



Pecatonica Improvement Association
P.O. Box 230 Pecatonica, Illinois 61063

WHAT IS THE PIA?

The Pecatonica Improvement Association (PIA) is a not-for-profit organization established on September 20, 1984 and serves Pecatonica in much the same way as a Chamber of Commerce. The PIA MISSION STATEMENT reads: ***To promote the collective and individual property and civic interest and rights of all persons, firms and corporations owning property in the Pecatonica area; Promote and support Pecatonica, encourage growth, visitors and the quality of life.***

Membership in PIA is open to individuals, groups, church and civic organizations and business owners. The annual dues are: \$25 for an individual, \$50 for a business (or 2 years for \$90), and \$100 for a sustaining membership. Monthly meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month at 8:00 AM in the Pecatonica Village Hall and are open to the public.

Here are examples of events and projects the PIA has done:

Signs and Promotion

- ✓ Originated and gathered information for the Pecatonica Directory now published by the Gazette.
- ✓ Erected (and recently refurbished) the redwood “**WELCOME**” sign located in front of the Middle School.
- ✓ Placed the “**DOWNTOWN**” Pec sign for patrons to see as they exit the Winnebago Co. Fairgrounds.
- ✓ Initiated and erected the large aluminize signs:
 - “**VISIT PECATONICA**” on the old wagon on Hwy 20 east of Pec corners.
 - “**SHOP DOWNTOWN PEC**” located on the Pec Equine Center property.
- ✓ Refurbished the “Oshkosh” ghost sign on the building at the corner of 4th & Main.
- ✓ Promoted and advertised Pec on TV.
- ✓ Advertised in local papers to support local businesses.
- ✓ Offered group Insurance rated to members.
- ✓ Offered the “Uni-Gift Certificate” for purchases at Pecatonica merchants.
- ✓ Recognized new business ground breaking with a “gold shovel”.
- ✓ Recognized business remodeling with a “gold hammer”.

Community Involvement

- ✓ Hosted Auction to raise funds for PIA work.
- ✓ Donations to Pec Public Schools
- ✓ Held a contest to design, manufacture and sell the Pecatonica Flag as a scout project.
- ✓ Designed and sold Pecatonica commemorative Christmas ornaments (6 years).
- ✓ Participated in Memorial Day parades.
- ✓ Created and sponsored “Dash for Trash” along with the Pec FFA.
- ✓ Sponsored several community festivals: “Warm and Fuzzie” in Feb., Autumn Harvest, Mid-Summer Madness, Hometown Christmas Walk, and Crooked River Days.
- ✓ Recognized over 15 new or renovated “Home Improvement Award” winners.
- ✓ Hosted Historic Christmas Home Tours, Teas, Luminary, Wagon Rides, Living Nativity, and business open houses.

- ✓ Hosted “Community Recognition Dinners”, featuring popular speakers, for nominated leaders and volunteers in several categories.
- ✓ Continues the annual Pec promotional display of community photos at the Winnebago County Fair.
- ✓ Members work at the Pec Women’s Club “Day in the Country” craft fair.
- ✓ Hosted two Peeketolika Festivals

Main Street

- ✓ Member of the National Historic Trust Main Street Program.
- ✓ Created displays for vacant Downtown stores.
- ✓ Provided Memorial benches.
- ✓ Purchased granite Trash containers.
- ✓ Purchased granite Flower planters
- ✓ Annually plant flower barrels with the help of the Pec Garden Club.
- ✓ Annually put Christmas decorations in the flower barrels.
- ✓ Maintain and put up Christmas Wreaths on light poles.
- ✓ Put original streetscape outline of lights on business district buildings.
- ✓ Purchased and displayed “Welcome to Pec” street banners on light poles.
- ✓ Developed the Memorial Clock Corner at 4th and Main Street; put in plantings, clock, Deans Memorial Rock, lamps, water fountain.
- ✓ Raised money for the renovation of downtown sidewalks by selling memorial lamps and bricks.
- ✓ Initiated the “Welcome Center” in cooperation with the Pecatonica Heritage Museum (now located in the Village Hall)

New activity

- ✓ Adding more, and replacing damaged, bricks at the corner of 3rd and Main.
- ✓ Supporting “CARS ON MAIN” car show.
- ✓ Citizens of the Year Award program.

The PIA encourages everyone, and especially local businesses and organizations, to join the PIA, or renew their membership, so we can develop new opportunities to enhance and promote our community. An active community is an involved community and a vibrant community is an active community, so please get involved and be a part of the fun.



PIA COMMUNITY TRIANGLE