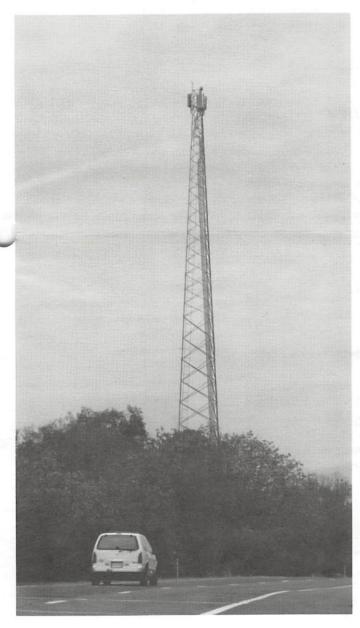
FALL 98'

Tamed Towers

Communities Taking Charge of Cellular Monopoles



Towering cellular monopoles can dominate the landscape, but many communities are fighting back.

It's a common sight nowadays. Motorists chatting away on their car phones as they speed to work. Pedestrians walking along the sidewalk talking into their palm-sized handsets. Even hikers and campers often pack a wireless phone for their excursions into the wild.

The growth of wireless phone usage has surprised even the most ardent boosters of the industry. Today, approximately 35 million Americans carry a wireless phone, and every month about a million more join them in subscribing either to analog "cellular" service or the newer digital "personal communication service." Wireless telephones offer significant benefits: convenience, ability to make use of time that was previously unproductive (like returning calls while stuck in traffic), and enabling passers-by to report emergencies to authorities within seconds.

Yet, citizens, local officials, planners, and others are growing increasingly concerned about the significant visual impact of the massive infrastructure which accompanies new wireless service. Towers, often 200 feet tall or more are proliferating nationwide in residential areas, adjacent to civic buildings, in scenic and rural areas, on school property, and elsewhere. Today, there are around 25,000 antenna sites. That could rise to 100,000. The rapid rise of wireless phones and the surge of new service providers is pushing companies to erect towers as quickly as possible to remain competitive. In hundreds of communities, towers go up almost overnight.

Until recently, such structures were confined to industrial or heavily commercialized areas. However, today towers are going up across the landscape and communities and, as a result, citizens nationwide are organizing to prevent visually intrusive structures from degrading where they live. Advocates for less intrusive towers are by no means "anti-wireless phones." Rather, they seek to accommodate this new technology in more visually acceptable ways.

As in many types of land-use battles, when citizens react it's often too little, too late. Like billboards or new fast-food joints, wireless telecommunications towers arouse strong feelings in people who care about community appearance. While wireless telephone companies like to say they have no choice but to erect massive towers to provide service, the issue isn't that simple. Informed planning and careful consideration are essential to keeping wireless service from piling on an entirely new layer of visual pollution.

It's important to note that wireless transmitters themselves are quite compact, about four to six feet tall by one foot wide. It is the supporting tower that creates problems in communities.

continued on page 6

STRIKING A BALANCE FOR SCENIC CONSERVATION

The Big

Picture



By Meg Maguire, President

This summer the Senate debated and ultimately rejected S. 2271. The Private Property Rights Implementation Act would have enabled land owners to bypass state and local courts and go directly to Federal courts to seek redress in local zoning decisions. The bill deeply

troubled conservationists and local governments because it would have given developers greater access to Federal courts and less accountability to local governments than any other citizens have; and it would have elevated the rights of property owners above other constitutional rights, thus undermining health and safety, as

well as community efforts to protect beauty. Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT) made an eloquent statement against the bill and in defense of local government. I'd like to share with you some of his words.

"This bill would also remove the public from what should be a democratic process to decide what goes on in our communities' backyards. In Vermont,

we have been fighting our own backyard battles over the last year — battles against the (cellular communication) towers on the hill-sides of our Green Mountains. One of our primary tools to protect Vermont from being turned into some kind of a giant pincushion with 200-foot towers indiscriminately sprouting up on every mountain and valley, within the protections of our own State law has

become basically the *anti-pincushion law*. It has resolved over 15,000 cases, and it has been done with local people and with our own sense of our State and our own people making the decision, not some out-of-state fat-cat corporation. And the resolutions of these cases have been instrumental in retaining the character and natural resources and the heritage of my native State of Vermont, the heritage that makes it unique.

"Just a few years ago Vermont became the first state to ban billboards along its highways. Everybody said, 'Your tourism will disappear; your businesses will disappear. You will become an economic wasteland.' You know what happened? Tourism skyrocketed up because people kind of liked seeing the views and not seeing the billboards. But we made that decision. Under this law, the billboard company could come in and say, 'You can't make that decision because we are just going to come through and we are

going to take over' ...

"An essential part of land use policy is weighing one resident's concern over another to arrive at a decision in the community interest. We need to balance the rights of property owners with those of others in the same community. Remember that all of

us live downstream, downwind, or next door to property where pollution or unsuitable activities can harm our health or our safety or our property values."

Thanks, Senator Leahy, for so eloquently making the case for environmental protection and scenic conservation. SA

NEWS and NOTES FROM 801 PENN.

Staff News

With this issue of *Viewpoints*, we bid farewell to Anna El-Eini, who has been our Policy Associate since June, 1997.

Anna's been a key player in Scenic America's federal policy and technical assistance efforts, working closely with Vice President for Policy and Communications Frank Vespe and Grassroots Associate Greg Kidd to raise the organization's profile on Capitol Hill, to build the Scenic Action Network, and to improve our technical assistance efforts.

Anna is moving on to Friends of the Earth, where she will coordinate the Washington, DC, Environmental Network:—a group in which Scenic America participates.

Good luck, Anna!

A New Look on the Way

You've seen our new logo on other materials you've received from us. You know we've got a new address. Come 1999, Scenic America will debut an all-new look for *Viewpoints*.

As you know, we've revamped *Viewpoints* to focus more on issues and ideas, with some national news. We believe that *Viewpoints*, coupled with *The Grassroots Advocate*, which updates you on scenic news nine times a year, effectively covers the range of scenic issues. The redesign of *Viewpoints* will complement this focus.

We hope these publications serve you well. But we can't be sure unless you tell us. So please, take a moment to drop us a line and let us know how we're doing. SA

Scenic America, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, is the only national group devoted solely to preserving and enhancing the scenic character of America's communities and countryside.

Madeleine Appel, Chair

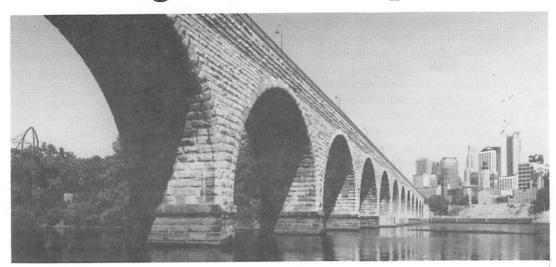
Meg Maguire, President
Frank Vespe, VP of Policy and Communications, Viewpoints Editor
Ray A. Foote, VP of Program Development
Greg Kidd, Grassroots Associate
Deborah Myerson, Program Associate
Wendy J. Taylor, Development Associate
Wiguna Waters, Office Manager
Susan Kidd, Director, GA Scenic Byways
Project
Wanda Seguin, GA Scenic Byways Project

Scenic America Viewpoints is a publication of Scenic America and is available free to its members. Individual membership in Scenic America costs \$25.

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Viewpoints Page 3

On Capitol Hill Congress Orders Up a Sweet TEA-21



Under TEA-21, enhancements funds will continue to support projects like Minneapolis' Stone Arch Bridge, now used by cyclists and pedestrians.

Question: What could be better for America's scenic roads han the ISTEA-created National Scenic Byways Program?

Answer: the same program — with a lot more money.

When President Clinton signed the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) into law in early June, he didn't just sign a bill providing over \$200 billion for roads, bridges, and transit. He signed a bill providing \$148 million over six years for scenic byways, as well as nearly \$4 billion for transportation enhancements.

While the new bill does not improve federal billboard control, its enhancements, scenic byways, and other provisions are a big step forward for scenic conservation.

TEA-21 improves the National Scenic Byways Program. First, it boosts funding for byways by 85%. In addition, the bill leaves the basic program structure intact and ties priority funding specifically to corridor management plans — all critical to Scenic America. Moreover,

unlike in ISTEA, all states, including donor states, now have equal incentive to compete for these funds; they do not count against donor states' minimum allocations.

Under the bill, first priority for federal scenic byways funds will go to roads designated as National Scenic Byways (currently 44 roads) or All American Roads (the best of the best, currently nine roads). Other priorities include projects on state-designated scenic byways that are intended to prepare the road for nomination to the national program and projects to develop state scenic byways programs.

As in ISTEA, funding is available for a variety of projects, ranging from developing and implementing corridor management plans to billboard control to interpretive programs along scenic byways. Funding will be channeled through state Departments of Transportation, meaning that your project must meet with state approval to be forwarded to the USDOT.

The bill also creates a new Center for National Scenic Byways in Duluth, MN, charged with developing and implementing "communications systems for the support of the national scenic byways program." The center is provided with \$9 million annually from the Highway Trust Fund over the life of the bill. As the Center becomes an effective technical assistance provider and facilitates networking among byways advocates and program managers, it will be a significant boon to the National Scenic Byways Program.

The funding for transportation enhancements, too, was significantly expanded in TEA-21, despite earlier concerns that the program might not survive at all.

Annual transportation enhancements will average an estimated \$630 million — a 40% rise from ISTEA. Under TEA-21,25% of enhancements funds above FY 1997 funding may be transferred to other uses; however, it appears

continued on page 4

Scenic Action Network Paves Way to Victory

Thank you to all our Scenic Action Network members for contacting your Members of Congress about TEA-21 over the past year. Your actions made a difference! Your senators and representatives need your views on legislation that affects the America's scenic resources. Keep up the great work!

If you are not already a member, we urge you to join Scenic America's Scenic Action Network now so that we can keep you up-to-date on national efforts to protect America the Beautiful.

Every one of Scenic America's members has an important role to play in guiding America into a scenic 21st century. We can begin now by educating members of Congress about the value and importance of protecting scenic America.

Remember: it's free to join the Scenic Action Network if you are already a Scenic America member! Please encourage your friends and family to join Scenic America and the Network to help us make the case for federal policies that preserve beauty.

Through your support we can continue to provide Members of Congress with information about the importance of scenic conservation and the need to promote federal legislation that empowers communities like yours to protect their scenic resources.

SCENIC AMERICA WELCOMES NEW CHAIR APPEL

Internship Named for Outgoing Chairman Henderson



Appel

Appel Houston, TX, Chair of its Board of Directors. She replaces Roberta Scenic America Chair Madeleine Henderson of Louisville,

At its

May Board

meeting, Sce-

nic America

named

Madeleine

KY, whose highly successful two-year term ended on May 1, 1998.

At a dinner honoring Ms. Henderson, Scenic America also announced the creation of the Roberta Henderson Internship at Scenic America. The internship will be open to qualified college or graduate school students or recent graduates who are committed to protecting America's scenic beauty.

Appel has been a member of Scenic America's Board of Directors since 1989 in various capacities, including Chair of the Billboard Committee and Vice Chair. Ms. Appel has extensive ties to the nonprofit community both nationally and in Houston. She has served on the Board of Directors for the national League of Women Voters, the Texas League of Women Voters, and as president of the League of Women Voters of Houston. In addition, she is currently president of two Houston social service organizations, Jewish Family Service and Houston Achievement Place.

Professionally, Ms. Appel currently serves as Administration Manager for Houston's City Controller, a position she came to after two years as Administrator of the Mayor Pro Tem Office in Houston. Previously, she served 16 years as Senior Council Aide to City Council Member Eleanor Tinsley, a position in which Ms. Appel played a key role in the passage of Houston's sign control and tree conservation/landscaping ordinances.

Ms. Appel and her husband, Dr. Michael Appel, have two sons, Louis and Noah, both of whom are doctors.

Scenic America president Meg

Maguire said, "We are excited to have Madeleine Appel assume the role of Chair. She brings an energy, thoughtfulness, and experience that will be critical assets to us as we lay the foundation to make the 21st century a scenic century."

Appel replaces Roberta Henderson, whose two year term as Chairman brought Scenic America unprecedented growth. Her tenure was marked by Scenic America's successful efforts to foster scenic conservation in the federal transportation bill, new funded scenic byways projects in Georgia and Virginia joining exist- Outgoing Chairman Roberta Henderson

ing projects in Ohio and Pennsylvania, and a big boost in technical assistance and outreach efforts. In addition, Scenic America's annual revenue grew from \$485,000 to \$723,000, a nearly 50% jump in just two years. The staff also grew from six to eight full-time in that period.

Ms. Henderson came to her position on Scenic America's Board after founding Scenic Kentucky, an affiliate of Scenic America. She currently serves on that organization's Executive Committe. Her tenure on Scenic America's Board has included a stint as Chairman of the Development Committee.

Ms. Henderson also has deep roots in nonprofit work in her home of Louisville. She



A Sweet TEA-21

(continued from page 3)

that as little as 1-2% may actually prove transferable. In addition, TEA-21 allows federal agencies to use their own federal funds to match enhancements funds and eases the byzantine requirements that accompany federal funds - both changes that will make the program friendlier to us-

TEA-21 retains existing funding categories, which include bicycle and pedestrian projects, historic preservation, and scenic conservation. Scenic categories include billboard control, scenic byways programs, scenic easement acquisition, and landscaping and beautification. TEA-21 adds four new categories: safety and educational activities for bicyclists and pedestrians; tourist and welcome center facilities; environmental mitigation to reduce vehiclecaused wildlife mortality and maintain habitat connectivity; and transportation museums.

TEA-21 also creates a new Transit Enhancements Program, funded at about \$30 million in 1998 and rising in subsequent years. Eligible activities include historic preservation, landscaping and street furniture, public art, and improved access to stations. SA

was President of Planned Parenthood of Louisville and of the Glenview Garden Club, which is a member of the Garden Club of America. She has also served on the boards of St. John's Shelter for the Homeless, Louisville Visual Art Association, and the Salvation Army.

Ms. Henderson and her husband Ian live in Glenview, KY. They have three sons.

Scenic America president Meg Maguire commented, "Roberta Henderson's leadership of this organization has brought tremendous success and positioned us for even greater victories in the future. All of us in the Scenic America family owe Roberta an incredible debt of gratitude." SA

Scenic America Viewpoints Page 5

ALASKANS SLAM DOOR ON BILLBOARD BLIGHT

Overwhelming Vote Heads State Billboard Control Efforts

Alaskans Preserve State Ban

On November 2, Alaskans slammed the door on billboard blight, reaffirming the state's status as one of four billboard-free states. The state's citizens voted by an overwhelming 72%-28% margin to protect natural beauty by keeping billboards off the state's roads.

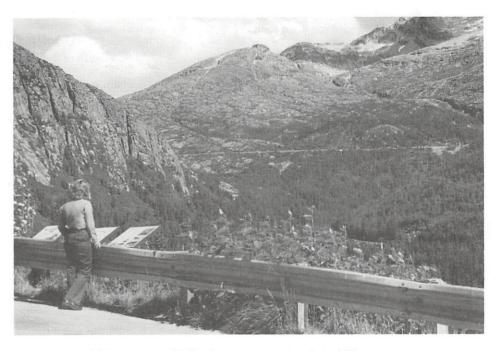
The victory marked the first time that the citizens of any state have had the opportunity to vote on the billboard issue — one largely shaped by the industry's small but powerful lobby.

Ballot Measure Number 5, the probeauty, anti-billboard initiative, overturned a law passed earlier this year that would have opened the door to billboard blight. The law would have allowed signs on private property giving directions to businesses located elsewhere. While these signs were relatively small, many Alaskans rightfully feared they were but the first step in a billboard industry-led campaign to allow mega-signs in the Last Frontier.

Alaskans Against Billboards, a citizens group, spearheaded the fight against billboard blight. The group collected the necessary signatures to qualify for the ballot entirely through volunteer efforts; Number 5 was the only one of nine measures on the state's ballot which qualified entirely through volunteer labor.

"The people of Alaska stood up for natural beauty and community character and against billboard blight," said Scenic America president Meg Maguire. "Billboard control is good for our economy and good for our quality of life — and Alaskans proved those points with this vote."

Maguire noted, however, that elsewhere billboards litter the landscape and degrade communities — as a direct result of the federal Highway Beautification Act and state laws that protect billboards rather than beauty. "This vote is yet another strong signal that Americans are fed up with billboard blight and ready to say 'Enough is enough.' With half a million billboards on our major roads, it's time for Congress and for the states to place a moratorium on new billboard construction."



Alaska's Klondike and Marine Highway will remain billboard-free, thanks to the state voters' overwhelming rejection of billboard blight.

Missouri

On the 110-mile stretch of I-70 between Columbia, MO, and St. Louis, a driver is never out of sight of a billboard other than for one three-mile stretch.....so Scenic Missouri knew it was high time for action when they launched their billboard referendum initiative last year.

Thanks to Scenic Missouri's hard work, communities now have a new state billboard law allowing them greater freedom to control billboards locally. The law passed because the Missouri Outdoor Advertising Association, which had lobbied to block previous control efforts, had no choice but to give its approval to the new law.

While Scenic Missouri did not obtain the number of signatures required to place an initiative on the ballot, its efforts did force Missouri's billboard lobby to have a change of heart regarding local control of billboards.

State Senator Franc Flotron points to two reasons for the shift. The first was the petition drive launched by Scenic Missouri. "The influence of mortal fear [of allowing voters to chose an even stricter constitutional amendment] is amazing," said Flotron. The second was the recognition by the billboard companies already in business in Missouri that any restrictions on new billboards make those already up more valuable.

Congratulations to Scenic Missouri on the new law.

Oregon

Oregon is involved in an ongoing battle with a maverick billboard operator who has challenged the law that caps the total number of billboards allowed in the state. The billboard operator claims that there aren't enough permits to go around, and illegally put up billboards on Interstate 5 to make his point. In fact there are plenty of unused billboard permits still available, and the billboard industry is using this case to force an Oregon Supreme Court ruling on the state's 1971 billboard law. It doesn't look like they have much chance of winning - just last year the Oregon Court of Appeals ruled that the state's billboard cap does not violate the Constitution because it restricts the location not the message of billboards. SA

Scenic America Staff Take to the Road

It's the autumn traveling season again, and Scenic Americans are on the road, spreading the scenic conservation message and rallying people to protect beauty and battle visual pollution like billboard blight.

President Meg Maguire has been to the corners of the country this September, starting in Tacoma, Washington to speak at the Western States Tourism Policy Council conference on gateway communities. From there, Meg continued to Akron to address the Garden Club, to Columbus for a fund-raising event for affiliate Scenic Ohio, and then to Georgia to meet with citizens interested in starting a Scenic Georgia.

Closer to home, Anna El-Eini has given two slide presentations recently, one in Baltimore and the other in Washington, on the role of billboards in pushing tobacco and alcohol, especially to children.

The four National Scenic Byway Regional Workshops have been keeping several of the Scenic America staff busy, starting with Deborah Myerson in September, where she moderated two sessions at both Nashville,TN and Smuggler's Notch, VT. In October, Deborah spoke at a workshop on the Ohio Scenic Byway Program in Columbus, and then continued to the third national program workshop in Denver. A few days later, Meg and Ray Foote flew west to

Monterey, CA to staff the fourth workshop as well as the National Symposium on Technology and Scenic Byways.

Meanwhile, Frank Vespe spoke in October to the National Alliance of Highway Beautification Agencies about billboard control and to the Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute's conference on environmental protection and growth management in the West.

Finally, Meg Maguire, Frank Vespe, and Deb Myerson are splitting up speaking opportunities at four conferences, cosponsored by the Surface Transportation Policy Project and the Rails to Trails Conservancy, discussing the implementation of TEA-21. SA



Deb Myerson speaks to Scenic America's Affiliate Workshop.

Controlling Cellular Monopoles (continued from page 1)

Fortunately, communities do have a choice, even though the Telecommunications Act of 1996 bars localities from banning all towers. The Act clearly does allow local officials to regulate towers' height, placement, design, and siting.

The first step is for a community to enact a moratorium to halt tower construction while officials prepare and pass an ordinance, usually within between 60 and 180 days. Bloomington, MN, for example, gave itself a 90 day breather to come up with a good local ordinance for wireless towers. Hundreds of communities have used moratoria, giving citizens a chance to make their views known, resulting in better ordinances.

Citizens and officials should pay particular attention to tower height, location, and opportunities to place transmitters on existing facilities. The Bloomington ordinance, for instance, limits tower height to 30 feet in single-family residential areas, allowing higher towers in places where there can be a greater "setback" from property lines. Martin County, FL, requires companies to prove that "no existing or planned tower can accommodate the applicant's antenna or transmitter" before issuing a permit for a new, freestanding tower.

There are many creative ways to minimize the negative visual impact of a wireless facility. For example, companies can often gain approval from local utilities to place transmitters on water tanks, power transmission poles, and other industrial structures. In New England, some companies have nestled their transmitters inside church steeples, effectively hiding them and providing rental income for the church. In dense, urban areas, there are usually plenty of existing sites to accommodate such "co-location."

There are also new "stealth" technologies to conceal towers or help them blend in with their surrounding. Some are built to resemble clock towers. On George Washington's Mount Vernon estate, a "cellular tree" was erected after a careful visual analysis convinced officials the facility would be virtually indistinguishable from other vegetation. In rural areas, transmitters are sometimes located on silos.

More problematic, however, are lowrise suburban or rural areas where transmitters must go up on free-standing towers. Increasingly, towers in these places are conflicting with scenic views and rural historic districts. Petaluma, CA, responded by prohibiting towers from being placed on ridgelines where they would interrupt scenic views. Petaluma also bans towers which would be visible from public trails, parks, or other natural recreational areas.

Cellular towers also raise special problems for some of our most special landscapes. The Telecommunications Act of 1996 requires that federal agencies, including the National Park Service, make available sites for wireless transmitters within certain limits thus putting pressure on park superintendents to accommodate the law while preserving their parks' scenic, natural, historic, and cultural integrity. This year, another bill would have further undermined conservation efforts by strengthening the mandate to allow the towers in parks,

Virtually every community in America will have to confront this issue. While each community will face distinct wireless challenges, there is one common theme underlying all these situations: citizen involvement is critical. Concerned residents ultimately must ensure that wireless towers do not add to the visual clutter which already plagues so many places. Informed, organized advocacy for sensible ordinances and tough enforcement is what will ensure better results. These battles can be won, but only with the support of people committed to preserving natural beauty and distinctive community character. SA

Special Offer

Two Books Discuss the Land We Love and How to Preserve It

Scenic America is dedicated to providing a comprehensive list of resources for your scenic conservation library. We offer books, videos and technical bulletins on a range of topics including: billboard and onpremise sign regulation, tree conservation, community planning, scenic byways, and recreational and scenic resources.

Now that the hottest days of summer are behind us we encourage you to celebrate by enjoying an experience in the great outdoors. To make it easy for you to find a beautiful place to explore we offer:

Beyond The National Parks: A Recreation Guide to Public Lands in the West.

Edited by Mary E. Tisdale and Bibi Booth, and published by the Smithsonian Institution Press in 1998. Just \$19.95. This book features:

- 187 color state and site maps and 158 color photos
- · Favorite places chosen by partner organizations and BLM staff
- · Complete information on routes, fees, camping, lodging, amenities, weather constraints, special equipment or supplies, and wheelchair accessibility
- · Icons representing recommended activities at each site
 - · Addresses and phone numbers of

BLM state and district offices.

We encourage all people to become aware of the importance of preserving the scenic beauty of America, it is one our most valuable national treasures. All people need to develop a land use ethic that will allow us to preserve this treasure. To introduce you to one such land ethic we offer for the special discount price of \$20.00 (regularly \$24.95)

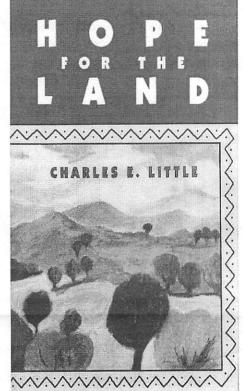
Hope For The Land.

Written by Charles E. Little and published by Rutgers University Press in 1992. The author takes us to the ravaged cropland of Texas, to the New Jersey Pine Barrens, and to the inner city neighborhoods of Los Angeles. Mr. Little introduces us to ordinary people who value the land they live with. They know that when the land is destroyed, their communities are lost, their lives diminished.

Special limited offer!!

The first 50 people to buy Beyond The National Parks and/or Hope for the Land will receive FREE OF CHARGE a copy of Building on the Past Traveling to the Future: A Preservationist's Guide to the ISTEA Transportation Enhancement Provision, edited by I Mei Chan and published by

the FHWA and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. This book has received high praise from many involved with the enhancements program. SA



| Name | | Beyond the National Parks \$19.95 |
|---|-----------------------------|--|
| Address | | Hope for the Land \$20.00 |
| City | State Zip | Material Total: (and don't forget my free book!) Shipping and Handling |
| Method of Payment: Check Purchase Order | | Orders <\$20, add \$3.50 Orders \$20-50, add \$5.00 |
| VisaM | laster CardAmerican Express | Orders >\$50.00, add \$8.00 |
| Card Number | Exp. Date | Shipping/Handling Total |
| Phone | | Total Due |

Please mail or fax this form to: Scenic America, 801 Pennsyvlania Ave., SE, #300, Washington, DC 20003

Tel: (202) 543-6200 Fax: (202) 543-9130

Please make checks payable to Scenic America. Thanks!

Growing Affiliate Network Spurs Scenic Conservation Addition of California, Florida Makes Eight Affiliates

At its fall meeting, Scenic America's Board of Directors welcomed two new affiliates -- Scenic California and Citizens for a Scenic Florida -- into the fold.

The two additions give Scenic America eight affiliates around the nation -- including two of the nation's largest and most politically important states. These new additions demonstrate just how far our affiliates program has come.

Four years ago, Scenic America did not have any affiliates. But today, thanks to the generous support of our members and The Dunn Foundation of Rhode Island, Scenic America works closely with a network of eight state affiliates and eight additional groups working toward affiliate status.

Expanding the size and effectiveness of our network of state affiliates is a key objective of our three-year Strategic Plan. We know that state and local policies have a big impact on visual character and community appearance, and we believe the best way to affect local scenic conservation is to build a grassroots movement based on strong and effective advocacy and watchdog activities.

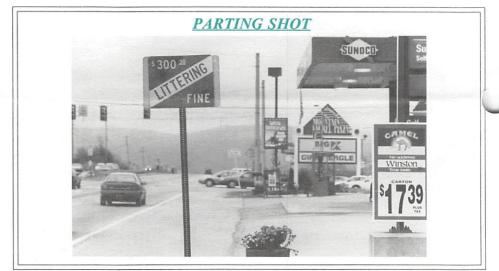
Building a strong affiliate network means not only adding new affiliates, but also providing ongoing assistance to our existing affiliates in California, Florida, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio and Texas. For example, Scenic America held a special, day-long Affiliate Workshop on October 30th. We also co-

sponsored a scenic byways workshop with Scenic Ohio this fall.

And when our affiliates ask for assistance, we are always here to answer the call. For example, earlier this year Scenic Kentucky alerted us that the Legislature was considering two bills backed by the billboard industry to allow as many as 4,400 new billboards and the clear-cutting of public trees for billboard visibility. Scenic America responded, providing detailed analysis of the bill, participating in strategy sessions, and sending out two statewide alerts.

Being a part of a growing scenic conservation movement is a win-win-win situation. Affiliates receive assistance from Scenic America and learn from other affiliates; Scenic America draws on the network for support on national policy issues; and as a member, you benefit because working together we are more effective at protecting natural beauty and community character.

Scenic America soon will write to all of our friends, including those from our affiliate states, to ask for a special year-end gift. We've also enclosed a gift envelope with this newsletter for your convenience. Over the next month, we ask you to look around and reflect on the value of beauty in your daily life. Your support enables us to bring in more activists and more affiliates and protect more of the beauty we all cherish. Please give generously this holiday season. Thank you. SA





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