

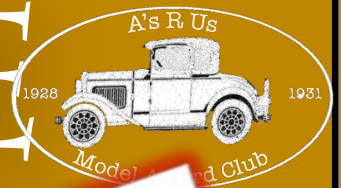


VOLUME 19

ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2014

# BACKFIRE



Chicago Southland Chapter, Model A Ford Club of America

<http://www.drivingthedixie.com>



*The Corp  
Editor in Chief*

Well over 8 months ago I received a call from the Chapter Coordinator Jill Sullins of MAFCA. We spent 40 minutes or better talking about how to better our newsletter that she has been getting for a couple years now. I've tried to incorporate her suggestions to the best of my abilities. Our discussions ranged from how surprised she was at how small a chapter we are to our activities with the public and our club. At that time she had read a couple of articles on safety I had published here and she want to see me re-submit them to the editor. She felt that there was good information in them that should be shared. Well I did and a week or so later Jim Spawn (Restorer Editor) Emailed me back with a few questions. Over a couple of months and a few calls from and to Jim, I gave him what he needed. Now Marlene Krygowski "Three Generations Build an A", Jim Wright "Dixie Highway", Ron Bonneau "Safety Is No Accident", and myself "Illinois Club Prepares For Medical Emergency" have now been published in our national magazine "The Restorer." Not bad for a club of 30 families. What's even better thou, is our club has many talented members that showcase their gifts behind the scene that would sorely be missed if you weren't there. Who knows what could happen when you submit articles to me, or I ask you to submit to this little rag. You too may be published in our National Magazine "The Restorer".

***Header Picture:***

Bob Steinmetz and Charlie Peckman  
Bob's grandson picking up the signs on  
"Driving The Dixie"

Phil

# Presidents Comments

## LETTER FROM THE PREZ

**I** want to thank all those **A's R US** members who worked so hard to make "Driving the Dixie" a big success. I know it was a challenge to make it work through our cloud bursts but as always, the A's made it work, thanks again.

What a wonderful outing our picnic turned out to be. Our "**future**" A's R US group had a wonderful time, from blowing bubbles to soaking the adults with their water cannons. The food was great and so was the ice cream and our new picnic grove was excellent. **THANK YOU EVERYONE** for your hard work.

Hope to see all of you at the next Bridge Teen Center Car Show at Oberweis Dairy, 159<sup>th</sup> and Harlem, from 5-9 pm on July 9<sup>th</sup>.

Our next meeting will be July 16<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm at the Park Forest Police Station, hosted by Steve Coe.

See ya there!

**Ricochet**



# Exposure Trip 2014 Nashville, TN September 3rd thru the 10th



Email Phil Serviss  
for more information

## DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright



Accidents, thievery, murder and other mayhem are some of the tales that comprise the story of the Dixie Highway in Illinois. This month the story is of fire that destroyed an early Dixie landmark as told by the March 11, 1938 edition of the *Beecher Herald*.

*"Fire of mysterious origin completely destroyed the Reising garage and motor agency early Monday morning, razing the large one story building and ruining nineteen automobiles, including three new machines. Estimates of the loss ran as high as \$20,000.*

*Although the walls of the building were of cement block construction, the heat of the flames was so intense that the entire structure was in ruins within an hour after the first alarm sounded...Breaking out at 1:30 a.m. near the front of the structure, the flames spread rapidly to every section of the garage. By the time the Beecher volunteer fire department arrived, the building was smoke filled and the roof was about to burst into flames.*

## DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright



*A series of explosions quickly ended all hope of saving either the building or contents. Flames spread to tires on a rack above the display window, and then traveled toward the stored autos in the rear. Gasoline tanks of the cars exploded in rapid fire succession, as did oil and gasoline stored in cans. The blaze reached its height about twenty minutes after the alarm was sounded...So complete was the destruction that the owners said no attempt would be made to repair it.*

*The garage building was situated on the west side of the Dixie Highway near the north limits of the village. It was constructed only a few years ago {1936}. In addition to operating a large repair business, the Reising brothers were agents in the community for Chevrolet and Oldsmobile cars."*

The Reisings would rebuild and sold new Chevrolets through 2010 when General Motors did not renew their franchise agreement in a corporate consolidation that affected over 1000 other new car dealers.

# Sandy Kaleta Reporter on the Know!



## *A Bit Of History I Betcha Didn't Know...*

Hours after Pearl Harbor was bombed on December 7, 1941, the Secret Service found themselves in a bind. President Franklin D. Roosevelt was to give his Day of Infamy speech to Congress on Tuesday, and although the trip from the White House to Capitol Hill was short, agents weren't sure how to transport him safely. At the time, Federal Law prohibited buying any cars that cost more than \$750, so they would have to get clearance from Congress to do that, and nobody had time for that. One of the Secret Service members, however, discovered that the US Treasury had seized the bulletproof car that mobster Al Capone owned when he was sent to jail in 1931. They cleaned it, made sure it was running perfectly and had it ready for the President the next day.



## **Al Capone's** 1928 Cadillac V-8 "Al Capone" Town Sedan became the President's Limo December 1941.

Mechanics are said to have cleaned and checked each feature of the Caddy well into the night of December 7th, to make sure that it would run properly the next day for the Commander in Chief. And run properly it did. It had been painted black and green to look identical to Chicago's police cars at the time. To top it off, the gangster's 1928 Cadillac Town Sedan had 3,000 pounds of armor and inch-thick bulletproof windows. It also had a specially installed siren and flashing lights hidden behind the grille, along with a police scanner radio.

Footnote: The car was sold at auction in 2012 for \$341,000.





## Illinois Club Prepares for Road Medical Emergency

By Phil Serviss, Beecher, Illinois

The A/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.

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 effectively in the event we ever had to use this equipment.

The meeting night started 1/2 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" mannequins. 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 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.



**A's R US MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 18, 2014**

**MEETING LOCATION:** Bob Steinmetz Garage in Frankfort

**CALLED TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT IRV DARNALL AT:** 7:10 PM, 20 members were present.

**MINUTES** from the MAY meeting were approved as read.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jim Wright

**FAMILY NEWS:** Al's peripheral vision is better and getting stronger. He and Ken are working on the Huckster.

Ken announced Cory got engaged, they are planning an October wedding. They want lots of Model A's for the wedding.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The visitors from England sent a thank you note regarding their good time they had with our Club and their trip to Pontiac.

**OLD BUSINESS: DRIVING THE DIXIE:** Elaine sent an e-mail stating there is no longer a car show in Chicago Heights. Phil will take care of tables and chairs, Randy and Ken have tents. Start at 8:00 am.

**PICNIC:** To be held on June 29<sup>th</sup> at Meadowlark Pavilion in Goodnow Grove, approximately 30 hope to attend. Discussed games and prizes for the kids. Club to furnish meat, paper products and utensils. Those attending are to bring side dish, dessert and drinks. We should be eating around 12:30 or 1:00 pm. Asked for volunteers to head the children's games....no volunteers.

**PUBLIC ENEMY 5K RUN** will be held in Crown Point, Indiana at the fairgrounds (Rt. 231 at 41 is closed), sign up is 8-8:30 am, ends at 11:00 am. This is the same day as our picnic, hopefully it will be over in plenty of time to make it back for our picnic.

**PARADES:** Homewood lineup will be at the Library at St. Joseph's. Register at the Princess Café in Beecher. Meet at Phil and Nancy's at 2:30, bring a side dish and dessert. **NO CANDY** is to be passed out at the parade.

**FALL TRIP:** Our trip to Shipshewana, Indiana will be October 17, 18 and 19. There are 25 rooms reserved (double queens) at the Van Buren Hotel at \$89 per night. Saturday night there will be a play and dinner at the Gateway Theatre for \$39.

**Phone for hotel reservations: 1-260-768-7780.**

TEEN BRIDGE CAR SHOW at Famous Dave's in Orland Park, 155<sup>th</sup> and Harlem on Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> from 5-9 pm, \$5 donation for car show entry.

TEEN BRIDGE CAR SHOW at Oberweiss in Orland, 159<sup>th</sup> and Harlem will be on July 9<sup>th</sup> from 5-9 pm.

FRANKFORT CRUISE NIGHT is on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. They're looking for seven different body styles and have reserved seven spaces for these cars only. Be there by 2:30 pm.

CHUCK WAGON is on hold now but will be ready for our fall trip.

NEW BUSINESS: None

No Tech Talk or Breakfast scheduled.

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING will be held on July 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Park Forest Police Station (200 Lakewood Boulevard) with Steve Coe as host.

BADGE FINES: \$2

50/50: Phil \$36

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Char Darnall, Secretary.

# Cruisin' for Camp Quality

Wednesday, August 6, 2014 at 6 PM in Frankfort, IL

## Antique, Special Interest and Collectible Vehicles

Please join us for a fun evening to give "Kids with Cancer" a special treat to remember. This is the 20th year for this annual ride to help brighten a day in the life of these special kids. The evening promises to be rewarding for all who participate. **THIS IS A RAIN OR SHINE EVENT.**

**Please Note!** Changes have been made to our annual cruise for kids with cancer including the Wednesday date.

All cars will meet at the new Municipal Parking Lot (formerly Fox Lumber Co.), north of the Trolley Barn on White Street, in downtown Frankfort between 6 and 6:30 p.m. Have your current insurance card with you. Promptly at 6:30 we will leave by police escort to go to Camp Manitoqua on Sauk Trail where we will pick up the kids for a ride with their companion, again by police escort. We then return to Camp Manitoqua for entertainment and ice cream for all, courtesy of Culver's. **Please Do Not go directly to Camp Manitoqua.**



This is an annual event sponsored by the Frankfort Car Club to benefit "Camp Quality". In 2013 we had had 59 classic cars, but needed 80. We look forward to seeing your classic car on Wednesday, August 6, 2014. Thank you for participating.

For Information: [www.frankfortcarclub.org](http://www.frankfortcarclub.org)

Camp Quality is a summer camp for children with cancer. It crystalizes a year round support program for the children and their families. Camp Quality is the children's family cancer charity that believes in bringing optimism and happiness to the lives of children affected by cancer through therapy with the belief that laughter is the best medicine. [www.campquality.org](http://www.campquality.org)

## MEETINGS FOR 2014

JULY: STEVE COE

AUGUST: KEN & DALE CHAMIS

SEPTEMBER: AL & SANDY Kaleta

OCTOBER: IRV & CHAR DARNALL

NOVEMBER: CHUCK & LINNEA FRITZ

DECEMBER: TO BE DECIDED

Remember to up-date your medical form for next year. A new form is on page 14 of the newsletter.

**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 be 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 2014 Events:

### July Meeting

**Wednesday July 16th 7:00.**

Park Forest police station



### 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

Exposure Trip 2014

Newport Hill Climb

Fall Trip

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

September 3rd through the 10th

October 3rd – 5<sup>th</sup>

# A's R Us 2014 officers and Staff

- President – Irv Darnell
- Vice President – Steve Coe / Treasure – Jim Wright / Secretary – Char Darnell
- Newsletter – Phillip Serviss
- Member Relations – Ken Chamis
- Web Page – Allen Swicago
- Parade Coordinator – Wally Ekstrom
- Director of Safety – Ron Bonneau
- Nat'l Rep. – Ken Chamis
- Historian – Ken Chamis
- Sgt. At Arms Steve Coe
- Motor Medic - Jon Isota

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