

American Road Foundation Board Members

Russell J. Lombard, Chair/Secretary

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Russell J. Lombard is the President and CEO of the U.S. Route 6 Tourist Association. The Association was founded in 2000 as part of a high school student project. He is retired with 35 years of professional experience in architectural design, land use planning and economic development with experience in grant writing. For the past six years he has been on the Board of Directors of Security Financial Services. He has been elected two terms to the local County Park District and served as both Secretary and President of the Board. He served six years in the U.S. Navy, and had the honor of being a member of the Mercury Space Capsule Recovery Team. He enjoys working outdoors, camping, fishing and exploring the back roads. Over the past few years he has restored a 1956 Cadillac Coup de Ville and also has his own small graphic art studio in his home. He believes that young people should be encouraged to play a major role in the development and activities of the American Road Foundation. As a Not-for-profit this would be part of our educational program.

Gerald L. Roll, Vice Chair/Treasurer

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From 1968 to 1969, Jerry Roll had served in the Active Army (Vietnam), attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant. He served in the Illinois National Guard from 1976 to 1995, when retired at the Rank of Major. From 1966 to 2000, Jerry was employed by Illinois Department of Transportation as an Engineering Technician, and retired in 2000. He assisted in establishing the six state National Road Alliance and the National Road Association of Illinois, both of which he has served as president. He is the past executive director to the National Road Association of Illinois, but still serves on the Board of Directors. He has served as Illinois Director on the National Road Alliance Board. He is currently employed by Cumberland County (ILL) Highway Department as an Engineering Technician. He is also Executive Director of National Road Association of Illinois. Jerry is currently serving as president of his local county Historical Society, and director on his county Economic Development Board. He has lived in Cumberland County near Greenup, Illinois since 1971, with his wife Marsha. They have one daughter, Jennifer.

Ashley J. Thompson, Vice Chair/Financial Director of Program Development

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Ashley J. Thompson is currently an ambassador for the U.S. Route 6 Tourist Association. In 2003, she interned with the U.S. Route 6 Association, and later that year became the Executive Director for the newly created Nebraska U.S. Route 6 Tourist Association. She grew up in Sutton Nebraska and continues to reside there with her husband Jeff. She attended Hastings College and graduated in 2005 with a degree in professional accounting. She is currently employed at an accounting firm in Hastings where she has the opportunity to work in both the tax and audit areas. She is also involved with her local historical society and is heading the committee to establish an official U.S. Route 6 Visitor Center in Sutton.

Thomas A. Repp, Vice Chair/Director/Producer of Audio-Visual Productions
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Mr. Repp is a veteran writer, photographer, graphic designer and historian. Repp is co-founder and Executive Editor of Mock Turtle Press and American Road magazine. He authored and designed two critically acclaimed books. He has taught at major universities and has appeared as a guest speaker throughout the country. He has done countless interviews and was recently featured in an NPR program series. Most recently he co-produced, scripted and hosted a documentary.

John Daley, Director
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John Daley is Founding Chairman of the Highway 101 Association, a not-for-profit organization incorporated to preserve the road, bridges and commercial archeology along the Historic 101. His interest in historic highways intensified in 1997, when as member of his local Historic Preservation Commission, he proposed a report that would be the beginning of the 1998 state-wide designation of the Historic Highway 101 Route in California. Since the Historic Highway 101 Conferences were produced, the Association has initiated a 101 Oral Histories program, historic surveys of cities along the 101 throughout San Diego North and numerous other promotional activities to bring attention to the 101. He has participated since the first conference and presented at the Saving the Historic Road in America. He believes that our roads and highways are finally being recognized for their place in historical our context. For fun he is the owner and partner of the oldest Cafe on Historic Highway 101 on the West Coast, the 101 Cafe.

Bob Lichty, Director
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Bob Lichty is the current President of the Lincoln Highway Association, and serves on the Endowment committee, Executive Director Search committee, and co-chairs the 2013 Lincoln Highway Centennial committee with his wife Rosemary Rubin. Bob was responsible for working with Congressman Ralph Regula to pen the Lincoln Highway Study Act bill which led to a \$500,000 grant to the National Park Service for a feasibility study of the Lincoln Highway. He was a founding board member of the Ohio Lincoln Highway Heritage Corridor, and leader in the Stark Cross County Cruise in Central Ohio and still serves on that committee. Bob has worked in the field of automotive history and antique automobiles his entire career, including the publishing field as Asst. Publisher of Hemmings Motor News and Advertising Manager for Krause Publications. He has been an event marketer and promoter as founder of the Iola Old Car and as marketing director for both Carlisle Productions and The Blackhawk Collection. He was Director of the Canton Classic Car Museum for 8 years and currently is president of Motorcar Portfolio, LLC, an international classic car dealership. He is an author with five books published on automotive history. He attended Cooper School of Art, UCLA, and Piedmont Adult Education. He has also thought adult education at Piedmont, Carlisle and Beverly Hills Adult Education programs.

Dan Marriott, Director

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Dan Marriott is Principal and founder of Paul Daniel Marriott & Associates, a historic and scenic road preservation planning office. Established in 2004, the firm specializes in historic preservation, corridor studies, and regional planning strategies and analysis for historic roads, scenic byways, gateways and linear corridors. Prior to establishing the firm, Dan was the Director of the Rural Heritage/Historic Roads Program at the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Washington, DC. He has worked with communities across the United States and overseas, and is a member of the International Council of Monuments and Sites. Dan is author of *Saving Historic Roads: Design and Policy Guidelines* the first book dedicated to the identification, preservation, and management of historic roads, and *From Milestones to Mile-Markers, Understanding Historic*. He is author of numerous articles and has been featured in *Landscape Architecture Magazine* and *American Road* magazine and has been a commentator on several radio programs, including *National Public Radio* and *Radio National* in Australia.

Johnnie Meier, Director

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Johnnie Meier is a retired military analyst from the Los Alamos National Laboratory where he served as a Project Manager with a multimillion dollar portfolio of R&D contracts. He also taught evenings as an Adjunct Professor at the University of New Mexico. Following retirement, he was elected and served three years as the President of the non-profit New Mexico Route 66 Association and was designated the Route 66 Byway Leader, reporting to the National Scenic Byways organization. While leading the Association, he started Route 66 New Mexico magazine, wrote a number of successful grant applications, won a New Mexico Heritage Preservation Award, and received Best Practices recognition from the National Scenic Byways organization. His neon restoration project was the subject of a PBS documentary that won a Rocky Mountain Emmy Award. He has served on the Grant Review Board for the National Park Service's Route 66 Corridor Management Program. After retiring from the New Mexico Route 66 Association, he curated the Classical Gas Museum in Embudo, New Mexico, and is on the Editorial Board of *American Road Magazine* and *Route 66 Magazine*. As a writer and photographer, he travels the back roads of America collecting oral histories, conducting historical research, and photographing landmarks and portraits.

John W. Murphey, Director

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John Murphey's interest in historic roads began in the footsteps of George Washington. In 1996, with a grant from the National Park Service, Murphey traced Washington's westward travels from Virginia to western Pennsylvania. Following modern highways, he documented historic and tourism resources for a proposed national heritage trail. After moving to Texas in 1997, Murphey surveyed New Deal-era highway projects, working with the Texas Department of Transportation and Texas Historical Commission to complete a statewide survey. He also works closely with the National Park Service Route 66 Corridor Preservation Management Program and is the chair of the Route 66 Federal

Advisory Committee. He is a member of the Organization of American Historians, the Pioneer Society of America, the Society for Commercial Archeology, the Lincoln Highway Association, and a board member of the Historic Santa Fe Foundation. Presently Murphey is employed as a historian and is writing a book on the Old Spanish Trail. He continues to research historic highways of the South and Southwest. With his wife, Kris, he writes a column on the Old Spanish Trail for American Road Magazine.

Kris Murphey, Director
waxwing@cybermesa.com

Kris Murphey is a consultant who has worked with non-profit organizations for 20 years. She is currently based in Santa Fe, NM where she specializes in editing and proofreading while chasing after her three-year-old daughter. She and her husband, John, maintain a website (www.drivetheost.com) and write a column on the Old Spanish Trail for American Road Magazine.

John and Alice Ridge, Directors
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John and Alice Ridge represent the Yellowstone Trail, the first transcontinental automobile highway across the upper tier of states from "Plymouth Rock to Puget Sound." Their interest in the Yellowstone Trail has developed into a nearly full-time commitment to continued research, writing and promotion related to the Trail. They were instrumental in forming the modern Yellowstone Trail Association, of which John is president. They have promoted the Trail by consulting with individuals, economic development and tourism groups, and historical associations in cities along the Trail. They authored *Introducing the Yellowstone Trail*, and many related articles and publications. They have given dozens of presentations about the Trail. Their favorite hobby is driving roads less traveled. Both John and Alice have traveled extensively. They have traveled and camped in all 50 states and 10 Canadian provinces and visited more than 40 countries, in most of which they did their own driving. John and Alice undertook their academic degrees at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, West Virginia University, Bowling Green University, and Pennsylvania State University.

Jim Ross, Director
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Writer, photographer, and highway historian Jim Ross is publisher and Co-creator of the best-selling *Route 66 Map Series*, and is the author of *Oklahoma Route 66*. His work has appeared in a multitude of publications, including *Route 66: The Mother Road* (75th Anniversary Edition), *Drive-In Deluxe*, *Route 66 Magazine*, and the AAA magazine *Home & Away*. In 2001 he became the 4th recipient of the prestigious John Steinbeck Award for historic preservation, and in 2005 was appointed by the secretary of the interior to the Route 66 Corridor Program's Federal Advisory Council. He is a Co-founder of *American Road* magazine and has served as a consultant to film producers, teachers, government agencies, scholars, and just plain folks. His newest project, with photographer Shellee Graham, is the roadside culture website: route66photographs.com. Not surprisingly, Jim lives on old US 66 near Arcadia, Oklahoma.

Jan Shupert-Arick, Director

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Jan is the Vice President of the Lincoln Highway Association and the Indiana Director. Her interest in the Lincoln Highway began when she was giving guided tours for the Northern Indiana Center for History in the 1980s and 1990s. She served as the Director of Education at the Lincoln Museum and while in that position was appointed the projector director for the Lincoln Museum's Lincoln Highway exhibit in 1998-1999. In 2003 she served as the national Lincoln Highway Association conference co-chair. She has a passion for local history and enjoys research and writing – and has written curriculum for schools on various historical topics, including the Lincoln Highway. In her current position, Jan serves as the Director of Regional Services and administers grant programs. Jan is a graduate of Indiana University, Bloomington. Her experience includes education, the museum and historic preservation fields, and grants administration.

Michael Romero Taylor, Director

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Michael Romero Taylor has been working the last thirty years in historic preservation. His experience includes historic site management, architectural conservation, restoration of historic structures, museum/visitor center management and archaeological site preservation. He has worked in the Division of Conservation with the National Park Service, served as the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer in 1994-95, and was the Deputy Director of New Mexico State Monuments from 1995 to 2001. He currently is the Manager for the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program and co-administrator of El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail for the National Trails System Office based out Santa Fe, New Mexico.