

VOLUME 17

**ISSUE 3** 

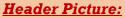
**MARCH 2012** 

# BACKFIRE

Chicago Southland Chapter, Model A Ford Club of America

http://www.drivingthedixie.com
http://asrus.homestead.com

Warm weather is upon us at last. I never thought February would end so we could enjoy the high 70's of March. I have cleaned the garage out already and put the snow blower away. I also have been battling the flu for the last two to three weeks and I hope I'm done with it now. Now's the time to get the car ready for the road so don't wait till the week of the shakedown tour and find out you need parts to get on the road. I for one will have the cars on the road this weekend and enjoy the weather.

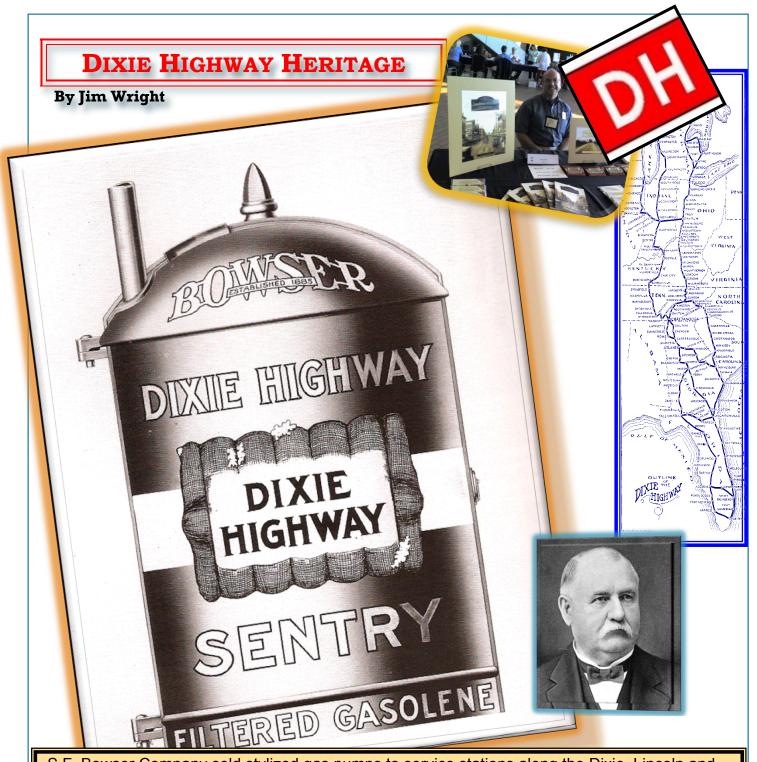


Multi-disk clutch model A engine.





Phíl



S.F. Bowser Company sold stylized gas pumps to service stations along the Dixie, Lincoln and other famous early named highways. Pictured is a Bowser pump featuring the original Dixie Highway cotton bale logo. Sylvanus F. Bowser, inventor of the gas pump in the United States, sold the first one to a service station in his hometown of Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 1885. Building and testing in his barn, Bowser created the first self-regulating gas pump for U.S. consumption. The pump was made with marble valves and a wooden plunger that allowed the pump to move one barrel of gasoline - about 42 gallons. Gasoline pump technology grew rapidly from this point, keeping pace with the growth of the automobile industry and the demand for more and more gasoline. For years the word *bowser* was a generic term for a gasoline pump. No longer common in the United States, the term lingers on in Australia, New Zealand and, to a lesser extent, Canada. The Bowser company remained in business producing pumps until it was acquired in 1969 by the Keene Corporation.



# Spring Shakedown Cruse – April 21<sup>st</sup>.

With 6 clubs invited to gather there is a possibility of 60 Model A's to gather at Cantigny Park. An update will be given at the next meeting.

#### **Our Visit**

We have made reservations for private tours just for club members of the McCormick mansion and when talking to the staff at Cantigny they have promised great weather for



April 21st (OK - we will see how good they really are). The only cost is a \$5 parking fee for each car and your share of the cost of lunch. Chuck is organizing the lunch. The tours are free. We have three tours of the mansion leaving on the hour (11:00, 12:00 and 1:00). Each tour can take up to 25 people.

Check out Cantigny WEB site www.cantigny.org.

This could turn out to be an enjoyable day with many enthusiasts getting together to start the season.

### Be Prepared For Touring / Tim Borchert

While most of us carry some tools and spare parts when we tour, many of us may not have thought much about what spare parts, materials & tools we should bring along. We just rely on Jon bring the entire

garage with him and we have no further worries.

While surfing the Net I came across the following list that I found interesting. I'm not sure I have enough room to carry all of this stuff, but it is interesting to see someone else's idea of a complete kit to carry on a trip.



#### Spare Parts, Materials & Tools

- Condensers (2)
- Grease Gun
- Rotor (1)
- Torque Wrench
- Fan Belt (1)
- 1/2 to 3/8 Drive Adapter
- Water Pump (1 rebuilt)
- Drag Link Socket
- Water Pump Packing (2 rings)
- Valve Spring Compressor
- Ignition Coil (1 tested good)
- Gasket Scraper (Putty Knife)
- Spark Plugs (1)
- Pocket Knife
- Light Bulbs (1 of each size)
- Scissors
- Plastic Wire Tie Wraps (12)
- Ground Cloth
- Water Hoses (1 set)
- Plastic Wash Bucket
- 600 W Oil (1 quart)
- Sponge
- Oil (1 quart)
- Tire Irons (2)
- Water (1 gallon)
- Flash Light
- Head Gasket (1)
- Wrenches 1/4 to 3/4
- Gasket Paper (1 square foot) First Aid Kit

- Adjustable Wrench
- Valve Springs (1)
- Allen Wrenches
- Electrical Tape (1 roll)
- Hammer
- Bailing Wire (3 feet)
- Vise Grips
- Electrical Wire, 12 gage (12 feet)
- Magnet
- Cotter Pins (Assortment)
- GoJo Hand Cleaner
- Paper Towels
- Fuses (If your car has them)
- Tack & Handle
- Inner Tube
- Drum Puller
- Tube Patch Kit (with fresh cement)
- Feeler Gage
- Generator (Tested good)
- Brake Adjusting Wrench
- Cutout (New)
- Gloves (Leather & Rubber)
- 36" Long Jumper Wire (Alligator clips each end)
- Drift Pin
- Ammeter (New)
- Files (Round & Flat)
- Small Mirror

Generally, you should have enough tools to install the spare parts you take along.

- Pack the tools, points, condensers & water where they are quickly accessible.
- For very long trips, pack a national club roster in case you need help from another Model A'er in route.
- 6-volt electrical parts cannot be bought in modern stores, so be sure to have spares.

#### A's R Us Meeting Minutes 2/15/12

Meeting location: Home of Tim & Carol Dionne

Called to order at 7:10 pm by President Tim Borchert. Minutes were approved as read.

Thank you to Phil & Nancy Serviss for last month's meeting. A positive response from all who attended the presentation for CPR and our new AED. Although we are all educated on the device, we are hopeful to not to put it to use.

TREASURERS REPORT: Jim presented report; approved as read.

MEMBER NEWS: Marlene undergoing treatment for Macular

Degeneration, and is doing well. Joe visited with Marvin and Irene. Marvin is doing well and will try to make future meetings closer to home. Alan Ekstrom doing well from shoulder surgery. Chuck also doing well; ahead of schedule with recuperation. He and Linnea are anxiously awaiting the arrival of their grandson; Penny having foot surgery this Monday. Herman doing well. And the Senkpeil family continues to grow with two weddings and a new baby all coming up this spring!

#### **CLUB BUSINESS:**

One more meeting and then we begin driving!! Joe passed out signup sheets for upcoming events. Tim thanked the committee for putting event calendar together.

**DRIVING DIXIE**: Mtg this Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, Grant Park Bank located in Beecher @10:00 am. Meeting will be held downstairs. Elaine states participating towns are further ahead.

SHAKE DOWN CRUISE: Date is set for April 21<sup>st</sup>! Cantigny is our destination. Chuck, Joe and, Tim Borchert driving to determine our route. A concern is there are lots of curvy roads, which poses a challenge for break downs. Could be a hazard. Several area clubs have been contacted to join us. Calumet, Joliet, Highland, MARC region. Starved Rock club contacted Tim Borchert, would like to join us. Cantigny will accommodate our needs. 3 times have been reserved for the mansion tours. ETA: 11:30, Karen Kolenda suggested using our name tags, and perhaps providing tags for member from other clubs. Meet & Greet. \$5 for parking.

Tim suggested a gathering, possibly the weekend prior, to get cars ready. Possibly at Bob's garage. Bob suggested testing cars with stopping distance. Phil discussed the importance of using jack stands when working on cars. Jon talked about Joliet College allowing outside clubs to use their shop. Jim Wright to check with Henry on this. Other area clubs have been contacted.

**SPRING TRIP**: No updates. Will do run this Friday. May 18, 19 & 20 **FALL TRIP**: Tentative date is 10/5,6,7. Conflicts with Hill Climb. Tim opened floor for discussion to make an alternate date. 9/28, 9/29. 9/30. Destination to be determined. Talk of Milwaukee. 2013 to tour Lincoln Highway.

**EXPOSURE TOUR:** Indianapolis, then leisurely daily trips, with a final destination of Cincinnati.

**MONTHLY MEETINGS.** July meeting location needed.

**PICNIC:** Our annual picnic grove has not yet been reserved. Tim Dionne suggested a new location to Lemon Lake in Cedar Lake IN. All were in favor. Tim Dionne will handle this, and date to be determined. Jon suggested notifying Highland Club of desire to change location.

**DONATIONS**: Tim asked for any other suggestions. Bob Steinmetz spoke with a rep from Camp Quality about "fund raising", and it was suggested not doing the collecting "at street corners" because we would not be covered by Camp Quality Insurance. Dale suggested soliciting at merchants such as Jewel, Walmart, etc. Tim Borchert to check with merchants Frankfort; Bob S to check with Home Depot & Meijer.

Bob S is working with a local scout troop to do car repair; Bob to put dates.

Congrats to Jim Wright as he has been awarded the MAFCA Editors Literary Award.

**NEW BIZ**: Any interest in club attire. Nancy Poulson has done logo for club. Tim Dionne to look at availability from previous vendor.

Tim Dionne asked for interest (during summer) going to Crown Point Jail. Tim would do a tour. Day tour or "paranormal manifestations"

Ken Chamis and Al Kaleta have been meeting with a representative of the Chicago White Sox about doing a car show. Tim Borchert read email Ken received from company that builds radiators.

**SATURDAY BREAKFAST**: Meet prior to Dixie Meeting at Maxwells in Beecher @8:30.

Tech talk tabled until next month.

Dale Chamis won 50/50.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

# Up and coming meeting locations:

**Up Coming Calendar of 2012 Events** 

Meeting Wednesday March 21st: Meeting at Tim and Pat Bot's 2643 E. Ridgefield Dr. Crete, 60417

Cantigny Park /McCormick Estate: April 21st

**Spring trip:** May 18,19,20

Exposure Trip to Cincinnati, Ohio: September 4<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>

Fall trip: September 28,29,30

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	April 2012						
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May 2012							
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#### Quick links to Medical History forms online

http://www.medids.com/free-id.php
http://www.medids.com/Emergency Medical Form.html

## A's R Us 2012 officers and Staff

- President Tim Borchert
- Vice President Ken Chamis / Treasure Jim Wright / Secretary Sandy Kaleta
- Newsletter Phillip Serviss
- Member Kelations Joe Krygowski
- Web Page Joe Krygowski
- Parade Coordinator Wally Ekstrom
- Director of Safety Kon Bonneau
- Nat'l Kep. Marlene Krygowski
- Historian Ken Chamis
- Sgt. At Arms Steve Coe
- Motor Medic Jon lisota

Please send <u>Backfire</u> articles or items of interest to:

E Mail to: taxserviss@att.net

How true.



#### **BACKFIRE**

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Crete, Illinois 60417





Mail To: