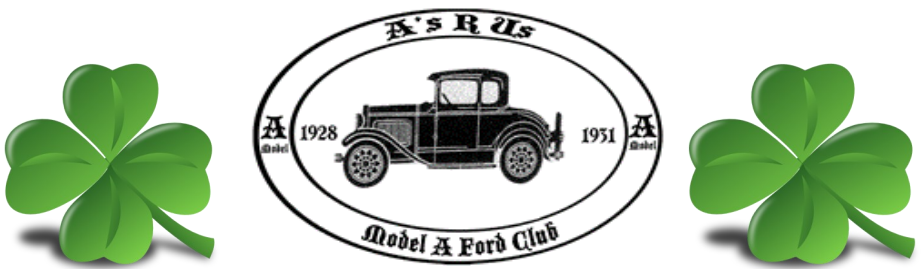




BACKFIRE

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March 2018



On March 8th we attended "The Bridge Teen Center's Chefs Auction", held at the Silver Lake Country Club in Orland Park, IL.



Many local businesses and restaurants sponsored the event, including the "A'S" R US.

This was our first auction of any kind and let me tell you it was quite the gala event.





HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY



Some of the areas top restaurants and bakeries had serving tables lined up around the room serving their signature specialties.



The food was awesome, we didn't leave hungry. There was a vote for the best restaurant that night and it was hard to pick one.

There were a variety of items to bid on.





The restaurants offered dinner party packages for the attendees to bid on. Some of the winning bids went well over \$6,000.

The “A’S” offered for bid car rides in the model A’s, of up to five vehicles to be used for an event of the winners choice. The winning bid went for \$1,000!

It was quite a night and all for a worthy cause. The Bridge Teen Center does some extraordinary work with local teens in need. It’s a great place to learn or hang out and feel safe. They are an important part of the community.





They even operate a thrift store with the proceeds going back to support the center.



It was a privilege to attend the Chefs auction. I'm proud to be a part of a club that supports an organization like The Bridge Teen center. Our hats off to founding members Rob and Driscilla Steinmetz.

For more information on The Bridge Teen center go to: www.thebridgeteencenter.org or www.thebridgeteencenter.org/thrift.

Well, as you can tell by this month's theme, Saturday March 17th was St. Patrick's Day. When everybody is Irish for one day.

So I hope you all hoisted one green beer in celebration.





So in keeping with that theme the following piece is about the tradition of dyeing the Chicago River green. I guess the Irish were “going green” before it became the fashionable thing to do.



It wouldn't be a St. Patrick's Day celebration in the Windy City without 400,000 spectators crowding the banks of the Chicago River to “ooh” and “aah” at its (temporarily) emerald green tinge. But how do officials turn the water green?

First, a bit of history: The dyeing tradition became an annual thing nearly 60 years ago, in 1962, but its real origins go back even further. In the early days of his administration as Mayor of Chicago, Richard J. Daley was a man on a mission to develop the city's riverfront area. There was just one problem: The river itself was a sewage-filled eyesore. In order to get to the bottom of the city's pollution problem and pinpoint the exact places where waste was being discarded into the waterway (and by whom), Daley authorized the pouring of a special green dye into the river that would allow them to see exactly where dumping was occurring.



Fast-forward to late 1961 when Stephen Bailey—part of the Chicago Journeymen Plumbers Local, the city’s St. Patrick’s Day Parade chairman, and a childhood friend of Daley’s—witnessed a colleague’s green-soaked coveralls following a day of pouring Daley’s dye into the Chicago River. That gave Bailey a idea: If they could streak the Chicago River green, why not turn it *all* green?

Three months later, revelers got their first look at an ecto cooler-colored river when the city poured 100 pounds of the chemical into the water. They got a really good look, too, as the river remained green for an entire week.

Over the next several years, the same practice was repeated, and again it was carried out by the Plumbers Local. The only difference was that the amount of dye used was cut in half over the next two years until they finally arrived at the magic number: 25 pounds of dye = one day of green water.

Unfortunately, the dye that was intended to help spot pollution was an oil-based fluorescein that many environmentalists warned was actually damaging the river even more. After fierce lobbying, eco-minded heads prevailed, and in 1966 the parade organizers began using a powdered, vegetable-based dye.

While the exact formula for the orange powder (yes, it’s orange until it’s mixed with water) is kept top-secret—in 2003 one of the parade organizers told a reporter that revealing the formula would be akin to “telling where the leprechaun hides its gold”—there are plenty of details that the committee lets even non-leprechauns in on.



The dyeing process will begin at 9 a.m. on the morning of the parade, Saturday, March 17 (it's always held on a Saturday) when six members of the local Plumbers Union hop aboard two boats, four of them on the larger vessel, the remaining two on a smaller boat.

The larger boat heads out onto the water first, with three members of the crew using flour sifters to spread the dye into the river. The smaller boat follows closely behind in order to help disperse the substance. (The best place to catch a glimpse is from the east side of the bridge at Michigan Avenue, or on Upper and Lower Wacker Drive between Columbus and Lake Shore Drives.)

Approximately 45 minutes later, *voila*, the Chicago River is green—but don't expect it to stay that way. These days, the color only sticks around for about five hours. Which is roughly the same amount of time it takes to get a perfectly poured pint of Guinness if you venture out to an Irish pub on St. Patrick's Day.





Happy St. Patrick's Day

A co-worker of Diane's recently invited us over to dinner. Dimitri and his wife are Russian immigrants and have been in the U.S. about twenty years they are a very nice couple.

Of course the conversation eventually led to stories of the model A and our club adventures. They were both very enthusiastic when I offered a ride when the weather warms up.

Dimirti was so enthusiastic that he did some Google research on Model A's and old American automobiles. He happened across piece about "Woodies". He had never seen nor heard of this type of vehicle. He sent it to me and I promised to put it the news letter. Thanks Dimirti. Enjoy.

1948 Chevrolet





THE WOODIES

The Woodies you may never see again.

Those were the days; When if you had an accident you needed a good carpenter more than a mechanic.

Those were the days when motor vehicles were called automobiles, not cars!

Ford



Chrysler



1948 Packard



Ford

1942 Chrysler Town and Country



Happy St. Patrick's Day!!!

Plymouth



Buick

**Very British
Challenge:
Can anyone
identify this
Woodie?**



Chrysler



British -- Austin A 70 Countryman



Pontiac

Craftsmanship not often seen today!



Pontiac



Mercury



**Assorted
Woodies**

**1946 Oldsmobile
Special 66**



1940 Ford



Back in the days when cars had style, and even with so many makes and models, all changing every year, they made a profit.

And not only that, you could sit on the front porch and name the cars as they drove by.

Unlike today, when they all look the same. (How true that is)

A'S R US MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 21, 2018

MEETING LOCATION: JON AND YVONNE LISOTA'S HOME.

MEMBER NEWS: Wally is having serious colon issues and needs our prayers. Dales mom was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and is presently in a rehab center. Prayers also needed. Bert wasn't feeling well, Henry threw out his back, the McNeeleys are doing well. We received a thank you card from Yvonne & Jon.

CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT JON LISOTA AT 7:10 PM. Sandy thanked Dale for taking the minutes for the January meeting. There was one correction noted: The Chef's Dinner and Auction is to be held on March 8th at Silver Lake Country Club.



MAIL CALL: Swap Meet on March 18th in Roselle, IL and there is a 34th Auto Show on March 31st. Jim has info.

OLD BUSINESS:

AUCTION: Was postponed and rescheduled for the June meeting at Bob's Garage.

NEW BUSINESS:

CALUMET SOUP DAY: Sunday April 22nd at 1:00
Jon talked with Art and stated there was no further mention of club activity.

* **MANTENO VETERANS HOME,** there was discussion regarding the date and whether we will take pictures again. A tentative date of June 2nd was set and it was agreed upon to again take pictures. Ken said he would look into frames Sandy said she has a printer and photo paper.

* **SHAKEDOWN CRUISE:** Will be at the Joliet Route 66 Museum per Chuck. More info to follow.

* **LAKESIDE INN:** May 18 & 19th 2018. View the rooms @www.lakesideinns.com. Make your reservation now at 269-469-0600.

* **SPRING TRIP:** Jon is asking for a member to lead this trip.

* **WEDDING CARS:** Bruce Smith stated he has another request for Wedding Cars for May 12th. There are 4 cars were agreed upon and 1extra in-case of problems. The donation was discussed and it was decided that \$150.00 per car was a fair amount. Bruce will get back to us at the next meeting



- * **PICNIC:** Discussion was tabled till next meeting.
- * **GRINDERS BALL GAME:** discussion was tabled till next meeting.
- * **FALL TRIP:** Ken stated that Ken McNeeley is working on the destination.
- * **EXPOSURE TRIP:** Phil and Ron will chair. It was decided that 7-8 days works.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Ken suggested that we consider destination cruises, like our Shake Down Cruise rather than a weekend trip or in place of weekend trips. Suggestions: White Fence Farm, Forest Preserve picnics, Arboretum etc.

Steve suggested a friend would like us to participate in a Joliet House Walk. He will get more information.

Al E. discussed the need for sites for monthly meetings. He is offering to host downtown. Further discussion to follow. Jim stated that he and Henry are considering hosting the July meeting since Steve is going to host the March meeting. Further discussion to follow. Sandy stated the Oak Forest Park District has rooms that can be used, questioning a cost.

NEXT MONTHS MEETING: March 21st, Steve Coe host: Park Forest Village Hall Board Room, 350 Victory Drive Park Forest. Bring Snacks and Desserts. Thanks to Jon and Yvonne for hosting this meeting.

Badge fines: \$3.00 50/50 winner \$25.00 Jon/
\$25.00 Club

MEETING ADJOURNED: By Jon at 8:10 PM

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Sandy Kaleta,
Secretary



HI, JUST A REMINDER THAT THIS WEDNESDAY IS OUR MEETING

MARCH 21ST, 7:00PM. STEVE COE IS HOST.

PARK FOREST VILLAGE BOARD ROOM

350 VICTORY DRIVE, PARK FOREST.

PLEASE BRING SNACKS AND DESERTS.

Enjoy these sunny days.

Sandy

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 31st 34th Auto Show

Sunday April 22nd calumet soup Day. For more info call: carol Heely 708-702-7092

May12th Wedding cars

May 18th & 19th Spring Tour, Lakeside Inn Lakeside, MI.

June12th Manteno veterans Home



I would like to wish Wally a speedy recovery from his illness, we're thinking of you.

