

BACKFIRE

Chicago Southland Chapter, Model A Ford Club of America

VOLUME 15

ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2010

<http://www.drivingthedixie.com>

<http://asrus.homestead.com>

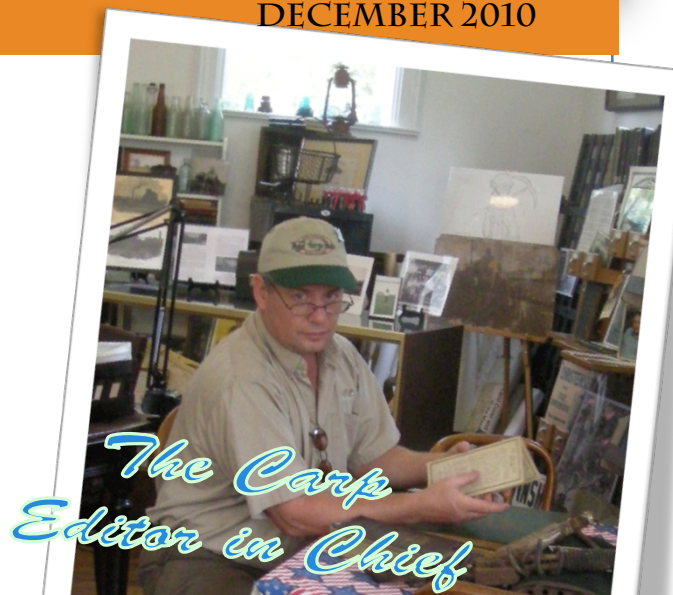
Merry Christmas!

Here we are coming into the Christmas season at full bore. As the parade week starts for the Christmas parades it looks like snow will be upon us. I hope that the Homewood and Crete events go off without a hitch and that Santa will wait for the cars this year in Homewood. Have fun and send in your pictures, as I will be in station this weekend. If you need me just call 911. I will see you at the party on Wednesday.

Phil

Header Picture:

A's Members in front of the Vermillion Co. Historical Society



*The Carp
Editor in Chief*

Inside this Months Issue:

- Meeting synopsis
- Jim's Dixie History
- More pictures from the fall trip with Marlene having the last word

Important must
read!

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DRIVING THE "DIXIE" OCTOBER 8,9,10



The pictures on the next few pages are in no particular order. A rarity tho is having a picture of me as I usually take the pictures. So here I am with Nancy and my parents in Hoopeston, IL.

Thanks to Joe K for additional picts.



Jim Wright at Chicago Hts. giving directions and "Great Expectations" for the day ahead "Driving the Dixie"



← Rossville, IL.



← Hoopeston, IL.

Danville, IL.



Papineau, IL. ↓





Danville, IL veterans home. ↑





Watseka, IL for a movie and dinner and then the last leg home.

Last word from Marlene:

Sunday's ride home was beautiful with bright sun and changing colors on the trees. In Watseka an art deco movie theatre has been fully and wonderfully restored. We were welcomed there with our name on the marquee. The owner, Chuck Gomez, is a native of Harvey, IL. He gave us some history of the theatre and then invited us from the lobby to the theatre itself. We saw some very old film clips of car commercials, and finally a full presentation of the movie, "The Long, Long Trailer" with Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz. It's amazing how funny that movie still plays. I believe it was made around 1954. It was great to hear such laughter from the group. We were treated to a wonderful dinner and dessert after the movie. We thanked Chuck for his hospitality and then it was time to get back on the road.

A visit to St. Mary's Church in Beaverville is always a must stop. Some of us had not visited the church before. It's amazing to see how beautifully restored the interior is now. Our first visit a few year's ago we were met with scaffolding, peeling paint, and a church in dire need of help. The ceiling itself is a work of art. The stained glass windows are beyond description. We got a little closer to home and Bob's car started backfiring and he ultimately had to pull over. Seems the carburetor had decided to cause trouble. It was changed out and off we went.

It's always good when you can end a trip at Buddy's in Beecher. More ice cream, sodas, sundaes, bratwurst and on and on. We said our goodbyes and headed off, as usual, in an assortment of directions.

Mar

DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright



Watseka, the county seat of Iroquois County, lies at the confluence of the Iroquois River and Sugar Creek. Flooding has always been a problem in Watseka, particularly near the intersection of Routes 1 and 24, both of which follow Walnut Street - the Dixie Highway - through downtown Watseka. In this October 1926 view, courageous motorists attempt to ford the floodwaters and travel west through the intersection. At this time, U.S. Route 24 was known as Illinois Route 8. Similar flooding occurred in 2008, which closed the intersection for several days that year.

**A's R Us Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2010**

Meeting Location: Home of Ken & Dale Chamis
Call to Order: 7:05 pm

Meeting was called to order by President Chuck Fritz. Thank you Ken & Dale for opening up their home. Minutes were read and approved. Motion to accept by Jon Lisota, 2nd by Sandy Kaleta.

Member News: No news is good news!!! Everyone is well. Happy Birthday to Herman yesterday.

Treasurers Report was read by Jim Wright. Motion to accept.

TECH TALK: Joe did a speed – ometer demonstration. Key switch, body work.

DRIVING THE DIXIE: Date has been set for next year, and another meeting will be Thursday Dec 2nd, 7:00 pm. Chicago Heights Union St. Gallery. 1527 Otto Blvd. Positive comments from this year's event.

PICNIC: Highland Club submitted their portion of expenses. Subject is now closed.

VETERANS HOME: Chuck read a thank you letter from the Veterans Home in Manteno thanking us for our visit back in June. The photos of the vets with the cars were very much appreciated and have invited us back next year.

MODEL A FORD FOUNDATION: Chuck read a letter from the foundation regarding raffle tickets for a 1930 Tudor. Ground has been broken for the new museum.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

HOMEWOOD CHRISTMAS PARADE: Friday December 3rd, 2010. 6:30 -6:45 line-up. Joe K will send out information via email.

CRETE COUNTRY CHRISTMAS: December 4th. 5:30 line-up; 6:30 parade. 6:40 at Aurelio's for pizza. Thornburg's have graciously opened their home for ourd'ourves prior to start of parade. The club will not be funding our dinner.

TECH TALK: Ken suggests a mini tech talk after the meeting.

CHRISTMAS PARTY: Our Christmas Party will be held December 8th at Beggars Pizza in New Lenox. 6:30 start time. \$20 grab bag. Officer elections will be held that night as well. Anyone attending, please pre-pay Jim Wright tonight. Bob Steinmetz motioned members pay \$10 per person, and club picks up the balance. Club will pay full cost of any kids attending. This has been past practice and will continue.

SPRING TRIP: Date is set for the weekend of May 13th, 14th and 15th. A block of rooms has been reserved for us. Sunset Hotel in Allegan Michigan. Destination: Holland Michigan for the Tulip Festival.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: There was an overwhelming response for the new board. Tim Botts has graciously accepted nomination for Presidency; Tim Borchert for Vice President; Jim Wright for Treasurer; Sandy Kaleta has agreed take secretary.

OPEN DISCUSSION: Tim Botts family is active with the Ronald McDonald House, and they are accepting donations for the Ronald McDonald House. Household items. Anyone wishing to bring items may bring them to the Christmas Party. Joe K will send out an email. Dale made a motion to make a donation to purchase items. After a discussion regarding the budget, a vote was taken to approve.

SHAKE DOWN CRUISE: Talked about a new idea for the club. Would like to test it out on the shakedown cruise. This has to do with speedometers. This is a potential fundraiser.

RADIOS: Phil will have 3 radios for sale. Cost is \$50. The batteries are brand new. Some of the proceeds will go to Nik Chamis for his repair work for us. Phil will put information in the BackFire.

BUDGET: Budget will be presented at our January meeting.

JANUARY MEETING: Chuck will talk with Steve Coe to see if we can meet at Park Forest.

Meeting was adjourned.

SPLIT THE POT: \$38 to Bob Granko Jr.

DECEMBER 8TH CHRISTMAS PARTY BEGGARS PIZZA NEW LENOX

Please Join Us Again!



Holiday Lights in Homewood Friday, December 3



Arrive at Irwin Park by 7 p.m. for the tree lighting.
Park your car along Ridge Road, south side.
At 7:30 p.m., lead the holiday parade to Hickory Road
for Homewood's very own Christkindlmarket.
Park your car along Hickory Road and compete for
best holiday car. Winner receives a gift certificate
for an evening out in charming downtown Homewood.

For event details, call the Village of Homewood
at (708) 206-3375.

Legend

- Merchant Open House (throughout)
- Trolley Stop (throughout)
- Tree Lighting Location (Irwin Park)
- Visit Santa and costumed characters (Irwin Park and Hickory Road)
- Ice Sculpting Demonstrations (Hickory Road)
- Antique Car Parade (Irwin Park to Hickory Road)
- Outdoor Market (Hickory Road)
- Bonfire (Hickory Road)
- Free Public Parking



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Up and coming meeting locations: Dec: 6:30 Beggars Pizza, New Lenox, IL.

Up Coming Calendar of 2010 Events

Friday Dec 3rd: The Homewood, Illinois Holiday Lights Parade is **Friday, December 3, 2010**. We will line up like we did last year in the bank parking lot on the south side of Chestnut Road just west of Dixie Highway across from the Homewood Village Hall. Suggest cars line up about 6:30 pm. At 7:00 pm, we will lead the fire trucks carrying Santa to Irwin Park. From there we will parade over to Independence Park where there will be ice sculpting, entertainment, food etc. The cars will be on display and citizens will vote for the best decorated vehicle and a prize will be given.

Saturday Dec 4th: Line up starts at 5:30 pm on Crete Boulevard east of Dixie Hwy. and we are asked to enter off Burville Rd. which is one block South of Crete Boulevard.

Bill & Linda Thornburg's House is again open to us as in years past. After the parade we will meet at Aurelio's for pizza.

Wednesday December 8th: Christmas Party, Beggars Pizza in New Lenox

Wednesday, January 19th: Meeting location to be announced

Call Phil:

3 Motorola Radios w/new batteries and chargers 50\$

5lb commercial ABC fire extinguishers w/hanger for car or home \$10 all moneys go to the club

December 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

January 2011

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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

A's R Us officers and Staff

President – Chuck Fritz Vice President – Tim Botts Treasure – Jim Wright 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 Botts

Sgt. At Arms Steve Coe

Motor Medic - Jon Lisota

Banquet Queen – Robin Rodriguez

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

E Mail to: taxserviss@att.net

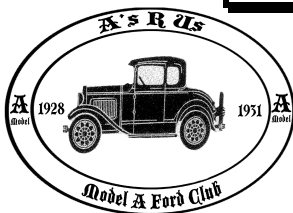
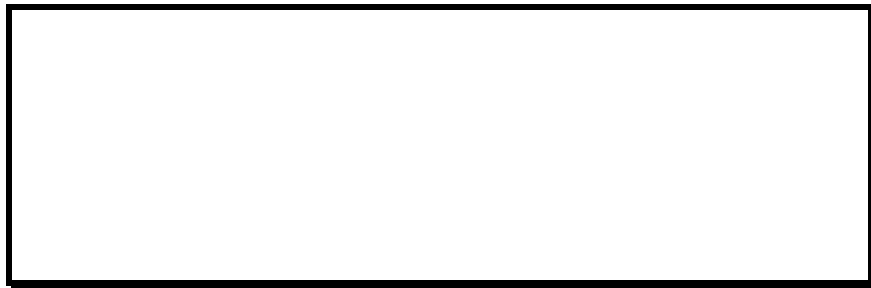
Fire up the chuck wagon!



BACKFIRE

P.O. Box 3

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Mail To: