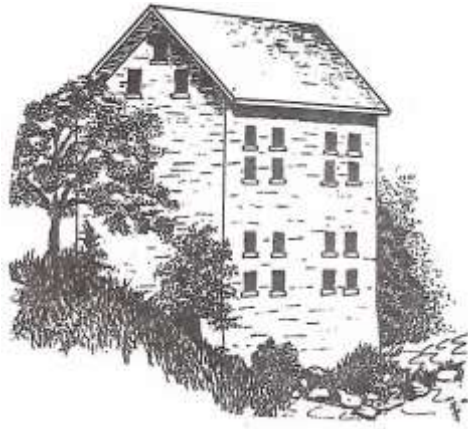


A newsletter from  
The Motor Mill Foundation  
of Clayton County  
Number 23 Summer 2013

# Milling Around



## **Join us:**

The Motor Mill Foundation is made up of dedicated volunteers from diverse backgrounds. They meet regularly for planning or work projects.

Nested within the foundation are The Friends of Motor Mill (FMM). Our friends share information, offer support and help on various projects. To sign up:

## **Contact us:**

Motor Mill Foundation  
of Clayton County,  
29862 Osborne Rd.  
Elkader, Iowa 52043  
563-245-1516. Email:  
[cccb@alpinecom.net](mailto:cccb@alpinecom.net)

Milling Around is available electronically. Email addresses are welcomed to save postage. If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please let us know.

Look for photos and current happenings at:  
[www.claytoncountyconservation.org](http://www.claytoncountyconservation.org)  
& [www.motormill.org](http://www.motormill.org)

## **Capital Fund Campaign**

The Motor Mill Foundation kicked off a Capital Fund Campaign to help develop the remaining funds needed to replace the Motor Mill Bridge. The bridge has been completed and is open to one lane vehicle traffic.

Funding for the bridge project was secured through FEMA, REAP, Upper Mississippi Gaming Corporation, and Iowa Great Places. Additional funds have been raised through private donations to pay for the nearly \$1.1 million project to replace the Motor Mill Bridge.

Funds secured totaled \$985,202 with a short fall of \$84,120. The Motor Mill Foundation continues to seek donations for the remaining \$84,120. Your help is greatly appreciated! Donations to the Motor Mill Foundation, a 501c3 organization, are 100% tax deductible.

## **Motor Mill Bridge**

The Motor Mill Bridge is completed and is open to one lane vehicle traffic. The work started October 11, 2012 and was completed December 6, 2012.

The new bridge was officially opened for vehicle traffic on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> 2012 at the Ribbon Cutting. Local project partners were on hand along with support from neighbors and the community.

Since that time the bridge has attracted a lot of attention. The bridge was decorated with Christmas lights during the Holiday season. There has been at least one wedding proposal taken place on the bridge and she said yes. In addition, at least one set of prom pictures have been taken on the bridge as well.

The new bridge has also attracted the attention of the Bridgehunter's Chronicles. This is an online column devoted to historic bridges in the USA, Europe and elsewhere. The group is holding their annual conference in Eastern Iowa in August this year and will be stopping by the bridge while on a driving tour of other sites in Northeast Iowa.

All of this after the bridge being open for only six months. If you could shoot us an email when you hear similar stories we would appreciate it.

## **Awards & Recognition**

The Motor Mill Site has received several awards and recognition in the past six months. In January and February, the state of Iowa had a Facebook voting contest for the picture to be placed on the front of the Iowa Travel guide. Voters could vote once a day for their favorite picture.

The Motor Mill Foundation, Clayton County Conservation Board, Turkey River Recreational Corridor and many other lists of Facebook friends and emails were sent out asking for voters support.

The picture of Motor Mill with a kayaker in the foreground won the contest. We have also secured the rights to use that picture for other purposes as well.

In March, Motor Mill was nominated for The People's Choice "Site of the Year" through Silos and Smokestacks Heritage Area. Again, several organizations and many individuals spread the word about the on-line voting contest. Motor Mill received the honors for this contest as well.

During the Golden Silo Awards Luncheon held on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, Motor Mill received the award. At the same time they received the Outstanding Preservation in Agriculture Award. This award honors individuals or organizations, projects, business, agency, or local government who has shown extraordinary effort in preserving the icons of American agriculture. Thanks to Silos for this honor!

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Clayton County  
29862 Osborne Road  
Elkader, Iowa 52043-8247

## **Motor Mill Gala**

The Motor Mill Gala was held on Saturday May 4, 2013. The celebration included a display area from various partners, a power point presentation about Motor Mill and tours. A formal presentation was given to thank all of the partners who have helped contribute to the restoration process at Motor Mill. Thank you to everyone who helped with the event, to those attending and to all of you who have contributed to the success of Motor Mill.

## **Roofs and Windows**

The MMF had planned on replacing the roofs on the cooperage and icehouse along with replacing the windows, tucking pointing a chimney and replacing a missing chimney. That project has been placed on hold due to lack of funding at this time. The project is still viable, and when funding becomes available, the project will move forward.

## **Visitation**

The mill is open for tours each year two weekends a month May through September. The times are from 12:00 to 5:00 both Saturday and Sunday.

Tour guides report we have seen a large increase in the number of visitors this season. As mentioned earlier, Motor Mill has received a lot of attention this past year and people want to come and check it out.