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ON THE READ

Vol. 19, No. 3

The official newsletter of the Oklahoma Route 66 Association

Clinton's Route 66 festival a success

Oklahomans take home four of the top six honors at the banquet

Oklahoma took the lion's share of the awards during the Will Rogers Awards Evening, held June 22 in conjunction with the National Route 66 Festival in Clinton. Chandler's Old Armory received the Cyrus Avery Award for historic preservation, while Marian Clark of Tulsa was named Person of the Year, and Route 66 Harley-Davidson — a strong supporter of the Oklahoma Route 66 Association — took home the Business of the Year award.

The Will Rogers Award whose recipient is selected by the Rogers family — went to Route 66 author and historian Michael Wallis of Tulsa.

Texans Delbert and Ruth Trew won the Lifetime Achievement Award, while David and Mary Lou Knudson of the National Historic Route 66 Federation received the Founders' Award.

Other honors went to Nora Mansfield, a longtime waitress at the late Pop Hicks Restaurant, and the board of directors for the First National Bank of Shamrock, Texas, who donated the historic U-Drop Inn gas station and cafe to the city a few years ago.

The building, which served as the model for Ramone's body shop in the film *Cars*, was restored in 2003 and is home to the Shamrock Chamber of Commerce.

The historic Ray's Motel, located at 720 S. 8th St., on the truck route alignment of 66 in Clinton, came out a winner that weekend as about two dozen volunteers descended on the property with scrapers and paintbrushes to give the building that once housed the office a much-needed facelift.

Volunteers from as close as the other side of town and as far away as Canada spent three days scraping the once-gray building and giving it a coat of gleaming white paint.

The effort drew the attention of area media outlets, including the *Clinton Daily News, Daily Oklahoman*, and KOKH-TV of Oklahoma City.

Volunteers included: Kathy Anderson of Oklahoma City; Route 66 Pulse editor Jason Bernhardt of Richfield Springs, N.Y.; Washita County Representative Carol Duncan of Clinton; George and Bonnie Game of Burnaby, British Columbia; noted Route 66 photographer Shellee Graham of Chandler; John Hargrove of Arcadia; Rod Harsh, Webmaster for Route66tvonline.com, of Carterville, Mo.; Pat and Phillip Henderson of St. Louis; Greg Holmes of Hutchinson, Kan.; John Murphy of Santa Fe, N.M.; Mike Pendleton of Baxter Springs, Kan.; festival photographer Lonnie Powers of Blunck Photography and his daughter Jacie of Clinton; Route66Motels. com Webmaster Emily Priddy of Tulsa; Franklin Sowers; Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program Manager Mike Taylor of Santa Fe; artist Bob Waldmire of Rochester, Ill.; Route 66 author and historian Michael Wallis of Tulsa: Route66News.com Webmaster Ron Warnick of Tulsa; Friends of the Mother Road co-founder Kip Welborn of St. Louis; and Route66.com founder David Williams; and Chelsea, David, Justine, and Lindsey Willman of

Aurora, Colo.

The owner of Route 66 Root Beer also stopped by with root beer for the volunteers.

In addition to the awards presentation and the preservation project, the festival included a special breakfast for members of the Route 66 Yahoo! group (online at http://groups.yahoo. com/group/route66); a 5K run; a golf tournament; an art show; exhibits by Route 66 authors, artists, organizations, and collectors; food and crafts vendors; children's activities; fireworks; museum tours; and many other activities.

The biggest winner of the weekend may have been the city of Clinton itself.

Erin Adams, Clinton Chamber of Commerce president and chairwoman for the festival, reports that the event was good for business that weekend.

"Our restaurants were very busy, and hotels were all full. Mike Robinson, the longtime owner of our Dairy Queen, said that he had planned ahead and had extra food and extra help, but he still had to close an hour early because he ran out of food," Adams told *Route66News.com*.

"It was his best day EVER for sales."

Adams also reported that the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum had 1,200 visitors on the Saturday of the festival — six times the number it draws on an average day.

Next year's festival will be held June 18-22 in Litchfield, Ill.

Photos from the historic preservation project at Ray's Motel appear on page 5.

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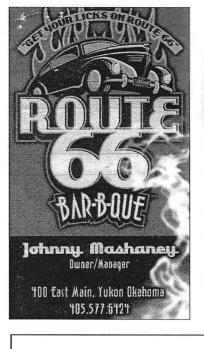
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Membership rates increase slightly

The Oklahoma Route 66 Association board of directors approved a modest increase in the cost of business memberships, from \$45 a year to \$49 a year, effective Aug. 1.

Business members receive benefits including one free ad in the newsletter; a listing in the business directory; Trip Guides; and more. They also are eligible to receive assistance from our historic preservation committee and to participate in cruises and special events.

Our ads mean business!

Newsletter advertising rates, per issue:

Members	
Business card	\$7.50
1/4 page	\$15
1/2 page	\$20
Full page	\$30
Non-members	
Business card	\$15
1/4 page	\$30
1/2 page	\$40
Full page	\$60

Business members get one free business card ad upon joining, so if you are a business member and have not yet submitted a card, please be sure to send us one!





Membership Application

To join the Association or renew an existing membership, please fill out this form, include your check or money order (in U.S. funds, on a U.S.-based bank), and mail to the address below. NOTE: A \$20 recovery fee will be charged for bad checks.

Type of annual membership	(check one)
Individual	\$20/year
Family	\$30/year
Overseas Higher fee pays for ship	\$30/year
Business	\$49/year
Business members get o card ad.	one free business
Name	
Business name	, i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i
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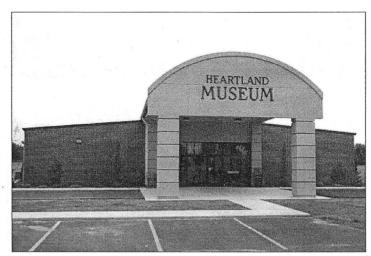


Photo submitted

Heartland Museum is open

The New Heartland Museum in Weatherford is now open.

The museum includes over 80 special booths and displays, veterans displays from all wars, a working blacksmith shop, and an authentic, furnished Little Red one-room school house (made available to special grade school groups).

Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children ages 13 to 18. On Father's and Mother's Day, admission is free to fathers and mothers, and admission is free to all veterans on Veterans Day. Special rates are available for bus groups and other special groups.

Exit off I-40 either 82 or 84, get on south access road located 3/4 mile west of Kodiak/3M Plant and follow the south access to 1600 So. Frontage Road, Weatherford. For more information, call (580) 774-2212. The museum has plenty of room for expansion and for bus and car club parking.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Bluegrass and Chili Festival. 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sept. 6-8. Claremore Expo Center. Arts, crafts, car show, chili cookoff, and free bluegrass music. Call (877) 341-8688 for more information.

World's Largest Calf Fry Festival and Cookoff. 9 a.m. Sept. 8. American Legion Rodeo Grounds, Vinita. Amusement rides, arts and crafts, cookoff, celebrity judges, live entertainment and more. Call (918) 256-7133 for more information.

Designs of Autumn Fall Festival. Sept. 14-15. Downtown Miami. Fine arts fair, children's art, chili cookoff, Route 66 car show and more. (918) 542-4481.

Davenport Open Car Show. Sept. 22. Davenport. Car show and Davenport Citywide Garage Sales. For more information, contact Ron Burden at 918-377-2355.

Will Rogers Days. Nov. 2-4. Claremore. Wreath-laying ceremony and parade honoring Will Rogers. Call (918) 343-8119 for more information.

Dickens on the Boulevard. Nov. 16-17. East of Route 66 on Will Rogers Boulevard in Claremore. Victorian Christmas celebration. Call (918) 341-5881 for more information.

Association to offer fall museum cruise



Photo by Emily Priddy

POPS employees work to keep up with the dinner rush during the business' first week of operation. The fall cruise will begin with a trip to POPS.

The Oklahoma Route 66 Association invites all interested roadies to participate in a special fall museum cruise from Arcadia to El Reno.

The cruise, slated for Saturday, Oct. 13, will begin at 9 a.m. at POPS, 660 W. Highway 66 in Arcadia. POPS is a new Route 66 attraction that opened in August and features a retro-styled diner, a collection of 12,000 pop bottles, and a 66-foot-high pop bottle lit with LEDs.

Four hundred different kinds of soda are available for purchase at POPS, located on Route 66 west of the Round Barn.

From POPS, cruisers will head to the Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Laird in Oklahoma City. Admission to the center is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors age 62 and up, and \$4 for groups of 10 or more. Children get in free.

Cruisers will have the chance

to stop for lunch at Rt. 66 Bar-B-Que, located at 400 E. Main, Suite A, in Yukon.

After lunch, cruisers will proceed to the Canadian County Historical Museum, 300 S. Grand at the Rock Island Depot in El Reno. Admission to the museum is free, but donations are accepted. Those who wish to ride El Reno's trolley may do so; rides cost \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children, seniors 65 and up, and individuals with disabilities.

After the tour, participants will head to Historic Fort Reno, 7107 W. Cheyenne St. in El Reno, for a tour. Admission to Historic Fort Reno is free.

The tour will conclude with dinner or coffee and pie at an asyet-to-be-determined location.

For more information about the cruise, call the Association office at (405) 258-0008.

SHPO honors those involved in ghost sign restoration

By SALLY FERRELL

A large, century-old and very faded ghost sign is now back in full view for eastbound Route 66 travelers in Chandler.

The dim, hardly legible lettering high on a second-story wall at 14th Street and Manvel Avenue (Route 66) proclaims: "St. Cloud Hotel — Delicious and Refreshing Coca-Cola Relieves Fatigue."

Conservation of lettering with techniques and colors that do not make the sign look weathered and original — not bright and new — won the State Historic Preservation Officer's Citation of Merit Award this spring for mural artists Dean Codner and Shaun Colbert and Great Plains Coca Cola Bottling Company, which financed the project.

An award also went to building owner John Givens.



The sign appears on the second story of the old St. Cloud Hotel at 14th Street and Manvel Avenue in Chandler.

Dr. Bob Blackburn, State Historic Preservation Officer, and Deputy Director Melvena Heisch presented the awards at the May 2007 State Preservation Conference in Guthrie.

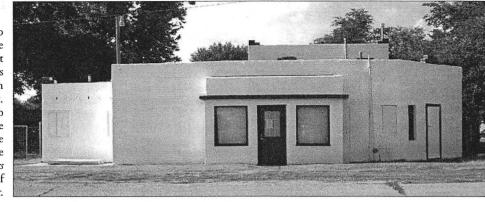
The 100-foot-long sign advertises the St. Cloud Hotel, housed for many years in the 1903 building.

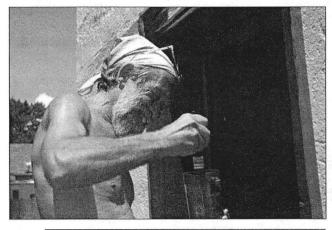
It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places for its importance to Route 66 travel-related historic places and Territorial Commercial Buildings of Chandler.

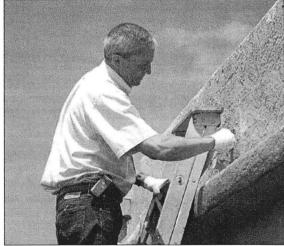
The hotel was known as a special place for traveling salesmen. It was near the train station and offered a special room for displaying their wares and a separate, private dining room.

Givens operates a muffler shop in the building, which has often been vacant and several times has been condemned by the city. The building features a pressed-metal second-story facade and once had a front balcony. The Silver King Bar was once a first-level feature.

Westbound Route 66 cruisers can pull over just before 14th Street and look to their left for a rare view of a giant, authentic, early-day promotion for Coke or pop before driving on towards the new tribute to soda pop, Arcadia's POPS. At right: The stucco building that once housed the office at Ray's Motel stands out with a fresh coat of white paint. Below: Artist Bob Waldmire — the inspiration for the character Fillmore in the movie *Cars* — puts a coat of paint on a door.







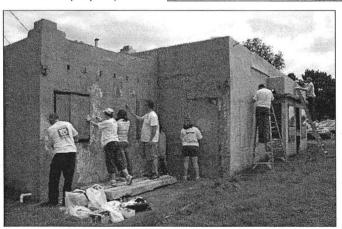
Making history by saving history

In late June, more than two dozen volunteers repainted part of Ray's Motel in Clinton as part of an Association-sponsored historic preservation project — the first of its kind to be held in conjunction with a national Route 66 festival.

Above: Mike Taylor of the National Park Service scrapes old paint from the front of the motel. At right: Greg Holmes, owner of thelope. com, helps prepare a surface for painting. Far right: Volunteers - including the Willman family of Aurora, Colo., and Bonnie Game of Canada — remove loose paint from the building on the first day of the project.



Photos by Emily Priddy



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 Oak Hill Winery and
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 Vineyards
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 7070 S. 4240 Road
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 Chelsea, OK 74016
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 (918) 789-WINE (9463)
 Yes

Southern Belle Flea Market Route 66 & 5th St. Chelsea, OK 74016 (918) 789-5212

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Lincoln Motel 740 E. 1st St. chandler, OK 74834 (405) 258-0200

Subway 916 Manvel Ave. Chandler, OK 74834 (405) 258-9966

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PAST DUE BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS WILL NO LONGER BE LISTED AFTER SIX MONTHS. LISTINGS WERE CURRENT AT PRESS TIME.

Support our sister organizations in other areas!

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MISSOURI

Route 66 Association of Missouri Tommy Pike, President 1602 East Dale Street Springfield, MO 65803 (417) 865-1318 furyon66@earthlink.net

Friends of the Mother Road 3947 Russell St. Louis, MO 63110 sundayjohn66@mac.com

KANSAS

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Kansas Route 66 Association Earl Stanton, President P.O. Box 66 Baxter Springs, KS 66713 (620) 856-2385 heritagectr@4state.com

TEXAS Old Route 66 Assoc. of Texas Bob Lile, President Box 66, McLean, Texas 79057 (806) 779-2225

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico Route 66 Assoc. Richard Delgado, President 1415 Central Ave. NE Albuquerque, NM 87106 info@rt66nm.org

ARIZONA

Historic Route 66 Assoc. of Arizona Tom Spear, President P.O. Box 66 Kingman, AZ azrt66@route66web.com (928) 753-5001

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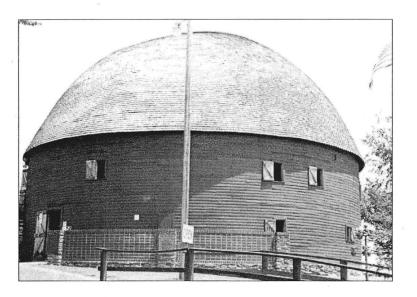
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CANADA

Canadian Route 66 Association Bonnie Game, President P.O. Box 81123 Burnaby, BC V5H 4K2 CANADA (604) 434-1818 route66kicks@mac.com Robert Walker, editor (604)341-6634

Got news? E-mail sundayjohn66@mac.com Deadline is Nov. 15.

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PLEASE CHECK YOUR EXPIRATION DATE! If it is highlighted, your membership has expired or is getting ready to. Please renew now!

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