



ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

THE 66 NEWS!

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January 1992

A LEGEND RETIRES

by Tom Teague

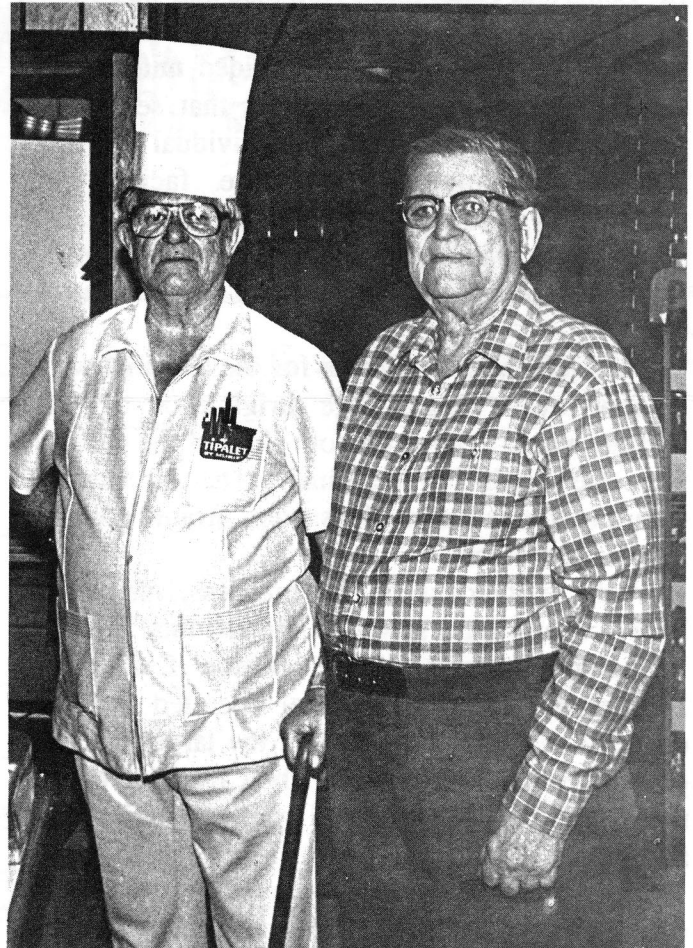
The "Closed for Remodeling" sign is in the window again at Ernie Edwards' Pig Hip Restaurant in Broadwell. This does not mean, of course, that any remodeling is actually going on inside. Ernie knows too well to tinker with a classic. The sign is just Ernie's time-honored way of saying he's taking some time off. What's different this time is that the sign may never come down again.

Ernie started slicing his trademark ham sandwiches at the Pig Hip in 1937. Over the past decade, even before the Route 66 revival began, Ernie's been the subject of dozens of articles and TV features. In 1990, he was one of the first people inducted into the Route 66 Hall of Fame of Illinois. And the 1992 Rand McNally atlas recommends the Pig Hip in its insert on Route 66. All this attention has brought so many visitors that Ernie and his wife Frances found themselves working 12 to 14 hours a day this past summer--most of it by themselves.

"Then we took a vacation after Labor Day and liked it so much we thought we'd make it permanent," Ernie said. "So we retired. The Pig Hip is closed. I'm selling the fixtures. My big project now is repairing my breezeway."

Ernie holds out the possibility that he may reopen the Pig Hip next spring as a museum, but doesn't advise anyone to hang much hope on it.

"I'm 75 now and Frances is 72," he said. "We thought it was time to start preparing for old age." He will, however, remain active in the association as a member of our board.



Ernie Edwards and longtime customer



"ILLINOIS — WHERE THE ROAD BEGAN."

JOHN MECKLES AND THE 66 TERMINAL

by Al Lopinot

The 66 Terminal was a well known truck stop on Route 66 near Staunton, Illinois. John C. Meckles became involved with the facility when it opened on July 26, 1940. The motel-restaurant-gas station-truck stop was built by Joe Roseman of nearby Hillsboro. John operated the service station part of the business. In 1951, he purchased the entire facility from Roseman and ran it until Interstate 55 bypassed the business in 1978--at which time it was closed.

The 66 Terminal was a major truck stop between St. Louis and Chicago on Route 66 and was known nationwide by truckers. The facility consisted of a gas station and garage that provided minor repair work and tune-ups, a restaurant that seated 100 people, and a motel with ten individual cabins of two rooms apiece. The entire facility was constructed of brown ceramic block. In 1959, a 2-story motel was added on. Fifty-four employees worked at the business, which was open around the clock.

The identifying landmark for the terminal was a 65-foot tower with a large dirigible on top as a weather vane. Printed on both sides of the dirigible were the words "66 Terminal." The Air National Guard used this landmark as a turn around point for its practice flights.

In the early days of the business, many well known sports stars stayed at the terminal's motel, including members of the Boston Celtics and Pittsburgh Pirates. The motel operated at 95 % capacity year around. Some of the larger trucking companies had contracts for their truckers to stay there. The facility was listed in all the major truck and tourist directories.

Some interesting facts concerning the early operations of the 66 Terminal include: Bull Durham was the most widely sold tobacco; close to 30,000 gallons of fuel were sold each month; heat to all the buildings was supplied underground from a single heating plant; "cool cushions" were one of the biggest sellers to truckers and tourists and were purchased in half truck loads; coffee and coke sold for a nickel (the coke icebox had a cigar box on top for people to put their money in and it was never short); and gas sold for 16 cents, with truckers getting a 2-5 cent discount.



From a 1954 Phillips 66 promotional book

The terminal's restaurant was well known for its fried chicken. Just before the closing in 1978, complete chicken dinners were selling for \$2.25.

John Meckles served in the U.S. Navy from 1942-1945. During that time, his wife Jen managed the financial end of the service station business. After World War II, many people would drive to Detroit via Route 66 to pick up new cars they had purchased. These cars had break-in oil that had to be changed at 500 miles. On their way home, the drivers of these cars would stop at the terminal for the night and have the midnight shift change their oil and grease their car. Three men were kept busy for several years just doing this at the terminal.

In addition to the service station, a jobber service was operated to provide farmers with fuel and homes with heating oil in the Mount Olive and Staunton areas.

John was born July 18, 1909 and died July 17, 1990. He lived in Litchfield. He thought so much of Route 66 and Phillips 66 gasoline that he had his home address listed as 66 Northcrest Drive. His son, John D. Meckles, lives in Staunton and operated the business with his father as a partner from 1961 to 1978.



OFFICERS ELECTED

At our annual meeting last October at the Cozy Dog Drive In in Springfield, Tom Teague and Pat Knudsen were re-elected as president and secretary, respectively. They were joined by new board members Frank Lozich (Cook County), Ernie Edwards (Logan), Ray Rowden (Sangamon), Russell Soulsby (Macoupin), Ray Mileur (Madison), Mike Janik (St. Clair) and Howie Thornley, John Stonecipher and Ryan Russell (at large). In addition Mike Yates and Lou Vandiver were re-elected as an at-large member and Tom Knudsen, who had been an at-large member, was elected to represent McLean County. All board members and officers

serve two-year terms. Offices and board positions not elected this year will be elected in 1992.

We wish all officers and board members the best of success as they lead our association forward. But we want to especially note that two Hall of Famers, Ernie Edwards and Russell Soulsby, signed on as board members. These two gentlemen are what we're all about. We're proud that they're going to be with us--not only in the Hall, but also at our board meetings.

Below is a list of officers and board members. Please feel free to contact them when you have 66 business to discuss.

PRESIDENT

Tom Teague
1208 W. Edwards
Springfield, IL 62704
217-787-8839

Toni Wilda, Will
106 N. Nicholson #3
Joliet, IL 60435
815-726-5875
723-6666

Russell Soulsby, Macoupin
600 W. 3rd St.
Mount Olive, IL 62069
217-999-3191

VICE PRESIDENT

Jeff Meyer
2802 Fremont St.
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008
708-392-0860

Ray Starks, Grundy
Box 48, R.R. 1 Lisbon
Newark, IL 60541
815-736-6261

Ray Mileur, Madison
116 Rolling Oaks
Collinsville, IL
618-344-3883

TREASURER

Laura Meyer
(as above)

Ray Schroeder, Livingston
217 Andrew Ave.
Dwight, IL 60420
815-584-1019

Mike Janik, St. Clair
3530 State Route 159
Freeburg, IL 62243
618-277-5459

SECRETARY

Pat Knudsen
1202 Eastholm
Bloomington, IL 61701
309-828-2925

Tom Knudsen, McLean
1202 Eastholm
Bloomington, IL 61701
309-828-2925

Ryan Russell, At Large
623 14th St.
Peru, IL 61354
815-233-4142

BOARD MEMBERS

Frank Lozich, Cook
7270 W. 174th Place
Tinley Park, IL 60475
708-429-9173

Ernie Edwards, Logan
P.O. Box 63
Broadwell, IL 62623

John Stonecipher, At Large
216 E. Prairie St.
Odell, IL 60460
815-998-2161

Jeff Lessenberry, DuPage
3231 Fox Dr., Apt. 2C
Woodridge, IL 60512
708-910-3498

Ray Rowden, Sangamon
1 Kingston Dr.
Springfield, IL 62701
217-522-4926

Howie Thornley, At Large
R.R. 2, Box 96
Ashland, IL
217-476-3593

Priscilla Matthews, Montgomery
410 N. Monroe
Litchfield, IL 62056
217-324-5551

Lou Vandiver, At Large
2504 Berkshire Ct.
Champaign, IL 61824
217-356-4949

Mike Yates, At Large
Route 1
Washington, IL 61571
309-745-3822

TEST YOUR 66 I.Q.

Okay, so there's nothing really trivial about 66. But here are some questions anyway to test you knowledge of the road's lore:

1. In what cities did Route 66 begin and end?
2. When was Route 66 created?
3. When did 66 cease to be a national highway?
4. Who wrote the song "(Get Your Kicks on) Route 66"?
5. Where did he write it?
6. Who started in the Route 66 TV series?
7. How many states did Route 66 pass through?
8. What states did Route 66 pass through?
9. What was the southernmost city on Route 66?
10. What was the northernmost city on Route 66?
11. Where in Chicago did Route 66 begin?
12. Where is the Pig Hip Restaurant?
13. Who wrote the theme song for the Route 66 TV series?
14. Name two Indian reservations through which Route 66 passed.
15. What great American was Route 66 at one time named after?
16. What city on Route 66 has the longest name?
17. Name the intersection in Santa Monica which marks Route 66's western end.
18. What state along Route 66 has the most Indians?
19. What strange "parking lot" is located in Amarillo?
20. What did John Steinbeck call Route 66 in Grapes of Wrath?
21. Near what Route 66 city does Snoopy's brother, Spike, live?
22. How long was Route 66?
23. What was unusual about the stretch of Route 66 in Oklahoma which was known as the Sidewalk Highway?
24. Through what great American desert does Route 66 pass?
25. What unusual material was a desert portion of Route 66 paved with?
26. Name as many roadbed surfaces for Route 66 as you can.
27. Route 66 crossed at least two rivers named after states. Name them.
28. Where did Route 66 cross the Rio Grande River?
29. What was the speed limit on Route 66 during World War II?
30. Name a bridge which 66 used to cross the Mississippi.
31. What great foot race was run along Route 66?
32. Who won?
33. Name the cities Bobby Troup sang about in "Route 66."
34. How many "Okies" drove Route 66 to California during the Dust Bowl?
35. What Oklahoma folksinger wrote two songs about Route 66?
36. In his song "This Land Is Your Land," what was Woody Guthrie referring to when he said, "I went walkin' that ribbon of highway"?
37. Who first recorded "Route 66"?

38. Name at least five artists or groups who've recorded "Route 66".

39. What city was the approximate midpoint of 66?

40. What state had more miles of Route 66 in it than any other state?

41. What famous architect once called Route 66 "A giant chute down which everything loose in the nation is sliding into southern California"?

42. What president's home stands within a block of Route 66?

43. What highway association first called its road "The Main Street of America"?

44. What are the first and last Route 66 cities in Illinois?

45. What are the first and last Route 66 cities in Missouri?

45. What are the first and last Route 66 cities in Kansas?

46. What are the first and last Route 66 cities in Oklahoma?

47. What are the first and last Route 66 cities in Texas?

48. What are the first and last Route 66 cities in New Mexico?

49. What are the first and last Route 66 cities in Arizona?

50. What are the first and last Route 66 cities in California?

51. What village on Route 66 was bought in its entirety by the federal government?

52. What city name occurs twice along Route 66?

53. What city along 66 has more neon per capita than any city except Las Vegas?

54. What is the largest cemetery along Route 66?

MEETINGS AND STUFF

The January board meeting will take place at noon, Sunday, January 12 at Holiday Inn/Days Inn in Lincoln. The April meeting will take place on April 5 at the Best Western Gardens in Litchfield. The July and October meetings are not yet set. Anyone who wants to host a meeting should call Tom Teague at 217-787-8839.

Any ideas on merchandise and people who want to help sell merchandise at our events should call Jeff and Laura Meyer at 708-392-0860, Tom and Pat Knudsen at 309-828-2925, Priscilla Matthews and Deb Mileur at 217-324-5551, or any board member.

To nominate someone to the Hall of Fame or donate something to it, contact Tom Teague, 1208 W. Edwards, Springfield, IL 62704, phone 217-787-8839.

Any material for the newsletter should also be sent to Tom.

Anyone interested in getting their local event put on our Calendar of Events should contact Pat Knudsen, 1202 Eastholm, Bloomington, IL 61701-or get in touch with your local board member.

For back copies of the newsletter, contact Jeff Meyer, 2802 Fremont, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008. We have all but the first two issues.

1992 MOTOR TOUR

Our third annual Route 66 Motor Tour will be held June 12-14, 1992. With 1992 being the 66th anniversary of the highway, it promises to be a big year along the Mother Road. Look for more details in the next issue of the newsletter.

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

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

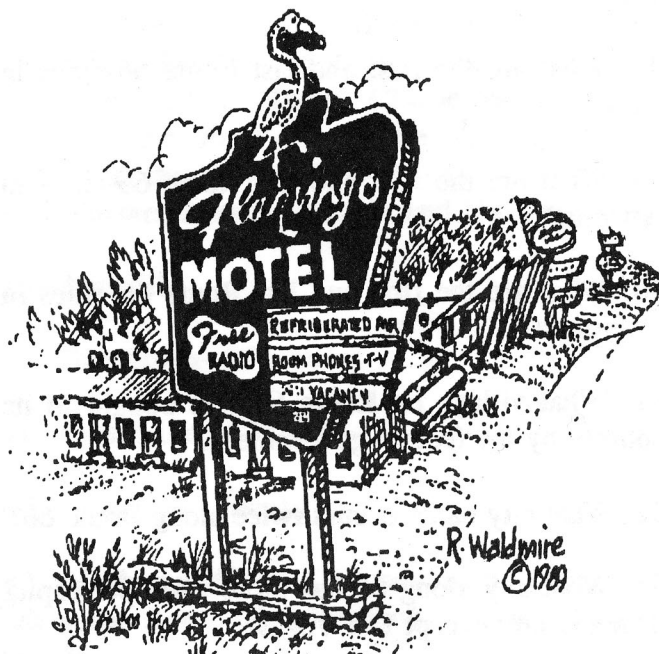
by Tom Teague

I know I've dwelled on this theme before, but I'm still amazed whenever I look back on how much we've done and how far we've come in our first two years as an association. When I stood up at our founding meeting in Dwight in 1989 and suggested three goals for the coming year--a motor tour, a Hall of Fame and a brochure--I was flying on faith. But we accomplished every one of those goals. This year, we did all three again, then topped things off with a Governor's Home Town Award. A big reason for our success is that we had a good subject--Route 66 and all the values and traditions that it stood for. But a bigger reason is that we've been able to work together. Our success has not come from the efforts of a few--it has come from the efforts of hundreds of people from Chicago to St. Louis. Differences between people exist in any organization. But in ours, the sense of community has prevailed. Let's not get puffed up about that, though. Let's just stay on the good road.

NEW MEMBERS AS OF NOVEMBER 1991

Richard Abraham, Minneapolis, MN
Ballhagen Woodcraft, Lebanon, MO
Bank of Dwight, Dwight
Paul and Mary Barnett, Somonauk
Dana Bomer, Bellwood
Thomas Boyd, Joliet
Donald Cartwright, Crest Hill
Dan Cokinos, St. Charles
Robert Cole, Bloomington
Michael and Shona Darter, Mahomet
Wally & Dorothy Dembinski, Arlington Heights
Robert Dombroski, Chicago
Carter Dunkin, St. Louis, MO
Gladys Fairchild, Odell
Don Ferder, Aurora, MO
Juan and Kathryn Gonzales, Park Forest
Len & Jan Harris, Bolingbrook
LaWanda Henry, Bloomington
Mary Hoffman, Champaign
Gerald Holmstrom, Wenona
Mary Howard, Wilmington

Phylliss Janik & Hilary Tindle,
Hinsdale
Wayne & Dorothy Johnson, Mundelein
Roger & Toby Keirse, Lexington
Pat Kogan Productions, New York, NY
Jeff Lange, Knoxville, TN
Robert Malinski, Historical Society
of Cicero, IL
Ken & June Marbes, Lyons
Millie Martin, Rancho Cucamonga, CA
Jerry McClanahan, Streetman, TX
Mike & Rita McRoberts, Shelbyville
William Miller, Chicago
Dave & Pat Mishuk, Indian Head Park
Jim Mullahy, Westmont
Michael Overholt, Brookfield, WI
Steven Pasek, Oak Forest
Laurie Parrilles, Normal
Rand McNally Corp., Skokie
Ryan Russell, Peru
Scott Schenker, Chicago
James Stevenson, Dwight
Tom Stazak, Palos Hills
Robert Walker, Hayward, CA
Welco Truck Stop, Bolingbrook
John Welk, Normal
Bill Wilkey, Odell
John, Clara & Katie Wooten,
Crawfordsville, IN
Tom Worsley, Hawthorne, NJ



Scenes in Oklahoma City

DOWN THE ROAD

by Jeff and Laura Meyer

We became weekend Route 66 tour guides March 17-18 as Giovanni's Bus Tours began its inaugural journey down 66 from Chicago to Santa Monica. Twenty-seven people paid \$1,966 apiece to fly into O'Hare and begin their trek by bus along the Mother Road. They arrived in town on March 16 and immediately headed to the nearest White Castle Restaurant for some "belly busters." We greeted them at Water Tower Place on March 17 (aka St. Patrick's Day, aka Nat King Cole's Birthday). They watched "Here's Chicago," visited the John Hancock Observatory, ate deep dish pizza at Gino's East and saw a St. Patrick's Day parade on the south side (in the rain, which was a welcome sight for most of them since the majority of tourists were from drought-stricken California).

On Monday morning, we joined the crew for a buffet breakfast at Cafe 66 in Countryside and chatted with the man behind this idea, John DiPonzio (a wonderful guy!). Then on we went. We took 66 through Dwight, then stopped at the famous Odell gas station where everyone got out at took pics. We followed the road down to Towanda, then into Funks Grove where Steve and Glaida Funk gave a brief demonstration of how to make maple syrup. Everybody loved it!

We had a quick lunch at the Dixie and the Hall of Fame, then went on to Springfield where we saw Lincoln's Home and Lincoln's Tomb. We drove ahead to Litchfield while they spent the night in Springfield. On Tuesday morning, Ed Waldmire and sons Buz and Bob presented the gang with a huge buffet at the Cozy Dog, a fun conversation, picture taking and jokes. The bus pulled into the Gardens in Litchfield and we led them to American Travel Masters where Mr. DiPonzio called a radio station in L.A. (checking in everyday). Always the gracious hostesses, Priscilla Matthews and Debbie Mileur had coffee, doughnuts, fruit and mini Coca Colas.

Finally, we cruised down Mount Olive Road to say "Hi" to Russell Soulsby and his sister Ola--more

pictures and more laughs. Alas, we parted and headed for home.

Giovanni's is making this tour a regular part of its itinerary. Good luck to them and special thanks to everyone!

As a footnote to this story, Giovanni's next tour is tentatively planned for September 19-October 2, 1992. We hope they all get their kicks on our Illinois 66!

YOUR AD HERE

The Route 66 Association has more than 500 members in 30 states and five countries. Each member gets a newsletter. In addition, we distribute 500-1,000 additional copies of each issue at car shows, fairs and other events along 66 and send a copy out with each information request we receive. So put some 66 kicks in your business by putting an ad in our newsletter. Advertising rates are the newsletter are: \$10 for a business card size ad, \$25 for a quarter-page ad, \$45 for a half page, \$70 for a three-quarter page ad and \$90 for a full page. If your copy is not camera ready, there will also be a reasonable additional charge. Send copy and payment to: Tom Teague, Route 66 Association of Illinois, Springfield, IL 62704.

Deadlines for future newsletters are as follows:

- * March '92 issue: February 15
- * July '92 issue: June 1
- * September '92 issue: August 25
- * December '92 issue: November 15

For business advertisers and members, the Association also has brochures & holders. If you'd like some, contact Jeff Meyer, 2802 Fremont, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008.

Thank you for your continuing support!



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A "Better Place to Eat"

The Ariston
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Restaurant

Nicholas P. Adam
Proprietor


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

ROUTE 66 TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Chicago and Los Angeles or Santa Monica
2. 1926.
3. Accept anything from 1976-1986
4. Bobby Troup.
5. On Route 66 in Illinois
6. Martin Milner and George Maharis.
7. Eight.
8. Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, California.
9. Los Angeles/Santa Monica
10. Chicago
11. At the corner of Jackson Blvd. and Michigan Ave. (accept also Jackson and Lake Shore Drive)
12. Broadwell, Illinois
13. Nelson Riddle
14. Navajo and Hualapai (both in Arizona)
15. Will Rogers
16. San Bernardino, then Oklahoma City
17. Ocean and Santa Monica Boulevards.
18. Oklahoma
19. The Cadillac Ranch
20. The Mother Road
21. Needles. California
22. Accept anything between 2,000 and 2,448 miles
23. It was only one lane wide.
24. The Mohave
25. Redwood planks
26. Macadam/asphalt/tar, brick, concrete, wood, dirt, sand, stone
27. The Colorado and the Mississippi.
28. Albuquerque.
29. 35 mph
30. Chain of Rocks, Eads, Macarther, Veterans (King)
31. C.C. Pyle's Transcontinental Footrace, aka the Bunion Derby.
32. Andy Payne of Foyil, Oklahoma
33. Chicago, St. Louis, Joplin, Oklahoma City, Amarillo, Gallup, Flagstaff, Winona, Kingman, Barstow, San Bernardino, Los Angeles
34. About 500,000
35. Woody Guthrie
36. Route 66
38. Nat King Cole, Bing Crosby, Bobby Troup, the Rolling Stones, Mahhattan Transfer, DePeché Mode, George Maharis, Van Morrison, Chuck Berry, Charles Brown, Cal Collins, the Four Freshmen, Perry Como, Asleep at the Wheel, Bob Wills, Buddy Rich, Mel Torme, Johnny Mathis and Natalie Cole
39. Amarillo
40. Oklahoma--396 miles
41. Frank Lloyd Wright
42. Abraham Lincoln's
43. Highway 40's. And boy were they mad when the Route 66 folks took the same label--and kept it.

44. Chicago and East St. Louis or Mitchell
45. St. Louis and Joplin
45. Galena and Baxter Springs
46. Quapaw and Texola
47. Shamrock and Adrian or Glenrio
48. Glenrio and Gallup
49. Lupton and Topock
50. Needles and Los Angeles/Santa Monica
51. Times Beach, Missouri
52. Springfield
53. Tucumcari, New Mexico
54. Forest Lawn, near L.A.

COMMEMORATIVE LICENSE PLATES AVAILABLE

by Toni Wilda

To help celebrate the 66 anniversary of Route 66 and our 1992 Motor Tour, the Association (in conjunction with the Illinois Secretary of State) is selling special event license plates. As these will be bona fide, valid Illinois license plates, certain guide lines must be followed.

Only certain types of vehicles are eligible to display these plates. Passenger cars with most categories of license plates are eligible if they are currently registered in Illinois. Trucks with "B" plates and recreational vehicles under 8,000 pounds in weight are also eligible. However, vehicles bearing dealer or antique plates are not eligible.

To display these special event plates, you simply remove your current plates and mount these plates in their place. You must carry your current plates and current registration card in your vehicle at all times, though.

The special event plates will have a display period of 60 days prior to and including the motor tour.

They may be displayed no earlier than April 16 and must be removed by June 15--at which time they should become very collectible.

The plates will be numbers 1 through 200. You may request a special number, although several have already been reserved (numbers 1 through 4 for association officers and also number 66 for display purposes). If the number you request is already reserved, you will be given the next available number.

Due to the limited number of plates available, all orders will be limited to two pairs and members' orders will be filled first. Any orders that we cannot fill will be refunded.

The cost of these plates is \$20 a pair for current Association members and \$25 a pair for non-members. There will be a \$3 shipping and handling fee per pair unless you arrange to pick up the plates in person at an Association meeting.

To order these special event plates, send a readable photocopy of your current auto registration card and a check or money order (no cash, please) payable to the Route 66 Association of Illinois to: Dave and Toni Wilda, 106 N. Nicholson St., Apt. 3, Joliet, IL 60435. All orders should be received no later than March 15, 1992. Include a phone number where you can be reached if necessary.



Scrapyard in Cicero, Illinois

ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION MERCHANDISE

CLOTHES--All featuring black, white and red shield by Bob Waldmire

Association nylon jacket, polyester-lined	\$20.00 + \$1.50 p/h
Sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL (add \$1 for XXL)	
Association T-Shirt	\$10.00 + \$1.00 p/h
S, M, L, XL, XXL (add \$1 for XXL)	
Association Sweatshirt	\$12.00 + \$1.50 p/h
S, M, L, XL, XXL (add \$1 for XXL)	
Association Cap	\$ 6.00 + \$1.50 p/h

LIMITED EDITION!!

1991 Motor Tour T-shirt (white, all sizes)	\$ 7.00 + \$1.50 p/h
1991 Motor Tour Sweatshirt (L/XL only)	\$10.00 + \$1.50 p/h

COLLECTIBLES

Illinois 66 Metal refrigerator magnets	\$ 4.00 + \$.50 p/h
Set of 20 Bob Waldmire Postcards--scenes of 66	\$ 5.00 + \$.50 p/h
Hat pin--black and white shield	\$ 3.00 + \$1.00 p/h
Metal license plate frame	\$ 5.00 + \$1.00 p/h
Bumper sticker: We get our kicks on 66	\$.50 + \$.50 p/h
Button: We get our kicks on 66	\$.50 + \$.50 p/h
Route 66 pierced earrings	\$ 5.00 + \$1.00 p/h
Rubber Key chain--featuring Waldmire Illinois map	\$ 1.00 + \$.50 p/h
Rubber magnet (same as key chain)	\$ 1.00 + \$.50 p/h
Decal (clings to inside of window, peels off)	\$ 2.00 + \$.50 p/h
Reproduction sign--shield shape, full size, 16-gauge steel)	\$45.00 + \$5.00 p/h
Ceramic salt and pepper shakers--featuring shield	\$ 5.00 + \$1.50 p/h

MAPS AND BOOKS

Rand McNally 66th Anniversary Map	\$ 3.95
Bob Waldmire map--20 pages	\$ 4.00 + \$.50 p/h
<i>Searching for 66</i> by Tom Teague	\$10.00 + \$1.50 p/h
<i>Route 66--The Mother Road</i> by Michael Wallis	\$25.00 + \$2.00 p/h
<i>Route 66 Roadside Companion</i> by Tom Snyder	\$ 9.95 + \$1.50 p/h
<i>A Guidebook to Highway 66</i> by Jack Rittenhouse (reprint of original 1946 edition)	\$ 6.95 + \$1.50 p/h

Illinois residents please add 7 percent sales tax!

Send orders to:

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



Abandoned diner near Quapaw, Oklahoma

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION--Route 66 Association

NEW _____ RENEWAL _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE _____

MY PARTICULAR INTEREST IN ROUTE 66 IS: _____

I WOULD LIKE TO HELP THE ASSOCIATION BY: _____

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE (Circle one): Individual--\$10, Business--\$25

Family--\$15. Sustaining--\$100

RETURN TO: Membership Office
Route 66 Association of Illinois
P.O. Box 8262
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

RAND McNALLY PUTS 66 BACK ON MAP

by Tom Teague

Fifteen years after it took Route 66 off its maps, Rand McNally is putting the former Main Street of America back on--and in a big way. The 1992 Rand McNally road atlas will feature a special four-page section on Route 66, consisting of a two-page map of the highway and a two-page guide on places to see and visit along the way. Among the Illinois attractions recommended in the guide are the Carefree Motel, Funks Grove, Dixie Truckers Home and the Hall of Fame, the Pig Hip Restaurant and the Chain of Rocks Bridge. The section, along with additional historical background, is also published as a separate map-style document. Laura Bergheim of Rand McNally did an outstanding job of writing and producing both pieces. They will be available through book stores and travel centers throughout America.

Our association appreciates and applauds Rand McNally's contribution to the revival and lore of Route 66. But this contribution did not come about by accident--it happened in good part because we worked for it. Two years ago, after pledging State Farm's support of our first motor tour, Chuck Wright suggested we contact Rand McNally about co-sponsoring the event. So I did. Andy McNally, president of the Skokie-based company, told me that Rand McNally couldn't help us with the tour, but he was very interested in doing something on 66 at some point in the near future. Then Laura Bergheim contacted us this past June and Jeff Meyer helped her extensively with her research. Wright, Teague and Meyer--the idea, the promotion, the implementation. Three different members had three different roles. Together, we succeeded.

**Route 66 Association of Illinois
1208 W. Edwards
Springfield, IL 62704**

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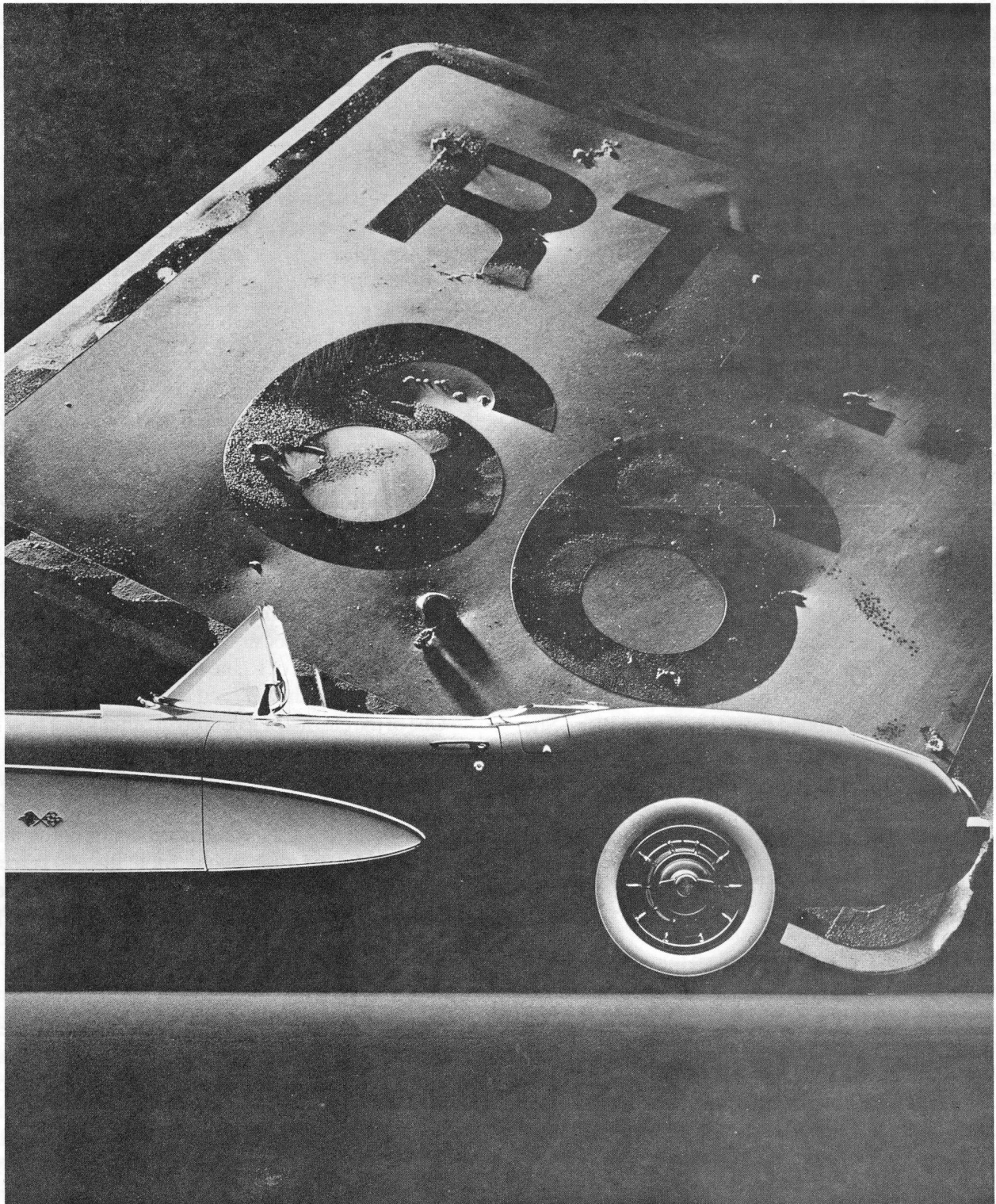
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McLEAN, IL
61754**



ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

THE 66 NEWS!

APRIL 1992



Warren, Inc., used this dramatic photo to promote its Adglo printing paper line.

"ILLINOIS — WHERE THE ROAD BEGAN."

Honeymooners Skate 66

By Tom Teague

Route 66 is known mainly for automobile and truck travel. But in its 66 years, there has been no end of other ways people have crossed the country on it. Andy Pyle, Harry Abrams and 60 other runners traveled it on foot in the Bunion Derby in 1928. When Hands Across America took place in 1986, people held hands along 66 in a line from Los Angeles to Amarillo. In that same year, a cross country bicycle race used 66 for half of its route. Five years before that, Bob Wieland, who lost his legs in Vietnam, strapped blocks to his hands and pulled his way along 66 on a pallet. During the Depression, Paul Wilson walked the route on stilts. There's even a rumor that a man once journeyed along the road on a pogo stick. But Henry and Ella Bykerk of Racine, Wisconsin, are the only couple we've discovered who not only roller skated the entire length of Route 66, but did so while on their honeymoon.

Earl was 20 and Ella was 18 when they married in 1960. Ella had read about an English vegetarian woman who had walked across the country. This gave her the idea for a special honeymoon trip along 66 to California. By a process of elimination, Henry came up with their means of transportation. "I thought of cycling," he told a reporter, "but other were already doing that." He also considered horses until he found out that somebody had done that, too. Eventually, he settled on roller skates. A Chicago roller skate manufacturer donated skates and a repair kit. Henry and Ella exchanged vows, strapped on back packs, canteens and other gear and glided on down 66. Henry also wore a pith helmet, carried a set of bongo drums and sported a large sign on his back that said, "California or Bust."

The couple covered about 20 miles a day and spent their nights wherever darkness found them. Ella kept a diary. She remembers Pontiac as one of the friendliest places they visited. Unfortunately, we know little about them after they passed through Springfield. If anyone out there does know, please get in touch with the Association. We'd like to run a picture of the Bykerks and find out what happened to them along the way.

Volkswalks on 66

The Railsplitter Wanderers, a walking club based in Springfield, will hold two "volkswalks" along Route 66 next spring and summer. The first walk will start at the Cozy Dog Drive In in Springfield on Saturday, April 5. The second will start at Walton Park in Litchfield on September 13. The walks' theme, "Get Your Clicks on Route 66," was chosen because each walk is 10 kilometers long and a nickname for kilometers is "clicks."

The Route 66 Association of Illinois publishes this newsletter four times a year. Address inquiries to the Route 66 Association, 2743 Veterans Parkway, Suite 166, Springfield, IL 62704.

The Railsplitter Wanderers are one of several hundred walking clubs in America which operate under the banner of the American Volkssport Association. The term "volkswalk" is taken from the German tradition of taking long, leisurely strolls in the countryside on a Sunday afternoon. For most of us, such a walk would certainly be a different way to see 66. Members of the public are welcome to take part in either volkswalk-for free and at their own pace. For more information, contact Karen or Roger Mollett, Railsplitter Wanderers, P.O. Box 6051, Springfield, IL 62708, phone (217) 546-8137.

Route 66 as Bike Path

By Tom Teague

Kim Brakenhoff of Litchfield recently wrote to the Association with a great new idea. We thought so much of it that we're reprinting her letter here to see how much interest we can stir up. Here's her letter:

Recently one-half of the stretch of Route 66 between Litchfield and Mount Olive was closed off. After having lived in the country outside of Litchfield for 15 years and having parents who grew up there, this closing was a little disheartening. I realize that the upkeep on an old highway can be expensive, but an idea has come to my attention that could keep Route 66 alive.

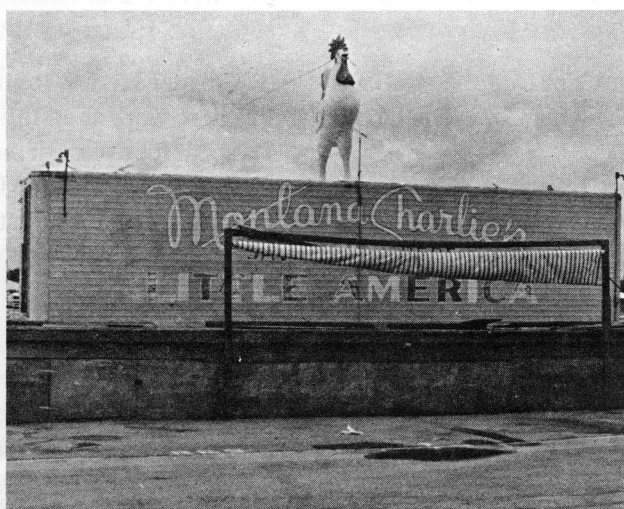
I feel the two unused lanes could be used as a bicycle path. There already is an annual bicycle race that takes place along this ten-mile stretch. The path would make traveling safer for the bicyclists as well as motorists. As a child living in the country along 66, I wanted to ride to town on the highway, but was never allowed because it was too dangerous. This path would preserve part of Route 66 and provide happy and safe bicycle riding for children and adults alike.

One of the charms of Route 66 in Illinois was how it would widen out to four lanes as it approached most towns, then narrow back to two lanes a mile or so out of each town. This created a certain rhythm, one of anticipation and progress. But the highway lived by the sword of economic development and it has faded by the same sword. More than 90 percent of its pavement survives in Illinois and can be driven. But next year, that percentage may go down to 85 or even lower. When will it stop? Just ask how many miles of the Santa Fe or Oregon Trails a person can still travel. Route 66 will rank right up there with those great trails someday-possibly even higher because it affected more people-but if we don't work to preserve it, there may be nothing left someday but an occasional brown and white sign telling where the road used to be. Kim Brakenhoff has a great idea for countering this trend. Why don't some other folks in the Litchfield area get in touch with Kim and see what they can accomplish together? You can reach Kim through the Litchfield Chamber of Commerce, Box 334, Litchfield, IL 62056.

Students Make 66 a Class Act

by LaWanda J. Henry

If you were a college student and had the opportunity to take a course entitled "Route 66: 1926 to the Present," would you sign up for it? If so, what would you expect to learn? Or, maybe you wouldn't expect to learn much of anything, but you're sure to get an easy "A." Right? Wrong!!! Last fall, 25 Honors students at Illinois State University, myself included, enrolled in this course taught by Terri Ryburn-LaMonte. Most of us were probably wondering what to expect, but I (for one) knew it was going to be anything but easy. Having met Terri a



Montana Charlie's Flea Market near Bolingbrook

couple of years earlier, I knew whatever she would teach would be interesting and fun, even if it meant a lot of hard work. I couldn't have been more correct. Our class met twice a week for an hour and 15 minutes at 8 a.m. (which was a major accomplishment itself for some of us at times). The class was made up of 23 traditional age students (including one from Hong Kong and one from Canada) and two non-traditional (over the age of 25). I fell into this latter category, but my age was actually an advantage because I had more memories of Route 66.

For each class period, we were expected to read and discuss chapters from our texts. The books we used were *Route 66: The Highway and Its People* by Scott and Kelly and *Searching for 66* by Tom Teague. Can you imagine getting to read Tom's book for your text? I can't remember when I've enjoyed a "textbook" more, especially since I finally had the pleasure of meeting the author.

In addition to our reading assignments, Terri put our writing abilities to the test with in-class writing assignments. Essay topics were "My First Car Ride" and "The Day I Got My Driver's License."

Other assignments included writing Burma Shave slogans and submitting our individual ideas for a class T-shirt. Toward the end of the semester, we had a small group project which consisted of pretending we were business owners in a small Illinois town along Route 66. Our assignment was to revitalize our town based on the nostalgia boom of Route 66. We came up with some very creative and workable ideas. (*Editor's Note-Tell us about them next issue!*)

Terri's lectures consisted of such topics as the history of the road and its construction, political and popular trends of each decade from the late 20's to the early 80's, and highlights

of each of the eight states along the route. Of a more local interest, Terri told us about the history of the Dixie Truckers Home, Funks Grove and the founding of Steak 'n' Shake.

We discussed important people connected with Route 66, such as: Cy Avery, the "Father of Route 66;" Lon Scott and C.C. Pyle, promoters of Route 66 and the Great Transcontinental Foot Race (Bunion Derby); Jack Cutberth, "Mr. 66;" Jack Rittenhouse, author of *A Guidebook to Highway 66*; and Bobby Troup, actor and

songwriter of "Get Your Kicks on Route 66"-to name a few.

Each class period, we never knew what to expect. Terri certainly put a lot of imagination and variety into her teaching methods. One time, she might lecture on the history of the billboard which led into a lecture on Burma Shave. The next time she might show us the movie *Grapes of Wrath*. And throughout the semester, she would keep us entertained with her own funny stories about her childhood days on Route 66, or she would give us demonstrations on how to properly use a hula hoop.

Highlights for the class were when: Tom Teague came to speak to us; a story about our class hit *The Bloomington Pantagraph* on October 9; and our marathon roadtrip from Normal to Chicago, Chicago to St. Louis and back home--all in one day. "The Horrific Road Trip" will be a future newsletter story.

Our final and largest assignment was to conduct oral history interviews with individuals associated with Route 66. Our hope was to take these interviews and publish a book. Well, it looks like that hope is becoming a reality! The original class is over, but four of us were selected to co-edit a book with our instructor. We are currently reviewing the interviews and putting them into categories. The types of people we interviewed, for the most part, were ordinary people such as waitresses, bus drivers, police officers, truck stop and restaurant owners, etc. I've gotten so much enjoyment from reading these interviews that I asked Tom if I could share them with you in the newsletter. In addition, either Terri or I will be submitting short excerpts and quotes from various individuals.

For me, "Route 66: 1926 to the Present" was more than a class-it was (and still is) an adventure!

I Remember 66

by Terri Ryburn-Lamonte

Ed Waldmire, originator of the Cozy Dog, talked about his earliest memories of the road and his Cozy Dog Drive In in Springfield.

"We moved from Petersburg to Springfield. We lived on S. 6th Street. That was Route 66 back in the late 20's- no interstates, no bypasses, no beltlines, no nothing. You just came-bang!-right through the towns. Very little traffic, too, back then. It's picked up ever since, but back then we could sit on the porch, my two brothers and I, and we could tell what kind of car was going down old 66 by the sound of the motor. There were Packards and Stanley Steamers and Hudson- so many cars you don't hear of anymore- and they all had a different sound. It was a game we played.



Cozy Dog Drive In

I just happened to start the Cozy Dog. We took observations of the traffic, but there weren't any scientific studies made of it in our case. Route 66 was the only way coming into Springfield from the south and the only way out. Whatever it would have been called, that's where the traffic was. We bought the ground way back in the late 40's and I'm glad we did. It's still a good traffic route.

When the interstate bypassed Springfield, our business dropped considerably because we missed people who were on their way to someplace else. So then we started promoting gimmicks, advertising sales and birthday clubs and one-cent sales and we started building up business from the local people. We still got the tourists that came into Springfield to see Lincoln's Tomb or the State Fair, but the interstate did hurt.

All of our family enjoys going through the towns, so whenever we can, we stay off the interstates. I would like sometime in the future to make one more trip west on Route 66. Whether I will or not, I don't know.

Chester Henry, Retired State Trooper LeRoy, Illinois. I went to work as an Illinois State Trooper when I was 26. I'd spent four years in the service, but I hadn't been around a lot. Route 66 affected me by the lives of people that I touched and the accidents that I saw and the fatal accidents

that happened and the serious injuries I've seen. I would come home and sometimes not sleep too good for a night or two remembering what I'd seen out there on the road. Sometimes the snow would come down and cause accidents, maybe even fatal. The next day the snow would melt off, the sun would come out and you'd wonder why it ever happened.

You seldom saw Route 66 closed due to weather, but I've seen it closed. I've seen it where

no one could go up or down the road. That didn't happen very often-Route 66 was usually open. It was the last place that they pulled their snow maintenance vehicles off of because it was federally funded. And I've seen Route 66 with snow packed on it with ruts in it that looked like an old country dirt road.

I've been out there. I've been out there when trucks have turned over and closed it and we've had to run the traffic both ways over on the other side. That's dangerous practice, but we'd put up cones and direct traffic around them. Sometimes those loaded semis weren't too easy to move if they were upside down or had both lanes blocked. We had to caution everybody and stop traffic until we could get the road clear.

I worked for the state patrol from 1957 until 1984, and a great portion of that time was spent on Route 66. I was out there on Sundays, I was out there on holidays and I was out there on the graveyard shift. It was a great experience. It's been a big part of my life and I wouldn't trade it for anything.

Editor's Note: This is the first of what we hope will be a series of columns based on interviews conducted by Terri's students in her Route 66 class at Illinois state University.

*The interviews will someday be collected and published in a book, **Route 66: Illinois Remembers.***

Meetings and Other Notes

Our next board meeting will be held at noon on Sunday, April 5 at the Best Western Gardens in Litchfield. Please eat before the meeting starts. There will be no lunch served.

If you'd like to help us sell merchandise at any event this spring or summer, please contact the Merchandise Committee chairman, Tom Knudsen, at 309-828-2925, or Jeff and Laura Meyer, 708-392-0860. If you have any ideas about the type of merchandise we could sell, contact Tom Teague, Tom Knudsen, Jeff and Laura Meyer, or any other board member.

Any questions about the Hall of Fame or donations to it should be directed to Tom Teague, 217-787-8839.

For back issues of the newsletter, write to the Route 66 Association, 2743 White Oaks Parkway, #166, Springfield, IL 62704. We have all but the first two issues.

GOODIE BAG STUFF for the 1992 Motor Tour should be sent to Lou Vandiver, 2504 Berkshire Court, Champaign, IL 61821.

Anyone who wants to distribute our brochure at their business or during their travels may order them free by contacting the Association.

We have a few of the Illinois Route 66 signs that are slightly bruised or scratched. They are available for \$29.00, plus \$5.00 postage and handling. Contact the Association at its main address, 2743 Veterans Parkway, #166, Springfield, IL 62704.

Please check your address label to see if it's renewal time!

Association Gets Permanent Address

The Association now has a permanent address: 2743 Veterans Parkway, #166, Springfield, IL 62704. The address is actually that of a private mail handling service with which we contracted. We did this because we did not want to have to go through numerous address changes in the future as the officers who handle the mail go on to various other things (Tom Teague handled our mail the first year; Jeff Meyer handled it the second year). Unless you know specifically who you want to send something to and their address, send all mail to the Association at this new address. We also have a phone number, 217-546-4406, that you can leave messages at and also a fax number, 217-546-4915.

Funks and Shea Generous

Mike and Debbie Funk, who operate the Funks Grove maple sirup operation with Steve and Glaida Funk, recently donated \$100 to the Association to help with the 1992 Motor Tour. They said their business has picked up markedly since we began our promotional activities three years ago and they wanted to show their appreciation.

In Springfield, Bill Shea, proprietor of Shea's Finest Truck Covers, is probably our most effective recruiter of business and sustaining members. To date, he's hustled at least a half dozen sustaining members at least as many business or individual members. For those who can make it by to his business at 2075 Peoria Road in Springfield, he also has a limited number of bricks that were used to pave City 66 in Springfield.

Thanks, Mike, Debbie and Bill, for being so generous and for helping the Association do its work.

New Members As of February 1992

The Route 66 Association of Illinois welcomes: Wayne Ahlers (Vic's Pizza), Sustaining, Springfield; Jim and Michelle Alleruzzo, Oak Forest; Al Barlick (former major league umpire), Sustaining, Springfield; Walter & Betty Baumgarten,, Sustaining, Downers Grove; Thomas & Joyce Bialecke, Bradley; Bob Borowiak, Lincoln; Robert Boyd, Brooklyn, NY; A.J. Brion, Lake Forest; Jay & Lisa Broadwater, Wood River; Robert Brooks, Springfield; Bob & Lois Carter, Springfield; George Cartwright, Springfield; John Cartwright, Springfield; Chuck's 76 Service, Hamel; William & Gerianne Coughlin, Sustaining, Springfield; Don & Verna Cutler, Springfield; Ed & Sonja Ditmer, Duarte, CA; Downtown Lincoln Association, Lincoln; Dennis Droba, Chicago; William Duenas, Tappan, NY; Shellee Graham, Bridgeton, MO; Michael Hynes, Katy, TX; Sarah & Arthur Hoskins, Wilmette; Donald Kyes, Rochester; Carter LeBeau, Moline; George & Sharon Leone, Midlothian; Carol Lussky, Elgin; Elwyne & Shirley Metz, Fairbury; William Meyer, Hamel; James Mihalic, Staunton; Roger & Karen Mollett, Springfield; Mickey & Linda Moorman, Springfield; Robert Mrazek, Berwyn; Kent Napierski, Mount Zion; John "Buzz" Patrick, Kenosha, WI; Michael & Karen Patterson, Montgomery; Donal Pechous, Berwyn; John Pechous, Western Springs; James Schrock, Rochester; Shady Land Farm (The Hendersons), Williamsville; Tom Shaughnessy, Berwyn; Amy Shelton, Normal; Darwin & Linda Shroyer, Decatur; Steve Smith, Sustaining, Elkhart, IN; Rita Tabern, Des Plaines; Earl Thomas, Sustaining, Williamsville; Leslee & Richard Tobas, Gladwyne, PA; Tony

(continued next page)

Vais, Berwyn; War Baby Wants & More (Connie Bottema), Wilmington; John Wintek, Radcliff, KY; Chuck Wright, Jr., Lexington.

Business Members

The Route 66 Association of Illinois appreciates the support of: Abraham Lincoln Tourism Bureau, Lincoln; Downtown Lincoln Association, Lincoln; American Travel Masters, Litchfield; Ariston Cafe, Litchfield; Garden Motel & Restaurant, Litchfield; Litchfield Chamber of Commerce; Yesterday's Market Antiques, Litchfield; Art's Motel and Restaurant, Farmersville; Bank of Dwight; Becker Marathon, Dwight; Dwight Area Chamber of Commerce; Dwight Historical Society; RUB Chevrolet Buick Olds, Dwight; Stark's Restaurant, Dwight; Calhoun County Ford, Hardin; Champion Garage, Springfield; Cozy Dog Drive IN, Springfield; Vic's Pizza, Springfield; Shea's Finest Truck Covers, Springfield; Cardinal Hill Crafts, Rochester; Williamsville Community Foundation; Shady Lane Farm, Williamsville; City of Atlanta; City of Pontiac; Dixie Truckers Home, McLean; McLean County Historical Society; State Farm Insurance, Bloomington; Super Sign Service, Bloomington; Double Nickel Drive IN, Bloomington; Van Gundy Agency, Normal; Steve's Cafe, Chenoa; Odell Historical Society; Historical Society of Cicero; Dell Rhea's Chicken Basket, Willowbrook; Midwest Street Rods, Bolingbrook; Classic Route 66 Cruiser; Welco Truck Stop, Bolingbrook; Ballhagen Woodcraft, Lebanon, MO; Hall-Moore Stuff & Antiques, Lebanon, MO; Eliser Brothers General Store, Riverton, KS; Giovanni Tours, Agoura Hills, CA; Pat Kogan Productions, New York, NY; New Log Cabin, Pontiac; Rand McNally, Skokie; Michael Anthony's Restaurant, Berwyn; Voss TV, Berwyn; Holiday Inn/Hampton Inn, Countryside; Route 66 Cafe, Countryside; Chuck's 76 Gas, Hamel; War Baby Wants & More Antiques, Wilmington; Wilmington Antique Mall, Wilmington.

Other Route 66 Associations

Route 66 Association of Missouri
P.O. Box 8117
St. Louis, MO 63156
Jim Powell: (314) 5500 or (314) 367-2418

Kansas Historic Route 66 Association
P.O. Box 169
Riverton, KS 66770
Scott Nelson, (316) 848-3330

Oklahoma Route 66 Association
6434 NW 39th Expressway, Suite D
Bethany, OK 73008
Danny Scott, (800) 299-8766

Old Route 66 Association of Texas
P.O. Box 66

McLean, TX 79057
Delbert Trew, (806) 779-3164

New Mexico Route 66 Association
1415 Central NE
Albuquerque, NM 87106
Dave Nidel, (505) 843-7185

Historic Route 66 Association of Arizona
P.O. Box 66
Kingman, AZ 86402
Lynda Moore, (602) 753-5001

California Historic Route 66 Association
2127A Foothill Blvd., Suite 66
LaVerne, CA 91750
Vivian Davies, (714) 593-4046

Route 66 Territory Visitors Bureau
8916-C Foothill Blvd.
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730
JoAnn Randall, (714) 593-4850

1992 Illinois Route 66 Events

Join in the fun along Route 66 this spring and summer at any (or all) of these events:

May 8-9, Lincoln: Cruising into Spring, car show and '50s-'60s music, Logan County Fairgrounds, (217-) 735-2385

May 10, Wilmington: Island City Classic Cruisers Mothers Day Fun Run, (815) 476-2365 **May 23, Atlanta:** Memorial Day Celebration

June 13-14: Route 66 Association Motor Tour

June 13, Berwyn: Motorfest '92, Ogden Avenue (Old 66), (708) 749-3064

June 19-20, Pontiac: Hang Loose-Let the Good Times Roll, '50s-'60s weekend, Elks Club Downtown

June 26-28, Bloomington: Bloomington Gold/Corvettes USA, McLean County Fairgrounds, (309) 828-GOLD.

July 17-19, Braidwood: Braidwood Summerfest, (815) 458-6444

July 17-19, Countryside: Countryside Summerfest, 62nd & Lagrange, (708) 352-0494

July 17-19, Elkhart: Elkhart Homecoming, Downtown Elkhart, (217) 947-2323

July 22-26, Berwyn: Summerfaire, Cermak & Harlem, (708) 788-3244

July 25-26, Lexington: Taste of Country Fair/Route 66 Reunion, Main Street & Town Park, (309) 365-4881 or (309) 365-8105

July 28-August 2, Lincoln: Logan County Fair, Fairgrounds, (217) 732-3311

July 28-August 1, Bloomington: McLean County Fair, Fairgrounds

August 12-23, Springfield: Illinois State Fair, State Fairgrounds ²⁸⁻³⁰

August 21-23, Lincoln: Lincoln Art & Balloon Fest, Latham Park, (217) 732-8687

August 22, Litchfield: Cruise Night to Skyview Drive-In, Wolf Pack Car Club, (217) 324-2533

August 28-30, Litchfield: Party in the Park, Library Park downtown, (217) 324-2533

September 3-7, Pontiac: 44th Annual Thresherman's Reunion, (815) 844-5131

September 12-13, Lincoln: Abraham Lincoln National Railsplitter Contest & Crafts Festival, Railsplitter Park, (217) 732-8687

September 18-20, Dwight: Harvest Days, Main Street, (815) 584-2091

October 3-4, Williamsville: Autumn on the Boulevard, (217) 566-3689 or (217) 566-2115

BUSSING 66

Giovanni Tours of California, promoters of a two-week bus tour along Route 66, are planning a 66th Anniversary of the tour this year from September 19-October 2. The tour starts in Chicago and includes stops in Springfield, St. Louis, Springfield (Missouri), Claremore, Oklahoma City, Amarillo, Albuquerque, Gallup, Flagstaff, Laughlin (Nevada) and Santa Monica. The total cost-\$2,066-includes the bus, lodging, meals, tips, baggage handling, tips and one-way airfare.



Chain of Rocks Bridge Near St. Louis

To see 66 as part of a group like this would be a wonderful experience. Jeff and Laura Meyer and the Waldmires spent a lot of time with last year's Giovanni tour and reported everybody was having a great time. For more information on this year's tour, contact Giovanni Tours, Route 66, 5308 Derry Ave., Suite F, Agoura Hills, CA 91301, phone (818) 889-3156.

Alternative Fuels for Alternative Road

Yet another 66th anniversary salute to Route 66, a road rally for alternative-fueled vehicles, will take place April 17-19 from Flagstaff to Kingman to Las Vegas. The event is officially known as the Route 66 Canyonball Run Environmental and Technology Expo. In addition to the run, it will feature such diverse events as a science fair and a sock hop. Sounds like our kind of party! For more information, contact Dan Parmley Sr., President, Diversified Technical Services, 5045 S. 33rd St., Phoenix, AZ 85040, phone (602) 243-1642, fax (602) 243-1659.

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President's Column

by Tom Teague

The Route 66 Association has now been meeting for three years. Since March 13 of 1989, we have gathered in Pontiac, Lexington, Dwight, Litchfield, Lincoln, McLean, Countryside, Atlanta, Bloomington and Willowbrook. And at each of those meetings, we've used the town hall format: any member can attend; any member can speak. I think this openness has been important. It helped us define ourselves. It also makes each meeting a social as well as a business event. I've often looked out across the crowd before a meeting begins and felt a twinge that we didn't have much more to offer the people there than the discussion of business. But until we start having guest speakers and things like that, that's all we have. It seems to have been working out, though--if the 30-60 people who come to every board meeting are any kind of testament. I hope we will always leave the welcome mat out. However, I do think we could do a better job of managing ourselves at the meetings. I'd like to suggest that we limit future meetings to a maximum length of two hours, excluding the meal beforehand. When we start the meeting, I'll present a written agenda to the assembly. We'll approve or amend it at that time. Each agenda item will have a set discussion length. I think this format will help us get our business done and still give everyone a chance to be heard. Let's give it a try.

Funk's Grove Railroad Station

Berwyn to Celebrate 66

Folks in Berwyn, Route 66's second suburb out of Chicago, are planning to celebrate the road's 66th birthday June 13 in conjunction with the Association's third annual motor tour. They hope to have a breakfast meeting at Michael Anthony's on Ogden Avenue. Then they'll line up a long row of antique and classic autos on each side of the road for Motor Tour entrants to pass through when they come to Berwyn. A car show and other events commemorating the spirit of 66 are planned for later in the day. Don Pechous, a Berwyn alderman and a child protection investigator for the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, is leading the organizing efforts for this special event. For more information, write to Don at 3244 S. Maple Ave., Berwyn, IL 60402, or call him at 708-749-3064.

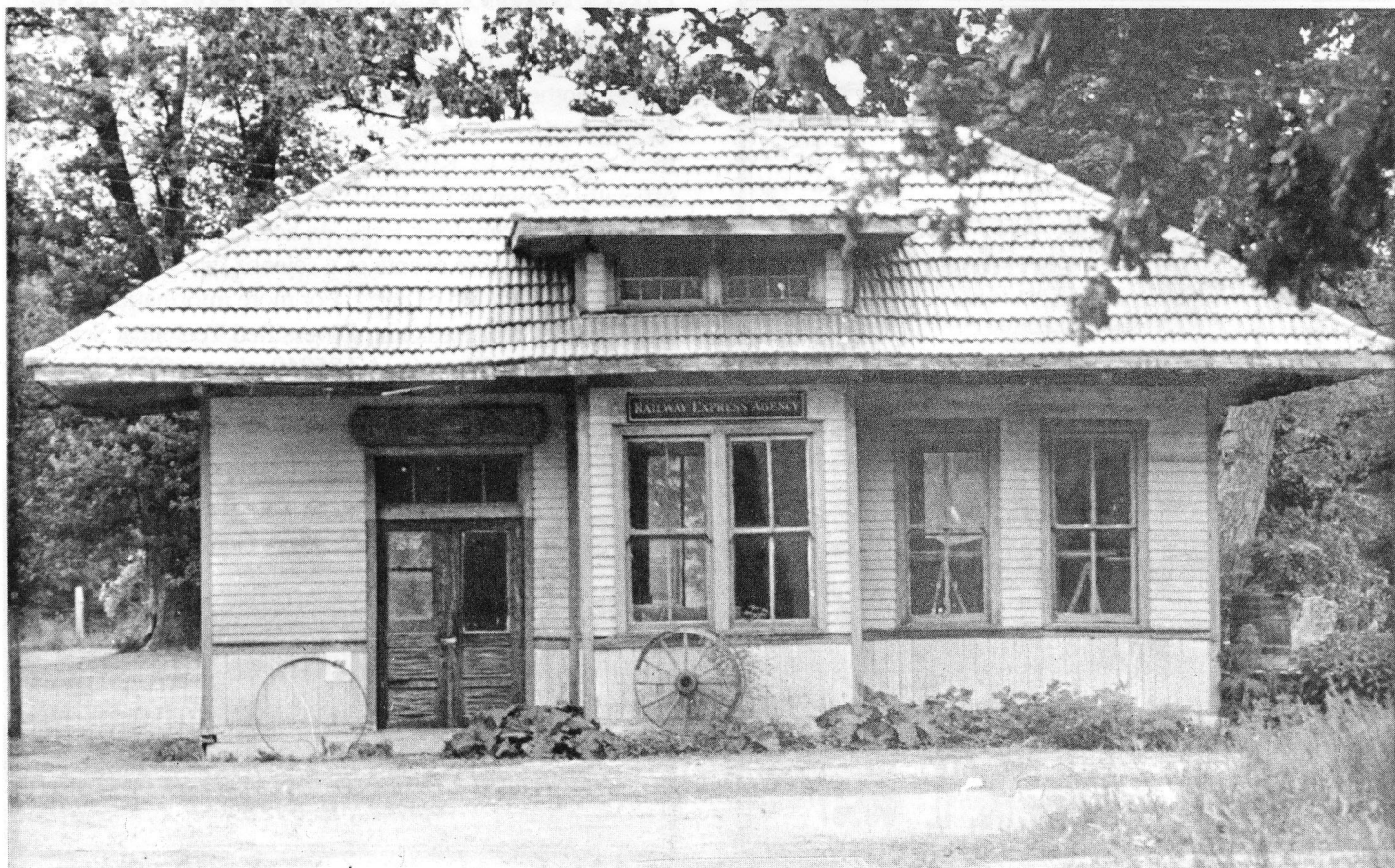
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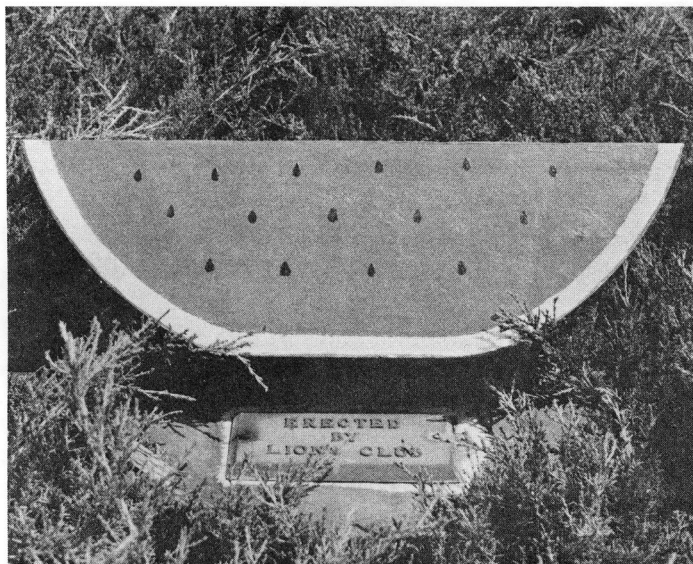


Rand McNally Scales Down

Citing the general state of the economy, Rand McNally recently announced a small scaling down of its plans to promote Route 66 during its 66th anniversary year. Rand McNally has already published a special map and tour guide of Route 66 in its 1992 atlas and in a separate, map-style form. Laura Bergheim was its principal author. Laura was also slated to staff Rand McNally's planned Route 66 Information Desk this summer. A gala announcement party, featuring Bobby Troup, was set for April 30 in Chicago. But in early February, Rand McNally announced it was bypassing the announcement gala and that its own public relations staff, and not Laura Bergheim, would staff the information desk. It also trimmed the Route 66 insert in its atlas from four pages down to two, eliminating most of the insert's thumbnail sketches of towns along the route. Even so, Rand McNally's effort will go on. The 66 Association applauds the renowned mapmaking company and wish it the best of success.

Asleep at the Wheel on 66

Asleep at the Wheel, the country swing group whose 1979 cover of "Route 66," may be the best version ever of the Mother Road's alma mater, will do a concert tour along Route 66 starting May 2 in Chicago. Look for a special display by the Association at the inaugural concert May 2 at the Odeum in Villa Park. Other concerts in the tour are set for St. Louis, Springfield-Joplin, Oklahoma City, Albuquerque, Flagstaff and the L.A. area. Look for more details in your local media. The May 2 concert in Villa Park will also feature Leroy Van Shelton.



Statue in Lincoln, on City 66, commemorating Lincoln and how he christened the town



The Tropics, Lincoln Illinois

Michael Wallis Day in Tulsa

Tulsan Michael Wallis, author of Route 66: The Mother Road, was recognized recently in his hometown by having a day, November 13, named in his honor. Tulsa Mayor Roger Randle presented him a proclamation at ceremonies marking completion of a tree planting project sponsored by the Tulsa Route 66 Association.

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COLLECTIBLES

66th Anniversary bumper sticker	\$ 2.00 + \$.50 p/h 66th
Anniversary hat pin	\$ 3.00 + \$1.00 p/h
Illinois 66 Metal refrigerator magnets	\$ 4.00 + \$.50 p/h
Set of 20 Bob Waldmire Postcards--scenes of 66	\$ 5.00 + \$.50 p/h
Hat pin--black and white shield	\$ 3.00 + \$1.00 p/h
Metal license plate frame	\$ 6.00 + \$1.00 p/h
Route 66 pierced earrings	\$ 5.00 + \$1.00 p/h
Rubber Key chain--featuring Waldmire Illinois map	\$ 2.00 + \$.50 p/h
Rubber magnet (same as key chain)	\$ 2.00 + \$.50 p/h
Decal (clings to inside of window, peels off)	\$ 2.00 + \$.50 p/h
Reproduction sign--shield shape, full size, 16-gauge steel)	\$45.00 + \$5.00 p/h
Ceramic salt and pepper shakers--featuring shield	\$ 5.00 + \$1.50 p/h

MAPS AND BOOKS

Rand McNally 66th Anniversary Map	\$ 3.95
66th Anniversary color poster by Waldmire	\$ 5.00 + \$1.50 p/h
Bob Waldmire map--20 pages (available soon)	\$ 5.00 + \$.50 p/h
<i>Searching for 66</i> by Tom Teague	\$10.00 + \$1.50 p/h
<i>Route 66--The Mother Road</i> by Michael Wallis	\$25.00 + \$2.00 p/h
<i>Route 66 Roadside Companion</i> by Tom Snyder	\$ 9.95 + \$1.50 p/h
<i>A Guidebook to Highway 66</i> by Jack Rittenhouse (reprint of original 1946 edition)	\$ 6.95 + \$1.50p/h
<i>The Verse by the Side of the Road</i> by Frank Rowsome	\$ 9.95 + \$1.50 p/h
(the story of Burma Shave signs and jingles)	
<i>Route 66: The Road and Its People</i> by Quinta Scott and Susan Kelly.	\$17.95 + \$2.00 p/h
Large format paperback	

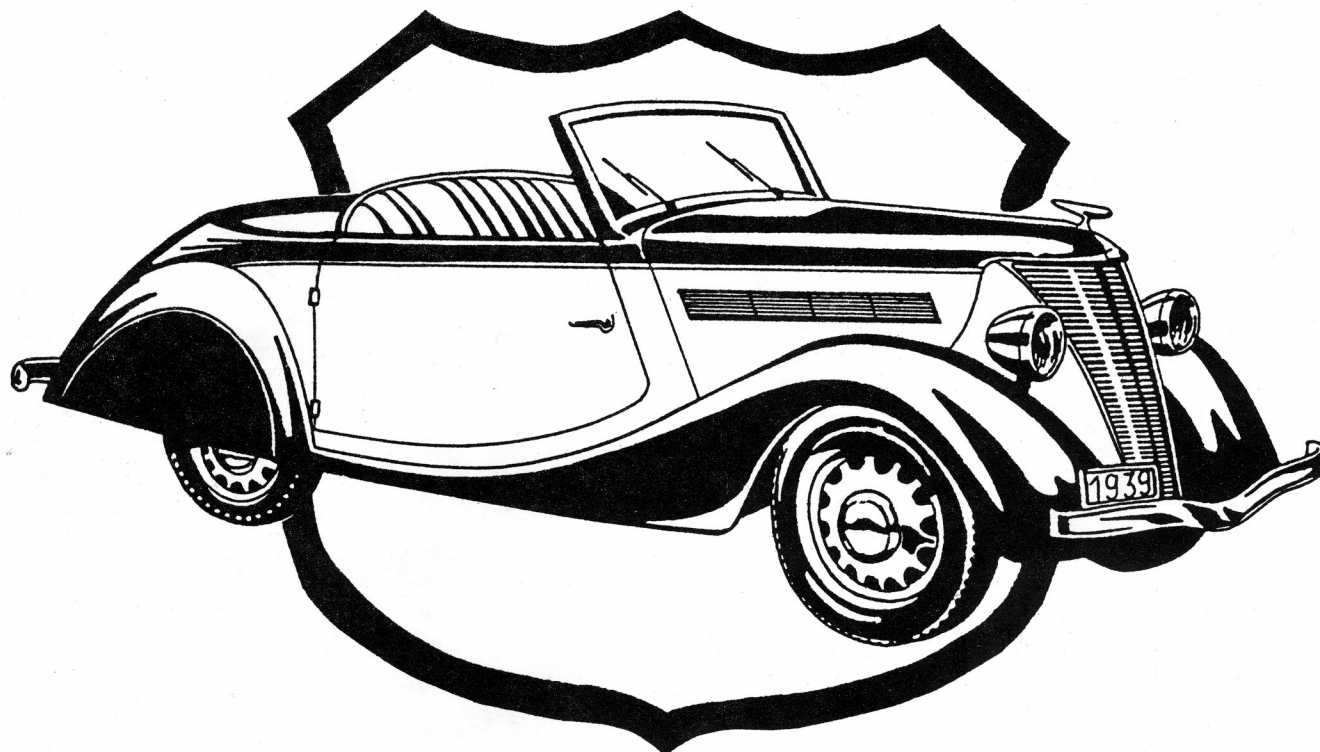
Illinois residents please add 7 percent sales tax!

Send orders to:

Merchandise

**Route 66 Association of Illinois
2743 Veterans Parkway, Suite 166
Springfield, IL 62704**

THE THIRD ANNUAL ROUTE 66 MOTOR TOUR
JUNE 13th AND 14th, 1992



**CELEBRATE THE 66th ANNIVERSARY
OF ROUTE 66**

From Chicago to St. Louis

**Stops Include JOLIET, CHENOA, McLEAN,
LINCOLN, SPRINGFIELD AND LITCHFIELD**

**Featuring a Guided Bus Tour from
Litchfield to the Chain-of-Rocks Bridge**

**And Inductions to the
Route 66 Hall of Fame in McLean**

Sponsored by the Route 66 Association of Illinois

Registration Form

Registration Fee: \$20.00 per car for Members \$25.00 per car for Non-Members

NAME _____ **PHONE** _____

ADDRESS _____

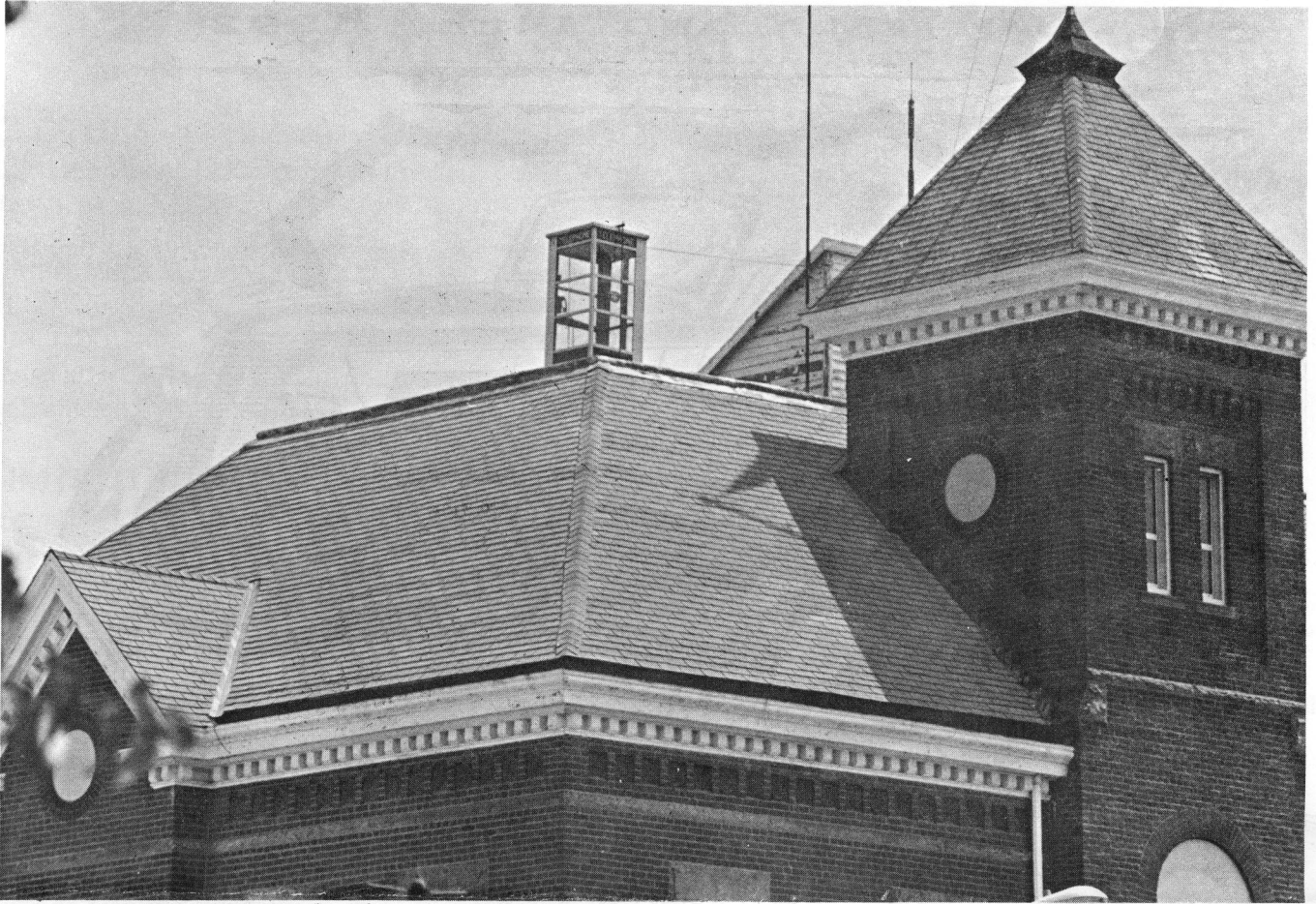
CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

I want to reserve _____ seats on the Bus Tour **(You must sign up for this to assure a seat. Your entry fee entitles you to two bus passes. Additional passes are \$5.00 each.)**

Mail to: Motor Tour

**Route 66 Association of Illinois
2743 Veterans Parkway, #166
Springfield, Illinois 62704**

****Payment must accompany Registration Form****



This phone booth atop city hall in Lincoln, Illinois, is used for tornado spotting.

**Route 66 Association of Illinois
2743 Veterans Parkway, Suite 166
Springfield, Illinois 62704**

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ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

THE 66 NEWS!

SUMMER 1992



The Ariston Cafe as it appears today

Hall of Fame Greet Five New Members

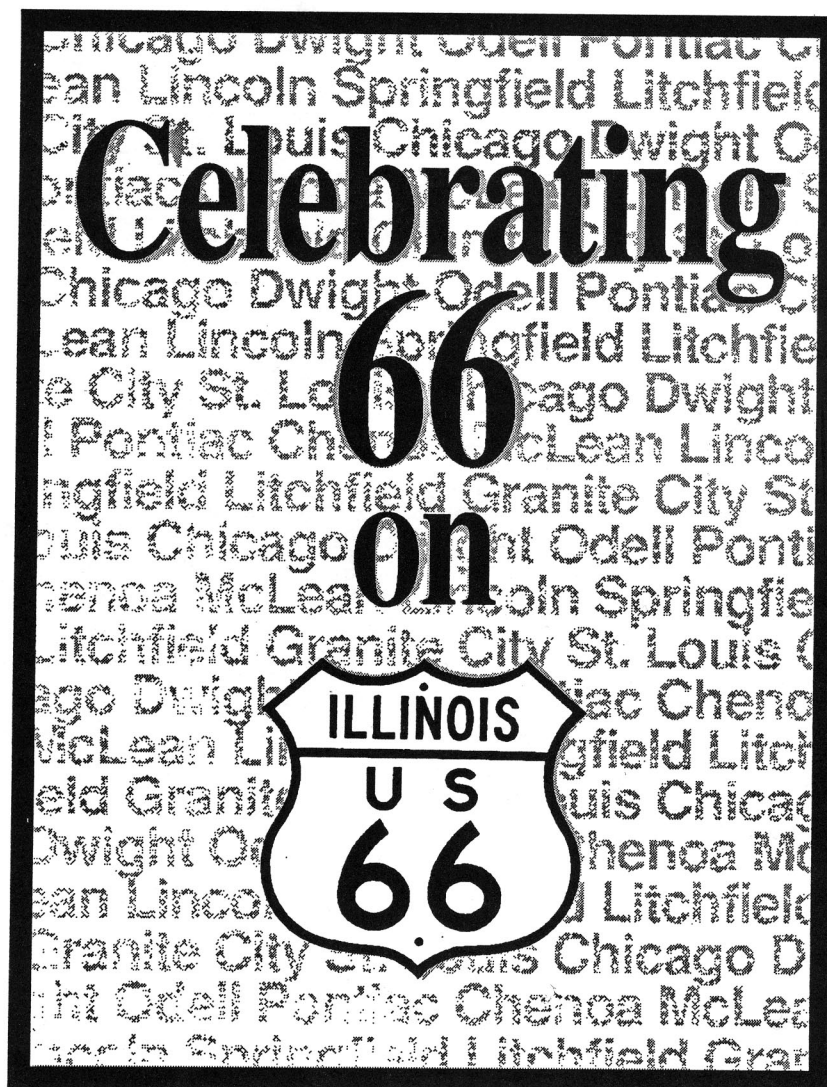
Each year, our association solicits nominations for new members to be enshrined at our Hall of Fame at Dixie Truckers Home in McLean. Selection is based on the nominees' historic ties to Route 66 and on how well they illustrate the highway's unique blend of character and community. This year, a record fifteen nominations were made year as interest in our very own roadside attraction continues to grow. The Hall of Fame Committee had originally intended to select just three new members, but the quantity and quality of the nominations was so great that the committee decided to elect four new Hall of Famers instead. They are Dell Rhea's Chicken

Basket of Willowbrook, John Stonecipher of Odell, Steve and Glaida Funk of Funks Grove and the Ariston Cafe and the Adam Family of Litchfield. They will be inducted at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 13, in McLean in conjunction with our third annual motor tour. They will join previous members Metha Jensen of Dwight; Francis Mowery of Fairbury; John Geske, J.P. Walters and Cotton McNabney of Bloomington; Ernie Edwards of Broadwell; the Cozy Dog Drive In and Waldmire Family of Springfield; Francis Marten of Raymond, and Russell Soulsby of Mount Olive. Stop by and "see" them anytime at our refurbished displays.

(continued on page 3)

"ILLINOIS - WHERE THE ROAD BEGAN."

State Farm Agents of Illinois are:



Come Join us June 13 and 14 in:

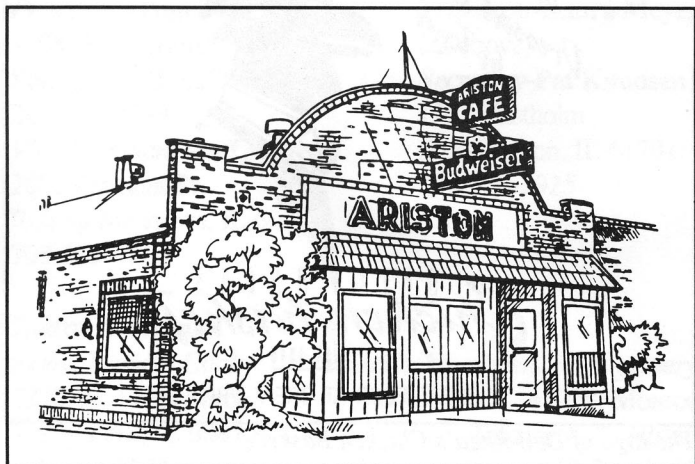
*Chicago, Chenoa, McLean, Lincoln, Springfield,
Litchfield and Granite City.*

**We are Proud to be the sponsor of the
1992 Route 66 Motor Tour**

(Hall of Fame continued from pg. 1)

The Ariston Cafe and the Adam Family

Derived from a Greek word meaning "the best," the Ariston was started in 1924 in Carlinville by Pete Adam. The When highway engineers announced in 1929 that 66 would be realigned to pass through Litchfield and Mount Olive, Pete



The Ariston Cafe

opened a second restaurant in Litchfield. The current restaurant was built across the street in 1935. In those early days, a chicken dinner was 50 cents, a porterhouse steak was 85 cents and hamburgers were a dime. Chickens were kept in a coop on the back porch and butchered on the premises to assure their freshness. All cooking was done on a coal stove.

In Route 66's glory days, nearly 85 percent of the Ariston's patrons were travelers. They included such celebrities as the Dorsey Brothers Band and Stan Kenton, who were probably on their way to play at the Coliseum Ballroom in nearby Benld. And when the Cubs were playing the Cardinals in St. Louis, an overflowing crowd would keep the restaurant's seven waitresses constantly on the run. Today, only 25 percent of the Ariston's customers are travelers.

In the tradition of Route 66, the Ariston is a family-operated business. Pete's son Nick and his wife Demi and their children all work there to this day.

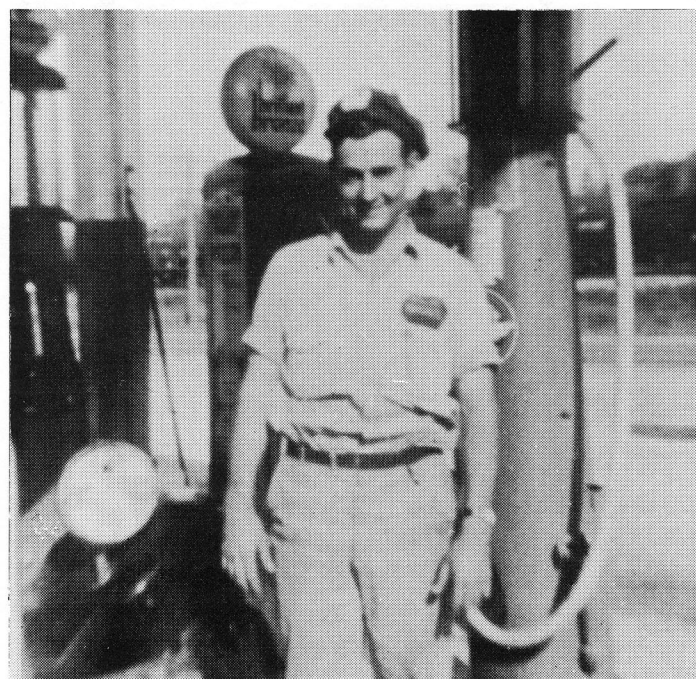
John Stonecipher

John Stonecipher has been a fixture on Route 66 in Odell since the 1930s. His first job was at a Martin's 66 station in 1935. In 1938, he bought his own station, Pennington's Brilliant Bronze, and ran it until he took up a career as a painter prior to World War II. During the war itself, he served



John Stonecipher

three years in the Marines. On returning home, he operated a garage in downtown Odell until it was destroyed by fire in



John's first station, a Pennington Bronze

1955. Then he bought an abandoned gas station on Route 66, remodeled it, renamed it Stoney's Service and ran it until 1989. When there was a fire at the station in the early '60s, citizens of Odell took up a collection to help John rebuild. Through unending hardwork and unfailing hospitality, this man has amply illustrated the spirit of Route 66.

Steve and Glaida Funk

Fifteen miles south of Bloomington on Old 66, a natural maple grove interrupts the Illinois prairie. Isaac Funk emi-

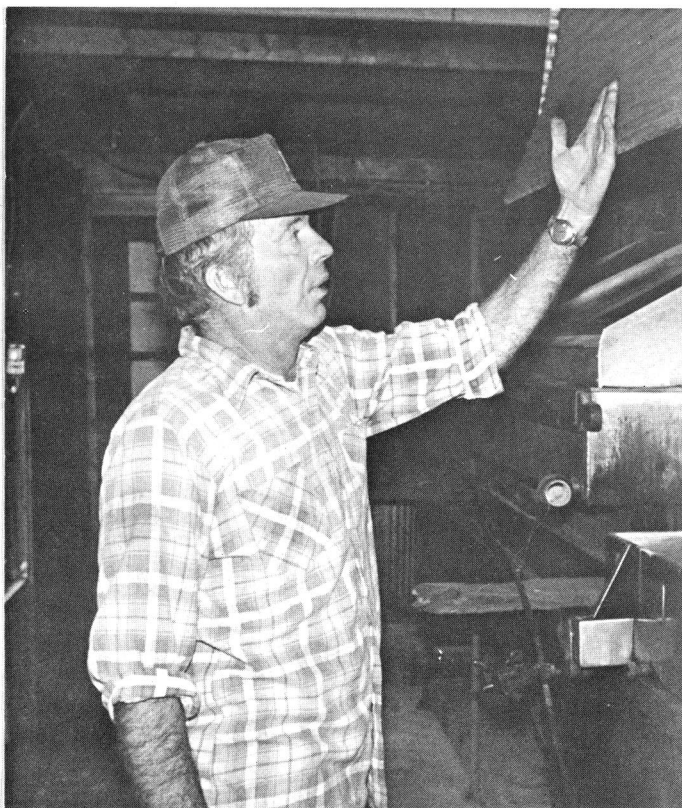


A sirup label from Funks Grove

grated from Germany and homesteaded the grove more than 140 years ago. Steve and Glaida Funk, the current propri-

(continued on page 4)

etors, are the sixth generation of Isaac's family to manage the grove. Their children and grandchildren also work at the grove, making it one of Route 66's longest-running family traditions. They even tap some of the same trees that Isaac did.



Steve Funk in the sap house at Funks Grove

When Steve and Glaida took over the grove, it was running only 500 buckets. But the new trustees studied their art and began trying out new scientific ways of collecting and boiling the sap. At their height, they were running nearly 5,000 buckets and their sirup-which they spell that way because it has no added sugar was pouring all over the country via Route 66.

The Funks also made a career out of helping travelers in distress. One time, Steve drove an injured soldier and his wife all the way to Chicago after their car had overturned. On another occasion, he loaned his car to a stranded student who had to hurry to nearby Illinois State University for an important test. And Glaida can't count all the people that they've pulled out of ditches or gassed up. Paraphrasing a favorite poem, she says, "We just want to live in a house by the side of the road and be a friend to man."

Dell Rhea's Chicken Basket

You can drive from Chicago to St. Louis now without changing gears. But in the early days of Route 66, Willowbrook's location just outside the heavy traffic of

The Route 66 Association of Illinois publishes this newsletter four times a year. Address inquiries to the Route 66 Association, 2743 Veterans Parkway, Suite 166, Springfield IL 62704.

Chicago made it an ideal first stopping place before hitting the truly open road down to Dwight. The Chicken Basket started out as a gas station with a lunch counter in those days. Two area farm women promised the owner the use of their



The logo of Dell Rhea's Chicken Basket

fried chicken recipe if he would buy his chickens and eggs from them-and a 66 tradition was born. Before long, the business outgrew the lunch counter and a restaurant was built next door. The Blue Bird Bus Line stopped there, as did thousands of cross country travelers each week. In fact, the switches that Blue Bird buses triggered when they pulled in the drive still hang on the restaurant's wall behind the counter.

Dell Rhea, who owned the restaurant across the street, bought the Chicken Basket when it went on sale in 1962. Following another 66 tradition, he made it a true family business. Dell tended bar and handled advertising and promotion. His wife, Grace, managed the kitchen and hired staff. His parents provided fresh chickens and eggs from their nearby farm. And his and Grace's only son, Patrick, started there as a busboy at age 9. Having done everything else at the restaurant in the interim, he took over as manager when his mother retired in 1986. Stoppers-by today can still enjoy the checkered table cloths, Wurlitzer jukebox and pan fried chicken on alabaster plates that have been available to two previous generations of 66 travelers already.

48 STATES BY CAR



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PRESIDENT

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Officers and Board Members

Officers and board members of the Route 66 Association are available at most reasonable times to answer your questions and hear your comments about Route 66. Please feel free to contact them if you need to.

Officers

President -Tom Teague

1208 W. Edwards
Springfield, IL 62704
217-787-8839

Vice-President -Jeff Meyer

2802 Fremont St.
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008
708-392-0860

Treasurer-Laura Meyer

(as above)

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309-828-2925

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Toni Wilda, Will

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309-828-2925

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217-732-2337

Ray Rowden, Sangamon

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Springfield, IL 62701
217-522-4926

Priscilla Matthews, Montgomery

410 N. Monroe
Litchfield, IL 62056
217-324-5551

Russell Soulsby, Macoupin

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St. Mount Olive, IL 62069
217-999-3191

Ray Mileur, Madison

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618-344-4883

Mike Janik, St. Clair

3530 State Route 159
Freeburg, IL 62243
618-277-5459

Ryan Russell, At Large

623 14th St.
Peru, IL 61354
815-233-4142

John Stonecipher, At Large

216 E. Prairie St
Odell, IL 60460
815-998-2161

Howie Thornley, At Large

R.R. 2, Box 96
Ashland, IL
217-476-3593

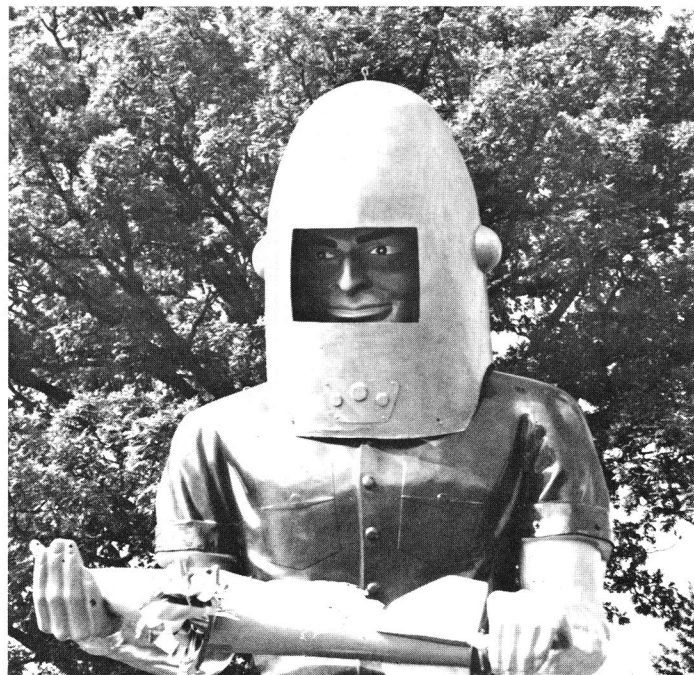
Lou Vandiver, At Large

2504 Berkshire Ct.
Champaign, IL 61824
217-356-4949

Mike Yates, At Large

Route 1
Washington, IL 61571
309-745-3822

Name This 66 Place!



Name this familiar 66 fellow

Or better yet, tell us a good story about it. With this issue, we introduce what we hope will become a regular feature in this newsletter. Each issue, we'll print a photo like this one, but not say what or where it is. If you can identify the photo, write to Tom Teague (Newsletter Editor), Route 66 Association of Illinois, 2743 Veterans Parkway, Room 166, Springfield, IL 62704. Send any other information you have, too. We'll publish your name on the Honor Roll of 66 Historians in the next issue. This issue's photo, as well as the idea for this feature, was submitted by Terri Ryburn-LaMonte of Normal. It was taken by one of her students, Jason Schmidt, during a field trip along Route 66 last fall. In addition to correct answers and good stories, please send other photos that we can feature in upcoming issues.

Which Way to Funks Grove?

Sidney Smith, who would later draw the famous "Andy Gump" comic strip, visited his brother in Bloomington in 1915. During his stay, the two brothers tried to go to a meeting in nearby Funks Grove one afternoon. This edition of "Old Dog Yak" was based on their experience. Please note the stripes on the pole at the left of the first panel. In the days before road signs, this was highways were marked by distinctively colored bands like these. Steve and Glaida Funk of Funks Grove loaned this rarity to the association so we could print it in this newsletter on the following two pages.

The Chicago Sunday Tribune

CIRCULATION
Over 500,000 Sunday
Over 300,000 Daily

PART FOUR
COMIC SECTION

THE WORLD'S GREATEST NEWSPAPER

OCTOBER 17, 1915

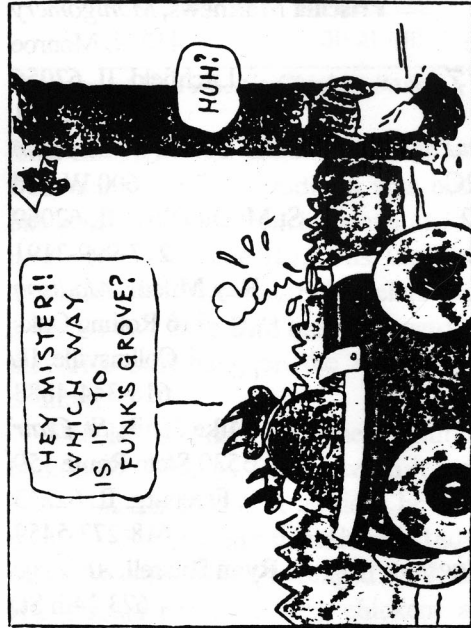


OLD DOG
GETS SOME ROAD
ADVICE



WE'RE LOST
I DON'T KNOW WHERE
WE ARE THIS BOOK'S
GOT ME ALL TWISTED

WHY DON'T
YOU ASK
SOME BODY
THE WAY?



HEY MYSTER!!
WHICH WAY
IS IT TO
FUNK'S GROVE?

HUH?



WELL I TELL YUH
WHAT YOU WANT TO DO—
JUST FOLLOW THE MAIN
ROAD TILL YOU COME TO
THE LITTLE SCHOOL HOUSE
AND YOU'LL FIND FIVE
CORNERS KEEP TO THE NORTH

WHAT
DOES HE
WANT?



GO RIGHT STRAIGHT
TILL YOU COME TO
CLIFF COOLIDGE'S
LAUNDRY TURN DOWN
THE ALLEY PAST
THE JAIL—



NOW—THAT ROADS ALL
CLOSED UP WAS DOWN
THERE WITH SHINE EVANS
LAST WEEK

GO DOWN
PAST HOWELL'S
FARM AND
TAKE THE FIRST
ROAD WEST—
SECOND STREET
SOUTH

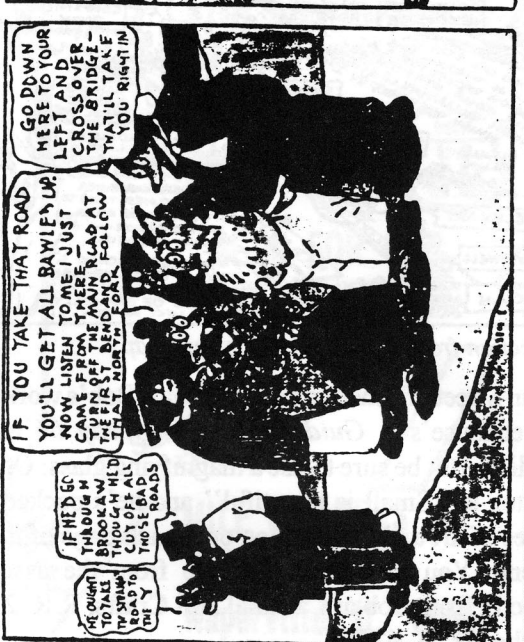
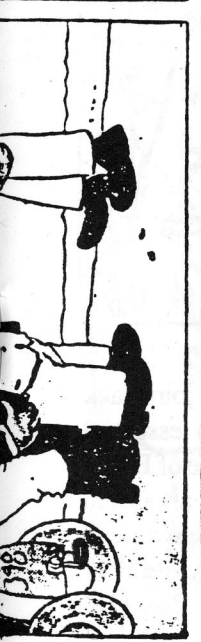
WHY DON'T YOU
FOLLOW THE
OLD TURNPIKE—
THEN YOU
DODGE ALL
THE BUMPS



WHAT HE
WANTS TO
TAKE IS
THE ROAD
THROUGH
CRENSHAW
SPRINGS

YEAH!
THAT'S
THE BEST
READ

NOW CHARLEY—
WHAT HE WANTS TO DO
IS GO THROUGH WANDA
THEN YOU GOT GOOD
ROADS ALL THE WAY



Convertibles Wanted for 66 Reunion

The fourth annual Route 66 Reunion at Lexington's Taste of Country Fair July 26 will feature a special convertible section in a parade in honor of Route 66's 66th anniversary. If you have a convertible you'd like to drive in the parade, contact Pete or Connie Bachman at R.R. 2, Box 75, Lexington, IL 61753 or at 309-365-7731. They're looking for convertibles from 1926 to 1992—each of Route 66's years. Other old cars are also welcome in the parade. The Route 66 Reunion is part of Lexington's Taste of Country Fair, which will be held July 25 and 26. At 4, it is the oldest annual Route 66 celebration in Illinois.

Car Show and Tours in Springfield

Ray Rowden and the Phoenix Association of Springfield are planning a Route 66 car show and heritage tours for Saturday, June 13 in Springfield. Phoenix members will be available to give visitors tours of the city's Lincoln sites in vintage automobiles. In addition, a car show will be held at Capitol City Shopping Center, Stevenson and Dirksen Drives in Springfield. If plans work out, there will also be a dance that evening at the shopping center. Ray Rowden is a Springfield alderman and the Sangamon County board member of the Route 66 Association. The Phoenix Association is a tourism and business development group founded by Ray. For information, contact Ray at 217-522-4926.

Super Sign Co. is Super!

The next time you pull off I-55 to visit Dixie Truckers Home or Funks Grove, you'll see a large, bright, lighted sign advertising the Route 66 Hall of Fame. At the entrance to the Dixie itself, you'll see other nice, new signs indicating that the Hall of Fame is inside. These wonderful signs were built and practically given to the Route 66 Association of Illinois by Super Sign Company of Bloomington. George Klett, the president of Super Sign, is also a member of our association. When the Hall of Fame was opened two years ago, Super Sign also made and donated the neon sign of Route 66 that is displayed in the Hall. Thank you, George Klett and Super Sign, for the wonderful work you are doing to help keep the spirit of Route 66 alive. As a matter of fact, you are the spirit of Route 66!

Litchfield... Let's talk about it!

- * Drive on Historic Route 66
- * Enjoy our 1,500 acre Lake Lou Yaeger which offers boating, campgrounds and the Shoal Creek Nature Conservation Area
- * Look through the original Andrew Carnegie Public Library
- * Visit the Old Wabash Train Depot
- * Enjoy peaceful, historic Walton Park

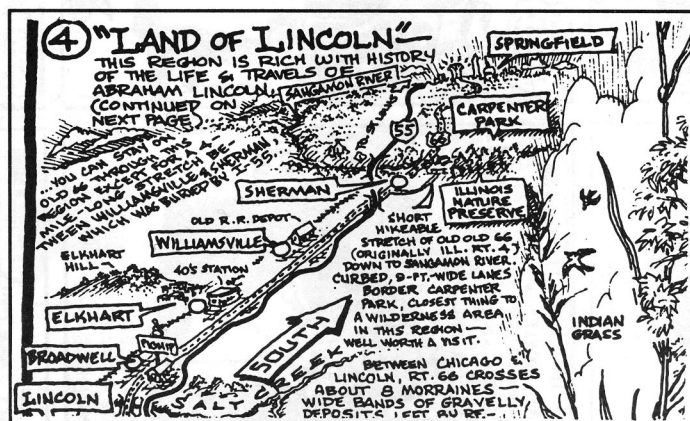
Special Events... Championship Junior Rodeo, Annual Trainfest, Wolf Pack Antique Car Show, Party-In-The-Park

While in Litchfield visit our many fine restaurants, antique and specialty shops. Visit the theatre for late-night entertainment, or stay at one of our local motels.

Waldmire Map a Treasure

Rochester's Bob Waldmire, the resident cartographer of Route 66, capped three years of effort this March with the publication of his "Map of Old Route 66." The ten-page map and its six page legend are a vast and sprawling treasure of 66 information and lore. For fans who want to track the

A small piece of the cover from Bob Waldmire's map



A section from Bob Waldmire's epic map

Main Street of America as it once was, Bob's work joins Jack Rittenhouse's *A Guidebook to Highway 66* as essential reading. But be sure to use a magnifying glass. One of Bob's mottos is "Small is beautiful" and he's packed about ten pages of art and information onto each page of the map and legend. You can order the map from the association or directly from Bob at Cardinal Hill Crafts, R.R. 2, Box 110, Rochester, IL 62563.

Other Route 66 Associations

Looking for information about Route 66 in other states? Contact these people for help:

Route 66 Association of Missouri

P.O. Box 8117
St. Louis, MO 63156
Jim Powell: 314-367-2418

Kansas Historic Route 66 Association

P.O. Box 169
Riverton, KS 66770
Scott Nelson, 316-848-3330

Oklahoma Route 66 Association

6434 NW 39th Expressway,
Suite D
Bethany, OK 73008
Danny Scott, 800-299-8766

Old Route 66 Association of Texas

P.O. Box 66
McLean, TX 79057
Delbert Trew, 806-779-3164

New Mexico Route 66 Association

1415 Central NE
Albuquerque, NM 87106
Dave Nidel, 505-843-7185

Historic Route 66 Association of Arizona

P.O. Box 66
Kingman, AZ 86402
Lynda Moore, 602-753-5001

California Historic Route 66 Association

2127A Foothill Blvd., Suite 66
LaVerne, CA 91750
Vivian Davies, 714-593-4046

Route 66 Territory Visitors Bureau

8916-C Foothill Blvd.
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730
JoAnn Robuck, 714-593-4850

New Members

Gaylord Albrecht, Flanagan; Paul Baker, Naperville; Mike Banasiak, Markham; JoAnn Bower, Tucson, AZ; Pat Boyle, Joliet; David Bradshaw, Frankfort; John Brewer, Manhattan; Russ Coomans, Villa Park; William & Gerianne Coughlin, Springfield (Sustaining); Howard and Marjorie Cox, Wilmington; David Craig, Naperville; Dan and Nancy Davies, Bolingbrook; Audrey Dawkins, Brookfield; Glenn DeMoss, Galesburg; Albert Denovi, Peotone; David Erschen, Pontiac; Edward Fresen, Edwardsville. Joseph and LuAnne Gagliano, Bolingbrook; Lloyd Gillett, Niles; Anthony and Gail Golec, Belleville; Jim and Brina Grigg, Rockford; Michael and Marilyn Gorman, Chicago; Kurt and Cindy Hall, Batavia; Richard and Linda Henry, Staunton; Kenneth Howard, Dwight; Roger Huelbert, San Francisco, CA; Jim Issel, Elk Grove; Karen Johnson, Wheeling; Kankakee Valley Vintage Car Club, Kankakee; Sharon Kornegay, Crest Hill; John and Cheryl Koutsy, Milan; Jean Lewis, Covina, CA; Jerry Malecki, Addison; Gilbert and Patricia Martinez, Bartlett; Gerald and Nancy Mayer, Plainfield; Buster McDaniel, Troy, MO; Paul Melchert, Tinley Park. Bill Millan, Fairfax, VA; Glenn and Lois Moist, Pecatonica; Robert Murphy and Marla Gray, Murieta, CA; R.F. Parsons, Clarendon Hills; Patterson Brothers Oil & Gas, Williamsville; George Pekarik, Downers Grove; Lionginas Radkevicius, Lithuania!; James Raschke, Burbank; Dom and Joan Renzi, Chicago; Riviera Restaurant (Robert and Margaret Kraft), Gardner; Taylor Rockwell and Martha Wolf, Evanston; Route 66 Antique Shop (Gail Wallen), Lincoln; Route 66 Roadhouse & Cantina Restaurant, Boca Raton, FL; The Rubin Family, Wilmette; Dorothy Seratt, Odell; Earl Shandy, Millstadt; Leslee and Richard Tabas, Gladwyne, PA; Frank and Shirley Tyrolt, Decatur; Frank and Pat Walker, Knoxville; Phillip Walton, Brazil, IN; Jim Weiland, McHenry.

Litchfield Volkswalk

The Railsplitter Wanderers, a walking club, will hold a "volkswalk" in Litchfield on Sunday, September 13, starting at Walton Park. You can start any time after 8 a.m. The walk's theme, "Get Your Clicks on Route 66," was chosen because the walk is ten kilometers long and a nickname for kilometers is "clicks." Complete the walk and you will be awarded a special Route 66 embroidered patch. A similar walk held on April 5 in Springfield drew more than 200 participants.

Preserving Highway Memories

MILE

 M
A
R
K
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R
S

**HAND-MADE
GIFTS**

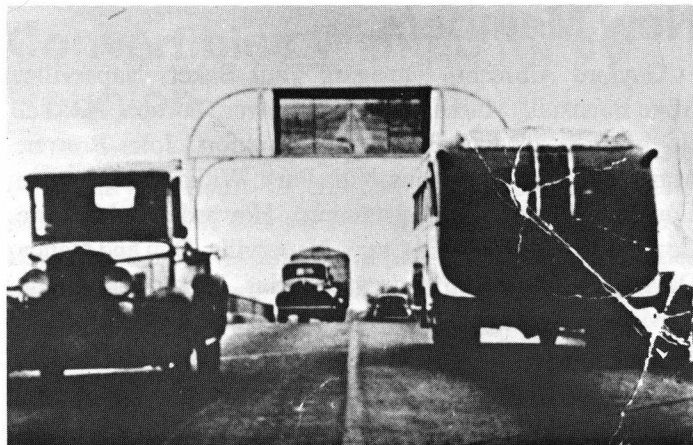
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FREE
CATALOG!**

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Naperville, IL 60567**



The Glenarm mirror

The Glenarm Mirror

by Tom Teague

In the early days of Route 66, the highway was known in too many spots along its length as "Bloody 66"—especially near hills, unguarded railroad tracks and sharp curves along section lines. Eventually the road was straightened and then widened to four lanes most of the way. But until that time, traffic engineers tried no end of other safety improvements. From the Around the Block Tavern in Glenarm, Illinois, in the 1930s, patrons could enjoy a beer and watch the results of one such improvement. At the top of a nearby knoll in the prairie, engineers had installed a large mirror. It was curved and slanted in such a way that drivers could see what traffic was approaching from the other side of the knoll before they reached its top. This would make passing easier and safer, officials figured. What it actually did was divert drivers' attention from the road itself. After several accidents, the experiment was retired. Soon afterward, traffic engineers figured to ban passing on hills altogether. This photo of the mirror was donated to the Route 66 Association of Illinois by Phyllis White of Chatham.

July Meeting a Class Presentation

Students of a Route 66 oral history class at Illinois State University will give a special presentation at the association's next board meeting. The meeting will be at Bloomington Square, 903 IAA Drive in Bloomington. Those folks who want to share a meal together can come and order a meal off the menu at noon. The meeting and presentation will start right after the meal. The presenters were all students last fall in a course taught by Terri Ryburn-LaMonte, a member of our association. LaWanda Henry, also a member of our association, was a member of the class. The students' talk to us will be similar to one they gave at an education conferences in Wisconsin recently and one they will give this fall in California. In addition to these talks, the class and Terri are preparing an oral history book on Route 66 that they hope to publish this year. Directions to the meeting: From the north, drive on Veterans Parkway (Bypass 66) to Vernon and turn right. Turn left immediately on to IAA Drive. From the south, turn left off Veterans Parkway on to Vernon, then left on to IAA Drive. If coming on I-55, I-74 or US 51 from the north, get on I-55 north. Exit on Business 55 south (Veterans Parkway) and follow the directions above. If coming from the south on I-74, exit on US 51 north, take it to Veterans Parkway north and follow the above directions. If coming in on Route 9 from either direction, take it to Business 55 north. If you plan to attend the July 12 meeting, RSVP to Tom and Pat Knudsen at 309-828-2925 so we'll know how large a room we'll need.

Hall of Famer McNabney Passes On

Melton F. "Cotton" McNabney, a 1991 member of the Route 66 Hall of Fame of Illinois, died on April 11 in Bloomington. Too ill to make it to his own induction last June, he was the first Hall of Famer to pass on. Cotton was born in 1910 in Gibson and served in World War II. He and his wife were in the restaurant business on or near Route 66 for more than 40 years. They started in Chenoa at Wahl Brothers (now Steve's Cafe) and moved to Pontiac, where they owned the Orchard Knook. They later operated the Quick Service Cafe. Following that, they leased and operated the Fairbury Hotel in Fairbury, near Pontiac. Then for 24 years they owned and operated Cotton's Village Inn in downtown Bloomington. Cotton is survived by several nieces and nephews. They asked that any memorials to him be made to the Route 66 Hall of Fame.

Mon - Sat 10-5 Sun - 12-5

Route 66 Antique Mall

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<i>A Guidebook to Highway 66</i> by Jack Rittenhouse (reprint of original 1946 edition)	\$ 6.95 + \$1.50p/h
<i>The Verse by the Side of the Road</i> by Frank Rowsome	\$ 9.95 + \$1.50 p/h
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1992 Illinois Route 66 Events

Join in the fun along Route 66 this spring and summer at any (or all) of these events. Local phone numbers are given if you'd like to call for more information.

May 23, Atlanta Memorial Day Celebration

June 4-6, Divernon Homecoming Celebration City Park, 217-628-3868

June 10-12, Joliet Taste of Joliet Memorial Stadium, 3000 W. Jefferson, 815-741-7275

June 12-14, Route 66 Association Motor Tour With stops in Chicago, Chenoa, McLean, Lincoln, Springfield and Granite City. Alternate stops in Joliet, Wilmington and Willowbrook. 217-787-8839

June 13, Berwyn Motorfest '92 Ogden Avenue (Old 66), 708-749-3064

June 13, Springfield Route 66 Car Show and Heritage Tours Stevenson and Dirksen Drives, 217-522-4926

June 14, Litchfield Wolf Pack Car Club Show Library Park, Downtown, 217-324-4527

June 19-20, Pontiac Hang Loose-Let the Good Times Roll, '50s-'60s weekend Elks Club Downtown, 815-844-6692

June 26-28, Bloomington Bloomington Gold/Corvettes USA McLean County Fairgrounds, 309-828-GOLD.

June 27-July 5, Chicago Taste of Chicago Grant Park, 312-744-3315

July 3-5, Litchfield Fourth of July Celebration Lake Lou Yaeger, 217-324-5253

July 4, Pontiac Fourth of July Celebration Township High School, 1100 Indiana Ave., 815-844-5131

July 4, Chenoa Fourth of July Celebration City Park

July 4, Towanda Fourth of July Celebration North Park, 309-728-2384

July 4-5, Springfield LincolnFest Downtown, 217-789-2274

July 14-19, Carlinville Macoupin County Fair Macoupin County Fairgrounds, Route 4, 217-854-3687

July 17-19, Braidwood Braidwood Summerfest 815-458-6444

July 17-19, Countryside Countryside Summerfest 62nd & LaGrange, 708-352-0494

July 17-19, Elkhart Elkhart Homecoming Downtown Elkhart, 217-947-2323

July 18, Springfield 5th Annual Illinois Central Blues Fest Knight's Action Park, 1700 Recreation Drive, 217-787-8839

July 23-25, Joliet Joliet Waterway Daze Bicentennial Park, 201 W. Jefferson, 815-740-3244

July 24-August 2, Berwyn Summerfaire Cermak & Harlem, 708-788-3244

July 25-26, Lexington Taste of Country Fair/Route 66 Reunion Main Street & Town Park, 309-365-4881 or 309-365-8105

July 27-30, Pontiac Livingston County 4-H Fair 4-H Park, R.R. 3, 815-842-1776

August 4-8, Bloomington McLean County Fair McLean County Fairgrounds

August 13-23, Springfield Illinois State Fair State Fairgrounds, 217-782-6661

August 14-15, Odell Odell Days Downtown

August 22, Litchfield Cruise Night to Skyview Drive-In Wolf Pack Car Club, 217-324-2533

August 22-23, Bloomington Bloomington-Normal Airshow '92 Bloomington-Normal Airport, Route 9, 309-663-7632

August 26-30, Bolingbrook Bolingbrook Jubilee Town Center, 375 W. Briarcliff, 708-759-0440

August 28-30, Lincoln Lincoln Art and Balloon Fest Latham Park, 217-732-8687

August 28-30, Litchfield Party in the Park Library Park downtown, 217-324-2533

September 3-7, Pontiac 44th Annual Thresherman's Reunion 815-844-5131

September 19-20, Lincoln National Railsplitter Contest & Crafts Festival Railsplitter Park, 217-732-8687

September 18-20, Dwight Harvest Days Main Street, 815-584-2091

October 3-4, Williamsville Autumn on the Boulevard 217-566-3689 or 217-566-2115

November 28, Litchfield Big Four HO Club Train Fest Community Center, S. State St., 217-324-3872

Route 66 Association of Illinois
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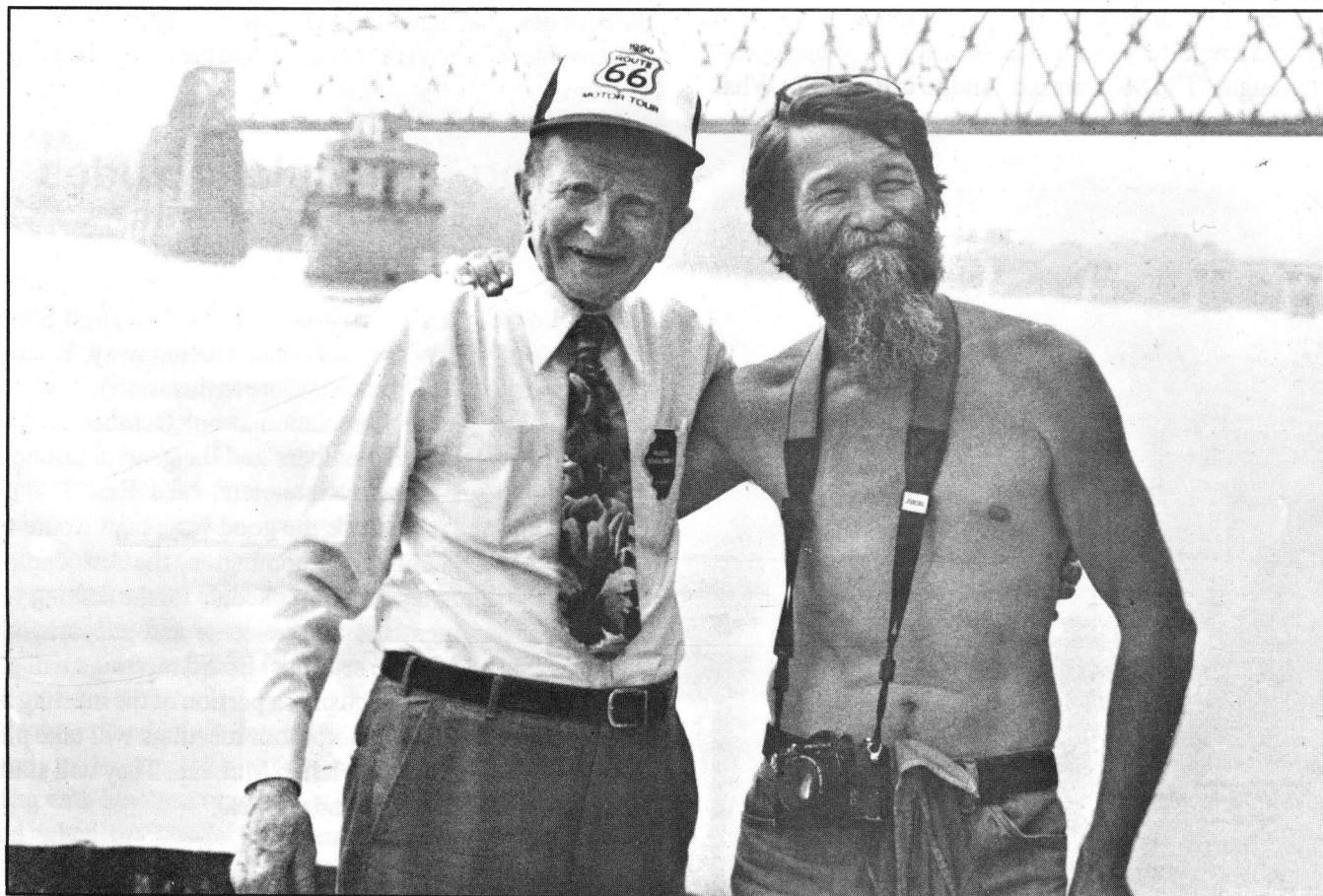
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ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

THE 66 NEWS!

AUTUMN 1992



Hall of Famers Russell Soulsby and Bob Waldmire at the Chain of Rocks Bridge

CRUISING 66

The Third Annual Motor Tour

Story and photos by Tom Teague, Editor

They came from Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Michigan, Missouri, Oklahoma, Arizona, Belgium and Japan. They drove a 1928 Whippet, a '46 Hudson, a '56 Crown Victoria, a 1992 ZR1 Corvette, a motorcycle, a hearse, a van, and not a few family sedans. They ranged in age from one to 91. Together, they were the 1992 Illinois Motor Tour. Together, they were us.

A record 234 drivers and their companions entered this, our third annual tour. Thousands of others joined us

at parties and stops along the way. Our theme was the 66th anniversary of Route 66. And while we were on the road, the highway earned back its nickname: Main Street of America.

The motor tour started as a two-day event, but has quickly become a three- and four-day experience for many people. The community began this year on Friday night, June 12, with dinner and tour registration at Route

(continued on page 7)

"ILLINOIS - WHERE THE ROAD BEGAN."

LeBeau Celebrates Three 66's

Earlier this year, Carter LeBeau of Moline was celebrating his recent retirement from the Oscar Mayer Company with a leisurely afternoon read. He was 66 years old, which made it easy for an article in Rand McNally Magazine to catch his eye.

"It was about the 66th anniversary of Route 66," the avid bicyclist told a reporter in Kingman, Arizona. "'What a great idea!', I thought. 'I'm 66 years old. And so is Route 66. What

like the 85-year-old lady in Holbrook, Arizona, who was innkeeper at the TeePee Motel and the American Indian in Gallup wearing a Washington Redskins cap. This is Americana in its truest form.'"

Back home, Carter has agreed to help our Association's efforts to boost preservation efforts and travel along Route 66. Many people have already voiced their support for turning various abandoned stretches of Route 66 into bike paths or designating the entire highway as a bike route. What better spokesman and consultant could they have than Carter LeBeau?

Meeting Schedule Includes High School Class

David Locke, a history instructor at Dwight High School, teaches a unit every year on his favorite highway, Route 66 (see the story about Dave elsewhere in this issue). That class will give a talk to the Association at our October 18 board meeting in Dwight. All members and the general public are welcome. To get there by interstate, take Exit 217 onto Illinois 17 east. To get there the good way, take Route 66

At its July 12 meeting in Bloomington, the Association's board set the following meeting schedule for the coming year. All Association members are welcome and encouraged to attend any or all of these sessions. Board meetings will start at noon with a meal. The business portion of the meeting will start at about 1 p.m. All motor tour meetings will take place at Mount Hope Township Hall in McLean. They will start at noon also, but will not include a meal.

Board Meetings

October 18, Harvest Table, Dwight
January 10, TBA, Litchfield
April 18, TBA, Chicago area

Motor Tour Meetings

November 22
March 14
May 23

The Motor Tour itself will take place on the second weekend of June.

Back Issues on Sale!

Back issues of this newsletter are on sale for only \$1 apiece, including shipping and handling. We have limited quantities and when they're gone, they're gone, so order soon. The following issues are available: July 1990, September 1990, December 1990, March 1991, May 1991, October 1991 and January 1992.



Fred Leonard and Carter LeBeau in Kingman, Arizona

better way to commemorate both occasions than to ride my bike from one end of it to another?'"

Plans developed quickly from there. Carter recruited three fellow members of the Quad Cities Bicycle Club to help: Fred Leonard, recently retired from John Deere; Dean Arney, a semi-retired consultant, and Marv Collentine, a practicing physician. Carter and Fred flew out to Los Angeles in early April with their 15-speed Klein bicycles. From there, they rode together along Route 66 to Albuquerque where Marv joined them. Marv rode with Carter and Fred to Oklahoma City, then flew back home. Dean joined them in Gray's Summit, Missouri. Finally, at Gardner, Illinois, Fred and Dean turned off the route, allowing Carter to go solo into Chicago. The entire trip took six weeks.

Along Route 66, Carter told another reporter, "Life was simple, people were friendly and the pressures of modern times were non-existent. I met so many 'one of a kind' people

Stix of the Yukon

Editor's Note: *This story was fashioned from Roberta McKay's nomination of her grandparents, Anna and Amel "Stix" Draheim, to the Route 66 Hall of Fame.*

Right: the Draheims.

Below: The Yukon Inn in the 1930s.



Cross country travelers to-day take restaurants and lounges at their motels for granted. But when Anna and Stix Draheim bought the Yukon Inn in the late 1920s, its combination of services--restaurant, tourist cabins and tavern--was still fairly new. The restaurant and tavern were housed in the basement of the Draheims' home on Peoria Road in Springfield. Later, a separate building was erected across the drive. And when 66 was widened to four lanes, the building had to be raised to be on a level with the new pavement.

Meals at the Yukon Inn were served family style. A platter of fried chicken was set on the table along with bowls of mashed potatoes, gravy and a vegetable. And when the bowls were empty, there were homemade desserts.

The Yukon's cabins for several years were the nearest ones to the Illinois State Fairgrounds. Several people had standing reservations every year for State Time, including many famous drivers who raced automobiles at the fair. In the winter, Stix spent a lot of time in the central boiling room shoveling coal to keep steam heat going into the cabins and to keep the water hot. Later, he installed an automatic stoker.

One summer, a family traveling through Springfield stopped overnight. Next morning, they left a small, double coin purse in their room. There was only a small amount of change on one side, but the other side held several family snapshots. There was no name or address, but Anna checked the register. Through license plate numbers and several letters, she was able to locate the family and return the coin purse. Whenever that family passed through Illinois again, they made sure to stay at the Yukon Inn.

Roberta lived with the Draheims from 1936-1938 when she was 8-10 years old. One of her chores was to fold all the bath linen and iron all the pillow cases with a mangle. "I couldn't

understand then why I had to do it," she said. "There were several ladies hired to clean the cabins and do the laundry. Looking back, I know now it was a building step in my character."

Anna and Stix were seriously injured in an auto accident in the early 1940s. They had to close the restaurant and tavern to ease their workload. The building was converted into two apartments. For a few years, they still rented out several cabins. In 1945, they moved to California where they spent the rest of their lives.



The Draheims' house, the Yukon's sign and a few cabins still stand near the state fairgrounds, but the only business there now is a mobile home dealer.

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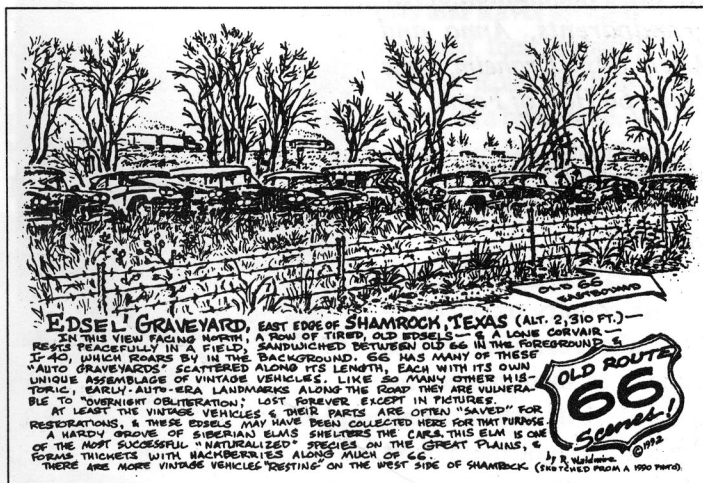
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The Route 66 Association of Illinois publishes this newsletter four times a year. Address inquiries to the Route 66 Association of Illinois, 2743 Veterans Parkway, Suite 166, Springfield IL, 62704

Attention, Waldmire Fans!

Bob Waldmire, the route's resident cartographer, has added three new postcards to his series of postcard scenes from Old

66: the Cozy Dog Drive-In in Springfield, Illinois; an Edsel graveyard near Shamrock, Texas, and Main Street in Halltown, Missouri. The 24-card series is available through the Association. See our merchandise page for details.





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Officers and Board Members

Officers and board members of the Route 66 Association are available at most reasonable times to answer your questions and hear your comments about Route 66. Please feel free to contact them if you need to.

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Vice-President -Jeff Meyer

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(as above)

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309-828-2925

Editor- Tom Teague is filling in until we find a permanent replacement. Call Tom and volunteer.

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Champaign, IL 61824
217-356-4949

Mike Yates, At Large

Route 1
Washington, IL 61571
309-745-3822

New Members

More than 100 new members from 11 states and three other countries joined the Association from April through July. We extend a hand in welcome and fellowship to:

Robert & Donna Anderson, Zion; Ken & Susan Arnold, Vernon Hills; Richard Artus, Oak Lawn; Ted Bachman, Barrington; Cynthia Baker, Darien; Robert Baker, St. Louis, MO; Walter Baker, Lincoln; Randy Ballinger, Virden; Gilles Bassignac, Paris, France; Bill Bendit, Wilmette; Bill Bennett, Worthington, OH; Bob Bezely, Potomac; Bruno Biava, Bloomington; Brad Bogart, Montague, MI; Mr. & Mrs. A. Bonavolonta, Elmhurst; Hal & Rita Bowers, Springfield; Patrick Breneman, Coal City; Wayne Breti, Schaumburg; Kevin & Linda Brinkmeyer, Granite City; Carol Brown, Jerseyville; Jerry Buhr, Glen Ellyn; Jack & Diane Crane, Lincoln; Keith Curtis, Morton Grove; Louis Dal Pra, Rumson, NJ; Dean Downing, Mesa, AZ; Werner Ellmann; McHenry; Ellen Engstrom, DeKalb; Liza Dawn Espinas, Los Angeles, CA; Wallace Ewing, Urbana; Stan Florczak, Hillside; Linda Forman, Crystal Lake; Jay French, Chicago; Bob & Kathy Giles, Washington; Leonard Goff, Robinson; Richard Goodall, Springfield; Kevin Gordon, Cahokia; Jim Gorski, Lisle; Edward Held, Franklin Park; JoAnn & Leroy Jackson, Waukegan; Jerry Jacobson, Springfield; Phillip Janowski, Stevens Point, WI; Ed & Rose Kambic, Cresthill; Alison Kerber, Nutley, NJ; Kathleen Korth, San Rafael, CA; Paul Kronauge, Dayton, OH; Sinaia Kuhn, Crystal Lake; Mark Kurth, Chicago; Ralph & Janet Lamb, Bement; Martin & Jayne Lathrop, Marshall; Franklin Lyons, Wilmington; Bernie Matchen, McHenry; Meteor City Gift Shop, Winslow, AZ; Algis Mickus, Villa Park; Carl Moore Jr., Decatur; Michael Mullen, Vincennes, IN; Daniel Mumsen, Schaumburg; Mustang Corral, Edwardsville; Don & Shelly Myers, Pontiac; William & June Nelson, Glendale, AZ; Robert & Jacqueline Newberry, Plainfield; Shelagh O'Rourke, Port-Au-Prince, Haiti; Larry & Sue Olichwier, Crestwood, IL; Thomas Osborn, Stickney; Ernest Opp, Bethalto; Dennis Patton, San Francisco, CA; Jolie & Kerry Pavlatos, Chicago; Harry Pick, Chenoa; Frederick Pooler, Bar Harbor, ME; Dwayne Probyn, Morton; Michael Quiroz, Glendale Heights; Gene Randall Jr., Bixby, OK; Lee Remling, Carlinville; Wilton & Evelyn Rinkel, Edwardsville; Carol Ruth, Orlean, NY; Jerry Sladek, Berwyn; Joel Smiler, Rochester, MI; Dennis Smith, Jefferson City, MO; Leamon Smith, Peoria; William & Dorothy Squires, Milford, MI; Jim Stahly, Bloomington; C.R. Stroop, West Lafayette, IN; Cozeene Triplett, Joliet; Sjef van Eijk, Holland; Village of Bolingbrook; Mark & Nancy Wagner, Evanston; Allan Welge, Chester; Bruce & Erika Westerberg, Buffalo Grove; Dan Wheat, Lincoln; Charles & Lillian Wiggins, Warrenville; Jennifer Wolfe, Quaker Street, NY; Mike Young, Pekin; Gary Zenner, Litchfield; Helen & Jim Zulas, Westmont.

Arts Alive on 66

by Tom Teague

Photo Exhibit 1

Shellee Graham, a photographer from Missouri, has produced an outstanding photo exhibit called "Return to Route 66: Photographs from the Mother Road." The exhibit premiered June 28-July 19 at Crestwood Plaza in St. Louis. If you hear that it's going to be in your area, be sure to go see



it. It's outstanding. Quintah Scott's photos in *Route 66: The Road and Its People* looked particularly fine by printing them as black and silver duotones. Graham's work is often even more dramatic than that through such techniques as black-and-white infrared photographs like the one shown here. For sheer lushness and evocative beauty, nothing has yet topped the color photos that Arizonan Terrence Moore did back in the early '80s. But Graham's work is a definite step forward in the art history of Route 66 and deserves to be checked out. Our recommendation: besides the exhibit, Graham should also come out with a line of postcards.

Photo Exhibit 2

The Gallup Area Arts Council in New Mexico and the Near Northwest Arts Council in Chicago are collaborating this year on the third annual Route 66 Revisited photo exhibit. The juried competition invited entries nationally as well as

internationally. The theme was the 66th Anniversary of Route 66. Winning entries will go on display in September at the Red Mesa Art Center in Gallup and in December at the Near Northwest Arts Center. As of this writing, there was still time on the exhibit's schedule for it to be displayed elsewhere. Interested parties should contact the Gallup council at 105 West Hill St., Gallup, NM 87301, phone 505-722-4209, or the Near Northwest council at 1579 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60622, phone 312-278-7677. Photographers interested in entering next year's competition should contact the Gallup council.

Books

Tulsan Marian Clark wrote recently to say that her *Route 66 Cookbook* went to Council Oak, her publisher, in June. It should reach bookstores and other outlets early in 1993—just in time for the Spring cooking season. It will feature over 200 recipes with accompanying narrative, covering every place from the Taste of Chicago on the shores of Lake Michigan to the old Belle Vue Restaurant at oceanside in Santa Monica. Among the Illinois sites featured are Dell Rhea's Chicken Basket, Funks Grove, Dixie Truckers Home, the Pig Hip, the Cozy Dog and the Ariston Cafe—all members of the Route 66 Hall of Fame. Clark even avers that she has the recipe for the Pig Hip's secret sauce, having obtained it from a source in Amarillo. Ernie Edwards, holder to the patent on the sauce, says that's possible, but not likely. He had a franchise in Amarillo many years ago, but thinks they never did get the sauce right. Fine cooking, after all, is not simply a matter of combining ingredients. Look for Clark's book next year. It should sell like hotcakes.

Music

I know of at least five people who have written and recorded their own songs about Route 66: Geoffrey Willis of Orange, California; Louis Moore of Hayward, California; Paulette Young and Michael Cutillo of Chino, California; Kevin Welch of Erick, Oklahoma, and Dave Williams of Springfield, Illinois. Someday I'd like to write a full-length article about these folks, as well as anyone else who has done a song about 66. If you know of anyone who has, please contact me at 1208 W. Edwards, Springfield, IL 62704, phone 217-787-8839. Maybe someday we'll get all these folks together and make a record.

Route 66 Shield Run

The California Historic Route 66 Association is leading planning efforts for a Chicago-Santa Monica caravan along Route 66 to celebrate the road's 66th anniversary. The drive will begin October 10 in Chicago and end in Santa Monica on November 11, the day in 1926 when the national highway plan

was submitted. Route 66 fans from everywhere are welcome to take part in any or all of the ride. A feature of the caravan will be the passing of a Route 66 shield whenever the road crosses from one state to another. For information on the shield run in general, contact JoAnne or Geoffrey Willis, 263-B S. Cypress, Orange, CA 92666, phone 714-639-2911. For information on events in your state, contact your state's Route 66 association.

Cruising 66 (continued from page 1)

66's northernmost Hall of Famer-Dell Rhea's Chicken Basket in Willowbrook. More than 250 people attended. Then bright and early on Saturday, June 13, we rolled through the State Farm motor tour arch in Chicago's Grant Park. Cook County board member Frank Lozich and his band Oceans 11 entertained the procession with the world's longest version of "(Get Your Kicks on) Route 66." In the near suburb of Berwyn, it seemed like half the town turned out to see us and present ribbons to tourers. Thanks to Berwyn alderman Don Pechous and friends for the great reception!

In Joliet, we were treated to a tour of the magnificently restored Rialto Theater. The Rialto, located on City 66, is also celebrating its 66th anniversary this year. The tour was



A 1931 Ford passes through the arch in Litchfield

sponsored by Joliet area merchants and coordinated by Association members Dave and Toni Wilda of Joliet.

Although we'd already had a full morning, many tourers couldn't resist the invitation from the city of Wilmington to take a cruise around that town's beautiful, old-fashioned town square. Then it was on to the city park in Chenoa where Ken Sipe, owner of the landmark Steve's Cafe, led several city organizations in serving us a fine lunch and homemade desserts.

Hall of Fame ceremonies that afternoon near Dixie Truckers Home in McLean were threatened by rain, but managed to get started only half an hour late. Dell Rhea's, the Ariston Cafe in Litchfield, Steve and Glaida Funk from Funks Grove and John Stonecipher from Odell were this year's new members. Joined on stage by these other Hall of Famers-Captain Francis Mowery, Metha Jensen, Russell Soulsby and Ernie Edwards-they made a truly distinguished gathering. Emcee Roy Frankenhoff from WPOC Radio in Pontiac was well-prepared and polished in his presentation of the new members. Custer's Last Band from Normal provided the music and, as always, C.J. and Chuck Beeler of the Dixie were generous and helpful hosts.

The parade through downtown Lincoln on Saturday continued to be one of our best-attended and most colorful events. Food was abundant and tasty and the mix of entertainment was something you'll find only along Route 66: a troupe of teenage clogdancers, a band called the Swingin' Grandmas, and Oceans 11. Bob Borowiak did an excellent job of coordinating the whole show.

On Sunday morning, June 14, many tourers took advantage of a buffet breakfast at the American Legion in Lincoln, then motored caravan-style to the Cozy Dog Drive-In and Springfield. There we were welcomed with homemade donuts and coffee by Hall of Famer Ed Waldmire and his family. In Litchfield, we assembled at the drive-in theater for a parade downtown to join the Wolf Pack Car Club's annual custom show. From there, about 200 of us bordered chartered buses for a guided tour to the historic Chain of Rocks Bridge near Mitchell and to closing ceremonies at Miller Park in Granite City.

The tour was far from over, though. Back in Litchfield, 130 of us gathered at the Gardens Restaurant for a 66th birthday party and dinner for Route 66. And 60 people showed up for breakfast the next morning before finally going their separate ways. Once you're on Route 66, it's hard to leave it.

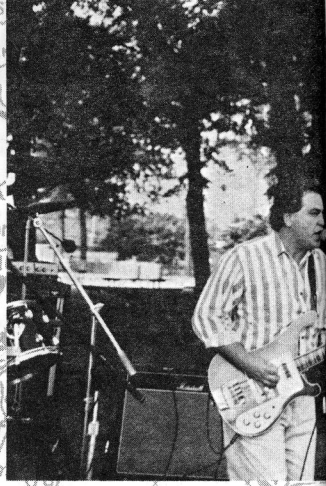
Many thanks should go to Jeff and Laura Meyer, Tom and Pat Knudsen and all the other people who did such yeoman work at our merchandise table. Bud and Lou Vandiver and Harvey and Adella Hodges also did an outstanding job of handling registrations. And who can forget the welcome and familiar sight of all those people in the neon green shirts-the State Farm agents of Illinois? Besides Dan Ziebart and his crew on the arch, State Farm agents stamped passports, directed parking, handed out goodie bags and just generally made themselves useful. Our thanks go to all of them, but especially to regional vice president Chuck Wright. We couldn't have done it without any of you and we hope you all come back next year. The 1993 motor tour is already scheduled for the second weekend in June.

TOUR PIX ON NEXT PAGE!

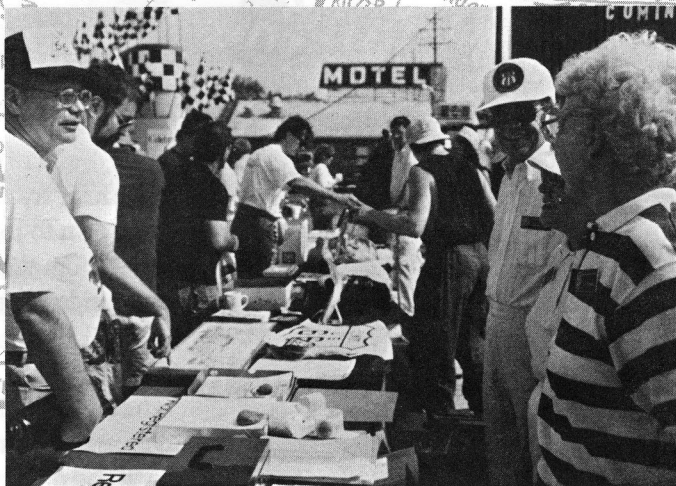
The Route 66 Association



Peoria's L.C. Smith waiting for the tour to start in Chicago



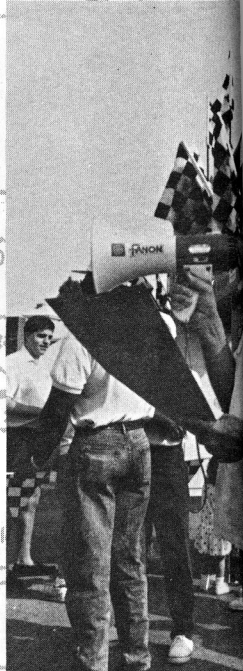
Board member Frank Lozich (right) playing guitar in Grant Park in Chicago



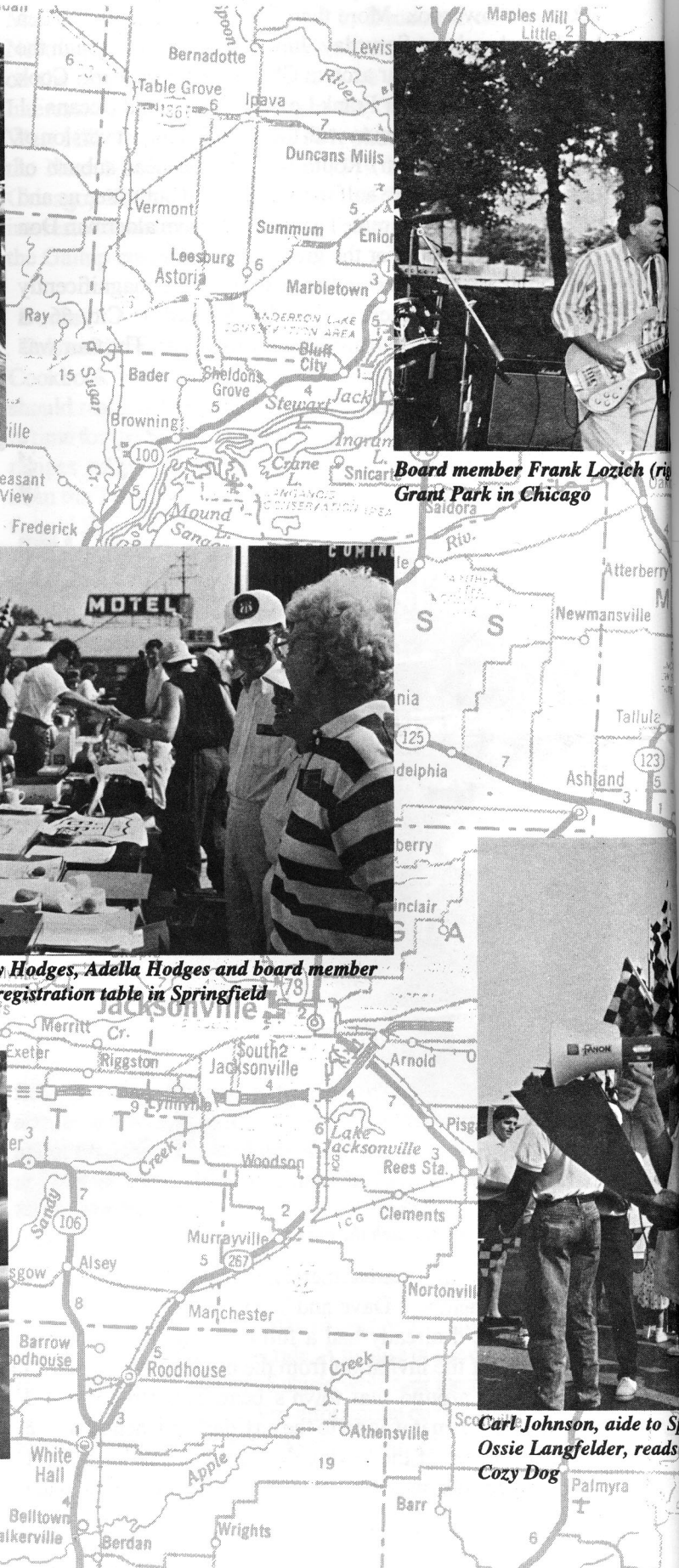
FAR RIGHT: Harvey Hodges, Adella Hodges and board member Lou Vandiver at the registration table in Springfield



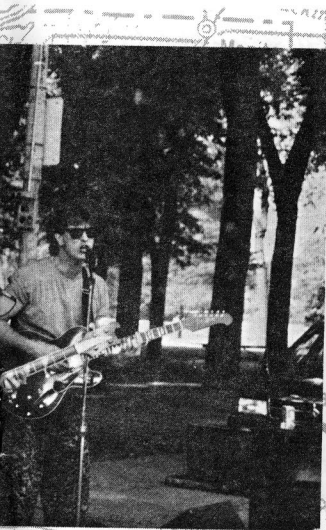
Name this 66 couple



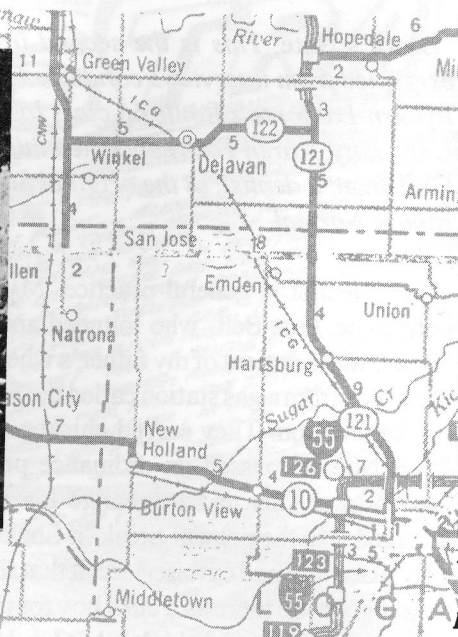
Carl Johnson, aide to Sp. Ossi Langfelder, reads Cozy Dog



of Illinois 1992 Motor Tour



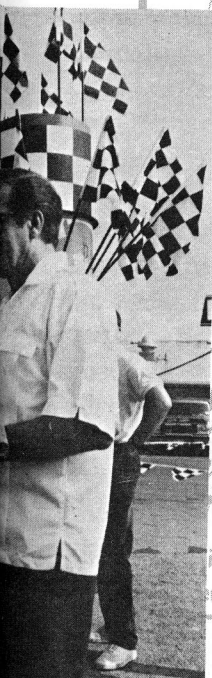
and his Oceans 11 Band at



Brad Bogart of Michigan took his son, Bard Jr., on the Motor Tour as the start of a journey along the road that he spent a good part of his youth on



Board member Toni Wilda and her son, Dave, display clock donated to the motor tour raffle by Mile Markers of Naperville



Springfield's Mayor proclamation at the



Mike Moore and his Corvette from St. Louis

Association Picnic September 27

Our second annual Association Picnic takes place beginning at noon, Sunday, September 27, in the pavillion at Miller Park in Bloomington. To get there from the south, take Morris Avenue. From the north or the interstate, take the Market Street exit and turn right on Morris Street. Bring a sidedish and tableware-the Association will provide the main dish.

For more information, call Tom or Pat Knudsen at 309-828-2925.



Photo by Jason Schmidt

Elections Set for October 18

If you're interested in the future leadership of our organization, don't miss the October 18 board meeting in Dwight-it's election time. The offices of vice-president and treasurer are up for election, as well as the board positions for DuPage, Will, Grundy, Livingston and Montgomery Counties. All other offices and board positions are set for election next year. As of early August (when this was written), all the incumbents had expressed an interest in running again. But a key to any healthy organization is a blend of experienced and new leadership, so if you're interested in being an officer or board member, call Tom Teague or a member of the Nominating Committee-Ray Schroeder, Ernie Edwards and Mike Yates. We look forward to hearing from all interested candidates and we look forward to seeing everyone on October 18.

I Remember Route 66

Editor's Note: This is the second in a series of articles excerpted from interviews conducted by members of Terri Ryburn-LaMonte's Route 66 class last fall at Illinois State University. Karen Tosh conducted this interview of Warren Chrisman, a dentist, at the original Steak 'n Shake Restaurant in Normal.

I'm a dentist in general practice. My father was a dentist before me. Gus Belt, who founded and owned the Steak 'n Shake, was a patient of my father's when Gus was converting this place from a gas station called the Shell Inn. It was during the Depression. They served chicken in a basket and beer. Then Normal passed an ordinance prohibiting the sale of alcohol and Gus had to change his whole format. So he changed it to the present Steak 'n Shake. It was the first and only place that had curb service at that time. With my father's help, I got a job there as a curb boy for two years-the summer after my senior year in high school in 1936 and also the next summer.

This was Highway 66 right down here. Anybody traveling from Chicago to California had to come right this way. It was a very popular place. We counted milkshakes, and we'd carry over a thousand milkshakes a night out here on those trays.

One of the reasons this is a success is that Gus or his wife, Edith, were always here. He had a very limited menu, low prices, and he worked on volume. There were no printed menus in the curb lot. People would drive in and say, "What do you have?" We'd say, "Well, we have steak hamburgers, barbeques, baked ham, cheeseburgers, lettuce and tomato burgers and four kinds of milkshakes-chocolate, strawberry, root beer and vanilla-and that's all." At first, we didn't even have Cokes. Everything was a dime, except cheeseburgers, and lettuce and tomato burgers, which were 15 cents.

What the curb boys would do-we practiced a little larceny of our own, just like they do in Florida now during tourist season. A carload of people would come in from Arizona and they were fair game. We'd take their order, pick it up, and pay for it inside. Since there was no paperwork involved, nobody out there knew what the real price was and we'd charge the tourists an extra 50 cents or a dollar and pocket it.

The job paid \$5 a week and tips. But you didn't get very many tips. When cars came in that were known to be tippers, curb boys would chase each other to get to the cars before they stopped and get their orders. We worked seven nights a week. If you wanted a night off, you could have it, because there were several curb boys working. But, you know, we were kids around here and this was the depths of the Depression. We were glad to be getting \$5 a week. I tell my grandchildren now, "Do you know how much I made when I was working at the Steak 'n Shake?" And they say, "Yes, Grandfather, you've told me that."

The Road: 66 TRAVEL TIPS

IMAGINE: YOU'RE TRAVELLING ALONG...
 ...ON FOOT... SUDDENLY YOU ROUND A CURVE
 IN THE TRAIL... AND THERE YOU, LIES! REALLY ARE MANY
 THIS MAY SOUND ALONG 66, BUT THERE ARE THE MANY PARKS
 GREAT "HIKES" TO 66, IN ADDITION TO STRETCHES OF
 ON OR CLOSE 66 ALIGNMENTS, JOGGING OR JUST EXPLORING
 ABANDONED, BICYCLING, OR JUST EXPLORING
 FOR HIKING, TRAVELLING BY CAR. THINK OF OLD 66 AS A 2000
 IF YOU'RE OUTDOOR "LIVING MUSEUM" OF NATURAL & HUMAN HISTORY
 MILE-LONG, AND IF YOU'RE NOT EQUIPPED OF 66 YOU'RE ON,
 AND IT'S FREE! AND THE STRETCH OF 66 YOU'RE ON,
 NO AVAILABLE LODGING-ALONG THE I STATE & ITS HOMOGENEOUS
 YOU'RE NEVER FAR FROM THE I STATE & ITS HOMOGENEOUS
 "SERVICES". HOWEVER, OLD 66, & ITS HOMOGENEOUS
 & CAMP SPOTS ALONG 66, SOME COMPLETE!
 & CAMP SPOTS ALONG 66, SOME COMPLETE!
 & CAMP SPOTS ALONG 66, SOME COMPLETE!
 & CAMP SPOTS ALONG 66, SOME COMPLETE!

MAPS, MAPS, MAPS!
HAVE =
MAPS - CURRENT

"OFFICIAL" STATE ROAD MAPS ARE GOOD, BUT THEY DON'T SHOW OLD GEOPHYSICAL DATA. LOOK FOR OLDER ROAD MAPS. TOPOGRAPHICAL MAPS, GEOLOGICAL MAPS & "3-D" MAPS CAN TELL YOU MUCH ABOUT AN AREA: ITS LANDFORMS, BODIES OF WATER, AGRICULTURE, HUMAN POPULATION, RAILROADS, ETC. CITY MAPS CAN HELP YOU FIND & STAY ON OLD "CITY" GEOPHYSICAL MAPS. COLORED PENCILS TO HIGHLIGHT POINTS OF INTEREST & ALIGNMENTS YOU FIND & TRAVEL ON (SOME MAPS WON'T SHOW THEM). YOU CAN "COLOR-CODE" DIFFERENT THINGS FOR SERIOUS RESEARCH. TRY THE ARCHIVES SECTIONS IN LIBRARIES, COURTHOUSES & HISTORICAL SOCIETIES ALONG THE WAY.

IF YOU GET LOST, DON'T PANIC!
GET YOUR BEARINGS, AND
BACK-TRACK IF
NECESSARY... SEATING R

RESPECT THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF RUINS — OF OLD BUSINESSES, RESIDENCES, BRIDGES, SOME RESPECTFULLY MAINTAINED



FULLY UNARMED, THEY
 ARE USED AS LOCAL TUMPS.
 APPROACH CAUTIOUSLY, ALWAYS
 GUIDE BY POSTED SIGNS, & INQUIRE
 LOCALLY WITH ANY QUESTIONS.
 TAKE ONLY MEMORIES, LEAVE

Some things
enhance your journey.
nature ally.

FIELD GUIDES

A MODEST SELECTION OF FIELD GUIDES CAN HELP YOU "GET TO KNOW" THE "NATIVES"—THOSE FELLOW-SPECIES OF PLANTS & ANIMALS WHOSE HOMES OUR ROADS PASS THROUGH. GEOLOGY GUIDES CAN HELP SHOW US HOW TO "READ" THE LAND (FOR GEOLOGICALLY, THE CRUST TELLS US THE EARTH'S STORY); WILDFLOWER, BIRD, INSECT & BUTTERFLY GUIDES HELP IDENTIFY & TELL US ABOUT THE MORE COLORFUL INHABITANTS ALONG THE WAY. FOR A GOOD ALL-ROUND, "ALL-IN-ONE GUIDE" TO THE BIODIVERSITY (ALL LIFE FORMS), I HIGHLY RECOMMEND ANY OF THE 7 VOLUMES OF THE AUDUBON SOCIETY NATURE GUIDES. THEY'RE "BIOREGIONALLY-BASED."

LOOK FOR FIELD GUIDES ALONG THE WAY—AT MUSEUM, PARK & MONUMENT & HISTORIC SITE BOOK & GIFT SHOPS—THEY SOMETIMES CARRY LOCAL & SPECIALIZED GUIDES, TOO.

GOOD MAGNIFIER FOR VIEW
INDISPENSIBLE ON MAPS
DETAIL: PLANTINGS, INSECTS,
FLOWERS, PRINTS & STICKS
EYES CAN MEAN THE DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN THE GOOD & THE BAD

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YOU TOO CAN BECOME AN
"OLD 66 SLEUTH"!
ALWAYS TO MYSTERY...

CLUES IS WATCH FOR

TELEGRAPH POLES
(ABANDONED or IN USE)

RAILROAD BED
(ABANDONED & IN-USE)

OLD 66
WHICH L-OR FEEL
OR SEAMS IN PAVEMENT

T-ROAD GRASS

CL


NEW FRONTAGE ROAD
(GRADES & DIPS USUALLY
"IRONED OUT")

... ALSO WATCH FOR RUINS
& FOUNDATIONS, CONCRETE
PADS & "BAYS" & OTHER
TELLTALE REMNANTS OF THE
ROAD. DON'T HESITATE TO
ASK "LOCALS" ABOUT
OLD 66.

N'T HESITATE TO
ALS" ABOUT
TAKE A HIKE!
... AND HAVE A
HANDY "ERAINY-DACK" S

SMALL KNAPSACK, FOR YOUR WINNINGS
ESSENTIAL! NEVER DISREGARD POSTED
SIGNS AND IF YOU'RE NOT SURE, ASK A
LOCAL. RESPECT THE LAND & WINNERS!
TANTS & TRY TO STAY ON ESTABLISHED PATHS
& TRAILS. NEVER HIKE WITHOUT ADEQUATE
DRINKING WATER!

BINOCULARS — YOU CAN STILL BUY A DECENT PAIR OF BINOCs. FOR UNDER \$50 — TRY THE CAMERA DEPTs. IN THE LARGE STORES. NOT ONLY ARE BINOCs. GREAT FOR BIRD-WATCHING, BUT FOR BRINGING ANYTHING DISTANT CLOSER: MOUNTAINS, VISTAS, SIGNS, ETC. KEEP 'EM CLOSE-AT-HAND, & ALWAYS CARRY WHEN HIKING & EXPLORING! (HERE'S A *Secret tip!*: IF YOU'RE WITHOUT YOUR MAGNIFIER, JUST USE YOUR BINOCs. BACKWARDS! — NONE IN ON THE DETAIL WITH EYEPECE & LOOK THROUGH OTHER END!) ...Indispensable, & AVAILABLE IN CAMERA & EYEGLASS STORES, ARE POWERFUL HAND LENSES, OR LELIPS. YOU CAN EVEN VIEW MICROSCOPIC PROTOZOANS. (THIS KIND DOESN'T DISTORT IMAGE ALONG EDGE.)



PLANT PRESS — *Make your own!*
COLLECTING A FLOWER OR
A LEAF OCCASIONALLY IS O.K.* —
BUT DON'T PICK ANY RARE ONES!
RECORD THE DATA — LOCALITY, PLANT
DESCRIPTION, ETC. — ON THE CARD &
PRESS THE SPECIMEN. F.I.T.

* COLLECTING LIVE SPECIMENS IS STRONGLY DISCOURAGED
COLLECTING IS "KID-NAPPING"!

For further information
on OTHER (25) - RELATED GRAPHICS &
"Biographically Ignored," birds-eye view posters,
and S.A.S.E.'s:
R. WALDMIRE, Cardinal Hill Cardes & Co.
P.O. Box 110
ROCHESTER, ILLINOIS 62563
(312) 498-9375

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1992 Illinois Route 66 Events

ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION MERCHANDISE

CLOTHES—All Association clothes feature black, white and red shield by Bob Waldmire.

Available in S, M, L, XL, (add \$1 for XXL)

Association nylon jacket, polyester-lined	\$20.00 + \$1.50 p/h
Association T-Shirt	\$10.00 + \$1.00 p/h
Association Sweatshirt	\$12.00 + \$1.50 p/h
Association Cap	\$ 6.00 + \$1.50 p/h
Embroidered Patch	\$ 5.00 + \$1.00 p/h
T-Shirt (Waldmire Illinois map) (Black, yellow, or white)	\$10.00+\$1.50 p/h

COLLECTIBLES

Illinois 66 Metal refrigerator magnets	\$ 4.00 + \$.50 p/h
Set of 24 Bob Waldmire Postcards-scenes of 66	\$6.00 + \$.50 p/h
Hat pin -black and white shield	\$ 3.00 + \$1.00 p/h
Metal license plate frame	\$ 6.00 + \$1.00 p/h
Route 66 pierced earrings	\$ 5.00 + \$1.00 p/h
Rubber Key chain—featuring Waldmire Illinois map	\$ 2.00 + \$.50 p/h
Rubber magnet (same as key chain)	\$ 2.00 + \$.50 p/h
66th Anniversary bumper sticker	\$ 2.00 + \$.50 p/h
Reproduction sign—shield shape, full size, 16-gauge steel)	\$45.00 + \$5.00 p/h
66th Anniversary color poster by Waldmire	\$ 5.00 + \$1.50 p/h
Ceramic Anniversary mug-10 oz.	\$ 5.00 + \$1.50 p/h
Anniversary shot glass	\$ 3.00 + \$1.50p/h
Two-sided Anniversary keychain	\$1.00 + \$1.50 p/h

MAPS AND BOOKS

Rand McNally 66th Anniversary Map	\$ 3.95+ \$1.00 p/h
Bob Waldmire map-10 pages, plus legend	\$ 5.00 + \$.50 p/h
<i>Searching for 66</i> by Tom Teague	\$10.00 + \$1.50 p/h
<i>Route 66-The Mother Road</i> by Michael Wallis	\$25.00 + \$2.00 p/h
<i>Route 66 Roadside Companion</i> by Tom Snyder	\$ 9.95 + \$1.50 p/h
<i>A Guidebook to Highway 66</i> by Jack Rittenhouse (reprint of original 1946 edition)	\$ 6.95 + \$1.50p/h
<i>The Verse by the Side of the Road</i> by Frank Rowsome	\$ 9.95 + \$1.50 p/h
(the story of Burma Shave signs and jingles)	
<i>Route 66: The Road and Its People</i> by Quinta Scott and Susan Kelly.	\$17.95 + \$2.00 p/h
Large format paperback	

Illinois residents please add 7 percent sales tax!

Send orders to:

Merchandise

Route 66 Association of Illinois
2743 Veterans Parkway, Suite 166
Springfield, IL 62704

Dave Locke Takes 66 to the Classroom

by LaWanda Henry

Back when the TV series "Route 66" was in its heyday, a little boy used to ride his bicycle on a country road near Emington, Illinois. In his imagination, the boy's bicycle would become a Corvette, the road would become Route 66, and he'd be on a journey to California. His dream was to grow up to be just like Tod and Buz.

Today, the little boy's bicycle has long since been put away and he has replaced it with an automobile. But did he grow up to be just like Tod and Buz? Well, maybe just a little. The little boy, David Locke, grew up to be an historian. His passion for travel and love for Route 66, combined with his love for history and for teaching, has made Dave's American History classes at Dwight High School a favorite amongst the students.

About 90 students enroll in Dave's classes each fall. When the subject of the development of our nation's roads and transportation system comes up, Dave incorporates Route 66 into his teaching. He spends about two weeks in the classroom on it, then asks students to turn in a Route 66 project of their choice. They can work alone or in groups. I recently talked with several of those students. Amy Johnson wrote a poem about Route 66 after gathering information from books and talking with her grandmother. Jason McComb, a songwriter and member of a local band, wrote a song: "Drivin' on Route 66." Andy Wylie and Peter Park drove from Dwight to Bloomington, stopping many times along the way to take pictures of Route 66 landmarks. Back home, they developed the pictures themselves and compiled a photographic journal. Adam Oelschlager, Bryan Gillespie and Beth Howard created a Route 66 game show, complete with

commercials, and taped it in Beth's father's garage. Kristi Turner interviewed a couple who owned a truck stop on Route 66 near Gardner and wrote a paper about their experiences. Todd Becker traveled in his family's 1932 Ford from Dwight to the State Police headquarters south of

Pontiac, taking pictures of historic places along the way. Back home, he framed the pictures on a map showing their location along Route 66.

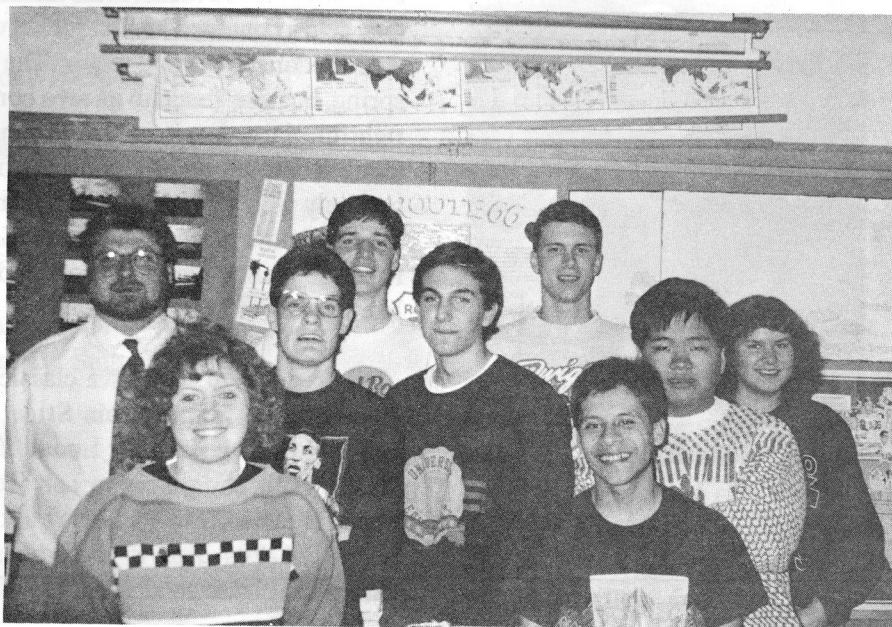
As a result of having taken Dave Locke's history class, the students said they now look at Route 66 differently. They enjoyed learning about the road and its importance. Knowing that Dwight was part of it has given

them an added sense of pride in their community. And they each said they usually travel Route 66 in their area now instead of I-55.

Dave especially likes the projects' effect on the students' relationships with their families. "What really does my heart good as a teacher is to have kids write reports after they talk with family members who they turn to for information," Dave says. "It brings them closer together."

Even though his childhood dream of driving a Corvette to California hasn't happened yet, Dave Locke is still in the driver's seat. Only now he's driving his students on a journey down a highway of dreams and making history come alive!

Editor's Note: Dave and several of his students will give a talk about Route 66 at our October 18 board meeting in Dwight at about 1 p.m. All members and guests are welcome.



Left to right: David Locke, Kristi Turner, Jason McComb, Adam Oelschlager, Bryon Gillespie, Todd Becker, Andy Wylie, Peter Park, Amy Johnson

November 11, 1926-National highway plan submitted to Secretary of Agriculture

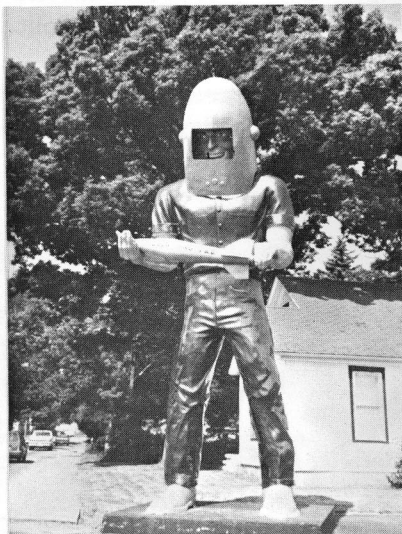
November 13, 1926-Plan approved, creating not only Route 66, but an entire national highway system.

Name This 66 Spot!

Mary Howard of Wilmington, Howard and Marjorie Cox of Wilmington, Faye Malek of South Wilmington, Carter LeBeau of Moline and John and Lenore Weiss of Frankfort correctly identified last issue's 66 Spot as the Gemini Giant from the Launching Pad Drive-In in Wilmington.

Lenore Weiss had a particularly easy time identifying the giant. "I learned to drive on Route 66 from Joliet to Wilmington," she wrote. "My reward for getting there safely was ice cream from the Launching Pad."

The Howards and Marjorie Cox sent some interesting information about the giant. He was born at International Fiberglass of Venice, California, and came to live at the Launching Pad in 1965 to mark the dawn of the Space Age. He's 28 feet tall, weighs 500



pounds, and is supported by a steel A-frame within his hollow body.

True fans of blue highways have probably seen a lot of fellows around the country who look a lot like the Gemini Giant. They're usually holding an axe, a tire or a cowboy rope. But John and Bernice Konec, proprietors of the Launching Pad and "parents" of the giant, were looking for a different effect. So they painted him a metallic green space suit and made the helmet for his head. Instead of a rope or an axe, they placed a rocket in his hands. And to give him a name, they held a contest. The first rocket was stolen and the second was vandalized beyond repair. The third one was stolen this spring, but was found in an area cornfield and returned to its rightful place. Look for attractions like the Gemini Giant along Route 66 and the nation's other fine, old roads you certainly won't be seeing them from an interstate.

If you know more about the background history of these roadside giants, please write to Editor Tom Teague. We'd like to print more about them.

This issue's 66 Spot is a classic old motel which stands alongside the former Main Street of America somewhere between Chicago and St. Louis. If you think you know its name and location, write to Tom Teague, Route 66 Association of Illinois, 2743 Veterans Parkway, Room 166, Springfield, IL 62704. And if you have stories or pictures of the landmark, please send them, too.

Name this 66 Spot!



Other Route 66 Associations

Looking for information about Route 66 in other states?
Contact these people for help:

Route 66 Association of Missouri
P.O. Box 8117
St. Louis, MO 63156
Jim Powell: 314-5500 or 314-367-2418

Kansas Historic Route 66 Association
P.O. Box 169
Riverton, KS 66770
Scott Nelson, 316-848-3330

Oklahoma Route 66 Association
6434 NW 39th Expressway, Suite D
Bethany, OK 73008
Danny Scott, 800-299-8766

Old Route 66 Association of Texas
P.O. Box 66
McLean, TX 79057
Delbert Trew, 806-779-3164

New Mexico Route 66 Association
1415 Central NE
Albuquerque, NM 87106
Dave Nidel, 505-843-7185

Historic Route 66 Association of Arizona
P.O. Box 66
Kingman, AZ 86402
Lynda Moore, 602-753-5001

California Historic Route 66 Association
2127A Foothill Blvd., Suite 66
LaVerne, CA 91750
Vivian Davies, 714-593-4046

Route 66 Territory Visitors Bureau
8916-C Foothill Blvd.
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730
Bob Lundy, 714-593-4850

Fall Events Along Route 66

Join in the fun along Route 66 this fall at any these events. Local phone numbers are given if you'd like to call for more information.

September 19-20, Lincoln: National Railsplitter Contest & Crafts Festival Railsplitter Park, 217-732-8687

September 18-20, Dwight: Harvest Days
Main Street, 815-584-2091

October 3-4, Williamsville: Autumn on the Boulevard
217-566-3689 or 217-566-2115

November 28, Litchfield: Big Four HO Club Train Fest
Community Center, S. State St., 217-324-3872

ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP CODE _____ PHONE _____

INTERESTS IN 66 _____

HOW I CAN HELP _____

ANNUAL DUES: Individual-\$10, Family-\$15, Business-\$25, Sustaining-Your Choice
TO: Membership, Route 66 Association, 2743 Veterans Pkwy., Springfield, IL 62704

Close-Out Auction Pig Hip Restaurant

Broadwell, Illinois - Exit 119 Off Highway 55 - On Old "Route 66"

Saturday, October 10, 1992 - 10:00 a.m.

7 Miles South of Lincoln, IL or 22 Miles North of Springfield, IL

**Restaurant Equipment - Gift Shop Items -
Rt. 66 Memorabilia - Collectible Glassware and
Some Service Station Equipment**

Ernest "Ernie and Frances Edwards, Owners - Phone 217-732-2337

Ron Sanert Auction Service

Greenview, IL -- Phone 217-968-7075

Lunch Served - Rest Room Facilities Available

Terms: Cash or personal check with proper I.D.

Ernie and Francis are retiring after 54 years of business

**Route 66 Association of Illinois
2743 Veterans Parkway, Suite 166
Springfield, Illinois 62704**

**BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 17
McLEAN, IL
61754**



ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

THE 66 NEWS!

WINTER 1992



A friendly citizen gives Josh Malks directions in Springfield

Cord Crosses 66

Josh Malks, former president of the Auburn-Cord-Deussen Club of America, celebrated Route 66's 66th birthday this past September with a cross-country drive along the Main Street of America from Los Angeles to Chicago. His car of choice, a 1936 Cord Winchester coupe, was the first American automobile to feature front wheel drive and concealed headlights. The lights were controlled by individual handcranks, also known as "power by

Armstrong." This made it possible for the car to "wink" at passing motorists. In Springfield, Josh lost his way briefly but, as shown in the accompanying photo, a homeowner in the neighborhood was able to direct him back to Old 66.

Association member Charles Ott of Lincoln travels throughout Illinois and the midwest promoting tourism in the Land of Lincoln.

"ILLINOIS - WHERE THE ROAD BEGAN."

Love Notes of Ole 66

by Brad Jay Bogart

"And here's a story you can hardly believe, but it's true, and it's funny and it's beautiful. There was a family of twelve and they were forced off the land. They had no car. they built a trailer out of junk and loaded it with their possessions. They pulled it to the side of 66 and waited. And pretty soon a sedan picked them up. Five of them rode in the sedan and seven on the trailer, and a dog in the trailer. They got to California in two jumps. The man who pulled them fed them. And that's true. But how can such courage be, and such faith in their own species? Very few things would teach such faith."

The Grapes of Wrath
John Steinbeck

And I was born on the very day of my thirteenth birthday. "You're my adopted little boy," she told me as if she hadn't had anything better to do for the past 13 years but keep that lie hidden within herself. And I'll never forget that birthday present, 'cause at 13 it made me ashamed of myself. Otherwise why would she have kept it such an evil secret? So with 47 cents in my pocket, a light spring jacket and a hurt so deep it made bein' lonesome seem crowded, I hitched a ride hanging off the rear end of a Clark Street streetcar in Chicago and took it to Ogden Avenue. One more ride got me to the corner of Ogden and Harlem Avenues and a strip of highway called Route U.S. 66. I slept that night in the bushes. I cried myself to sleep. It was cold with a misty rain. It was 1947. I was home, but didn't know it.

With the dawn came the first semi. It woke me up long before it was near. I lay still listening to the sound around me. It was a birdsy, dampish, stiff-on-the-ground, tires singing far off kinda sound. It grew louder and louder and the bushes I was in shook with the force of the suction created by that monster, and it made me feel like jumping up and running away--and then that singing sound came again and the semi hollowed itself into a canyon of reverberating pressures that finally eased off into the distance. It pulled at me to get started. My fears of the night were replaced by the anticipation down in my gut of not knowing what lay beyond the next road or hill. I left the bushes. Dawn was just a light slit in the east, and red. I practiced stickin' my thumb out and decided on the old arm movement routine--kinda aiming my thumb right at an approaching driver and not taking it off him until the car sped by--or stopped. With tires comin' at me singing, I stuck out my first thumb and became part and history of Route U.S. 66--WESTBOUND!

Who can forget one's first ride--ever? Mine's name was Pete. He was pushin' a KB-7 International with a highway

trailer. He was headed for St. Louis with a Boston Terrier that slobbered and a sticker on the righthand side of his windshield that said, "No Riders!" (just like with Tom Joad in Grapes of Wrath)

"Where ya headin', kid?"

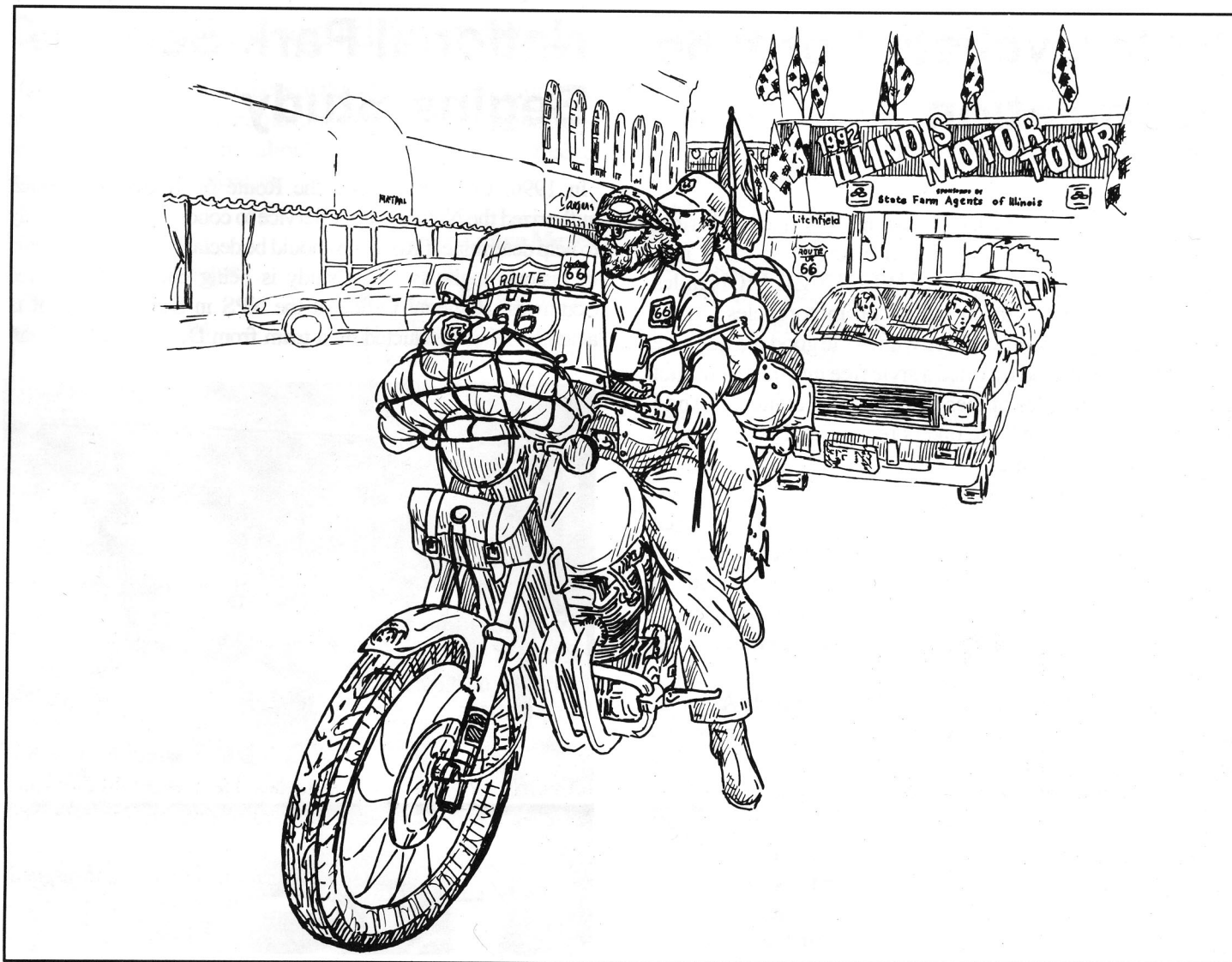
"L.A. I'm running away from an orphanage in Chicago. I just learned where my real mother is, and I'm going out to look her up."

I don't know where that lie came from. But it just seemed easier than trying to explain all my feelings and hurts. That'd make me cry, and men just don't cry. And anyway, how'd I know my real mom wasn't in Los Angeles? Why, maybe she was! Maybe that's why L.A. popped into my head. Or maybe it was all those movie stars I looked up to. John Wayne, Gary Cooper, Henry Fonda and Humphrey Bogart. Bogart was my favorite. And that's when I changed. I changed my name to Brad Bogart! Brad Jay Bogart! The "Jay" was left over from my adopted name. And it's been that ever since my first ride. So see, that ole highway 66, well sir, she even named me. I had some real roots...

I remember that first stop at Dixie Truckers Home in McLean. It wasn't a "Hall of Fame" then--just a darn good truck stop with fair prices, lots of good food, and the cutest waitresses this side of the Mississippi. And at 13, I noticed. Pete bought me a hot beef sandwich, open style with hot brown gravy and mashed potatoes. He musta told the waitress my story while I went to the washroom, 'cause she looked at me all moon-eyed when I got back. And when we left she came out from behind the counter and grabbed me and hugged me real tight while slippin' two bucks into my hand. "God bless you, honey," she said and Pete and I were gone.

Pete turned north after crossing the McKinley Bridge into St. Louis. I kinda walked through the city, keeping my thumb low and watching for cops. I felt guilty and was sure every cop had to have my picture by now. It wouldn't be until Texas where a Texas Ranger gave me my first ride in the state that my fear of cops went away. There were just too many people out on the roads in those days, a lot of them on the bum like myself--masses of people shifting to the "promised land" of California to those high-paying jobs and no winters. Most of them were veterans and their wives looking for a hunk of dream. I never got bothered by a cop--only helped.

All along that "ribbon of highway," as Woody Guthrie put it, little people cared and shared. I no longer felt lonesome. Waitresses were fast turning into my mothers and truck drivers my fathers. That first adventure down U.S. 66 showed me a lot of love and caring. It made 66 my home. Since that March day in 1947, I've traveled U.S. 66 so many times that I've lost count. I've hitched it, rode alongside it in boxcars, and stayed in its hobo camps (where I learned to play the harmonica, the bongos and the first three chords on a guitar). Hobo camps can teach a guy a lot, if he listens a bit. I've driven 66 in trucks, Greyhound buses and cars. And, Lord help me, I've ridden it at least twenty million times on



Brad Jay Bogart and son Nathan pass through Motor Tour Arch in Litchfield during the 1992 Motor Tour

motorcycles. Every manner of bike from Zundaps to Harley Duo Glides to Triumphs and BSA's and even some "rice." To cross from Chicago to Santa Monica on the back of a motorcycle--well, to me, that's the way to see this great land of ours. You feel it, you taste it, you smell it and you live it free with the wind in your face. Why, I don't know what I'd have done if God hadn't made motorcycles. They sure were a good invention a his. James Dean liked 'em, too.

I owe U.S. 66 a lot. A whole lot! I love it! Every square inch of it! I've crossed its prairies and mountains and rivers and deserts. And I've never grown tired of imagining how those pioneers did what they did in covered wagons. What a feat that must have been! I've tasted the travels of Steinbeck's Joad family and listened to Ma Joad real good real good what she was tellin' young Tom about the people and all, and how we all better stick together.

And then a flashback to this past June, the 66th anniversary of U.S. 66 and the Illinois 66 Association's run from Chicago to St. Louis; and how I took my 14-year-old son Nathan on the back of my 1100cc motorcycle and rode down the

beautiful highway once more. And I introduced Nathan to those wonderful people of Ma Joad's. And they're all still there. The ones that gave me rides, mothered me--fathered helped me, taught me. And it all rolled off onto my son of 14, and now he's a part of it all and that's so damn good I can't even describe it! Then we met--and fell in love with Bob Waldmire--a leftover from Woodstock. If there's a more decent, caring human, well, I just don't where they would be. The Cozy Dog Restaurant in Springfield, the people of Lincoln, Litchfield, Chenoa, Odell, Dwight, McLean, Funks Grove--well heck, just all of 'em. People called Americans. And that's what it should be all about. And if our government's strayed from it all--well, the people haven't. They're still there along the byways of U.S. 66.

And they're waitin' for us--and we're comin'.

With Love to me Brothers and Sisters of Route U.S. 66,

Brad Jay Bogart

Motorcyclists Form 66 Association

by Brad Jay Bogart

While floating down the byways of 66, I noticed a distinct absence of fellow two-wheeled gear changers--namely motorcyclists. I thought of my own TWENTY ZILLION miles traveling back and forth on old 66 on motorcycles. And I remembered all the fellow bikers who in the good old days ate bugs, pitched tents and traveled a style free into the winds, not unlike the first peoples of these lands we encountered. And I realized we must have these bikers represented as a true part of old 66--its history and its color.

Thus I have created the Route U.S. 66 Motorcycle Association. We pounded our first gavel on August 1, 1992. And even here in Michigan, a 19.2 percent unemployment state, we have grown to a staggering FIVE members! But that shall all change with my coming move to the Kingman, Arizona, area. Just after the first of January in 1993, you can place bets that I'll be right on the edge of 66.

At present I'm the coordinator of the Motorcycle Association. Each of the eight states along the route will set up its own officers and be responsible to the national charter. There are two basic stipulations: each member must own a motorcycle or plan to get one within six months; and each member must belong to a state 66 association or the Route 66/2-Lane America Association. All bikes are welcome--vintage, modern, or "rice." It's an equal opportunity adventure. After the eight states along the route have received their charters, membership will be opened to all other states and countries.

I'm so excited about the whole thing that I'm already fixing up my 1969 Triumph Tiger for a run from Chicago to L.A.! Maybe in '94?

For further info, write to Brad Jay Bogart, 8160 W. Flower Creek Road, Montague, MI 49437, phone 616-894-US66. After January 1993, you can reach me at General Delivery, Kingman, AZ 86402.

Back Issues Available

Back issues of this newsletter are on sale for only one dollar apiece, which includes postage and handling. Here's what's available: July 1990, September 1990, December 1990, March 1991, May 1991, October 1991, January 1992, Summer 1992, Autumn 1992. Order them by writing to Merchandise, Route 66 Association of Illinois, 2743 Veterans Parkway, Room 166, Springfield, IL 62704.

The Route 66 Association of Illinois publishes this newsletter four times a year. Address inquiries to the Route 66 Association of Illinois, 2743 Veterans Parkway, Suite 166, Springfield IL, 62704

National Park Service Begins Study

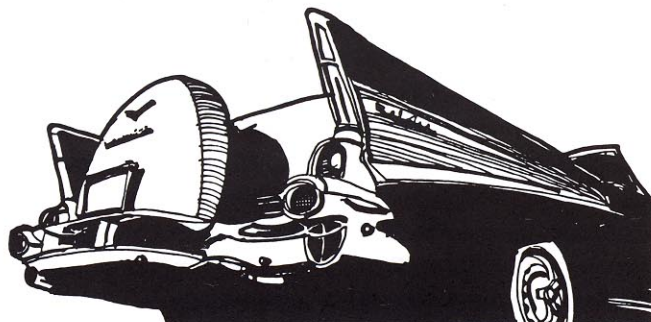
In 1990, Congress passed the Route 66 Study Act, which authorized the National Park Service to conduct a detailed study to help determine if Route 66 should be declared a national scenic or historic highway. That study is being coordinated by the Southwest Regional Office of the NPS in Santa Fe, but it is actually being conducted by a team from Denver led by Susan



Ed Waldmire and Bill Shea were among the 13 people who met with the NPS study team at the Cozy Dog in Springfield in September

Boyle, a cultural historian. Boyle and two other NPS staff visited Illinois in August on their first research trip. Their goal is, by the spring of 1994, to provide Congress with detailed options for the preservation and use of remaining segments of Route 66, as well as significant landmarks and other features along the way.

Boyle and her team will publish an occasional newsletter as the study progresses. To get a copy, write to Route 66 Study Team, National Park Service, Denver Service Center--DSC-TCE, P.O. Box 25287, Denver, CO 80225-0287.



Officers and Board Members

Officers and board members of the Route 66 Association are available at most reasonable times to answer your questions and hear your comments about Route 66. Please feel free to contact them if you need to.

Officers

President - Tom Teague

1208 W. Edwards
Springfield, IL 62704
217-787-8839

Vice-President - Jeff Meyer

2802 Fremont St.
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708-392-0860

Treasurer - Laura Meyer

(as above)

Secretary - Pat Knudsen

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Bloomington, IL 61701
309-828-2925

Editor - Tom Teague is filling in until we find a permanent replacement. Call Tom and volunteer.

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Oak Brook, IL
Toni Wilda, Will
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Lou Vandiver, At Large

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Champaign, IL 61824
217-356-4949

Mike Yates, At Large

Route 1
Washington, IL 61571
309-745-3822

New Members

Nearly 50 new members from 10 states and one other country joined the Association from August through October. We extend a hand in welcome and fellowship to:

George & Mary Jo Agee, Villa Grove; David Babb, Belvidere; the Bakers, Phoenix, AZ; Michael Banasiak, Waukesha, WI; Bette Boehme, Litchfield; Michael Connelly, Hollywood, CA; Vincent & Gloria DeSantis, Brooklyn, NY; Brian Farrell, Chicago; Frank Furcich, Westchester; James Getz, Peoria; Robert Haber, Roslyn, NY; David Holl, Woodridge; Rev. Ed Hollingsworth, Champaign; Michael Jobs, Frisco, TX; Loraine Johnson, Dwight; the Kenig Family, Westmont; Matt Knudsen, Bloomington; LaVerne Haycock, Glen Ellyn; Trevor Loy, Stanford, CA; Timarie Maske, Joliet; Jade McCall, Hollywood, CA; Tim & Lesa Miller, Bolingbrook; Marvin Minger, Joliet; Laurette Morello, Joliet; Jack Palmer, Battle Creek, MI; Denis Ross, Roselle; San Diego Auto Museum, San Diego, CA; Marty Schleder, Evergreen Park; Roberta Schvetz, Makanda; Bob Skinner, Twelve Mile, IN; Mary Della Smith, Albuquerque, NM; Quentin Stoeckel, Odell; Richard Stout, Delray Beach, FL; Jackie Rowland, Oatman, AZ; **Philip Rooyen, Pretoria, South Africa**; Jim Wallace, Brooklyn, NY; Wilmington Area Historical Society, Wilmington and Terry Worth, Bloomington.

Thanks primarily to the energetic efforts of Bill Shea of Springfield, we also had several SUSTAINING members join in the past three months. They are: Buerkett Wrecking, Springfield; Charles Davis, Springfield; Bob Green Auto Service, New Berlin; Illini Bank, Springfield; Teresa Mayer, Divernon; John Shea, Springfield; Rachel Shea, Springfield; Tiffany Shea, Springfield, and William Shea, Springfield.

Meeting Schedule

Members of the Association and the general public are welcome to attend all board and motor tour committee meetings. Board meetings start at noon with a meal. The business portion of the meetings usually starts at 1 p.m. All motor tour meetings take place at Mount Hope Township Hall in McLean. They start at noon, but do not include a meal.

Board Meetings

January 10, The Gardens, Litchfield

April 18, TBA, Chicago area

Motor Tour Meetings

March 14

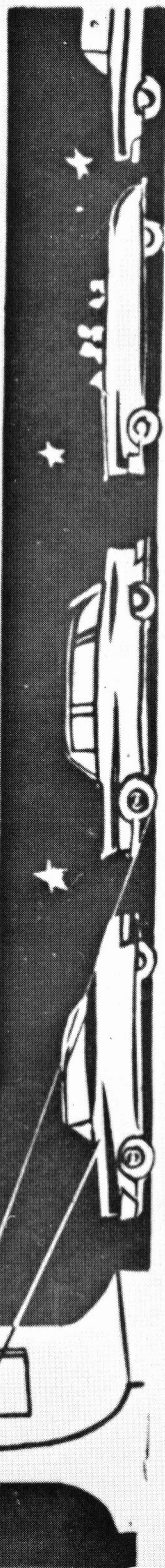
May 23

The fourth annual Motor Tour will take place on the second weekend in June, 1993.

66 DRIVE-IN

- THEATRE -

SPRINGFIELD - OUT SO. 6th ST.



SATURDAY AUG. 18th LATE! SHOW

4 FEATURES

NOTHING REPEATED

THIS IS HOLLYWOOD'S CONFIDENTIAL STORY!
The Secrets!
The Shocks!

THE GEORGE CRAFT STORY

JANIE MANSTFIELD • BARRIE CHASE
BARBARA NICHOLS • FRANK GORSHIN
MARGOT MOORE • BRAD DEXTER
NEVILLE BRAND • JULIE LONDON
and RAY DANTON

ALL THE FIGHTING, CLAWING, LOVING OF FLESH-AND-BLOOD PEOPLE!

LAURENCE HARVEY
GERALDINE PAGE

HAL WALLIS' **Summer and Smoke**

BASED ON THE PLAY BY
TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

A Paramount Release
PANAVISION **Technicolor**

A WEIRD AND MACABRE PLOT
That holds you in the relentless grip of MYSTERY! MURDER! SUSPENSE!

A DEVIL'S WEB OF HORROR!

THE REAL INSIDE STORY BEHIND THE TWIST HEADLINES!

CHUBBY CHECKER

DON'T KNOCK THE TWIST

SUSAN STRASBERG • RONALD LEWIS
ANN TODD • CHRISTOPHER LEE

SUN. MON. TUE. AUG. 19 - 20 - 21

DOUBLE FEATURE PROGRAM

*when four boys
from Connecticut
take over a hideaway
in Manhattan*

**KIM
NOVAK**

**JAMES
GARNER
TONY
RANDALL**

**BOYS' NIGHT
OUT**



**SHE WOULD KILL
AS QUICK AS
KISS!**



**World in My
Pocket**

**ROD STEIGER · NAOMI TILLER
PETER VAN EYCK
IAN BANNEN · JEAN SEVERAIS**

Produced by ROY ROYCE · Screenplay by ROY ROYCE · Directed by ROY ROYCE

WED. & THURS. AUG. 22 & 23

BUCK NITE
**A CARLOAD FOR
A DOLLAR!**

DOUBLE FEATURE PROGRAM



GREATEST MUSICAL
SHOW ON EARTH!

M-G-M's ALL-TIME BIGGEST
and Technicolor MUSICAL!

**BY
ANNIE GET
YOUR GUN
BETTY HUTTON
HOWARD KEEL**

UNCONQUERABLE BARBARIANS OF THE SEA!



AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL
DON MEGOWAN · EMMA DANELLI · SILVANA PAMPANINI

66 Drive In

The 66 Drive In in Springfield is one of several outdoor theaters named after the Mother Road. It was built in 1947 during the drive-in's boom years and was distinguished by its giant, multi-colored neon shield--quite possibly the best neon sign along Route 66. This movie poster is from about 1962. The drive in closed in 1986 and its sign was dismantled. In 1991, the screen burned down. A Super 8 Motel has taken its place.

Books on 66

by Tom Teague

Several new books on Route 66 have been published recently and they're all worth checking out.

The first is *The Boy: Okie Passage on Route 66* by Jay Smith. It is a novelized account of a trip that Smith made in 1949 down Route 66 from the Ozarks to the San Joaquin valley in California. In clean and simple language, Smith tells of a boy's passage from a tight, restricted hill culture to freewheeling, post WWII California. There's little actual history of Route 66 in *The Boy*, but the road is always nearby as metaphor and medium. Most of the book is a nicely detailed portrait of the nitty gritty, lower working class life of California in the late 1940s. But at the end, Smith springs a surreal surprise on his readers. And I don't think I'm taking away from the ending by saying that—you'll still be surprised.

Smith has made a career of straddling the cultures that he writes about in his book. He graduated from college in Missouri and got a master's degree in California. Years later, he abandoned a technical career in California and bought a radio station in the Missouri Ozarks. He finally compromised, and now writes in Florida. *The Boy* is a 259-page paperback and is available for \$8.95 (postpaid) from Tall Cotton Press, P.O. Box 18891, Boca Raton, FL 33429.

In Oklahoma, Jim Ross has written and published the best guidebook yet to a portion of Route 66: *Oklahoma Route 66: the Cruiser's Companion*. The directions are detailed, but easy to

understand. Several alternate routes are listed, including some delicious detours to little-known, abandoned stretches of the road. The maps, by Gregory Massey, are also wonderfully detailed and easy to read. There are also plenty of suggestions for sites to see along the way. The 44-page, spiral-bound book is available for \$5.95 plus \$2 shipping from Ghost Town Press, 7114 N.W. 31st St., Bethany, OK 73008.

Dan Mahnke, a bicycle enthusiast from California, has compiled and published the most detailed guidebook yet to the entire highway: *Antique Roads of America—Bicycle Guide for Route 66*. Though meant primarily for bicyclists, it can be used by anyone. It tells where all the campgrounds, cafes, restaurants, road hazards and bicycle shops are along the way. There are also 100 photographs by Mahnke, as well as a minimal amount of narration. I cannot attest to the accuracy of Mahnke's directions, but assume that they are generally correct. Their only drawback is that they're presented in table form and can be difficult to read. Mahnke's book is a 102-page paperback and is available for \$9.95 plus \$2 shipping by writing to Dan Mahnke, P.O. Box 4203, Panorama City, CA 91412-4203.

In California, there are actually two guidebooks. One was co-authored by Vivian Davies of the California Historic Route 66 Association. The other was published earlier this year by Bill Delaney in conjunction with the Route 66 Territory Visitors Bureau. I have not had a chance to review Davies' book yet, so I will save a review of the California guides for a later issue. Meanwhile, you can get information on them by writing to the association or the bureau. Their addresses are listed elsewhere in this issue.

The Boy: Okie Passage on Route 66

"I knew with dread certainty what grown-ups meant when they talked about leaving. They meant California. I wasn't going."

But he does go - he is only a boy - but he doesn't have to like it. He leaves the calm, Missouri Ozarks and in chaotic, free-wheeling California, he learns about back-breaking stoop labor, sexy, blackmailing cousins, sadistic 8th grade felons and hot wiring cars. Through it all, he keeps one focus; home is 1,865 miles down Route 66. But when he is abandoned and tackles Route 66 on his own, he finds hard travelling means the rules are new and the penalties are hard.

In *The Boy: Okie Passage on Route 66* you'll feel the passion, a boy's strong, deep panic, exhilaration, fear and joy when he sees Route 66 first as a road to bondage and then as a road to freedom. *The Boy* strikes responsive chords of fear and joy, sadness and humor, confusion and certainty in the memory of those who made similar passage down Route 66, or have heard family stories about the adventure, or simply remember the rush of excitement and terror in the passage from child to adult.

The Boy: Okie Passage on Route 66 Tall Cotton Press, P.O. Box 18891, Boca Raton, FL 33429. \$8.95 post paid. Add \$2.70 for UPS Ground to a street address only.

THE BOY Okie Passage on Route 66



a novel by
jay L. smith

RECIPE*

HEARTY, HEALTHY VEGETARIAN CHILI

Follow these simple directions for 12 servings!

- 1 COMBINE 2 QUARTS WATER, 2 TBS. CHILI MIX, 1 POUND DRY RED BEANS (LIGHT RED KIDNEY BEANS BEST, BUT PINTOS ARE ALSO GREAT-EXPERIMENT-ANY BEANS WILL DO, COMBINED, TOO!). SIMMER IN COVERED PAN 2 OR 3 HRS., OR TILL BEANS ARE SOFT...ADD WATER AS NEEDED.
- 2 DICE & SAUTÉ (BROWN) ONE MEDIUM ONION IN ONE CUP OIL (ANY GOOD VEGETABLE OIL-OLIVE, PEANUT, SOYBEAN, SAFFLOWER, ETC.) STIR IN 3 TBS. CHILI MIX & ONE SMALL CAN TOMATO PUREE (AND PLEASE RECYCLE CAN-BETTER YET, MAKE YOUR OWN PUREE!). STIR & LET SIMMER FOR 5 MINUTES.
- 3 ADD ABOVE MIXTURE TO BEANS, STIR WELL, THEN RING THE DINNER BELL FOR YOUR HUNGRY CHILI LOVERS.

You are now a "Famous Chili Chef"!

THIS IS MILD CHILI. TO HEAT IT UP, ADD CHILI POWDER OR TABASCO SAUCE.

* THIS RECIPE IS BASED ON MY FATHER'S ORIGINAL COZY DOG CHILI RECIPE, WHICH USES BEEF KIDNEY SUET (IN PLACE OF VEG. OIL) & GROUND BEEF. IF YOU MISS THAT MEATY TEXTURE, TRY ADDING SOME TEMPEH, SAUTÉED TOFU, OR TVP.

When travelling,
ALWAYS CARRY ALONG SOME OLD ROUTE 66 CHILI MIX-AND SOME DRY BEANS- SO YOU CAN FREW UP THIS GREAT CHILI ON THE ROAD...ESPECIALLY IF THAT ROAD HAPPENS TO BE OLD ROUTE 66

THE COZY DOG STORY:

IN 1945, WHILE STATIONED IN AMARILLO, TEXAS AT THE ARMY-AIR FIELD (RIGHT ON RT. 66), ED WALDMIRE BEGAN EXPERIMENTING WITH A NEW SANDWICH IDEA: A HOT DOG ON A STICK. THEY WERE INSTANT "HITS". WHEN ED RETURNED HOME TO ILLINOIS, HE SET ABOUT DEVELOPING HIS PRODUCT. WITH HIS FRIEND & PARTNER DON STRAND-A GALESBURG BAKER, ED PERFECTED A BLEND OF SPICES & CORNMEAL FOR THE BATTER, & DESIGNED RACKS & FRIERS TO HOLD, SUBMERSE & COOK THE "CORN DOGS".

GINNY WALDMIRE (ED'S WIFE) SUGGESTED THE NAME "COZY DOG" AS A REPLACEMENT FOR THE FIRST NAME "CRUSTY CUR". SHE ALSO CREATED THE LOGO: 2 COZY DOGS EMBRACING (HER DESIGN WAS "REFINED" BY CARTOONIST ROBERT WORK).

AFTER MORE THAN 40 YRS. IN OPERATION, ON HISTORIC ROUTE 66, THE COZY DRIVE IN IS STILL IN THE FAMILY & STILL OPERATING, SERVING ITS FAMOUS COZY DOGS & HOME-COOKED FOOD.

See OUR OLD ROUTE 66 & COZY DOG MUSEUM! COZY DRIVE IN, 2935 So. 6th St., SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62703

What is the Route 66/2-Lane America Association?

by Tom Teague

Tom Snyder, a registered hypnotherapist from Oxnard, California, is probably the first of the Route 66 revivalists. When I began my own odyssey along the Mother Road in 1984, for example, the Illinois Department of Transportation suggested I write to Snyder. And in 1986 when my research finally brought me to California, he treated me to breakfast. He published The Route 66 Traveler's Guide in 1990 and remains today one of the most quoted persons on the subject of Old 66.

Snyder also established Route 66-An American Adventure in the mid-80's. Last year, he expanded his interest to other old roads and renamed his effort the Route 66/Two-Lane America Association. Readers can get more information about that by writing to P.O. Drawer 5323, Oxnard, CA 93031.

Snyder's organization is national in the sense that it is interested in roads all over the country and membership is open to people from all places. But it is not a parent organization to the eight state associations along 66. Each of these groups is incorporated in its own state and is independent (they did, however, work together

on the recent shield relay from Chicago to Santa Monica). And as far as I know, Snyder's group does not publish a regular newsletter, hold periodic meetings, conduct open elections of officers or sponsor motor tours or other public events. Its primary activity is Snyder's work as a spokesman, researcher and consultant. This is not inconsiderable, but, as with any person, Snyder's judgement has not always been on target. When the folks in Arizona first formed their 66 association in late 1987, for example, they invited Snyder to speak at one of their meetings. He advised them not to try to get the road re-designated at that time and not to try to get signs put up. They declined this advice and forged ahead. As a result, they had the road re-designated and signs up by April of 1988 and they remain today a model for all other associations.

If you want to support Snyder's work, join his organization. But if your interest is in people-oriented, town hall types of activities, join a state association. You can, of course, do both.

ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION MERCHANDISE

CLOTHES—All Association clothes feature black, white and red shield by Bob Waldmire.

Available in S, M, L, XL, (add \$1 for XXL)

Association nylon jacket, polyester-lined	\$20.00 + \$1.50 p/h
Association T-Shirt (Roll up design, gray L & XL only)	\$10.00 + \$1.00 p/h
Association Sweatshirt	\$12.00 + \$1.50 p/h
Association Cap (black or white, mesh or regular)	\$ 6.00 + \$1.50 p/h
Association Embroidered Patch	\$ 5.00 + \$1.00 p/h
LAST CHANCE '92 Motor Tour T shirts, XL only	\$10.00 + \$1.50 p/h

COLLECTIBLES

Illinois 66 Metal refrigerator magnets	\$ 4.00 + \$.50 p/h
Set of 24 Bob Waldmire Postcards-scenes of 66	\$6.00 + \$.50 p/h
Hall of Fame Postcards (set of 12)	\$3.00 + \$.50 p/h
Ceramic Collector's Plate (numbered)	\$9.00 + \$2.00 p/h
BACK AGAIN! Route 66 Salt & Pepper Shakers	\$5.00 + \$2.00 p/h
66th Anniversary Hat pin	\$ 3.00 + \$1.00 p/h
Metal license plate frame	\$ 6.00 + \$1.00 p/h
Route 66 pierced earrings	\$ 5.00 + \$1.00 p/h
Rubber Key chain—featuring Waldmire Illinois map	\$ 2.00 + \$.50 p/h
Rubber magnet (same as key chain)	\$ 2.00 + \$.50 p/h
Pewter Route 66 belt buckle	\$10.00 + \$1.50 p/h
66th Anniversary bumper sticker	\$ 2.00 + \$.50 p/h
Reproduction sign—shield shape, full size, 16-gauge steel)	\$45.00 + \$5.00 p/h
66th Anniversary color poster by Waldmire	\$ 5.00 + \$1.50 p/h
Two-sided Anniversary keychain	\$1.00 + \$1.50 p/h

MAPS AND BOOKS

Rand McNally 66th Anniversary Map	\$ 3.95 + \$1.00 p/h
Bob Waldmire map-10 pages, plus legend	\$ 5.00 + \$.50 p/h
<i>Searching for 66</i> by Tom Teague	\$10.00 + \$1.50 p/h
<i>Route 66-The Mother Road</i> by Michael Wallis	\$25.00 + \$2.00 p/h
(also in paperback for \$17.95 + \$2.00 p/h)	
<i>Route 66 Roadside Companion</i> by Tom Snyder	\$ 9.95 + \$1.50 p/h
<i>A Guidebook to Highway 66</i> by Jack Rittenhouse (reprint of original 1946 edition)	\$ 6.95 + \$1.50 p/h
<i>The Verse by the Side of the Road</i> by Frank Rowsome	\$ 9.95 + \$1.50 p/h
(the story of Burma Shave signs and jingles)	
<i>Route 66: The Road and Its People</i> by Quinta Scott and Susan Kelly	\$17.95 + \$2.00 p/h
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Other Route 66 Associations

Looking for information about Route 66 in other states?
Contact these people for help:

Route 66 Association of Missouri

P.O. Box 8117

St. Louis, MO 63156

Jim Powell: 314-5500 or 314-367-2418

Kansas Historic Route 66 Association

P.O. Box 169

Riverton, KS 66770

Scott Nelson, 316-848-3330

Oklahoma Route 66 Association

6434 NW 39th Expressway, Suite D

Bethany, OK 73008

Danny Scott, 800-299-8766

Old Route 66 Association of Texas

P.O. Box 66

McLean, TX 79057

Delbert Trew, 806-779-3164

New Mexico Route 66 Association

1415 Central NE

Albuquerque, NM 87106

Dave Nidel, 505-843-7185

Historic Route 66 Association of Arizona

P.O. Box 66

Kingman, AZ 86402

Lynda Moore, 602-753-5001

California Historic Route 66 Association

2127A Foothill Blvd., Suite 66

LaVerne, CA 91750

Vivian Davies, 714-593-4046

Route 66 Territory Visitors Bureau

8916-C Foothill Blvd.

Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

Bob Lundy, 714-593-4850

Hall Nominations Sought

Nominations for 1993 inductions into the Route 66 Hall of Fame are being sought through next February 28. People whose career along Route 66 in Illinois illustrates the highway's unique blend of character and spirit are eligible. Send nominations to Tom Teague, President, Route 66 Association of Illinois, 2743 Veterans Parkway, Room 166, Springfield, IL 62704. The nomination "form" is pretty simple--just write 250 words about the person. Be as specific as you can when it comes to dates, places, etc. Also, if your nominee is elected, be ready to help us gather photos and other memorabilia for display at the Hall. Inductions will take place on June 12 in McLean during our fourth annual motor tour.

ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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ANNUAL DUES: Individual-\$10, Family-\$15, Business-\$25, Sustaining-Your Choice
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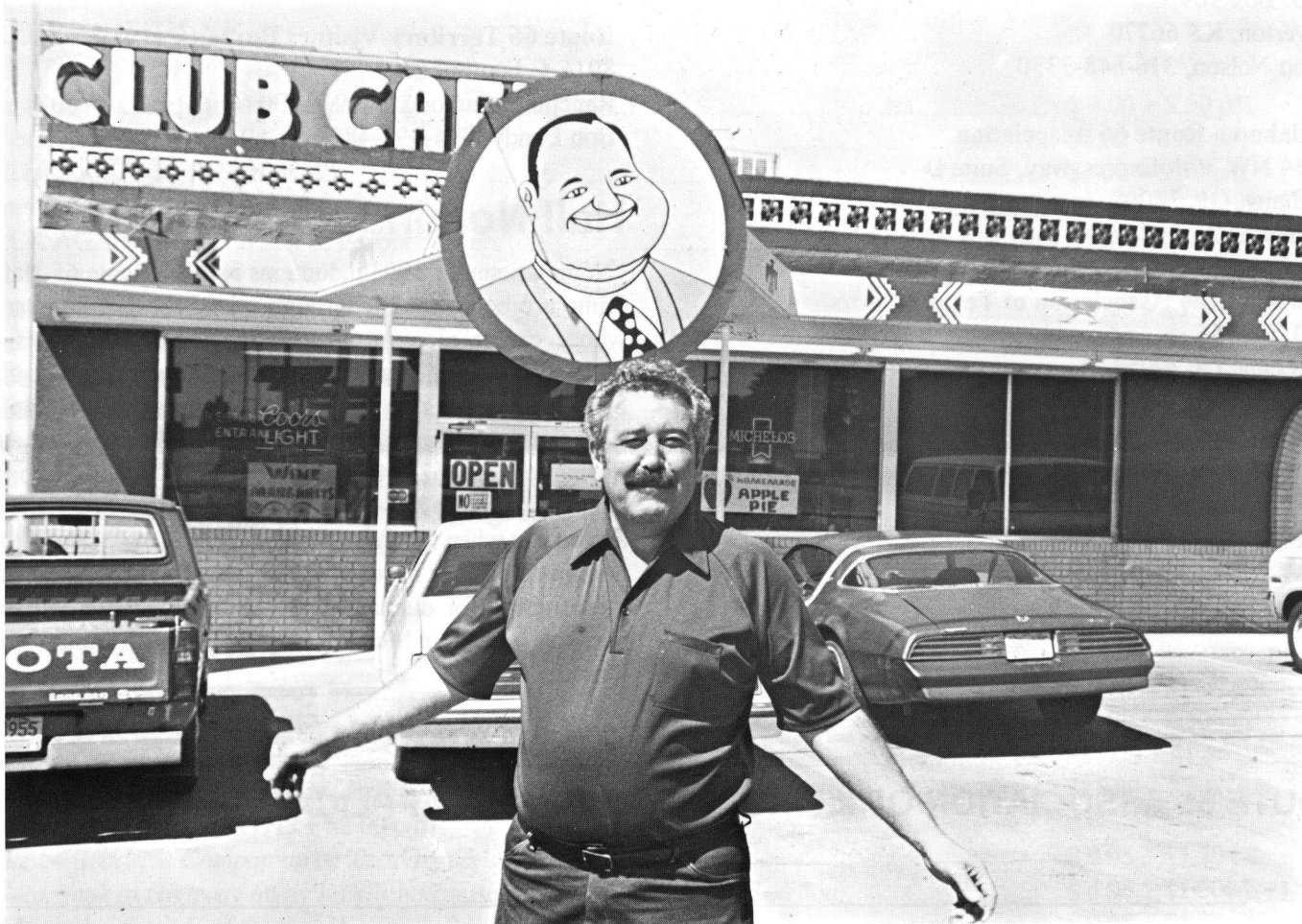
Club Cafe Passes Into History

by Tom Teague

Route 66, like life itself, continues to slip away. Just before this issue went to press, word came that Ron Chavez had closed the Club Cafe in Santa Rosa, New Mexico. Ron was born in Puerto de Luna, New Mexico, a village whose people descended from Coronado's explorers. For 400 years, the people of Puerto de Luna lived on a barter economy. But when Route 66 came to nearby Santa Rosa, their barter economy started to fail and they moved to the larger city to take jobs in the new road's cafes and gas stations. In time,

they owned those businesses. Then the interstate came, cross-country traffic cruised right on by Santa Rosa, and those businesses began to ebb. The Club Cafe, where Ron started as a busboy, survived but Ron told me once, "Just wait until a McDonald's comes in. Then you can kiss my a** good-by." Not long ago, that McDonald's did come to Santa Rosa. The 66 revival brought more people to the Club Cafe, but Ron lamented that they would bypass his chili and salsa and carne adovado, eat at McDonald's, then cross the street to take a picture in front of the Club's Fat Man logo. This summer, Ron finally made the difficult decision to close. It was another example of what Ron himself calls "the blanding of America."

Ron Chavez at the Club Cafe



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