

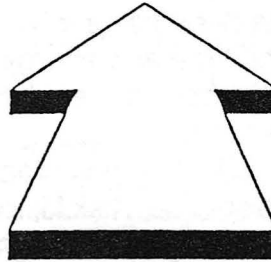


Oklahoma Route 66 Association
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 (405)258-0008

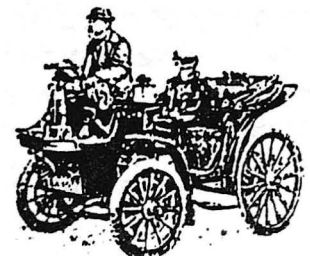
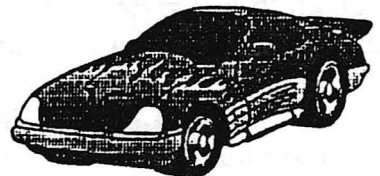
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PLEASE CHECK YOUR EXPIRATION DATE!

MARCH 1996



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



Oklahoma Route 66 Association, Inc.

223 E. 3rd., Chandler, Oklahoma 74834
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Volume 8, No. 1 NEWSLETTER March 1996

President's Corner By Ron Burden

For those of you who were unable to attend our annual meeting, I would like to announce our new officers for 1996. Our treasurer will be Jackie Kreeger from Miami, our Secretary will be Kathy Anderson from Edmond, our Eastern Vice-President will be Don Gray from Vinita, our Western Vice-President is Carol Duncan from Clinton and our new President is Joe Kisicki from Edmond. This is an excellent corps of officers with many fresh ideas and the time and energy to make our association a stronger, more viable force in the Route. 66 movement.

This will be my last article in the president's corner. In the next newsletter, Joe Kisicki, our new president, will be contributing his thoughts and ideas to this important and informative part of our newsletter publication. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you, our loyal Route 66 members, for your help and support given to me over the past three years. It has been my pleasure to serve as president of the Oklahoma Route 66 Association, and during that time many great things have happened along the "Mother Road". Route 66 has become one of if not the most sought after tourism attraction to foreign tourists. All of the eight state Associations are working closer and participating with each other more now than at any other time. Finally, the Route 66 museum opened this past year in Clinton. This will be an attraction that will bring tourism to our state for many years to come and tells the story of the Rebirth of "The Main Street of America".

I want to say a special Thank You to the other officers of our association who have stuck-in-there through the years to keep things working. I will not name all of them but without the hard work of so many of these interested individuals, I could never have carried on the work of the Association. I know all of them will continue to work with Joe and our cause will continue to

flourish. I plan to continue in any way Joe can use me, but for now, I bid you farewell until we meet again Cruisin' Route 66.

Meet Joe Kisicki, The Oklahoma Association's New President By Kathy Anderson (Newsletter editor, and Secretary)

Joe is the most laid-back go-getter I've ever met. When he was working for the government he had a reputation of putting new organizations together. Now that he's the new president, I just know that he's going to do his very best to pull together our 400 miles of independent minded individuals and businesses into one formidable group.

Joe's three major goals while he's president of the Association? One, increase communication with our out of state tourists, and with our own Route 66 communities and political leaders. Two, increase membership both individual and business. And three, find some major corporate sponsors. Joe plans on traveling the Route a lot, so don't be surprised if some guy who kind of looks like LBJ comes knocking on your door!!!!

Now, for some background. Joe was born and raised in Omaha, Nebraska. He was cagey about dates, so feel free to make up your own. The first time he came to Oklahoma was in 1958 when the Air Force sent him to Tinker to work with the civil Aeronautics Administration as an air traffic controller. The second time he came to Oklahoma was in 1963, when he enrolled in the FAA's Air Traffic Control School. I guess the Air Force Training he had did not automatically cross over into the civilian world. The third time Joe moved to Oklahoma (do you see a pattern here?) was in 1970 when he returned to the FAA Academy to teach air traffic control and do computer programming for the air traffic control system. Move number four occurred in 1982, after the air traffic controller's strike. Joe was asked by the FAA to start up a large scale training program to handle the flood of new applicants. In 1985, Joe went to Washington, D.C. to head up air traffic controls' computer programming system.. In 1987, while still in Washington, he became the FAA's Director of Technical Training. In 1994, Joe retired. Three guesses to which state he and his wife Peggy moved. So next time you see Joe in his 1966 blue Dodge (he's the original owner, having bought the car in Chicago), congratulate him on getting the hint - Oklahoma is definitely where he belongs!

Oklahoma Route 66 Association, Inc.



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HELP NEEDED TO SAVE LANDMARK OK ROUTE 66 BRIDGE

By **Jim Ross** (author *Oklahoma Route 66: The Cruiser's Companion*, co-author *Here It Is! The Route 66 Map Series*)

All members are urged to join a letter writing campaign aimed at saving the classic steel-truss bridge on the Neosho River at Miami. As part of a road improvement project alongside old 66, the bridge is slated for demolition unless a new owner can be found by July 1996, according to officials at the Oklahoma Department of Transportation.

Opened in 1937, the bridge was the site of a celebration held to open the last paved section of Route 66 in Oklahoma. To date, the city of Miami has made no decision on whether to assume responsibility for the span. If they do not, someone else must, or the bridge will be destroyed. It is therefore vital that all of us write letters in support of saving the bridge.

Letters Should be addressed To:
The Honorable Louis Mathia, Mayor
City of Miami
P.O. Box 309
Miami, OK. 74355

Letters requesting support and action on behalf of the Association should be addressed to:

Robert Erwin
Preservation Oklahoma
P.O. Box 25043
Oklahoma City, OK. 73125

Melvina Heisch
State Historical Preservation Office
2704 Villa Prom
Shepherd Mall
Oklahoma City, OK. 73107

Brian Marlow
Miami Main Street Program
P.O. Box 509
Miami, OK. 74355

All letters should refer to ODOT Project MABRF78B - Ottawa County

Editor's note: During the annual meeting, the OK Route 66 Association unanimously voted to do all it can to save the bridge in Miami. Thanks to letter writing done to this date,

DOT has given supporters till July to find someone willing to "take possession", i.e. assume total responsibility for its maintenance and liabilities. Now it's up to us to persuade either the city of Miami or some group of individuals or businessmen to "take possession." If the Association had the money, it would step in and take control of the bridge, but sadly, it does not. Efforts also need to be made at the state legislative level to stop the attempts to destroy various OK Route 66 Bridges so we don't have to wage all out war every several months. If we allow our bridges and other Route 66 landmarks to be destroyed, there won't be anything left to draw tourists

ASSOCIATION PREPARING NEW PUBLICATION

After listening to suggestions from various Association members and Oklahoma Route 66 Visitors, the Oklahoma Association has decided to put together one, new, tabloid-sized "booklet", covering the entire state. It will include new maps, lists of tourist attractions and Association businesses, and have short articles about Route 66 sights - all on a town by town or county by county basis. It will also give credit to/list the various resource materials on Oklahoma Route 66, since the Association's booklet will not go into the same depth as existing, privately published guides.

This new booklet is a win-win proposition for everyone. It can be readily adapted for each cruise, cutting down on our overhead expenses. Current Association business members can advertise in a long - lasting medium at old one-shot cruise book prices, plus have the opportunity to sell it to the public while sharing the profits with the Association. And Route 66 travelers get a handy, accurate guide that's good all year round!

Target date for this new publication is mid-may. So if your business is interested in advertising in this new venture, contact Joe Kisicki, President, at (405)348-3589 or your area Route 66 representative before last part of April. All ads must be camera-ready The Association cannot do any paste-up work.

**"Get Your Chicks on Route 66"
396-8177**

- Catering
- Home Cookin'
- Live Music



Nightly Lodging Available
For Room Reservation
Call (405) 396-2982

206 E. Highway 66 • Arcadia, OK 73007
Headquarters for Route 66 Information Center



Oklahoma Route 66 Association, Inc.

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

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SIGNS OF THINGS TO COME

In upcoming newsletters, be on the lookout for some changes! We're going to start a directory of business members, listed by the type of service offered, that will run in every issue. We'll also include tidbits about Oklahomas stretch of Route 66 as well as information from other states' Route 66 associations so you'll get a feel of what's going on up and down the road.

Do you have any information you'd like to share with our readers-like a Route 66 trip you took or some encounter you had with a Route 66 Visitor? If so, write to us! Send your information to Kathy Anderson, OK ROUTE 66 Assoc. Newsletter, P.O. Box 3461, Edmond OK. 73083. All materials will be returned if a self-addressed stamped envelope is provided. Thanks.

Route 66 News From Western Oklahoma

By Carol Duncan, (*Vice-president, Western Oklahoma*)

From September 23rd to Dec. 31st, 1995 approximately 5,944 visitors came to see Oklahoma's Route 66 Museum in Clinton. An economic impact of \$548,159 was spent in Oklahoma Restaurants, motels, service stations, and other business firms during that same time frame.

In 1995, 27 Historical Society Museums and sites attracted 536,975 visitors for a dollar impact of 39.5 Million.

Be sure to get a copy of the Winter 1995/96 "Route 66" magazine. There is a very nice article about the grand opening of our Route 66 museum. Jim Ross, noted Route 66 booster, author, and Bethany resident, writes articles for this magazine. There is an outstanding story on Andy Payne in the Winter Issue, Too.

Folks in Elk City have been working real hard on their display area and it certainly shows. Old Town Museum is located on Route 66 on the

west side of town. In April, come and see the progress and enjoy the Cheyenne-Arapaho Pioneer days.

L.C. Murphy in Foss is collecting Route 66 stories on recording tape. Route 66 means fun, romance, adventure, excitement, and people. L.C. wants to save the stories of what Route 66 was all about for future generations. Contact Mr. Murphy at (405)592-4477.

"Discover Oklahoma" Television show sponsored a chartered tour to Western Oklahoma on Feb 29th. They made stops at Erick, Cheyenne, Elk City, and Clinton.

The community of Bridgeport wants to restore their post office. They want to fix up the building and put period postal furnishings and bridgeport memorabilia inside. If there is anyway you can help, contact the state office at 223 E. 3rd, Chandler, OK. 74834 or Call (405)258-0008

What Ever Happened To Margie?

Many people have asked, "What happened to Margie McCauley"? Margie is the lady from California that decided to walk across America By way of Route 66. I know many of you met Margie or at least read about her amazing adventure in the papers or saw TV stories. Margie was making good time as she made her way toward Chicago through Missouri. Her dog "Lolly" decided she was tired of walking and in St. Clair, Mo., bolted at another dog and slammed the cart she pulled into Margie. Margie's leg and hip were injured and she had to postpone her trip.

We have received post cards in which she states she plans to complete her trip this spring. I know this lady is strong willed and will finally complete the trip she has planned her whole life. Watch for Margie and give her a helping hand! She will appreciate you help and you will have a friend for life.



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UPCOMING CRUISES FOR 1996

Mark your calendars now! The Oklahoma Route 66 Association is sponsoring three cruises this year. The first one will take place June 1 and 2 and will cover the eastern one half of the state-Quapaw/Oklahoma City. The second one is scheduled for September 14 and 15 and will cover the western half - Oklahoma City/Texola. The third cruise will be October 11 and 12 and is basically a caravan to Vega, Texas (the Road's midpoint) to celebrate the 70th Birthday of Route 66.

Kick-off/pre-registration parties for the first two cruises will be held at both ends of the planned route. Saturday morning, cruisers will leave from either end, meeting somewhere in the middle by evening. Closing ceremonies will be held on Sunday. This schedule should allow for more enjoyable driving pace on Saturday and gives everyone a chance to get together that evening for dinner. Imagine, no more rushing to end closing ceremonies before people faint from hunger or it's too dark to see!! John Ackenhausen is in charge of the eastern cruise, Carol Duncan - the western.

The third cruise will head out to Vega, Texas - some 30 miles west of Amarillo. It's being held in conjunction with the national Run to the Heartland event. People from all over the U.S. will be participating in this run. Sue Kendall has been in contact with sponsors and will provide more information as it becomes available. But as of now, she reports motel space is going fast. The Best Western in Vega may or may not have room space by the time you call (806)267-2131. Rates are \$58 a night - that's for 2 double beds/4 people. Ask them about singles, if that category applies. The Vega Chamber of Commerce has set aside 25 rooms at the Comfort Inn on the west side of Amarillo. They are available for \$45 a night, whether it's one person or four. Call (800)628-5013, Ask for De Giles (Pronounced Dee, Giles With a hard G) and tell her you are calling for the Route 66 celebration. There is also

the Texan Motel in Wildorado, which is 13 miles west of Vega, but we don't have any information from them yet. Actual cruise plans for this event are a bit vague right now, but if you want to participate in the caravan (or caravans) heading out there we'll need to know by the end of June or July.

If you would like to pre-register now for the June cruise, fill out the form located in this newsletter. More details on all three cruises to come.

CAR CLUB ALERT!

This year, for each of the first two cruises, the Association is offering a special cash prize to the car club with the most participants who drive their club cars. Clubs must register a minimum of five cars to qualify. Qualifying clubs earn a discounted entry fee for their non-Association members of just \$20 per driver.

The Association is also planning to visit several car shows this year and award a special trophy or plaque to one car at each show which most typifies the spirit of Route 66. For more information, contact Joe Kisicki, President of the Association - (405)348-3589

Free ADS!

Are you a business member of the Oklahoma Route 66 Association or thinking about becoming one? With each new or renewed business membership, that business will receive one free business card sized ad (camera ready art only)! Ever since the original Highway 66 Association was formed by Tulsan Cyrus Avery ("The Father of Route 66") it has always been the business community that has supported Route 66. So our free ad to you is the Association's way of saying thanks for carrying on the tradition and still caring about America's most famous road.



THREE LOCATIONS

- Reno & Penn.
- I-240 & Shields
- Rockwell & Wilshire

Charlesan Neugebauer
Owner

8100 N. Rockwell
P.O. Box A-0126
OKC 73132-0001

(405) 720-2100

Oklahoma Route 66 Association, Inc.



223 E. 3rd., Chandler, Oklahoma 74834
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Oklahoma Route 66 Association, Inc.

Cruise Entry Form

Is your Membership Current?

_____ Member \$15 _____ Non-Member \$25 _____ Club Driver \$20 QTY. _____ Extra Passports \$10

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

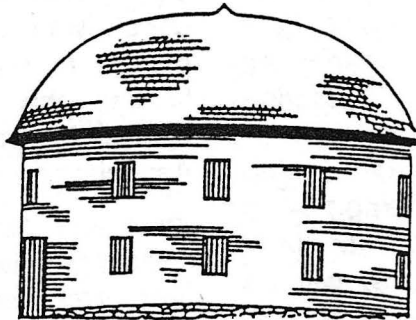
Home Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____ Ext.: _____

Car Club Name if Applicable: _____

Please Note: To help save on postage and handling fees, your cruise packets will be available at the registration check point at the start of the cruise. Please make checks payable to: **Oklahoma Route 66 Association**, 223 E. 3rd., Chandler, OK. 74834, Phone **(405)258-0008**

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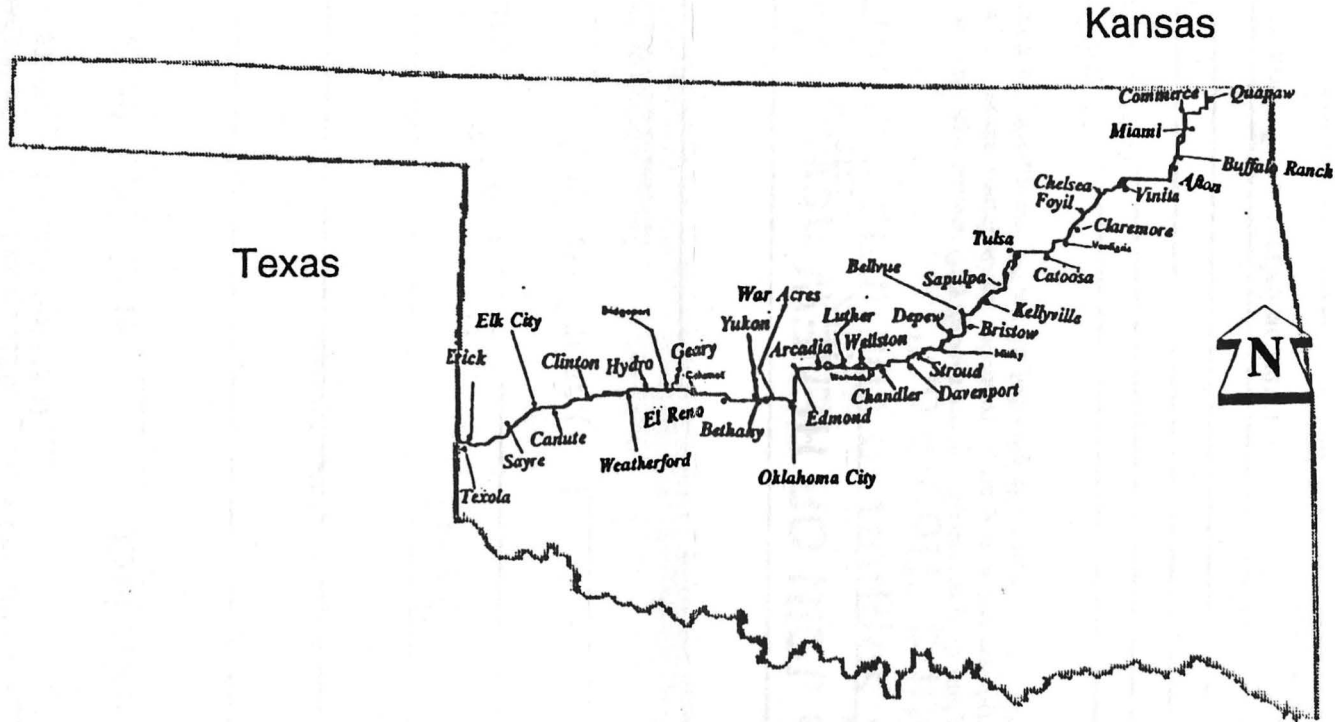
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The Oklahoma Route 66 Association, A non-profit Corporation, serves as the non-governmental body which coordinates the statewide economic development, enhancement, improvement, preservation and recognition of U. S. Route 66 within Oklahoma.

Types of Membership: A = Affiliate \$35.00 ___ B = Business \$35.00 ___ C = Contribution \$ ___
 F = Family \$25.00 ___ I = Individual \$15.00 ___

Type of Membership () Membership Date _____ Expiration Date _____

Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone:() _____ - _____ Business Phone:() _____ - _____ Ext: _____

Contact: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Dear Member,

Your membership is very important to the Association. Only through membership can the goals and purposes of the Association be accomplished. whether this be through good works, contributions, volunteerism, etc. your active membership is vital. If you desire to become more involved in the Association's activities, please fill out the following and return.

I want to serve on a Committee/Director _____

I want to work on the newsletter/mail outs _____

I want to work in the office _____

I want to work on special events _____

I want to help do _____

(Your suggestion for a needed activity)

Comment: _____

Please fill out and return to:

Oklahoma Rt. 66 Association
 223 E. 3RD ST.
 Chandler, Okla. 74834

Phone/FAX: (405)258-0008