

LINCOLN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION
CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

NEWSLETTER
**THE
TRAVELER**

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



FROM THE EDITOR

COVER

This photo is from a postcard recently sold on e-bay. The same photo appeared in a 1915 Tracy Press advertisement. In 1913, W.T. Shaw (the bicycle man) entered into a partnership with O.W. Stewart (formerly of the Standard Oil Plant) and opened the Motorcycle Hospital on the Lincoln Highway. They sold Harley Davidson and Indian Motorcycles along with gasoline and oil. In 1915 they also offered ice cream and soft drinks. Advertising stopped in 1917 so I assume the business prospered for a short 4 years. This time frame is not unusual as other businesses established on the highway sometimes changed ownership 3 to 4 times in a single year. It was believed to have been located east of Central Ave. The evolution from bicycle shop to motorcycle shop and eventually to motor car garage took place along the entire route of the Lincoln Highway.

CHAPTER MEETING SATURDAY OCTOBER, 3rd



The October 3rd Chapter meeting was held at Smokey's Kitchen in Truckee, CA. followed by a Mini Tour to Donner Pass (as shown in photo) and to the Donner Summit Historic Museum in Soda Springs. (bottom photo). Guest speaker, Mark Hoffmann of "Sports Leisure Vacations" suggested several options for promoting Lincoln Highway touring. His company has provided motor coach tours of Route 66, Hwy 50 and US Hwy 1 since 1995. State and National Director, Bob Dieterich, provided a list of priorities for the Association. #1 is to obtain "All American Road Status" for the Lincoln Highway. #2 is the promotion of National

Members of the California Chapter pose with a group of folks in search of the route of the Lincoln over Donner Pass.

Tours. Needed are state-by-state touring maps, to be sponsored by ads shown on the maps. These maps will not only promote the Highway but provide exposure to businesses along the Highway. President Norm Root, spoke of the Placer County Historical folks that are currently working on a LH plaque. Norm along with Kell Brigan discussed approaching the LH National Board to seek congressional help in issuing a Lincoln Highway stamp. Vice President , Paul Gilger provided an update on the 2011 California/Nevada National Convention slated for the 3rd week of June, 2011.



Donner Summit Historic Museum

FROM OUR MEMBERS



The photo above was submitted by member Lloyd Johnson. The Lincoln Highway (San Pablo Ave.) crossed over the SPRR on this overcrossing located at the Pinole - Hercules city limit. The current bridge, built in 1938, can be seen in background. The overcrossing was located near Ford Street and was removed in 2004. Portions of the original roadway can still be seen at this location.



The above photo was submitted by member Miriam Hull. The photo is marked Yol-7-A December 12, 1931. This section of Yol-7-A is now known as Russell Blvd. west of Hwy 113 in Davis. Photos containing original LH markers are rare and this photo indicates that US 40 was still marked as the Lincoln Highway as late as 1931.

HAPPENINGS

Welcome and Special Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Michael Dopheide ,of San Jose, who joined the California Chapter in August as Life Time Members. We are looking forward to meeting you at a future Chapter meeting.

The Livermore Heritage Guild has established a memorial fund to honor Jerry Bireley, who passed away last year. Jerry was a member of the California Chapter as well as a good and long time friend of the Livermore Heritage Guild and the Duarte Garage. The Memorial fund will help support the preservation of the Duarte Garage and all the work being done there. A plaque will be installed on the 1944 Mack fire engine that was restored, largely through the efforts put forth by Jerry. Donations can be mailed to the Livermore Heritage Guild PO Box 961, Livermore, CA 94550. Please mark your letter and checks "Bireley Memorial".

Member Mark Hoffman, owner of Sports Leisure Vacations, has two Lincoln Highway bus tours scheduled for 2010. SLV has taken groups on Route 66, US 50 and Hwy 101 since 1995. Advertisements for the 2010 LH tours currently appear in the KVIE (PBS Sacramento channel 6) December '09 program guide. Contact www.sportsleisure.com for more info.

Mike Kaelin reports that he is still pursuing Alameda County Supervisor, the Hon. Scott Haggerty to persuade the County to sponsor 2 Lincoln Highway signs for the Altamont Pass. This apparently is not a priority for the County in the current economic climate. Michael also has learned that there will be some big changes to Lower Sacramento Road within the next 12 months. In the Stockton area the road will be widened to 8 lanes over Bear Creek to (under) the UPRR tracks. Construction will begin Summer of 2010. At Woodbridge construction has begun on Phase 2 between Woodbridge and Turner Rd. Road widening, among other things, will be completed "within a year". In the South Lodi area final environmental plans have been completed for widening Lower Sacramento Rd. from Pixley Slough to south of Harney Rd. curve. Now would be a great time to drive this section of the Lincoln before it becomes just another road.

BOOKS

In past issues of the Traveler I referenced books that I've been collecting regarding early cross-country auto travel. Several members have responded that they have a similar interest, so here are a few more. Most of the books recount adventures on the Lincoln or on the trails preceding the Highway. Some follow the highway as far west as Wyoming were they head north to Washington or south into New Mexico and Arizona. "The Car and the Lady" by Grace Mason and Percy Megargel, 1908, uses the actual log book of Percy Megargel from the 1905 transcontinental race from New York to Portland, in two curved dash Oldsmobile's ,to create this romantic novel. This book is very descriptive in recounting the difficulties of motoring cross-country. "Westward Hobos" by Winifred Dixon, 1921, recounts the ups and downs of frontier motoring by two young women traveling alone from New York to Arizona. This book provides a real insight into the difficulties faced by early motorists. In 1921 many sections of the Lincoln, especially out west, were still wagon ruts. "Roaming American Highways" by John Faris, 1931, gives the history of the nine major U.S. highways of the period. They include the Atlantic, Dixie, Pacific, Lee, Spanish Trail, National Old Trails, Lincoln, Pikes Peak and the Theodor Roosevelt Highways. Historic points of interest are detailed along with the origin of town and city names. Very fascinating reading. "The Auto Gypsies" by William Purser and Fred Noegel, Jr., 2001, recounts a 1923 auto trip from Georgia to California in a Model T Ford. The book is a collection of 30 installments from the Cochran Journal, Cochran, Georgia. submitted by Fred Noegel Sr. from his trip with his wife and close friend Pansy Deese. The book has many vintage photos.

JANUARY 9th CHAPTER MEETING by Norm Root

Our January Chapter meeting will be held at the intersection of Auburn Blvd. and Greenback lane in Citrus Heights. This intersection is where the 1927 realignment met up with the northern alignment of the Lincoln Highway in north eastern Sacramento, and headed west over the Carquinez route towards San Francisco. This intersection is described as having "other" Lincoln Highway signage. Those of you who have photographs of this intersection from 1927, please bring them to the meeting, maybe we can determine what the "other" signage consisted of. The place is Rosie's Country Kitchen, at 6233 Auburn Blvd. in Citrus Heights. Auburn Blvd. was the State Highway during Lincoln Highway days and became U.S. 40 in 1926. U.S. 40 was superseded by Interstate 80 during the early 1960's. The date is Saturday, January 9th at 12:00 noon. Rosie's is on the north side of the street about three businesses northeast of Greenback lane. Hot sandwiches and burgers are \$7.00, cold sandwiches are \$6.00, soup and salads are also available.



MARK YOUR 2010 CALENDAR

Saturday **JANUARY 9**
12:00 noon

State Chapter Meeting
Rosie's Country Kitchen
6233 Auburn Blvd. Citrus Heights

Tuesday **FEBRUARY 2**
7:00 pm

Livermore Reads Together 2010 Series
Livermore Public Library Civic Center
1188 S Livermore Ave. Livermore

Note: Guest speaker will be Gary Kinst presenting a brief history of the Lincoln Highway and a power point presentation of the 1913 LH from Sacramento to San Francisco via Livermore.

Saturday **MARCH 6**
12:00 noon

State Chapter Meeting
Location to be announced

Saturday **APRIL 24**

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

JUNE 22 - 26

2010 LHA National Conference Dixon, IL.

Saturday **JUNE 26**

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

Saturday **JULY 10**
12:00 noon

State Chapter Meeting
Location to be announced

Saturday **AUGUST 28**

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

Saturday **OCTOBER 2**
12:00 noon

State Chapter Meeting
Location to be announced

Saturday **OCTOBER 30**

Tour # 4 Central Valley Route
Sacramento to San Francisco
Via Carquinez Strait



Lincoln Highway undercrossing at Donner Pass