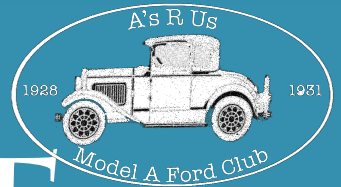


Milwaukee, WI. 10/10/2009



# BACKFIRE

Chicago Southland Chapter, Model A Ford Club of America



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

<http://asrus.homestead.com>

## We did it!

My thanks goes to every member of the club that embarked on the trip to the "Cream City"; Milwaukee Wisconsin. You knew it was the color of the brick and not the beer. And yes a few beers were taste tested. My fears of driving the Chicago traffic and having problems were quickly put to rest. Everyone kept with the flow of traffic, avoided red light cameras and in a couple short hours we were in Evanston. It seems that everyone had a great time and we may have to return to the venue again in the future. Now we are in the final months of activities as you will see on the calendar and it will be a busy December. Yes I included December

activities in this addition.

*Phil*

**Header Picture:** Club cars in front of the Frederick Pabst mansion built in 1890-1893. 18 members cars were in Milwaukee for the weekend.



*The Carp  
Editor in Chief*

### Inside this Months Issue:

- Milwaukee Wisconsin
- Jim's Dixie History
- Lisota's Garage tech talk
- Meeting synopsis
- December activities schedule

More inside!

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# DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

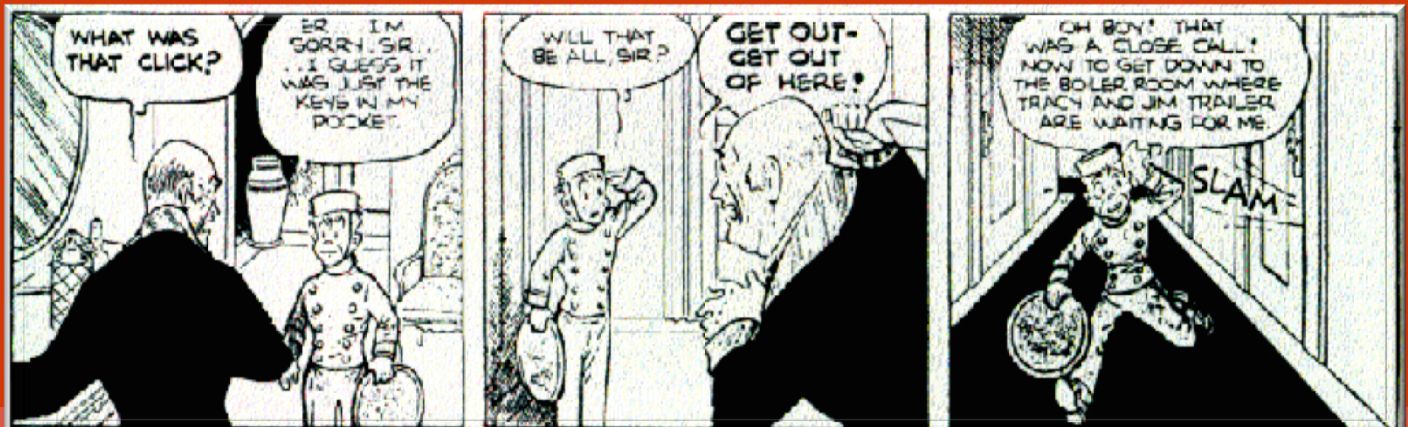
By Jim Wright

In April 1924, Sears Roebuck and Company established its own radio broadcasting station under the call



letters WLS (World's Largest Store). For a time, the station broadcast out of studios at the Sears headquarters near downtown Chicago. The radio station quickly became a success and, in the spring of 1925, Sears purchased 4 acres on the Dixie Highway just south of Crete to erect powerful transmission towers. The towers and a station building broadcast the WLS radio signal until 1938, when the transmitting facilities and tower were moved to Tinley Park near the intersection of I-80 and Route 45 where they remain today. For years the old station building served as an office for a trailer park. The building has since been demolished and the acreage once owned by WLS is now a part of Queens Estate Trailer Park.

## Dick Tracy 1930 Strip #8



# Jon Lisota: *Motor Medic*



Well, lets go over the last trip.

On our fall tour, we had 16 Model A's. You would think the fellows or I would have been busy. But not so. We had to change out one carburetor, and one alternator. But the biggest problem was when one of the guys lost their transmission. This called for the trailer to be towed home.

Their young sons went home with the car on Sunday morning. Before we got to the state line the boys were home and had the transmission out of the car and ready to be trouble shooted. Within a couple hours they also had the transmission apart and diagnosed as to what the failure was. It sure is nice to see some young people involved this much with the model A's.

We all had a great time on the trip to Milwaukee. But a few of us got the cough and such after getting home. On Dec. 12th we will have a tech talk at my garage, and we will dig into the workings of the transmission. We will have a couple to work on and will use the test stand, to make sure we don't end up with any howlers. Hope to see you all there.

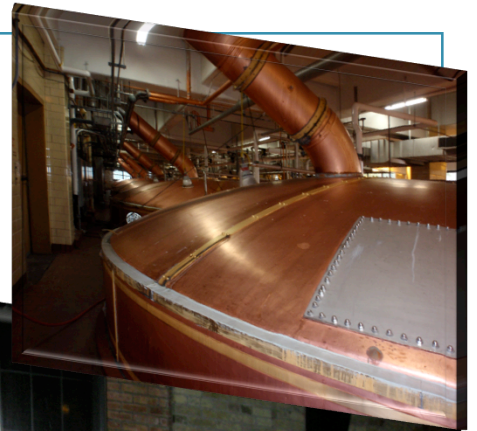
*Jon*







Milwaukee





# Destination Milwaukee WI.

Well the decision was made to try an urban trip and we were going to go right up Western Avenue for almost 40 miles thru Chicago. Destination; Milwaukee Wisconsin. WSJ Tours laid the ground rules out at breakfast that any radio traffic will not include we are stuck at a stoplight. We should have had a contest to see how many traffic lights there were between Homewood and Evanston. The first group took off from breakfast around 8:30am in a nice steady rain, with a brief stop at the Homewood city hall to pick-up T-shirts given to us by Mayor Hofeld after his personal sendoff at breakfast. Unfortunately when we left the restaurant a traffic light caught our motor medic who would have been the last in line. Jon lost sight of us and unknowingly passed the whole group one block over. Needless to say every time Jon called me

on the phone asking where we were I told him "a few blocks ahead of him and he'll catch up soon". Upon our arrival into Blue Island Nancy and I stayed behind to pick up the Northern group. Soon they arrived from their breakfast gathering in Alsip. Claude & Nancy's boys were with us again and decided to install an air horn into their parent's car. It definitely got my attention! My Nancy then passed out the trip books and off we went. When we left Blue Island I checked in with Jim and he was already more than 30 blocks (4 miles) ahead of us. I checked in with Jon on his phone because I couldn't raise him on the radio. I assumed that he passed us without stopping and let him know we were behind him now and not to wait for us. He questioned how he missed us and I told

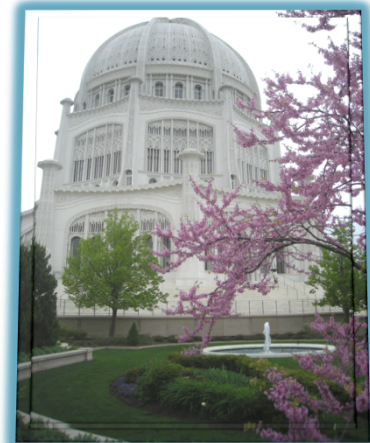


*Kathrine Extrom, John Beele,  
Richard Hofeld, Jim Wright*

him he must not have seen me in the Jewel parking lot and keep going. Of course I didn't know that he was 2 miles ahead of our leader thinking he would catch-up soon to the group. The trip up Western Ave was quite busy with all the questions

at stoplights from other drivers and waving and honking. 2 hours later Jim pulled the lead group over in Evanston to accumulate the last group that I was in and we would go to the Bahia temple together.

Hearing the radio traffic for the first time in over 2 hours Jon called me again and asked where we were and I told him everyone is pulled over and he should see us. His response was "pulled over where! I'm at the temple!" The group made its way to the Bahia Temple to meet Jon who did a fine job scouting the way for the club. We all had a rest stop, tour and conversion and now it was time to head up Sheridan Road to see miles and miles of fabulous homes.



The cars were only spread out over a mile or so now and we were making quite a hit with everyone we passed. Before you knew it we were at the lunch destination. Thank goodness. You know we couldn't go much father without eating! After lunch we took off again and our cars ended up in two units the rest of the way. We arrived in Milwaukee around 4:30 in good shape with no breakdowns.





**T**he Ambassador Hotel was beyond expiations! Remodeled 3 years ago back to the original 1927 art deco décor. The rooms were quiet, large and more like apartment suites rather than hotel rooms.

Paul and Sandy Hankowitz who were original members of the club met us at the hotel and joined us for the weekend as they now live in Wisconsin. The Hotel provided transportation to the Lakeside Brewery for dinner and dancing then picked us up when we were done.

Saturday morning we walked to the local dinner and as usual were well fed. We toured the Fredrick Pabst Mansion. What a save on the Milwaukee Historical Society's part. Absolutely fabulous! On the way out we were able to take a few pictures of the cars in front. Now with no time to waste we were off to the Miller Brewery for a tour. After the hour factory tour we were escorted into the final destination: The Miller Hospitality Bar! Cheers!

The rest of the day we were on our own to tour what we wanted. Some went to the Harley Davidson museum,

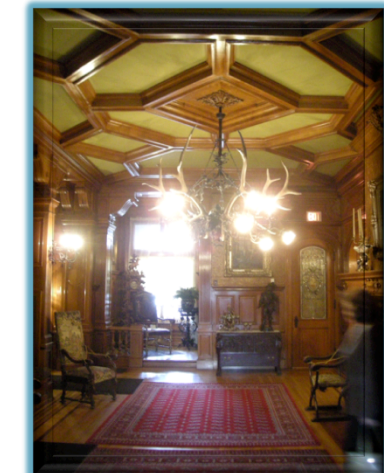


Steve Coe, Chuck and Linnea Fritz

Art Museum and the Milwaukee Museum. Others went on a car ride up the lakeshore.

We met for dinner at the Hotel restaurant and Phil Serviss won for the best dressed in his 1930's suit. Congratulations! O.K. as you guessed I was the only one dressed in my 1930's clothing. I did make quite a hit with the Bride in her 30's gown having her reception at the hotel.

After dinner for some it was off to the river front walk and others of us waited in the bar for their return.



Fourier of the Pabst mansion

Sunday morning it was time to head back south. The

sun was up and what a beautiful trip it was back to



The Carp!

Chicago. As we entered the city "downtown" on Michigan Avenue we were quite a hit with the thousands of people there for the Chicago Marathon. Our horns echoed off the concrete canyon walls as people were taking pictures and waving hello. We turned on Randolph and headed south on State Street and after an hour we finally made it to our destination, Connie's Pizza on Archer Avenue. After the good byes the club headed south with club members peeling off toward their homes sounding their horns in a final farewell.

**The Fonz**



*Phil*







## 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 5<sup>th</sup>



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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 to follow as soon as we receive it.**



## Wed December 9<sup>th</sup>

**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**



**Next Meeting Wednesday November 18<sup>th</sup> Tim And Connie Borchert's home.**

**22547 North pebble Court Frankfort, IL.60423**

**October Meeting** was at Wally and Kays home in Crete. Prior to the "official meeting", guests dined on scrumptious chili, accompanied with succulent hot dogs served up by grill master Wally Eckstrom. Thanks to our chili cooks....Chuck Fritz, Al Kaleta, Marlene Krygowski, and Tim Botts. Charter A's member Charlie Jenkins surprised many with a "drive by" appearance. The meeting was adjourned quickly so that we could begin our auction. A big thank you to Henry our auctioneer. Just about everything went, and the club has a few more bucks in the treasury.

**MEMBER NEWS:**

1. The Senkpeils welcomed 2 new granddaughters: Caitlyn Marie and Avery Laura, who arrived 2 weeks ahead of schedule. Another granddaughter will make her debut November 3<sup>rd</sup>.
2. Brittany Granko has received a \$10k scholarship for Lewis University.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY:** Date is set for Wednesday December 9<sup>th</sup>. Beggars Pizza located at 15600 S Cicero in Oak Forest. We have added the additional hour, giving us 3 hours for our event.

**BREAKFAST CLUB:** : Next meeting is scheduled for November 7<sup>th</sup> at the Peachtree Restaurant RT 30 & Gov's Hwy.

**CLUB DUES/MAFCA:** Dues were due tonight, however deadline has been extended to November 1<sup>st</sup>. Please send your check for \$60, and "green card" to Tim or Mail to our post office box.

**BANQUET:** Bob Rodriguez presented 3 different menu selections. WE will revisit this next meeting. Date is set for Feb 20<sup>th</sup> 2010.

**Nominations for Officers** - Bob noted the need for a nominating committee for next year's board, with nominations being taken at our November meeting. A suggestion was made to keep the current board in place; however this must be put to vote by the nominating committee of Bob & Wally.

# Coconut Grove Club



*Your ticket to a night out with your sweetheart! Enjoy fine cuisine, entertainment and friends.*

*Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup> 2010*

## Up Coming Calendar of 2009 Events

**October 27<sup>th</sup>: Matt Lipman Recital.** The recital at Crete-Monee High School (the beautiful new one) will be at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, the 27th of October. Enter in the middle door of the circle drive, by the Milton Payton Auditorium. There will be no screaming students, this is a mostly adult event and they for the most part behave. This is truly a jaw-dropping recital. Matt Lipman is the young man and he will perform solo and then with his award-winning quartet. It is totally free and it is awesome! We all need a little culture once and awhile.

**Wednesday November 18<sup>th</sup>: Meeting at the Borcherts Home 7:00pm.**

**Friday December 4<sup>th</sup>: Homewood Lighting of the Christmas tree 5:30 pm.**

**Saturday December 5<sup>th</sup>: Crete Christmas parade 5:30 pm**

**Sunday December 6<sup>th</sup>: Toy box Connection present delivery to Darien military armory.**

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



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

**February 20<sup>th</sup> 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**

**BALMORAL SUNDAY BUFFET** — this will be tabled until sometime next year.

**October 2009**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	<b>21</b>	22	23	24
25	26	<b>27</b>	28	29	30	31

**November 2009**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	<b>10</b>	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	<b>18</b>	19	20	21
<b>22</b>	23	24	25	<b>26</b>	27	28
29	30					

**December 2009**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	7	8	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	<b>24</b>	25	26
27	28	29	30	<b>31</b>		



# A's R Us officers and Staff

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

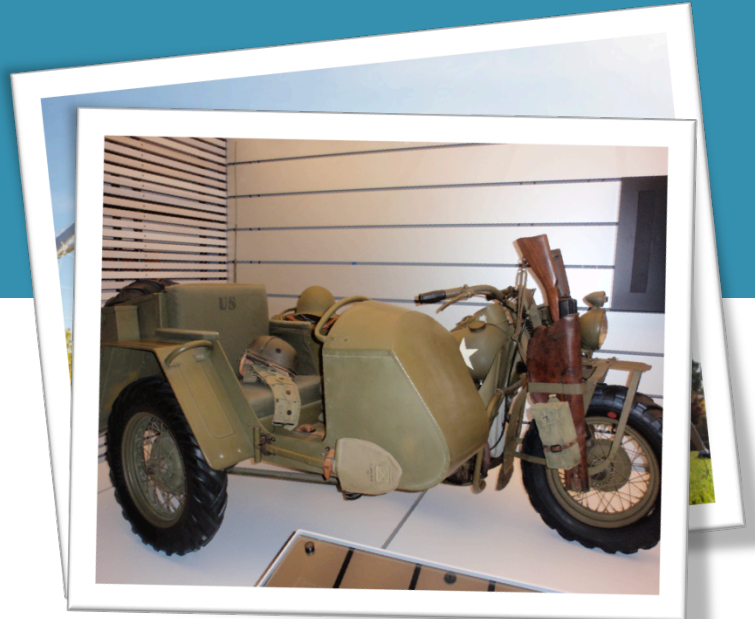
Member relations – Joe Krygowski Web Page – Joe Krygowski Newsletter – Phillip Serviss

Parade Coordinator – Wally Ekstrom Director of Safety – Ron Bonneau

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

Sgt. At Arms Steve Coe Motor Medic - Jon Lisota

Banquet Queen – Robin Rodriguez



Harley Davidson museum,  
Milwaukee, WI.

Please send **Backfire** articles or items of interest to:

Phillip Serviss

220 Poplar Lane

Beecher, IL 60401

E Mail to: [taxserviss@att.net](mailto:taxserviss@att.net)

**BACKFIRE**

P.O. Box 3

Crete, Illinois 60417

