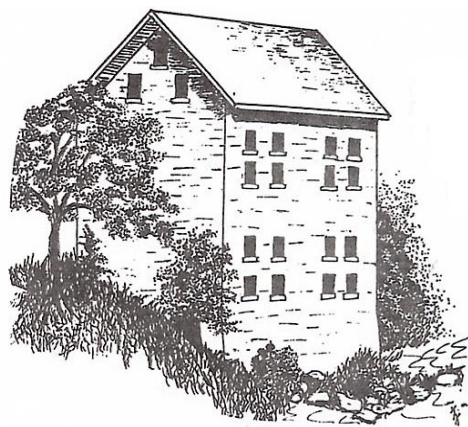


A newsletter from
The Motor Mill Foundation
of Clayton County

Number 15 Summer 2009

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 is our Friends of Motor Mill group (FMM). Our friends share information, gain support for and help on various endeavors. To sign up:

Contact us:

Motor Mill Foundation
of Clayton County,
29862 Osborne Rd.
Elkader, Iowa 52043
563-245-1516. Email:
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
& www.motormill.org

Motor Mill Open House

The Motor Mill Foundation and the Clayton County Conservation Board had a great Motor Mill Open House on Saturday, June 6, 2009. Despite the drizzly cool weather, over 150 people attended the Open House and 105 people were served a meal as our appreciation to the community for the support shown toward the restoration efforts at the Mill.

The two organizations would like to thank Linda Beck, Ken Leonard, and Julie and Casey Brazell for horses, mules and wagons for shuttles. A thank you goes to the Clayton County Pork Producers for meat grilling. Appreciation goes to Grandma Rosie Nelson for flour grinding and bread making and to Darwin Baldrige for providing music. We would also like to thank the Clayton County Artists for their display and to the Sherman Swift Tower for their combined efforts.

Floors and Windows

The flooring has been installed in the 4th floor and volunteers are now working on the 5th floor with completion soon. Windows are being installed as they work their way to the top floors.

The final step in this project will be straightening the interior beam system. The work will be completed sometime in July using a series of jacks and shims.

Roof Replacement

In February of 2007 the MMF received a \$55,400 grant from the State Historical Society of Iowa to repair the roofs on the Mill and the Inn. The project also includes the replacement of two brick chimneys on the mill. For their part, the Foundation must raise \$55,800 in matching funds to complete the projects. Plans are for the mill roof to be covered with metal material that will simulate the look of the original cedar shakes on the building but will last much longer.

Working together, the MMF and the CCCB have been awarded two \$1,000 grants one from the Clayton County Foundation for the Future and one from Alpine Communication.

The Gifford family of Elkader has helped launch this major fund drive with their contributions as well.

Continues...

Roof Replacement Continued

When former Motor Mill Foundation member Brian Gifford died in February, his wife, Florence along with their sons Tom, Marshall, and Andy, donated \$500 as a memorial in Brian's name. Tom Gifford, who now heads the family insurance agency, succeeded his father on the Motor Mill Foundation. Gifford Insurance recently contributed \$1,000 to the roof repair fund.

Buy a Square

As part of this fund drive, the Foundation has suggested that donors consider donating \$200, which is the approximate cost of one square of roofing. During and since the Open House held in June, several \$200 contributions have been received. So far, the Foundation has \$5,000 in contributions. We have a long ways to go and your continued support is appreciated.

Raffle Tickets

Additional fund raising efforts are underway with the sale of raffle tickets. Tickets are \$1.00 each or six tickets for \$5.00. The prizes include a butternut pie safe valued at \$800. Other items include several prints of the Motor Mill. Tickets are on sale until October 11th when the winners will be drawn at Heritage Days at the Osborne Center. You may see the prizes on the Motor Mill Website. Ticket information is available there as well or by calling the Osborne Center at 563-245-1516. Buy early, buy often and buy again!!

Motor Mill Foundation of
Clayton County
29862 Osborne Road
Elkader, Iowa 52043-8247

Flood Recovery

The Motor Mill campground will remain closed at this time. The area has been tilled and seeded. The latrine has been replaced. Work remains on the water system yet as well. Until these issues are completed the campground will remain closed.

Updates from the Mill

Tour Dates

The upcoming tour dates at the Mill are July 4 and 5, July 18 and 19, August 1 and 2, August 15 and 16, September 5, 6 and 7, September 19 and 20 and September 26 and 27.

Volunteers Needed

The Motor Mill Foundation is looking for more volunteers. The core members and tour guides that help keep the mill open on weekends are looking for additional help. As the summer progresses and each year passes, we are finding out that we simply do not have enough help to have the mill open and attend special events like parades, fairs and city events to help promote and educate folks about the mill.

If you would like to volunteer we can help you. Training and working with an experienced guide is available. Please give us a call to find out more information or stop at the mill during an open weekend. Thank you.