

The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

Volume 52, Issue 9

MAFCA Certificate of Merit 2005 - 2006 - 2007

September 2008

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America

Bonneville Salt Flats Pilgrimage



Photo by Kerry Fehlberg

For a second year club members have traveled to the Bonneville International Speedway for Bonneville Speed Week. The story of their 2008 adventure will appear in the October 2008 **Choke Rod**.

Upcoming Tours

Sunday September 14 - Gatsby Afternoon - Dunsmuir Estate Oakland

Sunday September 14 - Antique Autos History Park, San Jose

Friday - Sunday September 26-28 - Murphys Ironstone Concours

Sunday October 12 - Jimmy's Old Car Picnic in Golden Gate Park

Tuesday November 11 - Veteran's Day Parade on Market Street

Official Publication of the
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
MAFCA

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The Choke Rod is published once each month by the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America. It is mailed free to each member in good standing and mailed to other antique car clubs in exchange for their publications. 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

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

President's Message

Well here I am writing my September president's letter. It's hard to believe that a few short months ago we were starting out the new year making plans for tours and events, and now here we are winding down 2008 with just a few great tours left!

It seems like September is going to be a great month for tours with the Kelley Park Tour, the Gatsby event, and the Ironstone Winery tour. Details are in this issue of **The Choke Rod**, so be sure to make your reservations for Ironstone, and please RSVP for all the tours.

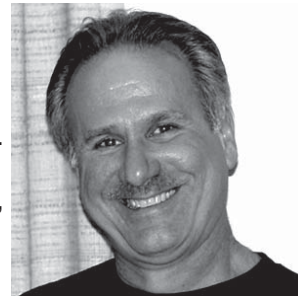
Speaking of tours, all the arrangements have been made for our Christmas banquet at the Sharp Park Golf course Clubhouse, where last year's Christmas banquet was held. Our banquet dinner will be held on Saturday December 6th. So remember to mark your calendars and save the date for this wonderful venue!

Remember that we have rescheduled our spaghetti dinner for our September meeting – Thursday September 11th -- at the Monte Cristo Club. The dinner includes salad, pizza, spaghetti, and garlic bread - **all for only \$12**. Cocktails will be available at 6 pm, and dinner will be at 6:30 pm.

Please RSVP to me by e-mail at Parkpresidio@sbcglobal.net, or by calling me at my home phone 650-572-1142 and leave a message. We need to have a final head count by Wednesday, September 10th.

Hope to see all of you at the September dinner and meeting on Thursday September 11th.

Gary Barrango



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

MAFCA

Model A Ford Club of America, Inc.
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*.

Antique Autos in Kelley Park, San Jose Sunday September 14

This event features Antique Exhibits, a Dixieland Band, Food from Peggy Sue's, Antique Motorcycles, Glass Sculpturing, Ceramics, Quilting, Beading, Wood Carving, Fly Tying, a Working Blacksmith Shop, a Working Trolley and much more. The event is free to all participants. To bring a vehicle on the grounds it must have been in use from 1945 and earlier.

Meet at Pacific Rod & Gun Club at 7:30 am. Leave at 8 am. We will stop again at the junction of 92 and 280 and again at Woodside Road at 8:30 to pick up anyone who lives South of SF and would like to join the tour.

Please RSVP Tour Leader Barry Kinney 415-282-2789

Gatsby Summer Afternoon Sunday September 14

A Gala Celebration Featuring Your Vintage Automobiles ! If you own a vintage auto built between 1919 and 1942, you should take part in one of the most exciting and memorable events around. The Gatsby Summer Afternoon on September 14. For the past 24 years the Art Deco Society of California has been entertaining art deco enthusiasts with this extravaganza of a picnic in the secluded grounds of the Dunsmuir Historic Estate in the Oakland Hills, where everyone dresses in period style.

**Tour Leader: Springer Teich 415 803-1149
springerteich@pacbell.net**

Refreshments

at the August meeting were provided by **Gary Barrango**

Dinner will be provided by the Club in September for \$12 per person. See President's Letter for details.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Kevin Richardson	September 11
Judy O'Brien	September 13
Victoria A. Costa	September 15
Jenny Jump	September 16
Timothy Ryan	September 20
Christina DiMartini Reyes	September 22
Ken Kling	September 22
Paul Engler	September 23
Robert Marquez	September 28
James & Daisy Young	September 18
Robert & Nina Petersen	September 28

Ironstone Concours d'Elegance Overnighter to Murphys Friday - Sunday, September 26 - 28



By popular demand, for a third 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.

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

The Concours will be featuring a remarkable gathering of over 300 examples of original and restored automobiles, motorcycles, commercial vehicles, and vintage house trailers.

If it is inconvenient for club members to meet in San Francisco, please join us for lunch at Knight's Ferry at noon. Then tour to Murphys with the Club.

We will arrive at Murphys at 4 pm. For those attending the Friday night reception at the Winery, the Pre-event Reception begins at 5:30 pm followed by the Dinner.

Note: Club members who did not register their cars should park in the parking lot and attend the show by purchasing a general admission ticket at the entrance. Club members who failed to reserve rooms through the Club are on their own for lodging.

Meet: 8 am at the SF Pacific Rod and Gun Club at Lake Merced for coffee and doughnuts.

Depart: for Murphys at 8:30 am

First Stop: OSH - Orchard Supply Hardware Parking Lot in Foster City - take Foster City Blvd exit off Highway 92 (last exit before the San Mateo Bridge going east towards Hayward), where we will meet up Club members from the Peninsula

Rest Stop: Rest Stop at Grant Line Road.

Lunch: Picnic Lunch at Knight's Ferry around 12 noon (pack a picnic lunch).

Arrive: We will arrive at Murphys at 4 pm

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

The Development of Women's Sports and Clothing

Mildred (Babe) Didrikson Zaharias started her experience with sports when she was a young girl. Her parents encouraged her to become the skilled performer she was in gymnastics. She practiced on rustic gymnasium equipment her father built in the backyard. As she got older she took an interest in baseball and acquired her nickname during games with the neighborhood boys who thought she batted like Babe Ruth. During her senior year in high school she was recruited to Employers Casualty Company of Dallas to do office work and spark the company's semiprofessional women's basketball team, the Golden Cyclones. During this time sports equipment was clunky and poorly designed with athletic apparel suited more for the office than for a court or field. Neither the equipment nor the clothing prevented Didrikson from leading the team to two finals and a national championship between 1930 and 1932, and she was voted All-American each season. Early bloomers used to be standard athletic wear for women. We've all seen the outfits women had to wear in the movie "A League of Their Own," which replicated the uniform actually worn during the time.

In 1997 equipment was on the forefront of sports as it was customized for women. Gear was made to help women, not hinder their performance. Cycling seats, climbing harnesses, and Alpine skis were made to suit women's smaller frames. Boxing chest protectors and strength training equipment was modified for a woman's physique. Women's backpacks were narrower, sleeping bags were wider at the hips, and basketballs were made with a smaller diameter. Softball bats, rackets, and pole-vault poles accommodated women's strength and climbing tights were made with split crotches. Imagine Didrikson's success with the equipment and clothing available today.

Didrikson also participated in the company's track and field events at the Amateur Athletic Union Championship in 1932. She placed in seven events taking first place in five-shot put, javelin and baseball throws, eighty-meter hurdles, and the long jump. She tied for first in the high jump and finished fourth in the discus throw. In three hours Didrikson earned thirty points, eight more than the entire second place team, and broke four world records. In the 1932 Olympics she broke world records in the javelin throw, hurdles, and high jump. Even after Didrikson's successes women in 1959, such as Willye White, ran in long one-piece garments called bloomers. White tells us, "They were our biggest problem" with the cut not fit for women and the length restricting movement. Runners generally rolled up the legs to get good lift, but White began wearing her panty-like shorts from her time as a band majorette at Tennessee State University. Her coach showed her supplier and the two piece uniform was developed. Runner Hinda Miller invented the first sports bra in 1977 due to her frustration with conventional bras lacking appropriate support and comfort during her practices. Miller took two jock straps and sewed them together to get the support she needed. Entrepreneurs such as Ellen Wessel, founder of Moving Comfort, decided twenty years ago to make recreational running apparel to fit women's figures. Larger companies

followed with Anne Flannery, manager of the women's athletic division at Spalding, offering, "We're taking the time to find out what women want. In the past women's products were made of comparatively cheap materials, and they were often pink. The P-word we're looking for now is not pink; it's performance."

As for Didrikson, she went on to take the title of the Texas Women's Amateur Championship in April 1932. She won seventeen consecutive tournaments, including the British Women's Amateur Championship. She was the first American to win it. Didrikson helped found the Ladies Professional Golf Association in 1948. She was the LPGA's leading money winner between 1949 and 1951. In 1950 the Associated Press voted her Woman Athlete of the Half-Century. Sometimes I wonder how Didrikson could have achieved so much with so little. According to Joan Joyce, a star softball player and golfer in the 50's, 60's, and 70's, "The equipment wasn't very good, especially in golf. Golf clubs for women were just horrible." Women had no choice but to tolerate the poor equipment and endure the strains and pains it caused, or pay to have it modified.

Between 1940 and 1950 Didrikson won every woman's golf title, including the world championship (four times) and the United States Women's Open (three times). She was the first woman ever to serve as a resident professional at a golf club. In 1955, before she lost her battle to cancer, she established the Babe Zaharias Trophy to honor outstanding female athletes.

With athletes like Didrikson the demand for more effective equipment has become a necessity. That demand has brought Spalding to develop a woman's softball mitt that gives small hands greater control and a basketball that is easier to grip. Basketball shoes are now more aggressive and intense in styling and support. In 1978 there was only one sports bra in the market. Today dozens are available. Big sporting goods stores offer sections of space for women's equipment. With all the advances I can still walk into a sporting store and find things in the men's department that I wish were offered for women, and the amount of products offered are not even close to equal, but I believe it will get there with the continuing success of women's sports and the desire to live a healthy, active lifestyle. The generations to come are our hope to achieve this goal. However, even without all the equipment and clothing we desire movement is still possible and to the greatest degree as Babe Didrikson Zaharias showed everyone with her lack of equipment, performance enhancing clothing, and health. She is a true inspiration.

Rachelle Marquez

References: Women's Sports and Fitness Magazine 1997, January/February, Mildred Ella Didrikson (Babe), Handbook of Texas Online, <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/view/ZZ/fza1.html>

Body Alignment Woes

If there's one common fault most prominent in restoration and hotrod vehicles, it has to be body alignment woes -- and it all starts well before the paint stage, but isn't noticed until many start putting the car together after it is painted. Correct alignment on a roadster, coupe, or sedan takes place between the body and chassis, and is altered by shimming between the body-frame mount points.

On a new car you need to assemble the body onto the chassis, tighten the body down to see what you've got. Sometimes you have to raise or lower the cowl to set the door-cowl swage lines. Leave the locks and wedges out and get the door swinging and then check the line on the body because someone in the past someone could have given the door a big heave-ho, bending the hinges to raise it up. This could put the door out of square to the door opening -- you will have to eyeball the inside frame to body for evenness.

Check the coupe in the picture and note how the door is dropped. Check above the handle and the beltline above. Raising the wedge up inside the opening is not the solution to lift the door. In this case the body needs raising at the hinge pillar (suicide doors). At the bottom mount point directly in front of the rear wheel, loosen the mount off, also either side mounts, and using a block of wood on a floor jack, gently raise the body up. Sometimes I use a long wedge chisel to open the gap, and using the U shaped front end shims slide between the floor mount and the top of the chassis, loosen the jack and nip it back up and eyeball the beltline. Doing that raises the door up into the opening -- notice how the bottom of the front edge of the door is almost hitting on the rocker. Raising and shimming the hinge pillar will lift it up into the opening. I've seen 32's - 34's that have ground the door into the rockers, as the bodies

and packers age the alignment goes out and things start dropping and rubbing.

This is one of the most overlooked things that I notice on cars as I move around and photograph and document them.

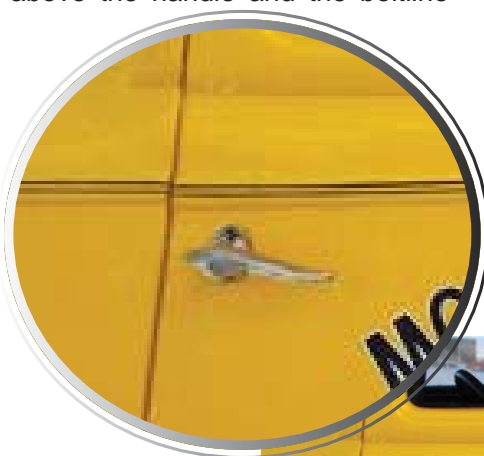
About 10 years ago I put a new or used hood on a XKE Jaguar. On the production line, according to my Adjuster, they allowed 40 hours for 2 men to assemble and fit and adjust it all, so don't tear your hair out. It takes patience -- sometimes more than we have -- and think it through: what is happening under that floor?

Some cars will really test you to see how good you are. Inside the front cover of the July NSRA Street Scene is a '34 Black coupe that I chopped and painted. The doors and B pillar were 3-16 of an inch out. The door hinges are countersunk heads and welded on and non-adjustable. I had to cut 3/16's off the bottom of the hinge and machine a spacer to weld to the top of the hinge to set the door right to the B pillar.

And it doesn't matter if you have an A bone stocker up to a blown '40 Coupe, the same principles apply.

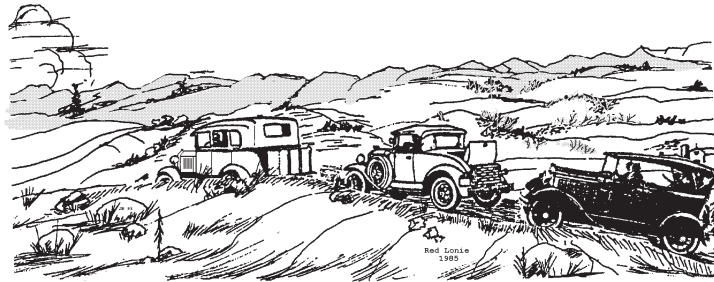
Now go and do it.

Kerry Fehlberg



2008 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

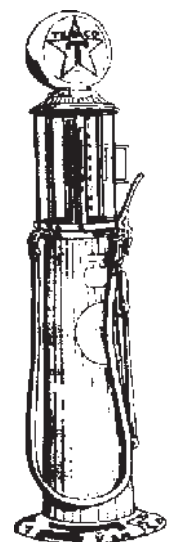
IT'S THE JOURNEY! NOT THE DESTINATION!

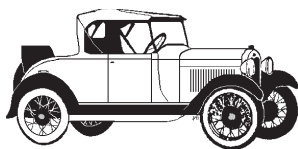


MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JAN	13	GREG MARTINEZ	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH - CAESAR'S
FEB	15,16,17	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	CLASSIC CAR SHOW AT FISHERMAN'S WHARF
MAR	15	JEANINE & GUNARD MAHL	BILL ROSE'S MODEL A CRAB & STEAK FEED
MAR	22	THE BOB CRAIGS	TECH SEMINAR
MARCH	23	JEANINE & GUNARD MAHL	EASTER AT PACIFIC ROD & GUN CLUB
APRIL	27	BOB MARQUEZ	DREAM MACHINES - HALF MOON BAY
MAY	18	KINNEY	FRIENDSHIP DAY - CAÑADA COLLEGE
MAY	26	CAPLAN	MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE - PRESIDIO
JUNE	14	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	ST. ANNE'S HOME - FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND
JUNE	29	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	PRIDE PARADE & PICNIC LUNCH
JULY	27	PEDONE / PETERSON	TOUR OF SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA
AUG	24	BARRY KINNEY	CIRCLE THE CITY TOUR
SEPT	14	SPRINGER TEICH	GATSBY AFTERNOON - DUNSMUIR ESTATE OAKLAND
SEPT	14	KINNEY	ANTIQUE AUTOS HISTORY PARK - SAN JOSE
SEPT	26-28	CAPLAN / OWSLEY / MACHADO	OVERNIGHTER-MURPHYS-IRONSTONE CONCOURS
OCT	12	CAPLAN/OWSLEY	JIMMY'S OLD CAR PICNIC IN GOLDEN GATE PARK
NOV	11	GREG MARTINEZ	VETERAN'S DAY PARADE ON MARKET STREET
NOV	TBA	CAPLAN/OWSLEY	THE ANNUAL SAN FRANCISCO CITY TOUR
DEC	6	SF MODEL A CLUB	CHRISTMAS BANQUET - SHARP PARK CLUBHOUSE

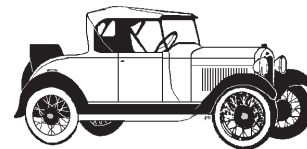
2008 Schedule of Events

Jan 26-27	Turlock Swap Meet - Stanislaus County Fairgrounds. Sponsors Modesto A's. Sat 7am-5pm, Sun 7am-3pm, \$5 admission
April 25-27	CCRG Jamboree; Yosemite, CA - Host Blossom Trail A's
May 2-4	Lake County's Spring Opener - Lake County A's
May 23-25	NCRG Round-up - Hosts Auburn A's & Gra-Neva A's
June 15-21 & 28-July 5	Model A Times Route 66 Summer Tour
June 22-27	3rd MARC / MAFCA World Model "A" Ford Meet
Aug 4-8	Northwest Regional Meet, Medford, OR, Host - Rogue Valley A's
Sept 7-12	Nevada Grand Tour II - Minden NV - Host Sagebrush Chapter





**Minutes of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
Model A Ford Club of America
August 14, 2008**



The meeting was called to order by President Gary Barrango at 8:00 pm. The Minutes of the July meeting were approved as written.

Reports of Officers

President: (July Tour - T-Shirts - September Meeting) The President thanked Joan Peterson and Kathy and Steve Pedone for leading an outstanding July Tour. The Club will have T-Shirts for sale at the September meeting -- buy a T-Shirt help your Club make a little extra cash.

The September meeting will be a dinner meeting. The cost will be \$12 per person and will include pasta, salad, beverages, and something sweet following the meal. Time: 6 pm cocktails, 6:30 pm dinner. Place: Monte Cristo Club. The regular meeting will begin at 8 pm. Please RSVP Gary Barrango at 415.821.2628 so we can prepare a proper amount of food.

Treasurer: (Club Account Balances - Income and Expense)

The Club bank accounts contain sufficient cash to pay outstanding debts. There was one purchase last month of a Christmas Tree. Cost: \$300. The Tree was donated to St. Anne's Home. Although the Club members felt that this donation to St. Anne's was for a good cause, the President suggested that we need to be careful about how and when we spend Club money.

Secretary: (Tour to Kelley Park - Tour to Ironstone - Circle City Tour) The Tour to Kelley Park will be on Sunday September 14 - The Tour to Ironstone and Murphys will be an overnigher, Friday through Sunday September 26 - 28. Look for details in the August Choke Rod - RSVP Barry Kinney at 415.282.2789 if you plan to travel with the Club on either outing.

The Gatsby Summer Afternoon will be on September 14, 2008. If you plan to attend please RSVP Tour Leader Springer Teich at 415.803.1149.

The Circle City Tour will be on Sunday August 24. Details have been printed in the August Choke Rod. RSVP Barry Kinney at 415.282.2789.

Editor: Members are encouraged to send articles and items of interest to the Editor for the Choke Rod.

The Fisherman's Wharf Car Show is on hold until the Club can determine if Taylor Street and Pier 45 will be closed to traffic on President's Day Weekend. The Editor will present a progress report at the September meeting.

For the Good of the Order: Tony Hobbs invited Club members to join him for a Tour to the Los Angeles Roadster Show in June 2009. Tony, Paul DeMartini, John Bettencourt and other Club members make the trip each year. Look for the date in **The Choke Rod**.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:30 pm

The next meeting will be on Thursday September 11, 2008 at the Monte Cristo Club. Cocktails at 6 pm, dinner will be at 6:30 pm, and the regular meeting will begin following dinner at 8 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Barry Kinney

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 on Thursday, September 11, 2008

Dinner will be provided at the Club this month. Dinner will include Pizza, Salad, Spaghetti, and Garlic Bread. Cocktails will be available at 6 pm. Dinner begins at 6:30 pm.

Cost is \$12 per person.

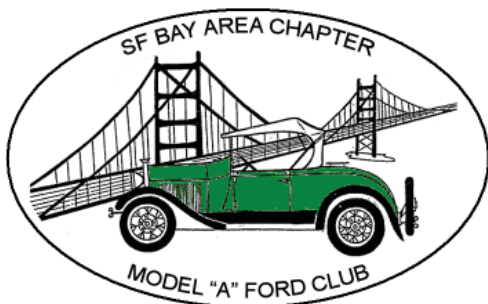
Please RSVP Gary Barrango at 650-572-1142 no later than Wednesday, September 10. Leave message.

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



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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

T-shirts, sweatshirts, and tote bags from the Classic Car Show are available for sale at the meetings - proceeds benefit the Club

We will be taking orders for our blue Club jackets (with Club patch) at the Club meetings

SEPTEMBER MEETING
Thursday September 11, 2008
8 pm - Monte Cristo Club
136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)
San Francisco
RSVP Gary Barrango by Sept 10

Spaghetti Dinner
for Club Members & Guests
Thursday September 11
6 pm Cocktails - 6:30 pm Dinner
Monte Cristo Club
136 Missouri Street
San Francisco
\$12