

THE LAND USE BULLETIN

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Dr. Sue Crull Receives 2012 “Above and Beyond” Award

Over the history of our organization there have been a handful of stand-out citizens who have tackled a land –use issue, usually in their own backyard, dug in, worked hard and had the staying power until they reach their goal. This year 1000 Friends realized that we were past due in publicly recognizing such efforts. To honor their work, 1000 Friends of Iowa has created the “Above and Beyond” Award. The award recognizes 1000 Friends of Iowa members whose actions have gone “Above and Beyond” to promote responsible land use in Iowa.

1000 Friends of Iowa honored Dr. Sue Crull with the first ever 2012 Above and Beyond Award at our Annual Meeting.

neighborhood that her daughters attended. After celebrating 80 years of service in 2005 to the Ames Community, Roosevelt Elementary was closed. Sue was among a group of residents who opposed the district’s actions...to no avail.

In June, 2005, a document titled “A Proposal to Designate Roosevelt School as a Historic Landmark” was prepared on behalf of the Roosevelt neighborhood and the citizens of Ames. The proposal was submitted to the Ames City Council recommending that the building be nominated for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Though rejected by the City Council, Dr. Crull later submitted a successful proposal, approved by the State of Iowa and the U.S. National Park Service listing the school in the National Register of Historic Places.

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Above: Mary Ellen Miller and Erv Klaas present Dr. Crull with the 2012 Above and Beyond Award

Dr. Crull was recognized for her tireless work, against great odds, to save the Theodore Roosevelt Elementary School, a school building in her Ames

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Founded 1998

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1000 Friends of Iowa is a statewide non-profit organization founded in 1998 based in Des Moines, Iowa.

1000 Friends of Iowa promotes responsible development that

- Conserves and protects our agricultural and natural resources
- Revitalizes our neighborhoods, towns and cities, and
- Improves the quality of life for future generations

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Dr. Sue Crull Receives 2012 “Above and Beyond” Award *continued from page 1*

A committee was organized which raised funds to hire an outside architectural firm to assess Roosevelt School for structural integrity. The 2009 study stated the school was well constructed and an excellent candidate for reuse. It was presented to more than 80 citizens in March, 2009, and later submitted to the Ames Community School Board. The Board refused to consider it because the study had not been commissioned by the School District.

In August, 2012, the Facilities Committee of the Ames School Board recommended Roosevelt School for demolition. Although the School Board did not reject the recommendation, the Board announced that they would entertain offers from interested buyers for a period of time. No one knows how long that “period of time” is.

In the midst of this protracted campaign, Sue was hit by a car and injured while riding her bicycle. Soon after she was diagnosed with cancer and underwent chemotherapy at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

Dr. Crull continues to gather information, looks for prospective buyers for the school building, and communicates with the coalition of supporters that she unofficially calls “advocates for Roosevelt.” For her intelligence, tenacity, perseverance, strength, generosity and devotion to her goal, we are proud to honor Dr. Sue Crull. 1000 Friends of Iowa wishes you a swift and positive resolution to your noble cause.

Announcing a New Feature of 1000 Friends of Iowa Speakers Bureau!

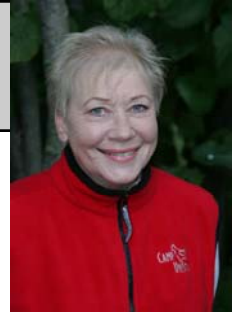
1000 Friends is excited to announce a new series of presentations concerning historic preservation. All the presentations are designed to appeal to a broad audience and may be requested individually or together as a workshop. The series, created and presented by Steve Wilke-Shapiro, include the following subjects:

- **Why Old Buildings Matter**
- **State Historic Tax Credit Basics for the Homeowner**
- **Historic Tax Credits for Small Business**
- **Working With Contractors and Design Professionals**
- **Renovation Overview**
- **Sustainability and Renovation**

Contact our office at 515-288-5364 if you would like more information or care to schedule a presentation or workshop.

Letter From the President

by Mary Ellen Miller



“Sometimes things have to just get worse before they can get better.”

“There is something good to be found in even the worst of times.”

These expressions were often heard during my grandparents’ time. I ponder these old adages as I review this past year at 1000 Friends of Iowa. We understand that people make thoughtful choices as to where to spend their philanthropic monies and are grateful for those who continue to support our efforts, even in these “worst of times.” Our country’s economic recession has been a real challenge for small non-profits such as ours but I am glad to report that we have survived its depths and are now seeing many former members rejoining our cause. It is heartening to receive these repeated endorsements of our mission. It remains important that Iowans learn of the sustainable, life and economic enhancing alternatives to urban sprawl, monoculture row cropping, auto-dependent transportation systems and tear-it-down mentalities.

Two more examples of the “better” that can come out of the “worse” are our recent experiences with too much, and too little water, in Iowa. As recovery strategies were developed in response to the floods of 2008, Smart Planning Principles were added to the Iowa code. This year’s extreme drought has seen renewed interest in the old practice of using cover crops to preserve moisture and save top soil. And rain barrels, common place during our state’s settlement in the 1800s, have seen a big resurgence in popularity.

More globally, the concern surrounding food insecurity and the carbon footprint required to ship food long distances has strengthened interest in locally produced foods. Expanding farmer’s markets, community-supported-agriculture, and chain groceries buying local produce are all indicators of a strong shift to local food economies that I believe will only continue to grow in size and volume.

The rising price of fuel makes many of our “millennial” generation uninterested in even owning an automobile. Auto-dependent urban sprawl does not attract them. They seek to live in walkable communities that offer good public transportation and a variety of outdoor recreational opportunities. Another notable lifestyle change is the rising interest in the more “green” not-so-big-house (as opposed to the “McMansions” popularized in the housing bloom of the 80s and 90s). After decades of building big box stores and strip malls on the outskirts of our cities, many communities are now recognizing the economic value of preserving our town centers and architectural heritage by restoring our mainstreets and repurposing old buildings instead of tearing them down.

Our annual Best Development Awards contain wonderful examples of sustainable land use practices and celebrate Iowa’s unique qualities and strengths. Of course, there is still much work to be done and we remain committed to uniting Iowans in efforts to preserve our precious soils, protect our natural areas, and revitalize our neighborhoods and communities. I thank you for your ongoing support and dedication to 1000 Friends of Iowa and, yes, I can even be thankful for the advocacy our land use issues have received from these recent natural and economic disasters. Our grandparents would be pleased that we even gained some ground (pun intended) in these “worst of times.”

In your service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Ellen Miller". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

Mary Ellen Miller

2011 Annual Activity & Financial Reports

Presented at the 2012 Annual Meeting in Mason City, November 10, 2012

2011 Activity Report

Issue Focus/Citizen Empowerment: 1000 Friends continues educating and advising local citizens on land use issues in their communities and the best way to advocate for responsible land use throughout Iowa. Resolutions were provided via our statewide electronic Action Alert in January for voters to take to precinct caucuses.

1000 Friends continues to promote alternative transportation options and greater citizen input into transportation planning. We have served as a partner on The Tomorrow Plan, a \$2.1 million federal grant through EPA/ HUD/DOT's Sustainable Communities grant awarded to the Des Moines metro.

1000 Friends facilitated the creation of a scorecard and a checklist for the use of cities seeking annexation, to determine if they have given thought to Smart Planning Principles and other issues. The work was completed by DMU student, Stacey Long, for her capstone project in Public Health and guided by Gary Taylor, ISU Extension and Iowa Smart Planning Task Force member. The scorecards and checklists are completed and hopefully will be adopted as tools to further smart planning to Iowa cities.

Carlisle mayor and Iowa Smart Planning Task Force Co-chair, Ruth Randleman, was nominated by 1000 Friends of Iowa to be on Smart Growth America's national Local Leaders Smart Growth Steering Committee. Ruth was selected and agreed to serve on the committee of 22 from across the nation. The Local Leaders Council is a nonpartisan group of local elected officials who share a passion for building great towns, cities, and communities. The council is committed to helping communities compete and grow in today's economy, generate better return on taxpayer investment, provide transportation and housing choices for residents, and create vibrant places where people want to live, work, and play. More information about the Local Leaders Council is available online at <http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/LocalLeaders>.

Speakers Bureau: We are in the process of promoting a series of educational presentations which deal with historic preservation. These presentations can be requested individually as a topic for a keynote at a meeting, or as a series for a one day workshop. The presentations deal with the importance of historic preservation in older neighborhoods, illustrated by examples of how communities can use preservation as a tool for organizing and community development. Designed to appeal to a broad audience including experienced preservationists and newcomers to the concept of historic preservation, we are excited about the potential for this series to reach many across the state.

Outreach: 1000 Friends takes advantage of monthly news stories in print and radio through the Iowa News Service. We also had display tables and booths at conventions and meetings throughout the state.

Best Development Awards: Our Best Development Awards program continues to successfully highlight outstanding projects which employ Smart Growth Principles and illustrate Sustainable Development practices.

Farma-Save Signs: One of our most popular programs statewide, our Farma-Save signs are a creative and catchy way to get people thinking about one or more aspects of land use. Designed after the Burma Shave signs of the 1960s, they are working hard in a permanent home near Earlham on I-80. We currently have six sets on hand for placement around the state. Contact crystal_letto@yahoo.com or call 515-288-5364 for more information.

Buy Local Program: 1000 Friends of Iowa Buy Local Posters continue to be distributed to shops in small towns and neighborhood stores. The interest in supporting local businesses and buying locally continues to grow. While the impact of our specific Buy Local poster is unknown, the Buy Local movement continues to gain momentum and strength. Contact crystal_letto@yahoo.com or call 515-288-5364 to request Buy Local posters.

Land Use Bulletin, Email Updates, Website and Facebook: We continue to make effective use of our website, email and printed material to keep our members informed of land use issues in their areas that need our attention and input via our Public Policy Updates, Action Alerts, Website and Facebook updates and our printed quarterly Land Use Bulletin.

Transitions: Karen Howard resigned her Executive Committee and board position. Her work schedule didn't allow her continued involvement with the board. Karen chaired the Best Development Awards and did an excellent job.

Lynn Laws resigned her position as Secretary of the board and her board position when she transitioned to a new job and moved to a different city. Lynn had written grants and was leading the board through a benchmarking exercise.

Jay Howe has joined our Advisory Council. Jay lives in Adair County.

For more information about any of our programs visit <http://www.1000friendsofiowa.org>.

2011 Financial Report

As of December 31, 2011

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1000 • MetaBank	<u>\$28,928.91</u>
Total Checking/Savings	\$28,928.91
Other Current Assets	
1200 • Undeposited Funds	<u>\$ 1,570.00</u>
Total Other Current Assets	<u>\$ 1,570.00</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>\$30,498.91</u>

TOTAL ASSETS **\$30,498.91**

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Current Liabilities	
2400 • Payroll Liabilities	<u>\$ 162.80</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>\$ 162.80</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 162.80</u>
Equity	
3000 • Opening Bal Equity	<u>\$36,015.68</u>
3200 • Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>-\$11,673.18</u>
Net Income	<u>\$ 5,993.61</u>
Total Equity	<u>\$30,336.11</u>

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY **\$30,498.91**

12th Annual Partners for Smart Growth Conference

The 12th Annual New Partners for Smart Growth Conference will be held February 7-9, 2013 at the Kansas City Convention Center in Kansas City, MO. The theme for this year's conference is "Building Safe, Healthy, Equitable and Prosperous Communities". The conference will include a mix of breakouts, implementation workshops, trainings, networking activities, and tours of local model projects. Learn from hundreds of speakers about best practices and valuable strategies for making smart growth a success in your community! For more conference information visit www.NewPartners.org.

Recap of the 2012 Annual Meeting

“If You Restore It, They Will Come”

Historic Preservation in Iowa

Mason City, IA

Members and supporters joined together on November 10th for our 2012 Annual Meeting. The agenda was full of educational presentations and exciting tours. Attendees first listened as Pat Schultz, Executive Director of Wright on the Park and Scott Borcharding, Berglund & Cram Architects, detailed the history of the Historic Park Inn Hotel and the long road to restoring the building to its original splendor. Attendees were then taken on a guided tour of The Historic Park Inn, followed by an Iowa grown lunch and the business portion of the Annual Meeting.



Above: View of lobby during the Historic Park Inn Hotel Tour

Mary Ellen Miller announced the departure of Erv Klaas, Karen Howard and Lynn Laws from the 1000 Friends of Iowa board of directors. Erv was presented with a Distinguished Service Award for his ten years of service (read more opposite page). The members present elected board applicant Stacey Long to the Board of Directors. Join us in recognizing the service of the departing board members, and welcoming Stacey. We're excited to have Stacey on the board!



Above: Mary Ellen Miller presents 1000 Friends of Iowa 2011 Accomplishments to annual meeting attendees

Following the business portion of the meeting Doug Adamson presented each of this year's Best Development Award recipients with a plaque honoring the achievement of each. We will feature the Best Development Awards recipients in the winter issue of the Land Use Bulletin, but you may also learn more about each by visiting our website.



Above: The children's area of the library is warm and welcoming, complete with child size furniture.

After the Best Development Awards ceremony, attendees were taken on a walking tour of downtown Mason City and enjoyed guided tours of the Mason City Library and the Stockman House. The restored and updated Mason City Library is not just a library, it serves many purposes including meeting rooms of all sizes available to rent for public and private meetings and presentations, as well as a coffee and snack bar for patrons. Pictures of the Stockman House, designed by famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright, were prohibited, but the tour was an interesting hour that began with the history of the Stockman House and ended with a tour of the house, a wonderful example of historic preservation.

1000 Friends of Iowa thanks all who joined us in Mason City for the 2012 Annual Meeting!

If you have any suggestions or feedback about the meeting, how we could improve the 2013 meeting or have a suggestion for the location of the 2013 meeting, please contact Crystal Leto at crystal_letto@yahoo.com. We invite your thoughts, suggestions and comments!

Erv Klaas Receives Distinguished Service Award

We have seen board members come and go over our 14 years as an organization. We've always felt that was a good thing; fresh outlooks, new ideas and new enthusiasm for our work. However, at the end of 2011 board member, Erv Klaas, announced his plans to retire from his 1000 Friends board position following his present term. Erv has served on our Board of Directors and Executive Committee for 10 years, and his absence will be palpable.

To celebrate Erv's dedication to our mission, 1000 Friends of Iowa awarded him the first ever **Distinguished Service Award**. Erv has been an active champion for natural resource conservation and education for years. Since his retirement from ISU in 1999, Erv has donated between 30 and 40 hours per week to projects which directly contribute to building sustainable communities. He was given the unofficial title of "Most Well Read Member" for his board reports on newly published books. Erv educated our board on peak oil, global warming, sustainable business, the triple bottom line, water quality, wildlife, soils, local foods, sustainable agriculture, civil dialogue and activism. He helped our office set up a personnel policy, job descriptions and evaluations and adopt better board policy as well as serving on our Speakers Bureau. His decade of service has been invaluable to the organization.



Above: LaVon Griffieon, Mary Ellen Miller present Erv Klaas with the 2012 Distinguished Service Award

Erv credits the motivation for his work to his desire to leave the world a better place, where his grandchildren will be able to enjoy the things we presently take for granted. "Enough for all forever" is Erv's pet description for sustainability. May we all strive to continue in the example he has set for us with equal passion. Thank you, Erv, for your distinguished service to 1000 Friends and Iowa.



Give the Gift of Responsible Land Use!

If your gift-list includes someone who "has everything" but who cares about preservation of our land, our natural resources, or our historic places, give the gift of membership to 1000 Friends of Iowa!

Simply complete the form on the back page of this issue with information about your friend and send it to us along with your tax-deductible check and your name. Or if you prefer, visit our website at <http://1000friendsofiowa.org/> and complete the online form. We will send you an acknowledgement letter and notify your friend of your tax deductible gift.

Did You Know? Your Gift Will Grow!

For every new member who joins at the \$100 level, the Iowa Foundation for Education, Environment and the Arts will give \$50. **So, a donation of \$100 will result in \$150!**

For every member who donates \$2,000, the Cole-Belin Education Foundation will donate \$1,000 and the Iowa Foundation for Education, Environment and the Arts will donate an additional \$1,000. **So, a gift of \$2,000 or above will be doubled, resulting in \$4,000 or more for 1000 Friends of Iowa!!**



Small City, Iowa 1930
Grant Wood, 1891-1942
Citizens United for Responsible Land Use

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