

OKLAHOMA



Association

AUGUST, 1991

NEWSLETTER

OKLAHOMA ROUTE 66 PLANS ANNUAL MEETING

MEMBERS TO MEET AT WEATHERFORD

The 2nd Annual Meeting of the Oklahoma Route 66 Association will be held at the T-Bone Steak House in Weatherford on August 24, 1991, starting at 10:00 a.m. All members are encouraged to attend this open meeting and take an active part.

On the agenda will be the selection of the Board of Trustees, Officers and Executive Board. The by-laws provide that there shall be 15 trustees elected, 13 from 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. If a county position is not filled then the trustees will choose someone from the general membership to serve in that capacity.

PRESENTLY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES CONSIST OF:

- Ottawa Colby Allen
- Craig Linda Sooter
- Rogers L. D. Lewis
- Tulsa Tom Carpenter
- Creek Jeff Hembree
- Lincoln Billy Rector
- Oklahoma Mary Lou Waller
- Canadian Ray Ruth
- Caddo Lucille Hammons
- Blaine Allan Long
- Custer Chris Pollman
- Washita Don Mullenix, Jr.
- Beckham Jeannette Neff
- At Large Danny Scott
- At Large Kent Martindale

The Executive Committee is composed of the officers and directors of committees. Officers are: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Directors are: Publicity, Membership, Special Events and Resources/Fund Raising.

As you know, 1992 will be a big year for Route 66 and we need enthusiastic leaders who are able to serve fully and be actively involved. If you have time to serve in any capacity, please contact the trustee of your county or the Association's office at 495-RT66. The meeting will be held at:

**T-Bone Steak House, Restaurant and Club
1805 East Main, Weatherford, Oklahoma**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 1991-92

Aug. 10-11 Route 66 Wheelchair Tennis Classic
 . . . Philcrest Hill Tennis Club, Tulsa, Oklahoma

Aug. 10 Choctaw Lions Club Ride Revue

Aug 17 2nd Annual Bug Stampede, Enid

Aug. 25 Early Ford V8 Club, All Ford Day
 Hafer Park, OKC

Aug 24 ANNUAL MEETING, Weatherford

Sept 7 Volkswalk & Volksbike
 Route 66, Overholster Lake Area

Sept 13 OKC, 22 Annual S. S. Corvette Show

Sept 20-21 All Mustang Car Show, Tulsa
 Kensington Galleria Complex

Sept 21 Tecumseh Centennial
 Parade & Celebration

Oct 05 Pontiac Show GTO Club, Guthrie

Oct 12 4th Annual J. Graumann M. Car Show

Nov 10 OKC (Toys 4 Tots) Run

June 6 ANNIVERSARY NATIONAL CRUISE

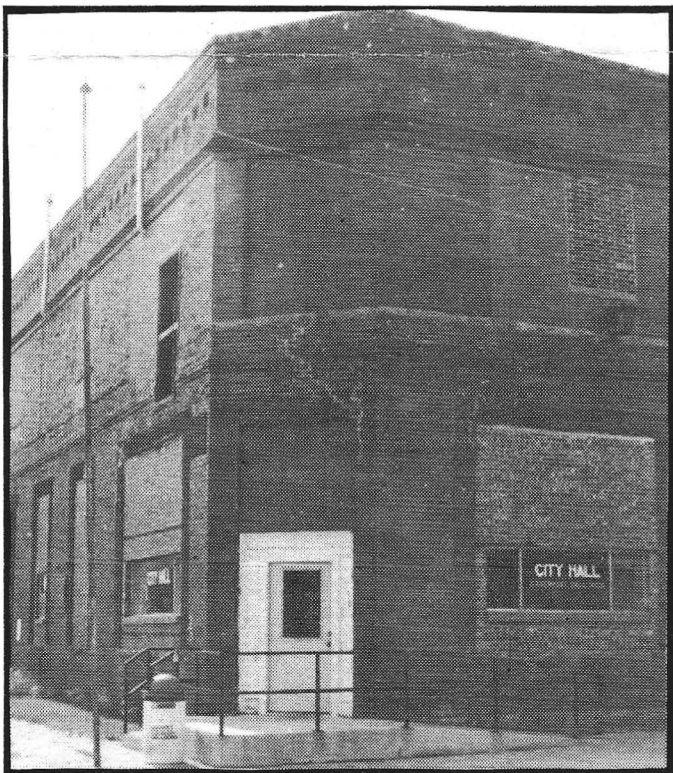
SCENES FROM '91 CRUISE/CELEBRATION



CHANDLER - CLOSING CEREMONIES (ON STAGE - BILLY RECTOR)



ROZ'S DINER - ELVIS, (LOOK ALIKE) & ROZ BETHANY



CITY HALL - DAVENPORT



CRUISERS - TILGHMAN PARK IN CHANDLER

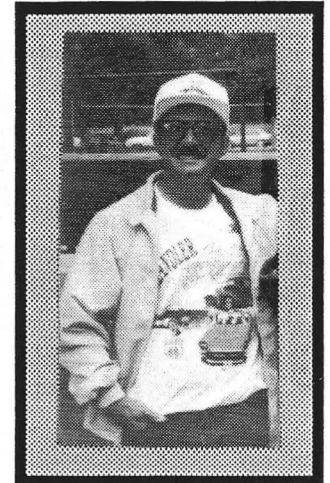


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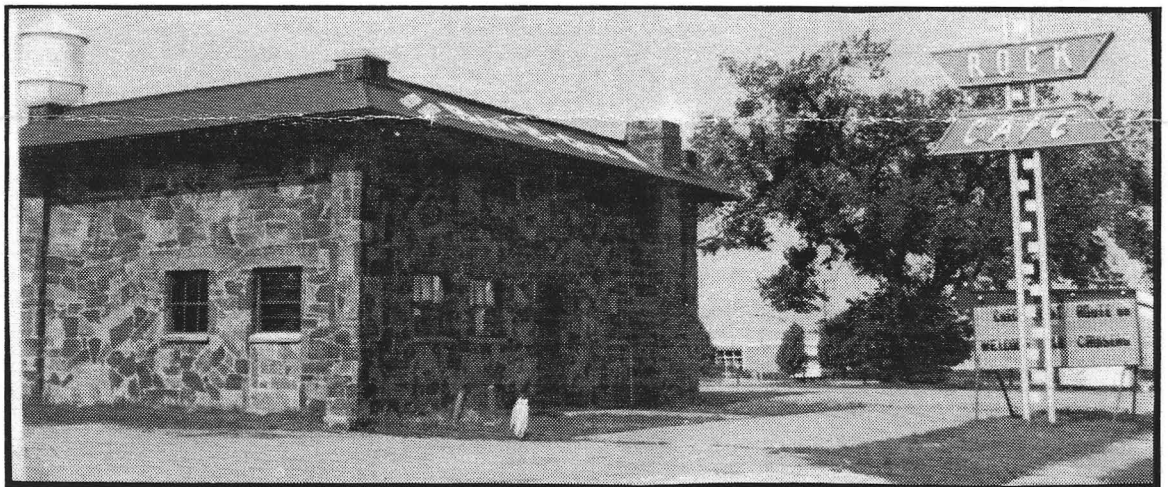
SCENES FROM '91 CRUISE/CELEBRATION



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MR. & MRS. ROUTE 66

(Essays) "THESE WERE MY KICKS ON ROUTE 66"



GERALDINE NELSON

State High School Day April, 1939 at Oklahoma City. A big day for the rural area schools. Ray and a car load of Seniors from Dill City, picked me up at my home in Cordell. From Cordell we drove to Clinton, then East on 66 to Oklahoma City.

While there Ray purchased our wedding and engagement rings, with money he had saved driving a school bus. On the trip returning home we nearly ran out of gas. Between the six of us we scrounged up 11¢ to pay for one gallon of gas.

Ray and I were married Mary 19, 1939, at the age of eighteen. In June my young husband hitch hiked on 66 to Oklahoma City to look for work. He came home driving a 1939 Oldsmobile car. He was to deliver it in Santa Monica, California.

~~Laughingly we called this our honeymoon trip!~~ My thoughtful Mother packed us a care package, containing peanut butter sandwiches, and other goodies she had made. It was a good thing she did, as we only had about twenty five dollars to buy gas and oil for the car.

We got on Route 66 at Sayre and stayed on it to California. I was driving one night at 80 miles an hour, Ray was sleeping and I was trying to keep up with the tail lights of the car ahead of me. That road through New Mexico and West through Arizona was narrow, long, dark, and very lonesome way out there! When he woke up he made me slow down.

We kept seeing signs advertising a free zoo of desert animals. Naturally we stopped to see them. After entering, a cunningly devised path led you by the animals to the exit, waiting was a big sign and box (donations expected to feed the animals).

I was fascinated by the Indian Adobe homes, they have now been replaced with trailers. We had never seen as many Indians in one place, as there were in Flagstaff, Arizona. They were having some kind of celebration. The car needed oil and we were out of money, we stopped at a ranch and the lady gave us some used oil from a barrel, then we were on the road again.

We delivered the car, received \$25 deposit, went to Delano, California. Ray went to work, rented an apartment, and bought a 1929 Model A Ford.

In November of 1939 he had an attack of Appendicitis, requiring surgery. When he was strong enough to drive that Ford, we headed home to Cordell, via Route 66.

Rest areas were few and far between. I remember one stop we made, the owner shook his fist at us because we did not buy gas.

Ray retired from Oklahoma City Fire Department in 1972, after 25 years of service. We moved to our 180 Acres near Maramec, called the "Rocking N." In May we will have been married 52 years. Our honeymoon souvenir of "Getting our Kicks on Route 66" is our 51 year old daughter, who lives in Turlock, California.

Among sad memories are being in a car accident near Klein's Corner, New Mexico, with my family, when I was 16. Fortunately no one was seriously injured. Several years ago one of my uncles was killed on 66, south of Sayre.

Another memory, I can shut my eyes, and see a big truck with "This Truck has Coffee Brakes," written in the dust on back of the truck.

We have made several trips on Route 66 since our honeymoon. The Indians still sell their craft at rest stops. The highway is now wide, still long, and heavy with traffic, especially trucks. Portions of old 66 can still be seen in a few places.

Memories are made of this, Route 66 was a happy way for us, especially when it lead us home.

Geraldine Montgomery Nelson, Born 1/30/21 (Age 70)
..... WINNER & MRS ROUTE 66 OF 1991

66

Souvenir Shop

OKLAHOMA ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION
6434 NW 39th Expressway, Suite D
In Bethany, on Historic Route 66
East of the First National Bank of Bethany

"THESE WERE MY KICKS ON ROUTE 66"

In the summer of 1939, Jack Pitcock, Pud Wilson, and myself decided we would visit some of Jack's relatives in Pomona, California, and see a bit of the country. Normally, such a trip would not be much of an undertaking, but those were hard times and we were all nearly broke. Then, too, our only means of transportation was a 1923 Model-T Ford with bad tires and no top.



MATHEW SECRIST

What to do? Well, we were resourceful men in our early twenties, and we managed to find a way. Jack, now a retired Tulsa salesman, set up a flea market in his front yard. Pud Wilson, now deceased, but a heck of a baseball catcher at the time, hustled a bet with a blowhard that he could go three for four in a baseball game, as I recall, and won. Me, I gave up my musical career forever and sold my trumpet for \$25. Now we were in business. We chipped in and bought new tires for my Model-T. We built a wooden top on her to keep off the sun, and the following Monday morning found us gone from Tulsa, out on Route 66, headin' West.

We must have been a motley sight for people in nicer cars would toss us food now and then and make inquiries about our destination. Mostly we ate staples like cheese and crackers and slept along the highway. The first night was rainy, however, so we spent a little of our capital and got a motel room near the Oklahoma-Texas border.

The second day we made good time and slept near Tucumcari, New Mexico. On the third day, we had a diversion in the form of a large family that was broke down beside the highway. The family head was a friendly, needy looking sort who needed a new water pump, and we agreed to give him a ride to Gallup. If his 18-year old daughter hadn't ridden along with us, I'm not so sure we would have brought him back, much less helped him install his new water pump. She was a brown-eyed beauty who made my own pump race each time we spoke that afternoon.

On the fourth day, we began climbing into the mountains of Arizona, and I remember having to back up one hill in reverse gear to make the grade. That night we slept near Williams, Arizona, and the night following, Needles, California. We were getting close.

The next day we were on the desert--hot sun, scrub grass, Joshua trees, and cactus--but we couldn't hurry for fear of boiling over. Nice and easy was the ticket,

however, right into Barstow, California. We had crossed most of the desert in fine shape but felt like french fried Okies.

The morning of the seventh day we began the last leg of our journey and around noon cruised into Pomona. Jack's relatives had a houseful, with more visitors from Kansas, but were awfully glad to see us and honored us with a trip to Santa Monica Beach. It was my first sight of the endless ocean and the crashing breakers, and a swim sure felt good after 1500 miles on the road.

A footnote: I stopped off in Gallup, New Mexico, on my way home for a visit with that brown-eyed beauty. The Kansas visitors gave me a ride back that far after I sold the Model-T for \$12. I had already said goodbye to Jack and Pud at the L. A. bus station. Her name was Charlene, and I saw her for two nights in Gallup until my money began dwindling and I had to head to Tulsa. We exchanged several letters over time, but I never saw her again and when I married my wife, Mazie, in 1943, she was only another fond memory from that summer adventure on Route 66.

..... Mathew (Zeke) Secrist, Born 6/6/17 (Age 74)
..... WINNER & MR ROUTE 66 OF 1991

More fingers have walked through the Southwestern Bell Yellow Pages than any other directory. In fact, when you stroll through some imitator, you may be missing out on many of the businesses you'll only find in the original. So if you're still confused about directories, look for the Bell.

Southwestern Bell
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"Where people get what they want"

MEMBERSHIP

All 1990 members who have not renewed their memberships are encouraged to do so this month as all memberships, not current, will be deleted from the list by the end of August, 1991.

All members become eligible to serve on the board, allowed (1) vote per membership, and receive a newsletter which is published quarterly.

Your membership is most important. Don't procrastinate! Renew your membership today! Please remember that the association, through your membership can provide coordinated programs supporting the goals of the organization: To promote, preserve and restore ROUTE 66.

STATE FAIR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

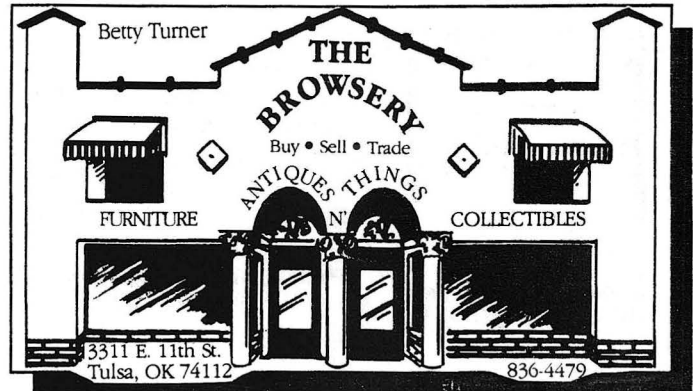
The association needs volunteers to help in the booth during the State Fair of Oklahoma, Sept 13 - 29. If you have some time to help please call Nancy Lyon at the Oklahoma Route 66 Office in Bethany. (405-495-RT66)

TREASURED STORIES OF ROUTE 66

Nancy Lyon has finished compiling the Mr. and Mrs. contest essays. Her efforts have resulted in a wonderful near 100 page book that will be available very soon at a minimal cost. Get your copy at the annual meeting or call the office to reserve a copy to be mailed to you.

■ DAVENPORT ■ REPORTS

Cletus Simpson went to Frontier City the Fourth of July where she got a front row seat for the special festivities with Ben and Butch McCain and Michael Martin Murphy who sings the Route 66 song. Cletus was there to present Michael Martin Murphy with a Route 66 t-shirt from the Lincoln County Route 66 Association. The t-shirt was donated by Crafts-By-Me at Davenport.



Crosswinds Ranch
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(405) 542-6881

Charlie or Margie Moxley

FROM THE OFFICE

The 2nd Annual Cruise/Celebration is now over! On behalf of the Board, I would like to "thank" all volunteers who gave so willingly of their time and energy to help make it happen. I especially want to thank Mildred Farmer and Judith Bodnar for the million details they attended to in helping with the cruise. Their efforts were genuinely appreciated.

There also were a number of people who stepped forward at "*just the right time*" -- pitched in, and helped out. Many of you--I did not get your names, but please know that you were greatly appreciated! Without your support, it would have been difficult to have gotten everything done. Thank you one and all!

As always, we need more volunteers to work in the office. Please contact me at (405) 495-7866, if you would like to help out.

-Nancy Lyon, Executive Director-

LAKE OVERHOLSER ON ROUTE 66 VOLKSWALK AND VOLKSBIKE '91

On Saturday, September 7, Wandergrups of Oklahoma City and others will sponsor a 12K sanctioned volkswalk and 26 K sanctioned volksbike at Lake Overholser.

The term Volkspport literally means a sport of the people. Everyone wins! Anyone who registers and completes the required distance is declared a winner and receives an award. These organized events are designed to appeal to people of all ages. It is not a contest of speed or endurance.

The Overholser event is sanctioned by the American Volkspport Association (AVA), a member of the International Federation of Popular Sports (IVV).

The Volkswalk and Volksbike will start between 7 a.m. and 12 noon. Walkers and bikers must be off the course by 3 p.m. They will carry a registration/start card. Cards will be marked at start, control points and finish line.

You may participate free with no award given but everyone must register.

For additional information, call Al or Norma Heberlein (405) 843-5731.

Bring a picnic and spend the day at beautiful Lake Overholser on the west side of Oklahoma City.

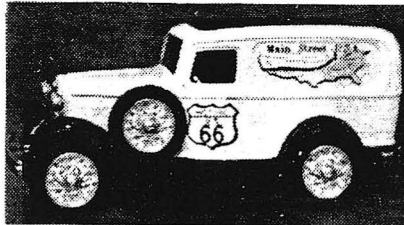


Mall & Flea Market

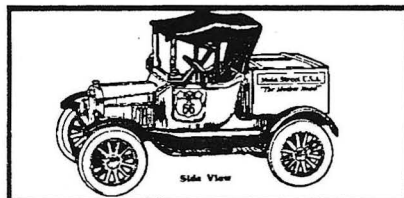
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1932 Ford Delivery Van



1918 Ford Model T Runabout

For information call or write:

Route 66 Mall & Flea Market

1660 N. Lynn Riggs, Claremore, OK 74017 (918) 341-4100

CORVETTE CRUISE STOPS IN DAVENPORT

On their way from Santa Monica, California to Chicago, Illinois, some of the Corvette Caravan Cruisers stopped in Davenport. The cruise was part of an ongoing effort to attract attention to the "Historic Highway" and help secure federal funds for restoration on Route 66.

Jim and Jo Norman and Billy and Melody Wilson of Davenport escorted cruisers into Davenport where they were welcomed at North Park. Ron Burden represented the Davenport Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Burden presented Lucy A. Badenhop of Citrus Heights, California a "Key to the City" and a trophy from the Lincoln County Route 66 Association. Badenhop was the cruise coordinator.

The caravan left California on June 15 and was scheduled to arrive in Chicago on June 23.



Picture: Courtesy of "New Era"

OKLAHOMA ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION

6434 NW 39th Expressway, Suite D
Bethany, OK 73008-2869
(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.



6434 NW 39th Expressway, Suite D
Bethany, OK 73008-2869

*Cruisin Oklahomas
heritage and future.*

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Editor: JUDY ALSIP
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Production Assistant: MILDRED FARMER
Advertising Director: NANCY LYON

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