



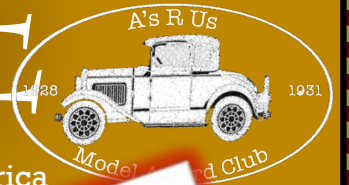
VOLUME 19

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BACKFIRE

Chicago Southland Chapter, Model A Ford Club of America



<http://www.drivingthedixie.com>



Well weeks of preparation for this trip paid off for Nancy and I and the group on this 1,150 Mile trip to Nashville TN and back. Ron Bonneau did an outstanding job securing the lodging for the trip. Our leaders, which changed every day, got us to where we needed to be and our motor medic was busier than he has normally been on past trips. In next months publication the story of the trip and pictures will abound! I will tease you with a few pictures now, so until next month.....

Phil

Header Picture:

Somewhere in Vermilion County a private Museum held stories and treasures. More next months Backfire.

Presidents Comments

LETTER FROM THE PREZ

September 2014

IT WAS TENNESSEE OR BUST. The faithful Model A's made it again. Thanks to all who made our 2014 exposure trip a safe and memorable one.

A big thanks also goes to the members who led the way on each day. As well, the trust our fellow members gave these leaders. You just couldn't guess what was next. A few times we didn't know exactly where we were, but we wasn't lost!

Our motor Medic, Jon the wrench, was kept busy. He found a woodpecker in Ron's motor. Phil's car had a little man with a hammer sound. Phil discovered the rear muffler clamp was installed incorrectly, he made the repair, and presto. Next Ken Chamis' A was sounding like a **Southside Drive By**. Jon the wrench checked ignition system, carburetor, and coil, repaired as needed. Only one tire had to be changed, Phil's A had a leaking valve stem. A quick pit, and we were on the way. Ken McNeely made it within 10 miles from home, and his A's clutch went South. A little tug with a strap and he was safely home. Last but not least, an unknown Alien unstrapped Jon's cooler strap. And now for the rest of the story, Beer, pickles and V-8 juice all over the road.

It was **an unforgettable Exposure Trip** .

Hope to see you at our next Meeting, September 17, 7PM at Al & Sandy Kaleta's 5035 W. 171st, Tinley Park.



Ricochet

Jon Lisota: Motor Medic

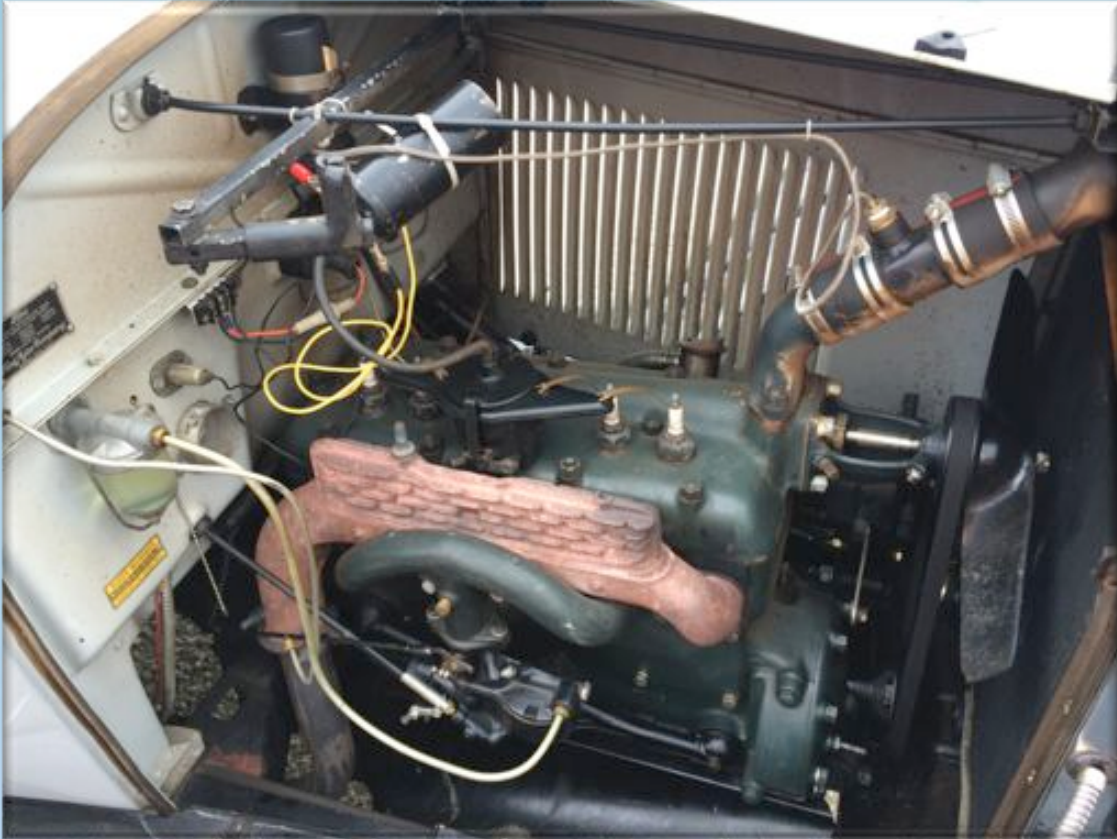


The trip started out on a fine morning. We met at Phil and Nancy's house for juice, coffee, rolls and lots of snacks. We hit the road about nine o'clock. We went down route 1 and picked up Ken and Arlene, and Irv and Char in Momence. Now we are all together and driving really begins for the southland.

Going in to Watseka, Ron B. says hey Jon, can we check out my car, it sounds like a tractor. We pulled into the Big R store and checked the sounds of his car. Sure enough, it does sound like a tractor. Hammering noises all over that engine! Thinking maybe the center mains are shot it was decided to leave the car at Drallie's dealership. I called Bob Steinmetz to pick the car up with his trailer. Ron loaded his luggage in with Jon and Yvonne. With a sad heart, we continued on our way.

Ron did not have a great day, the first day, but knowing he had all the reservation made he gutted it out. The group made it to Nashville with only a missing starter bendix spring bolt on my car. Not bad for 500 + miles under our belt.

The trip home on the other hand brought more miseries as we would soon find out. I hear on the radio that Ken Chamis says his car has no power and can't keep up. He lifts the hood and he says he is leaking gas from the carburetor. Ken changes it out and on we go. Later on he is having the same problem. Now we installed one of my carburetors and he says it is running better. Down the road we have to pull over again, because Ken is backfiring and sputtering. We pulled into a long stone driveway and into a farmer's machine yard and start checking things out. The spark was weak so we pulled the dizzy and replaced it. It still had a weak spark after changing it out, so we changed the coil. Seem to be a lot better. Almost an hour later we were on the road again and Ken and Dale made it into the hotel at Mattoon.



The last day of the trip at the hotel Ken and Arlene are having problems shifting their trans. Gears are clashing no matter what they do. Phil checks out the clutch pedal linkage, and it seemed to be adjusted properly. In the meantime, Ken's car won't start and now it is raining. Again a weak spark! We hang another coil from the hood rod and use jumper wires. We then pull started his car and got it running. Once it warmed up, he said it is running real nicely.

The rain bothered us all the way home. We missed the heavy stuff and got home to sunshine. Ken and Arlene left us early so they could get home to a wake. We kept in touch by cell phone and he made it to within ten miles of home and finally had to have a neighbor tow him the rest of the way home. So all the cars are back home, one way or another.

I pulled the pan off Ron's car the next day and inspected the lower end. The bearings were all in good shape, including the rod bearings. While the bottom side was apart I decided to plastique gauge the bearings.

During the inspection we found that the timing gear was missing many a tooth or so. After rotating the engine for further inspection, we found that his timing gear had five teeth missing or damaged in a row. After I closed up the bottom end the timing gear was replaced.

Ron started it up and got a big grin on his face, as now he can do the fall trip, without rebuilding his engine. The trip was a lot of fun, for those who drove the one thousand miles.

DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright



One of the major landmarks on the Dixie Highway in Chicago Heights is St. James Hospital, located at the *Crossroads of the Nation*, the intersection of the Lincoln and Dixie Highways. The following is an excerpt from the November 29, 1911 issue of the *Chicago Heights Star* and provides a description of the "modern" facilities the hospital contained.

"The dedication of St. James hospital on Thanksgiving Day will be one of the events in the history of progress in Chicago Heights. The building and equipment are of the most modern type and of which the citizens may justly feel proud.

The main building which is five stories in height, is built of pressed brick, steel and reinforced concrete, with interior oak trimmings and is absolutely fireproof. All electric and telephone wires run through conduit which are laid in concrete.

The construction work was begun a little over a year ago. All of this work, including the building, heating, plumbing and electrical, is of the very best design and workmanship, all work being inspected by experts at various stages of construction.

The capacity of the hospital is almost sixty-five patients, for which are provided seven wards, containing from four to six beds, three semi-private rooms containing two beds, and fifteen private rooms. Each floor is provided with a separate switchboard without bell or buzzer. Instead a small electric light flashes and a drop indicates the number of room where a nurse is wanted. An automatic electric elevator connects the floors and is constructed to safeguard against any possible accident.

DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright



On the rear of the building there are large and roomy porches for the use of convalescent patients. The first floor or basement is arranged for the kitchen, bakery, ice chest and four dining rooms. An emergency room is also arranged on this floor for immediate attention of patients. On the second or main floor are the parlor, reception rooms, doctor's office, pharmacy, dressing room, bath rooms, diet kitchens and patient wards and rooms.

The third and fourth floors each have a diet kitchen and patient wards and rooms. The fifth or top floor is provided with an operating room, anesthetic room, laboratory and doctors' and nurses' dressing rooms. The sisters have five rooms on this floor as their private apartments.

The operating and sterilizing rooms are equipped with celebrated White Cross appurtenances, which are the very best made. The estimated cost of the building and contents is about \$100,000.

To the Sisters of St. Francis of Lafayette, Indiana, who worked so ardently and zealously for the success of the enterprise, the highest praise must be given, Their efforts in the management of the institution will surely be crowned with success."

DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE



By Jim Wright



Sandy Kaleta Reporter on the Know!



FASHION: what is fashion??

Definition: Fashion is always changing, slightly elusive, extremely seductive. It has the power to transform an image and make a social statement.

The dictionary further states it is the prevailing style or custom. Something such as a garment that is in the current trend, a style characteristic of the social elite, to some it is an art form and to others it is almost a religion. You can use fashion to express yourself, as an extension of your personality. Fashion statements can be made with clothing, accessories, shoes, hair, makeup and possessions.

The picture Phil posted on the last page of July's Newsletter "BUY YOUR WIFE a **FORD**" reminded me of the struggle Edsel Ford had convincing his father that the MODEL T was out and that black wasn't the only color. Edsel knew that Fashion was dictating change and they had to proceed with the Model A, because they were losing the lead in the automotive industry. They had to have style, pizzaz and color to appeal to the 1928 buyer. It had to be a car that was brand new, different and affordable. Advertisements claimed "the Model A will bring you more beauty, speed, quiet, comfort, safety, economy and stamina than you ever thought possible in a low-priced car".

Ford claimed the 1928 Model A to be a new mechanical design, with many of its features exclusively Ford developments. They further stated it was Ford policy to own the source of raw materials, of making virtually every part, doing business at a small profit per car enabling them to cut many dollars off the price.

MODEL A FEATURES: Beautiful new body lines, choice of four(4) colors, remarkable acceleration (55-65MPH), four wheel brakes, hydraulic shock absorbers, 20-30 miles per gallon of gasoline, theft proof lock and typical Ford reliability.

STANDARD EQUIPMENT ON ALL NEW FORD CARS: Dash light, five steel spoke wheels, mirror, windshield wiper, rear and stop light, speedometer, oil guage, gasoline guage, and tools.



First Pictures of the New Ford Car



SEE THE NEW FORD CAR
 WITH THE NEW FORD MOTOR COMPANY
 \$360
 FORD MOTOR COMPANY

SEE THE NEW FORD CAR
 WITH THE NEW FORD MOTOR COMPANY
 \$320
 FORD MOTOR COMPANY



SEE THE NEW FORD CAR
 WITH THE NEW FORD MOTOR COMPANY
 \$350
 FORD MOTOR COMPANY



SEE THE NEW FORD CAR
 WITH THE NEW FORD MOTOR COMPANY
 \$385
 FORD MOTOR COMPANY

FORD MOTOR COMPANY
 Detroit, Michigan



SEE THE NEW FORD CAR
 WITH THE NEW FORD MOTOR COMPANY
 \$400
 FORD MOTOR COMPANY

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.

A's R US MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 20, 2014

MEETING LOCATION: Ken & Dale Chamis

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT: 7:05 pm, 22 members present.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes from the July meeting were approved as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jim reported we received -----from Driving the Dixie registration (which our A's Club receives ½ of this amount which is -----) & ----- from the Poker Run and 10 in a Bag. Dixie's account has a balance of -----, A's balance is -----.

FAMILY NEWS: Glad to hear Marlene is on the road to recovery. We passed a card around for members to sign. Jacob (Al & Sandy's grandson) is doing well, no more brace but going into physical therapy. Missed Jon at the meeting, understand he's having some tests run.

CORRESPONDENCE: Received a thank you note from Marilyn Graham concerning our Veterans Home visit. They were very appreciative of our Club's car exhibit and the photos that were taken and placed in frames for the Veterans, they loved it. Received notification from Elaine Egdorf of the next Driving the Dixie meeting to be held on Monday, August 25th at 7:00 pm at the Hazel Crest Fire Station on 175th Street and Stonebridge Drive. Will discuss the start of erecting signs in the communities. Illinois Region M.A.R.C. & Illinois Chapter M.A.F.C.A. are hosting "An afternoon of Model A's and Memories" on September 7th for "The 2014 QUAD Meet at Cantigny Park".

Model A Day at the Gilmore Car Museum will be September 20th.

Hemming's Club Directory is having a Car Show and Festival that is in support of Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. This will be held on September 21st at the All Seasons Apple Orchard in Woodstock, Il.

Somernites Cruise Club in Somerset, Ky. Are showcasing Model A's October 24th & 25th.

OLD BUSINESS: It was mentioned that we need business cards for our A's R Us Club, did not go into details. Will discuss this later.

There was a great turnout for the last BRIDGE TEEN CAR SHOW at Chick-Fil-A, over 70 cars.

NASHVILLE TRIP – Meet at Phil & Nancy's around 8:00 am on Sept. 3rd for coffee cake & juice, leaving from there at 9:00 am. We will have a picnic lunch in Forest Glen. Stops along the way include Revolution Museum, visit an old theatre, Hoopston, then on to Terre Haute. Ken & Arlene will meet up with us in Momence. Charlie & Carolyn Gray (former members) will meet us Saturday morning at the hotel. Phil will send emails with details.

FALL TRIP – Make reservations now for our Shipshewana, Indiana weekend trip of October 17, 18 & 19th.

DRIVING THE DIXIE – There is a meeting Monday, August 25th, will discuss results of this meeting at our A's September meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Discussed several places to have this year's Christmas Party, it's usually held on the second Wednesday of December. Aurelio's Pizzeria was mentioned. Bob & Wally will get details regarding Balagio's at 175th & Dixie.

COMING EVENTS: The Wally Ekstrom's & the Dionne's have invited our Club to Cedar Lake Yacht Club for a shrimp & corn boil on Saturday, August 30th. There will be snacks on the pontoon boats (if you care to take a ride), cash bar for A's. The cost for dinner will be \$15-\$17 ea. Meet at Wally & Kay's at 2:00 pm, rain or shine, dress is casual. Bring your Model A.

Labor Day – Heston Steam Show. We will need to pass on this as it is close to our Exposure Trip, Wally will call to let them know we won't be attending this year.

Deep River Grinders Baseball Game is September 21st, bring a dish to share & if you like, dress the part. It's always a great day.

Ken received call from Deacon John from **St. James Church** (at the Sag Bridge), 107th & Kedzie, Lemont, inviting us to their open house on October 12th, food will be provided. Hours 9-3. Bring cars. Will take count at our next month's meeting. Joe loved this place, maybe we could attend "In Memory of Joe".

Waterford Estates at 175th & Kedzie is an Assisted Living for Seniors. They are having an open house on September 13th and would like us to bring our Model A's.

Newport Hill Climb – October 3rd thru 5th.

Bridge Teen Center will be taking apart a Model A engine and putting it back together on October 9th and October 16th.

A's R US AUCTION will be held October 15th at our regular meeting which will be at Irv & Char's in Peotone. Make sure you bring some things to auction off.

TECH TALK & BREAKFAST: None scheduled for this month.

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING: Al & Sandy Kaleta's 5035 W. 171st, Tinley Park

BADGE FINES: \$4.00

50/50: Bob Steinmetz was the winner of \$34.00

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:15 pm

Respectfully submitted by Secretary, Char Darnall.

1940s Hangar Swing Dance

USO Fundraiser, admission \$12

Presented by



Saturday October 25th 7:30-11:30

Free Swing dance lesson provided by Carl & Karrie, starts at 7:30

Lakes Area Swing Band fires up the music at 8:30

Best dressed contest



All proceeds go to support the USO

DeKalb Taylor Municipal Airport

3232 Pleasant St

DeKalb, IL 60115

MEETINGS FOR 2014

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:

September Meeting

Wednesday July 17th 7:00.

Al & Sandy Kaleta's 5035 W. 171st, Tinley Park.



Looking forward into 2014

Ronald McDonald House

Shake Down Trip

Veterans Home

58th. Annual Hesston Steam & Power Show 2014

Exposure Trip 2014

Newport Hill Climb

Fall Trip

Teen Bridge Center

Spring Trip

Camp Quality

Labor Day Sept. 1st

September 3rd through the 10th

October 3rd - 5th

• 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

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

E Mail to: taxserviss@att.net

Bridge into Kentucky!

BACKFIRE

P.O. Box 3
Crete, Illinois 60417

