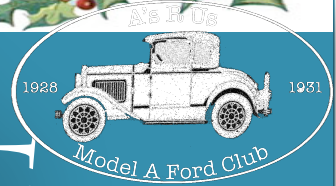




In hopes that St. Nicklaus will soon be there!



BACKFIRE

Chicago Southland Chapter, Model A Ford Club of America

VOLUME 14

ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2009

<http://www.drivingthedixie.sinthasite.com>

<http://asrus.homestead.com>

Christmas is here

!

It's going to be a hectic week coming up. Decorate the vehicles and light them up. If you need any suggestions contact members that have done it before as they can fill you in on the tricks to keep lights on your car. Remember extension cords are not allowed as we have tried them before with comical results. Suction cups and gutter hanger clips work on the cars to attach the lights. Make the events that you can this weekend and we hope to see you there.

Phil

Header Picture: Hang those stockings with care, as Santa will soon be there!

*The Carp
Editor in Chief*

Inside this Months Issue:

- Christmas Past
- Jim's Dixie History
- Lisota's Garage tech talk
- Meeting synopsis
- December activities schedule

More inside!

Pg. 4

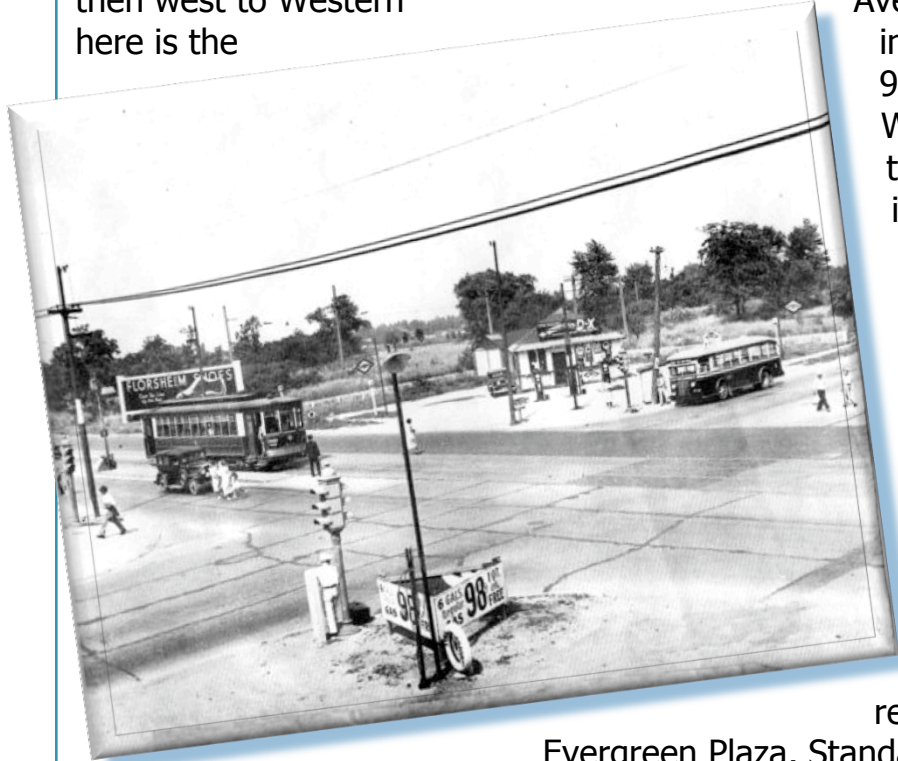
DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright

In Chicago, the Dixie Highway originated in front of the Art Institute on Michigan Avenue at Adams Street. The highway traveled south on Michigan Avenue to 55th Street, Garfield Boulevard, then west to Western

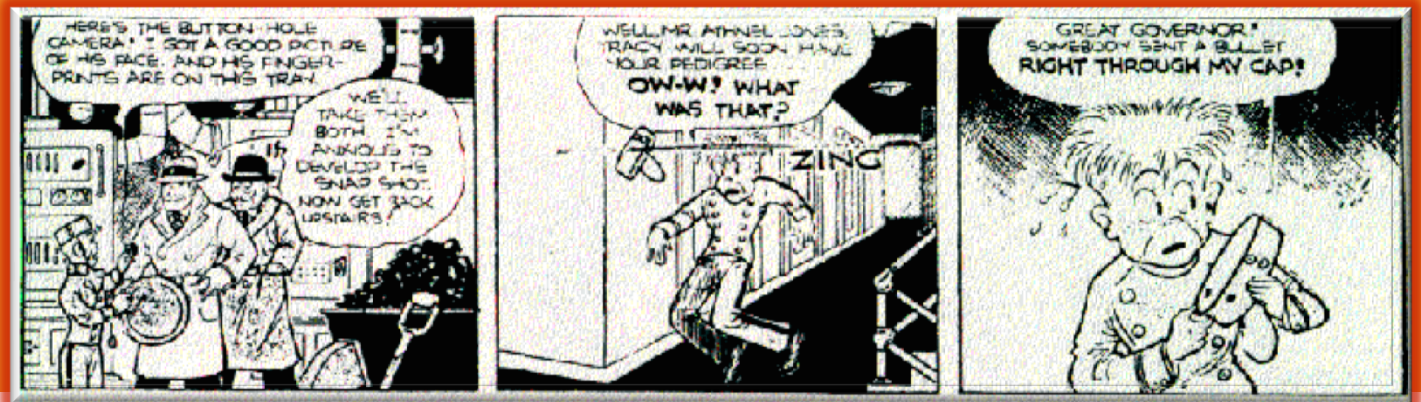


Avenue. Pictured intersection of 95th Street and Western Avenue, the Dixie Highway, in the mid-1930's. The photo looks northeast. The bus is heading west towards Oak Lawn on 95th Street and the streetcar is heading south on Western Avenue towards Blue Island. The view at this intersection is remarkably different today with



Evergreen Plaza, Standard Bank and other commercial establishments densely populating the corner. Gas prices have also changed over the years. The signage in the foreground advertises 6 gallons of regular gasoline plus a quart of oil free all for 98 cents!

Dick Tracy 1930 Strip #9



Jon Lisota: *Motor Medic*



The tech. talk was held Nov. 12th. at Jon's garage. We had a transmission set up to show the gears and the throw out bearing and the universal joint. We also had one set up on a test stand, so that we could check and see if any of the gears made any noises. This also included bearing noise. Bob Steinmetz also brought two transmissions to put on the test stand to check. Going through several gears and bearings and we still had noise. We did get it narrowed down to a cluster gear and the second gear. Bob is now looking for replacement gears. Bob also brought his two front brake drums, so that we could demonstrate the swedging process of the studs. This process rivets the brake drum and the wheel hub together. Welding the studs in, instead of swedging is not the right thing to do. This will throw the assembly out of balance and does not fuse the two pieces together. Jon had new swedging tools made up by Tim Botts. These are much better than the ones sold at the parts houses. The holding fixture steel was supplied by Chuck Fritz. So any one needing hub work, the tools are available. Bob then had Jon put the drums on his brake lathe and turned them to true them up. One was in excellent shape and one, took a minimal cut. The turn out was excellent as always. I hope everybody learned something about trans and hubs and drums.

Jon

Christmas Past

Christmas Past On the Serviss side.

On the right is my Grandfather Edward Jouris around 1910. Note the department store number on the front of the sleigh.



This is Ed Jouris my mom's dad in 1938. He played Santa for many families most of his adult life. He tried playing Santa for us on Christmas day a few times but he enjoyed it so much that his laugh always gave him away.

Nancy Verbeeren / Serviss at the age of 6 and her brother Joe on a very happy Santa's lap.



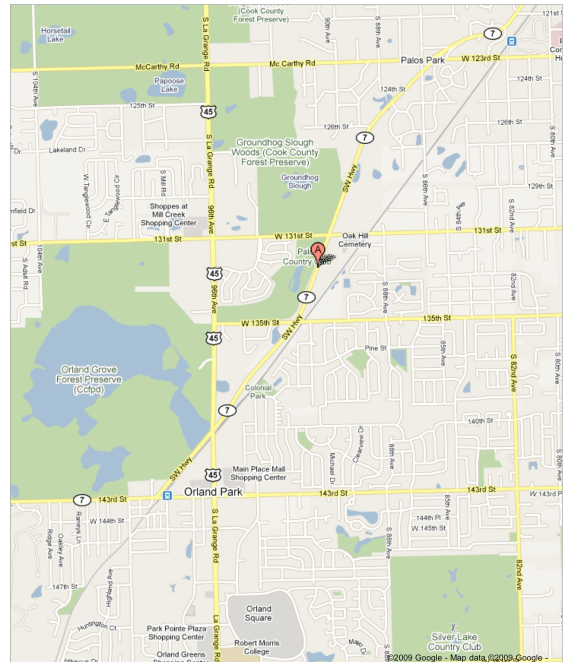
My sister and I from Christmas 1964.



For next month either bring your picture as a child at Christmas or during the Holiday season to the next meeting or Email it to me (which I prefer) and I will publish it. I will give it a number next to the picture and let's see who can identify our members as children. To the members who are still children this means a picture before the age of 10 or so.



December 6th toy run. Meet at the warehouse at 12:30.
13255 Southwest Highway



December 4 | 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Holiday Lights in Homewood



homesweethomewood.com



Holiday Lights In Homewood

Friday, December 04, 2009

A winter wonderland of shopping fun in Homewood's charming downtown. Elegant trolleys will travel shoppers to unique stores, boutiques, and restaurants filled with gifts and recipes not found in any mall. This event is held in conjunction with the annual tree lighting ceremony! **We will escort Santa to the park.**



Crete Parade of Lights

Saturday December 5th



Line up begins at 5:30 PM on Crete Boulevard. All entries should be lighted and have a Christmas theme Please do not use a Santa Claus theme as Santa is our guest of honor and will be riding at the end of the parade for safety reasons, entrants are not allowed to throw candy. If you would like to make a candy donation, it will be handed out with Santa



Sunday December 6th as many cars as we can get.

CHILDREN OF SOLDIERS EVENT in December where we will help the **Toy Box Connection** deliver wrapped, new toys to soldiers' children as well as having them enjoy some milk & cookies with Santa!!! How can we not show our soldiers the support they deserve - bringing joy to their children in turn will bring them joy while they serve overseas!!!

More information on page 5.



Wed December 9th

A's R Us Holiday party

Beggars pizza 15600 S Cicero, Oak Forest 6:00pm

Bring a gift labeled Guy or Gal \$20.00 limit

At the suggestion of members we will publish the minutes and try to only accept with or without changes to facilitate the meeting.

**November 18, 2009
A'S r Us Meeting Minutes**

Meeting location: Home of Tim & Connie Borchert
Call to Order: 7:05 pm

President Chuck Fritz called the meeting to order. Minutes from last month's meeting were read. Wally motioned to accept, 2nd by Bob Steinmetz.

TREASURERS REPORT: Reported and available for viewing on the meeting nights.

MEMBER NEWS:

1. The Senkpeils welcomed their new granddaughter Sophia Rose, born 11/3/09.
2. Jon Lisota is ill with pneumonia.
3. Matt Kalivoda, son of Marlene Krygowski, nephew to Bob Steinmetz will undergo quadruple by-pass surgery this week. Please keep all in prayer.
4. Jonathon Parker, grandson of Bob Steinmetz is doing well after an emergency surgery, which revealed a benign mass in his abdomen.
5. Bob Steinmetz is doing well after some medical concerns this fall.

OLD BUSINESS:

CHRISTMAS PARTY: Date is set for Wednesday December 9th. Beggars Pizza located at 15600 S Cicero in Oak Forest. Bob Granko Jr. explained the grab bag game to our new members.

BREAKFAST CLUB: Nov. 28th 8:30 am to discuss Drivin the Dixie.

TECH NITE: A great tech night with 17 in attendance. 6 transmissions were torn apart.

BANQUET: Bob Rodriguez presented 3 different menu selections. WE will revisit this next meeting. We will discuss cost at next mtg.

DRIVIN THE DIXIE: Nothing new to report. Chuck stated in order for us to remain on target, we need the villages input no later than 12/31. Wally to call Elaine, and also suggested a meeting to discuss. Those interested, meeting will be 11/28/09 at the Peachtree.

2010 Board Elections: Our nominating committee has received recommendations for the following:

President: Chuck Fritz **Treasurer:** Jim Wright

Vice Prez: Tim Botts **Secretary:** Dale Chamis

Election will take place at our December meeting. Further nominations; call Bob Steinmetz or Wally Ekstrom.

NFPO: It was decided to resume discussion about expanding donations to more charitable organizations until after the New Year. In talking with Camp Quality, they are unable to accept monetary donations.

NEW BUSINESS/UPCOMING EVENTS:

12. Phil talked about another possible A-Team event, "The Toy Box". Cars are needed to assist in delivering Christmas presents to needy families. Date is Friday December 6th. Phil will get details to Joe, who will send out email.
13. Homewood Light Up for Christmas Parade: December 4th lineup at 5:30 on Crete Blvd. We will lead the fire truck and Santa. After the parade, cars will be displayed with an award for best decorated.

1. **Crete Holiday Parade- Saturday December 5th.** Line -up is 5:30 pm; AsRUs is officially registered participants. Warm-up prior to the parade at the Thornburgs! After the parade, we will meet at Aurelio's for pizza. Remember, no Santa's or extension cords!!!!
2. **Dec 10th at 6:30 pm Jim Wright** will be at the Crete Library promoting Dixie Highway.
3. **MEETING LOCATIONS FOR 2010:** Wally suggested having a "permanent meeting place as to not inconvenience our members. Bob said he would provide his garage in Frankfort for the summer months; Steve Coe said we could also use the meeting room at the Park Forest Police Station. Wally also suggested using the Crete Township Hall, which he will secure for our February meeting. January meeting will be at Park Forest Police Station.
4. **Shakedown Cruise:** Date is set for April 17th 2010 with Tim Borchert and Chuck Fritz as tour guides.
5. **Spring Trip:** April 30, May 1st & 2nd, suggestion was to Galena. Bob and Wally will be our tour guides.
6. **Morton Arboretum Picnic:** Sunday August 15th. Details to come at a later date.
7. **Fall Trip:** Tentative dates for Oct. 8, 9 & 10. Route discussed would be Rt 66 toward Danville.
8. **Monee Senior Center:** Phil will get some available dates for our group to visit the Monee Senior Center, showing our cars and perhaps taking some residents for rides.
9. **Veterans Center:** Jim Wright will contact for some dates perhaps in May.
10. **Crete Mural Project:** Wally brought some candles as fund raisers to help defer cost to the Crete Mural Project.
11. **Dixie T-Shirts:** Bob S. received some t-shirts that were designed for Dixie Dash.

No split the pot or badge fines for November. December meeting to be at Beggars in Oak Forest

Next Meeting Wednesday December 9th. Beggars Pizza located at 15600 S Cicero in Oak Forest.

Coconut Grove Club



*Your ticket to a night out with your sweetheart! Enjoy fine cuisine, entertainment and friends.
Saturday, February 20th 2010*

Up Coming Calendar of 2009 Events

Friday December 4th: Homewood Lighting of the Christmas tree 5:30 pm.

Saturday December 5th: Crete Christmas parade 5:30 pm

Sunday December 6th: Toy box Connection present delivery to Darien military armory. 12:30 at the warehouse 13255 SW Highway Orland Park

Wednesday December 9th: Christmas party Beggars Pizza in Oak forest **6:00 PM**

Thursday Dec 10th at 6:30 pm Jim Wright will be at the Crete Library promoting Dixie Highway. This is a nice picture presentation.



February 20th 2010: Spring Banquet

Sunday Brunch at Mill Race Inn: Chuck suggested a brunch here, located on Rt. 31 along the river and a tour of the Morton Arboretum. Date to be announced

April 17th : Shakedown Cruise

April 30, May 1st & 2nd : Spring Trip

Sunday August 15th : Morton Arboretum Picnic

November 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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December 2009

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January 2010

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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

A's R Us officers and Staff

President – Chuck Fritz Vice President – Jim Wright Treasure – Tim Dionne Secretary – Dale Chamis

Member relations – Joe Krygowski Web Page – Joe Krygowski Newsletter – Phillip Serviss

Parade Coordinator – Wally Ekstrom Director of Safety – Ron Bonneau

Nat'l Rep. – Marlene Krygowski Historian – Tim Bolz

Sgt. At Arms Steve Coe Motor Medic - Jon Lisota

Banquet Queen – Robin Rodriguez



Diablo wishes everyone a joyous Holiday Season

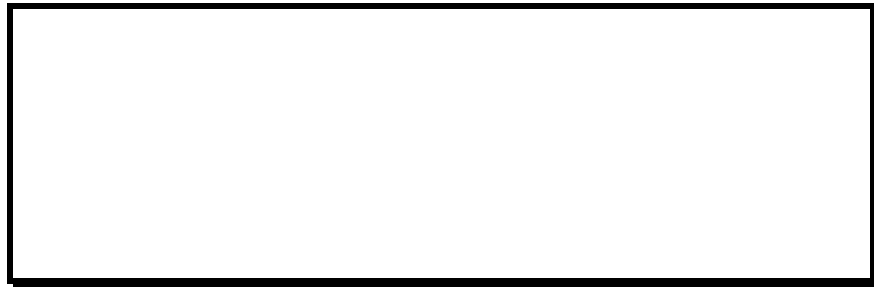
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