

The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

Volume 51, Issue 6

www.sfmodelaclub.org

June 2007

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America

Memorial Day Ceremony San Francisco National Cemetery The Presidio - May 28, 2007



Upcoming Tours

Thursday, June 7 - Law Enforcement Torch Run

Saturday, June 16 - Father's Day at St. Anne's Home

Sunday, June 24 - Pride Parade & Picnic at Crissy Field

July 15-21 - Oregon Caves Tour

Sunday, August 12 - Swap Meet at the Pacific Rod & Gun Club

Official Publication of the
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
MAFCA

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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: Rachele Marquez
MEMBERSHIP: Walter Caplan
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President's Message

Hello Fellow Car Enthusiasts,

I hope all had a great month. Car season is in full swing with shows and events every weekend and even some during the week. Please try to attend as many as possible and spread the word about how car people are good people. We give back to the community from which we come. You might even do the best thing any car person could hope for, getting a kid or young adult involved — what a great rush that is.



Our group had a great time at San Francisco's Memorial Day celebration. The parade was too short and the politicians too long.

We have several events this month, two of which I highly recommend. Thursday June 7 is the Special Olympic Torch Run. What cause can top this? Plus we donate money for this event and it's on the boob tube. Next is Father's Day at St. Anne's Home, where we take the younger crowd out for rides, anyone between the ages of 65 and 150 can go for a ride and reminisce about when they were kids having fun. Both of these events give a great feeling to those involved and to the community. Don't forget to spread the word about Our Swap Meet August 12 at the S.F. Rod and Gun Club. The host, the S.F. Rod and Gun Club, wants all people to enjoy their club. Well, remember, it's not about us.

The cars are the stars,

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*.

Father's Day at St. Anne's Home Saturday, June 16 2 pm

The Fifth Annual Father's Day Gathering at St. Anne's Home with the Little Sisters of the Poor. Be a part of our celebration with the residents and staff of St. Anne's home. Assemble at the home at 1:30 for the event. Located at 300 Lake Street between 4th and 5th Avenues.

The residents at St. Anne's Home are eagerly anticipating our arrival on June 16th. This annual event has become a tradition at the Home. It gives them great enjoyment to see and ride in our old cars. There will be an afternoon social with refreshments following the driving tours through the Presidio.

Tour Leader: Greg Martinez, RSVP 415-725-2449

Pride Parade & Picnic Lunch at Crissy Field Sunday, June 24

Sunday, June 24 Have a San Francisco experience and drive your "A" in the Pride Parade, then immediately on to Crissy Field for a picnic lunch with club members. This has always been a fun event with lots of smiles. Come join the club! **Contact Walter Caplan 415-753-3280 for more information.**

If you are less "adventurous" but want to help with the picnic lunch, volunteers are welcome! As in past years, Walter is sure to be at Crissy field before sunrise reserving our picnic table and grill. Whether you participate in the parade or not, come join your clubmembers for a great picnic at Crissy Field. Our tables will be marked reserved for our club, so you can come early and welcome us in.

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

SAN FRANCISCO

SWAP MEET

all makes of cars, parts and antique autos

Sunday - August 12, 2007
at the Pacific Rod and Gun Club
at Lake Merced - San Francisco

from sunrise on
\$20 for pre-registered sellers
\$50 for pre-registered vendors
FREE ADMISSION for buyers

Sponsored by the San Francisco Bay Area
Chapter
Model A Ford Club of America
Hosted by the Pacific Rod and Gun Club at
Lake Merced

for reservation information:
go to www.SFModelAClub.org
or call Greg Martinez at 415-621-0500

Oregon Caves Tour - July 15-21



Oregon Caves Classic
Oregon Caves National Monument
Photo by L.S. Harrison, 3/75 8/85

On Sunday, July 15, the Martinez family, the Vioria family, Barry Kinney, and Walter Caplan and friends will begin an 800 mile vacation trip up the California coast to the Oregon Caves National Monument.

Places we plan to visit along the way include: Mendocino, the Avenue of the Giant Redwoods, the Redwood National Park, Eureka, Crescent City, Grants Pass Oregon, Jacksonville Oregon, and the Oregon Caves.

We will return home on July 21 or 22 depending on how well the old "A's" are performing. If you would like to join us for all or part of this trip, call Barry at 415.647.7077.

This trip will be a warm-up for our tour to the Northwest Regional in Medford, Oregon August 4-8, 2008 and the MAFCA International Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia in 2010. The Club has been to Canada twice before and we will "do it again in 2010".

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

Exercise Back in the 1930's

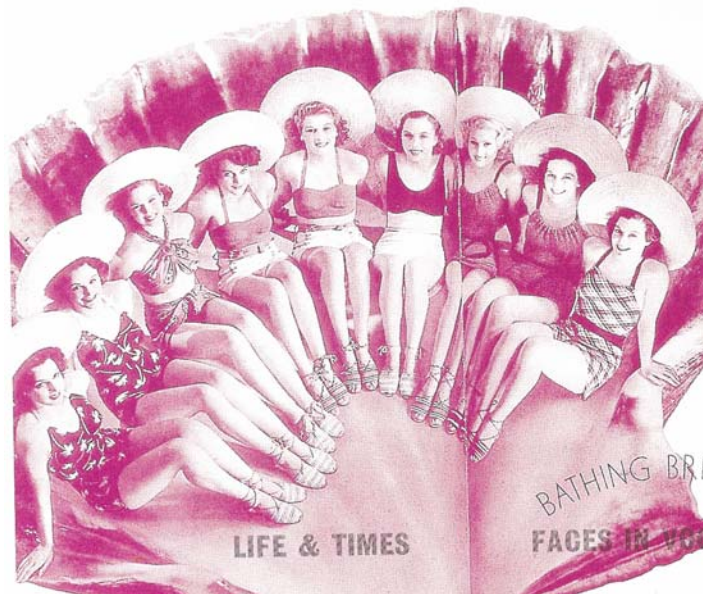
Diet and Exercise were accepted as a combination to maintain health and to have fun. The truly chic women would seek out resorts and health farms. It was seen as another sort of private party for those who participated in prescribed exercise routines. Tennis was among the sports women took part in. Women were finally playing Tennis with their bare legs showing. Mrs. Fearnley-Whittingstall was the first to start this trend playing at Forest Hills, New York. She wore socks, a pleated skirt, and short sweater. This look was immediately copied for the alternate, garters and corsets, were too restrictive. Shorts came about as a rebuttal against the 20's fashions, which became tedious at this time.

Resort wear became sophisticated and relaxed. Designers worked with huge wide trousers, backless tops, big hats, and espadrilles (casual sandals originating from the Pyrenees) to replace peasant clothing. Tennis whites and shorts were fun for cycling and relaxation. Swimsuits were formal in highlighting the social aspect of leisurewear, and were ideal dress for yachts. Costume jewelry was still lavish when paired with casual clothing.

The rich viewed exercise as a passion, but also a necessity. Averell Harriman opened Sun Valley, a new ski resort that attracted film stars and famous people of the day. Everyone wanted to be seen there, especially in the photo opportunities at the hot tubs and club lounge. Women started to take up many sports to maintain their figure and get outdoors. Ice skating, fencing, cycling, and tap dance were a few of the sports women participated in. For the serious athlete track and field, polo, and gymnasium exercises were popular activities.

Trousers were a big feature of the 30's in which they were worn for sport, casual wear, and for work. Katharine Hepburn was known for her masculine style in easy, plain fabrics. This was the foundation for American sportswear, which was casual wear. Barbara Stanwyck, and others from western films, began to wear jeans. Those who

could risk a lack of formality took part in this fashion revolution, but it was still reserved for people from Texas and those on the film set.



Tampax was invented in the 30's, but it was not widely used until the 1950's for it was seen as not suitable for nice girls. It provided immense freedom for those dedicated to sport or aesthetic appearance. The 1930's was an era of beginnings for women in sport and products to enhance performance. Although women of the time did not know it then, they paved the way for women of today to participate with freedom and ease of enjoyment in sport and life. Our gratitude is forever given for this!

Rachelle Marquez

Above: "Beach Beauties" Vogue Magazine, 1930's Below: "Resortwear"



San Francisco Model A Ford Club We Were There May 2007



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



All Ford Picnic, Micke Grove, Lodi - May 20



Friendship Day, Canada College - May 20



Friendship Day, Canada College - May 20



Watsonville Fly-In & Air Show - May 26



Memorial Day Parade, The Presidio - May 28

Gone to the Dogs

Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water . . .
NO NO NO – the truth is much more interesting:

Jack Green and Steve Owsley gathered up their dogs Prince & Bandit and fetched Bruce Baird's 1931 Slant Windshield for a weekend get away to the central valley. Off they went, Steve and Jack in the front, Prince and Bandit in the back, following behind Walter Caplan and Bruce in Walter's A, headed to Campo Seco for "A" Day at the Ranch. The caravan traveled up I-80 to Highway 4, then on to Stockton, briefly stopping at Tom and Terry Machado's for coffee, then on to Campo Seco.

Doug Hardy's ranch is a Gold Rush era farmhouse in Campo Seco, a once thriving mining town, first prospected by Mexican miners in 1849. By the following year quite a camp had grown up around them. It was due to the severe scarcity of water that the place got its name, Campo Seco, meaning "dry camp" in Spanish. Forty different nationalities were represented among the miners of Campo Seco during the early years, making it perhaps the most cosmopolitan of all the mining camps in the Gold Country. Today, little remains of this once thriving community, except a few houses and some stone ruins. "A" Day provided a gathering spot and picnic lunch with 50 cars, the majority being Model A's.

The dogs traveled well the entire trip – they had the best seats, plenty of fresh air, and a great view from the side and rear windows. They saw everything and everyone, and everyone saw them with their big heads protruding out the open windows. They are big dogs (except when describing them to the hotel reservation clerk over the phone). Mid-afternoon Prince and Bandit checked into the luxurious Comfort Inn in Lodi – they were ready for a nap, as were we all. It was time for some much needed rest and relaxation - before joining the Machados as their guests at a Saturday night banquet dinner hosted by the Mother Lode Branch of the Antique Automobile Club of America.

Sunday morning the AACA hosted a tour of a member Leroy Gatto's 6000 sq. foot garage, where we viewed his in-progress restoration of a 1920's era Rolls Royce Sedan Delivery. It was a very interesting tour. The Rolls had just been fitted with a new wood body and the exposed restored mechanicals were amazing to look at.

From there, Prince and Bandit traveled with us to Micke Grove Regional Park in Lodi, where the Early Ford V8 Club had a car show and barbecue picnic. What a bunch of fun cars and nice people. The Machados really knocked themselves out, preparing and serving a barbeque feast for their car club friends and us guests.

The scenery along the way was beautiful, especially from the windows of the Model A's. If you don't believe us, just ask the dogs. They surprised many people traveling in cars along the way, especially with Prince sticking his head out the side windows. Any apprehension we had about traveling with the dogs was soon dispelled. They were well received by all and had lots of opportunities to run around, though Prince wasn't quite sure what to make of the horses and mules he met at Campo Seco.

The driving was fun, except for Steve when it got windy, notably on the Delta levee road and the Bay Bridge on the return trip. Some of the merges on the freeway could be nerve rattling; the brakes are decent, but not great like a modern car. We got blown around pretty good on the Bay Bridge. That part wasn't too much fun! Steve learned really quick to SLOW DOWN if the handling got the least bit uncomfortable. Sometimes even that wasn't enough, with the wind and uneven levee road. It's interesting to note that the speeds Caltrans posts on curves are in fact safe speeds for a Model A. That's why they seem a little slow for a modern car.

Traveling through Oakland on Highway 24 as it merges into I-580 before the Bay bridge on the return was by far the worst leg of the trip. A Model A isn't well suited for urban freeway driving on a Sunday late afternoon when everyone is rushing to get back home from their Sunday excursion - - and how do we know, because there were a few tense moments in traffic getting to and across the Bay Bridge when coming back home.

All in all, the dogs told us that weekend getaways in the Model A's make the drudgery of the work week tolerable. Prince and Bandit insist on a minimum of one weekend outing each month in the A's. They say that it's what makes a dog's life worth living.

Hats off to the Bob Craigs who got the A's ready for the tour. No mechanical problems, no people problems, no domestic problems, no dog problems.

Steve Owsley, Walter Caplan



Technical Tip

Little things have a way of creating problems. A gas cap that does not vent can create havoc. If your car runs for a short time and acts like it is not getting gas, take the cap off and see if the car runs properly. It is also possible for the gas line to be blocked by rust or an after market filter restricting fuel flow. Check the easy things first.

Reprinted from The Steering Column, The Model A Ford Club of Greater Baltimore, article by Dick Alexander



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



June Birthdays

Walter Caplan	June 2
Joyce Maxwell	June 14
Veronica Tempone	June 18
Kenneth Wayne Patsel	June 19
Adam Rosenblatt	June 26
Rose Craig Jr	June 29
Kevin Blaine Patsel	June 30

June Anniversaries

Steve & Mary Karr	June 10
Greg & Casey Martinez	June 17
Paul & Maria DeMartini	June 25
Frank & Judy O'Brien	June 27



Ironstone Concours d'Elegance Overnighter to Murphys Friday ~ Sunday, September 21 ~ 23

By popular demand, for a second year the Club is planning another weekend tour to the gold country with stops along the way, group dinners, and a fantastic car show on the beautifully landscaped grounds of the Ironstone Winery in Murphys. A limited number of hotel rooms have been reserved by Barry Kinney for club members.

Accommodations are limited and will be on a "first come - first served" basis. **Call Barry at 415-282-2789** to reserve a room.

See insert for Concours information and registration form.

Lumberjack Day Parade West Point (Calaveras County) Saturday, October 6

An American Horseman sanctioned parade, "downtown" car show and lumberjack contests (such as bucking, cross cut sawing, tug-of-war).

This parade was started in the early 1970's by three West Point elementary school teachers, one of whom was our own Jeanine Mahl. It has grown every year since. Now it raises money for scholarships for local kids. It is lots of fun!

Jackson Rancheria Casino is about 10 miles away. Anyone who is interested should put this date on their calendar. More information will appear in the July **Choke Rod**.

If you have questions now, call Jeanine Mahl at 415-664-2056.

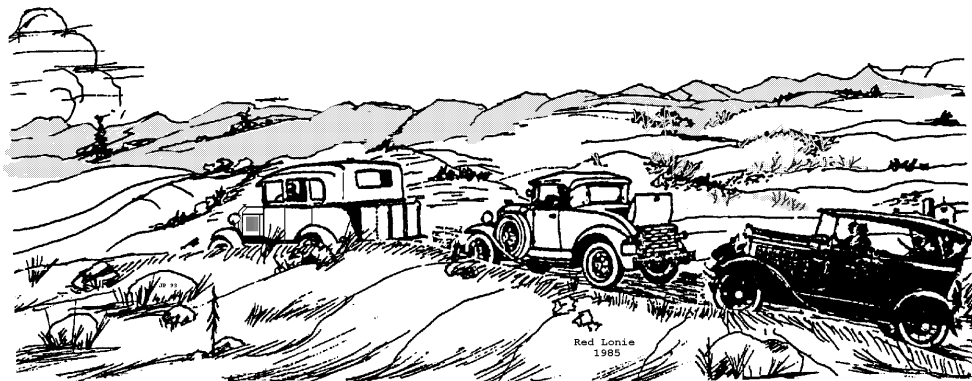
Letter to the Editor

I'm a native San Franciscan, and have been living with my daughter and grandchildren in southern Oregon. We look forward to receiving **The Choke Rod** each month, and especially enjoy reading the fashion articles written by Rachele Marquez. I discuss them with my daughter and granddaughter, and then I share them with my lady friends in our neighborhood sewing circle. We found the May article about the Queen Mother most interesting.

Patricia Sullivan
Vida, Oregon

2007 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

IT'S THE JOURNEY! NOT THE DESTINATION!

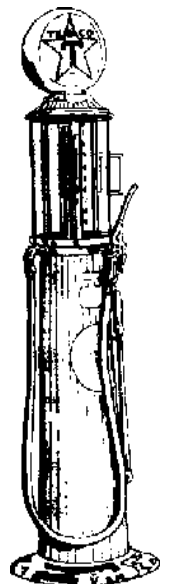


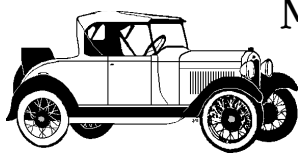
MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JAN	28	GREG MARTINEZ	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH - HARDING PARK
FEB	16,17,18	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	CLASSIC CAR SHOW AT FISHERMAN'S WHARF
MAR	10	THE BOB CRAIGS	TECH SEMINAR AT CRAIG'S AUTO
MAR	17	JEANINE & GUNARD MAHL	BILL ROSE'S MODEL A CRAB & STEAK FEED
APRIL	8	JEANINE & GUNARD MAHL	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.

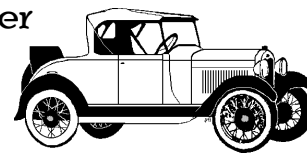
2007 Schedule of Events

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
October 6	Lumberjack Day Parade - West Point (Calaveras County)
Dec 5-9	MAFCA Annual Membership Meeting, Southern California. Host: SCRG
June 22-27, 2008	MARC/MAFCA World Model A Ford Meet





Minutes of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
Model A Ford Club of America
May 10, 2007



The meeting was called to order at 8:00 P.M. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written. Guest, Charlie Kascal was introduced and welcomed to the meeting.

Reports of Officers

President: Victoria Martinez is having her first birthday this week. Happy Birthday Victoria!

Vice President: The dash plaque design for the 2007 Classic Car Show was approved by a majority vote of members present.

Treasurer: The Club continues to retain sufficient funds in Club bank accounts to pay outstanding debts. A motion was made and approved that the Club donate \$1,000.00 to the Special Olympics and that the donation be made on June 7, 2007, the day of the Special Olympics Torch Run, and that the money come from the car show account.

Secretary: A motion was made and approved to purchase Officers and Directors Insurance from J. C. Taylor Insurance Company and that the Secretary be authorized to make this purchase and that the premium paid should not exceed \$700.00.

Editor: All Club members are encouraged to participate in the Special Olympics Torch Run on June 7, 2007. Other upcoming tours to keep in mind are Saturday, June 16, 2007, Father's Day at St. Anne's Home and Friendship Day on May 20, 2007.

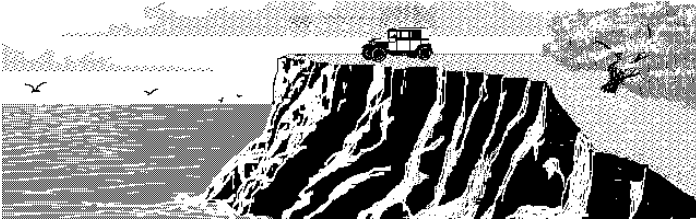
The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by **Barry Kinney**, Secretary

HAPPY FATHERS DAY

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, June 14, 2007
A number of club members gather for dinner before the monthly meetings at 6 pm
Please feel free to join us -- June dinner location will be at Goat Hill Pizza at 18th & Connecticut.



The **Choke Rod** is available online
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Choke Rod

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Insert - Ironstone Concours d'Elegance

Insert - Stuck in Lodi



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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

JUNE MEETING

Thursday June 14, 2007

8 PM - Monte Cristo Club

136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)

San Francisco