

THE BILLBOARD

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROUTE 66 RODDERS

SEPTEMBER 2009

We would like to thank the board for giving us another great year of fun, food and cruising - Jim Johnson, Robin Watenpaugh, Sal Ramirez, Don Overholser Romero Kubes and Bud Hennessy.

Our new board for 2009/2010 - Jim Johnson, Becky Graham, Bill Weisman, Bobby Ford and Jack Logan. Wanda was voted unanimously as our treasurer again this year.

Sept 13th - Median Cleanup

Eric has scheduled another cleanup day - this Sunday the 13th at 10:00. Meet at the corner of Girard and Central. After the cleanup is done everyone will head over to a restaurant for some lunch.

Sept 20th - Route 66 Rodders Annual Founders Day Picnic

Cutler Park (Pennsylvania and Cutler) - start gathering at 10:30. The club will furnish the meat and drinks. Bring a side dish and chairs. I can hardly wait for the scrumptious salads, vegetables and desserts that always make their way to these events.

Route 66 Rodder Club Photo Day

Also it was decided that the Route 66 Rodders club photo will be taken on October 18th at Frank and Andi Browns house. Again this event will be a pot luck and we would like everyone to gather by 10:30 so that we can start lining up the cars for the photo. It was also brought up that a club calendar would be a great idea. Photos will be taken of smaller groups of cars. Pam will look into putting a

calendar together and will have more details at the next meeting. HOLD ON - it was brought to my attention that Andi will be out of town on the 18th and wants to move the event to the 25th. That is okay but Pam and Larry will be in Chicago that weekend and someone else would need to take the picture.

Louisville from the Newbie point of view

Barb & Del especially loved caravanning from Albuquerque with six colorful cars. We got lots of looks from other cars, many taking photos as they passed us. They seemed surprised to see so many beautiful cars all in a row & we enjoyed their admiration. At two stops, there were generous cookouts & parties for all the Rodders en route, so it was fun meeting folks from all over. The stop at the Corvette museum gave us a great place for the attached group photo. The weather was kind except for the torrential downpour approaching Bowling Green. By the time the show began, it was hot & humid, but no more rain. Barb & Del were pleased to be the "Guest of the Day" at the Holiday Inn Express, affording us special treatment along with the nice freebies that everyone had. We had lots of fun getting to know our whole group better, as well as the guys from Farmington & Las Cruces (Paul, Phil & Bob).

By Jo & Al Seery

NSRA 40TH ANNUAL STREET ROD NATIONALS

The NSRA Nationals were held August 6th thru 9th in Louisville Kentucky. A caravan of 28 street rods from California came into Albuquerque on Saturday August 1st and stopped at the Host Hotel on Eubank. The Owl Cafe hosted a cruise-in that evening and Art Sena, Southwest Regional NSRA Rep, passed out Cruz in to the Nats buttons. The event was packed with local street rodders wishing the New Mexicans that were joining the California cars for the cruise to Louisville a safe trip.

Sunday morning saw eleven New Mexico cars set off for Louisville. The first stop was at Bozo Cordova's Route 66 Museum in Santa Rosa for some Eastern New Mexico hospitality and a tour of the Museum's collection. Sunday night was a stop in Elk City Oklahoma where the local folks treated the cruisers to a cookout at a

local park. The park has a great carousel and free tickets for rides were snapped up!!

Monday continued on through Oklahoma. The Oklahoma Concrete Highways might not be the worse in the country but it surely rates in the top 10. The New Mexico group tried to stay together and mostly did a pretty good job of doing so. We saw the California cars at the various stops and along the highway. We picked up Phil Emick and Paul James from Farmington in Phil's 39 Chevy just outside of Oklahoma City and continued into Conway Arkansas. Again the local group put on a Welcome Reception at the host hotel with refreshments and music.

Tuesday saw us leave Conway and a report from an advance scout warned of construction problems entering Tennessee, especially west of Memphis so pack leader Art and his trusty GPS plotted a new course which led us north up I-55 into Missouri then over the Mississippi River. (There is a reason why there is so little water in New Mexico - it's all in Arkansas, Missouri, Tennessee and Kentucky. The MISSISSIPPI IS HUGE.) After crossing the Mississippi we took a unique route to get into Bowling Green Kentucky. No one actually awarded Art the coveted pathfinder award because we were so enchanted with the back roads and small town we went through we didn't think to complain. We encountered rain heading into Bowling Green, KY and the television news people were reporting flooding in Louisville but it turned out to be more media hype than reality.

Wednesday's stop was at the National Corvette Museum where the Street Rods were invited to park around the circle in front of the building. This had been touted by NSRA as a planned stop on the way into Louisville so there were rods from all over the country at the museum. What a fabulous building and what a great collection of Corvette's and Corvette information and memorabilia. It was well worth seeing. Another 125 miles saw us into Louisville and a stop to pick up our registration packets. Everyone disbursed to check into their respective hotels and prepare for the BIG SHOW.

Thursday, Friday Saturday & Sunday. Lots and Lots and Lots of cars, 11,003 entries. If you've never been to a National event it's mind boggling. You can't begin to see all of them. Row after Row after parking lot after parking lot. There are Trams that run throughout the day which you can take to go back and forth from your car to the Expo Center. The Expo center main building is reportedly 1,000,000 sq feet of vendor space with every name you have ever heard of in the

car magazines. The outdoor swap meet was reasonably large but the heat and humidity might have kept the casual shopper from exploring all of it. Food vendors and a food court inside and outside the buildings. If you couldn't find something you needed or wanted you just weren't trying. Door Prizes and giveaways were conducted all day long. Technical seminars were held by various vendors and proved helpful in answering questions about their products. The Ladies Tea was held Thursday with lunch provided for each attendee, a fashion show, a presentation on the Louisville Slugger and a demonstration on self defense. The Tea also had door prizes for the ladies. Any rodder finding themselves in need to mechanical help could take advantage of the Michigan Hot Rod Association's repair service which was set up at the back of the Expo building. These guys are knowledgeable and helpful and their service is free, although donations are accepted. The Saturday drawing for the grand prize car, a 1932 Ford coupe built by Brookville Roadster was in the Freedom Hall and it was packed to the rafters. Entertainer Jason Williams, son of Hank Williams, kept the crowd occupied while we waited for the big drawing. It took NSRA officials 5 tries to give away the beautiful blue 3 window coupe. There was so much going on at this event it would take forever to mention everything.

After the BIG SHOW the New Mexico contingent separated, the Whaley's went on to New Jersey, the Seery's on to North Carolina to the Biltmore Estate, the Lanoue's to the coast and Virginia area, the Packwood's' on to Memphis, Nashville and Little Rock and the Graham's to visit friends in Cincinnati. It was a great trip, a great adventure and a wonderful time with good folks.

Lanoue's Extended Vacation Trip

Stats: 1929 Chevy 2 Door Sedan
Almost 5000 miles in 22 days

Left Albuquerque for Louisville August 1, 2009 with cruise in. Stayed in Louisville 5 nights. Left and headed east. Toured scenic byways through Kentucky and West Virginia. Saw New River Gorge - rivals Rio Grande Gorge for depth - lots more water. Went to see President Wilson's birthplace and library. Toured thru the Shenandoah River Valley for it's length. Stayed in Richmond Virginia and went to look at Richmond International Raceway - couldn't see much from the outside.

Toured Monticello - Thomas Jefferson's home. What an innovator's builder!
Toured Monroe's house just down the road. Stayed in Charlottesville Virginia.
Toured civil war battlefield in St. Petersburg. This was the last battle before Lee surrendered 5 days later at Appomattox down the road. Nice museum there also.
On to Williamsburg. Toured Jamestown - 1st permanent settlement in new world.
Toured Yorktown, revolutionary battlefield on York River. On to Norfolk - toured USS Wisconsin battleship and it's naval museum. Saw 6 models in there built by Greg McKay. He was a streetrodder here in Albuquerque in late 70's and early 80's. One of the first we knew. He had 1942 Studebaker Coupe, one of 50 ever built before the war, orange. On to Virginia Beach to dangle feet in the Atlantic Ocean. Decided we were tired so headed home. Had always allowed for the possibility of staying longer. 7 days home - one night in St. Charles Missouri outside of St. Louis to see niece and new baby.

By Bob & Becky Graham

Bob and I left to join everyone at the hotel Sunday morning. There were 21 people, 11 cars.

We stopped at Bozo's in Santa Rosa and caught up to the California people. Sunday we went as far as Elk City, Oklahoma. In Elk City they had a supper for us in the park - very nice.

Monday was Conway, Arkansas where again there was something set up there also. Really good hors d'oeuvres.

Tuesday we were in Bowling Green Kentucky, some of us went to the Corvette Museum and then on to Louisville Kentucky. Art did a great job leading us. There were 11,003 cars. A good time was had by all. We went for good food and good company.

Then the return trip everyone went different ways. We stayed in Kentucky to visit with friends.

On the return trip we broke down in Joplin Missouri. The Fellow Pages really work! This gentleman helped us, took us home and wouldn't even let us by him lunch. We wrote down his address and sent him and his wife a gift card as a thank you.

While in Louisville we put together a new club call "New Mexico Street Rodders". There were 17 cars from New Mexico, the biggest contingent ever to attend. We took the award for club participation.

August 26, 2009

Route 66 Rodders,

Johnnie and I greatly appreciate the warm welcome we received when we joined this august group in 2002. The 1st meeting I attended was in February 2002, and I felt welcome from the time I walked in and found Larry Hill. We have enjoyed great camaraderie, great road trips, great parties, and some really great food. We've had some memorable and fun swap meets, as well as other good times. Today is when the movers begin packing, and the truck leaves on Friday August 28. We will spend the night at the Holiday Inn on Menaul, next to Applebee's. Saturday morning we head west.

We don't have a house yet in CA, but will stay in touch. When we get settled we will let you know where we are and how to reach us. We will keep the same cell numbers: John 505-259-1232, Johnnie 505-259-8811. Once we have a permanent address anyone visiting Northern CA is always welcome.

We will definitely stay in touch and will maintain our club membership. We have made too many good friends here to not return for visits, so hopefully we will see you again.

Again we thank you for your friendship and we'll treasure these times for ever. Remember to drive 'em, because there is good food somewhere ahead.

John & Johnnie

Robin will be taking over the website - www.theroute66rodders.com

Let folks know that they can send photos anytime and I will get them posted to the site. In addition, any club member with cars or car parts for sale can let me know and I will post in the classified section of the website. Also any upcoming events that members should know about.

I made some changes to the website...let me know what you think.