

The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford for over 50 years
1956 - 2006

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www.sfmodelaclub.org

October 2006

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America

Sunday, October 8

Old-Fashioned San Francisco Neighborhood Block Party

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Sunday, October 15

Jimmy's Old Car Picnic in Golden Gate Park

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artwork by Jamie O'Keefe

Upcoming Tours ~ See page 3 for details

Saturday, October 28

All-Club Boat-Float and Open House at the San Francisco Model Yacht Club
at Spreckels Lake in Golden Gate Park

Sunday, October 29

DeBenette Building 100th Anniversary Celebration
Half Moon Bay

Sunday, November 12

Annual San Francisco City Tour & 50th Anniversary Luncheon
Saturday, **December 9** - Christmas Banquet

Official Publication of the
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
MAFCA

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Gary Barrango

VICE PRESIDENTS

Greg Martinez

Tom Escher

SECRETARY

Barry Kinney

TREASURER

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The Choke Rod is published once each month by the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America. It is mailed free to each member in good standing and mailed to other antique car clubs in exchange for their publications. Ads are published at \$15.00 a year and run for 12 months. The Choke Rod takes no responsibility for the accuracy of materials, dates, places, prices, etc of its contents. Permission to reproduce is hereby granted provided credit is given to The Choke Rod. The Choke Rod welcomes articles, art work, ideas, suggestions, etc.

Please submit any and all material to the editor by the last Monday of each month. Articles and photos may be submitted to sowsley@pacbell.net or mailed to Steve Owsley at 1350-d Scott Street, San Francisco, CA 94115.

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VICE PRESIDENTS: Greg Martinez
Tom Escher
SECRETARY: Barry Kinney
TREASURER: Steve Owsley
TOUR CHAIR: Barry Kinney
EDITORS: Walter Caplan
Steve Owsley
MEMBERSHIP: Walter Caplan
PAST PRESIDENT: Franz von Uckermann

President's Message

With the end of the year drawing closer, I realize a couple of things - One is all of you only have to endure three more of my President's Letters. Walter will no longer have to call me two to three times to remind me about my President's Letter (a task I'm sure he'll miss!).

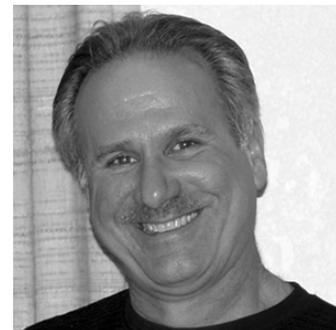
At the September meeting, we discussed positions for the Club and various members that wanted to hold these positions, and once again it looks like a very good fit.

The Club has seen a very positive upswing of new members, cars and people attending tours. The meetings are very well-attended, as are the dinners prior to the meetings. This is a great way for the upcoming board to start off the new year. So many of our members are taking active roles in helping with the tours, the upcoming car show in February, and there is much excitement about our San Francisco Swap Meet. Thank you to all of the members who are actively participating.

Speaking of excitement - Cheryl attended a luncheon this week for the Little Sisters of the Poor at the Four Seasons Hotel in San Francisco. She said she spoke to several of the sisters about our club and she said how excited all of them were about our club's participation on the Father's Day weekend at their home. They couldn't say enough good things about our Club doing this for them and putting a smile on so many of their faces.

I hope to see many of you at our October meeting. Remember there is a lot to discuss, and we really need to start to finalize plans for the Car Show in February. See you at the meeting.

Gary Barrango



The San Francisco Model "A" Ford Club encourages membership in MAFCA, the National Model "A" Ford Club. Benefits include an excellent bi-monthly publication, *The Restorer*, providing technical information and free liability insurance when participating in Club Events.

MAFCA

Model A Ford Club of America, Inc.
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La Habra CA 90631
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562-697-2712



Dues are \$30 per year. Dues for new members may be paid at any time. Dues paid between November 1 and December 31 are valid for the remainder of the year paid plus the following year. With your check send in your name, spouse's name and complete address. An optional \$10 initiation fee includes a club pin, decal, badge, windsheild card and a back issue of *"The Restorer"* magazine. If you use Mastercard or Visa include the expiration date and your signature. Membership includes a subscription to *The Restorer*.

Sunday, October 15 Jimmy's Old Car Picnic In Golden Gate Park

Greg Martinez is hosting the October Tour at Speedway Meadows in Golden Gate Park for *Jimmy's 18th Annual Old Car Picnic*. We'll have our canopy, cars and a barbecue set up. It's a huge party and a great place to mingle with friends, people watch and enjoy an eclectic variety of special interest cars. This is one of the more fun events of the year. So, come, relax, have lunch, hang out with car fanatics of every description. **Call Greg Martinez at 415-725-2449 if you have any questions or need directions.** Bring your friends! This will be FUN!!

The club will provide hamburgers, hot dogs and soft drinks. This is a Potluck event and anyone planning to come should bring a salad, desert, or pasta dish to share. Plan to arrive early - preferably before 10am. Plan to beat the crowd. If you plan to display your car, call Greg and let him know so he can reserve enough space. Club members should bring something to sit on - a chair of some type or blanket.

Jimmy's Annual Old Car Picnic started in 1988 as a way for classic car-loving friends to get together in Golden Gate Park. It has since grown into the largest car show of its kind in San Francisco and includes cars, trucks, motorcycles of all types.

For a \$20 donation, which includes a raffle ticket, a souvenir dash plaque, and a poster, participants can park on Speedway Meadow's lawn. The money raised benefits the SF Recreation & Park Department's Adaptive Recreation Programs for the developmentally disabled. Spectators not parking at the show are admitted free.

<http://www.jimmypicnic.com>

Speedway Meadow is located within Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. It's near 30th Avenue, on John F. Kennedy Drive, west of Crossover/Transverse Drive. **NEW THIS YEAR: Vehicles MUST enter the Meadow coming east from Ocean Beach, on JFK Drive. OR enter the Park at 30th Avenue from Fulton, then turn LEFT onto JFK Drive.**



Sunday, October 8 Old-Fashioned San Francisco Neighborhood Block Party

Gunard and Jeanine Mahl invite SF Model A members to our 25th + annual block party. On 28th Avenue between Lincoln & Irving. The street is blocked off about 9 in the morning, but we can park model A's on 28th at the Lincoln Way end of the street on the west side. We need to keep them close together, backed in to the curb starting close to the barricades.

It is a potluck lunch with food served around noon. You are asked to bring something to share. Some beer and soda will be available, but if you are really thirsty, bring something. We have games for adults and kids. Prizes for best food.

For those hardy souls who stay till after dark, there will be a "bonfire" in the Mahl's driveway in our copper fire bowl. Bring chairs. Hope to see you there. For more information, call Jeanine @ 415.664.2056

Saturday October 28 All-Club Boat-Float and Open House at the San Francisco Model Yacht Club at Spreckels Lake in Golden Gate Park

The San Francisco Model Yacht Club will celebrate the end of the 2006 model boating season with an All-Club Boat-Float and Open House. The event will feature more than 70 power and sail boats, and will take place at Spreckels Lake, in Golden Gate Park at 36th Avenue and Fulton Street. Activities begin at 9am and continue until 5pm

We will meet at Stonestown near McDonald's at 7:45 am for a running board breakfast, and then motor to Spreckels Lake at 8:15 am. **Please RSVP to Walter Caplan at 415-753-3280**

Sunday October 29 DeBenette Building 100th Anniversary Celebration Half Moon Bay

This is the 100th anniversary of the DeBenette Building in Half Moon Bay. The planners of the event would like to park cars of 1931 or older vintage around the building for photos and ambiance. El Camino A's and other clubs will be attending. **If interested in being part of a SF Model A Club contingent, call Barry Kinney at 415-282-2789.** We tentatively plan to assemble at 10:30 am for an 11 am departure.

Sunday November 12 Annual San Francisco City Tour & 50th Anniversary Luncheon

Note the change of date: tour and luncheon will be Sunday November 12. Mark your calendar. Details will be in the November **Choke Rod**, and in an upcoming e-mail message.

We have planned a fun tour followed by a wonderful midday meal at an unusual 1940's period eatery.

Men's Fashion of the 1920's

The Edwardian period influenced formal wear and etiquette for gentlemen until the end of World War I when men were returning to closets full of clothes from their teens. This time demanded great change in clothing for men. The common Sacque suit, which had been popular since the mid 1800's, was appropriate day dress. Shirts of putty, peach, blue-gray and cedar were worn with silk ties showing patterns of small geometric shapes or diagonal stripes and were secured with tie pins. Black bowler hats completed the ensemble.

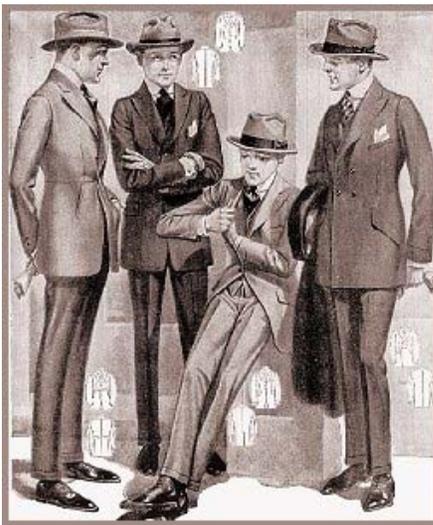
Alternate formal wear included top hats and tail coats. Starched white shirts with pleaded yokes were more common with the tail coat, although bow ties and shirts with white wing collars were also seen. Black patent-leather shoes finished the look for the evening. Tuxedos were increasing in popularity, but were not yet completely accepted.

Casual wear brought in two-tone shoes in white and tan or white and black. Fringed tongues on Oxfords and brogues were commonly worn, but lace-up style shoes were the most in demand. Knickerbockers, later shortened to "knickers" were popular casual wear for the well-dressed gentleman. Variations on knickers included plus-fours, plus-sixes, plus-eights, and plus-tens, which referred to the length in inches below the knee. Norfolk and golf coats were worn with knickers. These coats had large patch pockets, a belt, usually one button and often a shoulder yoke. Gentlemen's shoes or boots were appropriate footwear for knickers.

In 1925 the era of the baggy pants dawned. This fashion influenced men's wear for three decades. Oxford bags (trousers with very wide legs) were first worn by Oxford undergraduates in rebellion of the University's prohibition on knickers. The style originated when knickers were banned in the classroom. The bags measured from twenty-two to forty inches around the bottoms and could easily be slipped over knickers.

John Wanamaker introduced Oxford bags to the American public in the spring of 1925, even though Ivy League students visiting Oxford in 1924 had already adopted the style. Originally the trousers were made of flannel and appeared in shades of biscuit, silver gray, fawn, lovat, blue gray, and pearl gray.

Tweed cloth became popular during this time. "Tweed" is an English variant of the Scottish word "tweel", itself a variation of "twill". Tweel refers to hand-woven wool fabric from the Scottish highlands and islands. The word became associated with the Tweed River which forms the



boundary between England and Scotland. Tweed became the general term for all "home-spun" wool whether it was Scotch tweed, Donegal tweed, Cheviot tweed or Harris tweed.

Flannel was the other popular fabric of the era. It has been linked to the Welsh word "gwalnen" which means woolen cloth. It was originally made as a heavy, comfortable, soft, and slightly napped wool cloth. Gray was the most popular color which bore the popular flannel trouser known as "grayers". These trousers also came in white, beige, stripes and were worn in warm

weather.

While Paris was the world seat of women's fashion, London was for men's fashion. Tailors in France weren't quick to admit it, but men's fashion magazines revealed this by featuring styles and trends from London. During the decade of the twenties students at Oxford and Cambridge violated, for the first time ever, the Edwardian practice of different types of dress for different times of the day. The students wore flannel trousers and soft collars all day. When the English empire stood intact, it became easy for London to dictate men's fashion.

Brought to you by **Rachelle Marquez**

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Radiator Corrosion

by Bill Lee

reprinted from the September, 2004 **Colonial "A" News**, the newsletter of the Colonial Virginia Model "A" Ford Club of Williamsburg, Virginia.

Several years ago, based upon several auto magazine articles and computer Internet posts, I changed the fluid in my radiator from 50/50 tap water/antifreeze solution to distilled water with several additives. I made this change due to foaming and corrosion of the radiator. The corrosive foam stained the chrome and paint of the car, therefore, corrective action was necessary. Research indicates that the water pump impeller agitated the denser antifreeze/water solution and caused it to foam out onto the car.

DO NOT MODIFY the fins on the impeller of the water pump. Henry's engineers designed the pump to move the proper amount of fluid through the radiator and engine block and it should not be changed. Model "A" Ford owners that used plain distilled water noticed a white fungus-like growth in the radiators but did not experience abnormal over-heating. Further research reveals that plain distilled water is neutral but when subjected to natural air it draws carbon dioxide from the air and becomes acidic. In addition, when plain distilled water is added to the radiator and engine block, it naturally extracts iron and minerals from the metals in the radiator and engine block and becomes acidic. Treatment of the radiator solution is required to return the radiator liquid to an alkaline solution. This is accomplished by additives to whatever coolant you use in your Model "A" Ford in order to prevent corrosion and overheating.

If you prefer an antifreeze to prevent freezing, use a 50/50 solution of distilled water and one of the major environmental friendly antifreezes. If you prefer only a coolant for touring in warm weather, use distilled water and a bottle of *Water-Wetter* and a bottle of water pump lubricant.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



October Anniversaries

October 25 Les & Jean Kling
October 26 Bill & Juanita Tempone



Mounting "A" Tires Without Trashing Wheels

Having heard about the benefits derived from the trash bag method of mounting tires, I tried it and submit the following report: IT WORKS! Here is what I learned:

Materials required: THIN (.67-.95 mil) TRASH BAGS (No handle ties); TALC or CORNSTARCH; TIRE; TUBE; WHEEL; LARGE RUBBER Mallet.

Procedure: Inflate tube slightly - so that it resembles a "tube". Then liberally apply talc or cornstarch to inside of tire and coat tube. Insert tube in tire cavity. Tube should have enough air to fill out tire but not too much. Apply talc or cornstarch to tube/tire area. Put large piece of heavy cardboard or carpet on floor and place wheel on it with hub up (saves the paint). Cover with cheap trash bag, lay tire assembly over wheel. Position tire so that 1/3 of the bead is under wheel lip, capturing bag. You may find it easier to begin with stem under wheel 0 aligned with hole in wheel. Place one foot on tire where it begins to emerge on wheel. Use rubber mallet to work the opposite side of tire bead over wheel lip. It is imperative to keep the bead in the depressed center of the wheel as you work bead around the wheel. It will pop on quite easily without damaging paint on wheel or pinching tube. Pull bag from wheel/tire and discard. Partially inflate tire and jounce to seat bead and remove wrinkles in tube. Then align stem and inflate to 35 psi.

Courtesy of **Howard Kriebel**, Sagebrush & Fort Worth MAFCA, Cowtown A's, reprinted from June 2005 El Camino Ramblings, El

Rachelle Marquez
Personal Trainer/Instructor

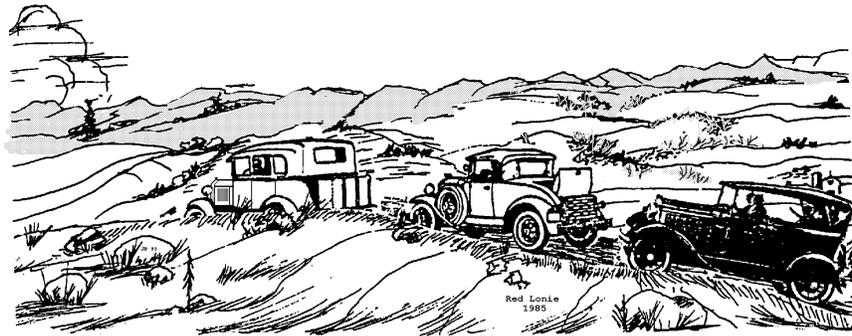
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2006 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

IT'S THE JOURNEY! NOT THE DESTINATION!

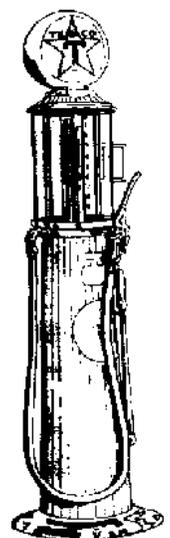


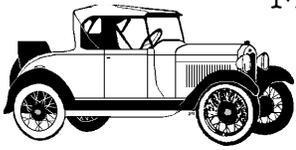
MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JAN	29	GARY BARRANGO	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH - HARDING PARK
FEB	17,18,19	CLUB FUNDRAISER	ANNUAL CAR SHOW AT FISHERMAN'S WHARF
MAR	18	THE BOB CRAIGS	TECH SEMINAR - LUBRICATING THE "A"
APRIL	16	JEANINE & GUNARD MAHL	EASTER AT PACIFIC ROD & GUN CLUB
MAY	21	KINNEY	FRIENDSHIP DAY - CANADA COLLEGE
JUNE	17	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	ST. ANNE'S HOME - FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND
JUNE	25	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	PRIDE PARADE & PICNIC LUNCH AT CRISSYFIELD
JULY	8	GREG MARTINEZ	LAHONDA & TOUR OF ARIES LTD (MUFFLERS)
AUG	20	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	SAN FRANCISCO MYSTERY TOUR
AUG	27	GREG MARTINEZ	SWAP MEET AT PACIFIC ROD & GUN CLUB
SEPT	10	KINNEY	ANTIQUE AUTOS HISTORY PARK - SAN JOSE
SEPT	22-24	CAPLAN / OWSLEY / MACHADO	OVERNIGHTER-MURPHYS-IRONSTONE CONCOURS
OCT	15	GREG AND CASEY MARTINEZ	JIMMY'S OLD CAR PICNIC IN GOLDEN GATE PARK
NOV	12	KINNEY / CAPLAN	THE ANNUAL SAN FRANCISCO CITY TOUR
DEC	9	SF MODEL A CLUB	CHRISTMAS BANQUET

If you would like to lead a tour, please call **Jeanine Mahl 415-664-2056**

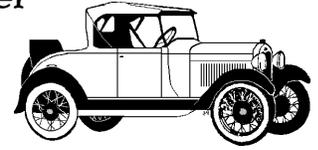
2006 Schedule of Events

January 28-29	Turlock Swap Meet: Stanislaus County Fairgrounds. Sponsors: Modesto Area A's; Sat 7 am to 5 pm, Sun: 7 am to 3pm; \$5 admission
March 18	Model A Crab and Steak Feed, Livermore, Info: Bill Rose (925) 216-9920
March 31-Apr 2	CCRG Meeting, Paso Robles, Paso Robles Oak A's
April 30	Dream Machines - Half Moon Bay - 10 am - 4 pm
May 5-7	Lake County A's Spring Opener at Konocti Vista Casino in Lakeport
May 7	Car Parts Exchange Meet; Tulare, Charter Oaks A's
May 14	Capitol A's Swap Meet. Consumnes River College
June 1-4	NCRG Roundup, Turlock Fairgrounds, Sponsored by Modesto Area A's
July 16-20	NWRG Round-up, Kennewick, WA: Columbia Basin Chapter
July 16-22	MAFCA National Convention, Mansfield, MA
July 16-20	Northwest Regional Meet, Tri-Cities, Washington, sponsored by Columbia Basin A's
Sept 1-4	Apple Hill Meet: Host - Hangtown A's
Sept 8-9	Feather River A's 2nd Annual Get Together.
Oct 1	Placerville Jazz Jubilee, Car Display





Minutes of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
Model A Ford Club of America
September 14, 2006



The September meeting was called to order at 7:41 P.M.

New members included **Mel Patsel, Dave Boragno, and Dick and Kevin Richardson.** Minutes of the August meeting were approved as written. Motion to approve and second were by **Jeanine and Gunard Mahl.**

Reports of Officers

President: Nominations for officers for year 2007 will be accepted at the October meeting. With the exception of the office of President, all 2006 officers have agreed, if unchallenged, to continue in office. However, should anyone wish to step up into any position, the current officer will gladly step aside. *Greg Martinez* will assume the office of President and *Jeanine Mahl* has agreed to become the Tour Chairperson.

Vice-president: The San Francisco Swap Meet was a great success — next year will be bigger and better. *Greg Martinez* has loaned the Club money to cover the cost of promotion for the 2006 and 2007 Swap Meets.

Secretary: A flyer from *Eve Patton* announcing the FogFest in Pacifica was the only correspondence received. Look for details on upcoming tours in **The Choke Rod.**

Shirley Fioresi will contact the Basque Cultural Center regarding the menu for the Christmas Party.

Treasurer: The Club continues to maintain sufficient funds in bank accounts to outstanding debts. The Club will take steps to become a 501 (c) 3 Corporation. This will allow the Club to accept tax deductible contributions. *Dick Richardson* has donated a Model AA Ford Milk Delivery Truck to the Club.

Editor: The October issue of **The Choke Rod** will include a pictorial insert which will include photos of the Tours to Kelley Park and Ironstone Concours d' Elegance.

For the Good of the Order: The Mahls have invited the Club to their block party in October - look for details in the newsletter.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting will be on October 12, 2006, at 7:30 pm. Walter Caplan provided refreshments for the September meeting, John Zuffi has volunteered to provide refreshments for the next meeting. Dinner at the *Connecticut Yankee* at 6:00 pm.

The Show committee will meet on October 9, 2006, at 6:00 P.M. The meeting is open to all Club members. All meetings are at the Monte Cristo Club at 136 Missouri Street.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

The minutes are respectfully submitted by **Barry Kinney, Secretary.**

SF Model A Club Monthly Meetings: The meetings continue to be held monthly, the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M. The location is the Monte Cristo Club at 136 Missouri Street in San Francisco. The meeting place is located in safe neighborhood and parking is convenient. If you have questions or need directions, call Gary at (415) 821-2628 (daytime)

The next scheduled meeting will be at 7:30 PM on Thursday, October 12, 2006
A number of club members gather for dinner before the monthly meetings at 6 pm
Please feel free to join us -- October dinner location will be The Connecticut Yankee, corner of 17th St. & Connecticut.



graphics by Pauline Marquez



in this
Choke Rod

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Insert - Tour Photos - Kelley Park &
Ironstone Concours d'Elegance



www.sfmodelaclub.org

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OCTOBER MEETING
Thursday October 12, 2006
7:30 PM - Monte Cristo Club
136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)
San Francisco

