

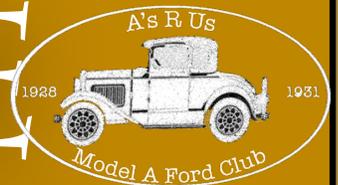


VOLUME 19

ISSUE 4

APRIL 2014

BACKFIRE



Chicago Southland Chapter, Model A Ford Club of America

<http://www.drivingthedixie.com>



28 people Went to the Johnny Cash Theater Evening on March 29th. We met for dinner at Giovanni's on Ridge Road just west of Calumet Ave. It was quite a night out and was a very enjoyable event. The singing by the actors was very good and they told the story of Cash through his songs. The only other event in the night for me was when the theater called and asked for a doctor to the lobby. Even though 27 people turned to me to see if I would go I was looking for someone else to get up. Know one was going so I did go to see what I could do. A gentleman was in distress and my best evaluation without our BLS bag was he was having a heart attack and I advised them to call an ambulance and grab their AED. This just shows how we as a club have made a good decision to carry an AED and BLS equipment as you never know when we will need it.



*The Corp
Editor in Chief*

Header Picture:

Johnny Cash Ring of Fire

Phil

Presidents Comments

LETTER FROM THE PREZ

Spring is here. The robins are back, spring flowers are popping up everywhere. And yes, I knew spring was really here Saturday. As I wandered into Peotone, a reflection of bright light caught my eye at the car wash, yes, a flash from the lights of a Model A. Then I saw it, the arch, the **A's R US arch** in the back window. My heart went into cruise mode. I quickly turned around to make sure I wasn't having a senior moment. Yes, it was Chuck Fritz with the "**chuck wagon A.**"



I hope everyone is considering getting their A's out soon. Make your A's spring inspections, checking out fluid levels, air pressure in the tires, checking all lights, and most important, check the brakes, making sure you can stop safely. We have only three more weeks till our April 26th Shake Down Cruise. I can't wait to hear the words.....
"Drivers, start your A's."

See you at Tim and Connie's for the April 16th meeting at 7:00 pm.

Irv

The last Model T Rolls Off the Line



May 31, 1927, the last Ford Model T rolled off the assembly line. It was the first affordable automobile, due in part to the assembly line process developed by Henry Ford. It had 2.9-liter, 20-horsepower engine and could travel at speeds up to 45 miles per hour. It had a 10-gallon fuel tank and could run on kerosene, petrol, or ethanol, but it couldn't drive uphill if the tank was low, because there was no fuel pump; people got around this design flaw by driving up hills in reverse. Ford believed that "the man who will use his skill and constructive imagination to see how much he can give for a dollar, instead of how little he can give for a dollar, is bound to succeed." The Model T cost \$850 in 1909, and as efficiency in production increased, the price dropped. By 1927, you could get a Model T for \$290. "I will build a car for the great multitude," said Ford. "It will be large enough for the family, but small enough for the individual to run and care for. It will be constructed of the best materials, by the best men to be hired, after the simplest designs that modern engineering can devise. But it will be low in price so that no man making a good salary will be unable to own one - and enjoy with his family the blessing of hours of pleasure in God's great open spaces."



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Chester Bjorngaard
Marlase, N.D.

Dear Sir:—

We're writing this letter to you today because we want to help you get your money out of your Model T.

It's still as good a car as it was the day the new Model A Ford was announced and there's no need to sacrifice it.

The Model T Ford is still used by more people than any other automobile. Eight million are in active service right now and many of them can be driven one, two, three and five years and even longer.

Bring your car to us and let us look it over. You'll be surprised to see how little it costs to put it in tip-top shape.

New fenders, for instance, cost from \$3.50 to \$5.00 each, with a labor charge of \$1.00 to \$2.50. Tuning up the motor and replacing commutator case, brush and vibrator points costs only \$1.00, with a small charge for material. Brake shoes can be installed and emergency brakes equalized for a labor charge of only \$1.25. A labor charge of \$4.00 to \$5.00 will cover the overhauling of the front axle, rebushing springs and spring perches, and straightening, aligning and adjusting wheels.

The labor charge for overhauling the average rear axle runs from \$5.75 to \$7.00. Grinding valves and cleaning carbon can be done for \$3.00 to \$4.00.

A set of four new pistons and rings cost only \$7.00. For a labor charge of \$20 to \$25.00 you can have your motor and transmission completely overhauled. Parts are extra.

Very truly yours,
Bottineau, N. Dak. C. R. GLEASON CO.

DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright



WORKINGMEN!

BE SURE TO PUT AN "X" OPPOSITE

"YES"

FOR

GOOD ROADS BONDS

THE LAST PROPOSITION ON THE
LITTLE BALLOT IN CHICAGO

\$30,000,000 of the \$60,000,000 Will Go to Labor

SPECIAL WARNING—If you vote at the Election next Tuesday and fail to vote for the Good Roads Bonds, your vote will be counted against the proposition and labor will be among the chief losers.

What Chicago's Street Car Men's Union Says:

Whereas, the funds to pay both the principal and interest on the bonds are to be derived from State motor vehicle license fees, the bonds to be marketed and the work to commence after the close of the war, giving a return to labor of more than \$30,000,000 in construction work, while the total cost will be borne by those who cause automobiles, the funds arising from the motor license fees solely—

Resolved, That Division 241 of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees of America indorse this proposition and urge upon our members the necessity of voting for it at the November election, a majority of all votes cast at that election being required for its adoption.

What the Chicago Federation of Labor Says:

"Resolved, That we give hearty indorsement to the proposed \$60,000,000 bond issue."

INDORSED ALSO BY

- | | |
|---|---|
| Chicago Federation of Musicians | Jack Chelton Division No. 251 and John |
| Chicago State Federation of Miners | Payor Division No. 402 and No. 403 |
| Typographical Union No. 34 | Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers |
| Outcry Trades and Labor Assembly | Lodge No. 253, Brotherhood of Locomotive |
| Springfield Federation of Labor | Firemen and Engine-men |
| Division No. 1, Order of Railway Conductors | Smithers and Stone Masons' Union of |
| Brotherhood of Threshers | Chicago |
| No. 34, Helms Lodge No. 1, P. M. Workmen | Central Trades and Labor Assembly of |
| Lodge No. 42, St. Leon Lodge No. 426 and | Springfield |
| Columbian Lodge No. 471 Brotherhood of | Garden City Branch No. 15, Chicago Letter |
| Railroad Trainmen | Carriers' Association |

**NO TAX AGAINST REAL ESTATE
NO BURDEN ON YOUR HOME**

All the Cost Placed Upon Automobile Owners

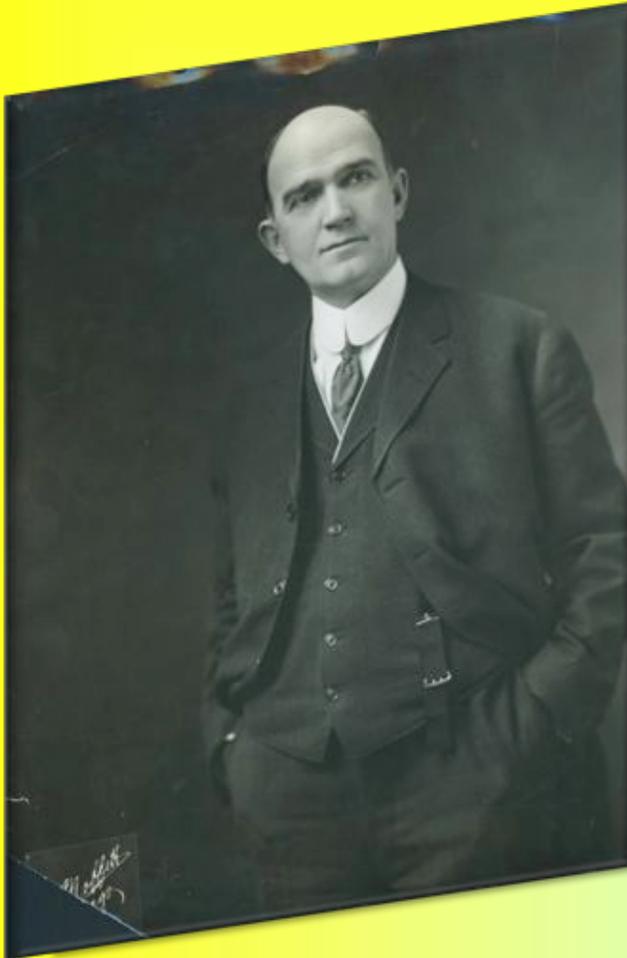
THIS IS A WISE MEASURE FOR THE WORKINGMAN TO SUPPORT

This Advertisement Paid For by the Amalgamated Bonds Organization of Chicago and Cook County

Up until 1913, public highway improvement in Illinois was left solely to the 1600 townships in the state. This system was inefficient and created little incentive for improving roads for long distance travel. In 1913, with the passage of the Tice Act, the burden of construction and repair of main-traveled through routes in Illinois was taken from the townships and placed under the control of the state and its 102 counties. Under this act, a state highway commission, a precursor to today's Illinois Department of Transportation, was established and each county was also required to establish its own highway commission.

DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright



William G. Edens



Frank Lowden

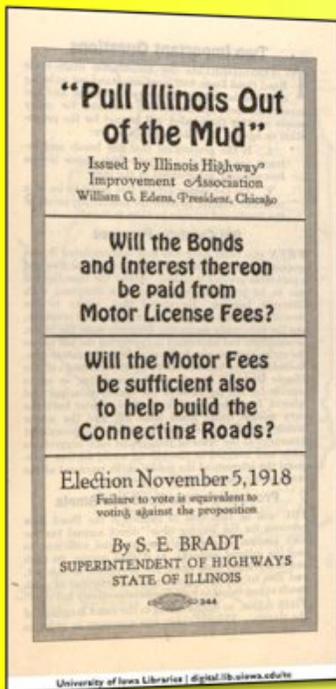
Passage of the Tice Act, helped pulled Illinois “out of the mud” and laid the foundation for developing the system of modern roadways that run through the state today. By 1918, Illinois citizens saw the benefit of a well-coordinated network of roadways and were eager to quicken the pace of road building. Led by such luminaries as Governor Frank Lowden, William G. Edens, of Edens Expressway fame and Richard Finnegan, vice-president of the Dixie Highway Association, the people of Illinois, by an overwhelming vote on November 5, 1918, approved a referendum calling for the state to issue \$60,000,000 in bonds to be used for road construction.

DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright



Unimproved Roadway



Improved roadway

With this act 4,800 miles of the 96,000 miles of roads in the state became state roads, slated to be improved with the funds from the bond issue. In this effort, the Dixie Highway's importance was recognized and it was designated as Illinois State Bond Route 1. Proceeds from the bond were used on the Dixie Highway and by the summer of 1921, the 136-mile route of the highway in Illinois was completely paved making it the longest paved road in the state at the time.

Sandy Kaleta Reporter on the Know!



FASHION:

In the early 1920's, New York, Chicago and San Francisco saw huge spikes in population after the war. The business culture was born, and the impact the 20's had on modern men's style cannot be overlooked. From suits to sportswear, men wore well made and well tailored clothes. The "conservative suit" set the gold standard for men's fashion. This suit cut a thin silhouette, with its tightly fitted jacket, high pinched waist and narrow shoulders. Made of quality durable fabrics such as leather, wool and cotton. Classy ties and accessories brought the look together. Formal evening wear was the classic Tuxedo which consisted of tails, bow tie and top hat.



The "Classic" look of a 1920s Suit

In 1924, the mens suit style shifted to what was known as the "Jazz Suit" which would morph into the Zoot Suit in the 1930's. Both were worn by some of the most famous, fashionable and dangerous people of the decade, the gangsters, bootleggers and notorious characters who owned the nightclubs and the speakeasies.



Men dressed "Jazz Suits" marked by their high, narrow waists

Night clubs became the venues for men and Women to get dressed up, take out their Automobile, and go out drinking and listen to the new sounds of Jazz Music. American suit makers like Brooks Brothers came into their own as leaders in American men's fashion. Stars like Valentino, Fairbanks & Chaplin redefined what men should look like and what they should wear.



This year's shakedown cruise will be Saturday April 26th with the Morton Arboretum being the destination. We will meet for breakfast at Anthony's Pancake House, 1030 E. 9th Street in Lockport and plan on departing from the pancake house at about 9:15 am. The restaurant opens at 6 am and will have space reserved for us. The arboretum will be celebrating Arbor Day with activities on the day of our visit and for those interested, we will be taking a 1 hour narrated open-tram tour of the grounds (\$6/person) at 11 am. Following the tram tour, we will have a picnic lunch on the grounds, afterwards, you can tour the arboretum's 1700 acres at your leisure on foot or in your car. We plan on departing for home at about 2-2:30pm. For more information contact Henry 708-267-0776 or Jim 708-212-6530.

A'sRUS March, 2014 Minutes

MEETING LOCATION: Irv and Char's, Peotone, Il.

CALLED TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT IRV DARNALL AT: 7:15 pm, 15 members were present.

MINUTES from the **FEBRUARY** meeting were read by the secretary and approved as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jim stated Driving the Dixie account is now at \$6,983.54. A's R US account is at \$7,838.78, the report was approved as read.

FAMILY NEWS: Chuck Fritz called Irv and said Linnea had started another round of chemo and one of her treatments would be during the Spring trip therefore, they would not be able to attend and we would need to have someone tow the "chuck wagon". They found a blood clot in Dale's son's lung, he is recovering well and is waiting for discharge from the service. We pray that all goes well with Linnea and Dale's son.

CORRESPONDENCE: MODEL A DAY, June 1st, in Sharon, Wisconsin, hours are 9am to 2pm. Free admission, Model A swap meet, pig roast and family entertainment with a 1920's-1930's band.

MAFCA 2014 National Convention will be held July 14-18, 2014 in Puyallup, Washington.

ANTIQUÉ FORD DAY, August 16, 2014, 10am to 3pm, celebrating the Ford Model A and Model T sponsored by the Prairie A's Antique Ford Club of Champaign/Urbana.

OLD BUSINESS: Shake Down Cruise, April 26th to Morton Arboretum, 1 hr. group tour on the tram. A prepaid admission pass will be good for all year if there is rain. Meet at Anthony's in Lockport, will leave there approx. 10:30 am. All agreed to have a picnic lunch on the grounds. Tim Borchert will invite other car clubs to this function.

Spring Trip, May 2nd thru 4th. - Nothing new to report, more at next meeting.

Club Picnic, June 29th, Meadowlark Pavilion in Goodnow Grove.

Exposure Trip, Sept. 3rd thru 10th to Nashville, Tenn.

Fall Trip to Shipshewana or Nappanee, Indiana, more information when Wally returns in May.

Bob e-mailed Phil pictures and story about the **Teen Bridge Club**. Phil will send in story before May 20th (deadline for July – August issue of The Restorer) to be published.

Veterans Home – Planning on end of August, Jim will call and set up a date.
Camp Quality – Need a date so that the Teen Bridge won't conflict. Tabled until next month.

Music of Johnny Cash in Munster, Indiana, March 29th – 29 people have signed up.

Social Committee – Decided no need for this as we have plenty on the agenda right now.

Driving the Dixie Meeting was held on Feb. 22nd with Bob, Tim Borchert, Irv and Char were present. Discussed signage, formerly voted to accept proposal. Elaine reported Steger will host lunch with hot dogs in the park.....June 21st. Elaine also stated, there will be a speaker at the Thornton Quarry Overlook. Tim Bots reported there will be terrible traffic at that time, as there will only be one lane traffic in all directions. It was stated, there were 334 hits on Driving the Dixie in two weeks time. Picked up list of car clubs in Leadfoot newspaper.

Ronald McDonald House – Dale will e-mail information she has received.

NEW BUSINESS: Deep “River Ball Game at Grinder Field – Tim Bots will get more info on this, he gave us dates in May, June, July, Aug., Sept., & Oct.....We tentatively agreed on Aug. 10th.

TECH TALK: Need to get some work done on the trailer.

Jon will make up a check list for all to get their Model A in shape before our first trip, he will put this list in the Backfire.

BREAKFAST: Meet at DeMar's Restaurant in Blue Island at 8:00 am on March 22nd. Those wishing to go to the Fire Museum, will leave after breakfast to view the 1930 Model AA chemical unit that is to be restored.

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING: April 16th at Tim and Connie Borchert's in Frankfort.

BADGE FINES: \$3.00

50/50: \$61.00 \$30.00 to Randy

ADJOURN: 8:20 pm

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Char Darnall, Secretary

MEETINGS FOR 2014

APRIL: TIM & CONNIE BORCHERT

MAY: BOB STEINMETZ

JUNE: BOB STEINMETZ

JULY: STEVE COE

AUGUST: KEN & DALE CHAMIS

SEPTEMBER: AL & SANDY Kaleta

OCTOBER: IRV & CHAR DARNALL

NOVEMBER: CHUCK & LINNEA FRITZ

DECEMBER: TO BE DECIDED

Remember to up-date your medical form for next year. A new form is on page 14 of the newsletter.

A's R US Confidential Medical Form

Date Filled Out: _____

Last NAME:	_____	First Name:	_____
DOB: (mo/date/yr):	_____	Age:	_____
SSN:	_____		
Name of Emergency Contact: _____			
Phone of Emergency Contact: () _____			
Name of Primary Health Physican: _____			
Phone Number of Primary Health Physican: () _____			

List Medications and Dosage Below

	Name	Dosage in Mg	How Often Taken
#1	_____	_____	_____
#2	_____	_____	_____
#3	_____	_____	_____
#4	_____	_____	_____
#5	_____	_____	_____

List any Allergies or Medications of Which You are Allergic Below:

#1	_____
#2	_____
#3	_____
#4	_____

List Any Serious Diseases That You Have (Diabetes, Cancer, Heart, Thyroid, Etc) Below

#1	_____
#2	_____
#3	_____

It is understood that the information contained within this form is to be kept confidential UNLESS a medical situation develops during the course of an activity being conducted by the A's R US car club that necessitates the release of this information to medical personnel.

Signature: _____

Up and coming 2014 Events:

April Meeting @ Tim and Connie's home

Wednesday April 16th 7:00.

22547 N Pebble Lake Ct. Frankfort, IL



Looking forward into 2014

Ronald McDonald House

Teen Bridge Center

Shake Down Trip

Spring Trip

Veterans Home

Camp Quality

58th. Annual Hesston Steam & Power Show 2014

Labor Day Sept. 1st

Exposure Trip 2014

Tentative / September 6th through the 14th

Newport Hill Climb

October 3rd – 5th

Fall Trip

A's R Us 2014 officers and Staff

- President – Irv Darnell
- Vice President – Steve Coe / Treasure – Jim Wright / Secretary – Char Darnell
- Newsletter – Phillip Serviss
- Member Relations – Ken Chamis
- Web Page – Allen Swicago
- Parade Coordinator – Wally Ekstrom
- Director of Safety – Ron Bonneau
- Nat'l Rep. – Ken Chamis
- Historian – Ken Chamis
- Sgt. At Arms Steve Coe
- Motor Medic - Jon Isota

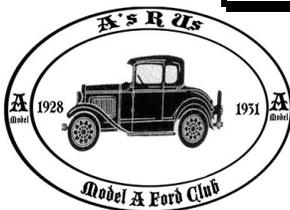
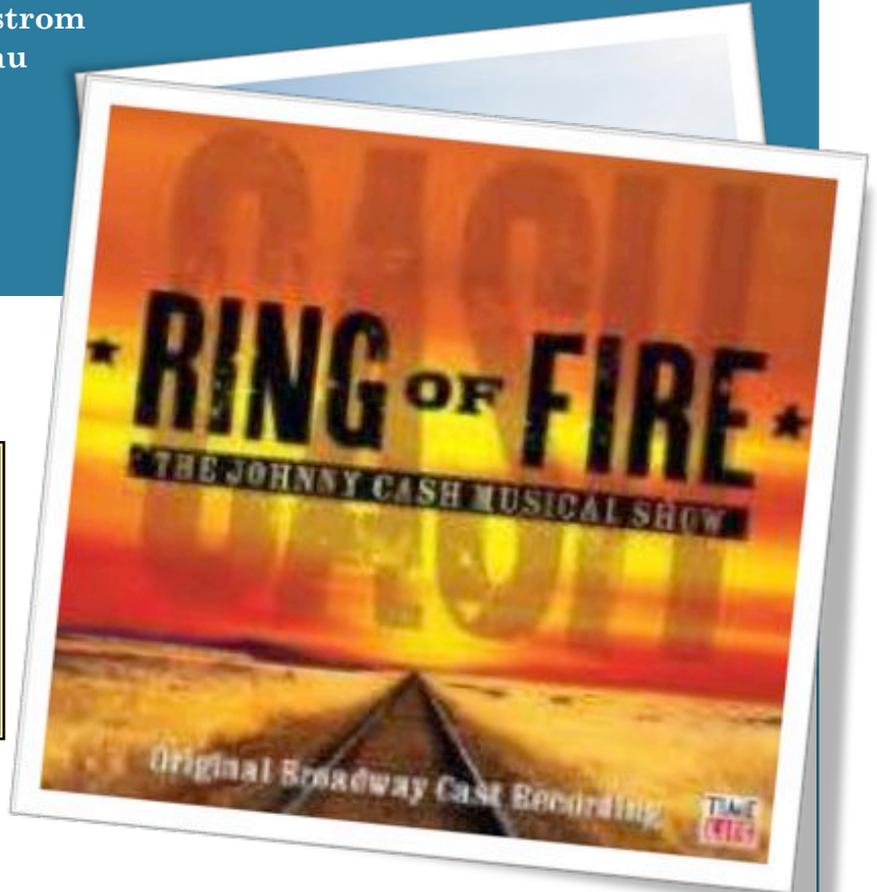
Please send **Backfire** articles or items of interest to:

E Mail to: taxserviss@att.net

Highland, IN
The Center Theater

BACKFIRE

P.O. Box 3
Crete, Illinois 60417



Mail To: