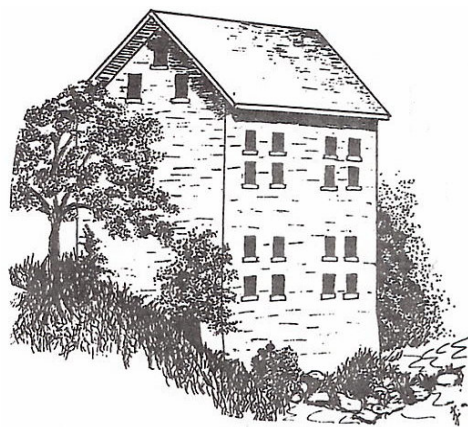


A newsletter from
The Motor Mill Foundation
of Clayton County

Number 5 Winter 2006

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 needed 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

Updates:

- The Motor Mill Benefit Concert held on October 14, 2006 at the Elkader Opera House was a huge success. Over \$4,500 was raised.
- Through a REAP (Resource Enhancement And Protection) HRDP grant, the CCCB was able to have a Structural Engineering and Long Range Plan completed for the mill.
- The Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County has received their 501c3 status from the IRS,
- The Clayton County Conservation Board was awarded a Historic Site Preservation Grant for \$55,400. The grant will help replace the roof and two chimneys on the mill and the inn's roof. A match of \$55,800 will be needed to reach the project total of \$111,200.

Eye the Past to See the Future

Each year it is always important to take a look back over the past twelve months to see just what has been accomplished. From month to month, progress on projects is hard to measure, but when it's viewed from the entire year, progress is definitely seen.

The Motor Mill Foundation and the Clayton County Conservation Board have been making what seems like slow, but in reality very steady progress at Motor Mill. Some really exciting things are moving forward at the site and a well defined vision is being developed and becoming crystallized.

In July the Conservation Board received a REAP Historical Resource Development Program Grant (HRDP) through the State Historical Society of Iowa for \$38,500. We now are in the process of raising an additional \$19,900 for a cash match for this grant. The project provides funding for an overall master plan for the Motor Mill itself, baseline drawings of the mill and some interior structural repairs to include replacement of beams, joists and flooring.

In September, the Motor Mill Foundation received their 501c3 tax exempt status. This is a major milestone in the development of the site. This status will allow the foundation to raise money,

operate their own accounts, and provide to the donors an opportunity to write their donations off on their income tax. The status also validates the Motor Mill Foundation as an IRS recognized organization.

In October, the Motor Mill Foundation sponsored a benefit concert at the Elkader Opera House. The concert was a huge success and received a tremendous amount of community support. The performance by the Big Blue Sky Band was outstanding and delivered a world class performance to a very appreciative and enthused audience. The concert raised \$4,100 in sponsorships and \$2,730 in ticket sales. After expenses, the Motor Mill Foundation netted over \$4,500 in their effort to raise some of the matching funds at the Motor Mill.

In November, the Conservation Board was awarded a Historical Site Preservation Grant from the State Historical Society of Iowa for \$55,400. This grant comes with a \$55,800 cash match that will need to be raised as well. The project outlined for this grant includes the replacement of the roof and two chimneys on the mill and the replacement of the roof on the Inn located at the site. Work on these two projects will start in the summer of 2007.

The REAP HRDP Grant is moving forward. The baseline drawings for the Motor Mill have been completed and have been used in some of the decision making for the building. On December 4, 2006,

the Conservation Board received the long range plan and engineering report for the Motor Mill building. Now, the Motor Mill Foundation and the Conservation Board has the task of planning and administering the building plans.

Additionally, starting in December, the Motor Mill Foundation has hired a facilitator to help them develop a long range plan for the entire Motor Mill Site. They will be looking at the bridge, the buildings, trails, water control, public access, educational opportunities and how the foundation will function as an organization to accomplish their plans.

One of the planned activities for the past two years at Motor Mill was to have the mill open two weekends a month May through September. This has been very successful and in 2006, AmeriCorps Member Jeanette Muller, along with a dedicated group of volunteers, received 1,291 visitors to the mill. Visitors represented 26 states and two foreign countries.

The Motor Mill Foundation and the Conservation Board know the site will not be able to be developed without the help of many people. We appreciate all of your support given so far and we will offer many more opportunities to show your support in the future. We thank you for your interest.