

The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

Volume 53, Issue 1

MAFCA Certificate of Merit 2005 - 2006 - 2007 - 2008

January 2009

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America

Club President Gary Barrango



See article on page 5

Photo by Kerry Fehlberg

Upcoming Tours

Sunday, January 25 - President's Brunch at Dominic's - San Mateo (page 3)

Saturday, February 21 - SF Model A Club Crab Feed at Monte Cristo Club

March 2009 - Tech Seminar at Craig Auto

Sunday, March 15 - Bill Rose's Crab & Steak Feed

Sunday, April 12 - Easter at Pacific Rod & Gun Club

Sunday, April 26 - Dream Machines - Half Moon Bay

Official Publication of the
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
MAFCA

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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.

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President's Message

With the start of a new year I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy New Year and all the best for 2009!

2008 proved to be a good year for our club with many great tours and events; however 2009 is on track to be even better if that's at all possible. I want to start out by reminding everyone that in February we are planning our 1st annual Charity Crab Feed at the Monte Cristo Club. We have many members on board who are capable of producing such an event -- but we will need everyone to help in one way or another.

I'm sure some of you think we are crazy for doing this event, but remember seven years ago when we were approached about hosting a car show at Fisherman's Wharf many of our members had doubts (including myself). But look what we were able to do with that event. I will discuss more about the future of our car show in upcoming President's letters and at the meetings - - - but for now our main focus is the crab feed in February!

Our focus for the Crab Feed is not only to provide a great meal but also to be able to make a donation to the Make-a-Wish Foundation, a charity supported by the SFPD Motorcycle Unit. As you all know if you've participated in the Mayor's Parade at our the car show, these motorcycle officers do a fantastic job of getting us to and from City Hall safely and in one group (large as it is) and then back to Pier 45.

There is way too much to discuss about the crab dinner and the future of the car show to do it in this letter, so please try to attend our first meeting of the 2009 year on Thursday January 8th so we can put all of our thoughts together and have a successful 2009 year.

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

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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*.

Crab Feed

at the Monte Cristo Club
Saturday February 21

Doors open at 5 pm
Dinner Service begins 6:30 pm

Raffle - 50/50 Raffle - No Host Bar
LIVE MUSIC

antipasto, salad, pasta, crab, French bread & butter,
dessert

see insert for Reservation Form

benefitting



FOR SALE 1931 model a pick up \$3000.00, 1933 model B pick up, barn find sat for 30 years, both vehicles are complete but unrestored started 3 years ago and ran. Please contact Cecil, 707-628-7870

Dessert at the Christmas Banquet was provided by **Jeanine Mahl**

Kathy Pedone will provide refreshments at the January meeting.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Donna Ryan	January 1
Janelle Barrango Frieh	January 5
Terence McGinnis	January 9
Shirley Fioresi	January 10
Lonnie Maxwell	January 14
Coragene Savio	January 20
Bruce Baird	January 25
Tony Hobbs	January 26

Gene & Sandy Herson	January 8
Jeanine & Gunard Mahl	January 24

President's Brunch

& driving tour to Dominic's at Poplar Creek
Sunday January 25

We will be having our Annual President's Brunch at Dominic's at Poplar Creek, 1700 Coyote Point Drive, San Mateo.

Breakfast will include fresh fruit and yogurt, pumpkin bread, bagels w/cream cheese & jam, butter, toffee pecan rolls, scrambled eggs, potatoes, bacon and breakfast sausage. Coffee, tea, and orange and cranberry juice. The cost will be \$21 per person, which includes tax and tip!

We will meet at Tanforan parking lot by JC Penny (highway 380 & El Camino) at 10 am. We will leave Tanforan at 10:30 am to be at Poplar Creek by 11 am. It's really only about a 10 minute drive.

All being well we will have our own private room.

Those club members coming from San Francisco should plan to meet at the Pacific Rod and Gun Club at Lake Merced at 9:30 am for coffee. We will leave the Rod and Gun Club at 10 am for Tanforan to meet up with those members from the Peninsula who will be gathered by JC Penny at Tanforan. Together the larger group will then drive on to Dominic's at Poplar Creek.

Gary Barrango will need people to RSVP him by Wednesday January 21st.

You can RSVP Gary either by e-mail or by telephone.

Gary's e-mail: parkpresidio@sbcglobal.net

Gary's telephone number is 415.821.2628 (weekdays 9-5)

Does Your Light Switch Rattle?

The parts books show that in mid-1930 Ford introduced a small brass bushing, "A-3529 Steering gear lighting switch tube silencer". The bushing may have been used earlier (it was certainly needed) and overlooked in the parts lists. It was formed from .006" thick brass stock. Listed as 29-31, It may have been intended for the Gemmer steering box only but probably well suited to the Ford steering box as well.

The switch tube measures approximately .370" diameter. The hollow center of the Gemmer steering shaft measures approximately .387". That leaves over 1/64" for the switch tube to rattle! The compound shape of the "silencer" resulted in a springy, resilient bushing. The lower edge was rolled inward to center the switch rod with minimal pressure. The flange at the top functioned as somewhat of a thrust washer for the spring loaded switch tube assembly. With all original parts it not only eliminates the rattle, but actually reduces binding of the switch tube. If you have a replacement switch tube you will need to be sure there are no burrs or other problems at the top of the tube.

The Model 'A' Barnyard
www.abarnyard.com

1940's Hairstyles

Veronica Lake, unknown at the time, was the first to bring archetypal 1940's hair to the public. *Life* magazine wrote an article for the drooling public that detailed how many hairs she had on her head, the length, and how far down it started to wave. It was copied by girls all over the world and became a benchmark 1940's hairstyle. In reality it was a grown out 1930's page-boy cut, which suited the informal femininity of the war years. Lauren Bacall adopted the same style to portray a different look that she could easily put into more formal styles since it was long enough to roll.

Vogue magazine ran articles during the wartime on how to set your hair. It also ran articles on how wonderful it would be to have a bath and be clean. However, it was a time that was difficult to find help or utilize resources. Short hair styles, neatly rolled hair, and topknots were fashionable and compatible for service uniform. Fun styles included streaks and temporary evening colors which were advocated in *The Queen* magazine. Marcel waves continued to be popular in Britain.

The times called for individual choice, practicality, and conservatism with hair. The New Look demanded the formality of elaborate hair, but when Ingrid Bergman stepped out in the film "Joan of Arc" the need for novelty became irresistible. This style remained in fashion until the 1950's when the style was suited for the gamine look.

Hairpieces were frequently used for versatility when one could not make it to the hairdresser. Hollywood was a huge influence with wig manufacturers sitting on a booming trade of false braids, bangs on combs, and falls of curls. Curls were popular until 1947, but perms lasted, especially the cold perm method.

The popular style for working women and the fashion conscious in the mid-1940's was the topknot or the doughnut. They put the hair up all the way around from the roots into a mass of curls at the top. This was very

pretty, poking out of homemade turbans made from scarves, and although they looked like washerwomen, it was a jolly and becoming style.

Hats were worn all the time in the 1940's and began to have more importance during the war as in Occupied France where materials were used in extraordinarily inventive ways to show defiance. Hats topped off the strictness of a new tailored suit which was never complete without gloves and layers of lipstick. Turbans were ubiquitous at the time and were often made of cellophane, old suit fabrics, or anything that came to hand. Under the influence of the "sweater girls" peaked cap styles came into fashion.

After the war hats changed their shape to replicate a dish and were a smaller size that sloped downward. Lilly Dache, a French fashion designer, said in *Talking Through My Hats*, "glamour is what makes a man ask for your telephone number and a woman ask for the name of your dressmaker." This was her word after marrying the vice president of Coty, one of the biggest cosmetic companies, with her own business thriving for years.

I'll take that word and apply it to my fashionable style. The 1940's hairstyles are one of my favorite looks, and to me were the end of the glamour eras. Fashion seemed to get more comfortable in the 1950's and thereon out. I admire these women for always looking their best even when there was a war taking place. These are my role models. Thank you for that.

Rachelle Marquez



Veronica Lake



Ingrid Bergman

Getting To Know Your Fellow SF Model A Club Members and Associates

Gary Barrango

Starting the first of a new series for the year is our Club President, Gary Barrango.

What do you know about this man - well nothing really, except that he is married to Cheryl and has a son Ryan and daughter Janelle?

Well, it all started for Gary when he was 12. His sister's boyfriend had a '29 Roadster pickup and it was left at his folk's house in storage. Gary would go and sit behind the wheel while it was parked in the garage. After some time in the Military stationed in the Philippines, he got out of the Service to find that his Dad had bought a '30 Roadster, '30 Sedan, and a '30 Coupe. Gary still retains those cars today -- they were restored back in the 70's, and he still drives them on a regular basis, participating in parades and public events.

Gary has been a continuing member of the SF Model A Club since he joined in the early 70's, and would be among the longest serving members that we have today, noting that he rarely misses a meeting. He has served as President and Vice President for far too many terms, according to him! Gary is mostly seen in his '30 roadster or his '30 Sedan. A regular attendee at parades and Club events, and a longtime supporter of Model A Fords, Gary recently put his Roadster back on the road after a complete rebuild that took a very long while. It's good to see him making use of it and making up for lost time.

So this morning I ventured off to see what he does when he's not driving his roadster to an event. As I pulled up to his place of business, I discovered he has a full service Mercury Marine Dealership and does repairs when he's not ordering parts. After walking around his shop and looking at the work in progress, there is nothing he can't deal with, as he had motors in all shapes and sizes, pulled apart, rebuilding them back to new. From new to used -- motors, stern drives, props, water pumps, you name it, it was all being repaired.

He employs his son Ryan, keeping it in the family, along with a part-time secretary/counter person. As you walk inside the door, you are greeted by rows of neatly arranged parts, all laid out in order on display -- Gary has a computerized parts inventory linked to Mercury and he is able to give a quick price and availability of any Mercury part

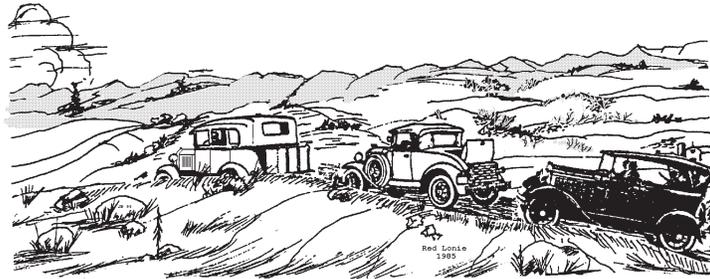
So, next time your prop goes out as you head out under the Golden Gate --remember to give Gary a call!

**Article and 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	15	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	26	BOB MARQUEZ	DREAM MACHINES - HALF MOON BAY
MAY	17	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	13	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**

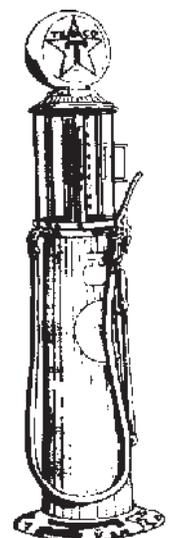
2009 Schedule of Events

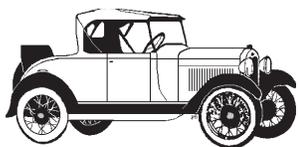
May 1-3
May 22-25
June 14-19

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

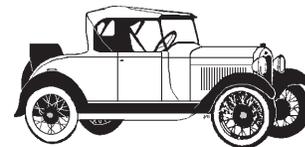
July 19-24
Dec 3-6

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
December 13, 2009
(Christmas Banquet)**



The December meeting was held at Sharp Park Golf Course Restaurant in Pacifica. The meeting was called to order following the Club Annual Christmas Banquet at 8 pm.

Ceremonies following the Banquet included the introduction of the Club Board of Directors for year 2009, and recognition of the dedication and good work of the 2008 Board. In addition, the Tour Leaders and Board Members were each acknowledged for their individual contributions during the year.

President Gary Barrango was recognized for his years of service as President. Gary will continue to serve the Club as President in 2009 for what he says will be his last year as President. We'll see about that.

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 Classic Car Show posters and 2008 Choke Rod cover pages produced by Steve and Walter which were displayed throughout the room. In addition, models of classic cars adorned the dining tables. The banquet was well attended.

The Club thanks Gunard and Jeanine Mahl and John Zuffi for arranging the Christmas Banquet. Jeanine Mahl provided dessert in the form of a large Christmas cake. Many thanks to Jeanine for all her hard work and her considerable contributions to the success of the event.

For the Good of the Order: The Club in year 2008 again increased in size, 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
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, 2009

A number of club members gather together for dinner before the monthly meeting at 6pm. Please feel free to join us -- January 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 - Crab Feed Reservation Form

Turlock Swap Meet

Redding Rambling A's Spring Opener



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

JANUARY MEETING
Thursday, January 8, 2008
7:30 pm - Monte Cristo Club
136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)
San Francisco