



SET SAIL WITH A RIVER STORIES CRUISE

Peoria IL (April 16, 2009) — We have all been working extra hard and dealing with stressful times...so what better reason to relax and enjoy yourself on a fun and leisurely cruise along the Illinois River. Join us aboard the **“Spirit of Peoria”** for the Illinois River Road National Scenic Byway’s River Stories Cruise. The fun is May 6th with cocktails beginning at 6pm. We push off from the dock at the foot of Main Street at 7 and will return at 8:30.

This cruise is a fundraising event for the Byway complete with cocktails, Hors D’oeuvres and music by Barry Cloyd. Plus you will have a chance to meet Peoria photographer and author of “Life Along the Illinois River” David Zalaznik. He will be sharing the river stories he captured while creating his book and have copies for sale.

Proceeds go to the Illinois River Road National Scenic Byway. This road unites more than 100 nature-based destinations throughout the Illinois River Valley, beginning in Ottawa and ending 140 miles south in Havana. The Byway showcases great places where visitors and residents alike can go to discover and experience the nature of the region. From hunting, fishing, hiking, biking, canoeing, wetlands, gardens, birding and watching wildlife, the possibilities for adventure are endless.

As it follows the Illinois River south, the Byway travels through a mixture of backwater lakes, bottomland forests, floodplain wetlands, upland forest, savanna and some of the country's last remaining tallgrass prairies. The river and these adjacent habitats provide an ideal environment for diverse birds, butterflies and other wildlife as well as numerous plant communities native to the valley. The Illinois River Road National Scenic Byway will guide you through the Valley to some of Illinois' most treasured, natural gems.

Tickets are \$50 per person. Reservations are limited and due by Friday April 24th. For more information visit www.illinoisriverroad.org.

*For more information or interviews please contact Renee Charles at 309-495-5905 or rcharles@h-p.org or
Byways Director Anaise Berry at 495-5909 or aberry@edc.h-p.org*

####



100 SW WATER STREET • PEORIA, IL 61602
309-495-5909 • Fax: 309-495-5941 • www.illinoisriverroad.org
A PROGRAM OF THE EDC FOR CENTRAL ILLINOIS