## Oklahoma Route 66 Association, Inc.



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

Volume 7, No. 2 NEWSLETTER May 95

#### President's Corner by Ron Burden

At 9:02 AM, Wednesday April 19th; many, if not all our lives were touched by the horrible bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City. We watched and waited hoping for information that many survivors would be found; but it was not to be. Our hearts go out to the families who lost loved ones! Our Association was touched by this terrible disaster when it was learned Susan Ferrell, daughter of Don and Sally Ferrell, lost her life in the building. Sally Ferrell is the Chairman of the Preservation Committee for our Route 66 Association. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Don and Sally!

We express our thanks and gratitude to all those who helped in the rescue efforts. Oklahoma has shown again the hospitality and friendly attitudes of our people, even during a time when you would like to strike back at those who would do such a cowardly, horrible thing to our fellow Oklahoman's. If there was one good thing that came from this deed, it has drawn us all closer together as Oklahoman's and as American's.

Saturday, June 3rd, is Route 66 day in Oklahoma. Come out and cruise the "Mother Road" and join in the fun and activities of the day. Our 6th annual "Cruise and Poker Run" will travel Route 66 from Sapulpa to Quapaw then close in Miami at the Historic Coleman Theater. Come out Friday evening, June 2nd, for pre-registration and many fun activities in conjunction with Sapulpa's Annual "Route 66 Blowout". There will be arts & crafts, a kids carnival, moonlight madness sales, car show, and special restaurant discounts. The Saturday evening closing in Miami will be a fun time with many things for cruisers to do. It is rumored we may take an escorted tour to see the world famous "Spook Lights".

An entry blank for the cruise and motel information is included in this issue. Come out June 2nd and 3rd and cruise "The Mother Road".

#### CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL ROUTE 66ASSOCIATION

April 21, 1995

Dear Ron:

The recent tragedy in Oklahoma City has impacted our human sensibilities and civilized instincts. As members of one of the Historic Route 66 organizations, we are especially conscious of the great City of Oklahoma City, both because it is specifically mentioned in Bobby Troup's wonderful lyrics and because it is actually on old Route 66.

With this writing we express our outrage at the event, as well as our heartfelt sympathy for those killed, injured or otherwise impacted by this catastrophe. Each in our own way, many of us will do what we can to support the recovery in either act or thought. God bless you all. Sincerely,

Don Fritz

#### A TIME FOR HEALING

The tragedy at the Federal Building in Oklahoma City, has grieved law-abiding citizens around the World. It has touched the Bert Bourne Family. Sally Bourne Ferrell and Don Ferrell lost their daughter, Susan Jane Ferrell, in the worst act of terrorism in the history of the United States.

In earlier days, the Bert Bourne Family home was located about a half mile southeast of the Arcadia Round Barn. It was the Bourne Family who donated the land that today enhances the Arcadia Community with two historical markers designating the 1832 campsite of Washington Irving.

Today, Sally and Don Ferrell continue their loyal support to The Arcadia Historical Society.

During our "Time of Healing", the Arcadia Historical and Preservation Society invite "those who care" to the Arcadia Round Barn, Tuesday, May 16, 1995, at one o'clock in the afternoon. At this time, a Dogwood Tree will be planted as a memorial to Susan Ferrell, Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don

Ferrell of Chandler, Oklahoma.
Sincerely.
Eula Teuscher
President
Arcadia Historical and Preservation Society



#### Dear Fellow Route 66 Advocate

A couple of situations have developed recently that we all need to be aware of and, if possible, respond to. The first has to do with a individual in Holland who apparently has obtained, or claims to have obtained, trademark rights in Europe (and possibly Japan) to the Route 66 shield and/or the words Route 66. As a result, some merchants and enthusiasts there have ceased involvement with Route 66 to avoid paving this person a commission for the privilege. He is presently suing Toni Weel, the European operator of Quatrill USA Tours, for organizing a U.S. tour without meeting his demand to be paid a royalty. It is unclear how a foreign government can legally grant exclusive rights to something not owned by their country, especially when it affects commerce with the country of its origin, and where it has been declared public domain. A legal opinion from a trademark attorney or the U.S. Trademark Office might be able to settle it. In the meantime, Toni would appreciate receiving letters to support her position, prior to her May 10th court date. Please send them to: Quatrill USA Tours, de Dizk 21, 9797 PG Thesinge, The Netherlands. To contact the individual claiming ownership to our shield, write to Robert Groeneveld, Licensee Route 66 Co., Druivestraat #1, 4816 KB, Breda, The Netherlands.

The second concern involves a one mile stretch of historic highway and its two bridges at Wellston, Oklahoma, on SH66B westbound from town. ODOT has declared the bridges unsafe and non-repairable, and is proposing to re-route 66B in order to remove that stretch of road from the state highway system and return it to Lincoln County. Wellston residents are strongly opposing the move (see attached article). Unfortunately, the alternative is for ODOT to retain the segment in question and replace the bridges. Either way, we lose, as the county will likely close the road and destroy the bridges in the event the highway is re-routed. The question in our minds should be whether the bridges are, in fact, non-repairable, or is this simply the premise ODOT has established to expediate solving the problem. Their rationale for the re-routing is that it's cheaper than replacing the two spans. Route 66 cannot afford to lose any more historic bridges, so, if you can help, or have suggestions, please contact the Oklahoma Association. You can show support or voice your opinion by writing to Veldo Goins, Bridge Engineer, Bridge Division, ODOT, 200 N.E. 21st St., Oklahoma City, OK 73105. You can write to the ODOT Commission (who actually has approval authority for all projects) at the same street address.

In closing, I must report with great sadness that Sally Ferrell of the Lincoln County Historic Preservation Society tragically lost her daughter in the Oklahoma City bombing. A true friend of the Mother Road, Sally recently was the driving force behind the saving and subsequent restoration of the Meramec Caverns barn near Chandler. Please take a moment to express your love and support for one of our own with a card to Sally and family at: 716 S. Burnett St., Chandler, OK 74834.

Most Sincerely.

Jim Ross

#### Texola A.K.A. Texokla. Texoma

The 100th Meridian was surveyed eight times, and the disputes affected Texola more than any town along the Texas-Oklahoma border. Many early pioneer settlers living in Texola lived in Indian Territory, Greer County, Texas, Oklahoma Territory, Oklahoma, and Beckham County, Oklahoma without moving.

Even the name of the town was the center of controversy. Choctaw Townsite and Improvement County. TEXOLA's original plat of 40 in section 31 was owned by Louis B. Sims. TEXOKLA was dedicated in November,

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1901. TEXOMA was dedicated in February, 1902. Here was a town with two names! This was confusing for everyone especially the postal service. Someone made the suggestion that to combine the two names would help end their problems.

After much discussion and an election, the name was changed to TEXOLA.

The marker for the 'EMPIRE OF GREER', or old Greer County was on the 100th Meridian where it crossed Route 66 near TEXOLA. It is now in the 100th Meridian Museum in Erick.

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#### A Letter To The Members

The Oklahoma Route 66 Association, a non-profit organization is helping to promote tourism and economic redevelopment along historic Route 66, the Will Rogers Highway. Also, the association is actively seeking to restore, repair, create, and develop potential tourist sites and historic landmarks.

A great number of communities have preservation projects and are developing plans to bring to the public's attention the importance of taking a trip on Route 66.

Association membership dues can go only so far to support these activities, but they have been the lifeblood to get us where we are. In return for your dues and/or contributions, we will keep you informed on what is going on Route 66, invite you to participate in all of the fun events, and thank you gratefully for your generosity. we especially need in-kind contributions for rebuilding historic sites, office equipment, printing services, Route 66 stories or news, and of course, money. If you can help we'd really like to hear from you. Call 1-405-258-0008, Monday through Friday 10 am to 2 pm, or drop us a line at 223 E. 3rd, Chandler, Oklahoma 74834. Sincerely yours,

Oklahoma Route 66 Association Board of Directors and Board of Trustees

#### Residents of Wellston Stand Up for Route 66 By Carla Hinton, Staff Writer The Daily Oklahoman/Oklahoma City Times (This article taken from the April 17, 1995 issue)

Talk of forming a human roadblock rather sums up how many residents of this town feel about the possibility of rerouting a portion of the original Route 66, just west of the city limits.

Two bridges on the targeted 1.2 mile of roadway are beyond repair and it would cost less money to reroute the road rather than rebuild the structures, said Keith Mitchell, Oklahoma Department of Transportation spokesman.

Most Wellston residents aren't concerned about money, but rather the

loss of a way to town that they've had for more than 60 years.

"The consensus is just fix the bridges and leave historic Route 66 where it is," resident Tim Quick said.

Mayor David Evans said, "Why should a community of taxpayers suffer because they (transportation department) think they can do something cheaper, but adversely affects us?"

Wellston residents were told about the rerouting proposal at a public hearing called by the transportation department last week.

Evans said the meeting drew about 125 people, more than ever assembled in a public meeting before in the town of 910 residents.

"There's a considerable amount of opposition to this, an unprecedented amount," Evans said.

Transportation department spokesman Mitchell said it is estimated to cost \$1.7 million to rebuild the age-worn bridges on Route 66-B.

A plan of action has not yet been finalized, but the department would like to save money and re-route Route 66-B to run into Wellston's Hickory Street, Mitchell said.

Transportation officials estimate it will cost \$660,000 to upgrade this stretch to highway standards, Mitchell said.

Route 66-B, which includes the bridges, would be turned over the jurisdiction of Lincoln County, Mitchell said.

But he predicted a portion of the roadway would eventually be closed because the bridge over Captain's Creek would need to be removed because of its unsafe condition.

Meanwhile, resident Quick said residents who live along Hickory Street are concerned about a highway being "in their front yards."

He said the residential area has drainage problems now and residents worry the proposed upgrading will make matters worse.

Mayor Evans said the rerouting proposal will affect the town economically by limiting one of three ways into town.

#### **OKLAHOMA ROUTE 66 MUSEUM**

TO: Oklahoma Route 66 enthusiast

#### FROM: Sandra S. Stratton, Route 66 Project Director

It is time to clean your closets, garage, attic, and (if you're like some of the people I know) cars. There are some very special items lurking in dark corners which we need. The following is a list of items which you might own and would be willing to donate to the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum in Clinton.

A family photograph taken along Route 66, State commemorative plates (Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Texas, Arizona, California), curio items related to the eight states (ideas; ashtrays, pillows, toothpick holders, salt & pepper shakers, cigarette lighters, coffee mugs, glasses, caps, T-shirts, dolls, etc). Or how about St. Louis Arch, Chicago World's Fair, Lincoln memorabilia, Painted Desert, Meramec Caverns, Snake Pits, and jack rabbits.

Advertising/Promotional items related to Route 66 businesses (gasoline, oil, diners, drive-ins, soda, motels - this is a good chance to get rid of the items you have appropriated from large motel chains).

Trombones, clarinets, trumpets, saxophones (Pre 1942), 60's record albums (covers).

All your "hippie" accessories.

Postcards, gas cans, auto tools, and accessories, license plates, gasoline signs, motel signs.

Road maps 1926 - 1985, travel guides, camping equipment 1920 - 1960, Bus tickets, and menus.

#### **WESTERN OKLAHOMA CRUISE BEING PLANNED**

Plans are now being formulated for another **Western Oklahoma Cruise** to be held in Mid-September. The activities will be in conjunction with the opening of the **Route 66 Museum in Clinton**.

Preliminary plans discussed include starting in Arcadia at the Round Barn,

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then cruise west along Route 66 to Clinton. We may cruise in Rally formation as last year. This seemed to work well and everyone seemed to enjoy the more leisurely cruise across Frontier and Great Plains Country.

The communities of Western Oklahoma are great places to visit with much history and nostalgia that can be found nowhere else. The people are warm and friendly, and always ready to welcome visitors to that part of our Great State.

Plan now to come out and join the Route 66 Association Cruise Western Oklahoma in September. We will celebrate the opening of the Route 66 Museum in Clinton and remember and enjoy the mystique of "The Mother Road", Route 66. Watch for more information coming soon!

#### **NEW BOBBY TROUP CD "THE FEELING OF JAZZ"**

The name **Bobby Troup** has almost become synonymous with that of his most famous composition, "**Route 66**", but he has been much more than a one hit wonder. **Remember Daddy, Snootie Little Cutie, Baby, Baby, All All The Time, The Three Bears, Lonely Girl, Julie is Her Name** and **Girl Talk** to mention but a few. Twelve of the Twenty-one selections on his new CD, "**The Feeling of Jazz**", were either written or co-composed by him.

Bobby has excelled at many things in his life: musician, singer, combo leader, motion picture and television actor, producer as well as an outstanding composer/lyricist. From July '56 through December '58 he was moderator of the Emmy award winning television series, <u>Stars of Jazz</u>, which not only showcased the giants of the music, but also introduced many new vocal and instrumental talents as well.

As a combo leader, his musical groups have mostly been quartets consisting of his piano with vocals, guitar, bass and drums. One thing for sure, Bobby Troup has always surrounded himself with the best musicians available especially the great jazz guitarists such as Al Viola, Howard Roberts, Herb Ellis, Joe Pass, Bucky Pizarrelli and John Collins. Many of whom appear on this new release. The performances here span a twelve year period in Bobby's career (1955-1967). Alternate tracks are 'live' and are being issued for the first time.

This is a very special disc because it embraces the true feelings of jazz throughout. Most importantly though, the contents showcase the unique and ultra-sophisticated vocal sounds of one of America's best singers/songwriters.

You may purchase the CD, 'The Feeling Of Jazz', directly from Star Line Productions, PO Box 1571, Glendale, CA 91209 for \$15.00 including postage.





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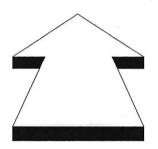




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#### PLEASE CHECK YOUR EXPIRATION DATE!

May, 1995





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