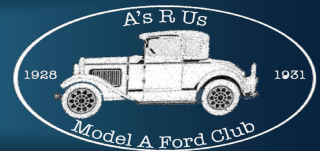


# BACKFIRE



Volume#20

Issue#5

May 2015

*The Carp, Editor in Chief*



I have finally opened both the rear and front doors of the garage to let the summer begin! First I need to get rid of a 1941 Ford Flat Head 8 from my to do list. I have enlisted Jon Lisota to encourage me and assist me on getting that done. Next will be pulling the engine from the 31 and re-boring it to increase the horsepower and stop the oil usage. The only thing I have done to the engine since I bought it in June of 2010 was to drop the pan pull the heads to clean it up. This engine has never been rebuilt. I've driven it to Holland Michigan, Bloomington Illinois, New Port Kentucky, 1200 miles around lake Michigan on the circle tour, South Bend Indiana and Nashville Tennessee. Well over 4000 miles on a original 83 year old engine with unknown miles prior to me buying it. All I can say is "Built Ford Tough!"

*Phil*

June 4<sup>th</sup> 2010 the day Jon and I picked up "Jezzibell"



A'sRUS Ford Club

<http://www.as-r-us.com>

# Presidents Comments

Now that spring has sprung, have you dug the Model A out of storage? I have, and with a needed repair from late last year, and the services of Jon Lisota, she seems to be chomping at the bit to go go go!. The turn out hosted by Bob Steinmetz with the hands of Jon Lisota, I saw that some are ready to hit the road for the shakedown / ride in the country on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

At the garage some limped in with various issues, and with a big hammer beating it into submission, left safer and running better. Headlights were adjusted on many, some WAY out of adjustment, carbs tweaked, along with several other items were performed in hoping that an unexpected stop could be avoided. But secretly I think Jon just loves for it to happen.

Drivin the Dixie is fast approaching, the spring trip to LaCrosse, Iowa, picnic, Grinders game, are a few things to look forward to. With the planning of those things, you are sure to exercise your Model A.

Unfortunately with miscellaneous items getting in the way, the tech talks I had hoped to see right after the meetings have not really materialized. So maybe need to revamp the idea and find a plan B. Ideas? Maybe going back to once a month is the option, or lets discuss it at the meeting.



*Ken aka "Squeaks"*

# Join US on the Spring 2015 Trip



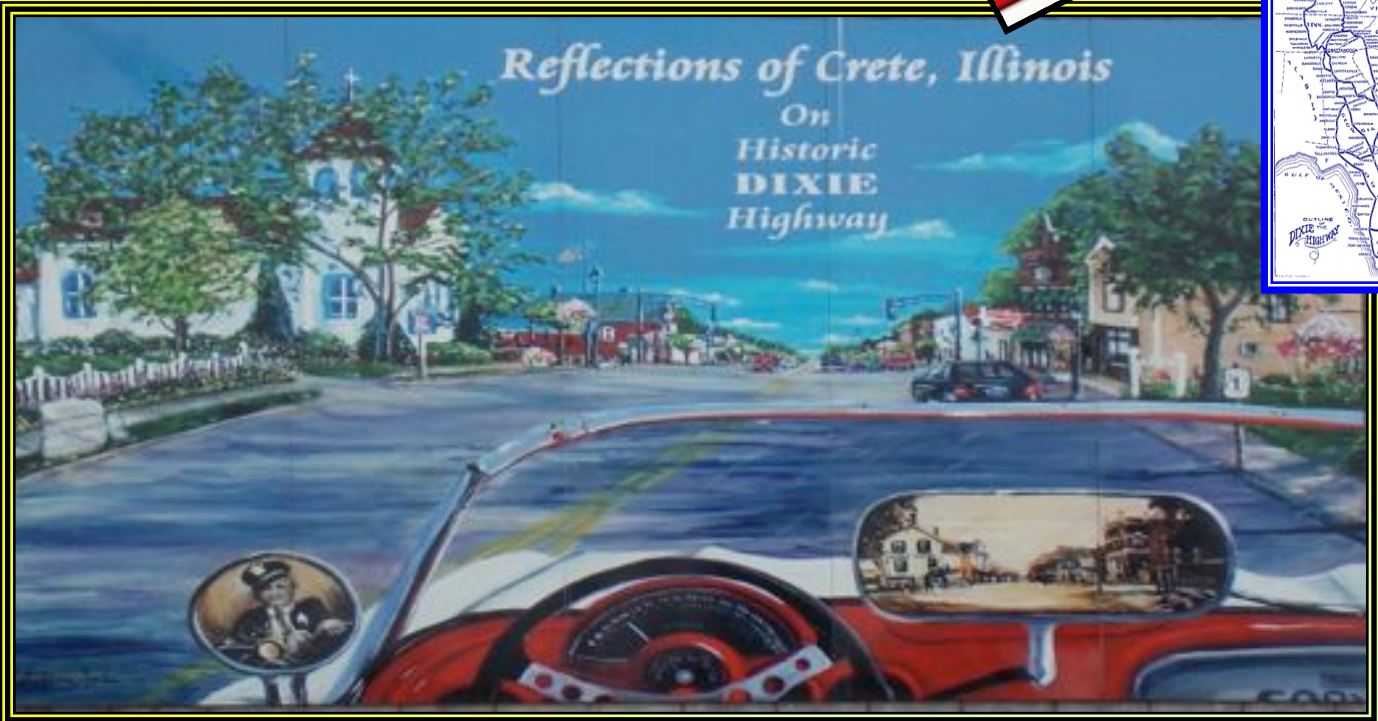
This year we are venturing to LeClaire, Iowa. A vintage town lying right alongside the Mighty Miss, LeClaire offers much more than the site of American Pickers headquarters. A vibrant and quaint riverside downtown with lots of shopping, both boutique and antique, as well as restaurants and watering holes it is a step back in time. Other adventures include the Buffalo Bill Museum (his homestead is 12 miles north) as well as an authentic paddle wheeler.

The dates for this A's R Us Spring Trip is May 15<sup>th</sup> through May 17<sup>th</sup>. The trip is being planned by Jon and Ron and we have driven it one time already. Our hotel is chosen, the Comfort Inn and Suites in LeClaire with a block of 20 rooms (Kings at \$123 and Doubles at \$113 which includes hot breakfast) is set up.

Call **563-289-4747** for reservations in the block.

## DIXIE HIGHWAY HERITAGE

By Jim Wright



Like Homewood, Crete has a number of murals in town. One is Dixie Highway related. The Reflections of the Dixie Highway mural shows a modern day view of the Dixie Highway looking south to Exchange Street. Reflection in the center mirror shows the same intersection about 1900, and the image in the side mirror is of the town's long time early police chief Hans Clausen on his motorcycle still keeping an eye on motorists passing through town. The mural was completed in 2007 and is located on the north wall of the building just south of the Cone Cottage.

**A'S R US MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 18, 2015**

**MEETING LOCATION:**

Jim Wright hosted this meeting at the Steger Estates Fire Station. February minutes were read by Sandy. Dates for the Fall Trip were corrected to read, October 9, 10 and 11th. Minutes were then approved.

**TREASURERS REPORT:**

Jim reported the balance for A's account was [REDACTED] and the Dixie account was [REDACTED]. He received a bill from Jon for \$60.00, a down payment for the picnic grove. His report was approved.

**FAMILY NEWS:**

SANDY reported that Henry is doing very well after his eye surgeries.

TIM reported that Connie recently had abdominal surgery and was recovering. He also reported there will be the birth of a New Corvette this Friday.

BOB said Penny is doing well, but that her numbers are fluctuating.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

DALE stated there is nothing new, regarding the Ronald Mac Donald dinner on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

KEN reported the available dates for the Grinders game to be July 12, 26, August 9, 23 and October 4<sup>th</sup>. Deciding on a date was tabled until the next meeting.

RON stated reservations need to be made for the Spring Trip, Comfort Inn and Suites, 563-289-4747.

Kings \$123.00 and Doubles \$113.00. More information will follow.

JIM reported that the next Driving the Dixie Meeting will be at the Hazel Crest Park District on 3/21. He shared that the last meeting conversation centered on the Signage proposal and the addition of a QR was well received. Insurance for the Driving the Dixie Event was extensively discussed at our meeting. MAFCA provides a General Liability Insurance and any event we solely run. However, does not cover co-sponsored events like Driving the Dixie. It was discussed to have each registrant provide their Driver's License and proof of Insurance on the day of the event. No proof of insurance would eliminate them from the event. It was also discussed to put a waiver of liability on the bottom of the registration form. Jim and Ken stated they will look into co-sponsored insurance and report at the next meeting. Karen also proposed we look in to selling Hats, Visors or Shirts as a club fund raiser. A vote was not taken on the above issues.

**BOB** reported that the Chefs Auction was a great success. TeenBridge did very well. Our Drive/Brunch was successfully auctioned and we will be entertaining 4 couples

on April 19<sup>th</sup>. The A's will meet at Bob's Garage in Frankfort on the 19<sup>th</sup> and leave there at 9:00AM to pick up our guests. This Event will also be the clubs Shake Down Cruise. We will wear Period dress to add to our guests enjoyment. Bob stated he needs to notify the Old Country Mansion in Dwight, Il of our intention to be there on the 19<sup>th</sup> and give them a head count. More information will be emailed to the membership.

**JON** reported that only 9 members to date have expressed an interest in attending the Calumet Soup Day on March 29<sup>th</sup>. If you want to attend you can still notify Jon at [lisotajon@att.net](mailto:lisotajon@att.net). The event will take place in the Willard Woods Building in Crete Park. **Al B** announced that the Website is going very well. He again reminded the members to not hesitate to send him old pics and articles. [allan@swicago.com](mailto:allan@swicago.com)

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**JON** stated he was able to secure June 28<sup>th</sup> for our 2015 picnic. A discussion followed regarding inviting another club/clubs to join us. Jon said he will talk with Art from the Calumet Club and see if they are interested.

**CHUCK** stated he has never run a car show as implied in the last minutes. He has however, participated with a local auto company. He further stated it wasn't a difficult one day event. They charged \$15-20.00 for entry, which included a T-Shirt and the rest went to a local charity.

Ken asked if there was an interest in our club running such an event. Jim said he will make inquiries into using local lots for such an event.

**FALL TOUR** dates were corrected from the February minutes. The dates are October 9, 10, and 11<sup>th</sup> for the Dixie Highway to Danville Tour. Dale and Jim are trying to work with the city of Chicago regarding this event. More information will follow.

**DALE** state the club roster is almost finished. She is using our Club Logo on the cover and asked to be reimbursed for the printing ink. Reimbursement was approved. She said she needs one more name to complete the Officers list: a Member Relations person. It was decided Dale would fill that slot.

**NEW PROPOSALS:**

**BOB** presented an invitation from Durbin's in Tinley Park to bring our cars for their WW11 Veterans Breakfast on April 18<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-11:30. A flier will follow.

**AL B** expressed an interest in a Auto Maintenance Clinic before our Shake Down Cruise. After a short discussion it was decided it will follow the breakfast meeting on April 4<sup>th</sup>.

**MISC DISCUSSIONS:** Breakfast meeting will be on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 8:30AM at Peachtree Restaurant. Auto Maintenance Clinic on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:00AM at Bob's

**Garage in Frankfort.**

**JIM** mentioned an article in the Chicago Southland magazine on Model A's. He was disappointed there was no mention of the A's though he had given the reporter a lot of information on our group.

**Next months mtg:** Will be held at Ken and Dale Chamis home in Oak Forest.

**Badge Fines \$3.00 Badge Fee \$1.00 50/50 \$52.00 Winner Bob \$26.00 and \$26.00 to the club.**

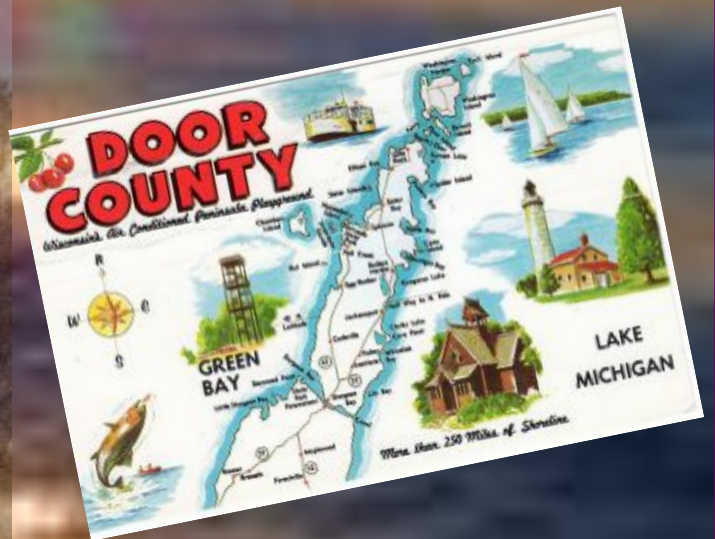
**Adjourn:** Ken thanked Jim for his hospitality and adjourned the meeting at 8:24PM

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: SANDY KALETA  
SECRETARY**

# Exposure Trip 2015

## Door County Wisconsin

### September 13th - 20th





## Up and coming 2015 Events:



We had many adventures with the car. On our trip back from Holland MI. in May of 2011, we had to stretch oilcloth across our roof to make it watertight. There was a tremendous thunder storm and car got soaked, as the roof was dry rotted. Glue and clips held it on all the way back to Beecher.

### Looking forward into 2015

**Ronald McDonald House**

**Shake Down Trip**

**Veterans Home**

**58th. Annual Hesston Steam & Power Show 2015**

**Exposure Trip 2015 Door County WI ?**

**Newport Hill Climb**

**Fall Trip**

**Teen Bridge Center**

**Spring Trip**

**Camp Quality**

**Labor Day Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>**

**September**

**October 3rd – 5<sup>th</sup>**

## A's R Us 2015 Officers and Staff

- President – Ken Chamis
- Vice President –Randy Senkpeil
- Treasure –Jim Wright
- Secretary – Sandy Kaleta
- Newsletter – Phillip Serviss
- Member Relations – Ken Chamis
- Web Page – Allen Betschart
- 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

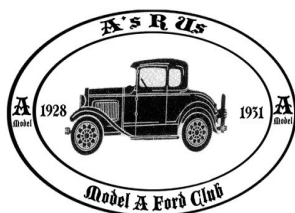
Bottom end of the Model A engine.



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

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# BACKFIRE



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