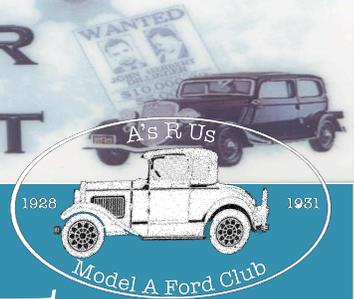


P.E. PRODUCTIONS

PICTURE CAR  
DEPARTMENT



# BACKFIRE

Chicago Southland Chapter, Model A Ford Club of America

VOLUME 14

ISSUE 7

JULY 2009

<http://www.drivingthedixie.sinthasite.com>

## July 1<sup>st</sup> "Public Enemies"

Wednesday July 1<sup>st</sup> the movie will be released. When members of the club found out that Universal was looking for cars a couple of our members went to the auditions and gave the picture company names, phone numbers and pictures of all the club members cars. The company then assigned numbers to the cars and would call our members if the car suited the needs of Universal. I found out that they had over 800 vehicles on their list. They didn't use light colored cars and they were limiting the use of A models when possible. We had 12 members vehicles used in the film over the 4 months of filming. Enjoy the movie.

Phil

### **Header Picture:**

Window placard for drivers on the set of "Public Enemies"



*The Carp  
Editor in Chief*

### Inside this Months Issue:

- Shake down cruse report.
- Lisota's Garage tech talk
- Jim's Dixie History
- Meeting synopsis

More inside!



# DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright

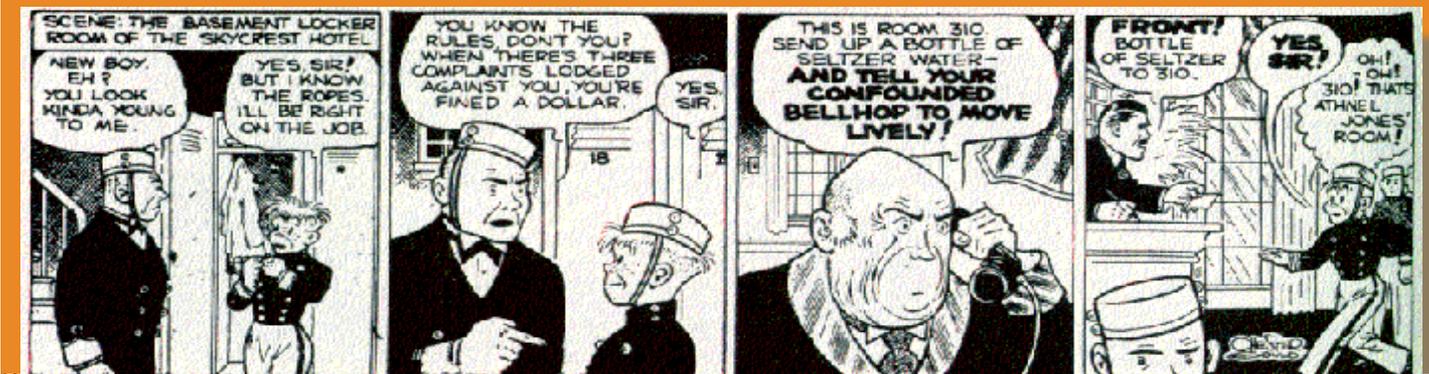
*Concrete work was finished in May of 1921 on part of the Dixie Highway between Crete and Beecher, which was one of the last stretches of the highway to be paved in Illinois. A lone vehicle travels on the new concrete slab south of Crete in this interesting period photograph. Today, much of the Dixie Highway in Will County is in dire need of modernization. Work is currently underway realigning Route 1/the Dixie Highway with Illinois 394 north of the Goodenow Road intersection. Other*



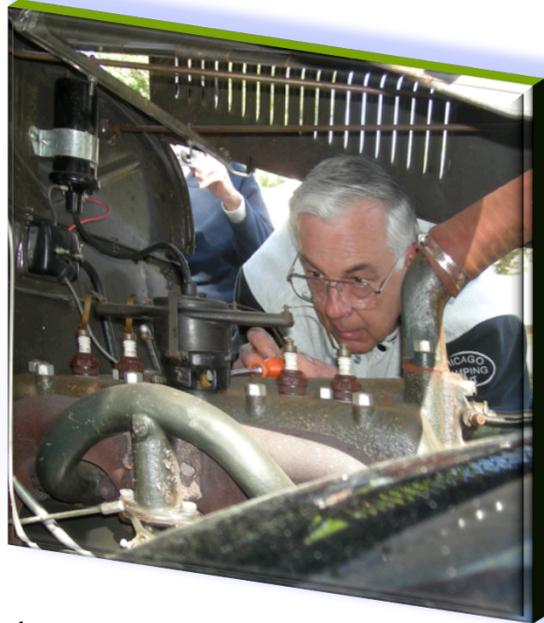
*than this no other major work on the highway has been contracted for in Will County.*



## Dick Tracy 1930 Strip #4



# Jon Lisota: Motor Medic



**Next Tech Talk** Wednesday July 23<sup>rd</sup> at “Bob’s Garage”

## A's R Us Next Generation

Tim & Pat Botts have welcomed 3 granddaughters:

Twins Nora Bridget and Lindsey Elizabeth arrived December 31, 2008.

Proud Parents: Scott & Katie Botts

Alexis Grace arrived May 4, 2009.

Proud Parents: Heather (Botts) & Aaron Paape

New A's R Us Club members Tim & Connie Borchert welcome 2 granddaughters:

Hannah arrived April 3, 2009 welcomed by big sister Natalie and parents Chris & Amanda Borchert.

Heidi arrived April 19, 2009 welcomed by big brother Noah and parents Stephen & Martha Borchert.

Ken & Dale Chamis welcome a granddaughter:

Sophia Ashlyn arrived January 13, 2009.

Proud Parents: Sean Gage & Melissa Reyes

Chuck & Linnea Fritz welcomed a granddaughter:

Taylor Jane arrived May 28, 2009.

Proud Parents: Eric & Laura Fritz

Marvin & Irene Rausch welcome their 1<sup>st</sup> GREAT grandson:

Seth Melvin Striggow arrived in October, 2008.

Randy & Bonnie Senkpeil will welcome the arrival of 3 granddaughters in the fall:

Baby girl Downey will arrive September 2009 to Bill & Tina Downey with big brother & sister Billy & Megan

Baby girl Senkpeil will arrive October 2009 to Tim & Corie Monahan and big brother Aiden

Baby girl Senkpeil will arrive November 2009 to Randy & Mandy Senkpeil and big brother Colin.

Herman Senkpeil GREAT grandfather!!!!

Looks like **GIRLS RULE!!!!**

# Shake Down Cruise / Saturday April 18th

Ten cars and eighteen people joined together for this year's first outing. During our briefing we were all given a 27 questions and history brochure. The questions focused on points of interest along the way, but more importantly, taxed our observation skills. After breakfast in Wilmington we were on our way through Braidwood, Essex, Blair, Dwight, Reddick, Union Hill, Herscher and finally Kankakee. At last, the Chuck Fritz' Boyhood Tour finally came about and the little town of Reddick, IL increased it's population for an hour to approximately 268. There were some wonderful pictures of the town's early days. We also got to see the farm where Chuck's family lived. We were truly in "corn country". While parked by the house a man from the Kankakee Valley Car Club asked who we were and what was the occasion for the gathering. We gave him one of the cards Ray Nelson had printed for us a couple of years ago so he could readily identify us as A's R Us. Didn't get his name but he sure was thrilled to see all the cars and took a whole bunch of photos.

In Dwight we had a photo op at the last functioning Texaco gas station on Route 66. At least that's what the sign said! It brought back memories of the days when you always got the "Full Service" treatment when you pulled in for gas. For those of you who don't remember, that included a fill of gas, all your windows cleaned and your oil, water, battery and tire pressure checked by a friendly attendant. In his teens Joe worked at a gas station and swore that someday he would pull his car into a station and get the full service treatment. He went into the Army and by the time he got back they had changed to "Self Service".

In Kankakee we were able to tour their Historical Society museum. Lots to see and well worth the stop. Our final stop in Kankakee was at the 1950's Hot Dog Stand in all its orange and white glory. People seemed to come from everywhere to look at the cars with their usual curiosity, the owner of the place came out and took photos to display at the stand. While devouring some good food we graded our papers. Just like we did in school we passed our work to the person on the right. Just to keep us honest! Wally and Kay Ekstrom won the \$45 prize with a perfect score. Congrats to Steve Coe for getting 24 out of 27. He was driving alone but his background as a police officer proved he sure doesn't miss much!

Our newest member, Tim Borchert made his first trip in his 1930 Tudor. Prior to the trip the farthest his car had gone was 35 miles and the longest time driving it was somewhere around an hour. He worked up to the last minute getting the car ready to join the group. Welcome, Tim.

Finally, many many thanks to Chuck and Linnea for all their hard work and the opportunity to spend a really nice day with friends. Sorry Jon, we had no breakdowns!

Marlene

**Share a dish Picnic @ Nancy and Phil's house in Beecher will be held directly following the Homewood Parade. Phil will fire up the grill with dogs and hamburgers and then we can go to the Beecher Parade at 3:00.**

**June Meeting** was at Park Forest Police station. Steve Coe was the host. I was not present for the meeting. Highlights were "Driving the Dixie" to be run on Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00 to set up. Club picnic will be on July 26<sup>th</sup> at the Monee Forest Preserve on Goodnow road in Monee. MARC National meet to be held on the week of the 21<sup>st</sup> in Merrillville, IN. Collapsible Safety cones are available for \$12 from Ron Bonneau.

**Wednesday 15th of July Meeting**

7:00PM meeting at Allen and Rosalinda Ekstrom's house. 20700 Corinth Road Olympia Fields, IL.60461



**WSJ Tours presents: Fall Trip to Milwaukee Wisconsin / Oct. 9,10,11**

**Individual Reservations Under A's R Us** - Call the Hotel Directly at

**414-345-5000 or 888-322-3326**

For a King or double queen the cost will be \$109.00 per night.

You may cancel up to 2 days prior to the event.

There are only 20 rooms reserved so call now. There will be many things to see and do. This will be the first time the club has gone to this city.

**Up Coming Calendar of 2009 Events**

**Saturday July 4<sup>th</sup>** Homewood parade 10:45 line-up followed up by a share a dish picnic at Nancy and Phil's house. Beecher Parade with a 3:00 line-up. **At the Movies is the theme.**

**July 15<sup>th</sup>** club meeting Allen and Rosalinda's house.

**July 26<sup>th</sup>** Club Picnic.

**Tuesday August 11<sup>th</sup>** Camp Quality in Frankfort, IL

**August 19<sup>th</sup>** Club meeting Tim and Carrol's house.

**September 8<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>** Exposure Tour to French Lick area.

**Rember:** Crete Cruise Night is back 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and Beecher 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month.

Young people now have a place to go and there should be many fewer problems in Crete.

**Manhattan Car Club Cruise Night.** 1009 W Laraway Rd. 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays of June, July and August.

**July 2009**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	<b>4</b>
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	<b>15</b>	16	16	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<b>26</b>	27	28	29	30	31	

**August 2009**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	<b>11</b>	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	<b>19</b>	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

**September 2009**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	14	15	<b>16</b>	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

# A's R Us officers and Staff

President – Chuck Fritz Vice President – Jim Wright Treasure – Tim Dionne Secretary – Dale Chamis

Member relations – Joe Krygowski Web Page – Joe Krygowski Newsletter – Phillip Serviss

Parade Coordinator – Wally Ekstrom Director of Safety – Ron Bonneau

Nat'l Rep. – Marlene Krygowski Historian – Tim Bots

Sgt. At Arms Steve Coe Motor Medic - Jon Lisota

Banquet Queen – Robin Rodriguez

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

Phillip Serviss

220 Poplar Lane

Beecher, IL 60401

E Mail to: [taxserviss@att.net](mailto:taxserviss@att.net)



A warehouse used to store cars used in the filming of "Public Enemies"

**BACKFIRE**

P.O. Box 3

Crete, Illinois 60417

