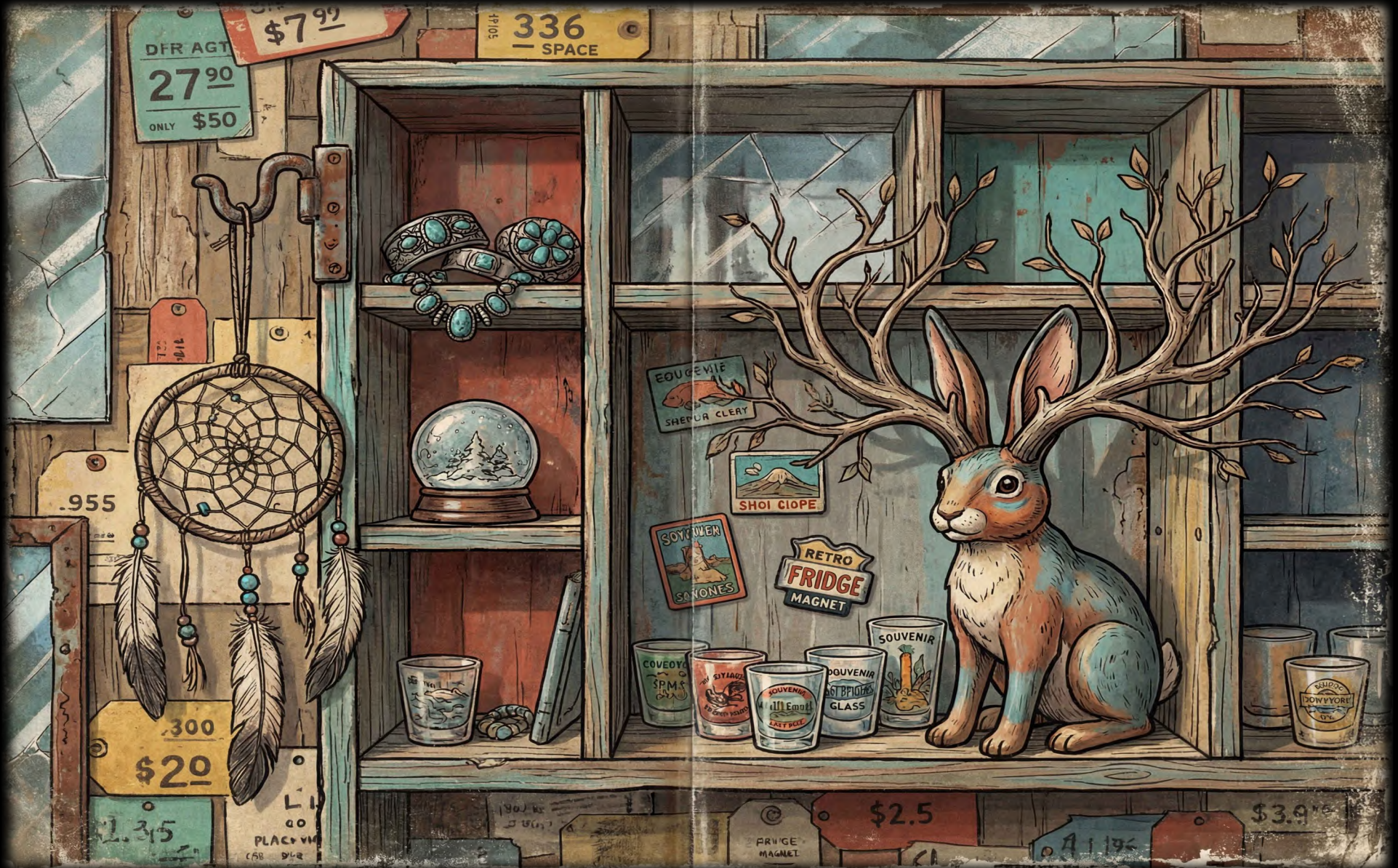


KOTR PINS

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KING OF THE ROAD ANTIQUE CAR CLUB

Staff and Management

CEO: Jim Rentz President@KOTRACC.org

President of Vice: Gordon Platt Vicepresident@KOTRACC.org

Bursar: Gordon Platt Treasurer@KOTRACC.org

Club Stenographer; Dee O'Donnell Secretary@KOTRACC.org

Certified Web Mechanic; Rich Courmettes Webmaster@KOTRACC.org

Visit our website; KOTRACC.org to see more of what we are all about

2

HOT, AIN'T IT?

This sure has been some hot spell in the past month or so, wow! Kind of takes some of the fun out of the old cars. But, we keep on going, maybe cut down on the duration of our activities and keep closer to home so as to not tax ourselves and the cars we adore.

KOTR has only had two activities in the past two months, our annual Mexican celebration, this year "Siete de Mayo" and in June we headed the Summerfield Suites Father's Day show. You'll read all about those in this issue. As the Nation celebrates 250 years this 4th

of July, we also have another milestone for America. It has been 100 years for our famous Route 66. Our cover this month pays homage to that legendary highway and we have a story to bring back some of those memories.

We'll also take a look ahead to what we may have in the docket for summer and fall months this year so that you can make plans to participate, you are the reason we do all of this! Let us know your schedule so that we can plan better.

1926-2026 100 YEARS OLD U.S. ROUTE 66

On this, the golden Anniversary of “America’s Highway,” or as some pundits call it: “The Mother Road”. U.S. Route 66. We will take a sentimental journey down that fabled highway, Route 66.

Most of the lore around this byway focuses on the western portion, from Oklahoma to California, but it actually begins in the “Windy City,” Chicago.

The novel, “The Grapes of Wrath,” by John Steinbeck in 1939 brought Route 66 to prominence as he followed the Joad family from Oklahoma to California. Since that time Americans have been



enthralled with that journey and it has become a part of the American psyche. The great highway push of the 1950s has left much of Route 66 to only memories of folks wanting to take the “scenic route” and see what once was America, without the super highways and skyscrapers and mega resorts. An America that was a dream!



U. S. ROUTE 66 AT THE START

November, 11th, 1926 was the official opening of Route 66, at the corner of Adams Street and Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, in front of the Art Institute.

In the beginning , a time of few paved roads outside of major cities, Route 66 was entwined with state and local systems to form a more direct system to the west coast. It was not marked as Route 66 until 1927, as it wound its way west. The new system was paramount in the development of commerce along it's path and the growth of towns that it passed through.



"Get your kicks on route 66"



After a leisurely rise from bed in the morning and a late start as sometimes happens, we'll maybe want to take an early lunch at the world famous *Superdawg Drive-in*.

Home-made thick malts and of course their Superdawg. It's not a weiner, nor a frankfurter, or even a red hot, but their own creation. Click on the picture above and get the whole story.



1974 Dodge- "Bluesmobile"

In this issue of KOTR PINS we are going to take an imaginary trip down "The Mother Road," starting in Chicago and traveling west, eventually to the Pacific Ocean at Santa Monica Pier in California. We are going to eat well on this trip and stay in some fine lodging as well as some of more meager means. The trip will not end in this issue, but will continue throughout the following issues of this, the Centennial Year, of this fabled highway.

Click on the headline of this page and listen to the author of that line sing it for you. You'll be surprised, I know I was. You'll know him better from a very popular 1970's TV series.

Heading west out of Chi-town we will run through Joliet, made famous not only by its prison, but by "The Blues Brothers." We'll maybe want to stop at the historical center there for some fun facts.



Westward Ho!



As we head on down the road from Joliet, we come to the town of Odell. Here we can stop by the Standard Oil service station, circa 1932. Quite a change from our mega-centers of today. But then again this does have two service bays. They were added in the 1940s to keep competitive.

Kathy Alexander photo

The Standard Station in Odell is now an information center for Route 66 travelers. Having picked up some new information there we head down the road to Pontiac, the town of murals. Perhaps this Route 66 mural is the most photographed of all. Pontiac is a town of only 12,000 folks, but Route 66 has literally put them “on the map.”

We are only 92 miles out of Chicago at this point and the day is filling up with stops.



Kathy Alexander photo

Still A Ways To Go

Putting Lexington, Illinois in our rearview we cruise on into the town of Bloomington/Normal. Here we find the fabulous Sprague's Super Service with three Citi Service gas pumps. William Sprague, a Bloomington building contractor and entrepreneur built this Tudor revival building to stand out from other service centers in 1931. Space was also leased out to businesses. The town of Normal purchased the building in 2016 and is now a gift store and information center as well as being on the national historic list.



It turns out that Illinois has more Route 66 attractions than any other state. If we want to make the most of this journey, it's best if we call it a day here in Bloomington. The Vrooman Mansion B&B looks the perfect place to take rest after a very busy day. There are over 300 miles of Route 66 here in Illinois and it's still a ways to go.



Continued next issue

SIE TE de MAYO



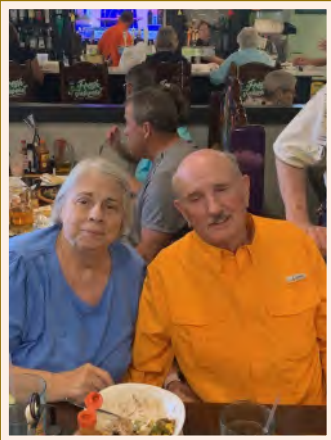
Above, Stefanie and Urs Nyffeler and below are Barb and Gordon Platt



That's Bill Bray givin' wife Diana a little hug and below Rich Udell raises a glass to Dee O'Donnell



Leif and Donna Drexler came for the friends and food while below Pat Rentz says Hi!



Ever since KOTR was founded, way back in 2015, we have celebrated the Mexican heritage of our area with a “Cinco de Mayo” dinner at a local “Cantina.” This year we dined at “Fresh Jalapeño” in Lady Lake. One exception is, we never do it on Cico de Mayo, way too crowded! This year we celebrated on Siete, the seventh. Fourteen members and guest had a wonderful time with good friends and great food!

Make certain that you set aside the date for next years celebration. It'll be sometime near the 5th of May!

All photos are courtesy of Dee O'Donnell



SUMMERFIELD SUITES CAR SHOW

Every June, KOTR is asked to put on a car show for the senior residents at Summerfield Suites Assisted living Center. This year we invited The Tin Lizzies Car Club and The Central Florida Model A Restorers Club to join in with us. An additional plus this year, The Villages Classic Car Club brought 8 cars to the venue, making a total of 27 cars, the best showing ever. A free lunch from the Suites always makes for a good draw of cars.



The Model A Restorers brought 8 cars to the show!



Just a part of the Classic Car display, nice!



KOTR members were able to impress the judges from Summerfield Suites, to the left, With Ron Storzbach's 1957 Chevy, Best Of Show. Way to go Ron!



The Tin Lizzies made a great display of their cars too.



Look at this line up of activities
for KOTR in the coming
months. WOW!



**BUCK
CHUCK**
**A KOTR
CHEAP
DATE
NIGHT**

Here is the chance to treat
yourself and your sweetie pie to
dinner on the cheap. The time is
4:30 p.m. at the Dairy Queen on
Route 301. Wednesday July 8th.
Just like the good ol' days!



KOTR
18th of July 2026 5:00 pm

**Take Me Out
to the ol'
Ball Game**
Pat Thomas Stadium
Venetian Gardens
Leesburg

Dinner at Ski Beach 5:00pm
Ball Game 7:00pm



**KOTR
KEARS
UND
KRÜLLERS**
FRIDAY
AUGUST 7TH
9:00 AM
**Dip-A-Dee
Donuts**
Leesburg

Further Down The Road



KOTR DRIVE-THRU DINE
SAINT PAUL'S PARISH
SPAGHETTI DINNER
AUGUST 21ST 5:00

Here is a great opportunity
for us get together for
dinner with a purpose
and enjoy the short drive
to nearby Bellevue in
our great cars. Please let
us know by the 14th that
this sounds like a fun
time for you too.



KOTR
WING DING
WEDNESDAY
September 9th
4:30pm



Rte. 441 East Leesburg,
past the air port, at
Lakes Blvd, light.

Cousin Vinnie's is so much
more than wings, it has a
full menu if you're not into
wings. You might want to
bring your own cushions,
the seats are hard!

OAKWOOD
SMOKEHOUSE

KOTR
DINNER

OCTOBER
9th
5:30 pm

LADY LAKE

We've got
a bone
to pick with you!

RESERVATIONS
MUST HAVE
by 9/23

