

The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

Volume 52, Issue 12

MAFCA Certificate of Merit 2005 - 2006 - 2007 - 2008

December 2008

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America

Veterans Day Parade



Kristine Zaback and Barry Kinney

Photo by Kerry Fehlberg

Upcoming Tours

Saturday December 13 - Christmas Banquet at Sharp Park

Sunday January 25 - President's Brunch

Saturday February 21 - Crab Feed Benefit at the Monte Cristo Club

March - Tech Seminar at Craig Auto

Official Publication of the
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
MAFCA

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Gary Barrango

VICE PRESIDENTS

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Greg Martinez

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Barry Kinney

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Greg Martinez

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.

TOUR CHAIR: Jeanine Mahl
EDITORS: Walter Caplan
Steve Owsley
FASHION EDITOR: Rachele Marquez
PHOTO EDITOR: Kerry Fehlberg
MEMBERSHIP: Walter Caplan

President's Message

As 2008 comes to a close I would like to take a minute and wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

We have our annual Christmas Banquet scheduled for Saturday December 13th at Sharp Park Golf Course. This event will bring a close to a great year for our club --- great tours, a successful car show, and a club sponsored dinner at the Monte Cristo for all who helped with the car show.



As for 2009, we have many big events scheduled already and will need the support of all our members with a Crab Feed planned for Saturday February 21st, and a car show in May, not to mention the other tours and events that will be occurring during the year. Our club has seen a steady influx of new members over the past year and I hope this continues to be the norm. People are joining the club because of its members and its fun events. This all happens because of you – the members. So let's all keep going down that same path.

I don't have much more to say for now but I'll be back in full force in January, and hope to see many of you at the Christmas Banquet Saturday December 13th.

One more thing: 2009 will be the LAST TIME I will be president. I've held this position for far too long and way too many times. One of our other members needs to step up to the plate and assume the leadership roll of president for 2010 and beyond.

See you at the Banquet!

Gary Barrango

Crab Feed ~ Saturday February 21

see Insert for Reservation Form

Benefiting

MAKE-A-WISH

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 \$40 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*.

LED Tail Light Update

While at SEMA I came across these LED taillights available in 6v for 28-31 Fords and beyond. The advantage of the LED is that it has a longer life, is brighter, and has no heat like a regular bulb. These units are a complete new assembly, ready to drop in, and should be geezer proof, as they have no moving parts and no filament to break -- and as a safety feature, it has been proven in tests that motorists respond quicker to LED's than to incandescent devices.

These are available as a taillight, with the LED inserted into the back of the lens, with a wire hanging ready to hook up. And the other deal is the complete assembly -- so you can get just the 2 lens for an existing car, and change them over -- have a look at the photo attached as it explains it and shows the 2 options.

Having them available in 6 volt is a bonus for all the original types among us; no drilling or changing of plugs as these are complete change over units all re-manufactured. The lens is made from polycarbonate, which resists impacts and collisions much more than acrylic plastic. And also LED's are a low voltage device, drawing minuscule amounts of current from the 6 volt system, protecting and prolonging the vehicle's electrical system. The company that manufactures these LED's rates their lights for 100,000 hours of operation and are covered by a Limited Lifetime Warranty -- and as a final point, we all know how these old Fords vibrate and shake -- well LED's are virtually impervious to shock and vibration.

As I looked their product over, I was impressed with their quality and range -- Fords and Chevys from the 30's to the 60's, all ready to fit and plug with a pigtail and plug on the back of the body. A well made quality product, available now from United Pacific Industries, Inc. 1751 East Del Amo Blvd. Carson, CA 90746 (310) 638-3717 / (866) 327-5288 toll free. Website: www.uapac.com.

--Good News Day
Kerry Fehlberg
kerryandcarol@mac.com

* 6V Light is Positive ground *



Christmas Banquet Saturday December 13

Sharp Park Restaurant & Lounge
at Sharp Park Golf Course - Pacifica
5:30 pm Cocktails & Appetizers
7 pm Dinner

Directions from San Francisco

Take US-101 S
Take the DALY CITY exit onto I-280 S toward DALY CITY
Bear RIGHT on CA-1 S - go 4.7 mi
Turn RIGHT on FRANCISCO BLVD - go 0.2 mi
Turn RIGHT on SHARP PARK RD - go < 0.1 mi
Arrive at CA-1 & SHARP PARK RD, PACIFICA,
right side of road



Refreshments
at the November meeting
were provided by
Joan Peterson

Kathy Pedone
will provide refreshments
at the January meeting.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Donald Parsons	December 2
David Berelson	December 6
Melanie Marie Patsel	December 9
Steve Karr	December 14
Kathy Pedone	December 14
Frank O'Brien	December 18
Bill Tempone	December 19
Bob Faber	December 24
Marilyn Yuhas	December 30
Paul DeMarini	December 31
John F.B. Zuffi	December 31

Springer & Howard Teich December 24

Rebellious Fashion During the War

The fashion experience was dreary during the war. In Britain, to buy clothes people needed money and coupons. Those with uniforms had to surrender them to their employer as a contribution. Manufacturers of parachutes used all the silk that would have been used for stockings, and nylon was not yet widespread. Everything was weighed according to priority. People were advised to treasure their old curtains, sheets and woolens. The press constantly reinforced reusing material and cutting back to necessities. American women were going without too, even though their shortages never actually became serious, they still reveled in the war effort.

Frenchwomen were still well-dressed in 1942 at the height of French defiance against Military Occupation. Fashion went to absurd lengths with women striking out to the unusual styles of fashion. They silently paraded their hatred by wearing ridiculously tall hats, a foot and a half high. Bright colors, long hairstyles, and short skirts were the efforts of women to strike out at the war. Without understanding what women were trying to say through their choice of clothing they were misinterpreted by women in England and America, who dressed in Rayon and off-cut material while the French had silk. Elizabeth Arden produced a waterproof white velvet gas mask for eveningwear and Schiaparelli and others delighted in the challenge of making clothes for the working woman. The French had to try hard



to persuade the Nazis not to take Paris couture to Berlin. Good tailoring and monumental, gravity defying strapless evening dresses were the desire of every woman. Everyday wear turned to a sporty style influenced from utility dress styles, with narrow reverse collars, front buttons, shorter skirts and sleeves. The waist was nipped in and every trick was used to economize on fabric. Peasant skirts were worn to infuse some color and exotic charm. Platform shoes were high fashion and also practical, as was Ferragamo's gold leather cork-soled shoes, which saved on shoe leather. In Britain the civilian utility label CC41, was the universal symbol of government approved quality that everyone looked for before buying anything.

With these highly austere and practical fashions in the street, Hollywood did its best to provide a little bit of frivolity and chic. Gilbert Adrian and Travis Banton were the most famous of all the studio fashion designers. Adrian made most of Joan Crawford's and Greta Garbo's clothes. He felt

that he had invented the New Look before the war, because he, like many designers around the end of the 1930's, made modern clothes with a Belle Époque feel. Banton's clothes were worn by Dietrich, and he was known for making wonderful, highly praised couture for top clients. He began his career at Lucile where his well-known signature look included wide shoulders and narrow hips, which became the shape of the 1940's.

During the war fashion encompassed a sporty or bright appearance with informal peasant skirts battling high extravagance. Following the war women were more than happy to embrace the New Look wholeheartedly. Many designers thought it was a style that would have been in place all along if the war had never happened, since designers like Hartnell and Lachasse had anticipated it in the 1930's. The New Look was vital to Paris for it needed to regain its position at the center of fashion. The women of Germany were given an ugly version of the platform wedge shoe in white plastic by the Allies, and even these became a sought-after fashionable item in a postwar atmosphere of desperation, where people were bartering to obtain even the basic necessities like soap.

Because medals went to the war effort, plastic and even cellophane were used to make costume jewelry. Some designers were tempted to try other metals, but it was out of step with the mood to wear it. Costume jewelry designers like Miriam Haskell did, however, rise to prominence in America, and her creations became highly prized later in the century.

What power women had during the war and everyday to speak through their clothing what they were feeling. Men and women alike have this power even today. Take a second and look around you. What does your co-worker's outfit say about them? What does your outfit say about you? It is amazing that even during troubled times with few materials people made their voice heard and contributed to the war effort. Silent a voice as it may have been it was important to portray and necessary to have been said. What are we doing today to help our current situation? What are you doing today to help? It only takes one person and little effort to make something big happen. I thank you for your effort, as we all benefit from it.

Rachelle Marquez



Veterans Day ~ Armistice Day



The History: President Woodrow Wilson first proclaimed an Armistice Day for November 12, 1919. The Act was approved on May 13, 1938, making the 11th of November a legal holiday to be known as "Armistice Day". By this time about 20 million Model A Fords had rolled off the assembly line at Deaborn Michigan and other locations around the world.

In 1953 an Emporia, Kansas store owner, Al King, began a campaign to turn Armistice Day into Veterans Day and with the help of U.S. Rep. Ed Rees, a bill was pushed through Congress and signed into law by President Dwight Eisenhower on May 26, 1954. Veterans Day now honors twenty four million military veterans in the United States.

The San Francisco Model A Club complimented the local Veterans Day Parade down Market Street on Sunday November 9th with a sparkling contingent of antique and hot-rod cars first manufactured by Ford Motor Company. The Martinez family pulled the group together and gave out pre-tour instructions and parade survival packages (water and snacks) at the Pacific Rod and Gun Club prior to our convergence at the corner of Second and Market Streets.



The Parade began before noon, and progressed slowly up Market Street to San Francisco City Hall where the parade disbanded. Unfortunately, the parade was a little slower than anticipated and cars and passengers succumbed to overheating and a dire need for a restroom.

Everything considered, it was a great day and we were all proud to be able to honor our local veterans, many of whom lined the sidewalks along Market Street. Many thanks to Casey and Greg and the Martinez family for doing such a great job organizing this event.

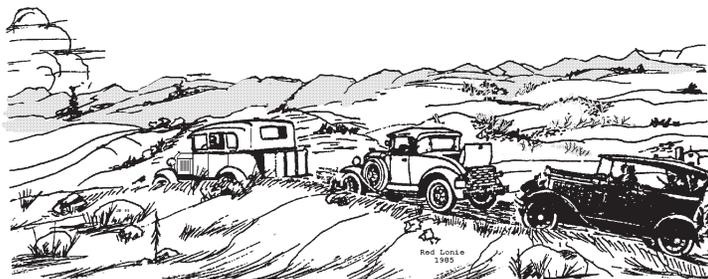
Barry Kinney

Photos by Kerry Fehlberg



2009 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

IT'S THE JOURNEY! NOT THE DESTINATION!



MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JAN	25	GARY BARRANGO	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH
FEB	21	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	CRAB FEED - MONTE CRISTO CLUB
MAR	TBA	JEANINE & GUNARD MAHL	BILL ROSE'S MODEL A CRAB & STEAK FEED
MARCH	TBA	THE BOB CRAIGS	TECH SEMINAR
APRIL	12	JEANINE & GUNARD MAHL	EASTER AT PACIFIC ROD & GUN CLUB
APRIL	TBA	BOB MARQUEZ	DREAM MACHINES - HALF MOON BAY
MAY	TBA	KINNEY	FRIENDSHIP DAY - CAÑADA COLLEGE
MAY	15-16	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	CLASSIC CAR SHOW AT FISHERMAN'S WHARF
MAY	25	CAPLAN	MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE - PRESIDIO
JUNE	20	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	ST. ANNE'S HOME - FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND
JUNE	28	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	PRIDE PARADE & PICNIC LUNCH
JULY	TBA	TBA	OPEN
AUG	TBA	TBA	OPEN
SEPT	TBA	SPRINGER TEICH	GATSBY AFTERNOON - DUNSMUIR ESTATE OAKLAND
SEPT	TBA	KINNEY	ANTIQUE AUTOS HISTORY PARK - SAN JOSE
SEPT	25-27	CAPLAN / OWSLEY / MACHADO	OVERNIGHTER-MURPHYS-IRONSTONE CONCOURS
OCT	TBA	CAPLAN/OWSLEY	JIMMY'S OLD CAR PICNIC IN GOLDEN GATE PARK
NOV	11	GREG MARTINEZ	VETERAN'S DAY PARADE ON MARKET STREET
DEC	TBA	SF MODEL A CLUB	CHRISTMAS BANQUET

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

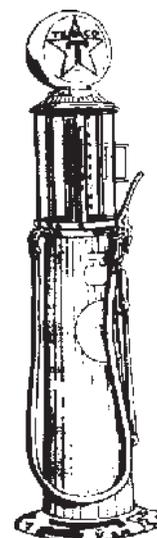
2009 Schedule of Events

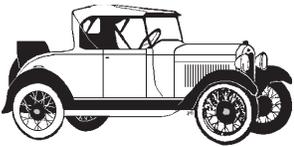
May 1-3
May 22-25
June 14-19

Central California Regional Group Jamboree
NCRG Round-Up at South Lake Tahoe www.sparknas.org
High Country Tour at Breckenridge Colorado
www.coloradohighcountrytour.com

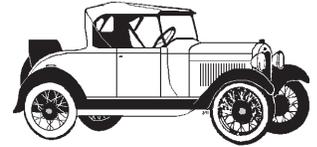
July 19-24
Dec 3-6

Northwest Regional Meet, Cottage Grove, OR
MAFCA National Banquet, Waukesha, WI





Minutes of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter Model A Ford Club of America November 13, 2008



The meeting was called to order at 7:45 pm by President Gary Barrango. New member Darryl Coe was introduced, as well as returning member Bob Peterson. Additionally, two members of the Santa Clara Valley Chapter, Dave and Susan Jones, attended the meeting. Incidentally, Dave is also a member of the MAFCA Board of Directors. Minutes of the October 2008 meeting were approved as written.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

President Barrango: The Veterans Day Parade, our November tour, was organized by Casey Martinez. We all had fun, and the club was awarded a prize/donation of \$100 from the parade's organizing committee. The President participated in the Columbus Day Parade and as a result was awarded a second prize in the Old Car category, with an award of \$100 that also went into the club treasury. The Christmas Banquet will be held on Saturday December 13th at Sharp Park Golf Course Clubhouse, the same location as last year. Reservation Deadline is December 5th. The annual President's Brunch is now scheduled for Sunday January 25th, 2009. Mark your calendars.

We will investigate a tour to Niles Canyon for a train ride, and look into planning a tour next December to Niles Canyon for their Christmas train.

Vice Presidents: Neither appeared at the meeting.

Secretary: The Secretary was out in Palm Springs attending a professional seminar.

Treasurer: The Club continues to maintain account balances adequate to pay outstanding debts.

Tour Chair: We will explore the possibility of doing joint tours over the course of the next year with the Marin A's, El Camino A's, and Santa Clara Valley A's.

Editor: We are looking at the possibility of holding a Car Show next May at the Longshoremen's Hall at Fisherman's Wharf. Details should be forthcoming in January's **Choke Rod**. The Editors continue to urge and encourage members to submit articles, photos, artwork, and/or other items of interest for publication in upcoming issues of the **Choke Rod**.

A discussion of the club's insurance coverage and needs was held. Dave Jones provided information from MAFCA on coverage and the liability coverage now provided by MAFCA for chapter directors and officers.

Election of Officers for 2009:

President:	Gary Barrango
Vice Presidents:	Greg Martinez Tom Escher
Secretary:	Barry Kinney
Treasurer:	Steve Owsley
Tour Chair:	Jeanine Mahl
Editors:	Walter Caplan Steve Owsley
Fashion Editor:	Rachelle Marquez

The slate of officers was unanimously re-elected for the 2009 year.

Bent Rod Award: The Bent Rod Award was given to Steve Pedone.

Refreshments: Joan Peterson provided refreshments for the meeting. Kathy Pedone will bring refreshments to the January meeting.

For the Good of the Order: The Club plans to host a Crab Feed at the Monte Cristo Club on Saturday February 21st, 2009. (Remember that the 2009 Car Show on Fisherman's Wharf has been canceled because of unavailability of Pier 45 next February.)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 pm.

The next meeting will be on Thursday January 8th, 2009 at the Monte Cristo Club at 7:30 pm.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by
Walter Caplan, acting Secretary*

SF Model A Club Monthly Meetings: The meetings continue to be held monthly, the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 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 on Thursday, January 8, 2008

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

The Choke Rod
is available online in color
www.sfmodelaclub.org



Photo by Kerry Fehlberg



in this Choke Rod

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Inserts - Membership Renewal Form

& self addressed return envelope

- Crab Feed Reservation Form



www.sfmodelaclub.org

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CHRISTMAS BANQUET
SATURDAY DECEMBER 13
5:30 pm Cocktails & Appetizers
7 pm Dinner
Sharp Park Restaurant & Lounge
Pacifica



Artwork by Pauline Marquez