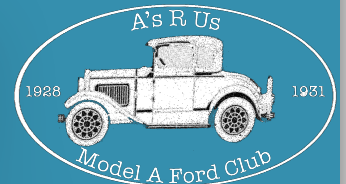




BACKFIRE



Chicago Southland Chapter, Model A Ford Club of America

VOLUME 15

ISSUE 6

JUNE 2010

<http://www.drivingthedixie.com>
<http://asrus.homestead.com>

“Driving the Dixie”

Our 10th year of “**Driving the Dixie**” is upon us. We will need a little help from everyone and we can all enjoy the day. We again hope to have 150+ cars again on the road and many thousands enjoying the events in the towns along the 50 miles from Blue Island to Momence. Many club members have the event preparations done and are ready to go. Because of some technical glitches this month there are no minutes and articles from the Paulson’s and our Pres. See you soon,

Header Picture:

A new main crank for our hill climb champ! AL Kaleta

Phil

*The Carp
Editor in Chief*

Inside this Months Issue:

- Jim’s Dixie History
- Meeting synopsis
- Motor Medic
- Spring trip

More inside!

Pg. 2

DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright



Perhaps, no one person was more

influential in seeing to the construction of the Dixie Highway in Vermilion and Iroquois Counties in Illinois than was Joseph G. ("Uncle Joe")

Cannon. Cannon was a United States Congressman from Danville, Illinois and leader of the Republican Party. He is pictured here, second to the left, with a group of other prominent Danville citizens in front of the city's Elk's Club on the Dixie Highway. In July 1915, he ceremoniously turned the first shovelful of dirt signifying the start of improvements on the Dixie Highway in Illinois at Watseka. Cannon served as Speaker of the United States House of Representatives from 1903 to 1911, and historians generally consider him to be the most dominant Speaker in United States history, with such control over the House that he could often control debate. Cannon is the second-longest continuously serving Republican Speaker in history, having been surpassed by fellow Illinoisan Dennis Hastert, who passed him on June 1, 2006. He was also the first Congressman to surpass 40 years of service (non-consecutive), ending his career with 48 years of cumulative congressional service, a record that held until 1958. He also appeared on the cover of the premier issue of *Time* magazine in 1923.

Danville, IL Fall Reservations

"Driving the Dixie"

Est. 1915



June 19th, 2010

*Starting in Blue Island, IL. Sign-up Starting at 8:00 am

*Mail \$10.00 by June 14th / to:

AsRUS @ PO box 3 Crete, IL 60417

*\$15 the day of the event. You must start in Blue Island, IL to get the official passport for raffle prizes.

*Lunch provided by The Village of Steger, IL.

*Raffle prizes given away in Mokena, IL.

*Many of the towns will have activities and Historical interpretations.

*Drive at your leisure and learn the history of the towns along the Dixie Highway!

*More information @ <http://www.drivingthedixie.com>

Reserve now for the trip down the Exciting Dixie Highway!

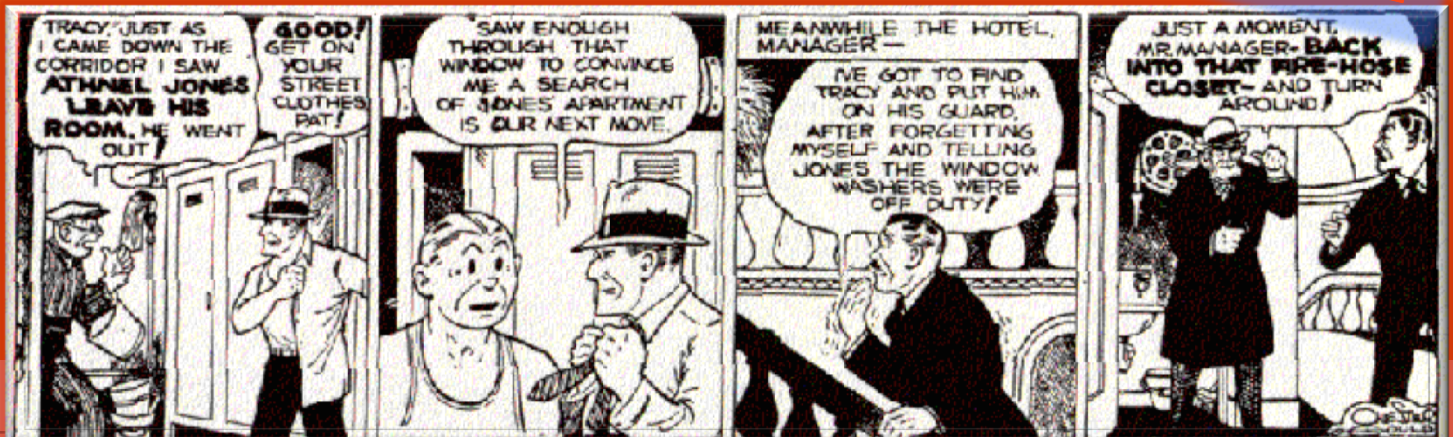
Days Inn
77 N. Gilbert Street
Danville, IL 61832
217-443-6600

21 rooms Blocked under name
A's R Us for October 8 and 9,
2010

Mixed King and Double/Double
rooms all at \$73.99 plus tax per
night.



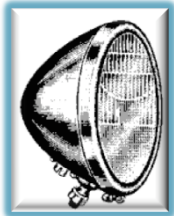
Dick Tracy 1930 strip #15



Jon Lisota: Motor Medic



Revisit Bob's Garage



Visible Light Wave
Emitter and focusing Module



Visible light
radiation device

Note from the Editor: In a effort to clarify the aim of the workshop from last month, Remember that in the inspection stage the parabolic nuances' of the lens, it must have a refraction rate equivalent to but not exciding the US DOT and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration with a legislative mandate under Title 49 of the United States Code, Chapter 301, Motor Vehicle Safety, to issue Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) and Regulations to which manufacturers of motor vehicle and equipment items must conform and certify compliance to standard 108.

Note from Jon: Keep your headlights clean!

The Ekstrom's 1931 Victoria has been used for an on-line web site called the

"Pink Slip Boutique"

The Girls look great!



SPRING TRIP TO GALENA 2010

The weather gods were smiling upon us this day. Thirty-one people hit the road west bound for breakfast at Anthony's in Lockport, IL. What an assortment of cars. But there was one very beautiful deep cranberry red four-door truck with shining wood trim that greeted all who entered the parking lot. Could it possibly belong to Kirk and Travis! More will be told about that little beauty coming soon.



There was the usual mayhem during breakfast and an equal amount as we lined up leaving the parking lot. After such a long winter everyone was just glad to get out of town. Of course, you always wonder what will occur on a three-day trip. We didn't have to wait too long to find out. Al Kaleta's car affectionately called "Old Red" appeared to be overly thirsty so soon into the trip. Since we all carry extra water that was an easy fix. Feeling neglected,

Ken & Dale's car decided it needed a little attention so we pulled over again and that little issue was quickly overcome. However, Ken McNeeley's car decided it wasn't going to start or go any farther at that particular moment. It was too soon for wine and cheese so we all left poor Ken and Arlene. Claude Poulsen and Nancy stayed behind to check on the ailing car. Everything got checked, electrical, condenser, coil, distributor and a whole lot more but all of a sudden the car felt better with no change in parts and started right up. Didn't take long for everyone to catch up with each other.



The weather gods decided it should be a sunny but very windy day after all, we literally blew into Amboy, IL park for lunch. Bob & Penny Steinmetz and Wally & Kay Ekstrom had planned a picnic lunch. Bob got out his toolbox sized grill and with the assistance of Tim Dionne began grilling hot dogs. About that time, Wally and Kay pulled in with about 10 to 12 feet of Sub Sandwiches. We had chips and all the things that make a picnic great. Holding the paper plates down was beginning to be the

challenge but it was great fun. The comfort house facilities at the park were very convenient so all was well. It was time to get back on the road again. Well almost, Old Red started getting overly thirsty again and was getting steamed over the whole situation. Some cars just like a little attention, besides it hadn't traveled that far before.

As the afternoon wore on the weather gods decided to not only blow like heck but added some rain and tornado warnings for good measure. All of this began about the time Bob



was leading us up and up and up through hills and cliffs along the Mississippi River. Oh Joy! That was about the time all hell broke loose with the rain. I remember Bob asking Phil if these roads would qualify as windy or windy. I guess they're spelled the same. Phil agreed they were. We arrived at the DeSoto Hotel in Galena none the worse for wear. Well the trip through the parking garage was kind of like the roads we had just left. First night we were all on the second floor, second night we wound ourselves up to the third floor.



The hotel was beautiful. With 31 people arriving all at the same time I'm sure the staff felt overwhelmed. We do tend to make a formidable entrance wherever we go. We also found out cell phones don't work on the main floor due to the 100+-year-old tin ceilings. There are so many abandoned lead mines in the town I'm sure that added to the cell phone issue. A special room was provided for us where we could enjoy some cocktails and munchies. We congratulated Tim and Connie Borchert on their first long trip in the Model A. Bob and Wally made a few announcements for the following day and then it was time for dinner. The hotel has an atrium/terrace type center in the hotel where



lunch and breakfast are served. The iron balcony from the second floor faces onto the restaurant. When Jon and Yvonne Lisota arrived they were greeted with a huge round of applause. It was really a great atmosphere and everyone got to relax and sit in smaller groups and just enjoy each other's company. It so happened Tim Dionne was at our table. He asked the waitress for a small dish of vanilla ice cream. When it arrived the ice cream came in a large shallow soup bowl covered with chocolate sauce and whipped cream. Tim protested saying he could never eat that. Ha Ha, we have a picture of him licking the bowl clean. Joe is great with taking the right photo at the right time.

Saturday morning all the men were out shining up the cars for the Daffodil Festival being held at the park. Unfortunately, the daffodils had bloomed a week or so before. The Poulsen's had to leave early on Saturday to get back home for a family function. Of course the boys were taking extra care shining their truck. Most

everyone went off to do what ever interested them. There was shopping, antiquing, lots of walking, more eating, sampling fudge at the chocolate shop and all sorts of things. Some of us took the one-hour trolley tour of Galena, which was actually very interesting. Some one in our group had really done some power shopping because they were seen walking in downtown Galena and then showed up in the lobby with a pig in a poke. You'll have to figure it out for yourself. About mid afternoon we started to gather here there and everywhere to watch the Kentucky Derby. We were originally to be at the Men's Only place but we found out women weren't allowed. Plan B. The strangest thing was that the crazy bookie who was running up and down the streets in and out of restaurants taking \$5 from everyone in the club won with a horse called Super Saver. I will have to say I did catch some hell for that! Ah, fate!



Dinner was at the Prime Rib Log Cabin. Everyone had chosen either prime rib or chicken in advance. As we were waiting for dinner Tim Borchert presented the "chicken chucker" award to those four or five people who had chosen chicken. Suppose he had anything to do with that pig in the poke purchase?

Sunday morning we had a marvelous brunch at the hotel. Again, great food, atmosphere, and great friends. It was time to get checked out and get the cars lined up to begin the trip home. The weather was gorgeous as we headed back out toward Palisades Park. As Wally was leading us out of town to our first comfort stop he started talking about something called a "hill climb". Surely he couldn't be serious or could he? Sure enough we entered the park. Wally announced anyone who wanted to could do the climb. Well, Steinie had four people in his car and a trailer so he opted to sit this one out. I think Yvonne opted out and let Jon drive the climb. The rest of us fools started up the hill leaving a goodly distance between cars. You don't want to be too close in case the guy in front starts rolling back and his brakes don't hold. Could get ugly. We all made it shifting gears and chugging away with only one fatality. Yep! Old Red had blown something out or up. Either way he was done. As usual everyone ran to figure out

how to get Red's passengers into other cars. The next thing was how or who was going to get Red off the top of the hill. Jon Lisota got the car to the bottom. Phil Serviss drove Jon's car so that left Nancy to drive their car down. Nancy deserves the courage under fire award for getting that car down those curves and hills yelling, "Oh Crap...Oh, Crap" all the way. We gals gave her a round of applause and a hug. WOW! Old Red was left at the park for Jon and Al to come back with a trailer later that night. I heard the car was diagnosed about 4:00 am as being totally KAPUT!



After that very longstop and no little comfort houses we were all anxious to get to the next town. Wally headed us back to the park in Amboy with all those wonderful little houses. We raced across the grass in different directions at top speed to see who could get to the little houses first. Penny, Joe and I ran so far away we had to get a ride back to the group on Phil's running board. That was kind of fun actually. As the group got back together, and feeling much better, someone had made a startling revelation. Some of the comfort houses had conveniently put purse holders on the sidewall. It took about three seconds to figure out Phyllis had put her purse on the urinal. Screaming was heard as everyone ran for handi wipes. I thought we'd all stroke out laughing. That deal was pure shock and awe!

We left for our final meal of the afternoon in Mendota. We made a stop near Joliet to say our final goodbyes and hugs all around. What a wonderful way to spend three days. Of course most people think we're a little deranged driving around in 80 year old cars but why not? We're all tough stock and enjoy a good challenge. Can't wait until the next trip.

Marlene



Up and coming meeting locations:

May: Tim & Connie Borchert

June thru Sept: Steinmetz Garage in Frankfort

Oct: Wally & Kay Ekstrom

Nov: Ken & Dale Chamis

Dec: TBA

Up Coming Calendar of 2010 Events

Wednesday June 16th Meeting: Bob's Garage in Frankfort

Saturday June 12th: Veterans Home Outing at 1:00 pm. Manteno, IL

Saturday June 19th: "Driving the Dixie" Start in Blue Island

Saturday July 4th: Homewood parade

Saturday July 25th: Picnic at the Monee reserve with the highland Club

Sunday August 15th: Morton Arboretum Picnic

Saturday August 21st: 7:10 pm. Joliet Jack Hammers Outing

June 2010

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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30			

July 2010

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August 2010

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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 – 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



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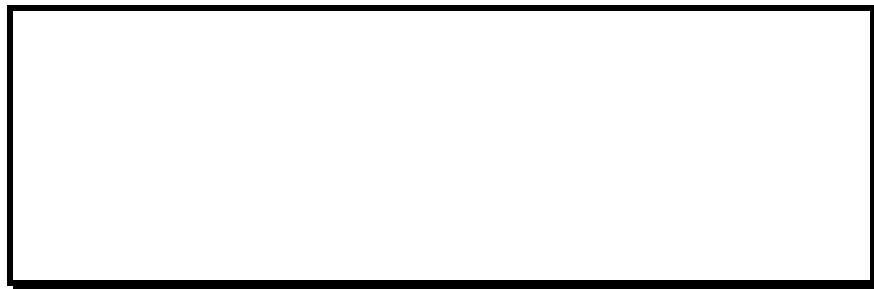
E Mail to: taxserviss@att.net

Spring Trip Hill climb causality.

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P.O. Box 3

Crete, Illinois 60417



Mail To:

