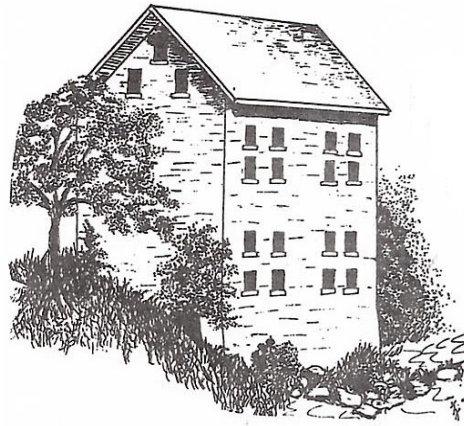


A newsletter from
The Motor Mill Foundation
of Clayton County

Number 17 Spring 2010

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 Bridge

The Clayton County Conservation Board recently received notice of additional money from FEMA from the flood of 2008. FEMA wrote up a Project Worksheet for work on the Motor Mill Bridge for a total of \$432,758.

The work includes cleaning and tuck pointing the joints on the north, center and south abutments and pier. The funds also include purchase and erecting the north span of the bridge which would be what it was prior to the flood of 2008. Additionally, they included funding to raise the bridge by four feet which would take it out of the high water mark by one foot.

We are researching the idea to raise additional funding to complete the south span and make the bridge open to cars, pickups, and pedestrian traffic.

Motor Mill Bridge Cont.

The Conservation Board, the Motor Mill Foundation and the Clayton County Engineer are working together with FEMA on this project. At this time we do not have a projected completion date.

Motor Mill Basement Project

Additional funding has also been received from FEMA for the removal of silt in the mill basement and tuck and point masonry joints on the mill damaged from the flood of 2008.

We were recently notified of this project and funding as well and are still working through the paperwork and process of what needs to be done. Again, we do not have a completion date at this time.

Mill Stone Floor Project

A new project planned for this summer is the replacement of the support beams and posts of the mill stone floor. When the mill was used for farming operations, the beams and posts supporting the mill stone floor were taken out. This project will replace the beams and posts with oak timber as it would have been during mill operations. Funding has already been provided from the Clayton County Foundation for the Future and Alpine Communications with each organization giving a \$1,000 each.

Floors and Windows

The flooring project inside the mill is complete for now. The windows however are still being installed. The cold winter slowed the window installation down but now with the warmer weather, the volunteer crews will be back to Motor Mill to finish installing windows.

Motor Mill Campground

Because of the flood of 2008, the Conservation Board had to drill a new well up out of the flood plain. The well was drilled last November. This spring, the Board put out bids for the well house and water system. If the process goes as planned, we are planning to have the water system available for the Memorial Day weekend.

Interpretive Planning Grant

The Motor Mill Foundation and the Clayton County Conservation Board received a grant from the Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area for the development of a Visioning Plan for the educational efforts at Motor Mill. The award was for \$2,500 with a cash match of \$2,500.

The Foundation worked with consultant Tom Woods from Oconomowoc WI. Woods worked with participants in the visioning process during a two day workshop held at the Osborne Center. The Interpretive Visioning Report has been completed and is available for your review on the www.motormill.org website.

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

Intern Grant Received

The Clayton County Conservation Board was awarded an Intern Grant from Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area. The grant allows the board to hire an individual to work with the Motor Mill Project for 12 weeks and pay for 70% of their wage.

The Intern will be working on a variety of projects including helping with tours, interviewing individuals with knowledge of Motor Mill and then recording, documenting and organizing the information in a usable form, updating information on the website, construction of displays and putting out promotional items.

Volunteers Needed

There are many opportunities to volunteer with Motor Mill. We could use additional help in having the mill open on weekends, and we could use help with special events like parades, fairs and city events to help promote and educate folks about the mill. We need help with historical research of the mill as well.

There is also space for more volunteers with the restoration efforts and construction efforts at the mill. There are a variety of projects being worked on for you pick from. We could also use additional help with land restoration efforts. Give us a call 563-245-1516.