

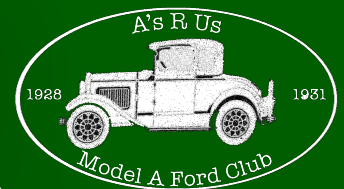


VOLUME 16

ISSUE 5

MAY 2011

# BACKFIRE



Chicago Southland Chapter, Model A Ford Club of America

<http://www.drivingthedixie.com>

<http://asrus.homestead.com>

**We are now on Facebook!**



We are on Facebook now thanks to a suggestion from a club member. Just search for **"Model A Ford Club"** on Facebook and, "Wa La" A'sRUS will pop up magically and you can comment, post pictures, and relate experiences with our club to other club members. This is an open site which means that

*Anyone* can access this page and enjoy our experiences with us. Have fun,

***Header Picture:***

Washington, D.C., circa 1926. "Minute **Service Station**, Georgia Avenue N.W."

*Phil*





# DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright



**Service station architecture in the 1920' and 1930's blended well into residential environments. This quaint cottage-style station was built in 1933 on the northwest corner of Ridge Road and the Dixie Highway in downtown Homewood. Shell brand oil and gas products were sold here for a few years until the station rebranded and Sinclair products were offered until 1979. Jack Kurtz, station owner for over 40 years, is pictured. A newer structure replaced this building on the site in the late 1950's.**

# Jon Lisota:

## Motor Medic



This month for our tech talk, we will show how to adjust the lifters on the Model A engine using the “rule of nine”.

Using Tim Borchert car for demonstration, he was able to get a free valve adjustment.

After removing the carburetor, the oil return pipe, and the valve cover, we were ready to get started. First we removed the spark plugs, so turning over the engine was easier. It doesn't matter what valve you start with, just need to remember which one.

I usually number the valves, eight through one starting at the back of the engine. We started with the number eight valve.

- Crank the engine over until you see number one valve at its highest point. This is usually when you can see the two flat sides of the lifter body. They will stick about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch.
- Now number eight will be on the bottom and you can measure the gap. The reason of eight and one is, that the two numbers equal nine.
- On Tim's car we found number to be over 35 thousandths gap. It should have been 14 or 15 thousandths.
- Now rotate the engine so number eight lifter is on top and number one on bottom.
- Now adjust number eight and measure number one.
- Now then move on the any of the next lifters, but keep in mine that the numbers must equal nine.
- Valve 7 and 2 = 9
- Valve 6 and 3 = 9
- Valve 4 and 5 = 9
- Doing the adjustment this way keeps you from having to remove the head and measuring the piston height, each time you rotate the engine.



The adjustments went well on Tim's car. Once we quieted down the lifters from sounding like a typewriter, we could then hear a nasty little guy beating away inside his engine. Try as we might, we could not seem to locate that little guy. We left that problem for a later date.

The next morning, I received an Email from Tim.

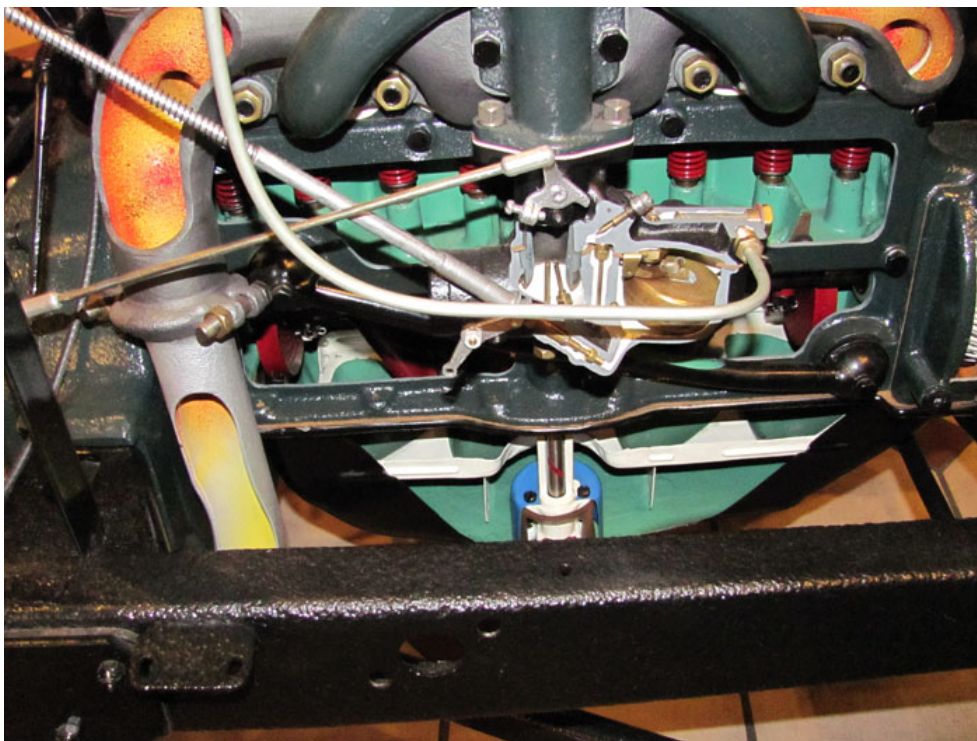
When he got home and turned into his driveway. He developed a horrendous grinding and screeching noise. After he got the car into the garage he wrote a Email explaining what happened. So I hooked up the trailer and went to see what was what.

Joe, who had rode home with Tim, thought it was something in the flywheel housing. So I pulled the starter and went fishing. First time I caught a bendix washer. So using a big glob of old time bearing grease stuck to the ring gear. We went fishing again. This time we came up with that nasty bolt. There was only about half of the bolt left. It had been ground up pretty good.

We put the starter back on and test-drove his car on a nice bumpy rode. No more screeching. But, boy that little guy inside with his hammer was playing a tune. We took it back to the shop and finally got the rpms just right, so he was hammering all the time. The only place I could really hear it good was in the timing cover. We had reinserted the timing pin the night before, pushing the gear to see if the timing gear was loose or not. It sure didn't seem to be. So I pulled the timing cover and that's when I found the bugger. He was missing a few teeth from the gear. So I had to replace his timing gear. When I got it off and counted all of the teeth that were missing I came to the total of fifteen missing teeth. With the new timing gear installed, she sound more like a Model A should.

So for the five guys who showed up for the tech talk, thanks for coming. I had an enjoyable time and I hope someone learned how to adjust their valves.

*Jon Lisota*



In this cut-away you can see the valve springs. They are painted in red. 1-8 valves starting on the right of the photo.



# History According to Chamis



This is the poster that Phillip Serviss had made after the 2003 trip to Wisconsin. Use the control + and enlarge this to see what we will hope to see again this fall with the WSJ Tours.

## A'S R US MEETING MINUTES

April 20, 2011

MEETING LOCATION : Chuck & Linnea Fritz

CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT TIM BOTS AT : Meeting was called to order at 7:05PM. Minutes from the March meeting were read and approved.

TREASURERS REPORT: Bill was out of town for this meeting however, e-mailed the account balances.

FAMILY News: Joe reported that Marlene has been having Colon problems, but is doing better.

Thornburg's have bought a home in Tennessee and Joe has purchased their car. The McNealy's will not be joining us for the Spring Trip as Ken is having back surgery and will be recovering. Chuck reported he is having shoulder and back issues and will be seeing a specialist soon. Paul Hankiwicz said Hi and that he might be joining us on our Fall Trip. Phil and Nancy will not be going on or planning the Exposure Trip this year due to their vacation in England.

**OLD BUSINESS: Shake Down Cruise hand out from Bob. We leave from Commanders Restaurant in Munster Indiana at 9:15 AM on Saturday 4-30-11. To date there are 26 members with 13 Cars going.**

Tim reported that he was unsuccessful contacting Becky from Olympia Fields. Wally said he will try again, being we still have time as we are talking about a July event.

Ken was in contact with Roberta Kelly regarding the Senior Residence event. They will have Clark Weber at their event on July 27<sup>th</sup>, from 1-2:00 PM for a Rock and Roll Show and they would like to have classic cars from 1955 and older at the event. We should be able to provide 6-9 cars.

**Spring Trip: Ron and Jon ran the trip to Holland Michigan for the last time working out the bugs. They have suggested we travel in 2 groups, 1<sup>st</sup> group being those who have tickets for the Friday night Concert leaving at 8:00AM; 2<sup>nd</sup> group leaving at 8:30AM from Raspberry Restaurant in Steger, Il., with a mechanical person in each group. We will be having a Chuck Wagon lunch/dinner on Friday (bring folding chairs). Ron has offered the hospitality of his home for the Chuck Wagon dinner with pontoon boats. Saturday breakfast will be in Holland and Sunday breakfast at Matey's in Michigan City. Again we will travel in 2 groups.**

**Fall Trip:** Phil stated that the October dates are official and can't be changes. October 7, 8 & 9<sup>th</sup>. Ken stated that the resort at Lake Delavan will let us park our small trailers in their parking lot.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Phil announced we are now on Facebook "A'SRUS Model A and Dale said that others are already posting and sharing pictures.

**ON GOING BUSINESS: Driving Dixie: Joe** stated the maps and mailings are finished, Dale volunteered to do the labels. Phil said he has the Posters and Karen has volunteered to be the "GO TO PERSON". Our President and Vice President will be the "GO TO PERSONS" for the day of the event. Bob will talk with the Chevy Club and Tim stated he would take a stack of registration forms to their club meeting. Al and Sandy volunteered to chair the POKER RUN.



**Picnic:** The club picnic will be July 17<sup>th</sup> and the Highland Club wants to join us for the day.  
**Memorial Day Parade:** The A'SRUS has been invited to lead the Memorial Day Parade in Crete. We need to meet at noon Tech Talk: It was suggested we hold off on the Tech Talk date until after the Shake Down Cruise. The subject could be adjusting the valves in Tim Borchert.

**Breakfast:** No breakfast was scheduled for MAY.

Misc Discussions: Bill Thornburg wants to sell an antique Crank Siren for \$250.00 – FYI.

Ken made comment about going to Sharon WI. possibly in early June.

Tim stated he hasn't received the schedule for the Old Time Baseball team yet.

Tim also stated he hasn't received any information from Camp Quality yet.

50/50 was \$80.00 this meeting and Joe was the lucky recipient of \$40.00.

\$4.00 was collected in Badge Fines.

Next months mtg: MAY 18<sup>TH</sup> @ 7:00pm Ron Bonneau will be our host at:

TED GRIFFIN'S HOME  
2256 WOLPERS ROAD  
PARK FOREST, IL

THANKS TO CHUCK AND LINNEA FOR THEIR HOSPITALITY AND GOODIES.

Adjourn: Unanimously adjourned at 8:25 PM.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: SANDY KALETA / SECRETARY

# Return to Delavan Lake Wisconsin

Fall Trip - Friday October 7 through Sunday October 9, 2011  
**Delavan/Lake Geneva, Wisconsin**

Block of Rooms Reserved under **A's R Us** at  
Delavan Lake Resort (800-430-8164)

\$110 per night for 1 bedroom/1 bath suite

\$145 per night for 2-bedroom/2-bath suite

<http://lakedelavanresort.com/suites.html>

**Please fill out form. Place into a sealed envelope and bring with you for our emergency packet.  
This would only be opened by medical personal in an emergency.**

**A's R US Confidential Medical Form**

Date Filled Out: \_\_\_\_\_

Last NAME:	First Name:
DOB: (mo/date/yr):	Age:
SSN:	
Name of Emergency Contact:	
Phone of Emergency Contact: (      )	
Name of Primary Health Physican:	
Phone Number of Primary Health Physican: (      )	

**List Medications and Dosage Below**

#	Name	Dosage in Mg	How Often Taken
#1			
#2			
#3			
#4			
#5			

**List any Allergies or Medications of Which You are Allergic Below:**

#1	
#2	
#3	
#4	

List Any Serious Diseases That You Have (Diabetes, Cancer, Heart, Thyroid, Etc) Below

#1	
#2	
#3	

It is understood that the information contained within this form is to kept confidential UNLESS a medical situation develops during the course of an activity being conducted by the A's R US car club that necessitates the release of this information to medical personnel.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



# Up and coming meeting locations:

## Up Coming Calendar of 2011 Events

**Wednesday May 18th:** Ron Bonneau will be our host at:

**TED GRIFFIN'S HOME  
2256 WOLPERS ROAD  
PARK FOREST, IL**

**Friday, Saturday, Sunday, May 13,14,15:** Spring Trip to Holland Michigan. Meet at Raspberry restaurant in Steger



Furnessville, IN Shakedown cruise 4/30/2011

Bob Steinmetz 1928 Woody Wagon and Bob Granko's 1929 4 Door

**May 2010**

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

**June 2010**

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

**July 2011**

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

# A's R Us officers and Staff

President – Tim Bols    Vice President – Tim Borchert    Treasure – Jim Wright    Secretary – Sandy Kaleta

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 – Ken Chamis

Sgt. At Arms Steve Coe    Motor Medic - Jon Lisota

Banquet Queen – Robin Rodriguez



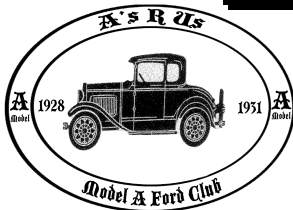
Please send **Backfire** articles or items of interest to:

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

**Kaleta's car looking good on the shakedown cruise!**

## BACKFIRE

P.O. Box 3  
Crete, Illinois 60417



Mail To: