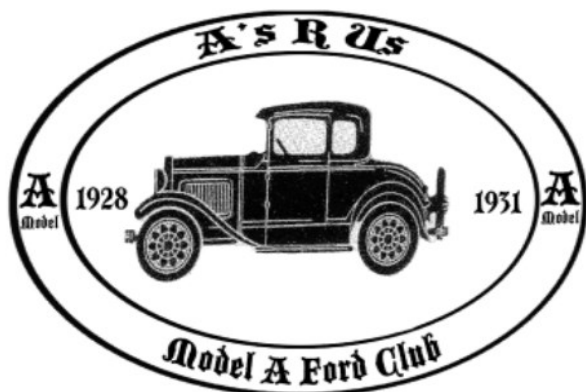


HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!

BACKFIRE



VOLUME#23, ISSUE#7

JULY 2018

I hope everyone had a safe and happy 4th of July. With celebrations across the country the A'S were also part of a few 4th of July parades. Posted here are some pictures Phil took.



That's a nice picture of Wally and Ron. Looks like Phil's having a good time too.



Can't beat fun with the grandkids. Looks like Ken's a bit thirsty, nothing like letting it all hang out.

Anybody ever wonder how the tradition of celebrating The 4th of July with fireworks got started? Hmm....



For as long as Americans can remember, the nation has celebrated the Fourth of July by staging grand fireworks shows in public squares and lighting smaller displays at home. Why do we commemorate Independence Day by setting off thousands of small explosions?



Because John Adams wanted us to. Before the Declaration of Independence was even signed, he envisioned fireworks as a part of the festivities. In a letter to Abigail Adams on July 3, 1776, he wrote that the occasion should be commemorated “with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and illuminations from one end of the continent to the other from this time forward forever more.” The first commemorative Independence Day fireworks were set off on July 4, 1777. The Pennsylvania *Evening Post* wrote that in Philadelphia, “The evening was closed with the ring of bells, and at night there was a grand exhibition of fireworks (which began and conclude with thirteen rockets) on the commons, and the city was beautifully illuminated.” The paper noted that “Everything was conducted with the greatest order and decorum, and the face of joy and gladness was universal.” That same year, fireworks also lit up the sky in Boston, where they were exhibited by Col. Thomas Crafts over the common. By 1783 a large variety of fireworks were available to the public. In 1784 one merchant offered a range of pyrotechnics that included “rockets, serpents, wheels, table rockets, cherry trees, fountains and sun flowers.



While some historians have suggested that India first invented fireworks, modern fireworks seem to have come to the West by way of China. Most early fireworks were simply repurposed military munitions, fired for entertainment rather than to frighten or kill the enemy. In the 12th century, the Chinese improved the burning fire arrow (a long-established weapon) by affixing small packs of gunpowder to it. From there it was not long before they invented rockets, simply stuffing a container with gunpowder and leaving a hole in one end for propulsion. These “ground rats” or “fire rats” as they were called, were wildly unpredictable, however, and while this made them less effective, it did contribute to their entertainment value. These rockets made their palace hall debut when emperor Li Tsung brought them before the empress Kung Sheng, but when one scurried up to her, she gathered up her skirts and brought the feast to a halt. During the Renaissance, fireworks became popular in Europe and were used in nationalist and imperialist celebrations by figures like Peter the Great and Louis XIV, who were especially big fans of the pyrotechnics.

Tradition alone, of course, does not explain the popularity of fireworks here and abroad. As with many festive decorations, including streamers, confetti, festival lights, and balloons, people often appreciate them simply for their bright colors. Others may appreciate the technical ingenuity and the choreography that goes into the show. And others just like dramatic loud noises, the sense of destruction, and the thrill of danger. Over time, fireworks shows can bring back memories of other festive occasions and warm summer nights. On the other hand, there are the occasional fireworks haters.



On June 27th there was a tech-talk at Jon Lisota's garage. In attendance were me, Ken Ron and Chuck. The subject was brakes and our car was the subject car. The following pictures deal specifically with drums and brake shoes.



Drums, before and after paint.



Shoes with pads already mounted.

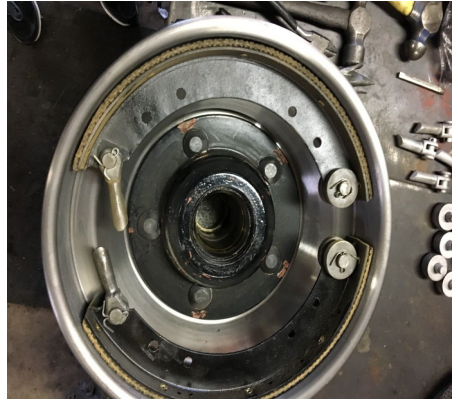


Cut drum.



“Arcing” shoe to fit the drum.

Arcing or shaping of the brake shoe makes it fit the same curve of the brake drum.



A perfect fit.



Drilling out studs with 5/8" hole and pounding them out to reuse the hubs.



Removing the wheel bearing from the hub.

HAPPY 4TH of JULY



Save rear wheel bearing.



New studs.



New drum on hub.



Pounding in new studs.

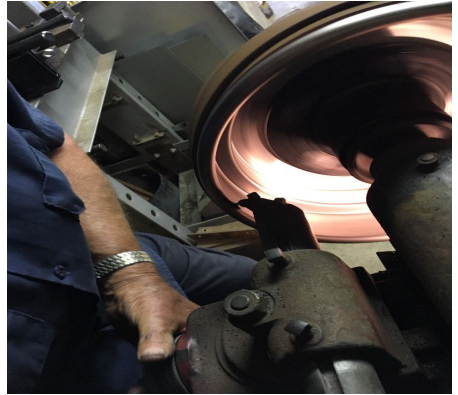


Pulling drum and hub together, needs to be tight.



Fourth of July

“Swedging” the studs takes 20 tons of force, done on a press. (from previous page)



Mounting the “chatter belt” on the drum absorbs any harmonic variations of the cutting lathe.

Cutting the drum on the lathe makes the inner surface perfectly round.



Just before final assembly. And now you can do your brakes too.

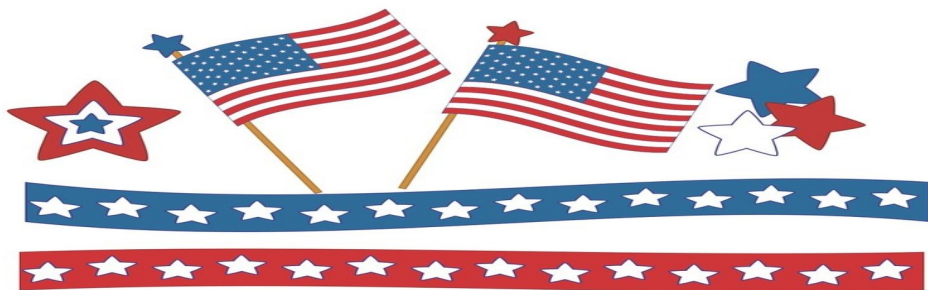




All these pictures taken are just a small part of all the work that went into this total brake job. It takes a lot of knowledge, skill and talent to do what Jon did. Our most sincere appreciation goes to Jon and all of the club members that helped to get this car to this running (and stopping) condition. I didn't think these old cars could stop this good.



Dixie Highway sign dedication in Momence, IL.



Looks like they had the urban parking crisis solved back in the 30's.

Go vertical.

And now, a bit of history.

A special area of the first transcontinental road to crisscross the United States from New York to California was never formally dedicated upon its completion in 1924.

But a recent ceremony to unveil two remodeled monuments and a brick paver patio along the "Ideal Section" of Lincoln Highway, also known as U.S. 30 in Dyer, more than made up for the oversight.



"Today is all about restoration," said Indiana Lincoln Highway Association (ILHA) board member and project chairman Bruce Butgereit, who spearheaded a project to refurbish the memorials located along the Ideal Section, a 1.35 mile stretch of the highway. "After we're done today, we have not only dedicated these monuments, but we've told more of the story (of the Ideal Section)."

The Ideal Section was so-named because this area was to become the blueprint for highways of the future. Dyer was chosen because of its nearness to Chicago.

This four-lane prototype boasted 10-foot wide lanes — two going in each direction. Twelve inches of concrete were utilized for the road. Curbing and highway lighting also were installed.

When first built in 1912, Lincoln Highway had only two eight-foot lanes, one going in each direction, no paving and no lighting.





A'S R US MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 2 2018

MEETING LOCATION: BOBS GARAGE

CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT JON LISOTA AT 7:10 PM. Minutes from the May meeting were read and approved as read.

MEMBER NEWS: Chuck reported on Linnea's progress and thanked the members for their prayers and emotional support. Bonnie and Randy sent a thank you card for the beautiful plant and prayers.

OLD BUSINESS:

*** MANTENO VETERANS HOME:** was canceled due to rain. Thanks to Ken for monitoring the weather. Jim is to contact Manteno with the proposal of another date of visit, September 15th or 22nd.

*** LAKESIDE INN:** was a relaxing, enjoyable weekend.

*** DRIVING THE DIXIE:** Jim, Alan, Bob and Steve attended on June 16th. It was reported only 75 cars participated and Jim was the only member who went to Momence. The day was cut short due to rain.

*** CAMP QUALITY:** Alan e-mailed Sandy that it is scheduled for August 8th, 6:00PM, meeting at the Trolley Barn in Frankfort.

*** GRINDERS BASEBALL:** September 16th was the chosen date with a 1:00 game start. More info to follow.



* **BALLOON FEST:** July 14 & 15th More information to follow.

* **EXPOSURE TRIP:** Phil stated we need to make our reservations at French Lick

We will leave on the 3rd and return on the 12th. He will send out the hotel info again.

***4TH OF JULY PARADES:** HOMEWOOD 8-9:30 lineup, 10:00 parade. BEECHER 3:30 lineup, 4:00 parade. Phil & Nancy are hosting in between the parades, bring a dish to share and/or dessert.

* **RTE 66 EVENT:** August 18th from 9-3:00. Charge per model A car to park \$20.00. Jack is hosting in his suites as last year.

* **BRIDGE TEEN AUCTION:** Bob reported, no information to date.

* **PICNIC:** July 22nd, 10:30 set up/ 12:30-1:00 Lunch. Chuck is bringing the Chuck Wagon, Geri & Ray are in charge of children's games. Tim D. will bring prizes from last year. Bring a dish to pass and/or dessert. Homewood Ice Cream Social to follow.

* **BUDGET MEETING:** No meeting has been held to date.

NEW BUSINESS:

***FALL TOUR:** Ken Mc is planning a trip to Valparaiso, Indiana, 135 miles There is not a definite date yet. Options, October 12,13,14 or October 19,20,21. More information to follow.

* **TECH TALK:** Where and when to be determined. Watch for an email. Project: Total Brake Job on Diane/Bert's car.



*** CHRISTMAS EVENT:** Sandy will have more information at the next meeting. She encouraged members to look into other options for this event.

MISC DISCUSSIONS: CAR SHOW in Orland. June 21st, 4-8:00 Free entry, Bands, Farmers Market, Arts & Crafts etc.

BREAKFAST MEETING: Postponed.

NEXT MONTHS MEETING: JULY 22ND AFTER THE PICNIC. Before the Homewood Ice Cream Social.

Badge fines: \$94.00 50/50 winner: Tim B. \$47.00
Club \$47.00

MEETING ADJOURNED: Jon thanked Bob for hosting the meeting. Thanks to the members who brought snacks and desserts. Meeting adjourned at 8:05PM.

**AUCTION PROCEEDED AFTER THE MEETING.
HENRY WAS OUR AUCTIONEER.**

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Sandy Kaleta, Secretary

**I would like to add one note to the auction,
Henry and Jon could go on tor with that act.**



Anyone interested in going on the Exposure Trip should book their reservations soon as most of the block of rooms expire August 10th or the 15th. So far in Louisville we have only 5 rooms taken out of 12 (Bots, Serviss, Bonneau, Fritz and Kolenda). This Hampton is right downtown close to everything and they offer a free shuttle to the Louisville Historic and Entertainment District and they gave us a very good rate, Plus they normally charge \$20/day to park but waived the parking fee under the room block so it is important to book one of the remaining 7 rooms prior to the expiration date of August 15th.

Also so will be sending out a reservation form for a few activities that we think the club might like so we need to know pretty soon how many are going on with us after French Lick, IN

Thanks

RON

For breakdown of 2018 exposure tour see separate attachment.



A's R Us 2018

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