

BACKFIRE

Chicago Southland Chapter, Model A Ford Club of America

VOLUME 15

ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2010

<http://www.drivingthedixie.com>

<http://asrus.homestead.com>

Pronger Smith opening 35 thousand sq ft addition in Tinley Park

Unfortunately work has taken up most of my spare time as my company has me working gobs of hours. We have added CT and MRI plus Endoscopy to our facilities within a 35 thousand Sq Ft addition. Next month I will be able to add more of the pictures from the Danville trip. I have to say that it was fun and with almost 40 people on the trip it has to be our biggest attendance. The weather was on our side and the picnics were great!

Phil

Header Picture:

Just a few of the cars at the state park in Vincennes, IL



*The Carp
Editor in Chief*

Inside this Months Issue:

- Danville Friday Meeting and Breakfast times
- Meeting synopsis
- Jim's Dixie History
- Exposure Trip

Important must read!

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DRIVING THE "DIXIE" OCTOBER 8,9,10



Date Line Chicago Heights IL:

We begin our trip with the time-honored tradition of breakfast and the gathering of the cars. This was the first time Nancy and myself brought my parents Russ and Audrey along for the ride. Jon Lisota had room for the two bags in his new trailer and we thank him very much as I don't know how mom would do holding onto the car from the running board. Bonnie and Randy were our first causality as the car was over-heating because of a rag that was in the radiator. They would catch up with us later in the day in Rossville, IL. Starting out with 17 cars in Chicago Heights our first stop was the Four Corners of Route 30 Lincoln Highway and Route 1 Dixie highway. I had never



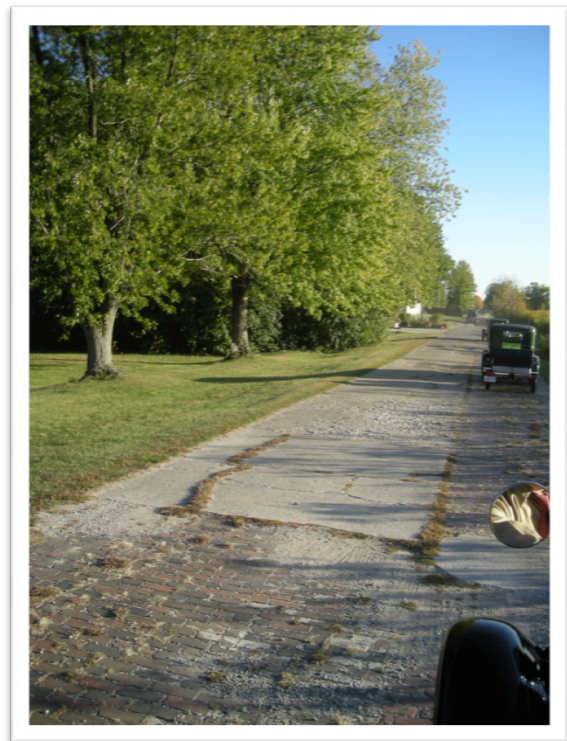
stopped and looked at the fountain in all the years I've gone past this corner. A gal from the Chicago Heights historical society met us and she gave a short history and away we went to our next destination Momence, IL. The comment was made that getting the group going was like herding cats. Can't say I've ever tried, but I'll take his word on that.





Tiffany Glass
used for the
dome in the
bank now
used as the
Momence
Village Hall

We pick up the McNeeley's in Momence visiting the bank turned village hall and again were given some local history of the area. On our way again we were driving the old "Dixie" thru Hopkins Park. Stopping again in St. Anne we met with the Mayor and were given a colorful history by a local historian. At Papineau we were again given the local history by a 85 year old resident telling us how as a little girl she would run between the three gas pumps in town and pump the fuel up into the visible pumps for fun. Somewhere along the way we drove over the last remaining $\frac{1}{4}$ mile stretches of the old road that hadn't been removed. Driving again thru Martinton and into Watseka for a picnic lunch and tour of the old courthouse. At Milford we stopped at the local Carnegie library for a tour of the facility. We decided to fuel the cars at the Casey's gas station in town and the manager lined us up in front of the store for a picture to send to corporate.





Now to Hoopeston to a crowd waiting for us along with the local Senior Care Center and local newspaper in the park and a picture with the Giant Cornstalk. On our way to Rossville Chuck broke down and we left our crack mechanics behind to get the beast going again as we had a date with the regional PBS

TV station doing a Heartland special on our clubs activities with the 95th year anniversary. After the activities in Rossville we finely pulled into Danville around 5:00. Here the Chuck wagon with Chuck and Jon cooking pork chops and sides galore we sat in the parking lot till 10:30 talking and having a great time.



Saturday was a shorter day, only 21 hours I'm told. We walked to the Danville historical society and toured the museum and home were Lincoln stayed as a guest and friend of the family. While we were doing this Kirk and Trevor moved all the cars to the historical society so we could go to the local State park for lunch. What a beautiful afternoon we had as the leaves were starting to change and the smells of fall were all around us. After lunch its off to the Veterans Hospital to visit the men staying there.



When we arrived the administration, veterans and nursing staff greeted us as we arrived quite enthusiastically. It was humbling to have the men enjoy our cars so much bringing back memories for them, which they shared with us.

We left the Veterans home and retired to the parking lot keeping watch over the coolers and

talking to town's people that stopped to look at the cars. Soon it was time to go to the Possum Trot restaurant for dinner. After dinner you guessed it we were back in the parking lot enjoying each other's company and warm night air.

Sunday morning was a late start as we were only stopping in Watseka for lunch. The drive couldn't be any nicer as we drove old county roads far off the beaten path. We arrived back in Watseka around 12:00 for lunch.

The theater has been restored and the serve

dinner in the old lobby. First we watched the Lucy and Dezzie movie "The Long trailer", I had as many laughs listening to Bob and Wally laugh through the film as I did watching the film. After the movie we had a great dinner and I must say the potatoes were to die for.

We ended our day in Beecher at Buddies for some ice cream and the "Great Kiss Off". What a fabulous weekend we had.



Phil

DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright



From 1915 through 1920, the Dixie Highway traveled down the main street of Papineau, a tiny hamlet in northern Iroquois County, just south of the town of St. Anne and the Kankakee County border. In the early part of the twentieth century Papineau was a bustling agricultural community that boasted several grocery stores, churches, a bank, a grain elevator and a dance hall and tavern called the Coliseum. Papineau was a stop on the A's R Us Fall 2010 tour and the town looks quite different from when this photo was taken about 1920. The Dixie Highway bypassed Papineau when the highway was routed to its current alignment of the highway just west of town in late 1920.

**A's R Us Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2010**

Meeting Location: Home of Kay & Wally Ekstrom
Call to Order: 7:05 pm

Meeting was called to order by President Chuck Fritz. Thank you to Kay & Wally for hosting tonight's meeting. A buffet of chili and hot dogs was served. Thank you to all who provided food. We will attempt to keep our meeting brief so that we may begin our annual auction, with our Master of Auction Henry Jasica. Minutes from the September meeting were read and approved.

Member News: Condolenscens to Bill Thornburg on the passing of his mother, and also to Tim & Connie Borchert with the passing of their brother in law.

Treasurers Report was read by Jim Wright. Motion to accept by Jon Lisota, second by Bob Steinmetz.

OLD BUSINESS:

DRIVING THE DIXIE: A review meeting is set for Oct. 30th at 10:00 am. Chicago Heights Union Street Gallery.

PICNIC: Jim Wright will follow up with the Highland Club regarding picnic expenses.

FALL TOUR: Another successful excursion provided by WJS Tours. More details to follow in the newsletter. Dale read a letter received from the Veterans Home thanking us for our visit, and noting we were instrumental in a Veteran speaking for the 1st time in several months! A very big thank you to Chuck Fritz for providing a most delectible meal from the Chuck Wagon. As R Us now gives new meaning to tailgating!

CLUB FUNDING: No additional comments, suggestions have been received referencing the "proposed budget". The committee will meet again for further discussion.

UPCOMING BUSINESS/EVENTS:

HOMEWOOD CHRISTMAS PARADE: Thursday December 9th, 2010. More details to be provided at the November meeting.

CRETE COUNTRY CHRISTMAS: December 3rd, 4th & 5th. Wally to get details for parade.

BREAKFAST MEETING: November 13th 8:30 am Peachtree Restaurant (Rt 30 & Pulaski)

TECH TALK: Jon Lisota's house Tuesday November 16th 6:00 pm. Topic will be winterizing your cars.

CHRISTMAS PARTY: Our Christmas Party will be held December 8th at Beggars Pizza in New Lenox.

BANQUET: Bob Rodriguez announced that Robin will not be planning our event this year. A sincere thank you to Robin and those who helped, for your efforts to ensure an enjoyable evening for all who attended. Suggestions were made to put this years event on hold or to move it to later in the Spring. No decisions were made.

MAFCA DUES: A reminder again to fill out the pink registration card, and give to our treasurer along with appropriate fee. All registrations will be submitted as a club through Jim Wright.

2011 BOARD ELECTIONS: Elections will be held at the December meeting. Anyone interested in a position on the board, or if you wish to nominate someone, contact our nominating committee: Wally Ekstrom, Bob Steinmetz, or Chuck Fritz.

OPEN DISCUSSION: Wally talked about a Model A dealership being built and would like to see a donation made by AsRUs. Al Kaleta suggested a fund raiser, with all profits going for this cause. Bob Steinmetz made a motion to donate 50% of the profits from the 2011 Drivin the Dixie. Motion carries.

SPRING TRIP: Tentative date set for the weekend of May 8th. Destination: Holland Michigan for the Tulip Festival.

Split the pot of \$42 to Wally and \$1 in no badge fines.

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.



Up and coming meeting locations:

Nov: Ken & Dale Chamis

Dec: Beggars Pizza, Oak Forest

Up Coming Calendar of 2010 Events

Wednesday, November 17th : Meeting at Ken and Dales

Friday Dec 3rd : Christmas parades in Crete and Homewood

Wednesday December 8th : Christmas Party, Beggars Pizza in Oak Forest



Watseka
Theater

November 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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28	29	30				

December 2010

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

January 2011

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9	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 – Tim Boltz 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 Boltz

Sgt. At Arms Steve Coe

Motor Medic - Jon Lisota

Banquet Queen – Robin Rodriguez



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

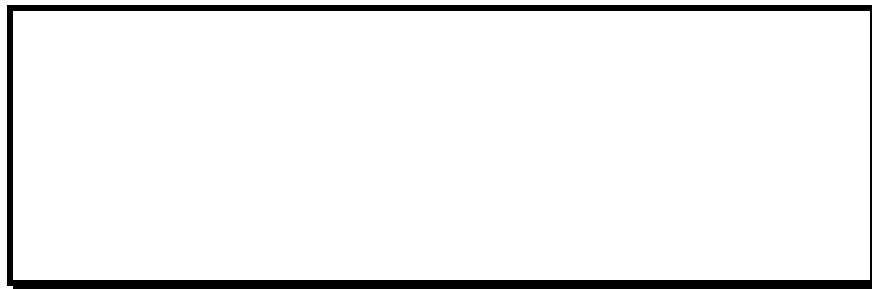
E Mail to: taxserviss@att.net

BACKFIRE

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Crete, Illinois 60417

Driving into Hoopston, IL



Mail To:

