

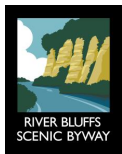
Milling Around

Motor Mill Historic Site Newsletter



Matt Shaffer

Clayton County Conservation Board
29862 Osborne Rd
Elkader, IA 52043



2019 Motor Mill Tour



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

• Every weekend from Memorial Day to Labor Day, as well as:

- September 14th – 15th
- September 28th – 29th
- October 12th- 13th

Upcoming Events

Art Show

September 7th 1:00pm – 4:00pm

- Artists can sell or simply display their artwork. Other activities will take place and refreshments will be provided.
- To register, please email or call aharkrader@claytoncountytia.org or 563-245-1516.

Bridge Lighting and 150th Anniversary Event

November 23rd

- The bridge’s holiday lights will be officially lit for the holiday season along with the celebration of Motor Mill’s 150th Anniversary. Enjoy the beautiful lights along with hot chocolate and cookies.



Grace Rodman

Meet Our Summer Intern

Grace Rodman will be a junior this fall, at the University of Northern Iowa. She has lived in Elkader her whole life and has always loved visiting Osborne and the Motor Mill Historic Site. Grace loved working with Clayton County Conservation and the Motor Mill Foundation this Summer!

Projects she worked on included: developing a new genealogy display, updating old displays, a new Robert Grau Memorial Trail brochure, STEAM camp, and this newsletter. She also assisted with tours every weekend!



Jane Metcalf

Bringing New Life to Motor Mill

New growth is being stimulated with grass burnings on the Motor Mill Historic Site. Areas including the Robert Grau Memorial Oak Savanna have undergone these types of burnings over the past year. Since then, an abundance of new and thriving plant life has been spotted in the area!

Friends of Motor Mill

Membership Levels:

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

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.

You can find yellow donation envelopes at the mill and at the Osborne Nature Center.



David Beck

Celebrating 150 Years at Motor

This coming year at Motor, we are celebrating a very special anniversary for the mill. December 2019 marks Motor Mill's 150th anniversary and we will be commemorating it by having a yearlong celebration throughout 2020. The historic site has experienced and gone through many changes during its lifetime but still lives on. Clayton County Conservation and the Motor Mill Foundation plan to make the Mill's 150th year an exciting one and look forward to further educating the public about the site's rich and historic background!

John Thompson, James Crosby and J.P. Dickinson's plans for the greatest gristmill of the Midwest have lived on through Motor Mill's beautiful and sturdy construction. With construction beginning in 1867 and finishing in 1869 with the completion of the roof, Motor Mill was thought by Thompson to be a sort of eighth wonder of the world and "more beautiful than the Taj Mahal." Though it was used as an active mill for only about 13 years, Motor Mill has managed to capture the fascination and respect of all that experience it.

2020 at Motor Mill will include a string of interesting speakers and programs. In order to officially kick off the yearlong celebration, and in spirit of the holiday season, our traditional bridge lighting ceremony will be held this November 23rd. We are excited to celebrate 150 years of Motor Mill and can't wait to commemorate this immaculate structure with the community! We look forward to the completion of the Motor Mill Trail in summer 2020.



Past...



David Beck

and Present



Motor School House Bell

The Motor School House's original bell has been donated to the Motor Mill Historic Site by Ken and Joann Fishel in memory of their mother, Ivanelle Fishel. The bell is on display this summer at Motor Mill. It is very exciting to have more original historic objects on site! Thank you, Ken and Joann Fishel!

How You Can Help Motor Mill



Jane Metcalf

Volunteer: Volunteers are greatly needed and appreciated since they are nothing less than the heart and soul of the Motor Mill Historic 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 in order for you to get comfortable with the site and giving tours.



Jane Metcalf

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. Experience with construction or a similar area is preferred.

Donations may be sent to:

Motor Mill Foundation or

Clayton County Conservation Board

29862 Osborne Rd
Elkader, IA 52043

Donate: Donations of any amount help to maintain and enrich the architecture and beauty of the Motor Mill Historic 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.

For More Information:

Phone: 563-245-1516

Email: ccb@claytoncountyyia.gov

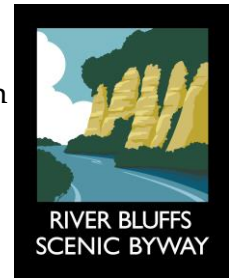
Website: <https://motormill.org>



Our Partner Organizations

•The **River Bluffs Scenic Byway** stretches throughout both Clayton and Fayette counties. This scenic route extends 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.

www.traveliowa.com/trails/river-bluffs-scenic-byway/11/



•**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. www.silosandsmokestacks.org

•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. www.claytoncountyconservation.org



•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. www.motormill.org

•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. <https://turkeyrivercorridor.com/>



•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. www.experiencemississippiriver.com