

The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

Volume 51, Issue 1

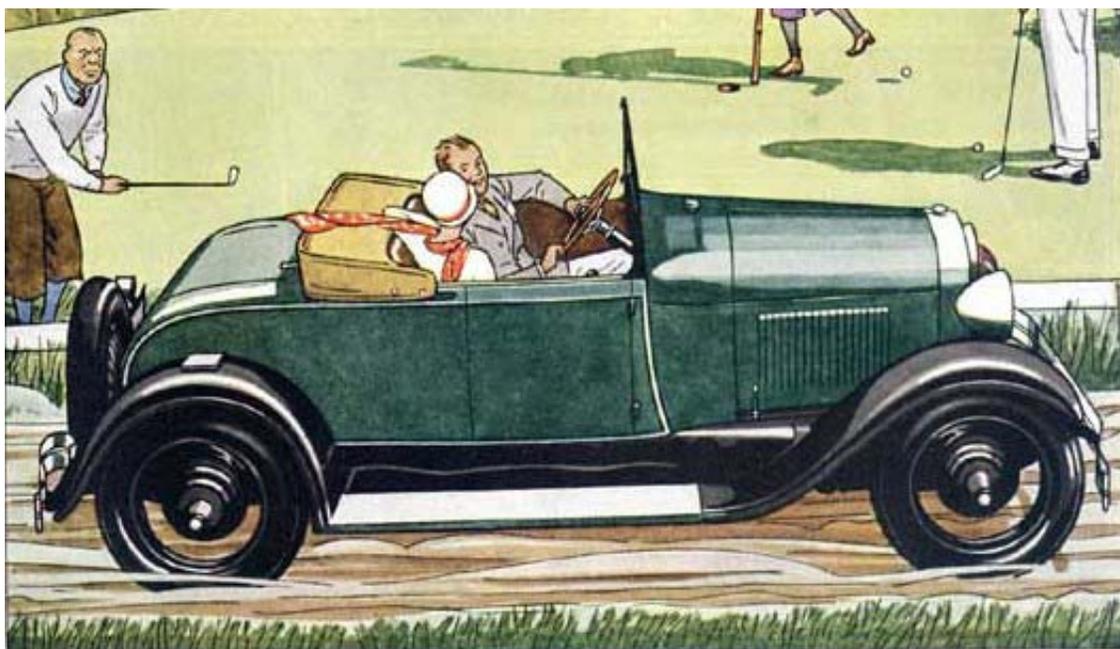
www.sfmodelaclub.org

January 2007

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America

President's Brunch Harding Park Golfcourse Clubhouse



Lake Merced ~ San Francisco
Sunday January 28th
see page 3 for details

Upcoming Tours

February 16, 17, 18 - 2007 Classic Car Show - Fisherman's Wharf

March - Tech Seminar with the Bob Craigs

March 17 - Model A Crab and Steak Feed, Livermore

Official Publication of the
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
MAFCA

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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

Hi there fellow club members.

Well, sticking with tradition, the president's letter was put off till the last minute. So let me start off with the changing of the guard acknowledgement. First and foremost would be to Gary Barrango for his constant and unwavering dedication to the club! A big TDC goes to you, THANKS for the many years as president. Next would be to Walter and Steve for all the hours of hard work producing, mailing, and hand delivering **The Choke Rod** and to all the people who help with input. And finally all of the club members who participate in the meetings, functions, tours, and anything else they are asked to do; you know who you are! Now that that is out of the way, the annual Classic Car Show is coming up, and it promises to be the biggest and best we have ever produced. There are a lot of activities and events planned for that weekend so we need as many club members as possible to volunteer. Because it is a club event all are encouraged to participate with their cars. Also, it will fill up fast so please send in your paperwork early, it helps. The show committee has put in many hours of planning, research and all that goes with it, so thanks to each of you. Now it's our turn to come together as "A" club and make this event top notch for the whole world to see. Well, that's it 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*.

MAFCA Insurance

What does it cost - Where does it come from - Who is insured?

On December 27, 2006, I received a call from J.C. Taylor Insurance Co. informing me that our Club would receive a Certificate of Insurance for our February Classic Car Show and that additional insureds would include the Port of San Francisco, Piers 45, 30, 32, Red's Java House, and The Red and White Fleet.

The cost to our Club? Nothing. MAFCA picks up the tab. It occurred to me that our Tours, Car Show, Swap Meet and even our monthly meetings might not be possible without the insurance coverage provided by MAFCA and underwritten by J.C. Taylor Insurance Co.

Donna Lewis, MAFCA President, wrote a short article on MAFCA's insurance policies for the September/October 2006 **Restorer** in which she states: "Under the MAFCA policy, the national club, all chapters/regions, all club members, and any volunteer who is acting both on behalf or and at the direction of the club are insured." This coverage extends to all of our Club activities including meetings, tours and other club activities.

She adds that Certificates of Insurance, like the ones we receive for our Swap Meet and Classic Car Show and other special events, are intended to confirm the existence of coverage to third parties such as the Port of San Francisco or other municipal authorities. She also noted that MAFCA's General Liability Insurance Policy **does not cover your personal liability or collision on your car.**

Liability insurance for your Model "A" Ford is covered by your personal liability insurance, as required by most states. No matter how you slice it, this is the best deal in town and one of the biggest reasons every San Francisco Bay Area Chapter member should consider being a member of MAFCA.

Barry Kinney, Secretary

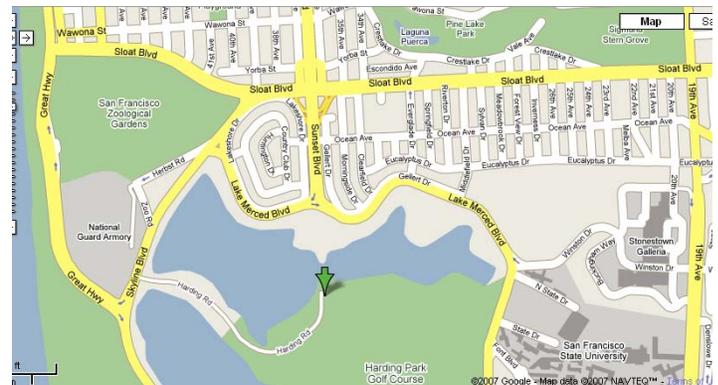
Information on joining MAFCA is shown in the box to your left on page 2 of this newsletter.

President's Brunch

Sunday January 28

This year, our annual President's Brunch will be held January 28 at the Clubhouse of the Harding Park Golf Course, located at Lake Merced in San Francisco. Members who wish to tour with their Model A's will meet at 9:45 am in the Stonestown parking lot near McDonald's and will depart at 10:15 am. We will begin with a short tour of some west side San Francisco neighborhoods and then on to the Harding Park Clubhouse. **Brunch will be served at 11 am and will be \$20 per person which includes tax and tip.**

Harding Park Golf Course
99 Harding Road
San Francisco, CA 94132



Directions from South San Francisco

From US-101 N merge onto I-380 W toward I-280/San Bruno.
Merge onto I-280 N toward San Francisco for 2 miles.
Exit Daly City/Westlake Village.
Turn left on John Daly Blvd. for approx. 1 mile.
Turn right onto Skyline Blvd/CA-35 N. for approx. 2.0 miles.
Turn right onto Harding Rd.

The Choke Rod Wins Award

The Choke Rod was awarded the 2006 **Certificate of Merit Award** from The Model A Ford Club of America.

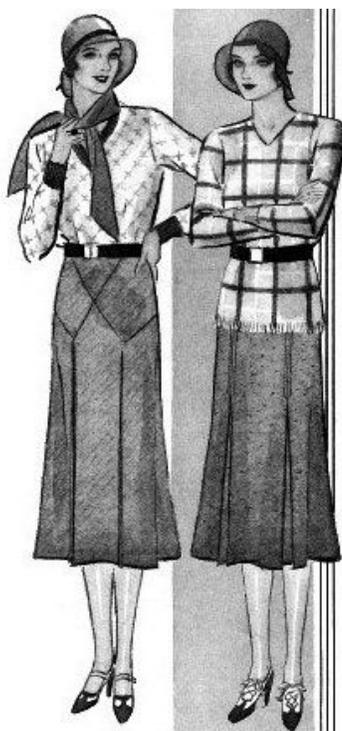


Sweaters and Blouses To Go Under the Suit

reprinted from *Good Housekeeping*, April 1930

Nothing is smarter under a sports suit than one of the new hand-knitted sweaters, and while they are quite expensive to buy they are so easy to make in one of the new designs that no one need be without one.

The one at the extreme right is knitted in a plaid design in yellow and dark gray on a pale, blue-gray background. Other color schemes of a similar nature may, of course, be worked out to match your suit. With it is shown a slightly flaring skirt with two inverted plaits which are stitched down in front half-way to the knee. Beside it, is a tan sweater with little brown crosses knitted in it. This may be worn tucked in or not, as you wish; the bottom is finished with ribbing to match the finish of the neck and sleeves. An interesting hip-yoke with diagonal seaming and two inverted plaits mark the smart skirt. A matching scarf with pointed ends is made of the same fabric as the skirt and lined with tan silk.



Sweaters and skirts of this type are the most important part of any well-planned country wardrobe. They are suitable for so many occasions: for golf and walking as well as for spectator sports wear. And they are perfect for wear on a boat, at this time of year, under a heavy topcoat.

When you come to the great decision, Shall I or shall I not tuck in my sweater? Devote a few minutes to studying your figure in front of a full-length

mirror. If your waist is very small, a tuck-in sweater will often make your hips appear too large; and, paradoxically, if your waist is large, a tuck-in blouse or sweater will make it appear more so. So be honest with yourself and wear your sweater in the way it is really most becoming to you, for it can not be said too often that true chic lies, not in slavishly following the styles, but in adapting them to yourself and wearing only the ones which you know are becoming. You will never look your best in a costume about which you have secret qualms; while nothing can increase feminine self-confidence more than the consciousness of being suitably and becomingly dressed.

The blouse, for wear with the formal suit, is just as indispensable as the sweater for the sports suit, or for the dressy tweed suit, depending on the material used to make it. It is a tuck-in type with an exaggerated shoulder yoke which comes down nearly to the waist. The right side of this yoke fastens over the left in a point; the lower section has a tiny pin tuck running up the center. Buttoned hands finish the cuffs. The back of the waist is perfectly plain. Satin or flat crêpe would be appropriate fabrics to use in making this smart blouse.

Tech Tip

BACKFIRING

Question:

My Model A is running a little rough with a lot of backfiring when you step on the accelerator. Can you give me some idea where to start looking?

Answer:

Back firing is usually caused by the condenser failing or... the points may not have sufficient gap. Make sure they are set at .018 to .020". Make sure they are not burnt. Backfiring can be caused by intermittent firing of the ignition system or very lean fuel mixture. If the car has been setting for a while, the carburetor float valve may be sticking. Clean the float valve good and set the float level. Backfiring due to intermittent ignition can be caused by a frayed wire on the bottom side of the distributor plate . . or .. by intermittent connection of the ignition switch.

- 1.) Check point setting first.
- 2.) replace condenser next. Make sure the condenser you buy is the right length, some are too short, and that it is a good quality.
- 3.) Check that the carburetor float valve is operating correctly.
- 4.) Sometimes the pop out type ignition switches get intermittent. As a last resort, replace the ignition switch/cable. — **Les Andrews**, Technical Director

Reprinted from MAFCA website <http://www.mafca.com>

AUGUST, 1922

COUNTRY LIFE



Smooth riding ease and restful comfort
make the new Ford an especially good car for women to drive

When you see the new Ford, you are impressed instantly by its low, trim, graceful lines and the beauty of its two-tone color harmonies. As you watch it in traffic and on the open road you can sense how quickly it accelerates and get some idea, too, of the speed and power of its 40-horse-power engine. But only by driving the new Ford yourself can you fully appreciate the easy-riding comfort that is such an outstanding feature of this great new car. One reason, of course, is the use of Houdaille hydraulic shock absorbers, formerly furnished as standard equipment on only the most expensive automobiles. Yet even these shock absorbers do not account for the complete riding comfort of the new Ford. Equally important are the design and construction of the new transverse springs, the low center of gravity, and what engineers

speak of as the low ratio of the spring weight to the spring weight of the car.

All of these factors combine to soften or eliminate the force of road shocks and to make the new Ford an exceptionally comfortable and easy-riding car at all speeds. Even rough roads may be taken at a fast pace without hard jolts or bumps or the exaggerated bouncing rebound which is the cause of most mounting fatigue.

You have a feeling of mental comfort, too, in driving the new Ford because of its reliability and the safety afforded by its steel body, four-wheel brakes and Triplex shatter-proof glass windshield. This freedom from mechanical trouble—this security—means a great deal to every woman who drives a car.

Prove this for yourself by telephoning the



Ford Motor Company
Dearborn, Michigan

nearest Ford dealer and asking him to bring the new Ford to your home for a demonstration.

Check up on comfort, on speed, on power, on acceleration, on hill climbing, on gasoline economy, on safety, on low upkeep cost, and you will know that there is nothing quite like it anywhere in design, quality and price.

The low price, in fact, is the result of new manufacturing methods and production economies as unusual as the car itself.

The new Ford comes to you equipped with four Houdaille hydraulic shock absorbers, four-wheel brakes, Triplex shatter-proof glass windshield, five steel spoke wheels, windshield wiper, speedometer, gasoline gauge, dash light, mirror, combination stop and tail light, theft-proof continental lock, and high pressure grease gun lubrication.

History of Model A Advertising

In the late spring of 1927, Henry Ford selected the N.W. Ayer Advertising Agency to organize the advertising campaign for his new car. The campaign subsequently proved to be the largest, most expensive such effort up to that point in advertising history. On May 25, 1927 Ford publicly announced his intention to discontinue his beloved model T... after 15 million had already been produced. Contracting with a 28 year old illustrator named James W. Williamson, the national Model A Ford advertising campaign began on November 27, 1927 with a series of five newspaper ads in 2,000 U.S. newspapers. The "New Ford" itself was introduced to the public on Friday, December 2, 1927.

In the US, magazine advertising for the Model A began in June 1928, and Ford passenger cars were advertised extensively through July 1931. Meanwhile, Ford AA trucks were first advertised in the US starting in March 1930 and continued in some periodicals through March 1932.

reprinted from **The Steering Column**, newsletter of The Model A Ford Club of Greater Baltimore



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



January Birthdays

- January 5 Janelle Barrango
- January 9 Terence McGinnis
- January 10 Shirley Fioresi
- January 14 Lonnie Maxwell
- January 20 Coragene Savio (Kinney)
- January 26 Tony Hobbs

January Anniversaries

- January 24 Gunard & Jeanine Mahl

Buy - Swap - Sell

Wanted Dead or Alive - Any Model A sheet metal or bodies needed for restoration. Call Kerry 415-418-4415

2007 Classic Car Show

A December mailing was sent out to past Car Show participants and other interested parties: included are a welcoming letter, registration form, events and activities listing, advance order form for souvenir t-shirts, sweatshirts, and tote bags, and a return mailing envelope. Additionally, arrangements have been made with three nearby hotels for reduced rates during the Car Show, and local merchants have been contacted through the Fisherman's Wharf Merchants Association for their greater involvement during the weekend's festivities. Please complete your registration form and return it promptly.



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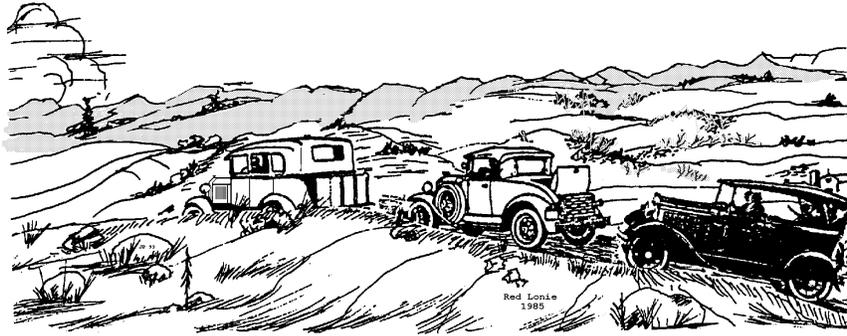
Each Office Is Independently Owned And Operated

For any MAFCA members
or member referrals -
25% of my Century 21 Commission
will be donated to the
San Francisco Model A Ford Club

Cell phone (415)350-5715
email: dvyoung@flash.net

2006 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

IT'S THE JOURNEY! NOT THE DESTINATION!

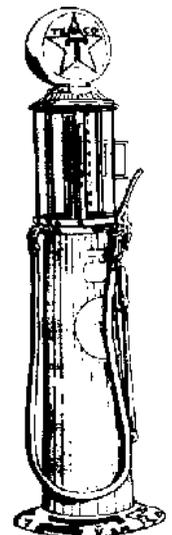


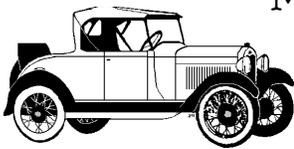
MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JAN	28	GREG MARTINEZ	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH - HARDING PARK
FEB	16,17,18	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	CLASSIC CAR SHOW AT FISHERMAN'S WHARF
MAR		THE BOB CRAIGS	TECH SEMINAR
MAR		JEANINE & GUNARD MAHL	BILL ROSE'S MODEL A CRAB & STEAK FEED
APRIL	8	JEANINE & GUNARD MAHL	EASTER AT PACIFIC ROD & GUN CLUB
MAY	20	KINNEY	FRIENDSHIP DAY - CANADA COLLEGE
JUNE	16	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	ST. ANNE'S HOME - FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND
JUNE		RICHARD C. WEBSTER	LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN
JUNE	24	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	PRIDE PARADE & PICNIC LUNCH AT CRISSYFIELD
JULY		OPEN	OPEN
AUG		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.

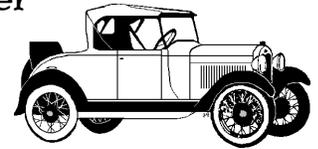
2007 Schedule of Events

January 27-28	Turlock Swap Meet (41st Annual): Stanislaus County Fairgrounds. Sponsor: Modesto Area A's; Sat 7 am to 5 pm, Sun: 7 am to 3pm; \$5 admission
March 17	Model A Crab and Steak Feed, Livermore, Info: Bill Rose (925) 216-9920
April 27-29	CCRG Jamboree, Yosemite, CA, Host: Blossom Trail A's
April 29	Dream Machines - Half Moon Bay - 10 am - 4 pm
May 31-June 3	NCRG Roundup, Sacramento, Sponsored by Modesto Area A's Call Holiday Inn (Madison & I-80) 916-338-5800 for reservations
July 24-29	NWRG Round-up, Pendleton, OR. Host: Blue Mountain 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
December 9, 2006
(Christmas Banquet)



The December meeting was held at the Basque Cultural Center at 599 Railroad Avenue in South San Francisco. The meeting was called to order following the Club Annual Christmas Banquet at 8:00 P.M.

Ceremonies following the Banquet included an introduction of the new Club Board of Directors for year 2007, and recognition of the dedication and good work of the 2006 Board. In addition, the Tour Leaders and Board Members were each awarded a small gift in appreciation for their individual contributions during the year.

Outgoing president Gary Barrango was honored for his many years of service. Gary will continue to serve the Club as a Vice-President and as a member of the Car Show Committee. Gary, for his part, acknowledged that he would miss the daily activity and distraction of the Presidency and the opportunity to speak to the membership via the President's Letter.

Walter Caplan and Steve Owsley were honored for again winning an outstanding Editors award from MAFCA and for their contributions to the Club's annual Classic Car Show on Fisherman's Wharf.

The banquet room was decorated with photographs taken at Club activities throughout the year. In addition, Classic Car Show posters and 2006 Choke Rod cover pages produced by Steve and Walter were displayed throughout the room. The banquet was well attended. Lifetime member Lonny Maxwell and his family attended, as did many members, family friends, and guests. The attendees included a number of new members: Mel & Ronnae Patsel, Kerry Fehlberg, Mike & Gail Carr, Bob & Thelma Faber, and Gene & Sandy Herson.

The Club thanks Gary Barrango, Shirley Fioresi and Juanita Tempone for arranging the Christmas Banquet. Once again Shirley Fioresi provided dessert in the form of a large Christmas cake. Many thanks to Shirley for her kind and considerate contribution.

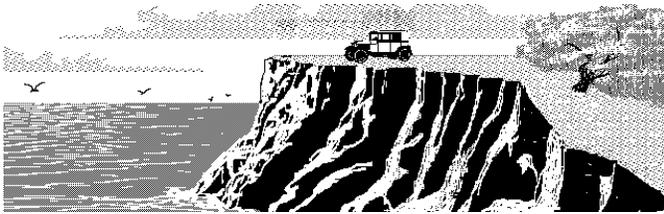
For the Good of the Order: The Club in year 2006 increased in size to more than fifty members, sponsored two major annual events, contributed substantially to charity, and provided its members with enjoyable tours and monthly meetings. This could not have been possible without the dedication and support of all the members of the San Francisco Model A Club family.

Happy New Year !

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, January 11, 2007
A number of club members gather for dinner before the monthly meetings at 6 pm
Please feel free to join us -- January dinner location will be The Connecticut Yankee,
corner of 17th St. & Connecticut.



The Choke Rod is available online
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in this
Choke Rod

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Insert - Classic Car Show



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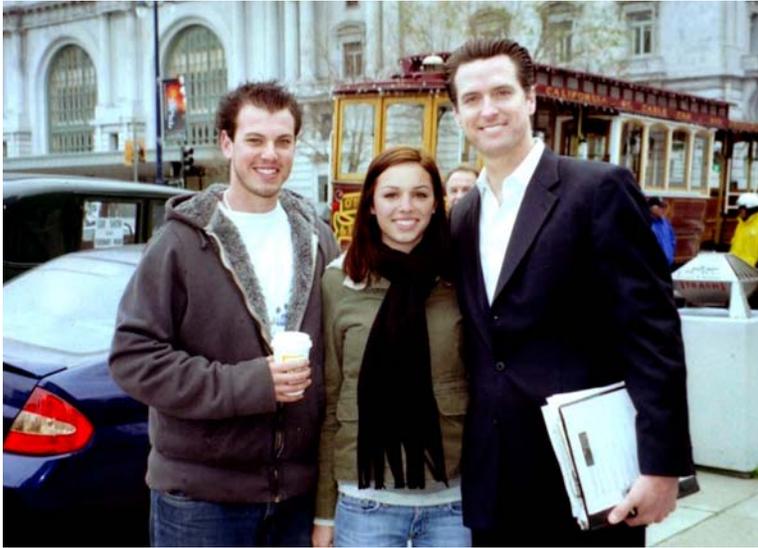
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
Model A Ford Club of America
PO Box 31387
San Francisco, CA 94131-0387
415-621-0500

JANUARY MEETING
Thursday January 11, 2007
8 PM - Monte Cristo Club
136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)
San Francisco



2007 Classic Car Show

San Francisco – Fisherman's Wharf
Fri, Sat, & Sun February 16th, 17th & 18th



Welcome Party

5 – 7 pm Thursday February 15th

Join us for a Welcome Party at **Castagnola's Restaurant** – a great Fisherman's Wharf eatery since 1936. Visit with old friends, meet new friends, and join in the fun. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and one complimentary beverage will be provided. Additional no host cocktails will be available.

Hosted by the SF Model A Club.

Mayor's Parade

11:30 am – 1 pm Friday February 16th

A police assisted ride to City Hall – then an exciting tour from City Hall down Market Street, thru the Financial District, Chinatown, and North Beach, and back to Fisherman's Wharf and Pier 45 —

led by a San Francisco Police Motorcycle escort and the Mayor in the City's 1931 Lincoln Phaeton.

So, . . . start your engines, put her in gear and let her roll.

Note: mandatory pre-registration is required for this event due to space limitations

Ribbon-Cutting

1 pm Friday February 16th

San Francisco city officials will cut the ribbon and open the 2007 Classic Car Show at Historic San Francisco Fisherman's Wharf Pier 45

Banquet at the Franciscan Restaurant

6 – 9 pm Friday February 16th

6 pm cocktails – 7pm dinner

Join us for a wonderful evening with great friends, great fun, great food, and great views of

San Francisco Bay, the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz, Angel Island, Marin County and the East Bay.

with a choice of 5 entrees: fresh Dungeness cracked crab, salmon, prime rib, filet mignon, or vegetarian lasagna

the San Francisco Port Tour

the History Walk, a promenade along the bay - Ferry Building history & renovation

Marketplace and Ferry Plaza Farmers Market - Ferry Building Line Bay Cruise - Market Street Railway Museum

11 am Saturday February 17th

Learn all about the rich history of the Port of San Francisco, plans for the future, tour the beautifully restored 1892 Ferry Building and clocktower, stroll through the Ferry Building Marketplace and the Farmers Market located just outside, sample fresh foods, produce, and plants from local farms and nurseries, ride on the Ferry Building Line Bay Cruise, and visit the nearby Market Street Railway Museum. Transportation will be on a motorized cable car provided by Cable Car Charters.

Board the cable car inside Pier 45 at 10:45 am.

Saturday Nite Social

7 – 9 pm Saturday February 17th

After the Car Show join with us for hors d'oeuvres, beverages, and good conversation at **Boudin's Bistro** overlooking Fisherman's Wharf and Pier 45. One complimentary beverage will be provided per person.

Additional no host cocktails will be available.

Tour of the School of Industrial Design

Academy of Art University

11 am – 1 pm Sunday February 18th

Learn all about automotive design and view the classic car collection of the Academy of Art University.

Tour will be led by Tom Matano, Director of the School of Industrial Design.

Transportation will be on a motorized cable car provided by Cable Car Charters.

Board the cable car inside Pier 45 at 10:45 am.

Farewell Gathering – The Grand Finale

3 – 5 pm Sunday February 18th

As the Car Show comes to a close, join with us one last afternoon for hors d'oeuvres, drink, and a farewell visit with other participants in our annual event.

We will gather at the **Boudin Bistro**. Stop by the Boudin Museum / Bakery.

One complimentary beverage will be provided per person.

Additional no host cocktails will be available.

Departing Brunch – The Final Farewell

10 am Monday February 19th

The morning after the Car Show closes, join with us one the very last time for Monday a morning brunch and a final visit with other Classic Car Show participants shortly before we remove our cars from Pier 45 for the trip home.

We will gather at the **Tuscan Inn** for our final 2007 meal together.