

UTAH ELKS ASSOCIATION

Spring Meeting March 7 – 9, 2024

Membership Report

State President, Honored Guests, and Members.

Membership is one of the most important issues that we face as an organization. Without members we would cease to exist. As an ageing organization we will always lose a certain number of our members each year. This year we added 194 new members to our state, but we have 29 fewer members overall in Utah than we had last year. We lost 223 members because their dues were not paid. Now for some good news, we have 118 candidates statewide waiting to be inducted into our order. In the words of Rick Gathen "Initiate, Initiate Initiate". Last year at the National Convention, Utah received an award for gaining 10 members statewide. If we can go back and initiate our candidates we can be in the positive category, we have a very narrow window to make a difference in those numbers before the National Convention.

So, what can we do to increase our membership? In our state most of the membership chairs are filled by the secretary of the lodge. This makes perfect sense because the Secretary is instrumental in the membership of each Lodge. We all need to step up and help in any way that we can. Each Lodge should have a committee of more than one person dealing with membership. When we have members fail to pay their dues in a timely manner, maybe we should get that member's sponsor to call that member to see what the issue is. If that member will not renew, then we should encourage them to take out a Dimit and be removed from the books.

In our Lodge we have some great people that have volunteered to be committee chairs and have done a great job. But when there is more than one person involved in these events, that committee chair will not be as likely to get burned out planning events. Along those lines don't be afraid to try something new, even if you are told "that will never work". In our Lodge things that were never going to work turned into some of the best events of the year. And those events bring our members to our Lodge, which makes the Lodge money.

This year our Drug Awareness Program and Hoop Shoot committee are planning to combine their presence at the Fairs and community events with a double booth. In this booth we will have some games and activities for the kids. While the kids and parents are at our booth, we will make sure that there are Elks Membership Applications available.

In closing, I would encourage our membership committees to get involved with our Public Relations Committee to communicate all the good we, as Elks, do in our cities and towns. We need to let our neighbors know what "Elks" do in our communities with the grants that are available to us through the ENF. That should help us be able to increase our membership every year. I challenge each Lodge in Utah to have positive membership numbers in the upcoming year.

Remember "Elks Care, Elks Share".

Fraternally

Wayne Barnes

Utah State Membership Chairman

Elks National Foundation

3/9/2024

Report

State President, honored guests and members

We received this year from ENF \$111,080...this was for Veterans Volunteers, Most Valuable Student, the Legacy Award, Our State Charity Grant, a Special Projects Grant and the Bonus Grant. That doesn't include the individual lodge grants. We donated \$62,197. This is a ratio of \$1.79 per every dollar we send in!! What a great investment!!

Because of our donations, some of our lodges have received \$42,900 in grants this year to help with their individual lodges...Remember, grants are our money that can help us further our impact and grow our own community!

Right now our State has donated \$53,638.81!!! We have one week left to get our money in...Please please send it as soon as you can to get our numbers up! But...still very impressive!! Our goal is to get to at least \$60,000 every year.

We as a State cannot thank UBET enough! They help us in so many ways from our individual lodges to our State ENF totals! Thank you!!

If you are the ENF chair for your lodge. Please stand up!! Remember these amazing people and help them make their goals also!

Fidelity Club: Ok you have all heard me talk about the Fidelity Club and what and how to become one...if you need additional help, please see me or your ENF Chair from your lodge! To date, we are at 61...we have lost a couple and that happens...but I'm still going to encourage you as ER's and ENF Chairs to get your numbers higher...remember, it comes out of your account, you don't even miss it!!! We have 3762 members in the state and if all donated just \$5 a month that would be: \$18,810 a month and \$225,720 per year! Wow! And all for one soda or coffee a month!

With that said, Some of our Lodges need help! Our per member giving ranges from \$.73 - \$39 Nice job!!! We are not at 0 again this year!!! I know some of you do your big push towards the end and that's great, but I'm going to encourage you to make your push during the year and not wait, if you get donations with your dues, pay them in April or May and be done with it!! It skews the numbers at the end and we need all the help we can get! The more we give, the more we get back! And that's what I love about being an Elk! We do Share and Care!!!

That concludes my report

Respectfully submitted

Lil

State ENF chair

VETERANS COMMITTEE
SPRING MEETING
MARCH 2024

I see that Mary Croxen has come to the meetings this weekend and I would like her to please stand and be recognized for her many years serving the ELKS as the Utah State Veterans Chair and her service to the Veterans in need in our State. We thank you Mary.

Here are some facts from the U.S. Census Bureau regarding veterans in the State of Utah for your consideration. The veteran population in Utah is estimated to be 143,771. Two-thirds of Utah veterans are at least 55 years old and 44% of those are at least 65 years old. There are 13 VA facilities in Utah and over one fourth of Utah veterans use a VA facility.

Throughout the State of Utah our ELKS Veterans Committees have spent time and money assisting the veterans who live here. In particular, we have given to our veterans who reside in the VA facilities. Funds have gone to the Homes in Ogden, Payson, Salt Lake Medical Center, and the Southern Utah Home in Ivins. We have provided assistance and funding for Birthday Cakes each month, planted flower boxes, fishing trips, birdseed and bird feeders, clothing where needed as well as lots of candy for weekly bingo and many holiday functions.

Our networking with other Veteran Groups and organizations in our communities has benefited veterans in need. I would ask our Exalted Rulers to ask their Veteran Committees to reach out to other groups in their communities which may enhance their knowledge of the veterans who may need assistance. St George #1743 networks with the St George Veterans Coalition, the Rotary Veterans Club, Vietnam Veterans, American Legion, the local DAR Chapter, our city Government, and the Veterans Affairs Southern Utah Outreach Manager. Participating in joint meetings and building relationships has allowed us to help veterans in our community at a more inclusive and individual level.

In 2012 the St George Dixie Elks created a Survivor/Executor Guide to assist in the preparation of the death of a military veteran. During the past two months we have researched and updated this Guide and will be distributing free copies to veterans in the Southern Utah VA Home, veterans in various retirement homes, other VA facilities in southern Utah and of course to veterans in our St George Lodge. Exalted Rulers of our Utah Lodges are welcome to a copy to share with your Veteran Committees as an example of what you might consider as a project. Please see me for a copy and/or assistance.

Since our Fall Meeting at Camp Wapiti in September we have served 1601 veterans at the VA Homes and Medical Center. Volunteers have donated 942 hours valued at \$22 per hour for \$20,724 and driven 3,060 miles @ .52 a mile for \$1,591.20. Well done volunteers.

Thank you,
Dick Wilson
Utah State Veterans Chair

Brochures – Bonnie Blackson – March 9, 2024

Brochures are due this weekend. Reminders were sent out to each Lodge throughout the year.

- Mother's Day
- Flag Day
- Memorial Day
- Lodge Bulletins and or Community Image

They'll be judged and winners will be announced at State Convention in May. (May 2 – 4, 2024)

Spring Public Relations Report

Utah Elks Association 2024

I am willing to say that 90% of our Lodges are reporting their activities as far as Public Relations go. I would encourage those other few Lodges to get on the band wagon and start bragging about what you do for the community.

We are doing good things for our communities and we should get credit for the work we do. It is important to fill in your volunteer sheets as well it is the only record for the IRS to check against for our 501c8. Without those sheets we have nothing to fall back for our 501c8.

And finally, please exercise your right to fill in the All-American Lodge contest questions. It is nothing more than a guide to a successful year. It is all the things you are suppose to do during your year as an Exalted Ruler. New Exalted Rulers...take note as this is a planning tool for the futures...current Exalted Rulers, you still have time to tabulate the numbers and get the document in for judging. It is the ENF fundraising, the GER's \$4.80 goal, the Plus 1 for your membership, the Veterans programs, Scholarships, Boy Scouts, Mother's Day, Flag Day and the Memorial service...the Elk, Citizen and Officer of the year...Outstanding Member Award all are part of the All-American Lodge contest.

That is what I challenging to do!

Robert "Bob" Matteson

Utah Elks Association

Public Relations State Chair

Exalted Ruler of St. George Lodge #1743

UEA State Scholarships
Committee Report
State Convention
March 9, 2024

Members and guests:

The Scholarships judging for ENF Most Valuable Student, and the Utah Elks Association have been completed this year.

The top three students that will continue to the National ENF competition are:

Ana Van Moorlehem - Tooele

Addilyn Wadsworth – St. George

Dayson Macdonald= St. George

This year we had a total of 31 UEA Scholars this year. They will receive in total \$35000.00.

The announcement for the Legacy Scholars will be in late April and they will be included in my next report.

I would like to thank all the Lodges Chairmans for all their dedication to the ENF Scholarship Program this year. For reaching out to the schools and informing them of the not only the ENF Scholarships but our UEA Scholarship program as well.

I would like to also thank the North and South District Chairs, Bonnie Blackson and Rebecca Yeager for all of their hard work as well as Anthoy Uriona, Linda Gaines for judging this year's State scholarships.

Congratulations to all the scholarship winners for this year. Please remember that the money for these scholarships must be requested for payment or deferment no later than **January 31, 2024**

The UEA has a deferment plan in action for holding this money for the students. But they must request the deferment in writing, or the money is lost.

Fraternally,



Jared Wanlass

Utah State Scholarship Chairman

UEA Spring Mtg
3/8/24 2pm

UTAH ELKS ASSOCIATION

ADVISORY COUNSEL

Invocation: Justin Muir

Pledge: Brian Lindsey

Roll Call:

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| 1. Tooele | 6. Price |
| 2. Provo | 7. Cedar City |
| 3. Vernal | 8. St George |
| 4. Park City | 9. Tintic |
| 5. Bountiful | 10. Golden Spike |

Old Business:

minutes
~~minutes~~ Read / PASSED / APPROVED

no old business

New Business:

Jay Averitt proposed Bylaw changes to move
forwards to fall mtg

- ② Seperate PDD's, PSP & ^{Innovative} Groups → ① move from 3-2 meetings per year → motion passes
Dates & Name

Close Meeting:

2:40pm

past state president to be chairman
of Advisor Council - motion made / passed

- ③ Eliminate president elect position - motion made / passed

② UEA Bylaws Article 4 - go thru update
no longer guidelines - make rules

* St George requesting to host spring
meeting 2025 - motion made / passed

Reminder on All American
essay - get turned in Apr 1st
if interest in PDD -
can do for 1-year

Email and online security.

Currently, we have so much information at our fingertips. Shopping at our fingertips, asking Google or Alexa or Siri for an answer and having it immediately. We carry a computer in our pockets that is more powerful than the guidance computer NASA used for the famous Apollo 11 mission. Ever faster, technology advances at warp speed and computing power grows exponentially.

It's good practice to stay away from suspicious attachments or links. In many cases it is possible to see the source of a link by right-clicking or long-tapping it. If you have any doubt as to the link's origin, this technique may reveal its source. With attachments, carefully examine the email's contents, subject line, and file extension before opening. If there are strange typos or odd extensions on the attached file, it is best to steer clear.

Here are 10 top tips to stay safe online:

1. Keep a clean machine.
2. Create long, unique passwords.
3. Use password manager.
4. Enable multi factor authentication.
5. Think before you click.
6. Report phishing.
7. Use secure Wi-Fi.
8. Back it up.
9. Check your settings.
10. Share with care.

Thank you and be safe.

Justin Muir

Webmaster

Long Road to Pasadena – Jean Combs, Park City Elks Lodge #734

The theme of the 2024 Rose Parade was “Celebrating the World of Music. The Elks float was titled Chimes of Liberty, Protecting our Future. A member from each of the six branches of the military as well as three young Antlers were selected to ride on the Elks float. As a 30-year Air Force Veteran, I was honored to be selected as the Air Force member.

Elks from throughout the state of Utah generously donated to make my trip to Pasadena possible. My sister Bonnie Blackson, Park City lodge 734 secretary, and I decided to make our trip to Pasadena a fun adventure.

- (1) Title page
- (2) Our goal was to visit as many Elk's lodges as possible and enjoy the sites along route 66.
- (3) We stopped at Provo lodge 849 and Price lodge 1550 too early to visit.
- (4) We continued south to Rio Rancho lodge 2500 just North of ABQ. Visited with bar tender Mike Grande and members Dave and Stacy Porter. They gave me an embroidered star taken from a flag scheduled for retirement.
- (5) We started our journey along route 66 in ABQ enjoying many of the roadside attractions.
- (6) We made quick stops at ABQ lodge 461 and Gallup lodge 440. Once again too early to visit.
- (7) Of course, we had to Take it Easy and stand on the corner in Winslow, AZ
- (8) Next, we visited Winslow Lodge 536. They had a 100-year-old building full of character. Mike Duran, District Deputy AZ North gave us a tour. They definitely had the coolest light fixtures in their building.
- (9) We enjoyed reading all the Burma Shave signs along the route.
- (10) We stopped for lunch at Kingman Lodge 468. Visited with the bartender Jarred. We arrived in the middle of their weekly Bingo game, so we weren't able to tour the lodge.
- (11) One of the highlights of route 66 is the town of Oatman, AZ where the Burros outnumber the people.
- (12) Frank Anderson, The Veteran's chairman at the Needles Lodge 1608 welcomed us and gave us a tour. They have an amazing outdoor patio and kitchen at their lodge.
- (13) We made a quick stop at Victorville lodge 1877 where they were having initiation, so we were not able to tour the lodge. Hesperia Lodge 2646 was closed that evening. We did admire their water tower sign.
- (14) The next day we visited the world's very first McDonalds, the best-preserved gas station along route 66 and arrived at the end of the Trail at the Santa Monica Pier.
- (15) Short stops at San Bernadino Lodge 836, they had a great sign advising us to watch for roaming Elk and Ontario Lodge 1419. We are really jealous of their very large well-maintained parking area.
- (16) We spent time at the Culver City Lodge 1917. Visited with bar tender John Wilson and received a tour from Past ER Steve Beril. We learned all about their bicycle refurbishing project.
- (17) Another quick stop at Duarte lodge 1427. At Arcadia Lodge 2025 we met Trustee Dorothy McCain. We toured the lodge and learned the lodge was once part of Ross Field, a US Army balloon school.

- (18)Next, we visited West Covina lodge 1996. They were in the middle of their monthly recycling project and preparing the lodge for their New Year's Eve Party. We met ER Don Parker and his wife Shirley. Mondo Santoya gave us a tour of this very active lodge. The three young Antlers riding the float were from the West Covina Lodge.
- (19)We visited Bullhead City Lodge 2408 on the return trip. Toured with Tracey Harris the bartender.
- (20)After arriving in Pasadena, we stopped by the Float Assembly Hangar and met many of the volunteers who spent countless hours preparing the float.
- (21)All of the Rose Parade entries are judged the day prior to the parade. Each entry is judged for exactly five minutes.
- (22)On New Year's Eve we attended a formal celebration at newly remodeled Pasadena lodge 672.
- (23)Video of parade.

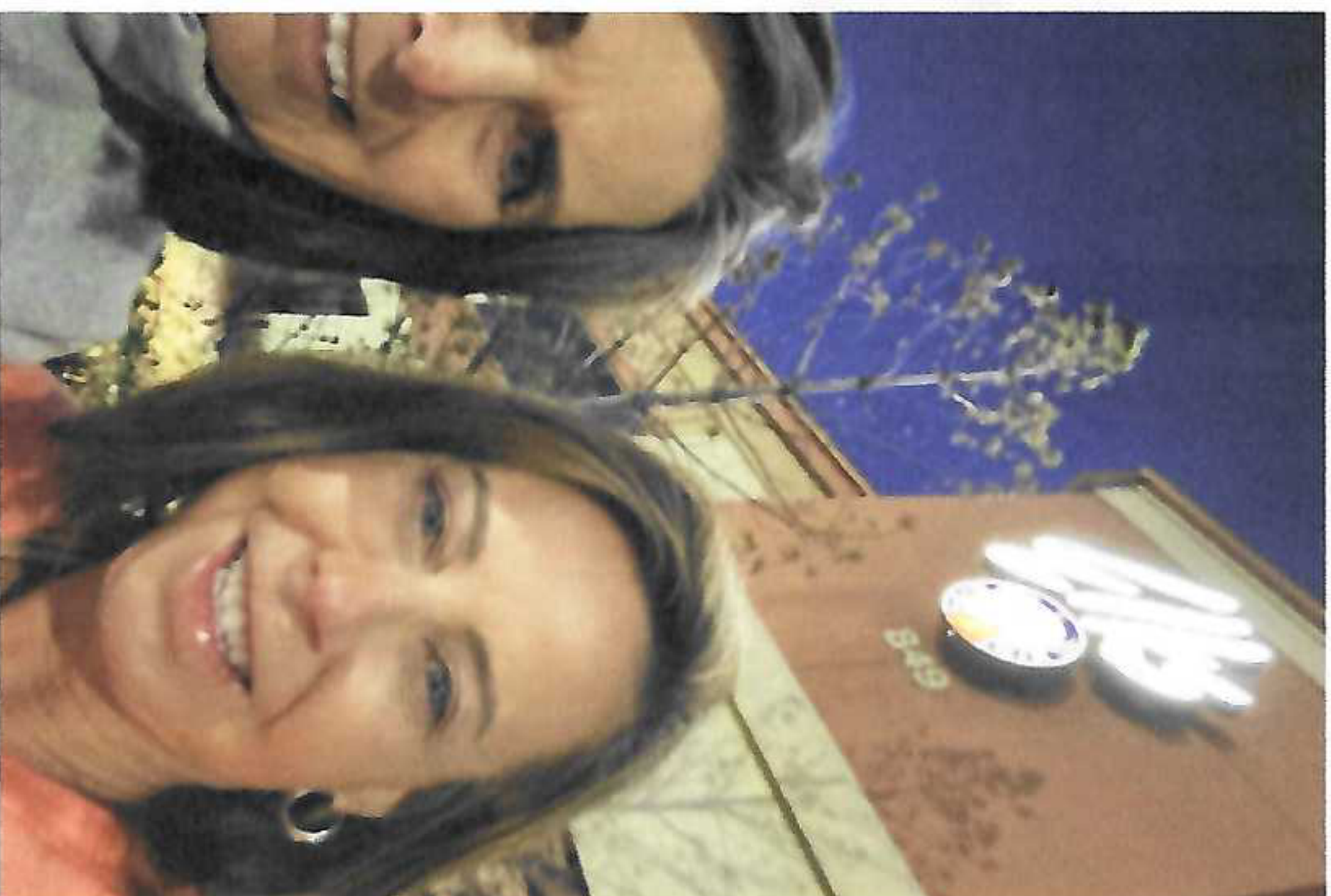
Rose Parade

January 1, 2024

The Long Road to Pasadena

Our goal was to visit as many
Elks Lodges as we could along
Route 66.

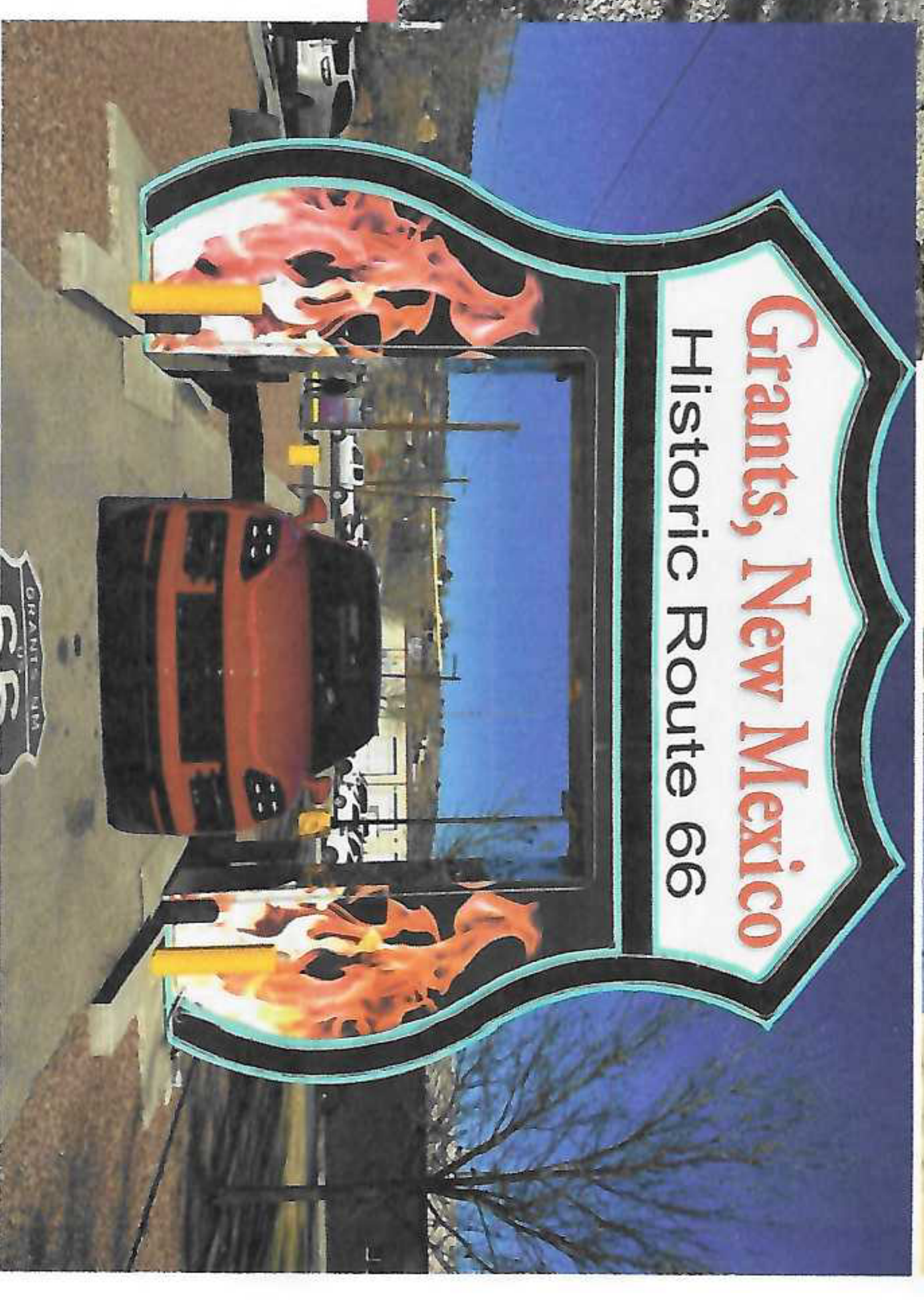
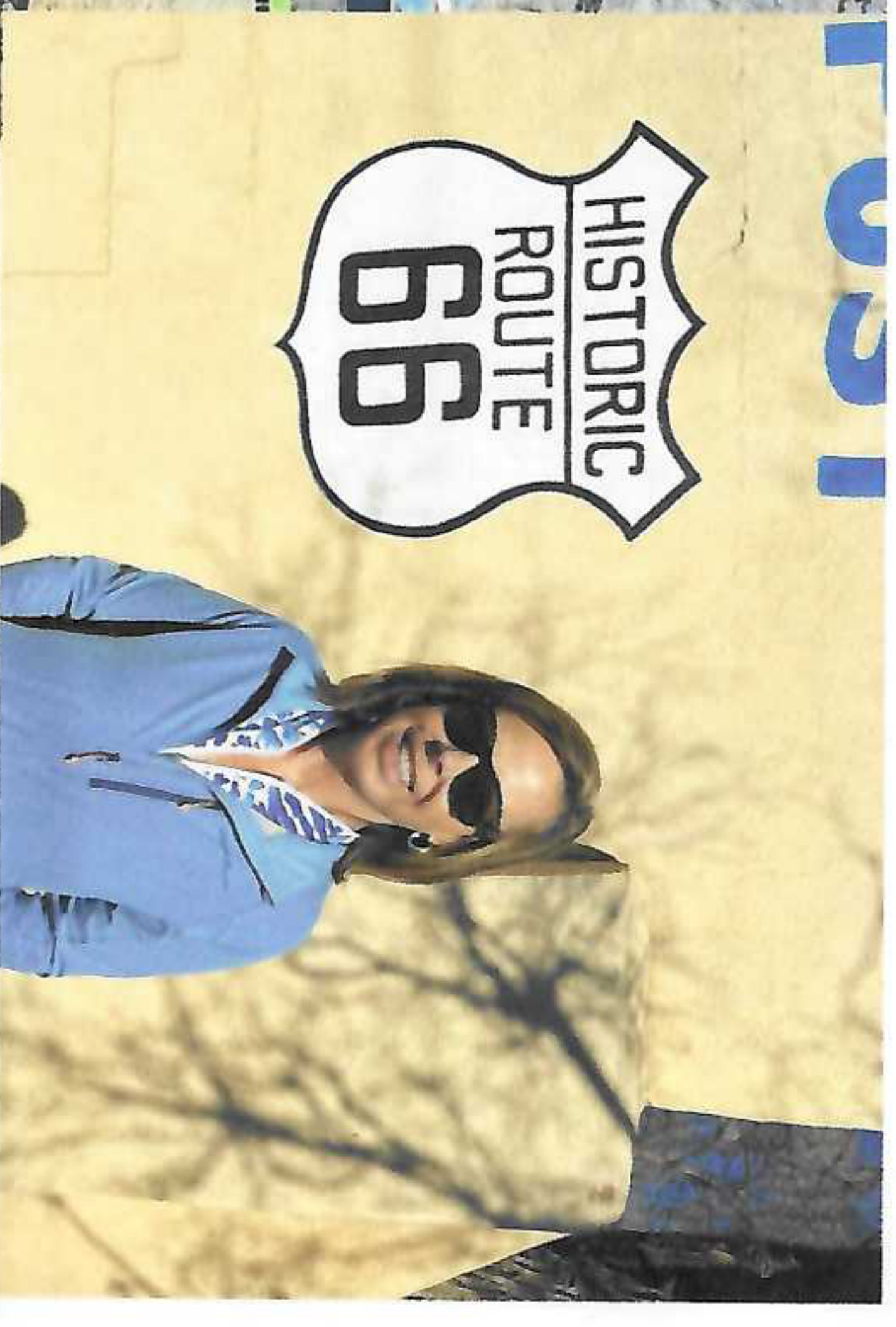
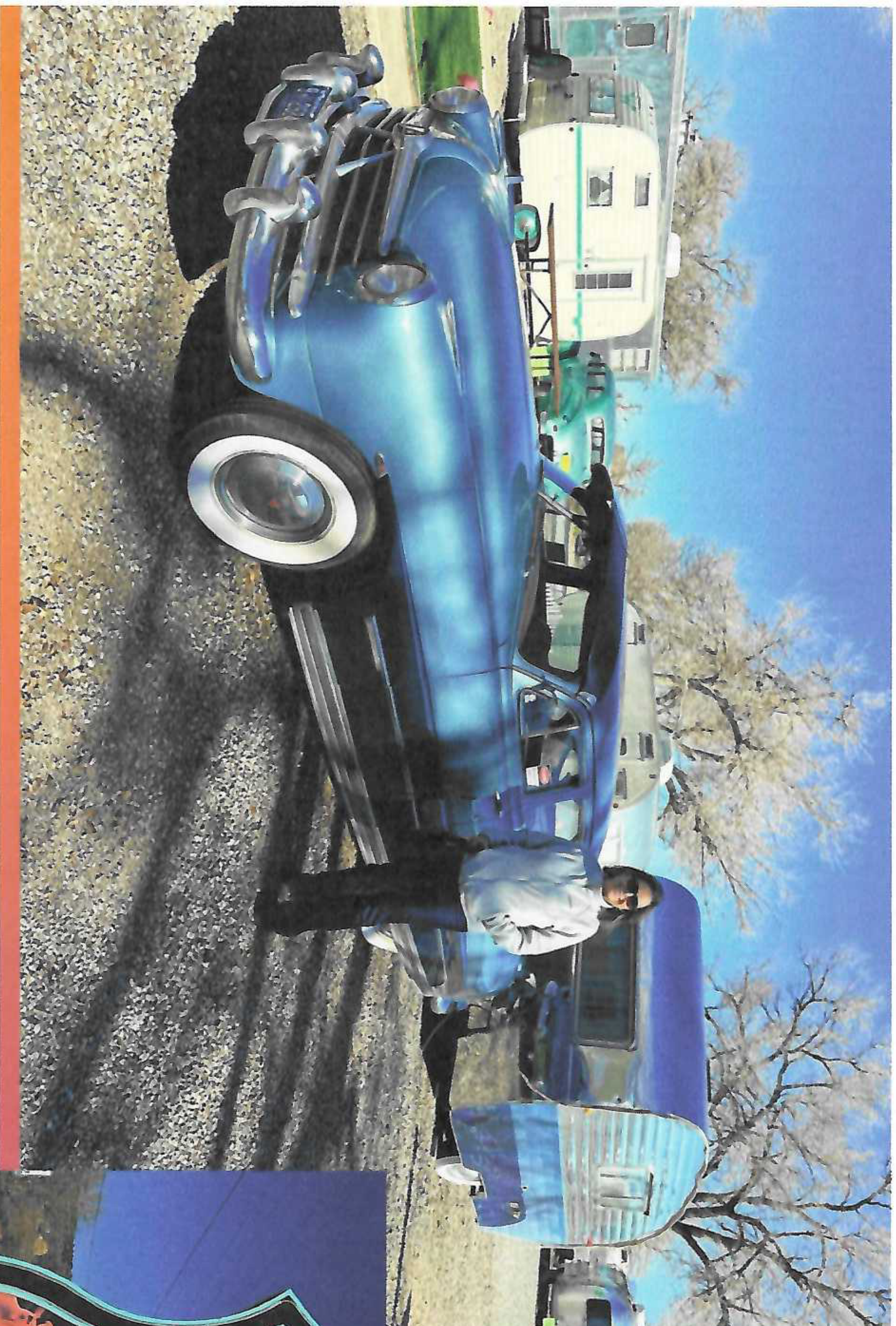
Provo #849 Price #1550



I was a part of our American Flag. I have flown over a home in the U.S.A. I can no longer fly. The Sun and winds have caused me to become tattered and torn. Please carry me as a reminder that you are not forgotten.



Rio Rancho, NM
#2500

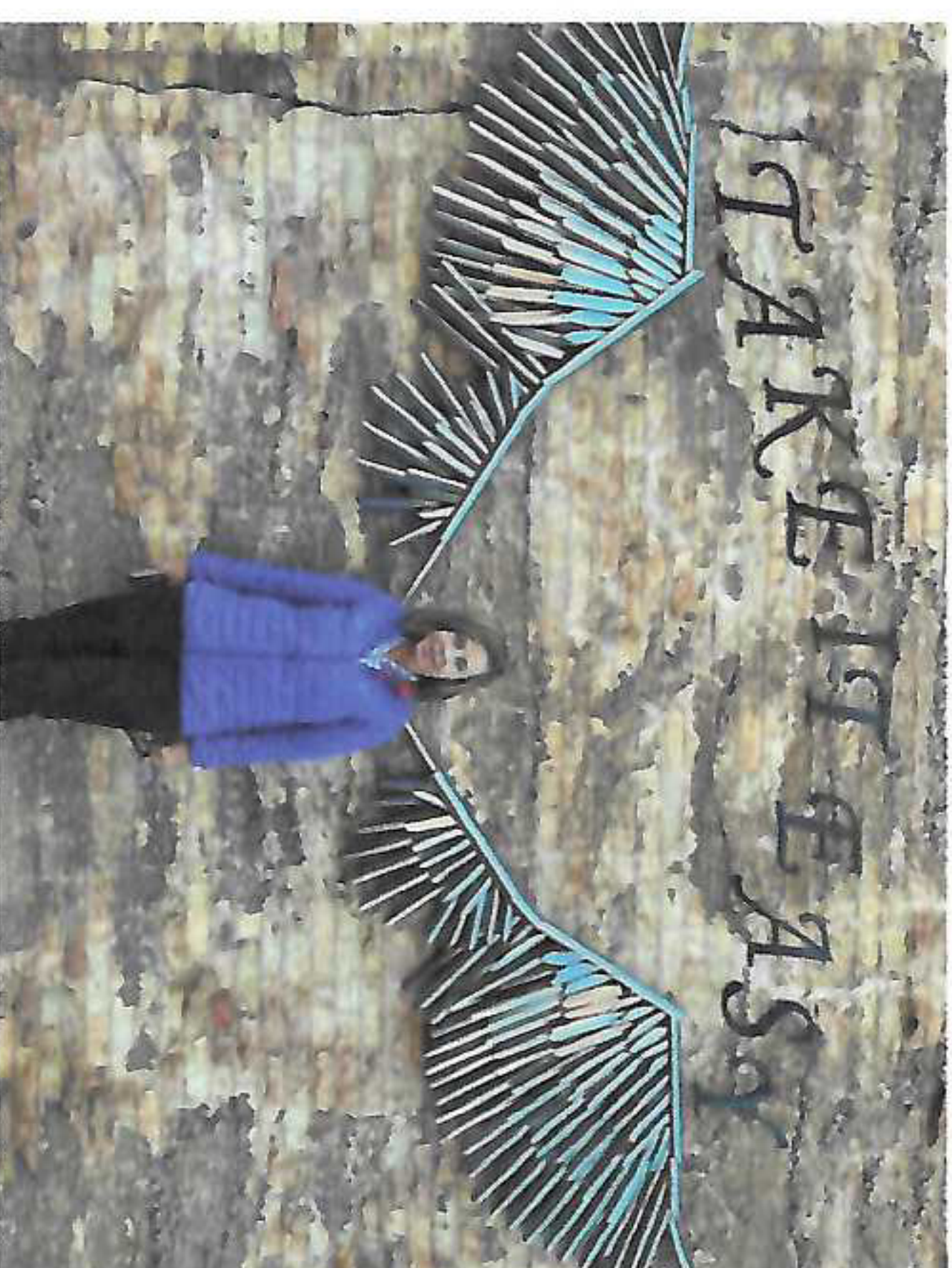


Route 66

Albuquerque, NM #461

Gallup, NM #1440





Standin' on the Corner



Winslow, AZ #536



CATTLE
CROSSING

Route 66



Burma-Shave®
TM AMERICAN SAFETY MATCH



MEANS
GO SLOW



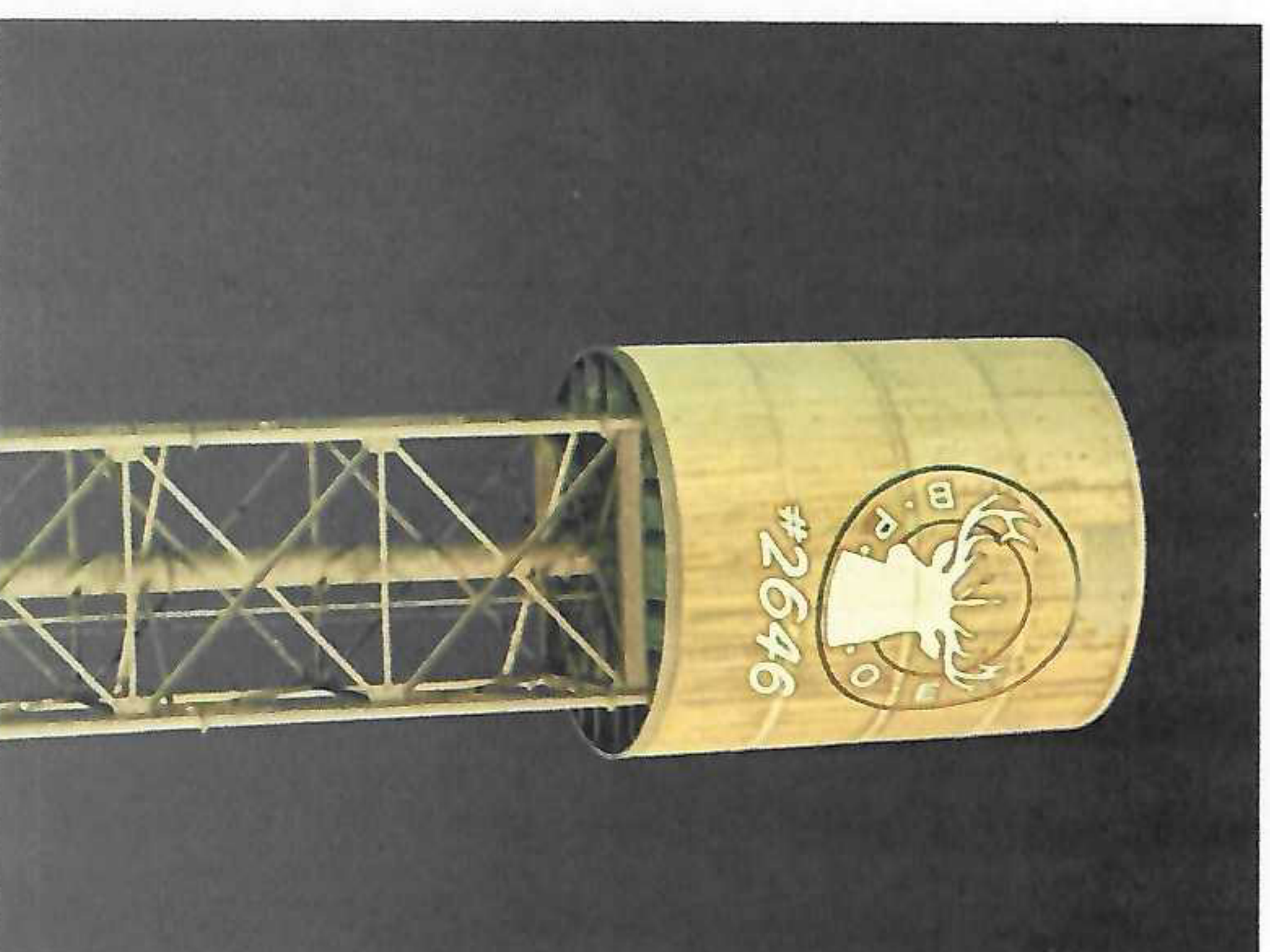
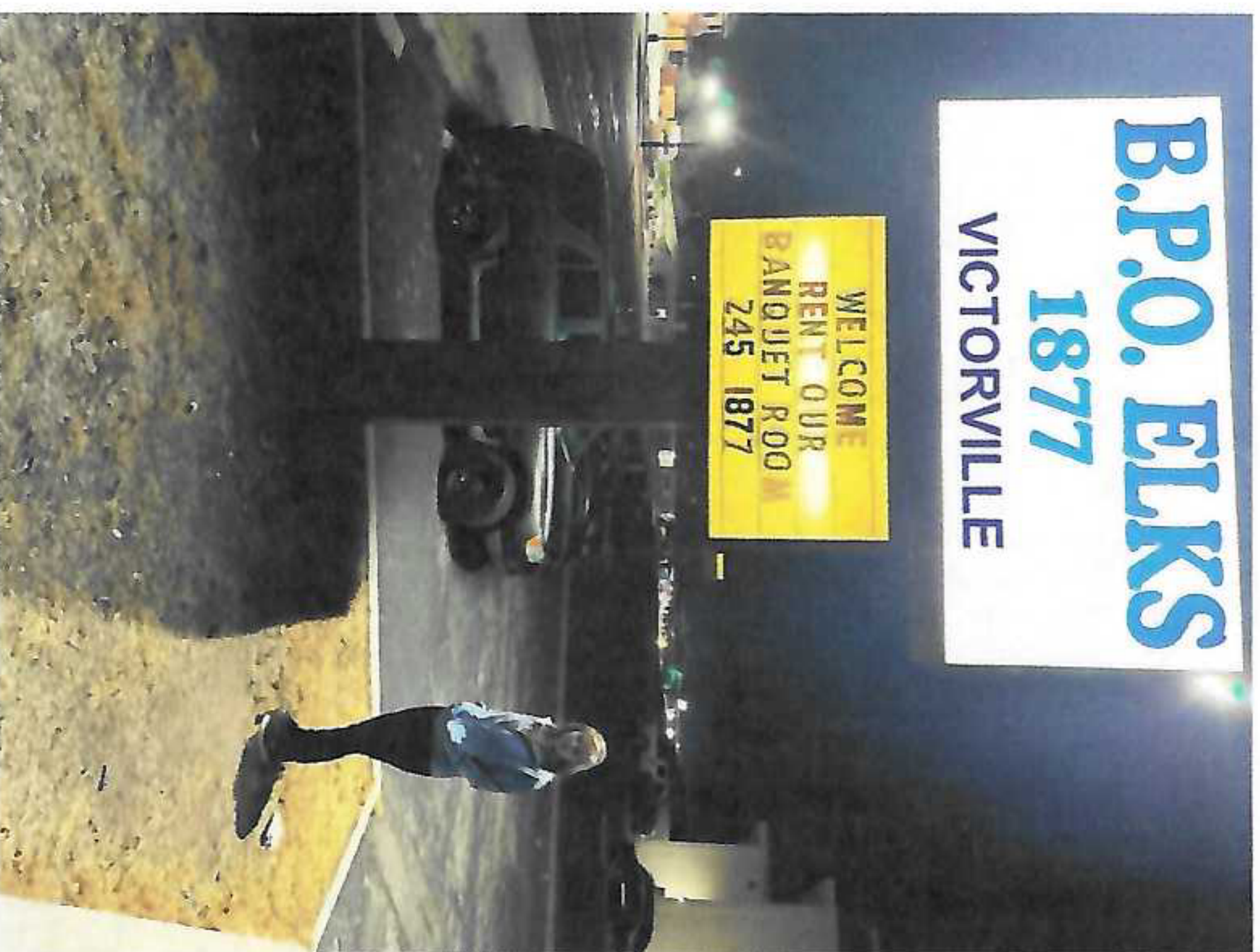
IS SOME
COW'S BEAU



THAT
OLD BULL



Route 66



Victorville, CA #1877 & Hesperia, CA #2646



Needles, CA #1608



Route 66

Kingman, AZ

#468



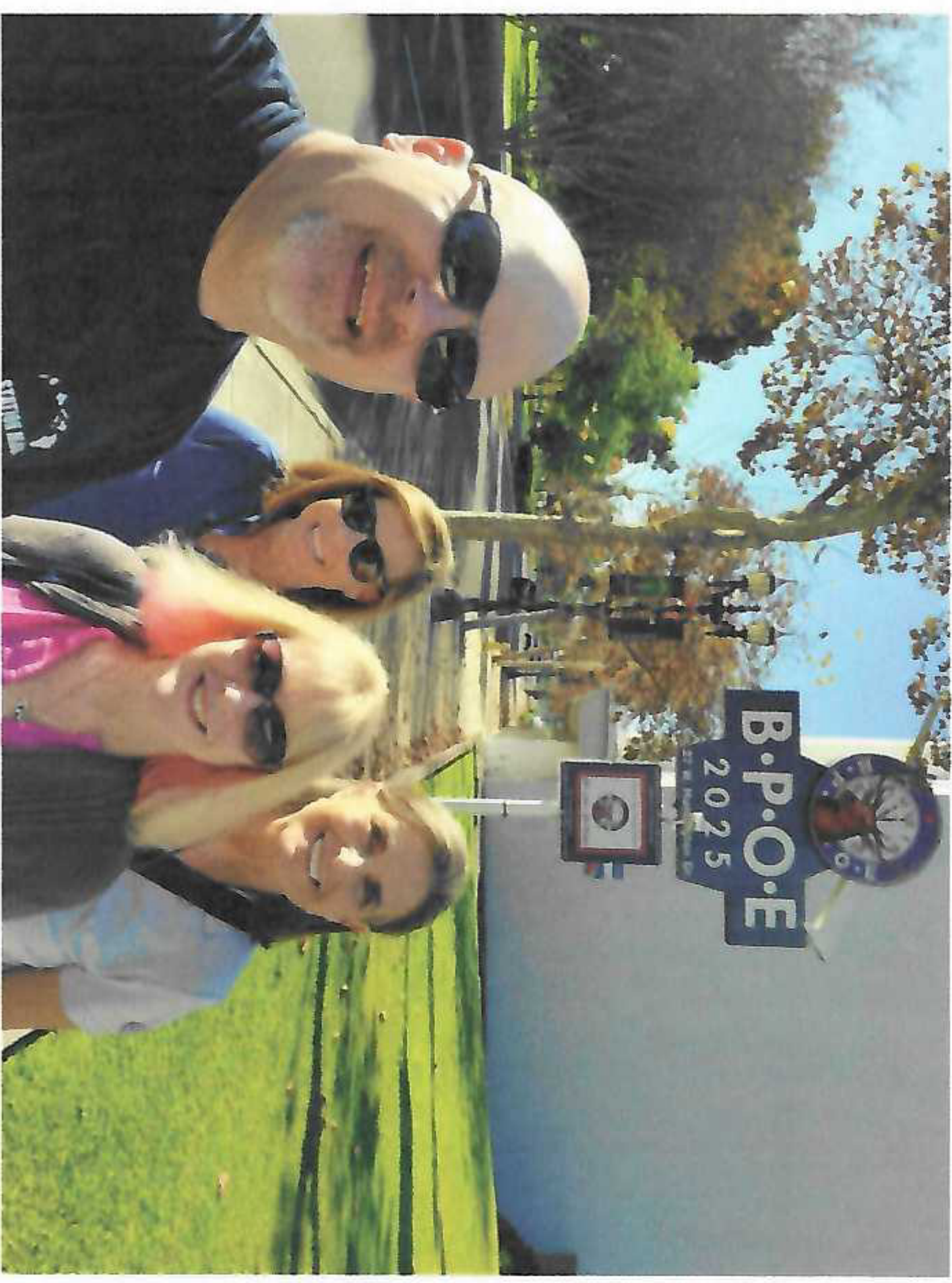
San Bernadino, CA #836

Ontario, CA #1419

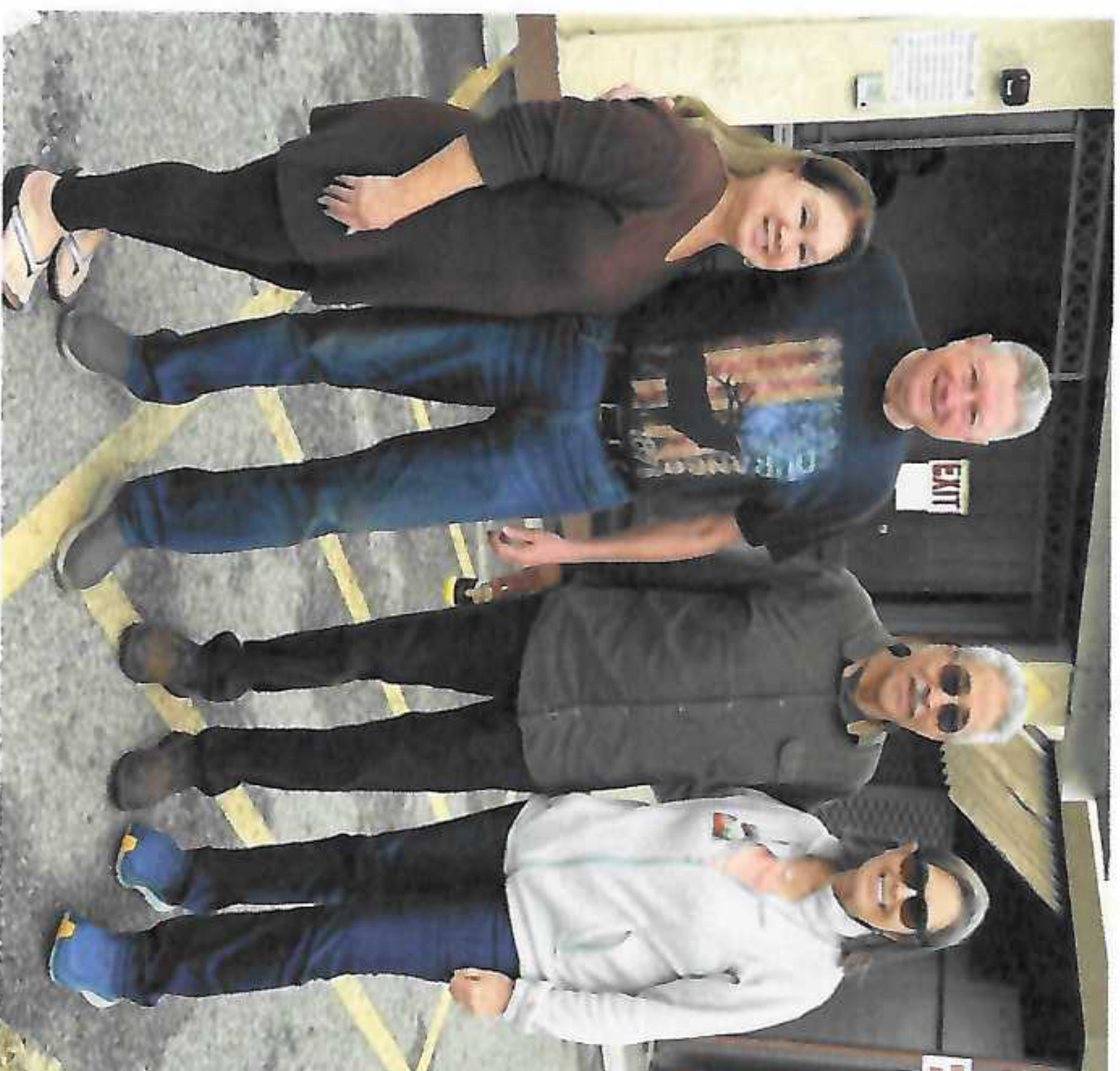




Culver City, CA #1917



Duarte, CA #1427 Arcadia, CA #2025

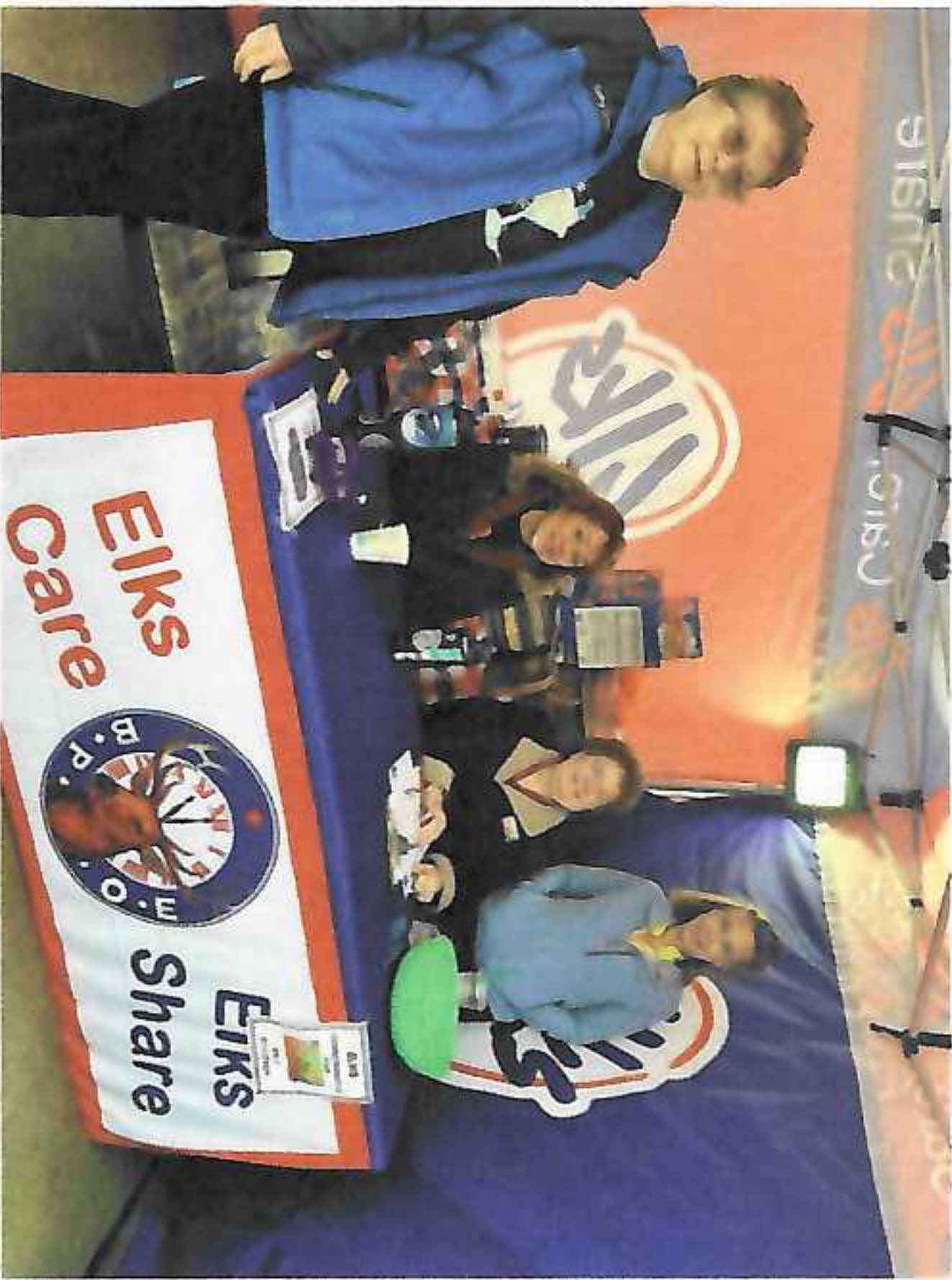


West Covina, CA #1996

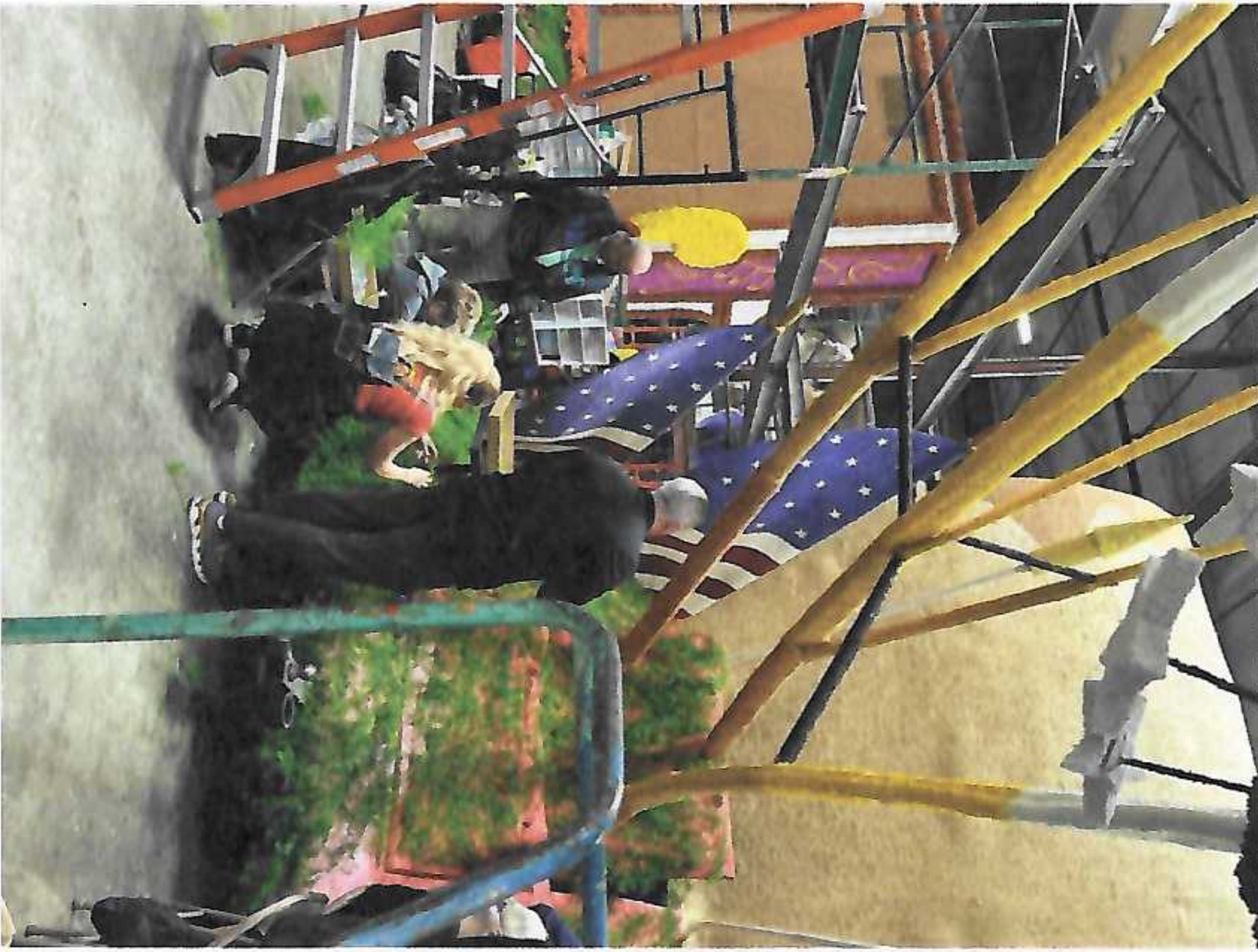


Bullhead City, AZ # 248

on return trip



Float Preparation





Float Judging





New Years Eve Celebration



KTLA
created in
wave.video