

# Milling Around

Motor Mill Historic Site Newsletter



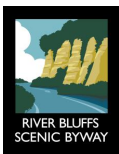
Larry Stone



Clayton County Conservation Board

29862 Osborne Rd

Elkader, IA 52043



## 2017 Motor Mill Tour Schedule

### “Stories in Stone” Tours: Noon – 5:00 pm

- All weekends from Memorial Day to Labor Day
- September 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>
- September 30<sup>th</sup> – October 1<sup>st</sup>
- October 14<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>



### Living Memories

Betty Johnson will be helping with tours this summer. She is a granddaughter of the former Motor Mill owners Louis and Elizabeth Klink. Her mother, Mabel, was one of the three children they had on their dairy, corn, and hay farm. Mabel also attended Motor’s school.

Betty can remember her Grandpa using the smoke house as a garage. He kept his blue, four-door Studebaker in it. When the Klink family would be going back out later in the day, Louis would keep it in the shelter attached to the garage instead.

The first floor of the mill had a different purpose, too. It was where the farm horses were kept. Along with the original Motor structures, the Klinks had other farm buildings.

Betty’s favorite one to visit was the building that housed the Klink’s pigs. They were her favorite and she very much enjoyed helping her Grandpa make the pigs’ slop.

Do you have any of your own memories of Motor Mill that you want to share? Great!

Please call, email, or mail the Motor Mill Foundation to share your story:

**Motor Mill Foundation**

**29862 Osborne Rd**

**Elkader, IA 52043**

**Phone: (563)-245-1516**

**Email: [cccb@claytoncountya.gov](mailto:cccb@claytoncountya.gov)**

You can also contact us on Facebook!



Our intern, Kiley, interviewing Betty at the mill. Betty sometimes makes visits and tells stories to visitors.



## Our New Summer Intern



Kiley Johansen, from Elgin, just finished up her freshman year at the University of Iowa. She is majoring in both Geoscience and Anthropology with interests in paleontology and archaeology.

She will be working on some projects for Motor Mill this summer, like this newsletter, creating displays, and helping with tours every weekend. Kiley is very excited to meet and get to know everyone on the Motor Mill Foundation!

## Current Projects and Plans

The most recently completed project was the roofing on the smokehouse. There are two main projects for this season. One of them is finishing up the roofing on the cooperage. The other is removing all of the silt down in the mill basement. This will provide visitors access to every single floor in the mill to get a full experience and see where the water turbines were located.



Dave Beck

## Friends of the Motor Mill Foundation

Become a friend of Motor Mill to help with the ongoing restoration and educational programs offered at the site which are funded through sponsorships, donations, and grants. The Membership Endowment Fund is used for the long-term operation of the Motor Mill Historic Site.

Find yellow donation envelopes at the mill or call (563)245-1516!

### Membership Levels:

Apprentice (youth).....	\$5.00
Stone Cutter.....	\$25.00
Carpenter.....	\$50.00
Stone Mason.....	\$100.00
Cooper.....	\$250.00
Miller.....	\$500.00

## Introducing Millie

The Motor Mill Foundation is pleased to introduce Millie, Motor Mill's official bridge troll! She is the guardian and protector of the bridge. She encourages visitors to pay a troll toll that will go toward the restoration cost of the bridge. You can meet Millie at Motor Mill every weekend of the tour season!



**The Bridge:** Motor Mill's current bridge, completed in 2012, is a replica of the pin-and-truss bridge which was built in 1899. In 1991 a flood took out one half of the original bridge. In 2008 another flood took out the remaining half. The total cost of the bridge project was estimated to be around \$1,000,000.

## Other Information

- Watch for updates on our Facebook page and in the newspaper for upcoming Motor Mill events!

- Motor Mill had a visitor recently that featured the historic site in their Elkader blog! Check out the blog and the rest of the Brazil's adventures!

<http://thebraziladventures.blogspot.com/>

- Clayton County Conservation is updating their 5-year plan and would like to hear your feedback to help guide them in the decision making process!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2017CCCBParkUserSurveyfb>



## How You Can Help Motor Mill

**Volunteer:** There are two different ways to volunteer with Motor Mill. Volunteers are greatly needed and appreciated since they are nothing less than the heart and soul of the Motor Mill site.

One way to volunteer is to become a tour guide. Tours are given every weekend during the tour season. Before you become a guide yourself, you will shadow another guide for at least one full day of tours in order for you to get comfortable with the site and giving tours.



Another way to volunteer is to help with renovations by serving on the volunteer work crew. It is impossible to keep the mill up and running without the crew's help. Current projects include removing the silt from the basement as well as replacing the roof of the cooperage. Experience with construction or a similar area is preferred.

**Donate:** Donations of any amount help to maintain and enrich the natural beauty of the Motor Mill site. Your donations allow for renovations such as removing the silt from the basement of the mill, replacing the roof on the Cooperage, and continuous maintenance on the site. Any donation is appreciated and no donation is too small.

Donations to the Motor Mill Foundation or the Clayton County Conservation Board are 100% tax deductible due to their 501c3 status.

### Donations may be sent to:

**Motor Mill Foundation** or  
**Clayton County Conservation  
Board**

29862 Osborne Rd  
Elkader, IA 52043

### For more information on donating or volunteering:

Phone: (563)245-1516



Email: [cccb@claytoncountya.gov](mailto:cccb@claytoncountya.gov)

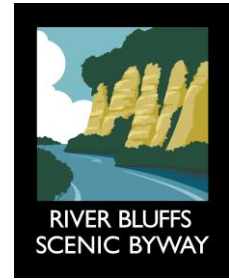
Website: <http://motormill.org>



Dave Beck

## Our Partner Organizations

The **River Bluffs National Scenic Byway** stretches throughout both Clayton and Fayette counties. This scenic route stretches for 109 miles and passes through “Bluff Country”, an area in Northeast Iowa known for its rolling hills and valleys, towering bluffs, and a beautiful green landscape.



**Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area** preserves and tells the story of American agriculture and its global significance through partnerships and activities that celebrate the land, people, and communities of the area.

The mission of the **Clayton County Conservation Board** is to promote the health and general welfare of the people; and to encourage preservation, conservation, education and recreation through responsible use and appreciation of our natural resources and cultural heritage.



The mission of the **Motor Mill Foundation** is to protect and preserve the architectural integrity, history, natural beauty and serenity of the Motor Mill site and its surroundings and to develop appropriate uses and interpretation as a regional treasure for the benefit of future generations.

The **Turkey River Recreational Corridor** provides several outdoor activities, like land and water trails, that people can enjoy along the Turkey River. The scenic river connects the towns of Elgin, Clermont, and Elkader offering various business and historic attractions as well.



The **Great River Road National Scenic Byway** follows the course of the Mississippi River for 3,000 miles from northern Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico. The scenic route passes through 10 states and hundreds of river towns. The Great River Road is arguably the longest and most important scenic byway in America.