

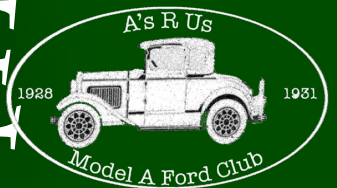


VOLUME 18

ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2013

# BACKFIRE



Chicago Southland Chapter, Model A Ford Club of America

<http://www.drivingthedixie.com>



What a crazy month we have had so far. Back to back club trips certainly do take a toll on you. I'd do it again in a heartbeat though. I have already been talking to club members that went on the Exposure Trip and it sounds like they are ready to go again. I've already research 6 different trips and it looks like we will have many options for the next few years. Save your vacation or retire and come along with us for a great time.



**Header Picture:**

A's on The Tunnel of Trees. It is a narrow road that runs along a spectacular bluff overlooking Lake Michigan. It weaves up and around, with especially sharp twists at Devil's Elbow (reputed to be haunted by an evil spirit and voices after dark) and at Horseshoe Curve.

Phil

# Presidents Comments

Well September was one of our busiest months with two major trips – the excursion trip and the fall trip. While I was not able to make the trip around the lake we need to thank Phil and Nancy for planning this trip and making sure everyone had a great time. Things were a little wet and cool that week but looking at the pictures everyone had a great time. With the fall trip planned just two weeks after the excursion trip we lost a few people that would have gone on the fall trip but their backsides had not fully recovered from spending 9 days in a model A.

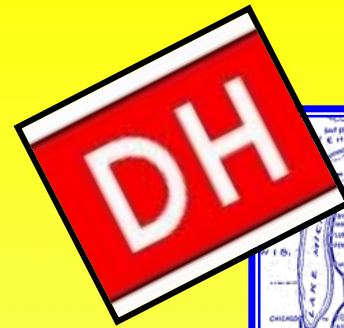
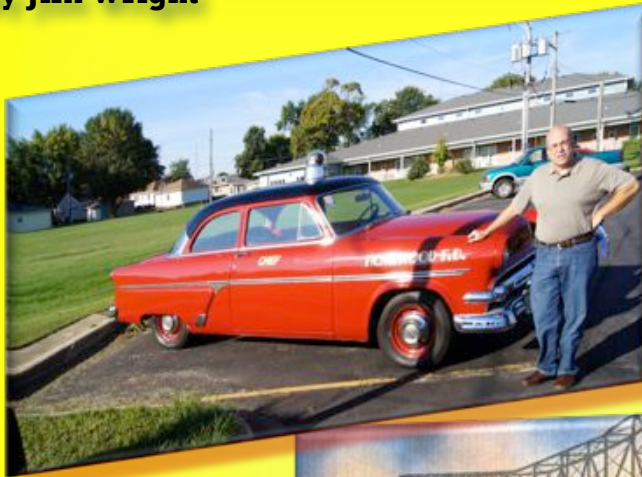


We want to thank Ken and Arlene for planning the fall trip. It was a great time; good weather and we had some new experiences. When was the last time you could order a fried spam or a fried bologna sandwich? This was the trip where it was my turn to have a major breakdown, blew a head gasket. What a comfort to know that Jon is along and can handle just about anything that can go wrong with a Model A. He was able to tear down and rebuild my engine in the parking lot in record time!!!! Jon just takes it in stride but I was a nervous wreck trying to think about how Connie would get home. Jon, a big, BIG thanks for coming to the rescue.

Looking at the calendar we do not have any major driving events for the remainder of the year except for the Christmas parades. But with the fall colors and the warm weather we are still having I'm sure we will individually find some time to fire up the A and take a drive through the country. See you all at Irv's house at our next meeting. I hope to clean my garage and sell all the junk I've been collecting over the past year as well as trying to resell some of the stuff I bout a last years auction. See you at Irv's.

# DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright



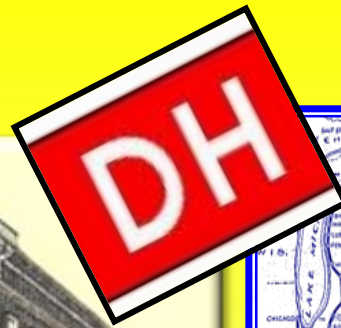
Not on the original route of the Dixie Highway, representatives of both South and North Carolina attended the Dixie Highway Association meeting in May of 1918 and presented their case for included their states on the highway. At this meeting, the association's board approved of the addition of these states and created a Carolina Division of the highway.

# DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright



Edgefield SC  
Dixie Highway Hotel, 1920



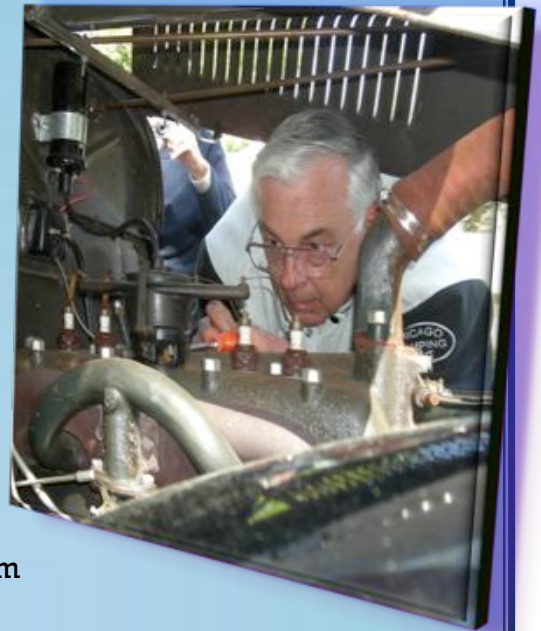
NG-10 MAIN STREET AT NIGHT, GREENVILLE, S. C.



E-4472

In South Carolina, the Dixie Highway passes through Greenville, Ware Shoals, Greenwood and Edgefield before leaving the state at Augusta, Georgia. Today, US 25 follows the route of the Dixie Highway in its entirety within the state. The Dixie Highway also followed a part of the historic Boone Way route in South Carolina.

# Jon Lisota: Motor Medic



**Here** is a quick synopsis of our 1250-mile Exposure Trip from our motor medics point of view.

**We** started our long trip around the Lake, in Blue Island. After breakfast, we returned to the parking lot and some one said, "Hey Jon you got a low tire". So first thing we change a tire before we even left the parking lot. Turns out, the car was just sitting in a depression. Check the tire later during the trip it still was holding 33 pounds of air. On the road after breakfast and within ten blocks, we get a call on the radio, "I'm turning the steering wheel and nothing is happening." Oh boy, what now? It seems the steering wheel of Karen's car came loose. Dave who was driving the car jammed it back on, but the key in the steering shaft had fallen out of place. In the process of pulling up on the steering wheel, the horn rod was jerked out of the switch body. This broke the spider for the light switch. There was no repairing the switch. So Karen would have to run without lights. I put the key back in the steering shaft and replaced the steering wheel. As I was putting the nut back on the shaft, I found that it was partially stripped and wasn't going to hold very well. With

firm instruction, "Do Not lift up on the steering wheel for the next 9 days", we continued on. A couple more blocks and we are stopped again! This time Ken Chamis needs to change his fan belt. Having changed the belt we are back on the road, and we make good time. No had no more problems for a couple days.



Nancy and Karen in Blue Island ready for the trip to begin.



At one of our gas stops in the UP Ron Bonneau thinks he left his phone at the gas station and asks me to pull over with him while he checks his car for it. He finally finds it and now we have to turn around on a narrow gravel road. As I am turning around, my car slides sideways on the wet grass into the grader ditch! Luckily a truck comes along just then and he helps me with a towrope back to the pavement and were back on the road. Fifteen minutes later I hear Ken is on the side of the road with alternator problems. He could not keep his belt tight and burnt up another fan belt. I found a piece of wood from the grader ditch and used that to help keep tension on the belt. Before we could get the hood closed, the girls were taking pics and posting them on facebook. Seems everyone new everything before we were back in the cars. We are off and running once more. The next to the last day, Allen starts spitting water, someone says that your leaking from the passenger side. Allen pulls



Repairing the water pump on of Allen's 1929 Tudor.

the car over and the water pump was bad. With Phil and Ken, and Ron, we get the pump out and then the replacement won't fit. So Ron came to the rescue with his spare pump. Fill it up with water and were good to go once again. So for a trip of 1250 miles, times nine cars, there were few troubles to be had. 11250 total miles. Would do it again, any time.

6 Jon Lisota

# From the kitchen

Contributed by Nancy Serviss



## Holycraptheseareamazing Cookies

### Ingredients

(Makes about 3 dozen cookies)

1 cup sugar

1 cup corn syrup

1 jar (18 oz ounce) peanut butter, crunchy or smooth (I like creamy.)

6 cups corn flakes

3 oz good quality chocolate of your choice (I used Scharffen Berger Semisweet 62%.)

### Directions

1. Combine sugar and corn syrup in a medium saucepan. Place over medium-high heat and stir until the mixture comes to a full boil. Remove from heat and stir in the whole jar of peanut butter. Mix well.
2. Add corn flakes to a large bowl. Pour peanut butter mixture over corn flakes and mix well, taking care to coat all of the corn flakes.
3. With a tablespoon or cookie scoop, scoop out and form into 1-2 inch balls, depending on your preference, and place them on a cookie sheet lined with parchment or wax paper.
4. Put the chocolate in a small bowl and melt in the microwave for about 30 seconds. Stir until smooth.
5. Drizzle the melted chocolate over the cookies.
6. When cooled, eat these cookies with reckless abandon. Be careful, though. We wouldn't want anyone to get hurt!

Read more:

<http://stickygoeeycreamychevy.com/2008/01/06/holycraptheseareamazing-cookies/#ixzz2hqv0BAtp>

# Thoughts of a Neophyte Exposure Trip Participant!



***Linnea and I just returned from our first Exposure Trip experience and have a few thoughts we would like to share with the club.***

First and foremost everyone should have their “PLANS” in order. If there is a word that almost defines the experience this is it. “PLANS” take into account almost everything that will be encountered on the trip. Beginning with –

**“P”** The letter P has several meanings; the obvious is to plan for your trip. Plan to work on your car to make sure that it’s in the best condition possible for the trip. Plan and study your route and pre drive if possible. Expect to have unexpected detours. Use your GPS to provide a comfort factor. Use the best possible atlas or maps. Have confidence in your navigator and try to follow any written or verbal directions that are shared as all input is appreciated. Plan to make the daily driving segments a reasonable distance so that you can stop unexpectedly if there is something that pops up on the route you would like to explore.

**“L”** Live, Love and Laugh the experience. Look out the window and enjoy the world that is all around us. Love the one you’re with. The old song sums it up pretty well. Enjoy the company of the group – not a hard thing to do! Laughter is the best medicine there is. Laugh at what you can’t control. Roll with the punches and try to keep your blood pressure and stress levels low. Life is too short to sweat the small stuff!

**“A”** Attitude, and anticipation of the group, will have an effect on the group. Anticipate that you will be ready and on time for the day’s events. Make sure to check that you have filled your gas tank, checked and added oil if needed. Clean and apply Rainex to your windows. Do a walk around check of your car for anything unusual. Anticipate breakdowns, let’s face it, we know that may happen!

**“N”** Never say never. Things and events you have not thought of will and do happen. Remember, even if the group is experiencing some navigational glitches, no one seems to be noticeably upset when we reach our destination.

**“S”** Socialize with the group. Try to sit with different people at mealtime. This way you can get a different view of the trip. New ideas will be exchanged and concerns expressed. After a long day’s drive, a snack and/or beverage will relax and invigorate your spirit.

The best advice that we can provide is to become a member of the Exposure Trip gang. Go and enjoy. We had a wonderful time with our “Model A Family” and look forward to many more enjoyable trips on future tours.

*Linnea and Chuck*



# Exposure 2013









A'S R US MEETING MINUTES  
September 18, 2013

**MEETING LOCATION:** Al & Sandy Kaleta's home

**CALL TO ORDER BY VICE PRESIDENT IRV DARNALL AT:** 7:05PM. Minutes were read by Sandy and approved as corrected.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** The treasurer's report was presented by Jim and approved as reported. He stated that the 50% from Driving the Dixie has still not been paid to the Dixie Communities. He reminded the membership that our dues are due and that he will have to send a check to MAFCA next month. MAFCA \$40.00 and A'SRUS \$20.00

### **FAMILY NEWS:**

Sandy read a card of thanks from **Tim & Carole Dionne**. Tim is scheduled for open heart surgery 9/30, keep him in your prayers.

**Bob thanked** the ladies for the desserts they brought to their anniversary party.

**Dale read** a postcard from Marlene and stated that Cory is now stateside.

**Linea thanked** everyone for sending B.D. cards to her mother for her 90<sup>th</sup>. She received 137 cards.

**Tim B. thanked** everyone for their thoughtful cards and e-mails, he is on the road to recovery.

**Char read** and had members sign a card being sent to a thoughtful person who was met on the exposure trip.

**Jon reported** that Tim BJ was at the hospital with his sister who had surgery and was having a difficult time recovering from anesthetic.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Chuck reported** there were no updates on the trailer. **Dale reported** there were no updates on the Ronald McDonald House.

**Phil gave a report** on the Around the Lake exposure trip: 1250 miles were covered, some rain incurred, beautiful scenery, great company and minimal problems with the cars. All in all it was a successful trip. More will follow in the next newsletter. Phil also stated there are early plans for a 2014 trip.

**Wally gave** a report re: our **Christmas party** and the possibility of having it at Aurillio's in Frankfort. Discussion followed with possibilities of having the party catered in Chuck's garage. A vote was taken and it was unanimous to have the party at Aurillios and Wally stated he will lock in the date of December 11<sup>th</sup>. Menus were discussed and the membership chose to go with Pizza, with salad etc. and 3 entrees for \$15.95 apiece. Members will pay \$10.00@, children \$7.95 (paid by the club) and guests full price. More information will follow.

**Ken McNeeley reminded** the membership there is still room if they want to go on the Fall Trip Sept. 27, 28 & 29<sup>th</sup>. The trip will leave from the Momence Family Restaurant on 125 W. Dixie Highway e-mail to follow. **Jim stated** the Centennial Committee met tonight and he will have more information at the October meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Wally introduced his guest John** and stated John is interested in our club and has a 1931 Slant Window Model A. John was welcomed and given an application and a booklet re: our club.

**Karen stated** she will be in contact with Marlene regarding new badges and next years directory.

**Thanks to Dale** for copying and compiling our A'SRUS booklets and copying membership applications.

## **Tech Talk:**

Postponed because of the upcoming Fall Trip being back to back with the Excursion. Wally asked Jon his opinion regarding the type of oil that is best for our Model A's. Jon replied that all oils work, 10W40, straight 30 or straight 40 and that he feels synthetics are pricey and over kill. Jon personally uses a Marvel Mystery Oil additive & Bob commented he uses a 40 weight with a Zinc additive.

**Breakfast:** Postponed for September.

## **Misc Discussions:**

**Irv shared incoming mail** and reminded Phil to please find out how many clubs are in MAFCA so we can make an appropriate donation to Gilmore Museum for utilities etc.

**Wally stated** that we have been invited to participate in the Hesston, Indiana Labor Day Celebration and Parade. This could be a day trip or overnight. More info will follow.

**2014 Spring Trip** was mentioned and Bob reminded us we need to start planning. "Time waits for no man".

**Irv received a letter** inviting us to Gilmore for 9/20 to 9/22 Model A Days anyone interested contact him.

## **Next months mtg:**

October 16, 2013 at Irv & Char Darnall's, 30461 S. 120<sup>th</sup> Ave, Peotone, Il  
Irv reminded the members this is our Auction meeting and to start gathering items to contribute.

Badge fines: \$5.00 50/50 \$82.00 Winner: Dave \$41.00

Adjourn: 8:10PM Irv thanked Al, Sandy and Snickers for their hospitality and refreshments.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: SANDY KALETA  
SECRETARY

## Up and coming 2013 Events:

Meeting Wednesday October 16th: Irv and Char  
Darnell's home. 30461 S. 120<sup>th</sup> Ave. Peotone, IL  
Auction and food. Please bring a dish and items to auction 6:00  
PM Start

Meeting Wednesday November 20<sup>th</sup>: Chuck and Linnea  
Fritz, 537 Lakewood Ave. Park Forest IL

Christmas Party: December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Aureillo's pizza Frankfort, IL  
\$20.00 Men or Gal gift

### Looking forward into 2014

Ronald McDonald House

Teen Bridge Center

Shake Down Trip

Spring Trip

Veterans Home

Camp Quality

58th. Annual Hesston Steam & Power Show 2014

Labor Day Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>

Exposure Trip 2014

Tentative / September 6<sup>th</sup> through the 14<sup>th</sup>

Newport Hill Climb

October 3rd - 5<sup>th</sup>

Fall Trip

## • A's R Us 2013 officers and Staff

- President – Tim Borchert
- Vice President – Irv Darnell / Treasure – Jim Wright / Secretary – Sandy Kaleta
- Newsletter – Phillip Serviss
- Member Relations –
- Web Page –
- 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

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

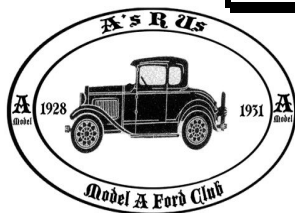
E Mail to: [taxserviss@att.net](mailto:taxserviss@att.net)

A little help here! Stuck in the sand by lake Michigan.



## BACKFIRE

P.O. Box 3  
Crete, Illinois 60417



Mail To: