

The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

Volume 54, Issue 3

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

March 2010

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America

Crab Feed



Photo by Steve Owsley

the guys who made it all possible

see page 4 & 5

Upcoming Tours

Sunday, March 14 - Bill Rose Model A Crab & Steak Feed - Livermore

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

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 or mailed to Walter Caplan at 157 Warren Drive, San Francisco, CA 94131.

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EDITORS: Walter Caplan
Scott Williams

FASHION EDITOR: Rachele Marquez

PHOTO EDITOR: Kerry Fehlberg

TECH EDITOR: Steve Owsley

MEMBERSHIP: Walter Caplan

We are off to a good start.

The President's Brunch and short Tour of the Westlake District of Daly City in January were well attended and enjoyable (see bottom of page 3).

The Crab Feed in February was outstanding. John Zuffi and the Barrango family did most of the planning, purchasing, and preparation. Kathy and Steve Pedone and Joan Peterson were responsible for the outstanding raffle. Walter Caplan was in on the planning and organizational chores and Casey Martinez supervised our servers from St. Anne's of the Sunset School.

We also owe Ital Foods a big "Shout Out" for their contribution and support. And last but not least, a grateful thank you to club members who came to help: John Bettencourt, the Craig family, Jeanine Mahl, Mel Patsel, and Steve Owsley.

I won't see you at the March meeting and for this I apologize. One for three isn't bad by comparison to our crew of Vice Presidents. I will see you at the April meeting. I am putting together a small display of vintage radios from the thirties. If you have a small table top radio you would like to include, please bring it to the April meeting.

See you at the April 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.

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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*.

Tech Seminar

Adjusting the Brakes on Model A's

Coming later this spring

Date yet to be determined



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Dominic Marquez	March 1
Eve Patton	March 1
Al Thomas	March 5
Joan Peterson	March 7
Paula Escher	March 11
Laral Fioresi	March 13
Jennifer Grafelman	March 14
Allison Karr	March 14
Tom Escher	March 15
Robert Peterson	March 16
Josie Calabrese	March 19
Anabel Yuhas	March 23
Yafit Tuhas	March 27
Barry Kinney	March 31
Nick & Josie Calabrese	March 25

Refreshments at the February meeting were provided by
John Bettencourt.

Jeanine Mahl
will provide refreshments
at the March meeting.



7th Annual

Bill Rose Crab & Steak Feed

Sunday March 14

Mark your calendar and save this date. On March 14, Bill Rose will host his famous Crab and Steak feed. There will be Steak, Crab, Prawns, Oysters, and all the trimmings, including homemade ice cream. The cost is \$47.50 per person. Make your check out to Bill Rose.

Payment is due by March 1st.

See February insert for details.

You can book a room at the nearby La Quinta Inn, Livermore. 925-373-9600. Special room rates for Crab Feed Event until March 1st.

A past president update: Gary Barrango

Looks like Gary stepped down from the presidency just in time to celebrate the upcoming birth of his first grandchild – Janelle and Bryan surprised Gary and Cheryl recently with the big news.

We are all so excited as Janelle was a member of the Bay Area Chapter even before she was born 31 years ago, and was welcomed as their newest member in January 1979. And now the new Barrango/Frueh baby will be welcomed by the Bay Area Chapter in September 2010.

The President's Brunch is an opportunity for the Club to honor the outgoing President and to enumerate the accomplishments of his term in office. Sometimes you have to dig a little to come up with an accomplishment or two. Not this time. Gary Barrango has served more time and given more to the Club than any other President in memory.

The Club has become more active in recent years sponsoring a Car Show and Crab Feed. These events have given the Club momentum and increased membership. The number and quality of the tours has increased with the addition of several parades and overnighters like the tour to Ironstone. They have become well attended events.

We have a meeting place that is comfortable and safe with easy street parking. This by itself would be enough to put the President on the list of all time greats. However, the President cannot do it alone. He needs the support of a dedicated group of Club members. So, stay where you are. Don't touch that dial. Give the old new guy (me) some help. He needs all the support he can get just to break even.

December is the traditional month to elect officers and passing the gavel, the symbol of power and authority. This year January was the month. If you look closely at the picture on the cover of the January 2010 issue of the Choke Rod, Gary is handing a rubber mallet, not a gavel to our new President. Rubber is the new gavel material. It makes less noise when banged against the table and is therefore less likely to disturb conversations at various tables during our regular meetings

The day started at the Pacific Rod and Gun Club and proceeded through the Westlake District of Daly City, stopping at the Doelger Art Center at the Westlake School for the Performing Arts for a group photo at the bust of developer Henry Doelger (see photo on pages 6 and 7 of the January 2010 Choke Rod). Our procession of vehicles then drove on to Lake Merced and the Harding Park Golf Course, where we enjoyed an outstanding brunch at the Cypress Grill in the Harding Park Clubhouse.

Barry Kinney

Crab Feed

No one could have done it better than John Zuffi and a dedicated crew of club members and friends. About 80% of those present were repeat attendees. It was like one big happy family sitting down to eat dinner Italian style. Our servers from St Anne's of the Sunset School got cheers, high fives, and a little tip money from the crowd.



We had it all – starting with antipasto and finishing with panettone and ice cream. No one went home hungry. Our band, *Johnny B and the Speed Shifters* played tunes from the fifties including *All Shook Up* and *L'il Darlin'*. Thank the Calabrese family for signing these guys up.

The Crab Feed is presently our only opportunity to raise significant funds to support Special Olympics and Make-a-Wish Foundation.



Photos by Kathy Pedone



We had a lot of fun, met some wonderful people, and worked like banshees for a day or two – but it was an event that none of us will forget anytime soon.

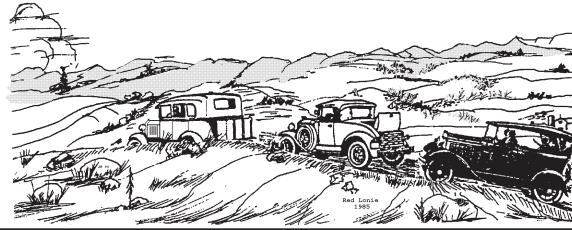
An old Italian saying best defines this event: It is around the table that friends understand best the warmth of being together.

Barry Kinney



2010 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

IT'S THE JOURNEY! NOT THE DESTINATION!

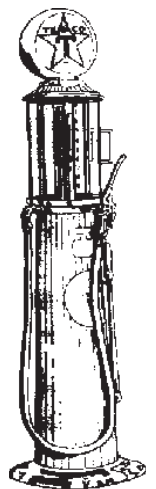


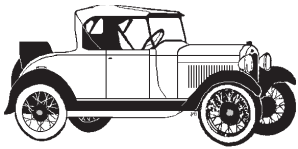
MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JAN	31	BARRY KINNEY	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH
FEB	20	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	CRAB FEED - MONTE CRISTO CLUB
MARCH	14	JEANINE & GUNARD MAHL	BILL ROSE'S MODEL A CRAB & STEAK FEED
APRIL	4	JEANINE & GUNARD MAHL	EASTER AT PACIFIC ROD & GUN CLUB
APRIL	10	KINNEY	GREEK CULTURAL PARADE & CELEBRATION
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.

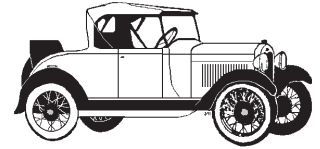
2010 Schedule of Events

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





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



The meeting was called to order at 7:50 pm by President Barry Kinney. Franz von Uckermann introduced his guest Karl Heinz from Switzerland. The minutes from the January meeting were approved as written.

Reports of Officers

President: The President's Brunch was held on January 31st. Walter led us on a short tour of the Westlake District of Daly City, stopping at a community center to have all our pictures taken in front of a bust of Henry Doelger. We had lunch at Harding Park Golf Course, where the gavel was exchanged.

The Crab feed will be Saturday February 20th at the Monte Cristo Club. Friday we will be marinating crab. Those that want to help should show up at 10 am. On Saturday morning we will need help with set-up as well. Be there at 10 a.m. There will be a live band upstairs and raffle prizes both upstairs and down.

Bob Craig volunteered to do a tech seminar. He said he needed to know a head count and what we want to talk about. If there aren't enough people he will not do it. There didn't seem to be a lot of interest, so we probably won't do it.

There will be an audit committee set up. Walter will submit a budget at the year end or at the start. It costs about \$300 a month to run the club. We need to go over everything. The Choke Rod is expensive to produce, so perhaps we should charge extra for a hard copy. Walter will send a letter to those who have not paid their dues.

Vice President: The Bill Rose Crab Fest will be an "on your own" event.

Treasurer: Walter gave the report for Steve. Steve will print out a form for what we spent last year, and a report for expenses and income.

Secretary: No report.

Editor: Walter said we needed a new current roster. He will have one soon.

For The Good Of The Order: John Bettencourt is planning a tour of the old firehouses from San Francisco to Sausalito. It will be in June or July.

Barry brought in a board of old tools for the group to look at and try to guess what they are used for. He also played a tape of Johnny B and the Speed Shifters, the band that will play at the Crab Feed.

The next monthly Meeting will be Thursday March 11, 2010 at the Monte Cristo Club at 7:30 pm.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 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)

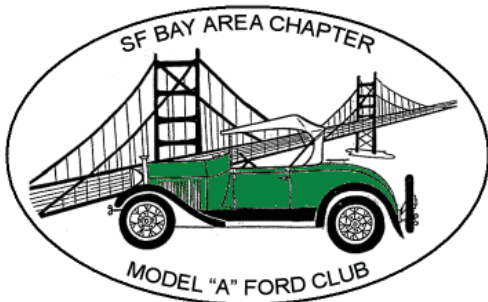
The next scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, March 11, 2010

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



www.sfmodelaclub.org

in this

Choke Rod

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Inserts:

MAFCA Million Mile Challenge

Pacific Coast Dream Machines

National Model A Ford Museum Raffle

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
Model A Ford Club of America
PO Box 31387
San Francisco, CA 94131-0387
415-621-0500

How Times Have Changed - Automotive Repair in 1928

Dear Sir:—

We're writing this letter to you today because we want to help you get your money out of your Model T.

It's still as good a car as it was the day the new Model A Ford was announced and there's no need to sacrifice it.

The Model T Ford is still used by more people than any other automobile. Eight million are in active service right now and many of them can be driven one, two, three and five years and even longer.

Bring your car to us and let us look it over. You'll be surprised to see how little it costs to put it in tip-top shape.

New fenders, for instance, cost from \$3.50 to \$5.00 each, with a labor charge of \$1.00 to \$2.50. Tuning up the motor and replacing commutator case, brush and vibrator points costs only \$1.00, with a small charge for material. Brake shoes can be installed and emergency brakes equalized for a labor charge of only \$1.25. A labor charge of \$4.00 to \$5.00 will cover the overhauling of the front axle, rebushing springs and spring perches, and straightening, aligning and adjusting wheels.

The labor charge for overhauling the average rear axle runs from \$5.75 to \$7.00. Grinding valves and cleaning carbon can be done for \$3.00 to \$4.00.

A set of four new pistons and rings cost only \$7.00. For a labor charge of \$20 to \$25.00 you can have your motor and transmission completely overhauled. Parts are extra.

Very truly yours,

Bottineau, N. Dak.

C. R. GLEASON CO.