachusetts and Atchafayla NHA in Louisiana in a new online resource intended to help communities across the nation promote their unique historic and cultural attractions. Produced by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the online toolkit includes profiles of more than 80 communities achieving success despite challenges posed by today's economy. Demonstrating Iowa's strengths in overcoming challenges, the Iowa Museum Association is also featured in the toolkit.

**NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION®**

Developed from hundreds of hours of outreach to leaders in cultural/heritage tourism, the toolkit can be found at [www.preservationnation.org/survival-toolkit](http://www.preservationnation.org/survival-toolkit). For more information about the Cultural Heritage Tourism Survival Toolkit, contact the National Trust for Historic Preservation at [cht@nthp.org](mailto:cht@nthp.org).

## Partners and Students Benefit from Intern Program



Reiman Gardens intern, Courtney Lang, poses at her canning demonstration table.

In 2010, three Heritage Area Partner Sites received funding from SSNHA to hire summer interns. Each site had specific agricultural projects the enthusiastic college students could focus on. After a summer of hard work, their accomplishments can be seen throughout the Heritage Area.

At the **Family Museum** in Bettendorf, Brenna Ross and Denise Czachura researched the history of onion farming

in Bettendorf during the mid 1900s. Through their efforts, oral histories have been recorded for use in future exhibits and historical photos can now be viewed in an online archive at [www.umvphotoarchive.org](http://www.umvphotoarchive.org). They also developed "Fun with Onions!" an educational curriculum guide for youth.

Evonne Moore joined the staff at **Floyd County Historical Society** in Charles City to help digitize hundreds of aperture cards

from the Oliver/Minneapolis Moline Tractor Company. These one-of-a-kind blueprints will be used throughout the world in rebuilding and maintaining Oliver Tractors.

**"This internship has exposed me to the workings of a museum and has given me some great ideas to get involved in the museum/historical field." - Evonne Moore**

Courtney Lang took a lesson from her grandmother's cookbook and spent the summer learning how to can and preserve food at **Reiman Gardens** in Ames. She then took this knowledge and shared it with others through a vegetable garden, canning displays and canning demonstrations.

Congratulations to all the interns for a job well done in preserving and telling the story of American agriculture.

## Farewell to Lucy

Program Assistant Intern, Lucy Swee, will be graduating from the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) in December. She has accepted a position working for Rapids Wholesale Equipment Company as a catalog layout specialist. Lucy was a wonderful asset to the Heritage Area and will be greatly missed.

