



THE ROAD AHEAD PARTNERSHIP

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New OK Route 66 Association President Joins Road Ahead Board

The Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership Board would like to introduce Rhys Martin, president of the Oklahoma Route 66 Association, as the newest member of its Board of Directors. In addition to representing the state of Oklahoma on the Road Ahead Board, Rhys has agreed to become Chairman of the "Route 66 State Associations Working Group" and be a member of the "Neon Task Force."

"I'm very excited to have Rhys assume these responsibilities," said Road Ahead Board Chairman Bill Thomas.

Rhys Martin is an author and photographer from Tulsa, Oklahoma, whose work has been featured in *Tulsa People Magazine*, *This Land Press*, *Route 66 Magazine*, *Nimrod Journal*, *Inbound Asia Magazine*, *The Oklahoman*, *Tulsa World* and more. His most recent project is a book called *Lost Restaurants of Tulsa* (Arcadia Publishing), telling the stories of nearly 50 iconic eating establishments in the city, starting in the 1930s and working up through the 1980s.

His love of travel was born in 2009 when he sold all his possessions and lived out of a backpack for ten months while he explored southeast Asia and Europe. When he returned home, Rhys took a fresh look at his home state, visiting the back roads of Oklahoma and understanding how significant historic Route 66 is to the greater American story. He has traveled all 2,448 miles of the Mother Road and continues to explore the quiet Main Streets of the Midwest.

As Rhys joins the Road Ahead Board, we say fare well to Brad Nickson and thank him for his contributions as a member of the Route 66 Steering Committee and the Partnership Board since its founding four years ago

Established in 2015, with the support of the National Park Service and the World Monuments' Fund, The Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership's mission is to revitalize and sustain Route 66 as a national and international icon through partnerships focused on promotion, preservation, research and education, and economic development.

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