

LINCOLN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION  
CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

NEWSLETTER

THE  
TRAVELER



EDITOR; Gary Kinst

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY ON THE FIRST OF  
JANUARY, APRIL, JULY, OCTOBER



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FALL

OCTOBER 2007



Kinst photo

The Elk Grove Hotel and Stage Stop opened by Mr. James Hall in 1850 on the Upper Stockton Road between Sacramento and Stockton. The Hotel also served Lincoln Highway travelers and will be the recipient of a Lincoln Highway Marker to be dedicated October 6, 2007, in conjunction with our Chapter meeting. The original Hotel was demolished in 1957 and this duplicate was opened in 2002.



# MARK YOUR 2007/2008 CALENDAR

Saturday October 6, 2007  
12:00 noon

**NOTE:**  
There will be a Lincoln Highway  
Marker dedication at 10:00am

State Chapter Meeting  
Elk Grove Hotel and Stage Stop  
Elk Grove Regional Park  
9941 East Stockton Blvd  
Elk Grove, CA.

Saturday October 27, 2007

Tour #4 1928 Central Valley Route  
Sacramento to San Francisco  
via Yolo Causeway & Carquinez Strait

Saturday DECEMBER 8, 2007  
12:00 noon

Lincoln Highway Sign Dedication  
Wiggins Trading Post (new Best Western Hotel)  
South Harlan Road at Thomsen St.  
Lathrop, Ca.

Saturday JANUARY 12, 2008

State Chapter Meeting  
Location to be announced

Saturday APRIL 5

State Chapter Meeting  
Location to be announced

Saturday APRIL 26

Tour # 1 Central Valley 1913-1927 Route  
Sacramento to San Francisco  
via Altamont Pass

Saturday JUNE 28

Tour # 2 Sierra Nevada Southern Route  
Sacramento to Lake Tahoe  
via Echo Summit

Saturday JULY 12

State Chapter Meeting  
Location to be announced

Saturday AUGUST 23

Tour # 3 Sierra Nevada Northern Route  
Sacramento to Verdi, NV.  
via Donner Pass and Dog Valley

Saturday OCTOBER 4

State Chapter Meeting  
Location to be announced

Saturday OCTOBER 25

Tour # 4 Central Valley 1928 Route  
Sacramento to San Francisco  
Via Yolo Causeway and Carquinez Strait

NOTE: All tours depart the Holiday Inn Sacramento Northeast, Madison @ I 80  
at 9:00 am. Boarding begins at 8:45 am.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### California Lincoln Highway Association Vision

O.K. here's another chance to have a say in what the California Chapter should be involved with. First, I'd like to thank those who have already filled out a vision questionnaire, and especially those who have continued to submit ideas. If we're going to be an effective and interesting club, we really need your input.

#### Tours

- Van tours
- Vintage car tours
- Written guides for distribution
- Provide live tour guides on request

Write in \_\_\_\_\_

#### Mapping

- Create maps for distribution
- Develop driving instructions for use by groups taking tours

Write in \_\_\_\_\_

#### Political Advocacy such as in the following cases:

- Wight vs Cadjew (Donner Lake)
- Orangevale Bridge (Folsom)
- Mountain House Development (loss of tree canopy)
- Altamont Summit (sale)
- Clarksville (Historical Society)
- Royal Gorge (housing development)

Write in \_\_\_\_\_

#### Signing

- Paint logos on utility poles
- Paint bridge rails
- Metal signs along road
- Place signs in businesses

Write in \_\_\_\_\_

#### Replica Concrete Posts

- Set at new locations
- Keep posts maintained (refresh paint at Big Bend, Yolo Causeway, Dixon, Park Presido, Western Terminus, Sylvan Corners)

Write in \_\_\_\_\_

**Placer County Historical Associations Committee**

Represent the Association as a member of the Committee  
(Inventory Placer County sites)

write in \_\_\_\_\_

**Awareness and Promotion**

Speakers Bureau  
Develop a LHA Welcome Center in California  
News releases  
News Letter (The Traveler)  
Web site  
Public Displays  
Hays Truck Museum  
West Sacramento Museum  
Write in \_\_\_\_\_

**2011 National Conference**

Tours  
Speakers  
Write in \_\_\_\_\_

**Pursue National Historical and Scenic Byway Status**

Write in \_\_\_\_\_

**Suggest places to hold Chapter meetings**

Could be historic road houses and maybe even locations close to sites that would be interesting to visit

Write in \_\_\_\_\_

You may mail your questionnaire to:

Norman Root  
3922 Aberdeen Way  
Sacramento, Ca. 95821

or

e-mail to: [Norman\\_root@yahoo.com](mailto:Norman_root@yahoo.com)  
telephone: (916) 483-8669



## FROM THE EDITOR

### Wiggins Trading Post

At our last Chapter meeting, Mr. John Serpa presented his plans for a monument to commemorate the Wiggins Trading Post that was located on the Lincoln Highway in Lathrop, Ca. from 1924-1967. Mr. Serpa's monument will incorporate a Historic Lincoln Highway sign as its focal point. The new sign measures 12" x 20" and can be seen from a substantial distance. A dedication ceremony is planned which will include the Marine Corp Color Guard and local Boy Scouts who will do the actual unveiling. The event is scheduled for December 8, 2007 at 12:00 noon. Those interested in attending can contact Gary Kinst for directions.

### The Summit Garage

New Historic Lincoln Highway signs have been purchased to install at the Summit Garage. Arrangements are being made to present the signs to the new owner Mr. Al Vieux and set a date for installation. Mr. Vieux is re-thinking his position regarding having the Garage classified as a Historical Structure. Obtaining that status may entitle him to restoration grants that would be otherwise unavailable. Mike Kaelin is still in pursuit of Historical Preservation status for the Altamont Pass Corridor.

### The Banta Inn

Mr. Dave Colli and Mr. Henry Tosta, the new owners of the Historic Banta Inn are very interested in maintaining the historical significance of the old structure and making their customers aware of its role on the Lincoln Highway. Jay Banta had presented the previous owner with a Historic Lincoln Highway sign which is prominently displayed between the bar and dining area. The Chapter, represented by Gary Kinst and Mike Kaelin, presented Dave and Henry with a new sign on Sunday September 16 at which time Dave attached it to the front of the building. The sign will be visible to anyone traveling through Banta, Ca. on the 1913-1920 alignment.



Mike Kaelin, Dave Colli and Henry Tosta



Dave Colli attaches sign



## George Clarks 1928 LH sign

I have not heard if anyone has responded to George's questions regarding the placement of a LH sign on Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco. After reading the article I approached George with the following observation. The caption under the photo refers to the attractive new Lincoln Highway markers making their appearance. Could this possibly refer to the fact that this new attractive sign is merely replacing the pre-existing marker? Something to ponder. As I mentioned to George, we were not present when this event occurred so we can only speculate what the reporter observed or what information he was given at the time. The following article may shed some light on this mystery.

## Tracy Press Article

The following is an article that appeared on the front page of the Tuesday August 30, 1932 Tracy Press. It raises the questions, when did the LHA actually cease operations? Who is F. K. Bibb? A route over the Carquinez Bridge? How can that be?

### **PLAN TO ROUTE LINCOLN HIWAY THROUGH TRACY**

#### **ASSN. REPRESENTATIVE WOULD SAVE COST OF TOLL BRIDGE BY CHANGE**

F.K. Bibb of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, field representative for the Lincoln Highway Association, was in Tracy Friday conferring with local chamber of commerce men in the interests of routing the eastern tourists through Tracy.

Bibb said that the association will start work in the near future by putting signs on the road from Sacramento to Stockton and Tracy, routing the traffic through this way instead of over the Fairfield road and across the Carquinez bridge as heretofore.

The fact that the new route will add about 16 miles to the distance now covered will be offset by the fact that it will not be necessary for travelers to pay a bridge toll in coming this way as in the case on the other route.

There are several minor changes contemplated in the highway system, according to L. H. Grady who talked with Bibb, among them some work that will cut the Los Angeles traffic off at Placerville, bringing it direct into Stockton and Tracy.

Workers on this subject are trying to obtain an addition to the West Side highway that will bring the tourist through Tracy and over the West Side road to Ventura and thence to the southern city.

Grady states that Bibb has made a survey of the Lincoln Highway on his way out here from Iowa and that he reports the road in very good shape all the way since recent improvements have been completed in Nevada near Echo Pass.

"With the new signs being installed along this route." Grady said, "we feel that something has been accomplished in a big way for Tracy and surrounding territory, inasmuch as it will mean that practically all of the eastern tourists will come directly through here."

"This will mean many dollars for this vicinity." He said.



## 1921 Map of Lincoln Highway Stockton, Ca.



This map was obtained from the Haggin Museum Archives in Stockton, Ca. by Michael Kaelin. The map was issued by the Stockton Chamber of Commerce and was drawn from official data furnished by the City Engineer and Fire Department. What is interesting about this map is that it does not conform to the map shown in the 1921 Official Road Guide. As has been suspected the Highway did not turn onto Maple but continued south to North Street (Harding Way) where it turned east and proceeded to El Dorado. There is speculation that the Maple Street route may have been a detour as a new high school was being constructed on the northwest corner of Lower Sacramento Road (Pacific Ave.) and North Street (Harding Way). The route of the Lincoln is clearly marked by LH logos. The Highway followed Eldorado to the Hotel Stockton, turned west on Weber, south on Center and exited Stockton on Lower French Camp Turnpike.



# ***We are now taking reservations for the 2008 Lincoln Highway California Tours!***

- Tour #1** Sat. April 26: **1913-1927 Central Valley Route:** Sacramento to San Francisco via Altamont Pass  
**Tour #2** Sat. June 28: **Sierra Nevada Southern Route:** Sacramento to Lake Tahoe via Echo Summit  
**Tour #3** Sat. Aug 30: **Sierra Nevada Northern Route:** Sacramento to Nevada via Donner Pass & Dog Valley  
**Tour #4** Sat. Oct 25: **1928 Central Valley Route:** Sacramento to San Francisco via Carquinez Strait

**Each tour - \$40 per person.**

All tours are one-day trips beginning and ending at the Holiday Inn "Sacramento I-80 N.E."  
5321 Date Ave. in Sacramento, at the Madison Ave. exit off I-80

Boarding at 8:45 am. Departure at 9:00 am sharp!

You may select a single tour or any combination of tours.

Please fill out order form below and mail with check or money order in the amount of \$40 per person per tour made out to "Lincoln Highway California Chapter", to:

**Lincoln Highway Association California Chapter, PO Box 2554, Fair Oaks, Ca 95628-2554**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate the number of people in your party for each tour: Tour #1 \_\_\_ Tour #2 \_\_\_ Tour #3 \_\_\_ Tour #4 \_\_\_  
*All tour participants agree that the Lincoln Highway Association, the California Chapter of the Lincoln Highway Association, its officers, directors and agents, shall have no responsibility or liability, in whole or in part, for any loss, damage, or injury to person or property, or any act of omission resulting from, arising out of, or occurring during any activity, program, tour, meeting, meal, or other service or facility furnished or supplied in conjunction with the tours. All participants must sign and date below:*

Signature #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature #3: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature #4: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include other dated signatures, if applicable.

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## ***Order Lincoln Highway Driving Maps for California now!***

We have received hundreds of orders from all over the United States for our very popular Lincoln Highway Driving Maps for California. They are essential for exploring the Lincoln in California.

Please fill out order form below and mail with check or money order made out to  
"Lincoln Highway California Chapter", to:

**Lincoln Highway Association California Chapter, PO Box 2554, Fair Oaks, Ca 95628-2554**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of map sets: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Packaging and postage + \$6.00

TOTAL: = \$ \_\_\_\_\_