

## Meet The LSL Quester's Group

Questers are preservationists and the Heritage Explorers chapter from Lake Saint Louis' own "55 or Better" Community...Heritage of Hawk Ridge, is on a mission.

Most people have no knowledge of QUESTERS...although it dates to 1944 and is an international, not for profit organization. (Chapters in U.S. and Canada). In addition to the preservation of landmarks...members are interested in history and/or antiques. Traditionally, most chapters choose a particular cause or historical site to benefit from their efforts....be it

monetary donations or hours of service.

The FRENCHTOWN HERITAGE MUSEUM...&...RESEARCH CENTER...at 1121 North Second Street in St. Charles is our choice. Like Questers...the Frenchtown Neighborhood is little known...as the second...designated historic district of the city. Frenchtown was listed on the National Register on March 14, 1991. The District has struggled for years to gain recognition along side that of the well known South Main Historic District. The FHM & Research Center

leads the way in this endeavor.

Currently, the Heritage Explorers Chapter has applied to our Philadelphia Questers Headquarters for a \$4600 grant to restore the interior Santa Fe RR Caboose that sits in the garden at the museum. The plan is to use it as a learning center for children. Storytellers have already volunteered. Just visualize...kids perched on the rebuilt bunks around a pot-bellied stove...& listening to the stories of this historic neighborhood and the heyday of railroading. American Car Foundry, Frenchtown's largest employer at the turn of the century, actually built the caboose. ACF is located on North Second...just across the street from the Academy of the Sacred Heart.

Grants are to be awarded at the annual Questers International Convention being held in Phoenix, Arizona on May 7-9, 2010. We hope to be one of the lucky recipients. Meanwhile, our members here in Lake Saint Louis are coming up with fun ways to raise the additional funds required to complete this project so dear to our hearts.



Lake Saint Louis Chapter President of #1421, Chris Stephenson and Treasurer, Pat Goddard presenting a check for \$250 to the Museum's Director, Dorthy Boshears. The money will be used for the interior restoration of a Santa Fe RR caboose (circa 1929).