

Fall, 2016

OSS NEWS

Issue #47

Board of Directors

Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation

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Our Vision -

“to preserve its educational value for future generations.”

Visit our website:
www.oldstagecoachstop.org

THE BEST OF THE BEST

The Old Stagecoach Stop has been named The **Best of the Best Tourist Destination** in Pulaski County by the Waynesville Daily Guide for 2016! We are very excited and grateful for this award. We are thankful to Maxine Farnham and all of the original foundation members who had the foresight to form the Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation to purchase, preserve, and restore this most historic building. We are grateful to all of those members who contributed so much time and money over the years for the purchase and restoration of the building. We so appreciate all of the volunteers who spend countless hours on upkeep, maintenance, cleaning, decorating, ad sales, and record-

keeping. We are also thankful for the current board members who give freely of their time to conduct tours of the Old Stagecoach Stop every Saturday from April through September, plus special community events and 4th grade school groups. Without their dedication, the Stop would have to close its doors. And last, but not least, a huge thank you to Terry and Jan Primas who research and publish the Old Settlers Gazette every year for the purpose of providing living history for us and as a fund-raiser to keep the Old Stagecoach Stop alive!

SAVE THE DATES:

Oct. 15 – **OktoberFest-OSS Appreciation Day/Activities** on the Square 11 – 4 pm

Dec. 1 – **Christmas on the Square/OSS** will be open from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. The kitchen table will be filled with food, coffee, mulled cider, and hot chocolate!

Appreciation Day 2016

Our annual celebration of Appreciation Day will be held in the back yard of the Old Stagecoach Stop on Saturday, October 15th in conjunction with the **Rt. 66 Oktoberfest**. There will be activities in the back yard including fun things for children to do such as making butter, weaving baskets, making Civil War dolls, woodcarving, and period games. There are always many things to see and do in this historical back yard and the OSS will also be open for tours. Craft and food vendors will be set up around the square, and the Pulaski County Museum will also be open for tours.

Appreciation Day is a reminder of the many friends in our community who have contributed so much to continue the rich history of the Old Stagecoach Stop. Without your past and on-going generous support, we would not be able to preserve this most historic place for future generations. Thank you so much for giving us the opportunity to keep history alive.

The **Vision** of the **Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation**, as noted on our website is "to preserve, restore, protect and maintain the historic structure in Waynesville, Missouri known as the "Old Stagecoach Stop" in order to permit its educational value to be appreciated by future generations; to engage in educational and charitable activities related to the "Old Stagecoach Stop."

Old Stagecoach Stop Activity

There are two ways to keep abreast of the Foundation's activities. We have a website and a Facebook page that are active and have current news/events. The website also has the current and all past issues of the *Old Settlers Gazette* available for reading/research.

www.oldstagecoachstop.org

Our Facebook page is listed as:

Old Stagecoach Stop Museum and Foundation or go to

[Facebook.com/oldstagecoachstop](https://www.facebook.com/oldstagecoachstop) if

you do not have a Facebook page.

View from the Balcony

Jeanie Porter, President

2016 has provided a very busy spring and summer for the Old Stagecoach Stop. Beginning with the St. Patty's Fest in March and opening the first Saturday in April, we have enjoyed many visitors from around the county, state, country, and even the world. We had some international visitors from France, Germany, and Austria, as well as a group of FLW students from various countries including Japan, England, Kosovo, Tunisia, Jordan, Egypt, Philippines, Portugal, Bosnia, Georgia, Ghana, Canada, Slovak Republic, and Korea . We are thrilled that so many people in our community have taken the time to stop in to see our wonderful,

historic building. Our visitors are always impressed with our museum and the history represented here. It makes us proud of our museum and the preservation of this remarkable history of our town.

ON BOARD



The Old Stagecoach Stop is the oldest publicly accessible building in Pulaski County. Who owns the museum? If you're a member of the Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation, you're one of the owners. The Old Stagecoach Stop Board has nine directors that conduct the business of the museum. Those same nine people make up the majority of the volunteers who keep the building open on Saturdays, April thru September and for special tours and events. Without their dedication, there would be no Old Stagecoach Stop House Museum.

The Pulaski County Museum and Historical Society organized **Old Settlers Day** again this year. It is a great fundraiser for them and we appreciate their efforts. They had many new additions to the festivities that were held on July 30 & 31, 2016 including Civil War

reenactments at the park. The cavalry camped at Laughlin park and then rode to the City park via the trail under the bridge for the reenactment. "Abraham Lincoln" and "General Grant" attended the festivities as well. Music was provided by the Back Porch Players from Nixa as well as Native American and Scottish dancers. A Civil War era service with period music was held on Sunday morning at 9:00 am in the park. There were many other vendors at the park including homemade soap, blacksmithing, homemade root beer, and homemade bread and butter. We had a record number of visitors to the OSS that day, thanks to all the festivities.

Old Settlers Day – Special Thanks

- to **David Chuber** for sharing his knowledge and working non-stop, without even a break for lunch. He was wonderful with our visitors, young and old, as he demonstrated many types of instruments and explained many aspects of Civil War medicine.

- to the **Gone to Pieces Quilt Guild**. We appreciate the members who bring their quilts and projects to the Stagecoach Stop on Old Settlers Day every year to share their handiwork and talent with our visitors.

Because we enjoy so many visitors who are traveling Route 66 from Chicago to Santa Monica, this article from Missouri Life gives so much insight to the history of it all.

Route 66 History

from the Guide to Missouri's Route 66 - Missouri Life

To many, Route 66 recalls carefree summer days spent with memories behind and adventure ahead.

Yet, for all the happiness the familiar highway sign inspires today, the story of US Route 66 begins with angry state officials battling for two simple numbers that would forever change the face of America.

In 1926, the Missouri Highway Department printed 600,000 state roadmaps with Route 60, connecting St. Louis on the east with Joplin on the west.

This drew complaints from Virginia and Kentucky representatives, who wanted Route 60 to run from Virginia Beach to Los Angeles and Route 62 to run from Chicago to Springfield, Missouri. Tulsa businessman Cyrus Avery and John Page, the highway engineer on the project, suggested the final double-digit designation. Route 66 was approved on April 30, 1926 in the Colonial Hotel, located just east of Springfield's Park Central Square.

Route 66 would ultimately cover 2,449 miles from Chicago to Santa Monica in a diagonal path across the central states and into the southwest.

The path avoided a more traditional linear course in order to link rural communities in Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, and Oklahoma to Chicago. Route 66 quickly became a boon to the early trucking industry.

Because Route 66 was so accessible to small towns, it was the first avenue when the Dust Bowl consumed much of Oklahoma. It has been reported that as many as 210,000 people took Route 66, searching for opportunity in California. John Steinbeck's classic 1939 novel *The Grapes of Wrath* (and the 1940 film) brought national attention to what the author called "the Mother Road."

By 1931, Route 66 had been completely paved in Missouri, though the rest of the highway wouldn't be complete until 1938. During the war years, most of the traffic along Route 66 was either military or military families going to visit loved ones.

Traffic near Fort Leonard Wood became so heavy that a stretch was expanded into a divided highway.

Happier days for Route 66 would come shortly after the end of World War II. The post-war economic boom, more leisure time, and the increasing popularity of the automobile drove more and more families to the road.

From the 1940s to the early '50s, the destination seemed less important than the journey. Hotels, motels, restaurants, gas stations, and roadside attractions grew along the road that by this time had been dubbed, "America's Main Street."

In 1946, Nat King Cole released Bobby Troup's song "(Get Your Kicks) on Route 66."

Then in 1955, a new attraction in Anaheim, California, changed everything. Disneyland made the destination important. For a few more years, Route 66 would benefit from middle-class families taking their children west to see the Grand Canyon, the Petrified Forest, the Painted Desert, and other attractions along the road to the Magic Kingdom.

The television program, *Route 66*, premiered on CBS on October 7, 1960, telling the story of two friends searching for America in a Chevrolet Corvette.

To this day, Route 66 and the Corvette have become locked together in the American consciousness. The program continued until March 20, 1964.

In 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower created the interstate highway system, based on his war experience with the German Autobahn network. With higher speeds, fewer stops, and more convenience, the interstates would soon bypass the innocent charm of Route 66.

In 1985, near Williams, Arizona, the last stretch of highway bearing the Route 66 designation was decommissioned.

The Mother Road had run out. Fortunately, nostalgia for Route 66 was just beginning.

Missouri had led the way for the creation of Route 66 in the early part of the twentieth century. As the century drew to a close, Missouri once again championed the cause of Route 66, refusing to let the road die.

In 1990, the Route 66 Association of Missouri was formed to preserve, promote, and develop the old Route 66 in the state. Governor John Ashcroft signed a bill that same year that led to the posting of more than 350 Historic Route 66 markers along the old highway.

In 1996, President Bill Clinton signed the National Route 66 Preservation Bill, providing \$10 million in matching fund grants to preserve and restore historic features along the route.

Today, one of the longest preserved stretches of the original Route 66 still runs from Springfield to Tulsa. In Missouri, state roads designated with a 66 in the name (Routes 366, 266, and 66) are all part of the original sections of Route 66. To the towns and businesses along the original Route 66, the boom years were nothing short of magical. To anyone who experienced Route 66 in those halcyon days - days of wigwam courts and Stuckey's pecan rolls, of cars

that didn't have air conditioning but restaurants that did, of roadside attractions that offered the lure of exotic experiences along with the promise of clean restrooms - it's a memory of an America that begs to be rediscovered and shared.

History tells us how we got to where we are. How to get where you're going is up to you. Happy trails.

Reprinted by permission from Missouri Life. To see all the pictures of the Rt. 66 article, pick up a copy at a rest stop or call 1-800-492-2593.

TAKING THE REINS

We owe a huge thank you to **Marge Connors, Anna Maria Reigle, VoAnn Wade, Amelia Falge, and Abigail Hillman**, who act as tour guides and also assist with special tours and events. They have all played an integral role in keeping the building available for the community. With bus tours, 4th grade classes, and special groups, as well as our regular Saturday hours, it takes many volunteers to keep the Stagecoach Stop open for the summer. If you are interested in joining our **Foundation Board**, or **volunteering** at the Old Stagecoach Stop, contact a current board member. We welcome new volunteers. **How about you?**

Special Thanks --

- to the **Bell Motel** for providing the shuttle, driven by Cheryl, from the Old Stagecoach Stop to the park on Old Settlers Day. It was greatly appreciated and truly increased the number of visitors to the Old Stagecoach Stop that day.

Historical Flag at the OSS

We are very proud of our flag in the Civil War room at the Old Stagecoach Stop. This flag was made in 1863 in Philadelphia, PA by the American Flag company which was owned by the grandson of Betsy Ross. It is only one of five flags left today. It was donated to us by Albert Beatty, SFC Ret. of Waynesville. His great, great, great grandfather got it from the Local Grange in Hudson, Iowa, a small farming town of about 500 in North Central Iowa. The Grange got it from some young men returning from the Civil War. They were members of the all Iowa First Calvary which was stationed from St. Louis to Springfield, MO.

ISSUE 34 of the *Old Settlers Gazette* was delivered to our advertisers on July 25, 2016. This is a group effort, led by our author/editor **Terry Primas**. The board does the difficult job of ad sales and delivery. The entire proceeds are put back into the building, allowing us to make improvements and maintain the building. If you did not get a copy, stop by and pick one up on Appreciation Day or Christmas on the Square. If you are out of town, request one at tprimas@mac.com and we will mail you an issue. We appreciate all of the businesses and individuals who placed an ad in the Gazette. If you would like to place an ad next year for your business or as an individual, please contact one of the board members as soon as possible.

The OSS no longer holds an Annual Meeting of the Foundation membership. The **Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation Annual Report** is available on our website in November.

SPECIAL THANKS -----

to Bernadine Duddridge for donating a 19th-century cast iron bean pot. It would have been used to cook the family's dinner over an open hearth. The bean pot was owned by Elizabeth (Lewis) Shockley, first wife of Oliver Shockley. Elizabeth Shockley was born in 1841 and died in 1890. The pot was given by their son, Emmett, to his niece, Amy V. Shockley Shelton, then given by Amy to her daughter Bernadine (Shelton) Duddridge. Oliver Shockley was born in 1841, in Gasconade County, Missouri. He fought on the Union side in the Civil War, serving with the Iowa 5th Cavalry, Company M. During this time he was stationed in Pulaski County on the Gasconade River and he fell in love with this area. He returned here after the war and bought property on the Gasconade on what is now Cardinal Road. This region came to be known as "Shockley Bottom."

Special Thanks to the **Ozark Quilt Trail, Inc.** for completing and installing a painted quilt square on the OSS property. The design chosen was the Missouri Big Star. Their goal is to place quilt squares on barns and buildings in the Pulaski County area.

Membership Please remember to renew your membership. The form you need is included on the back page of this newsletter. We need the support and interest of the community to continue our mission.

Special Thanks - to Al and Jackie Raphaelson for their very generous annual donation. So appreciated.

Souvenirs

When you visit the Old Stagecoach Stop, there are a variety of souvenirs that will help to make it a memorable visit. We have 10 different ornaments of locations in the county: **Old Stagecoach Stop, Fort Wood Main Gate, Old Pulaski County Courthouse, Devil's Elbow Café, Bell Hotel, Fort Leonard Wood Headquarters, Riggsby's Service Station, Frisco Caboose, Miller's Market, and Hooker Cut.** (See our website for more information on this Heritage Ornament Series.) We also have period children's toys, T-shirts, post cards, and books on the Civil War, caves in the area, and especially Old Pulaski in Pictures by Terry Primas and John Bradbury. We are open every Saturday from April through September from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, plus special community events and tours by pre-arrangement. We have enjoyed visits from 10 - 4th grade classes, Engineering Battalions from FLW as well as International Military groups, Missouri Outdoor Communicator Spouses, Missouri History Museum group, Leadership Pulaski County groups, Cave Cruisers, Corvette Cruisers, and Missouri State Welcome Centers. Thank you to Pulaski County Tourism for including us with many of your groups.

Interesting ad from the Pulaski County Democrat, September 26, 1946 for the sale of the Old Stagecoach Stop, then known as the Tourist Hotel.

Good, Clean Hotel

Apartments and Furnishings

East side of paved square, opposite court house, in
Waynesville, MO.

Saturday, September 28, 12:30 NOON

Lot 150x74 frontage, 2-story, 15 room
Frame Hotel.

Frame Building along side of hotel 10x60
square frontage, suitable for several
businesses.

New Brick 2-room apartment, strictly
modern.

2-room Frame Apartment.

Lot 58x78 joins with paved highway front-
age, large 2-room frame house. Other
buildings on this property may be sold
separately.

3 Good 2-room Cabins.

1 Good 1-room Cabin.

FURNISHINGS

20 Rooms of Good furnishings including Bed-
steads, Springs, Mattresses, Several Inner-
springs; Bedding, Dressers, wardrobes, Break-
fast Sets, Cabinets, Straight chairs, Rockers,
Rugs, linoleums, Curtains, Shades, Lamps,
Smoke Stands, Ice Boxes, Vanities, Chests of
Drawers, Several Apartment Gas Heaters, and
Cook Stoves, Utility Cabinets, 3 Hot Water
Heaters and Sinks will probably be sold
separately.

A. S. McNeese, Owner

**TERMS CASH: No property to be
removed until settled for.**

COL. BOB FULLER, Crocker Mo.

Col. Tony Thornton, Rt. 5, Springfield, AUCTIONEERS

PHONES: 1544M OR 9204J1

BE SURE TO ATTEND THIS SALE

Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation Membership Application

The work of the Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation is supported by memberships and donations. We invite you to join the Foundation at any one of the membership categories listed below.

Complete this form and mail to:
Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation, P.O. Box 585, Waynesville, MO 65583
Please make checks payable to Old Stagecoach Stop.

Name _____

Address _____

Email address _____

*You may use my email address for:
(please check all that apply)*

special event announcements

OSS Newsletter

membership renewal notice

Level of Membership:

Individual \$10

Family \$15

Patron \$25

*Sponsor \$100

*Life \$250

* Sponsor and Life members will be recognized in the Old Settlers Gazette. However, if you prefer to remain anonymous, please check here .

Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation
P. O. Box 585
Waynesville, MO 65583