

OKLAHOMA

ROUTE

66

Association

# NEWSLETTER

## NOVEMBER 1990

### CALENDAR OF 66 EVENTS

#### 1990

- October 16** Happy Birthday: Oklahoma Route 66 Association's First anniversary
- November 9** Deadline for nominations for Board of Trustees, Officers, & Directors
- November 13** Tree Planting Day, Tulsa's 11th Street
- November 17** Annual Meeting of the Association members
- December** Check for Christmas gifts at the Oklahoma Route 66 Souvenir Shop

#### 1991

- April 26-28** Fun Run Weekend, Arizona
- June 7-9** Illinois Cruise
- June 8, 9** Second Annual Oklahoma Route 66 Cruise
- September** Fourth Annual Route 66 Round-Up, Elk City
- November** Annual Meeting of the Association members

To submit information or listings for the Newsletter Calendar, see the back page.

### WELCOME

Remember cruisin' Route 66 and stopping at the alligator farm, roadside fruit stand, or getting a burger, fries, and a malt? Cruise through the pages of the newsletter of the Oklahoma Route 66 Association, up one side and down the other. Stop at some of the attractions, sights, stories, and ads.

We hope the Association newsletter becomes your roadmap and guide to the news, events, and stories about the phenomenon of 'The Mother Road'. To submit stories, calendar listings, and ads; see the back page. Now pull onto the roadway and have a great trip.

### ASSOCIATION OPEN HOUSE

The Oklahoma Route 66 Association held an Open House in its new offices on Historic Route 66 in Bethany on August 26, 1990, & played host to more than 200 people. Among the many guests were **Neal McCaleb**, Senator **Howard Hendrick**, Representative **Bill Graves**, & our own Mr. Route 66, **L.W. Barber**.

The festivities were held in conjunction with the Bethany Route 66 Association's dedication of their 'Historic Route 66' sign. An impressive program highlighted the afternoon with **Jenifer Eve**, Five Alive, as Master of Ceremonies.

## HISTORIC ROUTE 66 SIGNS

New signs, Historic Oklahoma Route 66, are now available for placement along sections of Route 66 (highway placement must comply with state, county & city ordinances). Please call the Association office at (405) 495-RT66 for current prices, installation info, and ordering procedures.



## OPEN HOUSE CAKE-CUTTING

Left to right: Carl Lee, Allan Long, Linda Byrd (treasurer), Shirley Hoppes (Tulsa Chapter), Mr. Barber (Mr. Route 66), Jack Carnes, Wayne Montgomery, and Nancy Lyons (Office Director).

## OKLAHOMA SIXTY-SIXERS

On August 13, 1990 **Ray & Katy Ruth** hosted a meeting with the Midwestern Oklahoma Route 66 group. **Wayne Montgomery** (Membership Chairman) and **Carl Lee** presented a video on the history of Route 66. **Cecil Mendenall** from the Bethany Chamber of Commerce and **Bob Snider** from the Bethany Route 66 group related what Bethany has been doing to form their new association. A lot of folks from Geary want to start a Route 66 group there. Recently, the Oklahoma Route 66 Association gained 12 new members: 6 individual, 2 family, 3 business, and 1 sustaining. This brings the total membership to over 800. If you are interested in joining or learning more about the Oklahoma Route 66 Association, please see the back page.

## NEW ASSOCIATION OFFICE

On August 14, 1990, the Oklahoma Route 66 Association opened the doors of its beautiful new office. When you are in the Bethany area, stop in and say hello to the great volunteers working there.

Office Director **Nancy Lyon**

Volunteers **Pat Dunleavy**  
**Mildred Farmer**  
**Florene Tinsley**

Hours 10am to 5pm, weekdays

Address 6434 NW 39th Expressway,  
Suite D (on Historic Route 66  
east of the First National  
Bank of Bethany)

Phone (405) 495-RT66.

The office has a reception area, large work and meeting area, and even room for a Route 66 Souvenir Shop. Please call or come by if you need information about the Oklahoma Route 66 Association.

## But we need your help.

The new office space is great but to improve efficiency, we need the following:

- copy machine
- typewriter
- computer & printer
- compact refrigerator
- six-foot tables

These items need to be in good working condition as the Association has no means to repair them. We also need volunteer Sixty-Sixers to help with general office work. If you can help with donated items or volunteer time, please call **Nancy Lyon** at (405) 495-RT66. Thanks.



Lucille Hamons  
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**ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS**

The winners of the state Mr. & Mrs. Route 66 Essay Contest are Mrs. Creek County, **Juanita Stroup** from Sapulpa, and Mr. Canadian County, **L. W. Barber** from Yukon. The 1991 essay contest will include more Oklahoma counties and be open to anyone over 66 years of age. Watch for details in upcoming Association Newsletters.

**These were my kicks on Route 66**

By **Juanita Stroup**, Sapulpa, Oklahoma

The most magnificent landscapes of our traveling are found on Route 66. The fond memories are etched in our minds and we sincerely hope they never fade away.

While traveling through New Mexico in 1957, we stopped at a roadside stand where Navajo Indian girls were selling necklaces made from seeds and nuts found in their area (also some made of colorful beads). They were shy and could not speak English very well, but were thankful we had purchased their jewelry.

While visiting my parents who lived on Route 66 in Stroud, Oklahoma, the sirens started blaring as there was a tornado sighted. We hurriedly ran to the closet, got our coats (as it was pouring down rain), and headed for the storm cellar. To our amazement it was nearly full of people we had never seen before. They were traveling on Route 66, heard the sirens, saw the cellar, and made a fast dash for it. There was much wind damage but were thankful those in the cellar were safe.

We not only got our kicks, but pricks on old 66. I remember the first time we drove to California in 1952. As we went through the desert the cacti were in full bloom. My mother and I thought they were pretty. We parked the car and picked some of the flowers from a cactus bush. To our dismay, we had a hard time pulling out the painful hard to see prickles from our tender skin.

**These Were My Kicks on Route 66**

By **L. W. Barber**, Yukon, Oklahoma

Oh, the thrills and chills of old Route 66, and what memories. Nothing in my travels can come close. I was born on old 66 in 1918, 5 miles east of Clinton, Oklahoma. Closest elevator and general store: Indianapolis, OK. I attended 1st grade at the Red Rock one room school. 66 was a dirt road, muddy when rainy. 66 followed section lines and when the road turned it was a sharp 45 degree (no problem at 5mph). In 1934 I had a worn out 1927 Ford T coupe and was going up Golf Link Hill on 66 east of Clinton. About 2/3 to the top, moving 3mph, and foot on the low band pedal; a freight line truck (Roadway) came up behind me and gave me a push, say 10mph. At the top of the hill, I pulled over real quick, waved thanks, and he went on his way. Coming or going across the New Mexico, Arizona, and California desert, I always had a 50lb chunk of ice wrapped in a blanket. Usually traveled by night: saved tires, car, and did not have to pay \$1.00 for a cabin with a dirt floor or \$2.00 for one with a floor and water cooler (window swamp bucket, they called them). I can remember 1936-39 just west of Hydro on 66 a filling station was selling bootleg whiskey, short pint, for 50 cents (screw cap). Good whiskey, too!

On a trip through the desert on 66 driving at night I was told aspirin and Coke would keep you awake like NoDoz. Sure did. I forgot to get gassed up and ran out of gas about 2am. I stayed awake for sure. So old 66 has not only been a thrill but a necessity, almost.

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Hours: Tues.-Sat 10:00 to 6:00  
Sunday 1:00 to 5:00

1629 East U.S. 66  
El Reno, OK 73036

(405) 262-9366  
Ray & Katy Ruth

**MAKE PLANS NOW**

The annual meeting of the members of the Oklahoma Route 66 Association is going to be a real treat: guest speaker, luncheon buffet, preservation workshop, music, socializing, and more. Join us.

Day **Saturday**

Date **November 17, 1990**

Time Registration from **10-10:30am**

Place **Holiday Inn Northwest**

(on Historic Route 66)

3535 NW 39th Expressway,  
Oklahoma City

Speaker **David Gaines,**

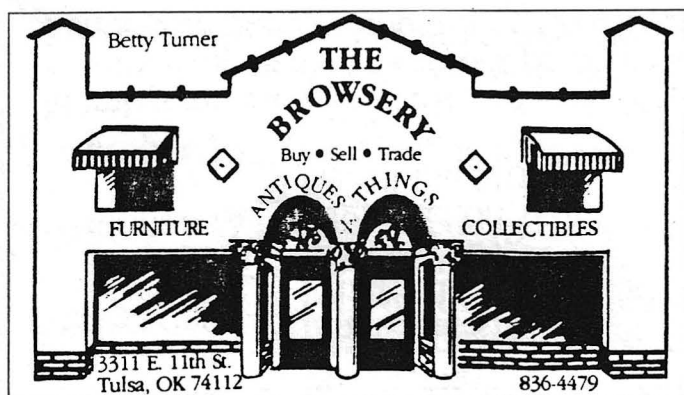
Bureau of Long Distance Trails,  
National Park Service,  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Workshop **Melvina Heisch,**

Oklahoma Historical Society,  
Preservation Office

Cost \$6.66 (what else?)

Please make reservations by November 10.  
Call **Nancy Lyon** at (405) 495-RT66



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**HOW TO GET INVOLVED**

1991 promises to be a big year for Route 66, especially in Oklahoma. The rest of the country is looking to the Oklahoma Route 66 Association to set the pace for a national organization and Oklahoma is clearly the ideal location for a national office. The Oklahoma Route 66 Association now needs enthusiastic Sixty-Sixers to get involved in the administration of the Association.

The Board of Trustees met on October 4, 1990 at the Association's office in Bethany. **Kent Martindale**, Creek County Trustee, was selected to head up the Nominating Committee for the upcoming election of the 1990-91 Board of Trustees. Other members of the committee are **Wayne Montgomery** and **Tom Myers**.

The by-laws provide that there shall be 15 Trustees elected, 13 from the counties of Route 66, and 2 from the membership at large. The Counties include Ottawa, Craig, Rogers, Tulsa, Creek, Lincoln, Oklahoma, Canadian, Blaine, Caddo, Custer, Washita, and Beckham.

Each of the counties is to select a representative and notify Kent by Friday, November 9th. If a county position is not filled, the nominating committee will choose someone from the general membership.

The Executive Committee is composed of the officers and directors of committees:

<b>Officers</b>	<b>Directors</b>
President	Publicity
Vice President	Membership
Secretary	Special Events
Treasurer	Resources/Fund raising

If you have the time and interest to serve as an Association Officer, Director, or committee member, please call before Friday, November 9:  
 Tulsa & Eastern Oklahoma: (918) 834-5943  
 Oklahoma City & Western: (405) 495-RT66

**THANKS TO GREAT CONTRIBUTORS**

The Oklahoma Route 66 Association had a lot of help with the Open House. A special *thank you* goes to the following companies & special Sixty-Sixers. Please show your gratitude by supporting these business contributors. Thanks.

- Carl Lee's Doors & Windows
- Clark's Pastry
- Pratt's Food Stores
- Sanders Office Supply
- First National Bank of Bethany
- Mary Lou Miley, Stately Ideas
- KOMA Radio
- Southwestern Bell
- Bethany Chamber of Commerce
- J&C Route 66 Sign Company
- Roz's Diner
- McClure's Flowers
- Sonic Drive-Ins
- JAG Enterprises
- Cowan Printing
- Bethany High School
- Etta's Gift Gallery

- JoAnne Vervinck
- Jack Barnes
- Wayne Montgomery
- Charlie Smoot
- Nancy & Eldon Lyon
- Jack Carnes
- Fred Vaughn
- Hal Adamson



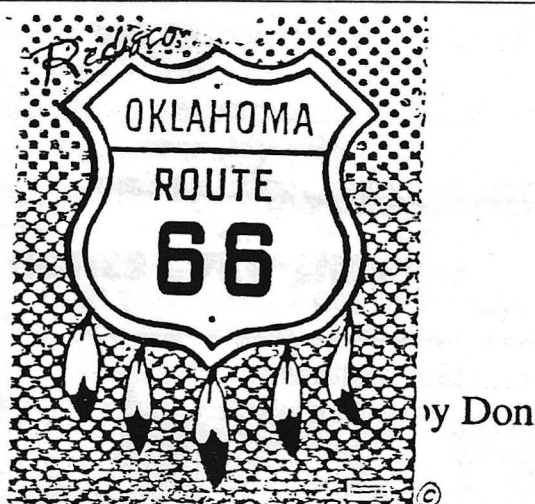
**KAM MEIKI**  
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 (405) 789-US66  
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J & C  
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 Jim or Carol Morley  
 8117 NW 28th St.  
 Bethany, OK 73008  
 (405) 787-3399

**NEW ASSOCIATION GRAPHICS**

Your Association has a great new look in its graphic materials (stationery, brochures, membership cards, etc.) thanks to the talent & hard work by some advanced Graphic Design students at Central State University (on Route 66 in Edmond). The new logo for the Association is evident on the cover of this issue of the newsletter.

The students conducted thorough research along the Route & in archival materials to capture just the right image. The logo represents the diversity, heritage, & future of the Oklahoma Route 66 Association. A sincere thanks to the students: **Jerry Hanna, Doug Barnes, Penny Grow, & Amy Grellner**, & their director, Dr. Jim Watson.



White 50/50 brand name shirt, tips of feathers and 'Rediscover' are red, background is light blue.

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**HELP PLANT TREES IN TULSA**

Historic Route 66 along Eleventh Street between 73rd East Avenue and 119th Street in Tulsa will have a new look soon thanks to volunteers from the Tulsa Chapter of the Oklahoma Route 66 Association and corporate donors. Volunteer Sixty-Sixers will be planting trees on November 13.

**Shirley Hoppes**, project coordinator, said, "our goal is to preserve and promote economic development along the old highway. One way of doing that is to plant trees. We're planting for tourism and for beautification of the Route."

Also on November 13, a sign will be erected on the southeast corner of 11th Street and Memorial Drive in honor of the planting and to acknowledge the companies that have donated materials and money to purchase the trees.

These companies are: **Public Service Company of Oklahoma, Yamaha of Tulsa, Oklahoma Natural Gas, Purity Oil Company, Guaranty Bank and Trust, American Red Cross, Crow Brothers Toyota, Pick-Up Partners, and Trim Rite.**

Hoppes said the cost of purchasing, planting, and maintaining the trees for two years is estimated at \$29,000. After two years the city of Tulsa will care for the trees. Please join in the planting and help beautify Historic Route 66 in its hometown of Tulsa.

Day **Tuesday**

Date **November 13, 1990**

Time **10:00am**

Location **Express Rent-A-Car**  
11th & Memorial

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## BUSH SAYS: STUDY ROUTE 66

President Bush signed a bill recently asking the National Park Service to conduct a study on the impact Historic Route 66 had on American culture. Senator Pete Domenici, sponsor of the bill, said the study will determine the best ways to preserve, commemorate, and interpret "America's Main Street". Representative **Wes Watkins** of Oklahoma was a co-sponsor of the bill. Domenici said Route 66, first designated in 1926, represents a bygone era in America, a time of some of the most significant population shifts of this century. The study will address the feasibility of preserving, through private and public efforts, what remains of the 2,400 mile highway and the facilities associated with it. A group of delegates from each of the Route's eight states (including Oklahoma, the home of Route 66) will be organized to conduct the study.

## UP & DOWN THE ROUTE

### Arizona

Hosting a Fun Run Weekend in April.  
Contact: Historic Route 66 Association of Arizona, Box 66, Kingman, AZ 86402, (602) 753-5001.

### Kansas

Preservation Fund is growing thanks to the dedication & spirit of Kansas Sixty-Sixers.

### Illinois

Planning the June 1991 Cruise.

### Missouri

September St. Louis to Joplin Cruise was a huge success.

### Texas

Publishing a Texas Route 66 Cookbook.

## THE ROUND BARN COVER UP

Preservation of Route 66 historic sites is one of the paramount goals of the Oklahoma Route 66 Association. Recently, the Association accepted the challenge of furthering the restoration of the Round Barn in Arcadia, a landmark of national significance.

In cooperation with the Arcadia Historical Society, the Oklahoma Route 66 Association found suppliers to provide building materials and a crane for installation of the roof trusses. The Association also provided a cash payment of \$780 to pay for a professional crane operator.

The Association is proud of partnerships such as this for each of us benefits from the continued existence of a valued resource. If there are historic and significant structures along the Route which you would like to sponsor for restoration fund raising, please write the Association at the address on the back page.

(Lynn's Barbecue)?



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## OKLAHOMA ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION

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(405) 495-RT66

### To join the Association

Fill out the form below and mail it and a check to the address above.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
Select one:  Individual \$10.  
 Family \$15.  
 Business \$25.  
 Organization \$30.  
 Sustaining \$100.

Memberships are good for one year. Your membership helps promote & preserve the heritage & future of Route 66 in Oklahoma.

## OKLAHOMA ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION

6434 NW 39th Expressway, Suite D  
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*Cruise in Oklahomas  
heritage and future.*

## QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Editor: **Kris Marek**  
Design & Production: **Jim Watson**  
Newsletter Logo: **Jerry Hanna**  
Advertising Director &  
Production Assistant: **Nancy Lyon**

### To submit copy, place an ad, or change your mailing address:

Please write to the address to the left.

### Copy deadlines      Issue dates

January 15	February
April 15	May
July 15	August
October 15	November

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