



Historic Highway 99 Explorer

The Official Publication of the
Historic Highway 99 Association of California

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A word from our Secretary

What a great start for the Historic Highway 99 Association! Hello everyone, my name is Vicki Farmwald and I am the new Secretary for the Association. It's amazing to see how much can be accomplished even during these unprecedented times. People coming together for a single purpose, acknowledging the importance of this historic highway and its preservation. So on March 24, 2021, our first project saw the installation of two replacement Historic Route 99 signs in Calexico, CA. These new signs are located at the corners of 1st St at Heffernan Ave and 2nd St at Imperial Ave. We are onto a great start and it's just the beginning! Thank you for being a part of the Association and helping preserve our history.

Advocacy / Projects



At the new BEGIN sign in Calexico, CA

On March 24, 2021, we successfully completed our first project, the replacement of two faded Historic Route signs in Calexico, California. This project, done in cooperation with the City of Calexico, is rather fitting as our first. The southern terminus of US 99 was in Calexico, so no better place to start than the beginning.

This project wouldn't have been possible without the donations we have received and your support. We wish to thank all those that were involved with the project and a special Thank You to Lilliana Falomir, Public Works Manager for the City of Calexico. We do look forward to working with the city in replacing the remaining signs in time.

Fundraising

Currently, we are still in the process of obtaining our 501(c)3 status. Our application is a bit delayed but hopefully we will hear something by late April. Once we obtain the status, we will be able to open a regular bank account, which will help with our fundraising efforts. So far, we have raised funds via PayPal for our projects and memberships. All those that have donated will receive a formal letter for their taxes once our status comes through. We can certainly use your support! Donate and/or become a member.

Outreach



1932 side of the Piru Creek Bridge in Piru Gorge, Los Angeles County, California

Slowly but surely, we are reaching out to local historical societies, businesses, clubs, and other groups along US 99. So far, the feedback has been positive. We are hosting monthly Zoom meetings, <https://historic99.org/meetings/>, which will have a presentation on various Highway 99 topics. This month, on April 6, there will be a presentation on the history of the Ridge Route Alternate portion of the highway.

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwlf-6srDIqHdRkYBHsG8jzi8D68Gtys-dF>

Membership

We now have memberships available! We are up to 14 members as of March 31, not bad for a first month. Your memberships help us grow and achieve our goals to promote and preservation on of California's most historic roadways. The next two months we are also running a special on memberships. Use code "SAVE99" on the membership application and save \$5 off your first year, regardless of what level membership you are getting.

For our business members, we want to help you! We will list your business on our 99 Businesses page and you will get a chance at ad space in our newsletter. We may also do a feature on one of them on the site and newsletter.

Featured Book

This comes from one of our recent members who recently published a new book on US 99:

Hello members,

I'm very happy to be a new member of Historic Highway 99 Association of California and look forward to hearing about all the Club news.

I've been fascinated with Highway 99...California and Oregon...for decades. This led me to my current collection of hundreds of vintage postcards showing scenes of Highway 99 and its roadside attractions and businesses covering the decades up to the 1960s.

I'm excited to share with you my newly published book: A PICTORIAL HISTORY of HIGHWAY 99~The Scenic Route~From Redding, California to Portland, Oregon. You can see more of it on Amazon.com. The book has 423 pages and over 600 photos of scenes along Highway 99; all taken from my postcard collection mentioned above.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole MacRobert Steele

Photo of the Month



Golden State Avenue looking north from 23rd St / Junction US 466

For April, we are featuring a postcard from the 1950's showing Golden State Avenue in central Bakersfield looking north from 23rd St. Here, US 99 met US 466 and State 178. Today, US 466 is gone entirely and State 178 has been moved to a freeway near the top of the postcard. The concrete paving, from the 1940's, is still there as is the Kelly Springfield Tire sign, though covered with a new company.

The intersection at the bottom is now Sumner St (relocated in 1987).



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