

# An Oklahoma Devotion: The Relentless Fight to Save Route 66



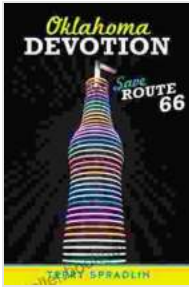
## An Oklahoma Devotion: Save Route 66

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Route 66, the iconic highway that once stretched from Chicago to Los Angeles, is facing a new threat: neglect. In Oklahoma, a group of dedicated volunteers is fighting to save the Mother Road, one mile at a time.

The Oklahoma Route 66 Association (OR66A) is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the historic highway. Founded in 1990, the OR66A has over 1,000 members and chapters throughout the state.

The OR66A's mission is to "preserve, protect, and promote the Oklahoma portion of Route 66 as a national historic treasure." The organization works to restore and maintain historic sites along the highway, promote tourism, and educate the public about the importance of Route 66.

One of the OR66A's most important projects is the Route 66 Shield Restoration Program. The program began in 2001 and has since restored over 1,000 Route 66 shields throughout Oklahoma.

The Route 66 shields are iconic symbols of the highway. The shields are made of cast iron and feature a black silhouette of the United States with

the words "Route 66" emblazoned across the front. The shields were originally placed along the highway in the 1920s and 1930s.

Over the years, many of the Route 66 shields have been damaged or destroyed. The OR66A's Shield Restoration Program works to restore these shields to their original condition. The program is funded through donations from the public and grants from government agencies.

The OR66A also works to promote tourism along Route 66. The organization publishes a variety of maps and guidebooks, and it hosts a number of events throughout the year, including the annual Route 66 Fun Run.

The Route 66 Fun Run is a 300-mile car rally that takes place every year in September. The rally starts in Chicago and ends in Los Angeles. Along the way, participants stop at historic sites and meet with local residents. The Fun Run is a great way to experience Route 66 and to learn about its history.

The OR66A's work is making a difference. The organization has helped to preserve and promote Route 66, and it has played a key role in the revitalization of the highway.

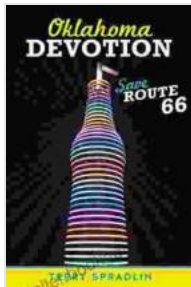
Route 66 is a national treasure. It is a symbol of our country's history and culture. The OR66A is working to ensure that Route 66 will continue to be enjoyed by generations to come.

## **How You Can Help**

There are a number of ways that you can help the OR66A preserve and promote Route 66. You can:

- Become a member of the OR66A
- Donate to the OR66A
- Volunteer your time
- Attend OR66A events
- Spread the word about Route 66

Your support will help to ensure that Route 66 will continue to be a national treasure.



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