

# The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

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Volume 54, Issue 4

MAFCA Certificate of Merit 2005 - 2006 - 2007 - 2008 - 2009

April 2010

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San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America

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## Upcoming Tours

Sunday, April 4 - Easter at Pacific Rod & Gun Club - SF

Saturday, April 10 - Greek Cultural Celebration Parade & Festival - SF

Sunday, April 25 - Pacific Coast Dream Machines - Half Moon Bay

Friday-Sunday, April 30-May 2 - Spring Speed Weekend - Auburn

Sunday May 16 - Friendship Day - Cañada College

Monday May 31 - Memorial Day Observance at San Francisco Presidio

Sunday June 19 - Father's Day at St. Anne's Home

Official Publication of the  
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter  
MAFCA

## President's Message



### OFFICERS

#### PRESIDENT

Barry Kinney

#### VICE PRESIDENTS

Tom Escher

Gunard Mahl

Greg Martinez

#### SECRETARY

Joan Peterson

#### 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: [modela@pacbell.net](mailto:modela@pacbell.net) or mailed to Walter Caplan at 157 Warren Drive, San Francisco, CA 94131.

TOUR CHAIR: Steve Pedone  
EDITORS: Walter Caplan  
Scott Williams

FASHION EDITOR: Rachele Marquez

PHOTO EDITOR: Kerry Fehlberg

TECH EDITOR: Steve Owsley

MEMBERSHIP: Walter Caplan

The Club had a good first quarter.

Thanks to the Crab Feed Committee, the Monte Cristo Club, and a bunch of hard working Club members we remain financially in the black. Payback for members will be an all expense paid party at a time and place to be determined. We will say "Thank You" to the Monte Cristo Club by buying them a new DVD Player to go with their new TV. Relax, they bought the TV.

Next Up: Easter at the Rod and Gun Club. Gunard and Jeanine sponsor this event at the Gun Club but Model A Club members are invited and encouraged to come and enjoy some good company, good food, and a great Easter Egg Hunt. Bring the kids. It is all you can eat for \$15.

The Greek Cultural Event follows on April 10. This is a parade down Market Street followed by a fun-filled Greek party with dancing and food. It is a real Zorba event. Please call me if you would like to join the parade. I would like to have about eight cars.

If you're into hot rods, dragsters or speed, you don't want to miss the Auburn Hill Climb. It comes up on April 30 and runs through May 2. The event is sponsored by FAST and includes, in addition to the hill climb, some classroom and hands on seminars. The event is restricted to four-bangers. The course is approximately one-eighth of a mile up a 10% grade. You will be surprised at how fast some of these buggies can go. Look for details in this issue of the **Choke Rod**.

That's all I've got.

See you at the meeting,

*Barry Kinney*

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](http://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*.

## Pacific Coast Dream Machines Half Moon Bay Sunday April 25 - 10 am - 4 pm

It's the world's largest and most whimsical gathering of motorized marvels from throughout the twentieth century....a remarkable exhibit of 2000 driving, flying, and working machines, running the gamut of exotic automobiles, US Army tanks, and antique motorcycles to restored military aircraft, Model T fire engines, massive steam tractors, and tons more. Live music, kids amusements and food booths run by local non-profits round out the festivities.

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## Spring Speed Weekend - Auburn CA Friday - Sunday April 30 - May 2

See insert in this **Choke Rod** for details.

The Linden A's (Tom and Terry Machado) are again planning to go to the Spring Speed Weekend and may host a lunch on Sunday May 2 for Bay Area Chapter members who are attending. Details to follow by club e-mail. For more information call Barry Kinney at 415-282-2789.

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## Memorial Day Observance at historic San Francisco Presidio Monday, May 31

The Mayor's 2010 Memorial Day Citizen's Committee has invited the SF Model A Club to be part of the official City & County's 142<sup>nd</sup> Memorial Day observance. The traditional event will be held at the Presidio National Cemetery. We have been asked to display our pre-WWII vehicles at the Main Post at 9 am. The Parade will begin at 10:30 am, followed by the Formal Ceremony from 11 am to 12 noon.

See insert in this month's **Choke Rod**.

**Refreshments**  
at the March meeting  
were provided by  
**Jeanine Mahl**

**Kathy Pedone**  
will provide refreshments  
at the April meeting.



## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Steve Owsley	April 11
Jeanine Mahl	April 13
Kevin Enderby	April 15
Gene Herson	April 27
Paul Storz	April 30
Steve & Kathy Pedone	April 10

## Easter Breakfast at the Pacific Rod & Gun Club Sunday April 4

We will meet at 8:30 am in the Stonestown parking lot near McDonalds, and will depart at 8:45 am for a short ride to The Pacific Rod and Gun Club, 520 John Muir Drive on Lake Merced, San Francisco. Our hosts will be Jeanine and Gunard Mahl. Breakfast served from 9 am to 11 am. There will be an Egg Hunt for the kids at 11 am. The menu includes pastries, muffins, fruit, grilled ham, bacon, scrambled eggs, spanish eggs, and hash brown potatoes. Adult Libations: Gin Fizzes, Bloody Marys & Mimosas. Milk and juice for the kids. Coffee of course. All you can eat and drink -- but remember you are driving!! \$15 at the door. Kids 15 and under \$5. Weather permitting, drive your old car.

For further information, and to RSVP, contact  
Jeanine Mahl at 415-664-2056.

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## Greek Cultural Celebration Parade & Festival Saturday April 10

The Greek Cultural Event is a parade down Market Street followed by a fun-filled Greek party with dancing and food. It is a real Zorba event. Please call Barry Kinney if you would like to join the parade. Parade organizers request vintage cars only.

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

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## Friendship Day 2010 - Sunday May 16 at Cañada College in Redwood City Mid Peninsula Old Time Auto Club

Always a popular event, "Friendship Day" is sponsored by Mid-Peninsula Old Time Auto Club. This collector car show has been held for 36 years and is one of Northern California's biggest and friendliest events. It is mainly aimed at hobbyists who bring their collector vehicles to show and includes all kinds of collectible cars and trucks. No judging, no awards, no vendors, no pre-registration! Just pay at the gate, park your car, and walk and talk. Great BBQ lunch is available. Bob Craig, Sr. is volunteering at this event collecting gate fees, so be sure to say hello to him.

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

The event is at the Canada College parking lot #3, 4200 Farm Hill Blvd., Redwood City: **8 am - 2 pm**. The site is just East of I-280 at the Farm Hill exit. Spectator fee: \$15/car (unlimited people), registration fee: \$15/car (unlimited people) for this event. Feel free to bring a picnic lunch if you wish as well as lawn chairs, but **don't forget to RSVP Barry Kinney at 415-282-2789**.

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



## Years of the Corset

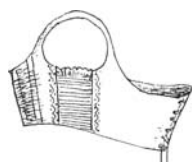
The 1500's were an exciting time for clothing. It was a time of transition of fabrics and silhouettes following centuries full of dull, shapeless material. There were new tailoring innovations, textile discoveries, and an adventurous spirit spreading through Europe. The previous frocks were now replaced with a separate skirt and lace-fastened bodice. Bodices became more elongated and tighter with flatter bustlines. Women had to use undergarments to squeeze to compress their chests and create a smooth line for the bodice, mostly the corset was used. These under-bodices were made of paste-stiffened linen and given support by thin wooden planks called busks. Some were so ornate that it became popular to reveal the gorgeous underwear. Iron or steel was soon added to the under-bodice. By the 1530's iron corsets were worn by the upper class.

Catherine de Medici, married to the soon-to-be French king, Henry II, used her commanding presence to ban thick waists at court, requiring corsets be used. A naturally proportioned waist became a sign of the lower classes, something no upwardly mobile lady wanted. This made Catherine an iconic fashion figure of the era. She favored a 13 inch waist and small breasts, but was unable to attain these measurements herself. Through the 16th century women were squeezing themselves into corsets for a tubular torso with flat, lifted breasts. During the 1600's corsets trickled down to the working classes, who wore cast-off corsets from richer folk, or fashioned their own. These homemade garments were stiffened with easy to find materials such as reeds, wood strips or paste. As the busk grew in popularity the fashionable torso grew tighter and tighter, until women starting tightlacing their corsets to achieve an extra narrow ribcage and waist.

In the 17th century breasts were nearly completely exposed by low necklines. Changes to the corset brought about a lighter and softer feel, without the use of metal stays or iron, nor stiffened with whalebone, paste or reeds. In the middle of the 1700's the corset was lowered in front to help conceal the protruding breasts from their garments. Near the 1780's the column dress, modeled after the country dress worn by English gentry (*Pride and Prejudice*), was adopted by trendsetters such as the ladies of Europe's courts. The French wore these after the revolution and was a direct reaction against the excess of the French aristocracy. Hooped skirts and corsets were shed for lightweight frocks with empire waistlines that sat directly below the bustline.



Stays circa 1720



Short stays circa 1803

Most women wore a camisole style undershirt that offered some support without shaping or binding the breasts, ribs or waist. This fashion did not last long. Women were too used to having support for their chest that they went back to the corset by 1820. Waists became cinched thin, bosoms lifted, stiff and without movement, and hips were padded and encased in petticoat-supported skirts so full that women couldn't navigate through crowds. Fashion was moving toward the hourglass figure.

To create the hourglass figure that drew the attention of so many men, young women were cinching their laces tightly. Earlier corsets were laced up the back, which worked for ladies who had maids to help. The 19th century models laced up the front allowing women of all stations to wear them. Improved methods of manufacture and the invention of the sewing machine made mass produced corsets available to everyone, working and rural classes. Regardless of class women were achieving an ideal waist measured at 21 inches or less. "Your waist should be no bigger than your age," claimed a popular 19th century maxim. Tight lacing continued for the next hundred years as corsets continued through the mid 1800's, flattening breasts before pushing them up with the S-bend corset in the 1890's. The corset shaped the figure, but it also had a moral function, directing its wearer to exercise self-restraint and act in a ladylike manner. A female with "lax morals" and lacking the correct undergarments was known as a "loose woman."

In the late 19th century French corset-maker Herminie Cadolle invented the bra-like *Bien-Etre* (well being) bust supporter. The *Bien Etre* bodice supported breasts by incorporating shoulder straps, unlike traditional corsets. The device was marketed in France as a health aid, but missed widespread notice. Another shoulder strap prototype bra was patented in the United States in 1893, known as the *Breast Supporter*, and created by Marie Tucek. The garment included separate supportive cups for each breast and shoulder straps that fastened with hook and eye closures. It was similar to the demi-cup bras women wear today, which makes it one of the earliest prototype bras. It was not widely accepted during the years of the corset. The separate cups of the bra were referred to as "pockets" in the text of the patent



1878 corset

Magazines advocated lacing up young girls to ensure their feminine behavior. Whether it created this behavior is debatable, but it did create a large population of adult females with deformed ribcages and misplaced internal organs. Unable to expand their lungs enough to draw in sufficient oxygen, women regularly fainted. Internal organs were lacerated by broken ribs. To flatten the protruding belly caused by these out place organs, women wore the spoon busk, an industrial strength stiffened panel that sat against the stomach. Women often miscarried, and mothers were unable to breastfeed. Women even died from wearing corsets so frequently. Few men and women, known as reformers, protested the use of corsets and were often linked to the feminist movement. Others were physicians, religious types or people who were repulsed by the bound waist, immovable bust and impossibly full skirts of the day. As a fashionable figure was required at all times, it was necessary to have a corset for every occasion. This meant big business across the globe and during the 1890's, 433 corset designs were trademarked in France alone. The corset wouldn't be removed until early in the next century. In the 21st century corsets found a niche in the erotica market. By the end of the 19th century women were done with the uncomfortable, dangerous, stuffy and old-fashioned looking corset and were ready to let the waist loose and start concentrating on the bust.



*Rachelle Marquez*

## Tech Tips

SPRING TUNE-UP from the "Chatter" Calumet Region of MARC Newsletter, June 2006

### MODEL "A" THINGS TO LUBRICATE:

1. Horn (light weight oil only)
2. Hood hook springs (regular weight oil)
3. Hood Hinges (spray type oil†)
4. Door hinges (spray type oil†)
5. Door latch parts (spray type oil†)
6. Accelerator cross shaft bearings (regular oil)
7. Accelerator linkage ends (regular oil)
8. Carburetor shafts (regular oil)
9. Distributor linkage ends (regular oil)
10. Brake rod ends (clean with spray brake cleaner then oil with 600 wt. Oil)
11. Front and rear leaf springs (spray type oil)
12. Trunion on clutch (600 wt oil)
13. Clutch release arm shaft (regular oil where production grease fittings are absent)
14. Clutch trunion rod clevis pins (600 wt. Oil)
15. Clutch and brake pedal shaft bushings (regular oil where production grease fittings are absent)
16. Brake cross shaft bushings (regular oil)
17. Brake pedal to cross shaft clevis pins (600 wt. Oil)
18. Emergency brake clevis pins (600 wt. Oil)
19. Emergency brake cross shaft bushings on 1930-31 small shaft (600 wt. oil where production grease fittings are absent)
20. Emergency brake shafts in backing plates (regular oil)
21. Whenever brake drums are off, oil emergency brake shaft on inside of backing plate
22. Whenever front or rear brake drums are off, wash everything with brake cleaner then wipe all moving mechanical parts with white lithium grease
23. Spray levers inside car (light film of Vaseline)
24. Upper steering column brushing (regular oil)
25. Windshield wiper (regular oil for electrics, pneumatic oil for vacuum types)

† DO NOT USE WD40

from the Columbia Crier:

### **Dirty Spark Plugs**

When spark plugs are dirty, they demand a really good cleaning. You can take care of the job yourself by buying a bottle of household ammonia. Simply soak the plugs and they will emerge cleaner than san blasted ones. The ammonia loosens the deposits and floats them away.

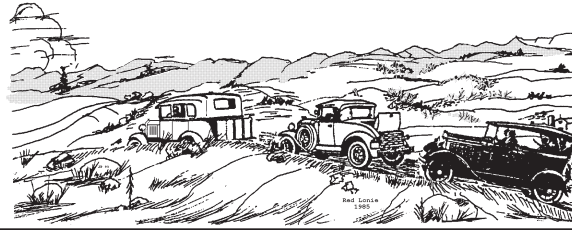
### **Driveway Cleaner**

A very effective and economical driveway degreaser is ordinary laundry spot degreaser, such as SPRAY N WASH or SHOUT. Spray it on the wet oil spot. After waiting about 30 seconds wash it off with water. For touch stains, brush the detergent into the spot and then hose it off.

*Steve Owsley*

## 2010 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

### IT'S THE JOURNEY! NOT THE DESTINATION!

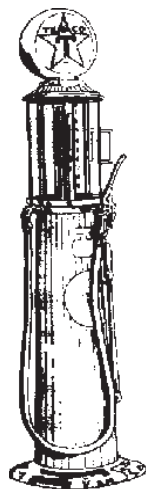


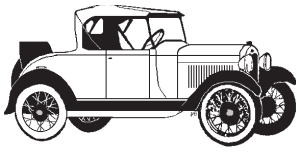
MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JAN	31	BARRY KINNEY	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH
FEB	20	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	CRAB FEED - MONTE CRISTO CLUB
MARCH	14	JEANINE & GUNARD MAHL	BILL ROSE'S MODEL A CRAB & STEAK FEED
APRIL	4	JEANINE & GUNARD MAHL	EASTER AT PACIFIC ROD & GUN CLUB
APRIL	10	KINNEY	GREEK CULTURAL PARADE & CELEBRATION
APRIL	25	BOB MARQUEZ	DREAM MACHINES - HALF MOON BAY
APRIL-MAY	30-2	KINNEY	SPRING SPEED WEEKEND - AUBURN, CA
MAY	16	KINNEY	FRIENDSHIP DAY - CAÑADA COLLEGE
MAY	31	CAPLAN	MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE - PRESIDIO
JUNE	19	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	ST. ANNE'S HOME - FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND
JUNE	27	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	PRIDE PARADE & PICNIC LUNCH
JUNE	27	PEDONE / PETERSON	PALO ALTO CONCOURS AT STANFORD
JULY	TBA	PEDONE/ PETERSON	DRIVE TOUR
AUG	TBA	KINNEY / CAPLAN	DRIVE TOUR
SEPT	TBA	SF MODEL A CLUB	GATSBY AFTERNOON - DUNSMUIR ESTATE OAKLAND
SEPT	12	KINNEY	ANTIQUE AUTOS HISTORY PARK - SAN JOSE
SEPT	24-26	CAPLAN / OWSLEY / MACHADO	OVERNIGHTER-MURPHYS-IRONSTONE CONCOURS
OCT	TBA	CAPLAN/OWSLEY	JIMMY'S OLD CAR PICNIC IN GOLDEN GATE PARK
NOV	7	GREG MARTINEZ	VETERAN'S DAY PARADE ON MARKET STREET
DEC	TBA	SF MODEL A CLUB	CHRISTMAS BANQUET - BASQUE CULTURAL CTR.

If you would like to lead a tour, please call **Steve Pedone** at **408-749-0469**  
We encourage Club Members to plan additional **driving tours** throughout the year.  
There is room for more than one activity or tour per month.

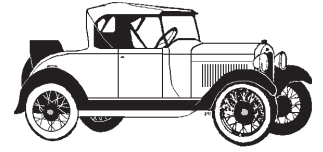
## 2010 Schedule of Events

Jan 30-31	Turlock Swap Meet
May 2	Santa Clara Valley Chapter's 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary "A Golden Day for our Model A's"
May 21-23	NCRG Round-Up in Sutter Hill, CA <a href="http://www.ncrgmafca.com">www.ncrgmafca.com</a>
Aug 1-6	MAFCA National Convention, Vancouver British Columbia, International Meet
Sep 20-26	Silicon Valley MARC-MAFCA Hub Tour - Santa Cruz - <a href="http://www.svmarc.com">www.svmarc.com</a>
Dec 8-11	MAFCA Annual Membership Meeting, Colorado Springs, CO





**San Francisco Bay Area Chapter  
Model A Ford Club of America  
March 11, 2010**



The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Barry Kinney. There were no guests. The minutes from the March meeting were approved as written.

**Reports of Officers**

**President:** The Crab feed was held Feb 20th at the Monte Cristo Club. This year it was a lot easier and we made money for our club and charity. We just need to fine tune a few minor things. Barry brought in some Remler radios for the club to look at. He gave a brief talk about them.

Barry moved and Gunard seconded the motion that the club spend \$150 to buy a CD player for the Monte Cristo Club. The motion passed. Barry would like an audit committee. As of now there is no approval process for money that is spent. Barry appointed Gary Barrango, Steve Pedone and John Zuffi to serve on the committee. Some one should check with Walter to see what he needs a month for supplies. The committee shall meet quarterly. Barry suggested we have some form of entertainment for the meetings.

**Vice President:** No report.

**Treasurer:** It was reported that the Crab Feed was a success and after expenses we will be able to make a substantial charitable donation again this year.

**Secretary:** No report.

**Editor:** The editor has threatened to quit numerous times. It was suggested that maybe we do the Choke Rod every other month, but do a flyer once a month.

**Tour Chair:** Easter at the Rod and Gun Club will be April 4th. It will be \$15 -- all you can eat. Contact Jeanine Mahl.

John Bettencourt is planning a firehouse tour. It will start at the Rod and Gun Club. We will tour about 12 firehouses and perhaps end up back at the Rod and Gun Club for a BBQ. Maybe we could invite others for a cost and make some money for the Club treasury. The rental of the Rod and Gun Club would be about \$200 or less. The tour will be in July or August.

Steve Pedone reported on the Palo Alto Concours. There will be an area for the club as a group. The date is June 27th. He also reported on the Hayes Mansion show. It will be August 28th.

The next monthly Meeting will be Thursday April 8, 2010 at the Monte Cristo Club at 7:30 pm.

Kathy Pedone will bring refreshments to the April meeting.

There was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by

*Joan Peterson, Secretary*

**SF Model A Club Monthly Meetings:** The meetings continue to be held monthly, the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm (please note that we are back to our fall/winter meeting time).  
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, April 8, 2010**

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



The Choke Rod  
is available online in color  
[www.sfmodelaclub.org](http://www.sfmodelaclub.org)



Photo by Kerry Fehlberg



## in this Choke Rod

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Fashion (page 4-5)

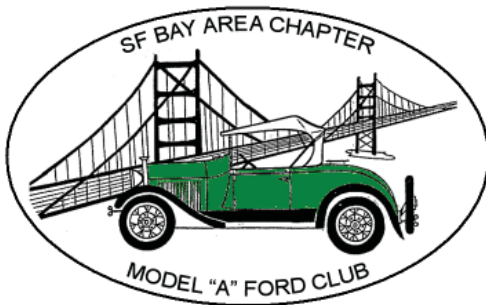
Tech Tips (page 5)

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### Inserts:

Spring Speed Weekend 2010 Auburn, CA  
Memorial Day at the Presidio



[www.sfmodelaclub.org](http://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

**APRIL MEETING**  
Thursday April 8, 2010  
7:30 pm - Monte Cristo Club  
136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)  
San Francisco