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SPECIAL DATES OF INTEREST:

Today: **Renew your membership!**
 January 13, 2015—INRA Board of Directors Meeting

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INDIANA NATIONAL ROAD ASSOCIATION
Preserve, protect and promote
 PO Box 284
 Cambridge City, Indiana 47327

Roadwork: *News from the National Road*

MAKE HISTORY, DRIVE IT.

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THE NATIONAL ROAD IN HENRY COUNTY

by Donna Tauber - Past President of the Indiana National Road Association

Henry County—is rich in Indiana History, and one of them being the National Road which is also known today as US 40, the nation's very first interstate. The National Road became a Gateway for thousands of settlers to the Midwest. Commissioned in 1806 by Thomas Jefferson, the Road was built in sections over more than four decades. The first axe and shovel split the air in 1811 at Cumberland, Maryland. Seven years later engineers reported the completion of the first major section, the 113 mile stretch from Cumberland to Wheeling, Virginia. One of the great advantages of the road, of course, was that it considerably shortened travel times. In 1832, even before the road was completed, it advertised its trips from Dayton to Indianapolis as taking only two and a half days, with nightly stops at inns or taverns. Later, express stage services claimed the ability to cross 150 miles of the road in a day. Perhaps the group most associated with the road were the settlers using it as an avenue to a new life. Families, often complete with household goods, numerous children, and a few farm animals clogged the road. New settlements in

Henry County began to spring up with thriving business and growing communities. Blacksmith shops to make repairs, stores to supply customers, and livery stables to provide for horses, lined the road. But perhaps the most numerous and renowned of these service industries were the inns and hotels. They were the truck stops and travel plazas of the period, offering a variety of services. The weary traveler could get a room, food, drink, a place for his animals, and any number of other necessities to make life a little easier.

One of those largest settlements in Henry County became Knightstown, which was platted in 1827, just after the National Road was located, and named in honor of Jonathan Knight, an engineer employed by the government upon the road. Waitsell M. Cary was the first settler and the proprietor of the town. About 1830, Cary began to furnish entertainment for travelers and in 1832 opened a licensed tavern. The next house erected after Cary's was built by Dawson Sanford.

For more historical information, visit our website. www.indiananationalroad.org

PRESERVATION WORKSHOP



Greenfield—The Indiana National Road Association sponsored a Historic Preservation Workshop on November 13, 2014. The topic focused on Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits.

The keynote speaker was David Duvall, Historical Architect with the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology. His presentation assisted property owners who have an interest in historic rehabilitations better understand tax credits, and how to apply. Property owners from across the Historic National Road were in attendance to learn from this workshop. Thank you to all who turned out!

Additional workshops are in the works for 2015. Stay Tuned.

OWN A PIECE OF NATIONAL ROAD HISTORY

Built: 1918
 Size: 2,808 Sq Ft.
 Beds: 4
 Style: Craftsman
 MLS# 10022282
 List Price: \$165,000
 Contact: Cathy Becker,
 Lingle Real Estate—765-966-1581



MEMBERS MAKE IT POSSIBLE!

Cambridge City—Are you a member of the Indiana National Road Association? Without our members our mission could not be accomplished. Members provide funds that translate into success. Have you joined or renewed your membership?

Simply print this newsletter, fill out and select level, and return to the address below. Benefits include this e-letter, invitations to our annual meeting, and discounted rates for our events and programs. Business members receive recognition on our website.

Join today and help
Protect, Preserve, and Promote
 the Historic National Road.

Become a member or donate today!

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Phone(____) _____
 Email _____

- Traveler (Individual) \$25.00
- Movers (Family) \$35.00
- Veteran Journeyman \$50.00
- Drover (Business) \$100.00
- Toll House Keeper \$250.00
- King of the Road \$500.00
- Life Member \$1,000.00

(make check payable to INRA)

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