

The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

Volume 51, Issue 4

www.sfmodelaclub.org

April 2007

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America

**- the SF Model A Ford Club at the Greek Cultural Parade - March 24, 2007 -
see article on page 6**



Pacific Coast Dream Machines

Half Moon Bay Airport

Sunday April 29

see page 3 for details

Upcoming Tours

April 8 - Easter at The Pacific Rod & Gun Club

April 29 - Pacific Coast Dream Machines - Half Moon Bay Airport

May 12 - Cruise to Santa Cruz

May 19 - "A" Day at the Ranch - Campo Seco, CA

May 20 - All Ford Picnic - Lodi, CA

May 20 - Friendship Day at Canada College

Official Publication of the
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
MAFCA

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Greg Martinez

VICE PRESIDENTS

Gary Barrango

Tom Escher

SECRETARY

Barry Kinney

TREASURER

Steve Owsley

PAST PRESIDENT

Gary Barrango

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. 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.

PRESIDENT: Greg Martinez
VICE PRESIDENTS: Gary Barrango
Tom Escher
SECRETARY: Barry Kinney
TREASURER: Steve Owsley
TOUR CHAIR: Barry Kinney
EDITORS: Walter Caplan
Steve Owsley
FASHION EDITOR: Rachelle Marquez
MEMBERSHIP: Walter Caplan
PAST PRESIDENT: Gary Barrango

President's Message

Hello Fellow Motoring Enthusiasts,

Time goes by faster and faster, as most will attest to. Perfect example is my monthly phone call from our co-editor Walter: WHERE IS MY PRESIDENT'S LETTER? And I know it's close to the first of the month.

All who attended the multi-cultural Greek Parade had a great time. What a fabulous event. The floats, bands, costumes, and dignitaries put on for one great parade. Our own Barrango family got the honor of cruisin' with the Archbishop. Now, that's one un-holy combination, Gary and the Archbishop, and one other black robe, staff yielding man of God. Thank God for Cheryl.

Now on to the future. Winter flew by and for all who put their cars away for the season, Get them out, Clean them up, and Get them ready. Cruisin' season is here again with lots of plans for tours and events. If you have any ideas or would like to lead a tour, get it together. Lead, follow, or get out of the way, 'cause here we come, the 4-bangers.

Well, that's all for this month, and remember — The Cars are the Stars!

Your President,

Greg Martinez



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.
250 South Cypress Street
La Habra CA 90631
www.mafca.com
562-697-2712



MAFCA 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. Along with your check send in your name, spouse's name and complete address. An optional \$10 initiation fee includes a club pin, decal, badge, windshield 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*.

“A” Day at the Ranch

Saturday May 19 Campo Seco
at Doug Hardy's Gold Country Ranch Campo Seco
(see page 5, March 2007 **Choke Rod**)
www.adayattheranch.com or 209-772-2334
Model A's, Classics, Hot Rods, Race Cars
Party, BBQ, and all FREE

Overnighter option:

Sunday May 20, All-Ford Picnic hosted by Big Valley Ford V8 Club at Micke Regional Park in Lodi - Lots of games for kids and adults.

Linden A's (Tom and Terry Machado) will provide lunch for all club members at the Sunday picnic.
Lodging available in Lodi at the Comfort Inn.

Tour Leader: Steve Owsley, RSVP 415-563-7130

Friendship Day 2007 Sunday May 20

at Cañada College in Redwood City
Mid Peninsula Old Time Auto Club

Always a popular event, "Friendship Day" is sponsored by Mid-Peninsula Old Time Auto Club. This collector car show has been held for 44 years and is one of Northern California's biggest and friendliest events. It is mainly aimed at hobbyists who bring their collector vehicles to show and includes all kinds of collectible cars and trucks. No judging, no awards, no vendors, no pre-registration! Just pay at the gate, park your car, and walk and talk. Great BBQ lunch is available. Bob Craig, Sr. is volunteering at this event collecting gate fees, so be sure to say hello to him.

Tour Leader: Barry Kinney, RSVP 415-282-2789

The event is at the Canada College parking lot #3, 4200 Farm Hill Blvd, Redwood City: **8AM - 2PM**. The site is just East of I-280 at the Farm Hill exit. Spectator fee: \$10/car (unlimited people), registration fee: \$10/car (unlimited people) for this event. Feel free to bring a picnic lunch if you wish as well as lawn chairs, but **don't forget to RSVP Barry Kinney.**



Tickets for individual games available from Greg Martinez. contact Greg at 415-725-2449

PACIFIC COAST DREAM MACHINES

Sunday April 29 - 10 am - 4 pm

It's the world's largest and most whimsical gathering of motorized marvels from throughout the twentieth century...a remarkable exhibit of 2000 driving, flying, and working machines, running the gamut of exotic automobiles, US Army tanks, and antique motorcycles to restored military aircraft, Model T fire engines, massive steam tractors, and tons more. Live music, kids amusements and food booths run by local non-profits round out the festivities.

Assemble Stonestown, McDonald's, 8 am, depart 8:30 am

Tour Leader: Barry Kinney, RSVP 415-282-2789

Cruise to Santa Cruz
Rumblers SF - Last Originals
Morons - Road Devils

2nd Annual 2007

Saturday May 12th 2007

Pack Run
BBQ
Good Times

Customs
Chops
Classics
Bikes
all welcome

Starting location - Sea Bowl Hwy 1 - Pacifica 10:00 am. ride starts at 11:00
Final Location - De LaVeaga park - Santa Cruz
for more info email - scott@wreckingballpromo.com

Tour Leader: Walter Caplan, RSVP 415-753-3280

Undergarments of the 1930's

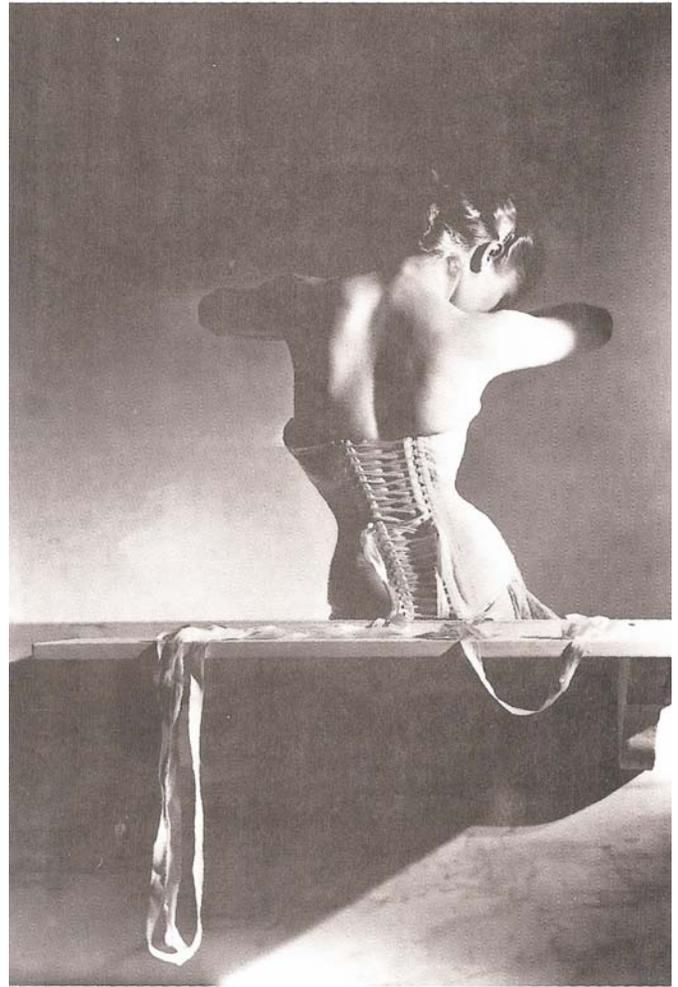
Approaching the 30's a softer figure became more desirable. The strict, flat figure of the 20's was no longer portrayed. Clothes floated around the body with some definition of the female shape. The back of most garments was uncovered for sport and evening wear, which made the bra difficult to wear with these outfits. The bust was accentuated with fabric, but cleavage was not visible as women adhered to the morals of the day. The cut was tight around the lower area of the woman with the waist nipped in and the bottom on display. Curves were fashionable again, but not at the expense of comfort.

For most day wear, corselettes (a more covered version of the corset) were ideal to wear to avoid visible lines and to display the smoothness of the fabrics. The panty girdle and the "roll-on" were introduced in the mid-30's for trousers. Garters were dismissed for sport and resort wear. Undergarments for the 30's included French drawers, which were awkward for cyclists wearing shorts, and bras with a lot of elastic at the back. Padding came around with the wired bra in 1935. Special padded slips were also sold for ultimate smoothness.

In the 1930's Warners introduced cup sizes for bras. Underwear started to come back with more control and the corset showed up again near the end of the decade, with less constriction by adding more elastic to the garment. Development of new fabrics allowed corsets finer elastics to be used with fine lace, voile, satin and silk. Heavy elastic panels, broche patterns and cotton were not known to ignite passion among couples, which now were done away with. The new comfort of the improved corset had a tacit sexuality about it, as in Horst P. Horst's famous 1939 picture of Mainbocher's corset. The prominent color was pink with the occasional black accent and gorgeous prints. Nearing the end of the decade spiral boning was introduced for ease of bending and moving, with zip fasteners, eyes, and hooks making it faster to dress and undress.

The 30's were a time for serious sex appeal where the 20's exotic and bizarre fashions were more for shock value. As the stars became more smoldering the Hayes Office, known to purify the American cinema through public morals, restricted couples pictured in bed to wearing pajamas. Ironically this action along with Noel Coward, an actor and comedian of the time, popularized pajamas as lounge wear and bed attire bring forth the sexuality desired of the time.

Rachelle Marquez



Glenn S. Mitchell
June 30, 1926 - March 1, 2007

Glenn S. Mitchell, born in Brush Prairie, WA on June 30, 1926, passed away in the early morning of March 1.

Glenn was preceded in death by his parents Clarence and Elma Mitchell and one sister, Alice Adams. He is survived by his loving wife of 56 years Sue Mitchell of Colusa; his two sisters, Heloise Akesson and Doris Thayer; and his son and two daughters and their spouses: Steve and Cyndi Mitchell of Williams, Kathy and Woody Yerxa of Colusa, and Susan and Joe Belli of Eldorado Hills.

After serving his country in the Air Force during WWII, Glenn worked for the the Mallala Lumber Company as a Plant Manager during the 60's and the 70's, and later went on to pursue his true passion for mechanical inventions.

Glenn's Mitchell Model A Ford Overdrive earned early international acclaim in the vintage car circles and continues on as a legendary improvement to the original Model A's. During his later years, he continued to oversee the production of his various inventions and was constantly working on another invention or improvement for the Model A. Throughout his life Glenn made sure to dedicate time to his other hobbies: playing the guitar, roping, and rodeo. He was proud to compete in the PRCA until he was 65 years old. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends, and Model A enthusiasts all over the world.

see related article on page 7

a Model A and three Ferraris



I suspect many Model A Club members own other fun cars besides their Model A's, and many were at our Classic Car Show in 2007, including my blue F430 Ferrari near the entrance door of the show. That car is one of my three primary colored Ferraris. So many people have asked me, "How did you end up with a Model A and three Ferraris?"

Well, it goes back to my dad wanting a fun car for himself and his three sons. One day when I was about 12, we were coming back home from lunch and we saw a Model A for sale. My dad bought it and we towed it home. This was the start of my dad raising three car enthusiasts. Our Model A needed a little work to get running when we first bought it, but other than that it was in fair shape and mostly all there. Over the years we would drive it on weekends to lunch, and eventually I even took my driver's test in it. Growing up in Palo Alto, we would always go to the Palo Alto Concours each year, but our Model A was certainly no concours car.

As my brothers and I grew up, we all became hard-core car enthusiasts. So much so that my dad had to make a rule that we could have no more than two cars each parked on the street. The Model A always had the one spot in the garage with one of dad's toys -- from Fiats, to Z's and finally to a Porsche. The Model A didn't get used much after we boys moved out, so when my dad bought mom a new Cadillac, the Model A was going to get the boot. At that time I had been driving pickups, as I had just bought a house, and recently finished my 4 car garage with a work shop. So I bought our Model A off my dad and it started living in my garage.

All the while I had been following in my dad's foot steps and working at Silicon Valley start ups. The second one managed to get me a down payment on my house. Years later the third one managed to buy me my first Ferrari. Another nine years later, I purchased my second Ferrari when our company was bought out by Apple, but those were the dark days at Apple in 1997. Things started looking up around 2000 and I put a deposit down on a third Ferrari. That year in August the stock crashed again, so it didn't look like there was to be a third Ferrari in my future. My brother tried to comfort me by saying "One does not really need three Ferraris", but even coming from a car enthusiast it didn't help. So I lowered my sights and

thought what I would like to have next. Nothing struck my fancy with a very limited budget. So I thought about it for a while and what I really wanted was my Model A fully restored. In the winter of 2000 I started what would be a three and a half year, every nut and bolt, restoration of our Model A, with the goal being to have my dad drive it to the Palo Alto Concours. In 2004, with literally hours to spare, my dad and I headed off to the Concours. Dad driving our Model A, and me following in my first Ferrari. It was a great day and I couldn't be happier than to now be on the field with a car, rather than coming in the gate as a spectator.



Meanwhile, back at Apple, things were looking up again. Then this iPod thing came out and the stock started to creep up. This time I was bound and determined to get that third Ferrari. So I did the math and had my magic number that I needed to sell at to pay the taxes and buy the car. Apple stock hit my number and I unloaded every share I had vested. Then I waited for Ferrari to build my car. As I kept my deposit in place all these years, the car I was going to get changed models three times. By the time the car was in my hands, that Apple stock could have bought three of them! Such is life - but it was a fun day to bring the other two cars up and get a picture on delivery day, completing the set of primary colors.

Kevin Enderby - Enthusiast at Large

2007 Greek Cultural Celebration Parade and Festival

by Barry Kinney

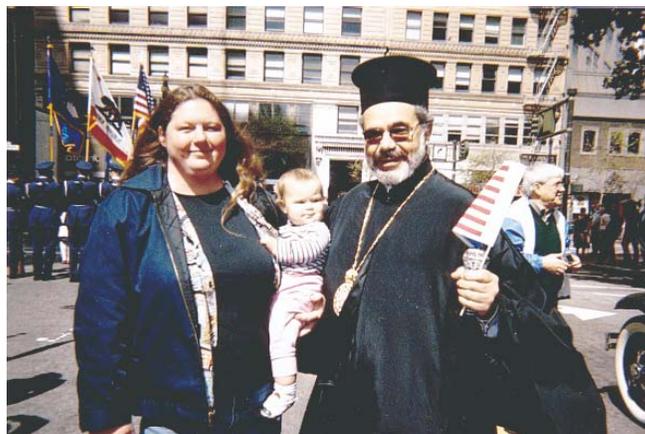
The Martinez family, Richard Webster, Gary and Cheryl Barrango, Nick Calabrese, Barry Kinney and Friends met at Stonestown on parade day, March 24, 2007. Included in the group were four Model A Fords, one Lincoln, and one Chevrolet. It was an impressive group. After coffee and some planning, we found our way through the Marina to Second Street where we were directed by parade staff into our position for the parade.

The Club was the fourth unit, placed just behind the Color Guard, at the beginning of the parade. We were honored to have several dignitaries including the Greek Archbishop and the Greek Counsel General accompany us in our cars. However, most preferred to walk the parade route from Second Street to City Hall.

Our Club had been invited to participate in the Greek Parade and Festival along with Greek clubs and dance groups, marching bands, and drill teams from all over northern California. Most of the Hellenic dance groups performed to traditional music in authentic Greek costume.

Theme floats, marching bands and drill teams from Santa Cruz, Lowell, Mission and Galileo High Schools followed our group of antique automobiles down market to Civic Center Plaza. Following the parade, there was a banquet for all participants under a tented area in the Plaza.

It was an interesting cultural experience for all of us and an opportunity for the SF Model A Club to participate in a unique San Francisco event.



No. California / Oregon Tour July 8 - 14, 2007

What follows is a brief outline of the tour to the Oregon Caves National Monument. We will be on the road for six nights and seven days: Sunday, July 8 through Saturday, July 14, 2007. With the exception of our drive home the travel times each day will be short, less than three hours. I plan to make reservations for the group at moderately priced motels in Fort Bragg, Eureka, Crescent City, Grants Pass, and Yreka. After Yreka we will "play-it-by-ear." If you plan to go, I will need to know by May 2007. Call me at home, 415-282-2789 or at work, 415-647-7077. I will send a more complete Itinerary to Club members who would like to come along on the tour.

Day 1- Sunday, July 8, 2007- (176 miles) - Fort Bragg
Sights: Wineries West of Cloverdale, Town of Mendocino, Skunk Train Musuem/Gift Shop

Day 2 - Monday, July 9 - (100 miles) - Eureka
Sights: Humboldt Redwood State Park, Palco Mill/Museum, Samoa Cookhouse, Old Town Eureka

Day 3 - Tuesday, July 10 - (104 miles) - Crescent City
Sights: Redwood National Park, Trinidad State Beach

Day 4 - Wednesday, July 11 - (85 miles) - Grants Pass Oregon

Sights: Oregon Caves National Monument

Day 5 - Thursday, July 12 - (150 miles) - Yreka
Sights: Bob Drake's Parts Factory Tour, Jacksonville National Monument

Day 6 - Friday, July 13 - (?)
Sights: Sundial Bridge/Park/Museum, Mitchell Overdrive Factory

Day 7 - Saturday, July 14 - (?)
Final Farewell Lunch - Home to San Francisco Bay Area

Tour Leader: Barry Kinney
call 415-282-2789 for more information



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



April Birthdays

Steve Owsley	April 11
Jeanine Mahl	April 13
Kevin Enderby	April 15
Gene Herson	April 27
Paul Storz	April 30

Transmission Oil Seal

By Mitchell Manufacturing
from Winter 2007 Model A Times

The Model A transmission has always been prone to leaking without being aware of it. Transmission oil will leak through the front shift rail holes into the bell housing. When the transmission is placed in reverse or 2nd gear, the shift rail is pushed forward and protrudes into the bell housing. The two holes in the bell housing are terribly oversized, allowing an abundance of oil to escape into the clutch cavity. This problem is greatly increased each time the vehicle is subjected to downhill grades. Lowering the oil level in the transmission can cause premature wear and failure of the transmission, let alone a messy garage floor!

Mitchell Manufacturing has developed a new seal to completely seal off these two holes in the bell housing. They call it "The Real Deal Transmission Seal."

Installation is simple and does not require removing the engine to make the installation. The seal can be easily installed through the clutch inspection plate cover opening.

Remove the inspection cover plate and remove the two upper mounting bolts for the transmission to bell housing. These two bolts can be accessed through the inspection cover opening. Longer bolts are provided with the seal.

This is "The Real Deal" that will prevent transmission oil loss through the shifting forks and keep transmission oil out of the clutch, preventing a slipping clutch. For information call:

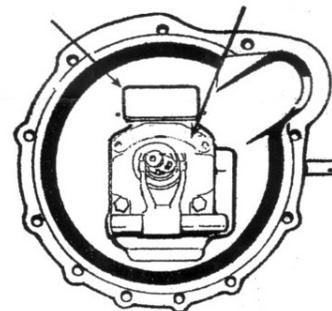
Mitchell
Manufacturing
PO Box 925
1157 Parker Street
Colusa, CA 95932
(530)458-4500 or
(800)859-2088



About \$40.00 including shipping

Inspection
Cover Plate

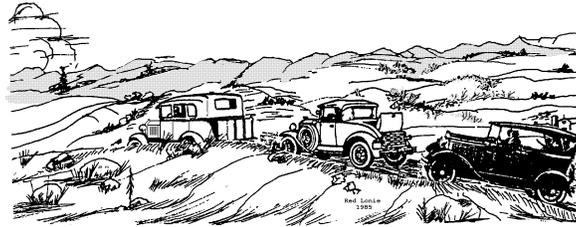
Real Deal
Transmission
Seal



Inside View of Bell Housing

2007 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

IT'S THE JOURNEY! NOT THE DESTINATION!



MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JAN	28	GREG MARTINEZ	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH - HARDING PARK
FEB	16,17,18	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	CLASSIC CAR SHOW AT FISHERMAN'S WHARF
MAR	10	THE BOB CRAIGS	TECH SEMINAR AT CRAIG'S AUTO
MAR	17	JEANINE & GUNARD MAHL	BILL ROSE'S MODEL A CRAB & STEAK FEED
APRIL	8	JEANINE & GUNARD MAHL	EASTER AT PACIFIC ROD & GUN CLUB
APRIL	29	BARRY KINNEY	DREAM MACHINES - HALF MOON BAY AIRPORT
MAY	12	WALTER CAPLAN	CRUISE TO SANTA CRUZ
MAY	19	OWSLEY/CAPLAN	"A" DAY AT THE RANCH - CAMPO SECO, CA
MAY	20	KINNEY	FRIENDSHIP DAY - CANADA COLLEGE
JUNE	7	RICHARD C. WEBSTER	LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN
JUNE	16	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	ST. ANNE'S HOME - FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND
JUNE	24	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	PRIDE PARADE & PICNIC LUNCH AT CRISSYFIELD
JULY	8-14	KINNEY	NO. CALIFORNIA / SOUTHERN OREGON TOUR
AUG	12	GREG MARTINEZ	SWAP MEET AT PACIFIC ROD & GUN CLUB
SEPT	9	KINNEY	ANTIQUE AUTOS HISTORY PARK - SAN JOSE
SEPT	21-23	CAPLAN / OWSLEY / MACHADO	OVERNIGHTER-MURPHYS-IRONSTONECONCOURS
OCT		GREG AND CASEY MARTINEZ	JIMMY'S OLD CAR PICNIC IN GOLDEN GATE PARK
NOV		KINNEY / CAPLAN	THE ANNUAL SAN FRANCISCO CITY TOUR
DEC	8	SF MODEL A CLUB	CHRISTMAS BANQUET

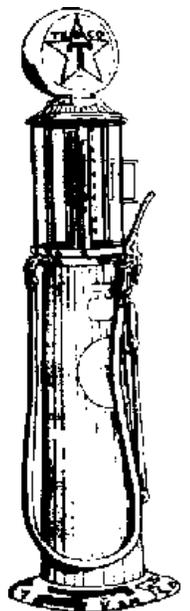
If you would like to lead a tour, please call **Jeanine Mahl 415-664-2056**
We encourage Club Members to plan additional **driving tours** throughout the year.

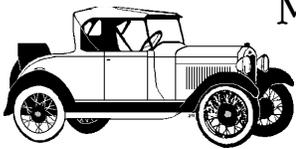
There is room for more than one activity or tour per month.

If you plan to attend a tour, please RSVP the tour leader.

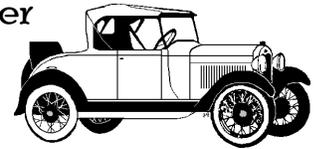
2007 Schedule of Events

April 13-14	Monterey Rock & Rod Festival, Monterey County Fairgrounds www.montereyrockrod.com (Oldies Music / Classic Car Show)
April 15	Al Smith Day at Swanton Pacific RR and Ranch Tours, train rides, BBQ, Davenport, CA Info: E.J. Carnegie 805-995-3659
April 27-29	CCRG Jamboree, Yosemite Tenaya Lodge, Fishcamp, CA, Host: Blossom Trail A's, Info: Ken Wall (559)638-4746
April 29	Dream Machines - Half Moon Bay - 10 am - 4 pm
May 4-6	Lake County A's Annual Spring Opener, Lakeport, CA Info: Peggy Choate 707-998-1496
May 31-June 3	NCRG Roundup, Sacramento, Sponsored by Modesto Area A's Call Holiday Inn (Madison & I-80) 916-338-5800 for reservations, www.ncrgmafca.com
July 24-29	NWRG Round-up, Pendleton, OR. Host: Blue Mountain A's Info: Pat Kennedy 800-863-9358
Sept 1-3	Stuck in Lodi, Labor Day 2007, Host Tokay A's
Sept 30	Placerville Jazz Jubilee, Car Display
Dec 5-9	MAFCA Annual Membership Meeting, Southern California. Host: SCRG





Minutes of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
Model A Ford Club of America
March 8, 2007



President, Greg Martinez, called the meeting to order at 8:15 P.M. The minutes of February 8, 2007, were approved as written.

Reports of Officers:

President: There has been a change in the location of the 2007 Christmas Party/Annual Meeting. The date will remain the same, December 8, 2007. The location has been changed to the Irish Cultural Center in San Francisco.

Vice-president: The Car Show Committee is recommending the following policy changes: (1) Cars cannot leave the show until Sunday at 5:00 P.M. (2) Club members who do not enter a car in the show will not receive tickets to the Welcoming Party. (3) The Club will consider a proposal to charge a minimum fee for the Welcoming Party.

Treasurer: The Club continues to maintain an adequate balance in Club bank accounts. Most bills incurred before and during the car show have been paid. The Club is due some income from T-shirt sales. Accounting should be complete by the April meeting.

Secretary: MAFCA Board of Directors has approved a new liability insurance policy for all components. Information about the new coverage will be sent to chapters in April. The new policy will not cover the individual chapters boards of directors. The Secretary will investigate options for insuring our board. The Club voted to submit an insurance claim to J.C. Taylor on behalf of a member whose car was damaged at our show.

Editor: The Editor is preparing a special issue of **The Choke Rod** that will be dedicated specifically to the Classic Car Show. This supplemental issue will be mailed in March.

Tour Chair: The Tech Tour at Bob Craig's Garage and the Bill Rose Crab Feed are scheduled for March. In addition, Barry will lead the Club in the Greek Cultural Parade on March 24, 2007. The Tour to the Oregon Caves was reviewed. Additional information will appear in the April issue of **The Choke Rod**.

Refreshments: Refreshments were provided by Bob and Pauline Marquez. Mal Patsel will bring refreshments to the April meeting.

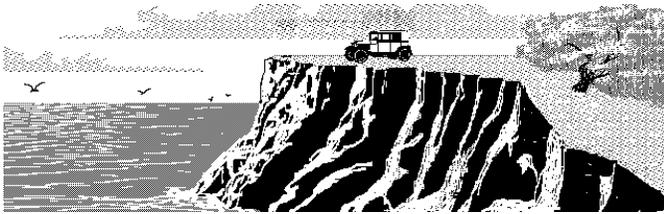
For the Good of the Order: The BENT ROD AWARD will be awarded at the April meeting. Candidates need not be present to win.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Minutes 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 8 pm. 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 8 pm on Thursday, April 12, 2007
A number of club members gather for dinner before the monthly meetings at 6 pm
Please feel free to join us -- April dinner location will be at Goat Hill Pizza at 18th & Connecticut.



The **Choke Rod** is available online
www.sfmodelaclub.org



in this

Choke Rod

President's Message (page 2)

Upcoming Tours (page 3)

Fashion (page 4)

Model A & Three Ferraris (page 5)

Greek Parade & Festival (page 6)

Oregon Tour & Tech (page 7)

Tours & Schedule of Events (page 8)

Meeting Minutes (page 9)



www.sfmodelaclub.org

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
Model A Ford Club of America
PO Box 31387
San Francisco, CA 94131-0387
415-621-0500

APRIL MEETING
Thursday April 12, 2007
8 PM - Monte Cristo Club
136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)
San Francisco