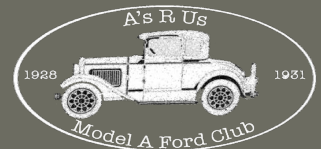


BACKFIRE



Volume #22

Issue #3

March 2017



*The Carp,
Editor in Chief*

If you haven't gotten your car out for a quick drive in the last few weeks your going to have to wait another week or so as a final blast of winter is going to show itself here in Chicagoland. Up to 5" or more of the white stuff. I on the other hand will be making my way to Pueblo Colorado for crude Oil Transport Training with the Union Pacific railroad. I will be out there for a week and the temps will be in the mid to upper 70's! Information will be coming about the shakedown trip and looks like it will be a full house at the Lakeside and Gordon Inn's in May. I will see you all in April and I will be sure to send pictures of me in shorts in Colorado on FB next week.

Phil



Filming 'Road to Perdition'
I was able to get Jude Law to stand by my 1929 and get a picture.
April 2002



Presidents Comments

- *Events so far scheduled*
- **SHAKEDOWN CRUISE,**
Ken suggested we go to Hebron, Indiana which is about a 65 mile drive and end up in Beecher or Crete. April 22nd was the date of choice. More information will follow.
- **LAKESIDE INN** May 5th & 6th 2017. We were able to make contact with Lakeside Inn and Gordon Beach Inn and our reservations are confirmed.
- **ANNUAL A'SRUS PICNIC** will be on Sunday July 30th.
- **2017 EXCURSION TRIP;** Phil suggested we do an opposite loop of the lake this year, spending a couple days in Milwaukee and taking a ferry to Ludington. It would be the second week in September, leaving on a Tuesday and returning on Monday. Ron stated he would be happy to help with the planning. The group was receptive to this suggestion and more information will follow.
- **FALL TRIP;** no information or suggestions to date.
- **MEETING: MARCH 15TH AT 7:00pm.**
HOSTS: Gerry & Ray Schmude, 8845 W. 103rd Place, Palos Hills



Tim Dionne | President

DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright



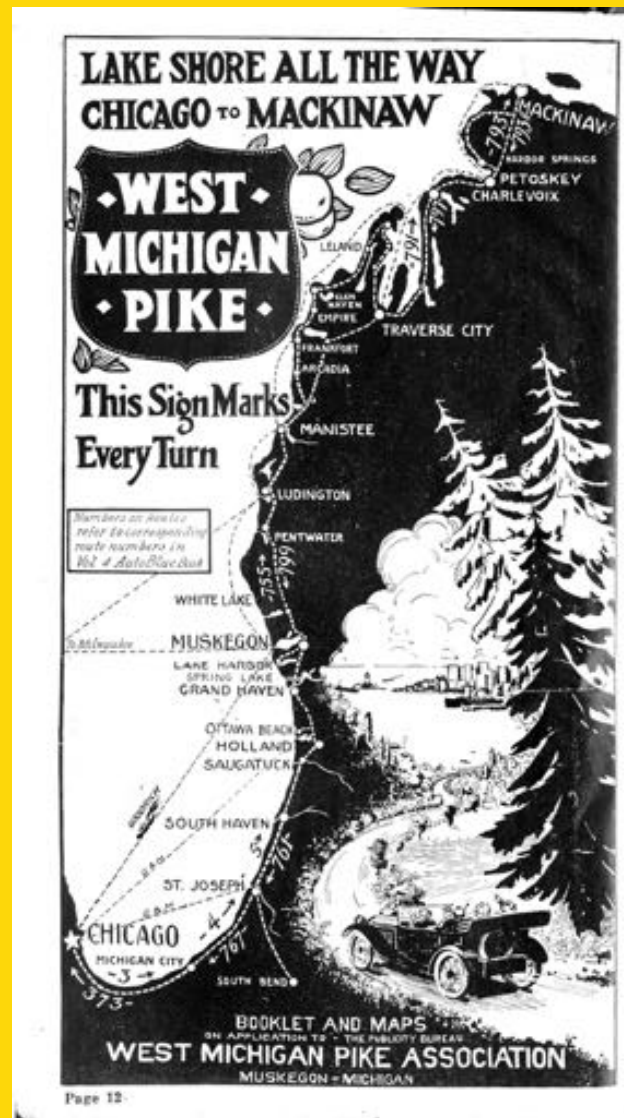
Residents and politicians gathered in Mackinaw City in 1916, to celebrate the construction of a stone monument that commemorated the junction of the East Michigan Pike and West Michigan Pike that helped develop a continuous route from [Sault Ste. Marie](#) to [Miami, Florida](#). The two "Pikes" in Michigan were the roads selected to form the Dixie Highway in the state. [Nearly 40](#) years later, the monument, which had fallen into disrepair, was torn down with little ceremony and the stones used to construct it were tossed into the lake. In 2010, the Mackinaw City Village Council agreed to construct a replica of the monument and place it where it once rested as a tribute to the village's rich history.





The Dixie monument sat at the end of [East Central Avenue](#) and marked the terminus of the East and West Michigan Pike. The idea of creating a continuous route from [Sault Ste Marie](#) to Miami originated in [1914](#) with [Indianapolis](#) entrepreneur Carl Graham Fisher. [Fisher](#) was interested in selling automobiles, and a continuous route would serve him well as it would encourage people to purchase and use more vehicles.

The network of interconnected paved roads was constructed and expanded from [1915](#) to [1927](#). Two divisions of the Dixie Highway were constructed, a western one that connected Chicago and Miami and an eastern division connecting Sault Ste. Marie to Miami. The creation of the highway was important as it encouraged motorists to visit northern [Michigan](#). The western division would eventually terminate at Sault Ste. Marie also.



The Dixie Highway Association oversaw the Dixie Highway until 1927, when the association was disbanded and the highway was taken over as part of the United States highway system, with parts of it becoming state

roads. The eastern pike traveled the eastern side of [Michigan](#) and is now known as US- 23 and the western pike traversed the western side of Michigan and is known as [US-31](#). Unfortunately, almost 7 years later, the stone monument has not been reconstructed, however, a popular restaurant, The Dixie Saloon is located at the intersection.



Danville Balloon fest Labor Day weekend 2017





Witseka 150th Anniversary

Hi Everyone

Those that were in attendance at the meeting last night heard about our invitation from the town of Watseka to come down to participate in their 150 yr anniversary of the town. They would like us to participate in their car show. There was some discussion briefly about even staying overnight in town. Randy and Ken have done some research and found out that they are trying to plan a very nice event for that weekend. On Saturday we would leave and head down there and we have a block of rooms reserved already at the Super 8 in Watseka. Presently there are 15 rooms reserved and the block will be released May 25th. However if the block fills up there may be an opportunity for additional rooms. So don't hesitate to reserve your room now as you can always cancel (Steve Coe).

The event is June 10th and June 11th. Let Ken know if you are planning on attending.

Thanks, Dale



YOU'RE INVITED!!



soup



salad

bread

chili

dessert

3RD ANNUAL
CALUMET REGION MARC
SOUP DAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2017

**673 PENFIELD
BEECHER, IL**

1:00 PM

**HUBLEY DERBY
\$1.00 PER CAR
PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED
SO BRING YOUR HUBLEY
AND JOIN IN THE FUN!**

**\$10.00 PER PERSON
\$5.00 AGE 12-16
FREE UNDER AGE 12**



**A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS FROM THE DAY WILL
GO TO THE
MODEL A YOUTH GROUP SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Please join us for our annual day of Food, Friends and Fun! Enjoy many different homemade soups and chili's provided by the members of the Calumet Region. Salad and dessert are included.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

Carol Healy, 708-799-9142

Exposure trip September 5th - 11th



Planning has started on the 2017 Exposure trip and this year we will be going on a leisurely trip around the lake. This time we will cross the lake on the Badger Steam Ship! We will have a few stops along the way visiting a couple of different places. Plans will be coming and I hope you can join us.

A's R Us 2016 Officers and Staff

- President – Tim Dionne
- Vice President – Chuck Fritz
- Treasure – Jim Wright
- Secretary – Sandy Kaleta
- Newsletter – Phillip Serviss
- Member Relations – Ken Chamis
- Web Page – Allen Betschart
- Parade Coordinator – Wally Ekstrom
- Director of Safety – Ron Bonneau
- Nat'l Rep. – Ken Chamis
- Historian – Ken Chamis
- Sgt. At Arms Steve Coe
- MOTOR MEDIC – JOHN LISOTA

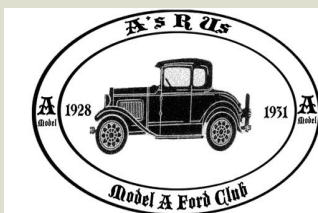
Get ready for the exposure Trip around Lake Michigan. Sort of.



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or items of interest to:

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