

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 9 SEPTEMBER 2014

## BACKFIRE

Chicago Southland Chapter, Model A Ford Club of America

## http://www.drivingthedixie.com

The second trip of the season is quickly closing in on us. I for one need to prep the 1931 for the trip by a full grease job and oil change. I am going to hopefully be pulling the motor out of this car after the fall trip. She burns a quart of oil every 300 miles or so even with additive in the engine. I have to

say other than that she has been very reliable car that hadn't seen the road in fifteen years prior to Nancy and I buying her. There is a possibility that next months Backfire will have to be combined with Novembers. We will see how everything goes when we get back from Nashville. Speaking of that it looks like the Charlie and Carolyn Grey will be joining us in Nashville. It will be great to see them.

#### Header Picture:

1908 Model T and a 1931 model A In Beecher, IL.

Phil

## Presidents Comments

#### LETTER FROM THE PREZ

In about three weeks the A's will be headed Southbound for the annual excursion trip, this year's trip will be to the music city. Yes, wonderful Nashville Tn. Its Tennessee or Bust! Hope everyone who plans to drive this excursion has begun their final inspection of their A's. Don't forget to



check tire pressures in all tires, including spare. Check fluid levels in transmission, differential, steering box, and coolant system.

The final Bridge Teen Car Show this year will be at Chick-fil-A in Orland Park, *IL. Wednesday August 13 from 5PM –9PM.* 

The last Club Meeting before the Excursion trip will be held at Ken and Dale's, 4924 Timber Ct., Oak Forest, IL. Aug. 20 at 7PM. See you there.

The Dionnes and Walter Ekstroms invite The A's members to a Shrimp and Corn Boil at the Cedar Lake Yacht Club on Sat. August 30<sup>th</sup>. The Pontoon Boat will be available for lake rides. More details at the Aug. Club Meeting.

Happy Aing,

## Ricochet

# Exposure Trip 2014 Nashville, TN September 3rd thru the 10th







## Email Phil Serviss for more infomation

## Jon Lisota: <u>Motor Medic</u>





It won't be long, and it will be time to fire up the Model A's.

First thing let us check the oil level. Next the water level and the gas. Now we need to try and start it or if need be, charge the battery. Remember that positive is the ground and negative is on the starter switch. So let's get them running so we can use up all the old gas from last year.

Let's check the transmission and rear end for enough lube.

Pump the tires up to 35 lbs. pressure all the way around. And don't forget the spare.

Now we need to check if all the lights are working.

Everything is looking good, so let's clean out all the old mice repellent we used last year and give the car a good cleaning.

Do we have enough RainX to treat the windows? Did we change the oil, before we put it away last year? Now we should be ready to take it out for a short drive and get the cobwebs out of it. Won't be long and we will be cruising on our next adventure

### DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright



Agriculture, commerce and industry are all important parts of the story of the Dixie Highway in Illinois. This month we learn a little about a major industrial plant, with an agricultural background, on the highway in Blue Island from a booklet entitled the First Hundred Years published in 1935.

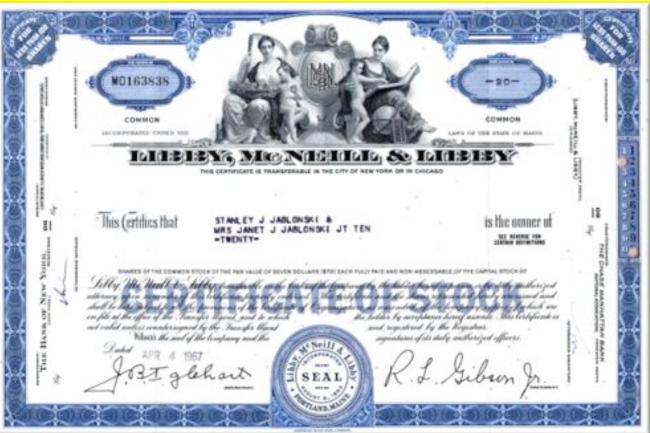
"The section around Blue Island has long been devoted to market gardening and contains some of the most fertile soil in Illinois, while its climate is well adapted to the growing of cabbage, tomatoes, onions and other vegetable crops.

Libby, McNeill and Libby's Blue Island plant, built in 1918, is acknowledged today to be one of the largest and finest pickle and condiment plants in the world. It is a handsome building located on a 24-acre plot adjoining the Dixie Highway. It is 700 feet in length and 620 feet in depth and contains practically every known feature for sanitation, fire prevention and efficient operation. Trackage is provided for 38 cars at one time, while connections are available with every railroad running into Chicago.

### DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright





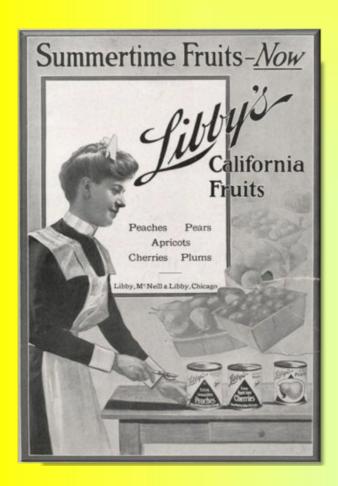
The plant itself stands some distance back from the highway and is surrounded by large well-kept lawns dotted with shrubbery and flowers. In the kitchens are prepared Libby's apple butter, pork and beans, catsup, chili sauce, jellies, mustard, olives, pickles, relish, onions, tomatoes and tomato juices.

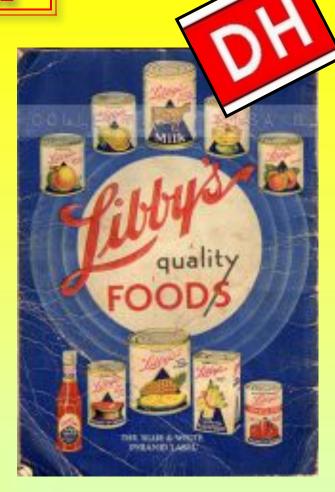
Hundreds of thousands of cases of Libby products are packed here annually, the number of people employed vary from three or four hundred to a thousand according to the season of the year and the amount of work to be done."

With the rapid disappearance of area farms, Libby's closed their Blue Island plant in 1968. Today, the building still stands at 13636 Western Avenue (Dixie Highway) and is used by a number of small companies as an intermodal terminal.

## DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright







## Just a few words about this years

## picnic.

The new picnic grounds were a great success. All flat land, no hills. Running water at the washrooms, with hand soap and paper towels and a drinking fountain.

This year we had a real nice breeze blow all day long. So though the temp was on the warm side, it was very enjoyable.

We had over fifty people show up this year. It was



just our own club members. It was a great turnout.

The amount of food was just awesome, that was brought. A great big Thanks you to all the Ladies who spent time preparing the side dishes and desserts. The variety was really nice.

In the process of cleaning up when we got home, we found one extra serving fork with four tines with some scrolling on the handle. Please advise me if it is yours.

Also one pair of children short pants with Lighting McQueen cars on them. They don't fit me so let me know if your child would like to have them back.

Also we were made aware of one missing serving utensil. A triangular shaped cake or pie serving tool. Please let me know if you have a extra one.

I hope everyone who was there had a great time; I know Yvonne and I did. Most important, we need to give a Great Big Thank You to Irv and Char. They lead the teens in doing the children games. They had their hands full this year with about 15 little kids. All the kids had a great time and got lots of prizes. We had three teenagers helping with the games, Megan Lisota, Billy Lisota, and Bryanna Hybert. Thank you teenagers.

Thank you Irv and Char, from Jon and Yvonne.

Also last but not least, a big thank you to Chuck, Tim, Ken, and Tim's son (son-inlaw) for helping with all the cooking. I could not have done it, with out your help.

Jon Lisota

## Sandy Kaleta Beporter on the Know!



## FASHION: Ahh the roaring twenties cont.....

Dresses of the 1920's were a sharp contrast to those of the Victorian Era. The waistband began dropping in the late 1910's and kept going starting just below the bustline in 1920, closer to the natural waist in 1921 and down to the hips in 1922.

It is a myth that the dresses of the 1920's were short the entire decade, actually it wasn't until 1925 that the hemline reached anywhere near the knee. Daytime dresses were shapeless and didn't hug a woman's curves. They hung loosely and often the sleeves did as well. Floral prints were the rage in soft pastel colors, "Nile Green", "Sunset Orange", "French Blue" and "Maze" were the most popular.



Day Dresses of the Roaring Twenties

The Roaring Twenties was a time of prosperity and elegance for many and women's evening wear reflected that fact. The materials, the beads, and

the accessories were all elegant and expensive. Evening dress followed the lead of the daytime dress in its structure but differed in the elegance of its construction, sparkle and bling.

The Flappers role in society can't be expressed enough as they were both a reaction to the society that proceeded them and an enigma to the society in which they lived. Society was ready for a major change and women rebelled against the status quo. They not only began driving, smoking and drinking just like men. They adopted the masculine look and redefined what sexy was. Coco Chanel and Marlene Dietrich's led the masculine influence that revolutionized 1920s fashion. Not everything was "boyish" about the 1920's fashions, women were said to still carry their femininity with style and grace.



Marlene Dietrich... Smoking Hot!



Bebe Daniels dressed in a beautilul evening gown (circa 1927)

FASHION WAS BECOMING THE PERFECT BLEND BETWEEN STYLE AND FUNCTION. WOMEN NOW HAD BEAUTIFUL CLOTHES WHICH ALLOWED THEM TO BE FASHIONABLE AND MOBILE.

## Shipshewana, Indiana will be October 17, 18 and 19.





There are 25 rooms reserved (double queens) at the Van Buren Hotel at \$89 per night. Saturday night there will be a play and dinner at the Gateway Theatre for \$39.

Phone for hotel reservations: 1-260-768-7780.

#### A'S R US MEETING MINUTES JULY 16, 2014

MEETING LOCATION: Park Forest Police Station hosted by Steve Coe

**CALLED TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT IRV DARNALL** at 7:10 pm, 22 persons in attendance. **MINUTES** from the June meeting were read by secretary, Char Darnall, approved as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT was given by Jim Wright: Dixie account has A's account has

**FAMILY NEWS:** Marlene, will be having surgery, or a less invasive surgery, on her back on Aug. 7<sup>th</sup>. Al & Sandy's grandson who had an accident and is in a body cast. Prayers requested.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Received a card from the Village of Homewood, Heritage Committee, thanking our Club for the many months of working on the plans for "Drivin' the Dixie", it was signed by the chairman, Elaine Egdorf. A copy of the quarterly newsletter, "The "A" Preserver" was sent to the Club from the Model A Ford Foundation. We also received a copy of "Gaslight Auto Parts" catalog.

**OLD BUSINESS:** New member application forms and a copy of our By-Laws will be given to new prospects wanting to join our Club. They will also need to be entered on our Emergency Call list, e-mail list and "Backfire" list. Raymond and Gerry Schmude of Worth, and Steve and Suellen Saller of Bourbonnais are joining our Club. We welcome their interest and participation.

"Drivin' the Dixie" was a success, thanks to everyone who participated.

**Annual Picnic** was a blast for our youngsters..."water blast" that is. THANKS to the cooks..Jon, Chuck, and their helpers for the great meat, to everyone who brought dishes to pass, to Yvonne for the super ice cream cones. Thanks to Tim Bots for taking pictures. A big THANK YOU to Steve Coe, the grandchildren of Jon & Yvonne's, their son and everyone else, for helping with the children's games. We hope everyone had a grand time and the food was excellent. For a small club, **A's R US ARE SUPERB!!** 

**Parades:** A's R US had a great up-front position at the Homewood parade with 13 cars attending. At the Beecher parade, there were 9 cars representing the A's. Before and after, everyone met at Phil and Nancy's for a great cookout.

**Bridge Teen Car Shows:** Famous Dave's and the Oberweis Dairy Car Shows were excellent with almost 90 cars participating. You have one more chance to attend...at Chick-fil-a on

Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup> from 5-9 pm, at 15605 S. LaGrange Road in Orland Park. This is the Bridge Teens last car show for 2014, let's give them our support.

**The Frankfort Cruise Night** on July 3<sup>rd</sup> was great. Our Club was asked to bring seven different body styles of Model A's, we did even better by bringing nine. A's were very well represented, even Travis Poulson brought his modified (souped up) tudor, to show another way to restore a Model A. Bob also brought the Model A engine that they tore apart.

**Excursion trip to Nashville:** The block of rooms are expiring August 5<sup>th</sup>, so please make your reservations now if you intend to make this trip. We're leaving Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>, returning Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>. Phil will send out an e-mail with hotel, showboat and Grand Ole Opry information to remind everyone. Ron needs to know **NOW**, the number of persons wanting to attend the General Jackson Showboat (cruise, entertainment & brunch), Grand Ole Opry and other points of interest, please contact Ron Bonneau at 708-243-9495 or email <a href="mailto:bonns3@comcast.net">bonns3@comcast.net</a>. We welcome those who have no Model A, to drive their modern cars.

Fall trip to Shipshewana, make your reservations now, Van Buren Hotel (260)768-7780.

**NEW BUSINESS:** It was suggested that the next time we have an event going on that we would like advertised, that we should call the newspaper and give them the information, this would be great exposure of our Club.

**Cruisin' for Camp Quality** is August 6<sup>th</sup> in Frankfort. Meet in the old Fox Lumber parking lot, across from Always Open between 6-6:30 pm, have your insurance card with you. We'll be leaving promptly at 6:30pm. We will have a police escort to Camp Manitoqua on Sauk Trail where we will pick up the kids and their chaperones. Please **DO NOT** go directly to Manitoqua. This is a rain or shine event.

Our visit to the **Veterans Home** in Manteno will be Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. If you like, meet at Mayberry Restaurant on Rt. 50 in Manteno, between 8-8:30 am for breakfast before driving to Veterans Home. Jim will send email to Karen regarding having pictures taken there.

We want to **thank Phil** <u>and</u> **the article contributors** for the latest newsletter, "The Backfire".

**Thank you's** go out to Phil Serviss and Ron Bonneau for the great articles written and published in the July/August "Restorer", **you made us proud.** 

**UPCOMING EVENTS: Peotone Car Club's** 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show on July 26<sup>th</sup>. **Cruisin' for Camp Quality,** Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup> in Frankfort starting at 6:00 pm. **Bridge Teen Center's Car Show** on August 13<sup>th</sup> at Chick-fil-a in Orland Park from 5-9 pm.

**NEXT MONTH'S MEETING:** Ken and Dale Chamis will host this meeting at their home at 4924 Timber Court, Oak Forest on August 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

Badge Fines: \$4 50/50: Ron Bonneau \$36 MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:25 pm

## **1940s Hangar Swing Dance**

USO Fundraiser, admission \$12

Presented by







#### Saturday October 25th 7:30-11:30

Free Swing dance lesson provided by Carl & Karrie, starts at 7:30

Lakes Area Swing Band fires up the music at 8:30

Best dressed contest



All proceeds go to support the USO

DeKalb Taylor Municipal Airport 3232 Pleasant St DeKalb, IL 60115

#### **MEETINGS FOR 2014**

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.

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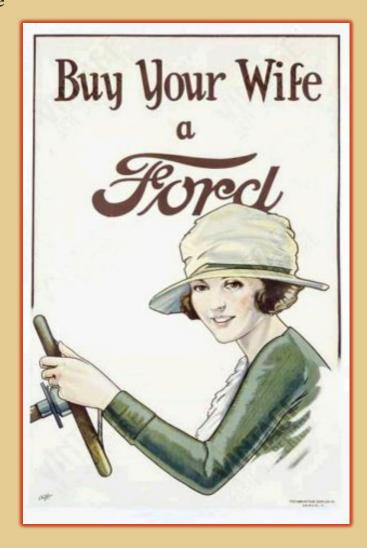
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## **Up and coming 2014 Events:**

## August Meeting

Wednesday July 20th 7:00.

**Dale and Kens Home** 



## 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 September 3rd through the 10th

Newport Hill Climb October 3rd – 5<sup>th</sup>

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 Kelations Ken Chamis
- Web Page Allen Swicago
- Parade Coordinator Wally Ekstrom
- Director of Safety Kon Bonneau
- Nat'l Kep. Ken Chamis
- 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

#### 1928 Tudor

## **BACKFIRE**

P.O. Box 3 Crete, Illinois 60417



