

Results from gemini.google.com search for:
"who is butch bridges in Ardmore Oklahoma" using quotation marks

Choice A

Butch Bridges is a prominent local historian, genealogist, and community storyteller based in Ardmore, Oklahoma. He is best known for his long-running weekly electronic newsletter, "This & That," and his website, OklahomaHistory.net.

If you are a resident of Southern Oklahoma, you likely know him as the "go-to" source for hyper-local history, vintage photography, and community archives.

Key Contributions & Activities

The "This & That" Newsletter: Since the late 1990s, Butch has published this weekly newsletter (now with over 1,500 issues). It serves as a digital "mailbag" where readers share memories, identify old photographs, and discuss local landmarks in Ardmore and surrounding counties.

Oklahoma History Website: He maintains a massive digital archive at OklahomaHistory.net, which includes records on everything from the Great Ardmore Fire of 1895 to historical "mystery" bells found across the state.

Genealogy Expert: He is frequently cited by the Ardmore Public Library and local genealogy societies for his work in preserving family histories and assisting others in tracing their Southern Oklahoma roots.

Sandblasting & Memorials: Aside from his historical work, he is known locally for his hobby of sandblasting customized pavers, flagstones, and grave markers.

Personal Background

Butch is a "native Ardmoreite" (born in 1949). He often shares personal anecdotes about growing up at the Carmon Lumber Company (owned by his grandparents) and his experiences living through the evolution of Ardmore over the last seven decades.

Note: His weekly newsletters are still active as of 2026, often incorporating modern technology like AI-colorization to bring old photos of Ardmore and Carter County back to life.

Choice B

Stanley "Butch" Bridges is a prominent local historian, researcher, and a well-known figure in the Ardmore, Oklahoma community. He is best recognized as the creator and curator of the "This and That" newsletter and the OklahomaHistory.net website. A "native Ardmoreite" (born in 1949), Bridges has spent nearly 30 years documenting the history of Carter County and southern Oklahoma.

Historical and Community Contributions

OklahomaHistory.net:

Bridges maintains a massive digital archive of Oklahoma history, featuring over 23,000 photos and hundreds of pages of historical data. His weekly "This and That" newsletter has been running since the late 1990s, reaching thousands of subscribers with stories about local landmarks, genealogy, and vintage photographs.

EMS Pioneer: Professionally, Bridges had a significant career in emergency services. In 1970, while working for the Southern Oklahoma Ambulance Service (SOAS), he founded and incorporated the Oklahoma Emergency Medical Technician Association, serving as its president until 1981.

Digital Preservation:

He is known for using technology—including modern AI tools—to colorize old black-and-white photos of Ardmore and surrounding towns like Lone Grove and Marietta to make history more accessible to younger generations.

Local Legacy

Bridges is often the "go-to" person for residents looking to identify old buildings or trace family roots in the Ardmore area. His work is primarily funded by community donations through a "Continuance Plan" to ensure the decades of local records

he has digitized remain available to the public.

Note: He is occasionally confused with other "Bridges" in local history, such as the family that owned Bridge's Jewelry (originally Bridge's Pawn) on Main Street, though he has clarified in his own research that they are distinct family lines.