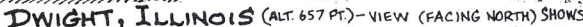




THE 66 NEWS!



THE ORIGINAL 66 ALIGNMENT, WHICH PROCEEDS STRAIGHT INTO DWIGHT, PARALLELING THE RAILROAD TRACKS, THIS ALIGNMENT (WHICH IN 1918 WAS DESIGNATED AS A 4 LVS BEFORE RT. 66 WAS "BORN") WINDS THROUGHOUT THE DWIGHT CITY STREETS. SWINGING AWAY TO THE LEFT IS THE EARLIEST "BYPASS" - A 2-LANER WITH 9-F. LANES. FURTHER WEST (OUT OF VIEW) IS THE "STATE-OF-THE-ART" 4-LANE 66 BYPASS, COMPLETED IN THE EARLY 50'S. OUT BEYOND THAT IS THE INTERSTATE. SO DWIGHT HAS 3 DRIVEABLE 66 ALIGNMENTS.

THE TOWN WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1854, WHEN THE CHICAGO & ALTON RAILROAD ARRIVED. WAS NAMED BY A R R SURVEY ENGINEER FOR ANOTHER R R SURVEY ENGINEER HENRY DWIGHT. OLD BRICK DOWNTOWN HIGH SCHOOL 1892. R R DEPOT & THE FOX DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER. THE KEELEY INSTITUTE (CLOSED IN 1966). FOUNDED IN 1878 BY DR. LESLIE KEELEY AS THE FIRST MEDICAL INSTITUTION TO TREAT ALCOHOLISM AS A DISEASE.

MANY RT. 66-ERA STRUCTURES REMAIN, SOME STILL OPERATING. AN UNUSUAL WINDMILL-HOUSE GRACES THE TOWN'S HORIZON. VALUABLE NATIVE PRAIRIE HABITAT ALONG 66 IN THIS REGION.



Life moves so fast! Since the last newsletter in December, we've had a whole war.

June 8-9, and our second annual Auto Tour is quickly approaching.

On June 8, in McLean, three new members will be inducted into the Illinois Route 66 Hall of Fame.

The illustration, above, was chosen to honor two of them.

Metha Jensen of Dwight, will be our first female hall member. The drawing was done by Bob, son of Edwin Waldmire whose family will honored.

Our third inductee will be M.F. "Cotton" McNabney, Bloomington restaurateur, who learned the business working as a waiter, seven days a week, 12 hours a day, during the Depression.

Mrs. Jensen, with her late husband, Martin Paulsen, operated Paulsen's Deluxe Motel on Route 66 in the '30's and '40s.

The motel is now operated by Paul and Gretchen Moyemont and is called the Carefree Motel.

The Edwin Waldmire family
(Continued on Pg. 2)

"ILLINOIS — WHERE THE ROAD BEGAN."

January 13 minutes

Our last meeting was held Sunday, Jan. 13, 1991, at the Ariston Cafe in Litchfield.

After a noon luncheon, 40 of us commenced with introductions at 1:02 p.m.

Due to ice storms in Tulsa, Michael and Suzanne Wallis were unable to attend. However, we will reschedule at a later date depending upon the Wallis' availability.

Tom Teague did the president's report and Jeff Meyer did the national news. Historic 66 signs are up in Missouri and Oklahoma.

Jeff also did the treasurer's update, reporting a bank balance of \$4,822 and a complete total including merchandise of \$12,713 with only two outstanding bills.

Tom thanked various people and introduced two Hall of Famers at the meeting, Russell Soulsby and Ernie Edwards Sr.

We talked about the 1991 Motor Tour. John Stonecipher said that Odell's ready for the first stop on the tour.

We agreed that the entry fee would stay the same, \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members, per car.

We discussed the Hall of Fame nominee procedures and the committee.

Paul Gleason made out a resolution for 66 to be a state historic highway.

We passed around the tour T-shirt designs that have been sent in. A design submitted by Bob Waldmire will be used for the '91 tour shirts.

Ray Schroeder did the 'Bear's Report,' losing 24-3 at that time. Boo!

Tom Knudsen mentioned a 66 picnic that will be held in Funks Grove sometime this

summer. (Location has since been changed to Atlanta, Ill. on Sept. 22.)

The 'King of Merchandising,' as Tom called Jeff, asked for other ideas for new products. Bracelets? Coasters?

We set the date for a Hall of Fame-Tour Meeting March 3 at the Mount Hope Township Hall.

The next general meeting is April 14 at the Chicken Basket Restaurant in Willowbrook.

Bob and Linda Ogle had some goodie bag ideas (a crossword puzzle, etc.)

We adjourned at 2:15 p.m. -Submitted by Laura Meyer in the absence of the secretary

(Inductees from Page 1) invented and named the Cozy Dog and are owners of the Cozy Dog Drive In in Springfield.

We'll have more information, and pictures, of our 1991 celebrities in the next newsletter.

Plan to attend their induction ceremony at 3:30 p.m. in the open area North of the Dairy Queen in McLean on Saturday, June 8.

Thank you!

Thanks to our hosts for the past several meetings which have included: Al's Main Event in Lincoln; Stark's Restaurant in Dwight; the Ariston in Litchfield; and Mount Hope Township Building in McLean.

Cooked RIGHT Served RIGHT Priced RIGHT
A "Better Place to Eat"

The Ariston

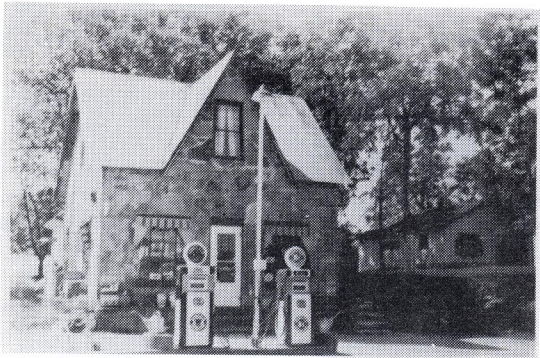
The "St. Louis-Springfield"

Restaurant

Nicholas P. Adam
Proprietor

Old Rt. 
Litchfield, IL 62056
217-324-2023

Leading the Life of Riley



In 1947, at age 42, Bud Riley decided to escape the "rat race of city life" in Rock Falls, Ill., and buy a small business on Route 66 in the Ozarks. Looking for another place, he stopped at a small gas station and cabin near Lebanon, Mo., to ask for directions — and ended up buying that place instead.

"Our sleeping quarters were in the attic," he said. "It was hot in the summer and cold in the winter. The toilet was outside. We had no phone. It was nine miles to the nearest grocery store. I couldn't sleep — I was so excited and happy."

Ruth, however, wasn't. She had a good job in Rock Falls and decided to stay there for a while with their son, John, 10.



One September morning in 1947, she and Bud bid each other a tearful farewell as she left for work. Bud had a trailer full of second hand equipment

hitched to the family's '37 Oldsmobile and would be leaving for Missouri later that morning.

But when Ruth got home that evening, Bud was still there — the trailer hitch had broken just as he was pulling away!

"On the way to Lebanon finally, the hitch broke again," Bud said. "The trailer turned over and my junk spilled all over the highway. My mother was with me. She said, 'Buddie, let's go back. This is Friday the 13th and we are not supposed to go.'"

"But I said, 'Oh, no.' I was able to find a fellow with a truck. I loaded it and he drove my junk to my dream gas station."

"Mother and I got settled. She was no help. She had a wooden leg. I did everything. I washed our clothes by hand. We lived on bologna."



When school let out the next year, the Rileys's son, John, flew down to Missouri to spend the summer with his father. When he decided to stay there for school the next fall, Ruth came down for a visit. The first day alone was almost too much for her.

"I was sitting in the 'store' — some canned goods on a shelf," she said. "I was in (Continued on Page 4)"

(Riley from Page 3)
a booth that I thought would fall apart, looking out on Route 66 when I see my husband standing at the highway waving his arms to our son John.



"John was at the wheel of the Olds. He could barely see over the wheel and he had Grandma Riley with him. Bud was giving him the signal that the highway was clear. He crossed it and took Grandma for a ride on a bumpy road on the other side. Later Bud built a 'road' in back of the station and John would drive on it almost every day."

Ruth returned to Illinois soon after that. But in six months she was back in the Ozarks for good. They fixed up a house on the hill behind the station.

Using cigarettes as the loss leader and fireworks as a profit maker, they expanded their business.

John started taking flying lessons. A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, he now flies planes for NASA.

Ruth and Bud sold Riley's Snack Bar in 1965 just at I-44 was pushing them to the wayside. Not long afterwards, the business burned down. Eventually, they settled in Wallops Island, Va.

Bud died in March, 1990, of a heart attack, but Ruth lives

on in Wallops Island with John, "thanking the Lord for my good health." Their family's saga is truly another classic of Route 66. — Submitted by Tom Teague



Editor's note: Ruth Riley and Tom Teague have been exchanging correspondence about Route 66 for the past five years. This story grew out of their letters and Riley family records.

If you have or know of other 66 stories we can give our readers, please contact Tom at 1208 W. Edwards, Springfield, Ill. 62704, or Nancy Saul, newsletter editor, at P. O. Box 159, McLean, Ill. 61754.

Assoc. meetings

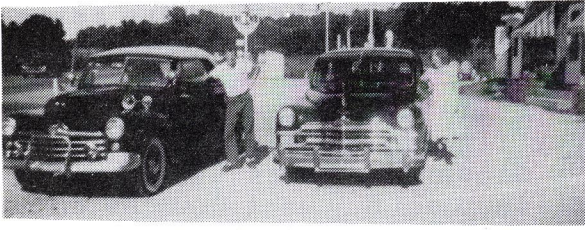
* Sunday, April 14 — The Chicken Basket Restaurant, 645 Joliet Road, Old 66 in Willowbrook. Exit I-55 at 274 Ill-83 North to Midway Drive. Turn right, then right to the frontage road. Follow the signs. Call Jeff and Laura Meyer at 708-392-0860 or Jeff Lessenberry at 708-910-3498 if you plan to attend. This and ALL MEETINGS are open to all members and prospective members.

* Sunday, July 7 — Steve's Cafe, 305 Morehead St., Old 66, Chenoa.

* Sunday, Oct. 20 — Cozy Dog Drive In, 2935 S. Sixth St., Old City 66, Springfield. General meeting and ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

* Sunday, Jan. 12, 1992 — No location chosen yet. Call 708-392-0860 if you'd like to suggest a location or host the meeting.

Down the Road



By Jeff & Laura Meyer

Well, it's almost that time of year! Spring training, baseball, suntans and our traditional "working vacation."

Three weeks of escorting our buddies, Reid and Nan Sondrup, who are coming here from Utah and we'll be taking them to Arizona! (66 Tours, INC???)

Anyway, things continue to roll along, with new publications, books, a REAL tour group, TV specials and continual newspaper and magazine articles on the Mother Road. Talk of a National Informational Network as well??? Stand by!

Let's begin _ state by state.

In MISSOURI, plans are being made for the 2nd Cruise Sept. 21-22. It will end in Joplin, Mo., with an association meeting. Other scheduled meetings in Missouri will be June 8 in Springfield; Sept. 22 in Joplin; and Nov. 9 in Villa Ridge.

St. Louis' own Ted Drewes Custard Stand will celebrate 50 years in business. Congratulations.

Missouri has also put out a brochure about 66.

Hearings began Feb. 5 before the KANSAS House Transportation Committee to designate Kansas' Rt. 66 a "Historic Highway." Carolyn Brozek testified about the importance of 66, not only in Kansas (13.2 important miles worth), but in its' entire length. (You tell 'em, Carolyn)!!

OKLAHOMA is planning their 2nd Cruise & Poker Run on 66 the same weekend as the Illinois tour, June 8 & 9. It will run from border to border, Kansas to Texas. You can start wherever you want to! Location for the Sunday awards presentation will be announced. During the cruise, Lucille Hamons of Lucille's Historic Highway will celebrate her 50th year in business. YEA!

TEXAS Old Route 66 Hall of Fame in McLean will be unveiled March 23. How 'bout that? Two Hall of Fames in two McLeans in two different states! ALL RIGHT!

The Texas Hall of Fame is located in the Devil's Rope Museum Complex. A mural of 66 townscapes and street scenes is under consideration, along with an authentic 66 Tourist Court, Office and Cafe setting. The museum's Mercantile will feature 66 souvenirs and items made from barbed wire, as well as T-shirts, greeting cards, etc.

On May 4, McLean, Texas, will host their annual meeting (which we hope to attend on our way back from Arizona.)

Some changes have been made in NEW MEXICO, so there is NO report. The last phone number we have is 1-800-242-4282.

In ARIZONA, look out! The stage is set, the Delgadillo Orchestra will play and Mary O will sing at the Fourth Fun Run Weekend April 26-28.

Friday events include the Miss Rt. 66 Beauty Pageant and a rock 'n roll street dance.

Cars will leave Seligman and travel down to Kingman on Saturday with stops at Grand Canyon Caverns (for tours), Peach Springs (Barbecue); (Continued on Page 6)

(Down the Road from Page 5)
Truxton (\$2.66 cheeseburgers);
Hackberry-Valentine (Bert's
Country Dancing); Valle Vista
and Kingman's Car Show and
Shine, Business Showcase,
Southwestern dinner and
nostalgia dance with Wolfman
John.

Sunday will begin with a
pancake breakfast before cars
roll out to Oatman (complete
with gunfighters, cowpokes and
burros)! The tour will end in
Topock-Golden Shores with a
treasure hunt and farewell
reception.

Special guest all weekend long
with be none other than
"Mr.Kicks" himself, Bobby
Troup!

CALIFORNIA is the last link
in the chain of 66 associations,
and it's looking good out there!
The first newsletter was great!
And we're anxious to meet all
of you in Kingman!!!

IN OTHER NEWS, two new
publications are out. The Slow
Lane Journal is a neat newspaper
format featuring back roads,
funny signs, etc. There was
a story on our buddy, Angel
Delgadillo of Seligman, Ariz.,
as well as parts of New Mexico
and Texas 66.

They'll be in Illinois in
July. Hope to meet ya! The
quarterly paper sells for \$2.50
a copy and \$11.50 per year. For
more information, contact Tom
McClelland, P. O. Box 876,
Sacramento, Calif., 95812-0876.

Mother Road Journal, another
newspaper format, is
forthcoming. Cost is \$2.50 per
copy, \$10 per year on a
subscription basis. It will
contain 66 pictures and text
from yesterday and today.

For more information, contact
Bob Moore, P.O. Box 27232,
Lakewood, Colo. 80227.

Along with Out West, Desert

Life/Our Land and all of the
books on the market, there seems
to be no end to the coverage of
the road.

Hooray!! All of our efforts
may finally be paying off!!

Giovanni Tours of Agoura
Hills, Calif., went down 66 from
Chicago to Santa Monica March
16-29. They'll return to
Illinois Aug. 31-Sept. 13 and
plan to visit the Dixie Hall of
Fame and get some maple sirup
at Funk's Grove.

In March, the National Park
Service is doing an article on
66 and KABC's Eye on L.A. is
supposed to run their 66 special
March 3 and 10.

A story on Ernie and Francis
(Pig Hip) Edwards is in the
April issue of Midwest Living
Magazine.

Tom Snyder's Rt.66 Roadside
Companion map/book has sold out
of its first 12,000 copies. Way
to go!

Pat Rhea of the Chicken Basket
Restaurant was featured in a
couple of local newspapers.
Congrats to Pat and fiancé on
their upcoming marriage!!

Jim Fryer of Midwest Street
Rods was on WBBM-TV's "Where's
Wallace" segment along with
those sharp cars!

Marian Clark of Tulsa, Okla.,
is working on a Rt. 66 cookbook.
She's traveling the road and
looking for the new and the old
in restaurants, diners and the
people on 66. Anyone wishing
to contribute should write to:
Marian Clark, 10124 E. 12th St.,
Tulsa, Okla. 74128, or call 918-
836-5425.

Finally, in June, Lucy
Badenhop of California is
taking 66 'Vettes down 66.
They'll pass through Illinois
June 22-23. Hope to meet with
her and the Corvette gang!!

Well, I guess that covers it
for now! (PHEW)!

Calendar items

Atlanta Memorial Day Celebration, May 27, Atlanta.

1991 Motor Tour, June 8-9.

Chenoa Fourth of July celebration, July 4.

Taste of Country Fair, July 27-28 and Route 66 Reunion, July 28, Lexington.

Logan County Fair, Lincoln, July 29-Aug. 4.

Odell Days, Aug. 16-18

Party in the Park, Litchfield, Aug. 23-25.

Dwight Harvest Days, Sept. 13-15.

Route 66 Association Picnic, Atlanta Sept. 22.

New members

Editor's note: Hey, have all of you guys and gals who joined 'way back at the beginning of this adventure remembered to send in your renewals?

(I can nag all of you now, because I FINALLY remembered to pay mine!)-Nancy

Among our new members this quarter are Brian J. Cook of AUSTRALIA. Leigh Hanlon of Denver, Colo., and Charles Thompson of Las Vegas, Nev., sent a donation along with their membership fees. Thanks!

New sustaining members include Jon Paloian of Chicago and Calhoun County Ford (Corbett Miller and Vince Robeen) in Hardin, Ill. Art's Motel in Farmersville and Ivan Rhinehart of Arlington Heights are new business members.

Other new members (from Illinois unless otherwise noted) include:

Marian Clark, Tulsa, Okla.; Martin Duling, Wheeling; Connie and Carl Hilchen, Crete; Jim Kerr, Des Moines, Iowa; Robert B. Schneier, Erdenheim, Pa.; William Weltyk, Oakbrook; Bob and Sylvia Benisek, Arlington Heights; Bob Moore Rt. 66

Journal, Lakewood, Colo.; Tom McClelland, Slow Lane Journal, Sacramento, Calif.

Susan Berry, Deerfield; California Historic Rt. 66 Association, Laverne, Calif.; Earl and Cheryl Cory, Bonne, N.C.; The Dieners, Dorchester, Mass.; George B. Hager, Dwight; Kim Kemp, Griswold, Iowa; Tom and Eileen Kotschi, Cudahy, Wisc.; George Mansfield, Cupertino, Calif.; The Paulsens, Dwight; Tony and Sue Plociaca, Edwardsville; R. Todd Renfrow, Springfield; Mary Selva, Fort Kent, Maine; Roger A. Schlichting, and Jeff Schwartz, Lombard; William Swislow, Chicago.

Robert J. Kilouff, Staunton; Joseph Mazanek, Buffalo Grove; Steve Mechling, Champaign; Rose Mrasak, Springfield; Scott Nelson, Riverton, Kan.; Doug Pappas, Martsdale, N.Y.; Vincent Ruffolo, Kenosha, Wisc.; Michael Safranek, Chicago; Neal Spudich, Staunton; Charlotte Tufts, Burbank, Calif.; Dan Ulbeich, La Grange.

Bob Vose, Springfield; Chuck Wyatt, Highland, Ind.; Flossie Hillier, Streator; Mike and Marilyn Riddle Jr., Peoria; John Steele, LaSalle; and Gene and Marilyn Straiker, Wheeling; and Sharon Kalinoski, Riverside.

WANTED! ANYTHING RELATED TO RT. 66!

Hats, Old Maps,
Postcards, Motel keys



Matchbooks, signs,
Newspaper clippings,
Odds & ends!

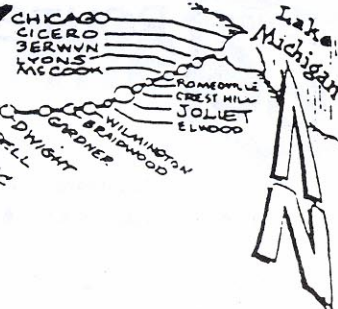
THE ORIGINAL ROADOLOGISTS!

Jeff & Laura Meyer
2802 Fremont St.
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

(708) 392-0860



THE 66 TOUR!



SIGN UP NOW FOR THE 1991 ROUTE 66 MOTOR TOUR JUNE 8 & 9, 1991 FROM CHICAGO TO ST. LOUIS

With stops in Odell, McLean, Lincoln
Springfield, Litchfield and Granite City

With Inductions Into
THE ROUTE 66 HALL OF FAME
At The Dixie Truckers Home



"ILLINOIS — WHERE THE ROAD BEGAN."

REGISTRATION FORM - 1991 ROUTE 66 MOTOR TOUR

Send to the Route 66 Association, P. O. Box 8262, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

NAME _____ Make and Year of Car _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

\$15.00 per car for Route 66 Association Members
\$20.00 per car for Non-Members

PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY REGISTRATION

Sponsored by the Route 66 Association of Illinois



ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

Route 66 Association Merchandise

Black Nylon /Polyester lined Jackets S,M,L,XL,XXL(Add \$1 for XXL)	\$20 + \$1.50 P&H
Association T Shirt S,M,L,XL,XXL (Add \$1 for XXL)	\$10 + \$1.50 P&H
Association Sweatshirt S,M,L,XL,XXL (Add \$1 for XXL)	\$15 + \$1.50 P&H
Association Hat	\$6 + \$1.50 P&H
ALL Items above have a Black With Red shield design by Bob Waldmire.	
ROUTE 66-THE MOTHER ROAD by Michael Wallis	\$29.95 + \$1.50 P&H
A GUIDEBOOK TO HIGHWAY 66 A reproduction of 128-page guidebook written by Jack Rittenhouse in 1946	\$6.95 + \$1.50 P&H
ROUTE 66 ROADSIDE COMPANION MAP/BOOK by TOM SNYDER	\$8.95 + \$1.50 P&H
ILLINOIS U.S. METAL SHIELD FRIDGE MAGNETS	\$4 + \$1.00 P&H
Set of 18 Bob Waldmire Original Drawing Postcards	\$4.50 + \$1.00 P&H
Hat Pin -Black and White shield	\$3 + \$1.00 P&H
Bumper Sticker With We get our kicks on Route 66	\$1 + 0.50 P&H
Button Same as above	\$1 + 0.50 P&H
Key Chain Rubber in the shape of ILL with Map of ROUTE 66	\$2 + \$1.00 P&H
Rubber Magnet in the shape of ILL with Map of Route 66	\$2 + \$1.00 P&H
Art work is done by Bob Waldmire	
Decal for window on the inside in the design of T-SHIRT	\$2 + 0.50 P&H

Reproduction Sign ILL Shield shape of 1929
RT 66 sign made from 16 gauge steel 16'x16 1/2'
weight 4 pounds,deep embossed, 20 year paint \$45+5 SHIPPING

ILLINOIS RESIDENTS! PLEASE ADD 7% SALES TAX FOR YOUR ORDER!!
WE WANT TO THANK ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!!!

"ILLINOIS — WHERE THE ROAD BEGAN."



ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

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ILLINOIS RESIDENTS! PLEASE ADD 7% SALES TAX FOR YOUR ORDER!!
WE WANT TO THANK ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!!!

"ILLINOIS — WHERE THE ROAD BEGAN."

Memorial Day fete

The Atlanta Civic League will sponsor the annual Memorial Day celebration from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, May 27, in Atlanta, Ill.

Entertainment, food stands and craft displays will all be available in Zenia Park and the City Parking Lot. The Route 66 Association of Illinois will have merchandise for sale.

A Memorial Service will be conducted by Atlanta American Legion members at the Atlanta Cemetery at 11 a.m.

Atlanta Library and Museum will be open.

Come and spend the day with us and enjoy a small town celebration beside "Old 66."

Planners meet

Mayor Wilkey and the members of the village board, as well as John Stonecipher, Odell Motor Tour chairman, and 25 interested attendees, were all present Feb. 11 for a Motor Tour planning meeting in Odell.

The upcoming tour was discussed, committees were formed and chairmen were named.

They include: Bob Legner, food; Dwayne Sullivan and Harold LePard, auto club; Sheriff Don Wahl, traffic control; Tom Doran, publicity; and Kim Allen, entertainment.

Ray Schroeder and his wife, Dorothy, and Tom Knudsen and his wife, Pat, attended as association representatives and advisors.

The purpose of the tour was explained.

Odell's off to a great start and I'm sure everyone will have a wonderful time.

- Submitted by Tom Knudsen

Premier picnic

The first-ever Illinois Route 66 Association picnic will be held Sunday, Sept. 22, at the park in Atlanta.

Everyone whose dues are up to date is welcome!

Classic Chevy Club of Bloomington will join us for this strictly social event and the association will furnish food and soft drinks.

If you'd like to help cook, come around 9 a.m. and bring your grill.

The Atlanta Library and Museum will be open and tours of Atlanta will be available.

If you're planning to join us, please send a postcard with your name and the number in your party to Logan County Board Member Betty McLellan at P.O. Box 621, Atlanta, Ill. 61723.



**"A TASTE
OF COUNTRY"
FAIR**
Lexington, Illinois
July 27 & 28



ANNUAL RTE. 66 REUNION

arts & crafts
antiques & flea market
demonstrations
music
entertainment
"living history" groups

RAIN OR SHINE
309-363-8372
309-365-4581



ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

Bill introduced

State Representatives Mike Curran and Karen Hasara have introduced House Bill 396, as follows, into the Ill. General Assembly. It would designate U.S. 66 a state historic highway.

AN ACT in relation to State historic highways.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 1. This Act may be cited as the U.S. Route 66 Designation Act.

Section 2. The portion of U.S. Route 66 in Illinois that exists on the effective date of this amendatory Act of 1991 is designated as a State historic

highway. Appropriate plaques and signs shall be erected by the Department of Transportation along this route in recognition of the designation."

YOU CAN HELP! Call and write your state representative and senator. Cite the bill by name (HB 396). Tell them, in your own words, why you'd like to see Route 66 revived. Mention that the signs and plaques will increase Illinois tourism. If their districts include Rt. 66, ask them to sign on as co-sponsors.

For progress updates, stay in touch with your state legislators. If there is a hearing for the bill, try to be there.

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61754



"ILLINOIS — WHERE THE ROAD BEGAN."



ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

THE 66 NEWS!

CHICAGO
CICERO
BERWYN
LYONS
MC COOK

Lake Michigan

WILMINGTON
BEADWOOD
JOLIET
ELWOOD

CHENOA
TOWANDA
BLOOMINGTON

ATLANTA
MCLEARN
FUNIS GROVE

SPRINGFIELD
LITCHFIELD
WADDOON

FAIRMONT
EDWARDSVILLE
HAMEL

ST. LOUIS
EAST ST. LOUIS

May, 1991



The State Farm Arch will again be a highlight of the 1991 Route 66 Motor Tour. Association members are reminded that everyone is invited (whether or not they participate in the tour) to attend the kick off party Friday evening, June 7, at Midwest Street Rods in Bolingbrook and the drive-in movie Sunday, June 9, in Litchfield. The final planning meeting for the tour, also open to everyone, will be held at noon Sunday, June 2, at the Mount Hope Township Building in McLean.

"ILLINOIS — WHERE THE ROAD BEGAN."

**STATE FARM AGENTS
OF ILLINOIS**
**Are Proud to Again Sponsor
The Route 66 Motor Tour
Across Illinois**



Come Join Us ...
It will be better than ever ...

Minutes from March 3, 1991

The March 3, 1991, meeting opened at 12:12 p.m. at the Mount Hope Township Building in McLean with 28 members present.

This marked the first anniversary of the first Illinois meeting of people interested in forming a Route 66 Association.

Thirteen people, including Nancy Saul, Mary and Chuck Wright, Betty McLellan, Mike Yates, Jeff and Laura Meyer, Bob Waldmeier and Tom Teague, met at the New Log Cabin Restaurant in Pontiac for that first meeting.

The March 3 agenda included House Bill No. 396, which includes tax dollars for erecting signs to mark Rt. 66 in Illinois. Cost would be \$40-\$50 thousand for signs. We should try to get the General Assembly to pass the bill before June 30.

We are afraid the signs will disappear. The Illinois Department of Transportation had 5,000 reproduced signs made. IDOT says they are collectibles and that we won't get the signs up for the Motor Tour as the General Assembly will not pass the bill that early. Members agreed to try to push the legislation through.

The Blues Fest in Chicago will be a different weekend than the Motor Tour this year. Chicago will do everything they did last year. The tour will start at the same place and in the same way.

Friday evening Jim Fryer's Midwest Street Rods business will have an open house from 6 to 10 p.m. The Chicken Basket will have food at the open house. The 66 Cafe and the Countryside Holiday Inn will be the base hotel in the suburbs.

There will be a briefing

meeting Friday evening before the Motor Tour in the suburbs. The Holiday Inn will have a tent set up Saturday morning.

Tom Teague has a two-piece band that will play middle-of-the-road type music at each of the stops. Cost for the band, including food, transportation and lodging, will be \$600.

The arch will be set up the same place as last year in Chicago. The merchandise table will open between 7 and 7:30 a.m. Goody bags, registration and live band will all be downtown. Howie and Michelle will handle the registration again this year.

Priscilla and Deb are building a registration list. Last year, \$275 was spent on window stickers and \$500 on dash plaques. Last year, 200 consent letters were sent for the tour.

The starting time was 8:30 a.m. and it will be the same this year. There will be no sign hanging event this year.

We should be at Odell between 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. John Stonecipher reported that everything is going fine at Odell with committees assigned and another meeting planned for May 13.

Anyone who wants to add a stop to the tour should notify Tom Teague no later than April 1. This includes Steve's Cafe in Chenoa. Tom says he will be the clearing house so he knows what is going on and things people would like to do.

Hall of Fame induction events at McLean should take place between 3:30 and 4 p.m. There will be a local flag ceremony like last year.

Two hours after McLean, we should arrive in Lincoln. A staging area has been suggested.

Continued on page 4;

From page 3

Everyone will meet there after freshing up and we will proceed with a police escort to the downtown area. Downtown merchants will have food stands, music and people to greet the tour.

We will leave Lincoln at 8:30 a.m. Sunday morning and go as a group from Lincoln to Springfield. We will arrive at the Cozy Dog in Springfield at 9:30 a.m. and stay until 10:30 a.m.

IDOT will remove the old overpass on Old Rt. 66 North of Litchfield so there will probably be a detour into Litchfield. We will assemble at the Drive Inn and arrive in town about 11:30 a.m.

Litchfield will have parking so that everyone on the tour will be able to park together. They will have a car show, and

want to introduce Association board members.

Litchfield hopes some members of the tour will return to Litchfield Sunday evening. They would like to have their Drive Inn theater open for participants for a car related movie.

Arrival in Granite City is expected to take place between 3:30 and 4 p.m.

(See calendar listings on pages 6 and 7 for a list of people who signed up to sell merchandise at each of the tour stops.)

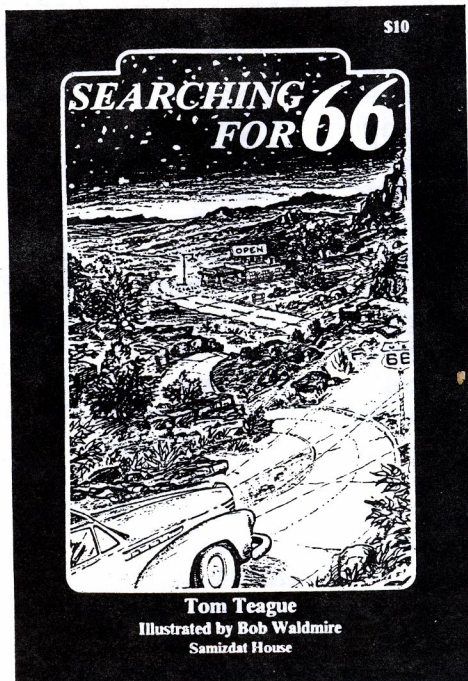
C.J. Beeler reported that March 16-29 a tour group of 30 to 40 people will travel Rt. 66 from Illinois to California. On March 18, they will travel through McLean and Springfield. The second tour will take place Aug. 31 - Sept. 13.

Bob should have the finished Tee shirt design completed by March 17. Shirts will cost the association \$4.50 each. Background color for the shirts and sizes to order are still being decided.

The first annual association picnic will be held Sept. 22 in Atlanta. The park there has one covered shelter and another shelter that is used on a first come basis. The association will furnish hot dogs, chips and brats. All paid up members are welcome.

Participants should bring grills, lawn chairs and games. Mark your calendar so we can all get to know each other better at this strictly SOCIAL event. Plan to arrive any time after 9 a.m. and have a fun-filled day getting acquainted with people who also care about Route 66.

Steve Durgan from Burbank, Calif., and the Mill Valley
Continued on page 2



AVAILABLE AT LAST!

Enjoy the stories of the people who helped make Route 66 a national monument. *Searching for 66* is a large format, 250-page paperback featuring 31 original photographs, plus 31 line drawings by Bob Waldmire. Order it through the Association with other merchandise or buy directly from: Tom Teague, 1208 W. Edwards, Springfield, IL 62704. Only \$10, plus \$1.50 shipping.

Calendar of events

The following festivals and events all provide opportunities for members to man an association table (ie. sell merchandise, hand out brochures and answer questions about our organization).

Please let Pat or Tom Knudson (telephone 309/828-2925) know if you could help at one or more events. As you can see, there are lots of dates available, many with no one offering to help yet.

The Knudsons would be happy to hear from you and can explain further what your responsibilities would be. Please? You'll have fun!

May 27 _ Atlanta Memorial Day Celebration

May 31 - June 2 _ Springfield Mystery Show

June 1 _ Farmer City Car Show

June 2 _ Rt. 66 Tour Meeting, noon, Mount Hope Township Building, McLean

June 2 _ Bloomington

June 7 _ Bolingbrook, Rt. 66 Motor Tour (Ed Schumann 246-8241)

June 8 _ Chicago, Rt. 66 Motor Tour (Ed Schumann, Jeff & Laura Meyer, Dan)

June 8 _ Odell, Rt. 66 Motor Tour (Ray and Dorothy Schroeder)

June 8 _ McLean, Rt. 66 Motor Tour (Tom and Pat Knudsen)

June 8 _ Lincoln, Rt. 66 Motor Tour (Tom and Pat Knudsen, Paul Gleason)

June 9 _ Rt. 66 Motor Tour, Lincoln

June 9 _ Rt. 66 Motor Tour, Springfield (Jeff and Laura Meyer)

June 9 _ Rt. 66 Motor Tour, Litchfield (Priscilla and Deb)

June 9 _ Rt. 66 Motor Tour, Granite City (Jeff and Laura Meyer)

June 15 _ Pontiac, 50s - 60s Weekend (Barb and Bill Gwodz)

July 3 _ Dwight Car Show

July 4 _ Chenoa 4th of July Flea Market

July 4 _ Towanda 4th of July Flea Market (can set up Wed. p.m.)

July 7 _ Chenoa, noon, Steve's Cafe, Rt. 66 meeting

July 19 _ Elkhart homecoming

July 19 _ Braidwood Summerfest, Will County

July 25 - 27 _ Joliet Waterway Daze (Frank Luzich)

July 27 - 28 _ Lexington Taste of Country Fair, Rt. 66 Reunion

July 30 - Aug. 3 _ Logan County Fair, Lincoln

Aug. 17 - 18 _ Odell Days

Aug. 23 - 25 _ Litchfield Party in the Park

Aug. 23 - 25 _ Lincoln Art & Balloon Fest

Continued on page 6

From page 5

Aug. 28 - Sept. 2 _ Pontiac
Threshermen's Reunion

Sept. 1 _ Wilmington Car Show

Sept. 2 _ Lincoln Air Event

Sept. 5 - 7 _ Atlanta Fall
Festival

Sept. 14 - 15 _ Dwight Harvest
Days (Frank and Roxane Lozich)

Sept. 14 -15 _ Lincoln
Railsplitting Festival

Sept. 22 _ First annual Rt. 66
Association picnic, Atlanta

Sept. 26 - 28 _ Grundy County
Corn Festival, Morris (Ray and
Phyllis Starks 815-736-6259)

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InterState 55 - Old RT 66

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From page 4

Television Production Crew interviewed several members of the association for a documentary they are preparing. Their work is aired in doctor's waiting rooms and in office buildings.

Snacks for the meeting were furnished by the Knudsens and drinks were furnished by the Myers.

Following the meeting, a few people stayed to stuff envelopes with Motor Tour applications and put labels on envelopes and seal and separate them for mailing the next day.

The Hall of Fame committee met and new inductees were selected.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

-Pat Knudsen, secretary

April 14 Minutes

The Route 66 Association met Sunday, April 14, at the Chicken Basket in Willow Brook with 50 people present from Illinois, Utah and Michigan.

The meeting agenda covered the Motor Tour, newsletter, Hall of Fame, legislation, Home Town Award and proceeds from Tom Teague's book.

Charlie Ott of Lincoln, who portrays Abraham Lincoln, will participate in festivities in Lincoln.

Members discussed refurbishing the Hall of Fame. Some displays have edges that are curling from the heat. Someone suggested putting materials on stiff backing so they will not curl.

Sixty percent of the cost of printing the 75,000 Motor Tour brochures (\$1989) was paid by the Illinois Department of Community Affairs. Each box has 3,300 brochures.

Tom Teague wrote an

application for the Home Town Award. (At this writing, we have passed the second round of judging.)

Jeff Meyer reported on the Geovante Tour that left California on St. Patricks Day to travel Rt. 66. The tour company will return to Illinois Labor Day weekend. Jeff also gave the national report.

Last year, it was reported that 200 cars participated in the Motor Tour. As of the April 14 meeting, 70 cars were registered.

Merchandise sales are very important. The association could not survive without them. Members are asked to assist with selling merchandise at various events along the route.

Jim Fryer of Midwest Street Rods will have a kick-off party Friday, June 7, with WJTW Radio from Joliet there.

Tour signs were discussed. Eric Hence will be in charge of them the first day. The Calendar of Events includes times and workers for each day of the tour. Howie Thorton is in charge of dash plaques.

Escorts are needed for the Hall of Fame inductees. Roy Frankenhoff of Pontiac area was suggested as the MC for McLean.

It was suggested that the awards already given to the association be put into the Hall of Fame so everyone can see them. A separate area should be set aside for awards given to the association.

It was decided by vote to keep the original T-shirt design.

Since the editor was not notified about putting Cruisin' into Spring into the previous newsletter until the day the newsletter was delivered to the printer, members voted to

Continued on page



Route 66
Hall of Fame of Illinois



Metha Paulsen Jensen
Co-Founder and Operator
Paulsen Motel
Dwight, Illinois
1935-1949

Inducted June 8, 1991
Route 66 Association of Illinois

Metha Jensen, 90, is the Hall of Fame's first female inductee as well as its first foreign born member. She emigrated from Denmark to Dwight in 1921. Soon she married Martin Paulsen. Martin operated a taxi service in Dwight then, later, opened a Phillips 66 station on Rt. 66.

Five or six years after opening the station, Metha and Martin built the Paulsen's Deluxe Motel adjacent to the station. They operated it from 1935 until 1949.

The Paulsens sold the six-unit motel to Mr. and Mrs. John Strufe in 1950. The motel is currently owned by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Moyemont.

The Paulsens originally charged \$1 per person or \$1.50 per couple for rooms.

"We always had a lot of fun on 66," Mrs. Jensen says. "We enjoyed the business and we enjoyed meeting a lot of nice people."

Mrs. Jensen recently celebrated her 90th birthday April 20 with a party at the Catholic Parish Hall in Dwight.

Board member Ray Schroeder, who was invited to dance a birthday polka with her, says she is "an unbelievable person, full of vigor."



Cotton McNabney, his wife and waitresses
at one of the restaurants he ran.

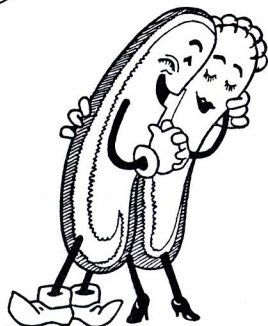
Melton E. "Cotton" McNabney, 80, first became associated with Route 66 during the Depression when he got a job in Cheona at the Circle Brothers Cafe — which was later known as Wahl Brothers' Cafe and is now Steve's Cafe. He began working at the confectionery stand for \$1 a day and later became a waiter.

Cotton then worked as a bartender at the Orchard Nook in Pontiac, managed a pool hall in Bloomington and worked at Caterpillar in Peoria before being drafted for World War II. After returning from overseas, he managed Honegger's Motel and Cotton's Cafe in Fairbury four years. From 1949 to 1972, he operated Cotton's Village Inn at 401 N. Main St. in Bloomington.

Discussing his early days at Wahl Brothers, Cotton said, "They used men waiters, all professionals who had worked in hotels in Chicago and Peoria. They were very good. They could carry four dinners, complete, on their arms, in one trip to the table. The most I could carry was two cups of coffee."



Route 66
Hall of Fame of Illinois



The Cozy Dog Drive-In
and
The Edwin Waldmire Family
Founders and Operators
Cozy Dog Drive-In
Springfield, Illinois
Since 1947

Inducted June 8, 1991
Route 66 Association of Illinois

The Cozy Dog is an original and traditional Route 66 business. Before our association was even formed, its founder and owner, Ed Waldmire, was supporting the road's revival with displays at the Cozy Dog. His son, Bob, has drawn many scenes and maps of the highway. And Ed is credited with perfecting a classic form of American roadside fast food — the corn dog — on Route 66.

Ed was visiting a brother in Oklahoma in 1941, when he saw the first corn dog being made. "We stopped in a greasy spoon in Muskogee," Ed said. "They were making it in a contraption like a waffle iron. They poured batter in a trough, put in three wienies and baked it for 15 minutes."

Toward the end of the war, Ed was stationed with the Army Air Corps in Amarillo, Texas. With a lot of time on his hands, he began thinking about those corn dogs in Muskogee — and how he could make them faster and

in greater quantities. "Finally, I called a fraternity brother in Galesburg who ran a bakery and asked him to make a batter I could dip a wienie in and deep fry it like a doughnut," he said.

Cooked in a gas-fueled fryer at the base PX, the corn dogs were an immediate success. Soon Ed was ordering hundreds of pounds of the batter mix at a time. In 1946, he operated a corn dog stand at the Illinois State Fair on Route 66. In 1947, he operated five stands. In 1948, he opened his present restaurant in Springfield.

At first, he called his batter-dipped specialty Crusty Curs. But his wife, Virginia, convinced him a more inviting name would help the product sell better. She suggested Snuggle Puppies, Long Johns and, finally, Cozy Dog. The last one stuck and she drew a logo showing two hot dogs in love.

Only Snortin' Norton on the trucks of Campbell 66 Express and the Fat Man at the Club Cafe in Santa Rose, New Mexico, rank alongside the Cozy Dog couple as classic logs of Route 66.

Ed's son, Buz, runs the Cozy Dog today. Ed still wholesales the mix throughout the country, but Buz may take over that part of the business soon, too. Meanwhile, Ed and his wife, Virginia, are proprietors of Cardinal Hill Crafts, a unique shop built in an old corn crib near Rochester.

They've built their solar-heated home onto the side of the crib. Son Bob lives on the grounds in a converted 1966 school bus. A freelance artist, Bob has specialized in Route 66 scenes and maps for the past several years. He also designed

Continued on page 8

From page 7

provide Charles Williams of the Lincoln Knights of Columbus mailing labels so his organization could send a brochure to each of our members.

Michelle will draft a letter and send it to legislators about 66 becoming a Historical Highway. This is a tight budget year. We will try to get the bill passed without costing the association anything.

It was suggested that we check into having Ill. U.S. 66 vinyl magnet shields made to fit the door of a car. Local suppliers charge \$35 per pair for such signs.

Tom Teague reported that his book, "Searching for 66," will sell for \$10 retail. He offered the association books at \$6.90 each, which would provide a \$3.10 per book profit for the association. Members voted that the association sell the book.

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

-Pat Knudsen, secretary

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The Ed Waldmire Family

our association's letterhead, T-shirt, bumper sticker and 1991 Motor Tour shirt.

In time, this body of work will also gain classic status along 66.

We have reports that the Waldmires are in the process of setting up a Cozy Dog Museum, so one fine day, when you have a taste for a Cozy Dog and fries, you'll notice old signs, newspaper articles and other assorted memorabilia related to 66 and the Cozy Dogs' claim to fame.

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On Down the Road

By Jeff and Laura Meyer

We're writing this in the Michael Wallis room at the Quality Inn on Andy Devise Ave. — alias 66 — in beautiful Kingman, Ariz.

We became 66 Tour Guides, Inc. as we escorted two friends down ``The Mother Road'' from Illinois to Arizona — hence ``On the Road.''

Featured stops included the Carefree Motel, Funks Grove and maple syrup sale, a peek at the Dixie Hall of Fame, a Pig Hip sandwich and conversation at Ernies, a visit with Bob and Buz Waldmire at the Cozy Dog, had dinner at the Ariston Cafe and ended our Illinois jaunt by stopping at Soulsby's Service Station and seeing the keeper of Our Lady of the Highway shrine, Francis Marten.

As we crossed the Mississippi into Missouri, we got as far as St. Louis so we could enjoy Ted Drewes tasty desserts. The joint was jumpin'.

Next day, we headed to Meremec Caverns and the miniature toy museum in Stanton and the Mule Trading Post and Rt. 66 Motors in Rolla where you could relax with a bottle of sasparella, lean back on an outdoor porch swing and watch the tourists go by. Crashed out in the Ozarks at the Munger Moss Motel in Lebanon, Mo., and blabbed with Ramona Lehman.

Shot out early to check out the antiques in Mall Town, then went into Kansas (all 13.2 miles) and met the gang at the Eisler Brothers General Store.

It was Big News in Riverton. We were introduced to Lucy who's been knocking on doors for memberships and it's working. Kansas has over 250 members now.

A local reporter came by, Scott Eisler took pictures and we had deli sandwiches made up and on into Oklahoma.

Stayed in Tulsa, had dinner at the Metro Diner along with Mike and Sherry Higgs and Michael and Suzanne Wallis. Had a lot of fun.

Took Historic State Route 66 as the new brown signs indicated and ended up in OKC at an old time 66 favorite — the Carlyle Motel.

Had dinner with more roadies at the Route 66 Ristorante and pigged out on Calzones and beer. Next a.m., said ``hi'' to Lucille Hamons in Hydro, Ok. and talked with ``Mrs. 66,' ' Gladys Cutberth in Clinton, Ok. Had lunch at a 66 institution — Pop Hicks.

Crossed into Texas and had a fabulous down home barbecue in Alanreed at Delbert and Ruth Trews ranch. They are the national correspondents for the Old Rt. 66 Association of Texas and are very active in the community.

Delbert took us to the little old new refurbished Phillips 6;6 gas station in McLean (Texas, not Illinois) and we got to see the new Barbed Wire — 66 Museum. It's a terrific display — a must stop.

From there, it was Tucumcari tonight (New Mexico, that is), and we stated at the ``Whoa!' ' Palomino Motel, said hello to Lillian Redman proprietor of the legendary Blue Swallow Motel and Mike and Betty Callans of the Teepee Curio Shop. Traveled west and had lunch at the Club Cafe in Santa Rosa and spent the night at the classic El Vado Motel in Albuquerque with Illinois member and all around

Continued on page 10

From page 9

great guy, Ali Hakam. passed thru Grants, Gallup and finally into Arizona (we didn't forget Winona, either!)

Then Jeff and Reid got a shave and a hair cut from Mr. Angel (the international barber shop in Seligman) got a root beer float at Juan's Snowcap Drive In and we got ready for the big 66 Fun Run weekend.

Laura was one of the judges for the Miss Route 66 Beauty Pageant and was presented with her own award by Billie Jo Moore, Arizona's 66 president. She saw me (Laura) chasing tumbleweeds in Truxton so she decided to embarrass me by giving me a big tumbleweed with a red bow on it. THAT became a running gag for the rest of the weekend. The street was rockin' with tunes by Wolfman John.

The Fun Run was dedicated to the memory of Ray Barker. His wife, Mildred, who still takes care of the Frontier Cafe and Motel, was presented with a special plaque in his memory.

Four-hundred-and-twenty cars were registered. Everyone lined up on 66 early. Jeff and I helped with the registrations and merchandise.

The vehicles wound their way to Kingman for a Show and Shine car award ceremony, 50s dance and southwest dinner. We assisted co-chairman Johnny Lott, his right hand woman Cindy Hicks and Sara Faulds from Santa Monica by passing out taco shells, etc. Nine-hundred people were served in 90 minutes. Not too shabby!

The M.C. was Jerry "Dude" Richard, executive vice prez. Kingman Rotary Club sponsored a pancake breakfast. Then we proceeded up to Oatman and ended the festivities with free coffee

cake and farewells in Topock.

Monday morning, we had a three-hour, four-state meeting. Guest speaker was John Conoboy from the National Park Service.

Sadly, we had to pack up and head East.

In conclusion, we'd like to thank Debi Richard for letting us bug her! and to all of those 66'ers who have made us feel welcome — like a big happy family — what 66 is all about in the first place, THANKS!!!

We shall return next year. Signing off from the Michael Wallis suite at the El Vado again, so long! (on the road again.)

Upcoming meetings

ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND ALL MEETINGS!

* Sunday, June 2, Mount Hope Township Building, McLean, noon, final planning session before Motor Tour. Everyone welcome.

* Sunday, June 23, Steve's Cafe, 305 Morehead St., Old Rt. 66, Chenoa. For reservations, call the Knudsens at 309/828-2925.

* Sunday, Oct. 20, Cozy Dog Drive In, 2935 S. Sixth St., Springfield. General meeting and election of officers.

* Sunday, Jan. 12, 1991, no location chosen yet. Call 708/392-0860 if you'd like to suggest a location or host the meeting.

Newsletter deadline

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS SEPT. 1. ALL ITEMS RECEIVED AFTER DEADLINE WILL BE HELD UNTIL THE NEXT NEWSLETTER.

Send news to: Nancy Saul, Route 1, McLean, Ill. 61754.

Memorial Day

The Atlanta Civic League will sponsor the annual Memorial Day celebration from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, May 27, in Atlanta, Ill.

Entertainment, food stands and craft displays will all be available in Zenia Park and the City Parking Lot. The Route 66 Association of Illinois will have merchandise for sale.

A Memorial Service will be conducted by Atlanta American Legion members at the Atlanta Cemetery at 11 a.m.

Atlanta Library and Museum will be open.

Come and spend the day with us and enjoy a small town celebration beside "Old 66."

Food and fun

The first-ever Illinois Route 66 Association picnic will be held Sunday, Sept. 22, at the park in Atlanta.

Everyone whose dues are up to date is welcome!

Classic Chevy Club of Bloomington will join us for this strictly social event and the association will furnish hot dogs and soft drinks.

If you'd like to help cook, come around 9 a.m. and bring your grill.

The Atlanta Library and Museum will be open and tours of Atlanta will be available.

If you're planning to join us, please send a postcard with your name and the number in your party to Logan County Board Member Betty McLellan at P.O. Box 621, Atlanta, Ill. 61723.



New members

We welcome the following new members who have joined as of May 1, 1991 (Illinois residents unless otherwise noted):

Tom and Tammy Armbruster; GioVanni Tours, Agoura Hills, Calif.; and Champion Garage Inc., Springfield, all sustaining members.

S. Dave Gates, Normal; David Kinkel, LaGrange; Richard and Mary Poyer, Mesa Ariz.; Bob Teague, Normal; Gary and Leah Tiedt, Countryside; Glenn and Ruth Andrus, St. Charles; Bernard Cirantaneo, Chicago;

Rocky and Mary Kay DiOrio, Bolingbrook; Robert Faila (Bob's Barber Shop), Brookfield; Bob Forman, Monmouth; Gary and Sheila O'Rourke, Rochester Hills, Mich.; Robert and Beatrice Miller, Chicago;

Robert Packowski, Chicago; Mike Photakis, Berwyn; Randy and Lynn Ray, Gurnee; Francis and Kathleen Sharp, Montgomery; Daniel and Teresa Shea, Chicago;

Richard A. Smietanski, Chicago; Reinout and Herneke Vogt, Streamwood (formerly the Netherlands); Kel Aiken, Lake Tahoe, Nev.;

Dave and Mickey Austin, Rockford; Donald E. O'Neal, Springfield; Richard Percy, Bloomington; and Jim Walsh, Wilmington, Del.

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Taste of Country

Planning for the Third Annual Illinois Route 66 Reunion is well underway. It will be held during the Taste of Country Fair July 27 and July 28 in Lexington.

Lexington is located 20 miles North of Bloomington-Normal on I-55 and on Route 66. The reunion and Car Parade will be held Sunday, July 28.

An old, abandoned stretch of Route 66 in Lexington will be recreated with signs and buildings to look just the way it did 40 years ago. It will be open only on July 27 and July 28.

The car parade will begin at 1 p.m. at the corner of Route 66 and Main St. near the Filling Station Restaurant on July 28.

Registration will begin at the same location at 11 a.m. Prizes will be awarded for the oldest car, the car that was driven from the farthest city and to the car club with the most entries. Any year car can enter. No entry fee is required.

The Taste of Country Fair will have over 250 art, antique, craft and flea market booths. The food booths are operated only by local organizations.

Continuous entertainment, including four bands, folk singers, cloggers, magicians, clowns, two Saturday night dances, a children's parade and activities, an old-time craft demonstration tent and much more will be provided.

A 5 K run begins at 8 a.m. Saturday, July 27. Come and join the fun for the whole weekend.

Call Chuck Wright Jr. for further information at 309/365-4881, or 309/365-8105.

Dutch association

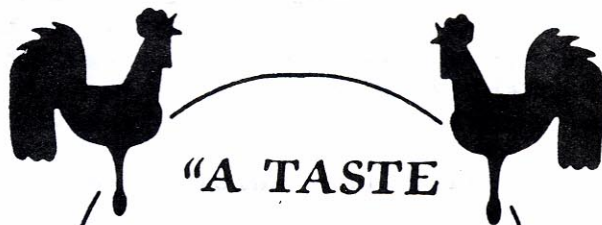
Dutch fans Hans Stuijffbergen and Harry van Lunteren recently founded the Dutch Route 66 Association, one of the few outside the United States.

Fascinated by a Dutch radio broadcast, they visited the Northern Arizona portion of the highway in 1989. After their second trip, to the Springfield, Mo. - Clines Corner, N.M. area in 1990, they decided to start a Dutch fan club.

They hope fans will meet to exchange stories, admire photos, see films and videos and find other ways to enjoy the highway.

They want to contact Dutch fans as well as their American counterparts. Next June, they will visit the Chicago-Springfield portion of the route. Information, good maps, etc. are welcome.

Write to them at: Dutch Route 66 Association, P. O. Box 2013, 1620 EA Hoorn, The Netherlands.



**"A TASTE
OF COUNTRY"
FAIR**

Lexington, Illinois
July 27 & 28



ANNUAL RTE. 66 REUNION

arts & crafts
antiques & flea market
demonstrations
music
entertainment
"living history" groups

RAIN OR SHINE
309-365-8372
309-365-4581



Chicken Basket

Dell Rhea's Chicken Basket Restaurant opened in 1946 and is still very popular. Even though it was bypassed by I-55 in '61, the restaurant has survived extremely well, thank you!

When the business began, it was a success from the start. With the end of World War II, good economy and '66 in it's heyday, the restaurant became a staple for hungry travelers who'd chow down and prepare themselves to handle the "Mother Road."

At one time, the Chicken Basket was a Blue Bird Bus Stop.

When Dell and Grace Rhea bought it in 1963, they relied on the local farmers to provide them with chickens and eggs. Two of the farmers turned out to be Pat Rhea's grandparents.

In the spirit of 66'ers, Dell tended to the bar and handled the advertising and promotion while Grace worked in the kitchen and hired the staff. Their son, Pat, became a man of all trades and is now the proud owner of a true family affair.

Today, the Chicken Basket remains a great place to eat and socialize, not only for the delicious chicken, but also for the tasty ribs.

The famous checked tablecloths are there, as well as a Wurlitzer Jukebox, playing oldie tunes.

Dell Rheas Chicken Basket Restaurant is definitely another must stop on Illinois' part of the Main Street of America.

-Submitted by Laura and Jeff

Merchandisers

Businesses selling Association merchandise include: Arison Cafe, Ill. 16 and Old 66,

Litchfield; American Travel Masters, 410 N. Monroe, Litchfield; Pig Hip Restaurant, Old Rt. 66, Broadwell; Dixie Truckers Home, McLean; and Midwest Street Rods Route 66 Classic Cruisers, 512 E. Frontage (North), Bolingbrook, 1 1/2 miles east of Ill. 53.

Letter to the Editor

Jan. 14, 1991

Re: Renaming of Peoria Road

Dear Editor:

I am in the process of preparing an ordinance pertinent to the renaming of Peoria Road. I am suggesting that Peoria Road, from the Interstate 55 exit to the intersection of Ninth and Laurel Streets, be renamed Abe Lincoln/Old Rt. 66. It is my feeling that since this route leads to the Lincoln Home area from the north it would serve as a guide to tourists entering our city from the north. Old Rt. 66 would be incorporated into the name as this is what the street was known as prior to the naming it Peoria Road.

It is my hope that by working with various State and City officials, we will be able to coordinate the name change and improvement of Peoria Road with the improvement of Sangamon Avenue to Converse Street.

I realize that the official name change effective date would possibly have to be 18 months in the future; therefore I would like to get the process started as soon as possible and will do so by introducing an ordinance for the City Councils consideration in the near future.

Your ideas and suggestions on this project would be greatly appreciated. It is my feeling that the renaming of Peoria Road to Abe Lincoln Blvd./Old Rt. 66 will be good for tourism in the area. Please contact me by mail at the Municipal Building, Rm. 106, Springfield, IL 62701 or by calling me at 217/544-2504.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. Hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,
Bob Vose

Congratulations

Lowell Lovejoy, 405 W. Sixth St., Staunton 62088, was elected to the Board of Directors at the January meeting. Welcome aboard, Lowell!



ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

For sale

NEW _ ``SEARCHING FOR 66'' by Tom Teague, \$10, \$1.50 P & H
Black nylon jackets S-M-L-XXL \$20, \$21 XXL, \$1.50 P & H
NEW _ 91 Tour T-shirt S-M-L-XL-XXL \$10, \$11 XXL, \$1.50 P & H
Association Sweatshirt S-M-L-XL-XXL \$15, XXL \$26, \$1.50 P&H
Association Hat \$6, \$1.50 P & H
``Route 66 Roadside Companion'' by Snyder \$8.95, \$1.50 P & H
``Route 66 _ The Mother Road'' by Wallis, \$29.95, \$1.50 P & H
``Guidebook to Highway 66'' repro by Rittenhouse \$6.95, \$1.50 P&H
20 Waldmire original drawing postcards \$5, \$1 P & H
Shield fridge magnets \$4, \$1 P & H
Shield hat pin \$3, \$1 P & H
Repro Illinois Shield shape sign \$45, \$5 P & H
SEE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER FOR MORE GOODIES!
Illinois residents, add 7 percent sales tax. Send check or money
order to Association address on front of newsletter. Thanks!

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Route 66 Association of Illinois
P.O. Box 8262
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

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ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

THE 66 NEWS!

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ODELL
DOWNTOWN
GARDNER
BRIDGEWOOD
WILMINGTON
CREST HILL
JOLIET
ELWOOD

Lake Michigan

IN

October, 1991



Association members who attended the Governor's Hometown Awards ceremony in Springfield are, from left, Pat Knudsen, Deb Mileur, Priscilla Mathews, Bob Kustra, Laura and Jeff Meyer and Beth and Tom Teague.

Hometown Awards to be distributed

Each city that has served as a Motor Tour stop in the past two years will soon receive a 4- x 3-foot sign signifying that it is a participant in the Governor's Hometown Award recently received by the Route 66 Association in Illinois. The Association took first place in the economic development category for large cities. Awards were presented June 13 at a banquet in Springfield. One sign was received with the award, as well as a handsome plaque. Members voted at the July meeting to purchase a sign for each city included as a Motor Tour stop.

Route 66 Association of Illinois Board of Directors

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1208 W. Edwards
Springfield, Ill 62704
Term expires 10/91
(217) 787-8839

(Chuck Wright, cont.)
(309) 365-8105

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Rolling Meadows, Ill. 60008
Term expires 10/92
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AT LARGE

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Term expires 11/92
(309) 828-2925

Continued

Lou VanDiver
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Champaign, Ill. 61824
Term expires 10/91
(217) 356-4949

Mike Yates
Route 1
Washington, Ill. 61571
Term expires 10/91
(309) 745-3822

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
(Non-voting)
Nancy Saul
P.O. Box 159
McLean, Ill. 61754
Term expires 10/91

UNFILLED DIRECTORSHIPS:

Sangamon, Madison, Macoupin
Counties and one at-large.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN
RUNNING FOR OFFICE OR FILLING
ONE OF THESE DIRECTORSHIPS,
PLEASE CONTACT A MEMBER OF THE
NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Deb
Mileur at (217) 324-5551; Ray
Schroeder at (815) 584-1019;
Mike Yates at (309) 745-3822;
or Bud VanDiver at (217) 356-
4949.

Elections will be held at the
October meeting. Offices to be
filled are president, secretary,
at-large directors and
newsletter editor, to be voted
upon by all members with up-to-
date dues; and county directors,
to be voted upon by members in
the county they will represent.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND COME
AND CAST YOUR VOTE! The
election will be held Sunday,
Oct. 20, at the Cozy Dog Drive
In, 2935 South Sixth St.,
Springfield.

To date, three candidates
have announced their intentions

to run for president. They are
current President Tom Teague;
Vice-President Jeff Meyer; and
At-Large Board Member Tom
Knudsen. Pat Knudsen is running
for the office of secretary.

Depending upon who is elected
to fill the posts, other
vacancies may be created that
will also need to be filled.

Calendar of Events

Sept. 26-29_ Grundy County Corn
Festival, Morris. Ray and
Phyllis Starks will sell
merchandise. (815) 736-6259.

Oct. 5-6 _ Autumn on the
Boulevard, Williamsville.
Includes car show with 66 dash
plaques for first 100 entrants.

Oct. 20 _ ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION
MEETING AND ELECTION, Cozy Dog
Drive In, 2935 South Sixth St.,
Springfield, noon. Potluck
dinner, beverages provided.
Y'all come!

Brochures

Brochures with corrected
addresses are available from the
Association at P.O. Box 8262,
Rolling Meadows, Ill. 60008.

Over 5,000 are available with
the new address and stickers
with the new address are
available if you have old
brochures. Let's recycle and
save a tree!

Events and Merchandise

To list an upcoming event in
the newsletter, or volunteer to
sell merchandise at an event,
please contact Pat and Tom
Knudsen at 1202 Eastholme,
Bloomington, Ill. 61701,
telephone 309/828-2925; or Jeff
and Laura Meyer at 708/392-0860;
or Pris and Deb at 217/324-5551.

New Members

Welcome to the following new members who have joined the Association since the last newsletter:

Dennis Ast, Waynesville, Mo.; Jim Barnes, Davenport, Iowa; Big Boys Toys (Jack P. Shinn, Modesto; Bruce Billman, Danville; Diane Bingham, San Ramon, Calif.; Kenneth Bounds, Glen Ellyn; Ronald Carlson, Burbank, Calif.; Greg Carter, West Bend Wisc.; James and Rita Coulter, Elmhurst; the Rev. Vernon D. Covington, Florissant, Mo.; Vince Dawson, Chicago; Bill and Carolyn Decker, Earlville; Donald Dexter, Chicago; Dave and Shirley Deheve, Villa Park.

Rilla T. Doss, Wilmington; Dutch Route 66 Association, The Netherlands; Kenny Duvall, Merrillville, Ind.; Grace Eck, Crest Hill; Ken Edminster, Arlington Heights; Charles Forthe, Streator; Todd C. Franek, Naperville; Gerald & Lauren Gall, Carol Stream; Larry Gregory, DeKalb; Gordon E. Gunderson, Gardner; Monroe Hall, Normal; Harry and Lou Hammond, Riverton; Dorothy Hampton, Springfield; Hiroshi & Akiko Hanamura, Tokyo, Japan; Douglas Harner, Oakwood.

Claudia Harty, Barrington; Ed Hickey, Round Lake Beach; Robert and Ruth Huizinga, Glendale Heights; Michael Janik, Freeburg; Harvey Jenkins, Peoria; Kirlin, Egan & Butler Funeral Home, Springfield (Sustaining); Pat Kogan Productions, Inc., New York, N.Y. (Sustaining); Cheryl & Frank Krousch, Jacksonville; C.D. Lambert, Springfield; John Ledbetter, Bloomington; Harold Levy, Chicago; Kingsley & Marla Lewis, Lincoln; Charles and Jeanette Liddle, Joliet; Harold Lockhart, Joliet; Steve Loftin, Tulsa, Okla.; Joan Mahalik, Joliet; Tim Masten, Bloomington; Ray Mileur, Collinsville; Ada Moore (Hall Moore Stuff, Inc.), Lebanon, Mo.; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Moore, Streamwood; Jerry & Marge Nelson, Serena; Diane Patterson, Winslow, Ariz.

Phil Peabody, Chatham; Piquet Philippe, Belgium; Edward Piotrowski, Lockport; Marion Plass, Villa Park; Louis Pomatto, Marseilles; Ken Reinhart, Darien; Gene & Wilma Rhoades, Minooka; Harold Riney, Urbana; Allyn Rothbard, Park Forest; Raymond A. Rowden, Springfield; Terri Ryburn-LaMonte, Normal; William T. Shea, Springfield (Sustaining); Thomas Sherrod, Nicholasville, Ky.; Corvin L. Sinn, Marissa; Michael Slonaker, Kokomo, Ind.; Ted Smith, Frankfort; Walter Stanley, Highland Park; Steve Stovicek, Bellwood; Paul Stroble, Louisville, Ky.; Forrest C. Thomas, Rutland, Vt.; David Thoms, Towanda; John & Kathryn Tomazic, Kincaid.

Bobby Troup, (composer of "Get Your Kicks"), Encino, Calif.; Don Tworek, Harwood Heights; Len Vinyard, Palatine; Harry Von Lunteren, the Netherlands; Larry Weaver, Arlington Heights; Lucy Weiss, Baxter Springs, Kan.; Paul Wendland, LeRoy; Williamsville Community Foundation, Williamsville; Patti Zehr, Pontiac; Louis & Elizabeth Zindarcich, Downers Grove; Raymond & Sharon Zitek, Brookfield.

Dan Cokinos, St. Charles; Gladys Fairfield, Odell; Bill Wilkey, Odell; Wallace & Dorothy Dembinski, Arlington Heights; Carter Dunkin, St. Louis, Mo.; Len & Jan Harris, Bolingbrook;

Wayne & Dorothy Johnson, Mundelein; Roger & Toby Keirse, Lexington; McLean County Historical Society, Bloomington (Business); Welco Truck Stop, Bolingbrook; Robert Cole, Bloomington; William Griffin Agency, Springfield (Sustaining); Gerald F. Holmstrom, Wenoa; Robert Malinski, Cicero; Dave & Pat Mishuk, Indian Head Park; Laurie Perrilles, Normal; Scott Schenker, Chicago; and Tom Stazak, Palos Hills.

Class on 66 in progress

Association member and teacher Terri Ryburn-LaMonte is teaching a course at Illinois State University in Normal for honors students.

They are learning the history of Route 66 and will be conducting interviews with the hope of publishing a book, which will focus on the road from Chicago to St. Louis.

Terri would like to hear from anyone willing to be interviewed. The class is looking for people who lived or worked along the highway or who have fond memories of traveling on it.

Write to Terri at 107 E. Sycamore St., Normal, Ill. 61761, or call her at 309/452-5325 and leave a message on the answering machine.

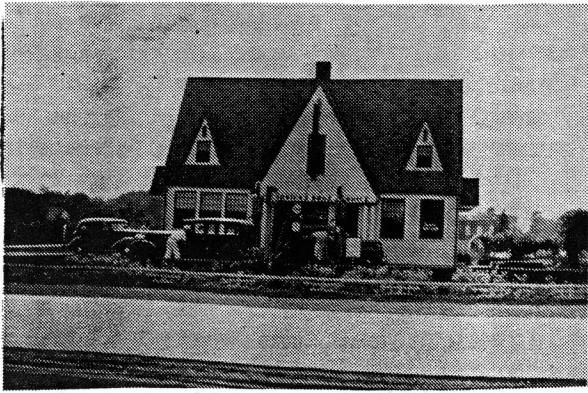
Nominations wanted

The Association is taking nominations for the 1992 Hall of Fame induction, which will be held June 13 during the Motor Tour.

Nominations should be no more than 150 words long and are due no later than Feb. 1, 1992. For more information, write to the Association, or call 708/392-0860.

Nov. 11, 1992, will be the 66th anniversary for Rt. 66. Celebrations are being planned all along the road. Share your celebration ideas soon!!

Slots were legal, but beer wasn't



**Hendricks Brothers Service Station,
Farmersville, circa 1935.**

Dorothy Burnet Hampton remembers when porkchops were a nickel and a good home sold for \$400, but distilled water cost more than gasoline. She remembers when farmers installed gas pumps on their land and sold fuel to the traveling public. She remembers when slot machines were legal and beer wasn't. And, she remembers when Route 66 began, because she watched it happen.

"We owned Hendricks Brothers Service in Farmersville from 1926 to 1937," Dorothy said, "and we did a little bit of everything — pump gas, serve food, sell beer. We even had six tourist cabins.

"I remember when 66 came through. They unloaded material off the railroad up in Waggoner and put a spur of pavement into the village. It was 1929 and we were expecting our first child, Charles. It was a hot summer and the detour west of 66 through the country was very muddy and impossible to travel. My husband Cecil's parents lived in Litchfield where the hospital was. His mother told me the first baby usually came early,

so I should come to Litchfield and wait. I went there on July 25. Charles was due August 7. I waited until August 25 to go to the hospital."

The Hamptons lived in a two-room apartment above the cafe. There was no air conditioning and Dorothy remembers that the thermometer in the cafe's kitchen always stood at 120 degrees — the highest it could go. The cafe had tables, but black people were served at the counter. Business boomed in 1932 and 1933 as people drove to the Chicago World's Fair, so the Hamptons started staying open 24 hours a day. When Prohibition ended, they started stocking beer due to popular demand. But many of the shipments wouldn't arrive because they'd be hijacked along the way. The station had a legal slot machine, but a robber took that one day, too.

The Hamptons sold the business in 1937 and moved to Waggoner. Dorothy now lives in Springfield. Art McAnarney and Martin Gorman bought the complex and renamed it Art's Cafe. On the evening of Nov. 10, 1952, Charles Hampton and his wife were driving to the hospital for the birth of their second child. But as they passed through Farmersville, they noticed a fire. It was the old family business. Although the time between contractions was growing shorter, they sat awhile anyway and watched as another monument of 66 went up in smoke.

-Submitted by Tom Teague

Down the Road

By Jeff and Laura Meyer

IN MISSOURI the first Historic Route 66 signs went up July 3 at the corner of Glenstone and Kearney in Springfield. This and 299 other signs will be installed by the Missouri State Highway and Transportation Department from St. Louis to Joplin.

IN KANSAS, after doing a terrific job for a year, Bruce Meyer and Carolyn Brozec handed the presidency of the association over to Scott Nelson. Last spring, House Bill No. 2040 made Kansas Route 66 a historic highway and signs will be up shortly.

IN OKLAHOMA, the second annual cruise from one end of the state to the other was held June 8-9. Contests were held and a good time was had by all. The 1992 tour will be the first weekend in June. The annual meeting of the Oklahoma Association was held in Weatherford and Danny Scott was elected president.

IN TEXAS, we attended the Old Route 66 Association Convention May 4. Eight members were inducted into their Hall of Fame. At the meeting, Charlie Marie Shurley was nominated as president. The Route 66 Rodeo took place June 14-15. Texas has proclaimed 1992 as The Year of Route 66!

IN NEW MEXICO, a Route 66 Day will be designated Sept. 18 at the state fair. The New Mexico Association will be in the Balloon Fiesta Parade. A "Neon Tour," featuring El Vado Motel, the Downtown 66 Station and the 66 Diner, will be held on Route

66 in Albuquerque.

IN ARIZONA, the Route 66 Distillery in Kingman has returned (sort of). Most of the memorabilia that was in the restaurant is now gracing the walls and floors of the Quality Inn and the new Continental Breakfast Room which replaces the gift shop in the motel. The Fifth Route 66 Fun Run will be April 24-26, 1992.

IN CALIFORNIA, In July, the California legislature named Route 66 a State Historic Highway from the Arizona/California border to the ocean in Santa Monica. The event was sponsored by Jerry Eques who, coincidentally, is from the 66th District — that figures.

In other news, we had our first visitor from Tokyo. Hiroshi Hanamura and his wife, Akiki, traveled the Mother Road from Chicago to L.A. Hiroshi is doing a photo essay for Good Press Magazine.

Phil Hopper (and Pat Kogan Productions) is compiling tunes and interviews on high density TV. The three-part musical documentary will be entitled "Route 66 — The Road West."

Marian Clark from Tulsa is putting out a Route 66 cookbook. She is compiling notes, recipes and stories about the road, the people and their history.

Rand McNally 1992 Road Atlas will feature a two-page story on Rt. 66. Mail in the attached coupon, for a 48 x 40-inch map of 66 with pictures and post cards setting the mood — and check out the credits.



Map and chili mix

Bob Waldmire, member of the Hall of Fame Cozy Dog family, has been working on a map of Route 66 for about three years and predicts it will be out sometime this fall — which is good, because he's vowed not to get out on the road again until it's done. Those who know Bob know how much he loves to travel Old 66, so let's hope he has great success with the deadline and the map.

Done in his distinctive "bird's eye view" style, the map (several pages long) will include all eight states that Route 66 passed through and a separately printed legend.

But that's not the only iron Bob has in the fire — or the only pot he has on the stove.

"My chili mix will be packaged soon," he says. Bob sent along a chili mix label, also adorned in his distinctive style.

He also sent "many thanks to the Bunn-Capitol Co. of Springfield for donating 1,000 plastic, re-useable coffee cups for use at the Cozy Drive In during the Motor Tour this year."

Bunn-Capitol Co. is located on Old Bypass 66 (now Stevenson Drive) and is the maker of world-famous Bunn Coffee Makers. Thank you, Bunn-Capitol!

Teague book in second printing

Although it's been out only since May, Association President Tom Teague's book, "Searching for 66," is in its second printing.

The Los Angeles Daily News called "Searching" a "pop American gothic, embellished with neon and homemade chili."

The Daily News review, which was picked up by the New York Times News Service and reprinted in newspapers throughout the country, added "The book should be standing proud on the shelves of big bookstores."

Tom has done book signings from Pontiac, Ill., to Hydro, Okla.; direct mail; and other advertising. But most important, he's negotiated agreements with national and regional book distributors to handle his book. Most bookstore chains will not buy from an individual publisher.

"In all the years I was working on this book, I considered self-publishing to be my last resort," Tom said. "But now I see it as the 66 way. No one got anything for nothing along 66. If a person wanted something, they had to earn it or make it themselves. But when they finally got it, they appreciated it more. That's the way I feel about this book. It's shown me that the entrepreneurial spirit, properly lubricated with elbow grease and a drop or two of inspiration, is still alive on Route 66."

"Searching" can be ordered either from the Association, or directly from Teague.

Knudsens kept busy summer schedule

Tom, Pat and Matt Knudsen of Normal have had a busy summer selling Association merchandise throughout Central Illinois. In fact, Pat is so organized, she not only sold merchandise up and down 66, but even submitted the following report of the Knudsen's activities.

She asked that a big THANK YOU be included for her son, Matt, who did a lot of packing and carrying and setting up and tearing down and for his friend, Leah, who helped man the booth at the Chevy Show in Bloomington.

The Knudsens started with Cruise Into Spring May 10-11 at the Logan County Fairgrounds. Tom Teague was there to sign his book, which was on sale for the first time.

Thanks to Priscilla Mathew, Deb Mileur, Nancy and Ray Saul and family, Thressia and Ken Usherwood, Paul Gleason, Howie and Michelle Thornley and other club members who stopped by to chat. It's always a big lift to have someone from the Association stop by when we are at a function.

Also thanks to the KC's of Lincoln for asking us to participate. There was a lot of good food, music and friendship.

On June 2, we participated in the Central Illinois Classic Chevy Club Car Show at Century Chevrolet in Bloomington. The club is a member of the Association.

They had about 80 cars in the show and a large swap area that was well attended. Sandwiches and drinks were furnished by the Double Nickle, another business that promotes the Association. It is owned by member Don Geiselman.

Thanks to Deb and Priscilla

for helping us close up; to the Chevy Club for promoting us during the show; and to Tim Haney for the good music he played.

On June 15, the Association attended the Hang Loose Chapter VI Car Show in Pontiac (165 cars in the show) at Humiston Riverside Park.

Special thanks to Bill and Barb Gwodz of Brookfield and grandson, Joey, who helped sell merchandise; the Hang Loose committee and the Hockenberrys and Pritchards who checked to see if we were satisfied with everything; and members and friends who stopped by.

We had a good day and got everything in the car before it started to rain.

June 28-30 was a very hot weekend, but the Knudsens set up at the Bloomington Gold Corvette Show at the McLean County Fairgrounds.

Although the Association was set up in what was to be a high traffic area, Pat felt that we could have done better elsewhere.

Thanks to Jeff Meyer, Priscilla and Deb for all their efforts and frustrations in representing the Association. We could all have found cooler places to be that weekend, but at least we got some information out about the Association and 66.

Twelve neat little Corvairs were on display at the Prairie Capital Corvair Association Car Show at the original Steak and

Shake Restaurant in Normal on July 14, and the Knudsens were there too.

The day was pleasant, and a lot of people asked about 66. Thanks to Bob Teague for asking us to join your event.

On Aug. 17, the Association

Continued

(Knudsens continued)

attended Wolfpack Car Club Cruise Night at the historic Skyview Drive-In in Litchfield, the LAST drive-in on Rt. 66.

The open cruise was for all cars and highlights included 50s-60s music, dash plaques and drawings all evening long. There were more than 200 cars when the movie began.

Priscilla and Deb were there selling merchandise and a lot of people stopped by and picked up Route 66 literature. The Knudsens stopped to see all of the neat cars and help with the promotion.

Deb and Priscilla were on hand again with merchandise sales and 66 promotions Aug. 23-25 at Litchfield's Party in the Park.

They had a very nice display and were lucky to be under a tent, as the weekend was very hot. They also had a lot of literature on places to visit and you could make your travel reservations through American Travel Masters where they both work.

American Travel Masters carries Association memorabilia and Deb and Priscilla are always glad to help you with travel plans.

The Knudsens stopped by on Saturday to visit the tent and enjoy the activities.

(Priscilla and Deb, we know you both had a lot of other obligations as well for Party in the Park, so we really appreciate all of the effort you put into promoting the Association that weekend!)

On Sept. 1, the Knudsens, as well as Ray and Dorothy Schroeder of Dwight, were on hand for The Best Little Car Show by a Dam Site at Wilmington.

The car show is held in a beautiful park on an island

surrounded by the Kankakee River. This year was a real shock, as the riverbank was empty — all of the water and fish were gone and people were walking across the river bottom.

The show had over 700 entries including both cars and trucks in a variety of classes. The Association had a good spot and collected a lot of names of people interested in information about the 1992 Motor Tour, as well as car clubs willing to help with the tour.

Picnic

The first Route 66 Association of Illinois picnic was held Sept. 22 at the Atlanta City Park pavilion.

Despite cool weather, 68 members and five guests attended from throughout the state.

Atlanta Mayor Dale Colaw welcomed the group and tours of Atlanta's Hawes Elevator, Library and Museum and Museum Annex were given during the day.

Thanks to Deane May and Dennis Smith for information about the elevator project. Lucille Pech and Vaughn Craft welcomed us at the library and annex. Members also enjoyed browsing through Sherman's Antique Store.

Picnic planning was done by Tom and Pat Knudsen (Tom also grills a mean hot dog), Priscilla Mathews and Deborah Mileur. Betty McLellan secured the use of the park and arranged the tours. It would be nice to make this an annual event, so let's try for a bigger and better one next year.

-Submitted by Betty McLellan

Cooked RIGHT Served RIGHT Priced RIGHT

A "Better Place to Eat"

The Ariston

The "St. Louis-Springfield"

Restaurant

Nicholas P. Adam
Proprietor

Old Rt. 
Litchfield, IL 62056
217-324-2023

Minutes

June 2, 1991

The Motor Tour meeting began at noon at the Mount Hope Township Building in McLean.

Plans were finalized for the Friday evening pre-registration to start at 6 p.m. at Jim Fryer's Street Rod at Bollingbrook with the Chicken Basket of Willowbrook serving dinners. There will be a remote broadcast and a car show.

People staying in the suburbs need to be downtown by 7 a.m. The Mayor's Special Events Office has been contacted and we are to let them know about anything we need. We will also talk to the police.

We will need a table for registration Saturday morning and will ask State Farm for a table. A portable megaphone will also be needed to hollar at each other with.

Jeff Meyer and Dan Cuscian will coordinate parking. The volunteered to arrange cars and will be there at 7 a.m. The State Farm crew will arrive at the lobby of the Congress Hotel at 5 p.m. Friday.

John Stonecipher reported that he has spoken with the mayor of Odell in the last two days. State Farm has contacted him twice and wants jobs for 15 people. They have traffic control, parking, a large tent, community building, and news media all taken care of. They are planning to serve 800 people and will sell merchandise both Friday and Saturday.

They have taken care of electricity for the stage and music; a Rustic Car Show; portapotties; placement of the arch; a staging area at the edge of town; and the formal portion of the program will be at 1 p.m.

Mike Drieden of Wilmington has donated a shade lamp that was used on the bridge in

Wilmington where Route 66 crossed the bridge. He would like to have it displayed in the Hall of Fame.

At McLean, Chuck Wright Sr. volunteered to be the master of ceremonies. C.J. Beeler said she will get the flat bed, steps for the flat bed, the podium and electricity. Mary Barr, McLean mayor, will get the chairs and bleachers.

They will enter the arch in line and it will be set up the same place it was last year. Tom Teague will check with State Farm and let Glaida Funk know if we have to have people direct traffic. Eric Hince did the signs from Chicago to Lincoln last year. Look for a white sign with a black arrow. Signs from Lincoln to Springfield and from Divernon to Staunton will be put up by Priscilla Mathew and Deb Mileur.

There will be an ice cream truck at Steve's in Chenoa. The Hall of Fame program should last 30 minutes, so stretch out the program. The band will play music on the stage. The two-piece band will make the entire tour. They play middle of the road music.

The MC will introduce association officers. The presentee will escort the nominee up the stairs. We will have Ernie present the Walmires. All presentees will be there by 3 p.m. and the ceremony will start at 3:30 p.m. Those already inducted into the Hall of Fame will already be on the stage.

After the Hall of Fame induction, we will gather at the Holiday Inn in Lincoln for the parade to downtown Lincoln, leaving the Holiday Inn at 6:30 p.m. after everyone has checked into their rooms.

Continued

Lincoln will have a stage, entertainment, food vendors, stores open and giveaways. They will have goodie bags at the arch and will stamp the passports. Entertainment will be the Senior Citizen group, the pep band, Abe Lincoln and our band.

We will congregate at the Holiday Inn Sunday a.m. and will try to have Auxiliary Police direct traffic through Lincoln. We plan to leave the Holiday Inn parking lot at 8:30 a.m. Sunday and proceed as a group through Broadwell, Elkhart, Williamsville, Sherman and to the Cozy Dog where cars will drive through the arch.

At Litchfield, we will congregate at the drive-in theater. The mayor will lead the parade into town. The arch will be block further away from where it was last year. parking will be in a designate parking lot. The ceremony will be at 2 p.m. Priscilla Mathew, president of the Litchfield Chamber of Commerce, will present the Association board members.

There will be a PA by the stage for us to use. The band will play at the arch and on stage. The Litchfield mayor will do something for us. There will be a car show with giveaways, a 350 Chevy engine. The mayor will stamp the passports. Everyone is invited to attend a movie at the drive-in the Sunday evening of the tour and tour participants are invited to stay at the Gardens in Litchfield. The Gardens will open for breakfast at 7 a.m. Monday morning for tour participants and the mayor will host the breakfast.

At Granite City, everything is pretty well together. The

Chain of Rocks Bridge has a fence around it. Two 45-seat buses will take people to the lock and dam and give them a historical tour at no charge. Buses will leave every half hour starting at 3:30 or 4 p.m. There will be entertainment at the shopping center. Granite City will be the official end of the tour.

The window sticker will be orange this year. Tom Teague will be in downtown Chicago by noon Friday. The passport and dash plaques will go to the Fairfield Inn and should be there by noon Friday.

Maybe the letters on the sign and outside of the shield should be black, not just an outline, but solid.

Tom Teague will put the plaque in the Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame committee discussed nominations. Everyone stayed and helped stuff goody bags. A mailing was also put together in envelopes, labeled and sealed to be mailed to all tour participants.

-Pat Knudsen, secretary

August 4, 1991

The board of directors met at 1 p.m. at the National Guard Armory in Bloomington to go over and discuss the budget. Seventeen people were present.

Tom Teague opened the meeting and gave his regrets that he couldn't attend the last general meeting in Chenoa. He said it sounded like we had a lot of important business to take care of today.

As Tom understands it, the main purpose of the meeting is to discuss and understand the Association's finances, where the money comes from, where it goes, what our assets are, where they are, what forms we need to

Continued

(Minutes continued)

file to maintain our Not-for-profit status, and Tax Exempt status, and make whatever decisions we care to about that.

If there is time after we finish the financial discussion, Tom said he guessed we could bring up other matters if we wished. Everyone is welcome to stay and talk and go over records if they would like to.

Tom said we obviously had a good meeting without him the last time and could have another one.

Jeff began by explaining the handouts. The 990 EZ was the filing for last year from when we went to have it done. The accountant said it should cover the period from when we started taking money at the Taste of Country Fair in 1989, to Nov. 1, 1990. It would be figured on what we took in from July 1, 1989, to June 30, 1990. Each board member was sent a copy of this last year.

We have applied for 1023 and 501C3, recognition for Tax Exempt status. We have gotten the papers back twice, first for the dissolution clause that put us in under 501C3 for the Internal Revenue Code. It was taken from the bylaws.

A nominating committee, chaired by Deb Mileur, was appointed. Other members are Mike Yates, Ray Schroeder and Bud VanDiver. (See the list of board members and seats to be filled elsewhere in this issue).
-Pat Knudsen, secretary

WANTED! ANYTHING RELATED TO RT. 66!

Hats, Old Maps,
Postcards, Motel keys



Matchbooks, signs,
Newspaper clippings,
Odds & ends!

THE ORIGINAL ROADOLOGISTS!

Jeff & Laura Meyer
2802 Fremont St.
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

(708) 392-0860

Congratulations

Congratulations to Association President Tom Teague of Springfield and Beth Standley of Jacksonville who were married at an 11:30 a.m. ceremony Saturday, Aug. 31, at St. James Church in Decatur. A reception followed at Maldiners Restaurant in Springfield.

The newlyweds are at home at 1208 W. Edward St., Springfield.

Get well wishes

Get well wishes to V.P. Jeff Meyer who, on his way to Litchfield, fell down some stairs at Lexington and pulled a tendon in his right knee.

He's home now, after a stay at St. Joseph's Hospital (he only went there 'cause it's on Rt. 66) in Bloomington. Jeff expects to return to work some time in January if all goes well.

Tony Saul, son of Ray and Nancy (newsletter) Saul of McLean, is back on his feet again after a stay at St Joe's during a bout with viral meningitis.

Condolences

Our sympathy goes out to members George and Tom Knudsen of Normal and their families upon the recent loss of their mother, Mrs. Leila Knudsen of Normal.

We also extend our sympathy to the family of Association member Kingsley Lewis, 54, of Lincoln, who died Friday, Aug. 2. Survivors include his wife, Marla, of Lincoln, three sons, Michael, Mark and Mitchell and two daughters, Angela Tucker and Valerie Lewis.

Route 66 Association Merchandise

Black nylon/polyester lined jackets \$20 + \$1.50 P&H
S,M,L,XL,XXL (Add \$1 for XXL)

Association t-shirts \$10 + \$1.50 P&H
S,M,L,XL,XXL (Add \$1 for XXL)

Association hat \$6 + \$1.50 P&H

Association sweatshirt \$15 + \$1.50 P&H
S,M,L,XL,XXL (Add \$1 for XXL)

All above items have black with red shield design by Bob Waldmire.

Route 66_The Mother Road by Michael Wallis \$25 + .50 P&H

Illinois U.S. metal shield fridge magnets \$4 + \$1 P&H

Set of 20 Bob Waldmire postcards \$5 + \$1 P&H

B & W shield hat pin \$3 + \$1 P&H

``We get our kicks'' bumper sticker .50 + .50 P&H

Button, same as above .50 + .50 P&H

Rubber Ill.-shaped keychain with 66 map \$2 + \$1 P&H

Rubber magnet, same as above \$2 + \$1 P&H

Waldmire t-shirt design window decal \$2 + .50 P&H

1929 repro Rt. 66 sign, 16 x 16 1/2'' \$45 + \$5 P&H

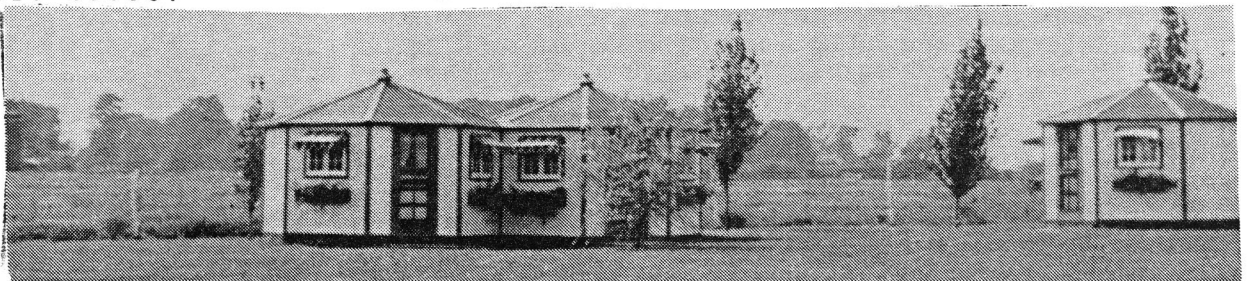
``Searching for 66'' by Tom Teague \$10 + \$1.50 P&H

Set of salt and pepper shakers \$5 + \$1.50 P&H

Set metal license plate frames \$5 + \$1.50 P&H

ILLINOIS RESIDENTS ADD 7 PERCENT SALES TAX

Route 66 Association of Illinois, P. O. Box 8262, Rolling Meadows, IL. 60008.



Cabins at Hendricks' Station at Farmersville rented for \$1.75, single or \$3.50, double in 1935.



ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

'Guidebook' author dies

A legend of the highway is gone. Jack Rittenhouse, 78, author of "A Guidebook to Highway 66," died of cancer Saturday, Aug. 10, 1991, at his home in Albuquerque.

The guidebook — a classic — for which Association members best remember him was but one of his many accomplishments. Colleagues say he was one of the foremost historians of the southwest. A former president of the New Mexico Historical Society, he was named director of the Museum of New Mexico Press in 1967. He had been Southwestern editor, University of New Mexico Press since 1969.

He had been a hobo, mailboy and 42nd Street sideshow barker. He was an ad man and technical writer in California and Texas. His Stagecoach Press, founded in 1951, published more than 50 books.

In the '60s, with his wife, Charlotte, he photographed small towns all over New Mexico with the idea that someone could come back years later and re-photograph them for a "then and now."

The photos are being preserved by the Rio Grande Historical Collection at New Mexico State University. Memorial contributions may be made to Rittenhouse Historical Photo Project, C/O Rio Grande Historical Collections at NMSU, Box 3006, Las Cruces, N. M. 88003.

Mr. Rittenhouse is survived by Charlotte, his wife of 47 years; sons David of Westmont, Ill., and Douglas of Austin, Texas; and daughters Susan of Plano, Texas, and Ann of Livermore, Calif.

ILLINOIS

Route 66 Association of Illinois

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