

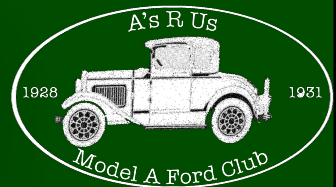


VOLUME 17

ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2012

# BACKFIRE



Chicago Southland Chapter, Model A Ford Club of America

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



What a great meeting we had with our special guest Vince Penna from "Defib Solutions" on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Not only did we have fun, we all learned or refreshed CPR and AED use. I for one hope to never use this skill with our members but if we need to, I feel that the members that attended will now be able to give a victim of cardiac arrest a better chance of survival. Thank you for all that came and I will break out the BLS bag from time to time to refresh our members on what we now will carry with us and how to use it.



**Header Picture:**  
Old Advertising

*Phil*

# DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright



For years Steger was known as the piano capital of the world. Once piano manufacturing waned in the village, making macaroni gained prominence in one of the old piano plants. In 1930, the D'Amico Macaroni Company moved from Chicago Heights to the former Reed piano factory building located on the southeast corner of 35th and Chicago Road. Established in 1913, D'Amico sold product under the *Mamma Mia* brand. A new plant was built in 1970 a block south at 3601 Chicago Road. The old plant was destroyed by a fire in 1974 and a Shell gas station now occupies the site. Gooch Foods Inc. later purchased the company, but by 2003, the plant was closed and its equipment sold at auction.



## Spring Shakedown Cruse – April 21<sup>st</sup>.

As we wait for spring to arrive we are planning our shakedown cruse. This year we are going to Cantigny Park. Cantigny Park is located in Wheaton, Ill. (35 mile away). This sprawling, 500-acre park is where families wander through nature and get lost in history, In addition to vast formal gardens and picnic and camping grounds, Cantigny offers two history-rich museums: the Robert R. McCormick Museum and the Cantigny First Division Museum. So who was Robert R. McCormick? He lived from 1880-1955. He is best known as the editor and publisher of the Chicago Tribune for 44 years. He built the Tribune Company from a single newspaper to a media giant by creating radio and television stations and building newsprint factories.

This one-time politician became a citizen-soldier, serving in the Illinois National Guard in 1915, and a Colonel in the First Infantry Division during World War I.

He enjoyed the life of a gentleman-farmer, operating the Tribune Experimental Farms in Wheaton and Yorkville, Illinois and influenced the creation of Meigs Field, an airport

in Chicago.

Upon his death, his will established the Robert R. McCormick Charitable Trust, known today as the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, which established Cantigny as a public park, and is committed to fostering communities of educated, informed and engaged citizens.

### Our Visit

The mansion, gardens and First Division Museum is not all that we will see there. We have invited the other 5 Model A clubs located around Chicago and Indiana to join us for a “meet and greet day”. Many of the clubs have already responded and are interested. This could turn out to be a great day meeting other club members and seeing their cars. We will have part of the parking lot sectioned off just for our cars.

There is also a picnic area that we can use and we are planning to bring a cold lunch for our club members. There is a remodeled Visitor’s Center, which features a coffee house and a restaurant as well if you want something hot.

We have made reservations for private tours just for club members of the McCormick mansion and when talking to the staff at Cantigny they have promised great weather for April 21st (OK - we will see how good they really are). The only cost is a \$5 parking fee for each car and your share of the cost of lunch. Chuck is organizing the lunch. The tours are free. We have three tours of the mansion leaving on the hour (11:00, 12:00 and 1:00). Each tour can take up to 25 people.

Check out Cantigny WEB site [www.cantigny.org](http://www.cantigny.org).

This could turn out to be an enjoyable day with many enthusiasts getting together to start the season.



## Illinois Club prepares for road Emergency

The A'S R US Chicago Southland club had a very different meeting in January to say the least. While different, the meeting will probably be one of the most important our members have ever attended.



Our guest speaker Vince Penna of Defib Solutions

Like most clubs, ours has a tendency to “get away from it all” and travel far from civilization on our road trips. With most members on the downside of the half-century mark, this can create a problem particularly if medical treatment is ever needed. For years we simply ignored the problem until a few minor issues forced us to think more seriously about what we would do if one of our members had a cardiac event or some other serious

medical incident in the “middle of nowhere.” In most cases trained medical help could be more than 10 to 20 minutes away, which could be too long a period of time to be of any benefit in a real emergency.

As a certified Firefighter EMT-B in the state of Illinois, I have thought about this for some time and decided to do something. While we do have a retired paramedic and a couple of nurses in our club, we had no equipment for them to provide adequate care and I wanted to be prepared. Who knows I could be the one in need rather than the one to provide the help! Through contacts in the medical field, I was able to come up with an economically priced AED (Automatic External defibrillator). In November, I presented this proposition to our club and the motion to purchase this piece of equipment passed unanimously.

Our January meeting was held at my house and it was a time to teach our members the skills to use the AED. Vince Penna from “Defib Solutions” in Crown Point, Indiana gave us the great deal on our AED and also offered his time and expertise to teach our club how to use the AED and how to perform CPR to be effective in the event we ever have to use this equipment.





The meeting night started ½ hour earlier than normal and we got directly into our program with Vince teaching American Heart Association CPR and AED usage. He was quite a good teacher using stories and funny anecdotes to keep everyone involved and focused on the new skill sets he was teaching. In no time, he had our members performing CPR to the tune of “Staying Alive” on “Preston” manikins. These are state of the art and have LED lights built in that let you know you are keeping to the recommended 100 beats per minute. After this workout that had its humorous moments, he introduced us to our new Cardiac Science G3 AED. Vince explained placement of pads and how to follow the

prompts that the unit will give us in an emergency.

We learned a lot that evening and, most importantly, we learned the quicker you defibrillate a victim the greater the chances of survival. A victim's chances of survival are reduced by 7 to 10 percent with every minute that passes without CPR and defibrillation. Few attempts at resuscitation succeed after 10 minutes. We have bettered our odds with our purchase and



Compressions to “Staying Alive”

you may want to better yours too.

For years I have kept a small tackle box with some basic first aid supplies. Now I have put together a Basic Life Support bag with airways, ambo bag, prep kit and our Cardiac Science G3 AED. We also will carry a glucose meter, blood pressure cuff, stethoscope, baby aspirin, Benadryl, antibiotic cream, sterile water, basic dressings and the all-important Band-Aid.

In short the AED is an insurance policy that I hope we never have to use but if we need to, our club members will have the confidence to render quality aid when and wherever we may travel.



Demonstration of the G3 AED

*Phil Serviss*

# 2011 MAFCA Literary Awards

Congratulations to Jim Wright on being awarded the Editors Literary Award for the story about:  
 “Club Efforts Preserve and Promote the Historic Dixie Highway”

**CLUB EFFORTS PRESERVE AND PROMOTE THE HISTORIC DIXIE HIGHWAY**  
 Fall 2010 Trip celebrates the Road's 95th Anniversary  
 By Jim Wright, Homewood, Illinois

The AAFCA, the Chicago Southern chapter, is a small but active group. Club members participate in a variety of functions including periodic, day and weekend trips. Our last, more recent trip was to Chicago to celebrate the road's 95th anniversary. The trip was a most enjoyable one and was well attended. To honor the occasion, a monthly breakfast at a local restaurant and both clubs are frequently going to all dinners with entertainment and entertainment programs.

Since 2002, the AAFCA has also participated with a number of local communities and historical groups in preserving the historic Dixie Highway in Illinois, and the club has been a major organizer of the annual Dixie Day, a traveling antique car show held in the first weekend of the last year, which begins in the city of Blue Island and ends in Mokena, Illinois.

The history of the Dixie Highway is a fascinating story and is important in the development of the highway system throughout the United States. The Dixie Highway was the first major highway to be built in the United States. It was a major link between the East and West, and it was a major link between the North and South. It was a major link between the old and the new, and it was a major link between the past and the future.

The concept of the Dixie Highway became popular in the state of Michigan in 1915. The highway was built by the state of Michigan and was the first major highway to be built in the United States. It was a major link between the East and West, and it was a major link between the North and South. It was a major link between the old and the new, and it was a major link between the past and the future.

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**DIXIE HIGHWAY**

**DIXIE HIGHWAY**

**AMERICA'S FAVORITE**

**CHAMPION**

**SPARK PLUGS**



A'S R US MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 18, 2012

**MEETING LOCATION:** The home of Phil & Nancy Serviss

**CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT TIM BORCHERT AT:** 8:45PM Tim began by thanking Vince for his terrific AED and CPR presentation and by inviting him to remain for the meeting.

**MINUTES:** Reading of the December minutes were waived. There was a Correction needed: Phil gave the report on the availability of the AED....

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Jim gave a thorough accounting. Driving the Dixie fund has a balance to date of \$6,362.96. A'sRUS account had \$5,547.55 less \$481.50 to Vince, \$160.00 Xmas Party Fees. Balance \$5,012.52. \$213.33 is outstanding on the account and \$75.00 was approved for flowers sent to the Rubel Family..

**FAMILY NEWS:** Joe shared that Marlene is having another injection for Macular Degeneration.

Chuck stated he is doing well with physical therapy on his shoulders. Carol thanked the membership for their many kind wishes and prayers when her mother died. Ron shared that he did get the Michigan job, but will still make all the tours with the club. He further shared that his Pipe band recently played for the funeral of a soldier, killed in Aphganistan and that it was an emotional event and brings to mind "how lucky we are to be Americans".

Phil made a plea for articles and pictures for future Newsletters.....

**OLD BUSINESS: The Budget Committee** (Tim, Tim, Ken, Dale & Jim) met after thanksgiving and presented a budget for 2012 with a 2011 comparison. There was a discussion of approving 25% of the clubs income for donations. The budget was unanimously approved. Tim suggested we set aside a portion of the donation money to use during the year to fulfill unbudgeted requests as they are approved.

**The Events Committee** (Joe, Bob, Phil) met and presented a brief summary of their proposed calendar. Ideas were bantered around: Bob re: Tag Day for Camp Quality; Joe shared a letter from Deacon John inviting the club to St James; Chuck mentioned visiting the Vets in Manteno; Tim mentioned attending another Vintage Ballgame in Hobart;

**NEW BUSINESS: Shakedown Cruise:** Committee (Tim, Joe, Chuck) April 21<sup>st</sup> Wheaton. Part of the cruise will be a Museum tour (revolutionary war to modern day). A meet & greet with 6 Chicago Area Model A Clubs on that day was also discussed... More information to follow.

**Driving Dixie Committee for 2012:** (Jim, Tim, Chuck, Tim, Phil). Next meeting is scheduled for February 18<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) 10:00AM, site to be announced. Tim invited all the membership to try to attend 1 or 2 meetings. Everyone is welcome.

**Spring Trip:** Ron gave a brief intro. and our destination is PEORIA. With the Grandview Prairie Wildlife and Queen of Peoria Paddle Boat noted as just a few sites to enjoy. More information will follow.

**Donations for 2012: Gilmore Museum** will again receive 50% of the Driving the Dixie profits to buy another brick in the name of our club. **Bob** mentioned fund matching up to a predetermined amount for the Camp Quality Tag day. Tim suggested signage on the Model A's such as SUPPORT CHILDREN WITH CANCER, when we collect for Tag Day. Thereby letting people know what their donation is being used for.

**Teen Bridge:** Bob stated the props are ready to go.

#### **ON GOING BUSINESS:**

Phil stated that now we have the AED he wants to provide the club with a very complete first aid kit for our events. He stated he already has a stethoscope, BP cuff, blood/glucose testing kit, oral airways, Aspirin, Saline, Oxygen, eye wash, etc. Tim thanked Phil for taking such good care of our club. He further proposed that any and all supplies provided for the First Aid Kit by Phil or Ron we 100% reimbursed, which was unanimously approved.

**Tech Talk:** A February Tech Talk was proposed which will be co-ordinated with Jon. Phil's car needs a new roof and Tim has an overdrive kit he wants worked on. Date and time to follow.

**Breakfast:** January 28<sup>th</sup> 8:30AM/ Peachtree Restaurant.

**Misc Discussions: Swap Meets:** January 22<sup>nd</sup> Phillips Chevrolet in Joliet. February 3,4,5 in Kalamazoo. Contact Bob if you are interested in going. **Henry** brought Chinese Lanterns to the meeting and sold them for \$1.50 apiece. If interested let him know.

Bob brought a discussion to the floor regarding the club sending flowers for deceased founding fathers whether active or inactive members. Our present policy states members, spouses and immediate family. Bob then made a motion to amend the policy to include: FOUNDING MEMBERS AND SPOUSE (ACTIVE OR INACTIVE). This motion was seconded and passed by majority vote. Dale stated she provided this service for the club last year and is willing to do it again this year. She further stated she has made it a policy to call the funeral home to find out the family's wishes flowers, plant, donation, before sending anything. Tim thanked her for a great job and for taking it on for another year. 50/50 waived for this meeting. Name tag fines waived for this meeting.

**Next month's mtg: FEBRUARY 15<sup>TH</sup> AT TIM AND CAROL DIONNE'S**

**Adjourn: 8:50 pm Thanks to Phil and Nancy for their hospitality/goodies and of course to Diablo.**

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: SANDY KALETA  
SECRETARY**





## Up and coming meeting locations:

### Up Coming Calendar of 2012 Events

**Wednesday February 15<sup>th</sup>: Meeting at Tim and Carroll Dionne's, St. John**

**February 2012**

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	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

**March 2012**

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	<b>21</b>	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

**April 2012**

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

## Quick links to Medical History forms online

<http://www.medids.com/free-id.php>

[http://www.medids.com/Emergency Medical Form.html](http://www.medids.com/Emergency_Medical_Form.html)

## A's R Us 2012 officers and Staff

- President – Tim Borchert
- Vice President – Ken Chamis / Treasure – Jim Wright / Secretary – Sandy Kaleta
- Newsletter – Phillip Serviss
- Member Relations – Joe Krygowski
- Web Page – Joe Krygowski
- 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 Isota

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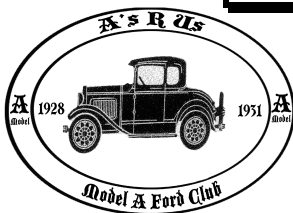
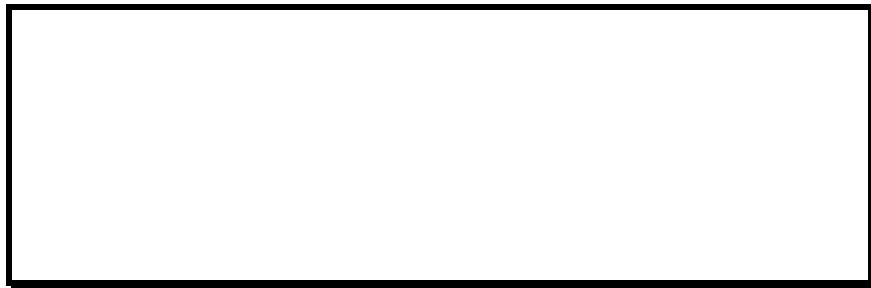
E Mail to: [taxserviss@att.net](mailto:taxserviss@att.net)

Fordson Tractors started production in 1917 and cost \$750.00



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