

Oklahoma Route 66 Association, Inc.

223 E. 3rd., Chandler, Oklahoma 74834
(405)258-0008

Volume 7, No. 1 NEWSLETTER April 95



President's Corner by Ron Burden

Well, here we go again! Our new President elected at the annual meeting in November, had to decline due to health and economic reasons. We are continuing on with the activities of the Association the best we can under the circumstances. We did make changes in our By-laws to establish a second vice president position, with one vice president for the Western half of the state and one for the Eastern half of the state. Anyone wishing to help, please contact us!

The office has moved to a NEW LOCATION in Chandler. The new address is 223 E. 3rd Street (Route 66 and Cleveland). The building we were renting was sold and our lease was lost. Our office now is smaller but we should be able to function more efficiently from this location. Stop by and visit when cruising Route 66.

Speaking of "CRUISING ROUTE 66", we plan to have our first cruise on the first weekend in June (June 2-3). We will start in Sapulpa kicking off their "Annual Route 66 Blowout". Activities will begin Friday evening, June 2nd, with early registration and pre-party. We will start our cruise Saturday morning, June 3rd, from downtown Sapulpa cruising east on Route 66 to Quapaw then back to Miami for a fun closing Saturday evening. The distance is shorter, therefore the cruisers should have more time to enjoy that section of Route 66, the communities, and people along the way.

WE HAVE AN URGENT PLEA to all of our Route 66 members. We are drastically short of funding within the Association. All of our funding has come from our membership dues with no outside assistance. This year the dues have been coming in slower than usual causing a severe funding crunch. If we are to continue the work of the Association, we must have a more dependable source of funding but our immediate need is for all our members to **RENEW YOUR ANNUAL DUES**. If you have not renewed, please take this time to do so! The dues are:

\$15.00 - Individual
\$25.00 - Family
\$35.00 - Business
\$50.00 - Supporter
\$100.00 - Benefactor.

PLEASE NOTE THE EXPIRATION DATE of your membership on the **Mailing Label** of this newsletter. If it is passed due, please renew by return mail so the Association can continue the work we have begun. **"WE NEED YOUR HELP!"**

A VIEW FROM THE OFFICE by Bill Blair (Office Support)

Have you seen the Oklahoma State Map, Vacation Guide and T.V. commercials? They are great! The romance of Route 66 is on the covers and on the air. We give a special "THANK YOU" to the Oklahoma Department of Tourism for their support, especially Lisa Austerman for coordinating between the Association and the Great State of Oklahoma. We have all worked hard, together, to promote our "MOTHER ROAD". To receive a copy of the beautiful vacation guide call 1-800-652-6552. It will be mailed to you free of charge. Call or write YOUR Association for a free state map and other goodies. Our current office hours are 10:00 am to

2:00 pm Monday through Friday and we would love to hear from you!

Have you renewed your membership? We are in desperate need of your support. If you have renewed, inquired or are a new member, please be patient. We are trying to gather funds to cover postage (and rent). We know we are late but you will receive your ID cards and inquiries ASAP.

Please note that several months back the Board raised individual memberships from \$15 to \$25. They have reversed their decision. **Individual memberships are still \$15.**

Let's keep cruising our "Route 66" and enjoy our freedoms in this great land we call America. The history of our "Roots" are being discovered and rediscovered as old and new generations explore their past and future. This heritage belongs to all and should not be forgotten!

ROUTE 66 CRUISE BEING PLANNED

The June cruise is now being planned for the first weekend in June (2-3). There will be early registration and a Pre-Party Friday evening, June 2nd. The Activities will be held in Sapulpa in conjunction with their annual **"ROUTE 66 BLOWOUT"**.

The Cruise will start Saturday morning, June 3rd, in downtown Sapulpa and travel along Route 66 through "Green Country" to Quapaw and back to Miami for activities and a Fun Closing Ceremony on Saturday evening. There should be plenty of time to travel the Route and enjoy the communities and sites along the way. The distance has been shortened (approximately 90 miles) at the request of the cruisers to have more time in the communities and to enjoy the day. We hope the communities along Route 66 will have special activities going that day so everyone can benefit from the outing.

Western Oklahoma has not been forgotten. We will be planning another cruise for September which will go west along Route 66 to commemorate the Grand Opening of the Route 66 Museum in Clinton. Watch for further details of both events.

Arizona RT. 66 Fun Run

The Arizona RT. 66 five Post Offices Seligman, Peach Springs, Kingman, Oatman, and Topock will be doing our special cancellations for the RT. 66 Fun Run Event again this year. Each office will feature its own cancellation for individual requests and will sell a map (size 11 x 17) that contains a picture of the Old RT. 66 and stamps with the five special cancellations and an additional information sheet telling the history of each town as we know it. The maps will cost \$3.00 each and can be purchased the day of the event or by mail order. For mail order send the address the map should be mailed to along with check or money order to: Postmaster, Seligman, AZ 86337-9998.

The RT. 66 Fun Run event begins on April 28th and ends on April 30th so the cancellations may be obtained up to 30 days after the event. The stamps are then destroyed so they are collectable so hurry and order today.

The Fun Run is a car rally for RT. 66 fans that travels the longest remaining stretch of RT. 66 left in the Country-160 miles.

If you need more information please feel free to call Vicki at the Seligman Post Office (602) 422-3468 and beginning March 19 the area code changes to (520) 422-3468.



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Route 66 Exhibition In Museum Of The Twentieth Century In Hoorn, Netherlands

From April 7th until July 2nd the Dutch Museum of the Twentieth Century in Hoorn, Netherlands, will have an exhibition on "**Route 66 - The Mother Road**". This well known American highway, from Chicago to L.A., is of great interest to many, both inside and outside the USA. Many important events from the American history were situated on or along Route 66: the Okie migration during the Great Depression, the mobilization and preparation for the war in the Pacific and post war mass car tourism are some examples. Main focus of the exhibition is Route 66 during the thirties and early forties. It is the period during which John Steinbeck Dubbed Route 66 "The Mother Road" in his novel "Grapes of Wrath". Black and white pictures give the visitor a vivid impression of the migration from the Midwest to California, the promised land.

No road in the world is so popular as is Route 66. It became a household name thanks to John Steinbeck's novel "Grapes of Wrath" and thanks to the song "Get your kicks on Route 66" as performed by, among many others, the Rolling Stones. Thousands for the USA, Europe and Japan are drawn to it. Many of them indeed visit Route 66. Though officially nonexistent since 1985, 90% of the original roadbed is still in it's place. Much of it is accessible, so one can drive from Chicago to L.A. almost completely over Old 66!

In "Grapes of Wrath" John Steinbeck dubs Route 66 "The Mother Road" because of its important role during the Great Depression. In the Midwest the crisis was worsened by the draught and dustbowls. Thousands of tenant farmers and sharecroppers were forced from their farms. Via Route 66 they migrated to California, drawn by posters and advertisements full of promises of work and new opportunities. By order of the federal government thousands of pictures were made during the Great Depression. Some well known photographers were sent to take pictures of rural America and its people. In the early forties their mission changed: war preparation became the new issue, the depression was over and done with.

This large photo collection became known as the FSA/OWI Collection (FSA is Farm State Agency, a federal relief organization and OWI stand for Office of War Information). More than 180,000 images are kept in the Library of Congress in Washington D.C. Through many publications some of them became world famous.

The Museum of the Twentieth Century made a selection from the FSA/OWI Collection. The exhibition shows photographs on which you can see under what circumstances the Okies lived and left, the trouble they met while on the road, the camps they lived in and their Model "T" Fords.

These pictures are the main focus on the exhibition, which furthermore shows Route 66 souvenirs and memorabilia, tourism on Route 66 and information on the Route 66 Associations. Phillips 66 gasoline is also one of the topics. Of course, one of the theories about its name says that it is named after the father of all highways.

Route 66's fame led to the establishing of the Dutch Route 66 Association. The first and largest of such organizations outside the USA. The exhibition is a co-production in which the Museum

of the Twentieth Century and the Dutch Route 66 Association both participate. Dutch travel agency Jan Doets America Tours is the main sponsor.

The exhibition "Route 66 - The Mother Road" opens on April 7th and continues until July 2nd. You will find the Museum of the Twentieth Century in Hoorn in the Netherlands (Address: Bierkade 4 & 4a, telephone area 2290 - extension 14001). Opening hours are Tuesdays through Sundays from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

For more information: Museum of the Twentieth Century, Hans Stuijbergen, phone: Netherlands, area 2290, extension 14001 (FAX 42089) or Dutch Route 66 Association, Harry van Lunteren, phone: Netherlands, area 2290, extension 70002 (FAX 16653).

Update On The Oklahoma Route 66 Museum

The goal of the Oklahoma Historical Society and all Route 66 supporters is to have an Oklahoma State Route 66 Museum. Although the museum would be located in one place, there would be many other special projects, that would have a connection to Route 66. Plans are for a 10,000 square foot facility. The former Western Trails Museum in Clinton would be converted, remodeled, and expanded to be the showcase for OUR Route 66.

Bids are to be opened on Thursday February 9, 1995, with construction to begin as soon as the money is available. The bulk of the money was to come from the ISTEAF funds need to be raised. A lot of grant programs have the proviso or conditional stipulation that a certain amount of money must be contributed.

The Federal ISTEAF grant was \$535,000, the Historical Society Budget gave \$105,000 and Phillips Petroleum Company has agreed to \$98,000 in grant money. This money is available to use; provided that \$200,000 is collected as matching funds.

Plans for the museum include: History of Oklahoma transportation, history of Route 66, satellite exhibits, television shows, wall murals, school programs, special events, historical markers, and radio markers.

Eleven communities are signed up for satellite exhibits. The eleven are: Miami, Claremore, Tulsa, Sapulpa, Chandler, Arcadia, Edmond, Oklahoma City, El Reno, Elk City, and Sayre. Each town has its own part of the Route 66 story.

Jake Lewis and Martin Smith are co-chairmen of the museum drive. Both men are asking for help from all of us, who are interested in Route 66. Any contributions will be gratefully accepted. Your donations are tax deductible. A donor recognition plan has been set up. It is based on the concept that everyone likes to be given permanent credit for their financial gift.

\$1.00 to \$250.00--Full name in the contributors book to be on display inside the museum. \$251 to \$500.00--Full name on attractive large plaque inside the museum. \$501.00 to \$1,000.00--Name etched in glass blocks forming entryway. \$1,000 or more--Name etched in ceramic tile on museum floor. \$6,000.00 to \$25,000.00--Exhibit space inside museum. State historical society designers will work with donors to create exhibit.

Drive committee persons are David Berrong, Brad Aneshansley, L.C. Scott, Dr. Walter S. Mason, Jr., Harold Linderer, Don Randolph, Skip Heard, and Dee Ann Ray.

Donations may be made in honor of any person, living or deceased. Financial gifts may also be made in the name of the

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donor. You can send your money to the City of Clinton Route 66 Fund, 1928 W. Gary Blvd., Clinton, OK 73601 or The City of Clinton Route 66 Fund, c/o The Clinton Chamber of Commerce, 400 Gary Blvd., Clinton, OK 73601. If you have any questions contact Jake Lewis at Jake Lewis Insurance Agency, 1928 W. Gary Blvd., Clinton, OK 405-323-4774 or Martin Smith at 405-323-2929.



Come Ride the Mother Road Be Part of a HISTORY MAKING EVENT

The Mother Road Ride/Rally - in it's inaugural run - will be your chance to be a part of an unprecedented **all brands, all motorcycle event.**

For the first time, thousands of motorcycles will be traversing the "Mother Road" of the United States ...**Historic Route 66** and best of all, **you don't have to ride the whole 2,000+ miles.**

The first 2,500 registrants receive: Ride/rally Pin, T-Shirt, coffee cup and full routing, sightseeing information. You'll be able to travel at your own pace. A special certificate will be presented to registered riders completing the entire route.

You can start your Mother Road Ride/Rally from any of the on-route cities, ride towards Chicago or towards Los Angeles. Stop where ever you like for as long as you like. The entire ride is a low key, self-directed affair and you can set your own pace.

You'll have a complete listing of motels (both budget and chain) as well as campsites and even B&B's. Set your own "agenda" and budget, yet have the fun and safety of other riders.

You won't be at the mercy of a hard riding, freeway blasting pace that doesn't leave time for smelling the flowers.

For more information contact:

People Centered Programs

PO Box 610171
Dallas, TX 75261
Voice: 817-488-4940
Fax: 817-488-4945
or Call: 1-800-994-8251

Please mention that you heard about this from YOUR OKLAHOMA ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION!

UPCOMING ROUTE 66 ACTIVITIES

Many things of interest will be happening along Route 66 this summer. The **Route 66 CRUISE/POKER RUN** will be **June 3rd** starting in **Sapulpa** with closing activities in **Miami**. This will be a Route 66 weekend with many communities offering special events

for all to enjoy. Come on out and **CRUISE** any part of Route 66 on June 3rd whether you participate in the poker run or not.

We have received notice the **Route 66 Association of France will be in the U.S. from April 12th to June 30th.** They will be participating in the "**Route 66 Bicycle Tour 1995**". The tour will start in San Bernardino on April 16th and conclude in Chicago on June 30th. **They will be in Oklahoma around the 22nd to the 28th of May.** Come out and welcome our friends from France and show them the hospitality we are known for worldwide!

We will have another visitor **cruising the full length of Route 66.** **Betsy Miller, a writer for "Country Living" magazine** will start in Chicago and travel to Santa Monica beginning in May. **Betsy will be in Oklahoma from June 6th to June 12th.** She will enter Oklahoma from Kansas and has many stops planned in the time she will be with us. I hope many of you will meet Betsy and assist her as she travels across our state documenting the people, sites and eating places along Route 66. I am sure many of you are familiar with Country Living Magazine. It is an outstanding publication and Betsy Miller is a very interesting lady. Watch for her and welcome her to Oklahoma. We will look forward to her articles on Route 66 that will appear later this summer.

ROUTE 66 A LIVING HISTORY WORKSHOP

MAY 26-29, 1995
CANYON CAMP - HINTON, OKLAHOMA

AN INNOVATIVE SEMINAR DEVELOPED BY
WRITER & ROUTE 66 ADVOCATE JIM ROSS
AND WRITING INSTRUCTOR / POET PAUL MYERS

LECTURES * SLIDE SHOWS * ROUTE 66 CRUISE
CREATIVE WRITING * TRAVEL STORIES * FUN

\$300 PER PERSON
INCLUDES LODGING, ALL MEALS, WORKSHOP
MATERIALS, AND COMMEMORATIVES
LIMITED TO 20 PARTICIPANTS

FOR DETAILS, WRITE TO
CREATIVE PRESENTATIONS
3710 N. DIVIS AVENUE
BETHANY, OK 73008



"Get Your Kicks On Route 66" - Words and music by Bobby Troup - 1946

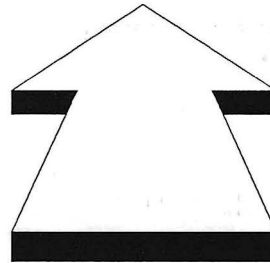
SPECIAL THANKS to Susie Brown and Brian Teters for their help on this newsletter!



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PLEASE CHECK YOUR EXPERATION DATE!



Please JOIN OR RENEW now... We need your valued support to continue our efforts in promoting "Route 66".

NEW MEMBER: _____ RENEWAL: _____ DATE: _____

BUSINESS NAME: _____

NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____

BUSINESS PHONE: _____

\$15.00 ___ Individual \$25.00 ___ Family \$35.00 ___ Business

\$50.00 ___ Supporter \$100.00 Benefactor

