

The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

Volume 56, Issue 9

MAFCA Certificate of Merit 2005 through 2010

September 2012

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America



Photo by Walter Caplan

El Camino Real Centennial
see pages 6 & 7

Upcoming Tours

Sunday September 9 - Antique Autos History Park - San Jose

Saturday September 15 - Oktoberfest with the Marin A's - San Rafael

Friday-Sunday September 21-23 - Ironstone Concours D'Elegance - Murphys, CA

Saturday September 29 - Jimmy's Old Car Picnic - Golden Gate Park

Sunday October 7 - Columbus Day Celebration - Northbeach

Official Publication of the
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
MAFCA

President's Message

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WE ARE INVITED: The Marin A's have once again invited our Club and several other local Model A clubs to their OKTOBERFEST at the Marin Rod and Gun Club on Saturday September 15. See the announcement in this month's Choke Rod for the meeting place and time. However we will most likely meet at the Pacific Rod and Gun Club at 9:30 am for a running board breakfast, and then leave for Marin at 10 am. Lets see how many A's we can get together for this event. I count at least four, maybe five Model A's. We need a head count. If you do not have an A or you drive a more modern classic, you are still welcome. So, if you plan to come, let us know now – this very minute!

MURPHYS is on the horizon. This is the Ironstone Concours Car Show. Let us know if you plan to attend. This is always a great event. It is the only overnighter planned for the year. Pack a bag. We have a dinner scheduled for Saturday night. We will journey up on Friday and return home Sunday.

That's it.

See you at the September meeting on Thursday September 13.

Barry Kinney

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.

TOUR CHAIR: Gary Barrango
EDITORS: Walter Caplan
Scott Williams
TECH EDITOR: Steve Owsley
MEMBERSHIP: Walter Caplan

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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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*.

Marin A's Oktoberfest Saturday, September 15 Marin Rod & Gun Club - San Rafael

The Marin A's have invited the Napa A's, the Sonoma A's, and the SF Bay Area Chapter to their 2012 Oktoberfest at the Marin Rod and Gun Club in San Rafael.

The Marin A's request you bring your Model A (if possible), hat, sunscreen, sweater (could be warm, could be foggy), camera, and any adult drinks you may want. Food and drink (water and soda) provided by the Marin A's. There is no cost - we are guests of the Marin A's.

We will meet at the Pacific Rod & Gun Club at Lake Merced at 9:30 am for a running board breakfast, and depart at 10 am for San Rafael and Oktoberfest.

Last year we all had a great time.

See insert in this issue of **The Choke Rod**.

37th Annual 28th Avenue Block Party Sunday October 14

Club members and their families are invited to 28th Avenue between Lincoln Way and Irving Street. The street will be blocked from 8 AM to 9 PM. It is a POT LUCK – bring an appetizer, a salad, a hot dish, OR a dessert TO SHARE. Bring your beverage of choice – in case what is here runs out!! If you drive your old car, you can enter from Lincoln Way and park on 28th. Otherwise, you have to find parking elsewhere nearby. Lunch and game times will be provided closer to the event. FIREBOWL in the Mahl driveways after dark when the barricades come down.

Plan for cold after dark (remember it is San Francisco), and bring a chair (with your name on it).

Call Jeanine Mahl for more information. 415-664-2056



Birthdays & Anniversaries



Kevin Richardson	September 11
Judy O'Brien	September 13
Victoria A. Costa	September 15
Jenny Jump	September 16
Ken Kling	September 22
Christina DeMartini Reyes	September 22
James & Daisy Young	September 18
Robert & Nina Petersen	September 28

Overnighter to Murphys Ironstone Concours d'Elegance Friday - Sunday, September 21 - 23

By popular demand, for a sixth 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.

Tour Leader: Barry Kinney 415-282-2789

Columbus Day Celebration 2012 Italian Heritage Parade Sunday October 7

San Francisco's 144th Annual Italian Heritage Parade on Sunday, October 7, as the City's oldest civic event and the nation's oldest Italian-American parade and community celebration, will wind its way from Fisherman's Wharf to North Beach. A San Francisco institution since it was established in 1868, the 2012 Parade is promising to be bigger, better and more colorful than ever.

Highlights include dozens of handcrafted parade floats featuring Bay Area businesses, community groups, and Italian organizations; local high school Italian clubs and marching bands; special appearances by "Christopher Columbus" and Queen Isabella and Her Court; festive open-air dining and Italian wine and food specials at North Beach restaurants lining the Parade route; performances by a variety of traditional Italian musicians and performance artists; and special appearances by Bay Area and Italian-American celebrities. The Columbus Day celebration is local, lots of fun, and puts a few dollars in our treasury. If you are interested in being part of our contingent, contact Gary Barrango at 650-572-1142 or 415-821-2628.

Refreshments at the August meeting were provided by
Gary Barrango

Mike Cuneen
will provide refreshments
at the September meeting.





With winter just around the corner, it's time to preview the latest fashions for a well dressed gentleman to take his "lady" for a rumbleseat ride in the country.

One must remember that topcoats will be the order of the day when riding in an open Ford in the winter. Our gentleman model has selected a heavy wool, single breasted overcoat, while he sports a soft felt hat.

When looking for hats to complete your fashion ensemble, be alert for the wide sweat band as well as the wide brim, as seen in the store window photo.

No doubt our model is wearing one of the three style suits shown on display. Note that all three are pin stripe which is always in vogue. Undoubtedly the double-breasted could be considered the most popular and in demand. The single breasted number boasts a matching vest. (To check on correct year look inside the coat pocket for manufacturing date).

Take a close look at the accessories displayed; the plain wooden cane, collar clip and mute colored ties. Be ever alert for cap toed shoes to complete your era outfits.

We must not leave this scene without reassuring the ladies that a lovely wool coat with a stunning fur collar would make any drive with "your fella", a dashing affair. The cloche felt worn by the lady pictured is the latest in millinery styles for 1929.



Don Schade

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Harker



Like father, like son! Steve Harker may have missed the fun days of the '30's by a generation but he has his own time capsule-a 1929 Model A Roadster Pickup. In June, he invited a group from his own Whittier Chapter to step back in time as he took Mary Boyles as his bride at Buena Park, California. Seeing the old Model A's in the wedding procession and harking back to his own union in days of yore, Steve's father, National President Ernie Harker beamed approvingly.



Reprinted from *The Restorer*, Sept-Oct 1975, Volume 20, Issue 3

Floor Jack Safety

Protect yourself with *floor jack safety* knowledge. This is one topic that brings back a bad memory. When I was just a kid growing up my neighbor was killed by his own vehicle that slipped off of the floor jack and landed in his lap.

He was performing a brake job and trying to save a few dollars by doing it himself. Not following **standard safety protocols** cost him his life.

This was in part because he did not take the time to put a couple of jack stands that he already owned under the vehicle. I personally prefer to use ramps and only lift a vehicle at home with a floor jack when it is completely necessary

Floor jack and jack stands safety

When I do my own oil changes, I scoot under the vehicle and do not use a floor jack at all. I only perform this lifting of the vehicle activity when it is absolutely necessary and always use extra jack stands for safety.

Yes a vehicle can be raised off the ground by a **hydraulic floor** jack safely. At the lifting end of the jack is what is called the lifting pad.

The pad must be positioned under an area of the vehicle's frame or at one of the manufacturers recommended lifting points. Your owner's manual will list safe jacking points in a few different areas but is usually included in the spare tire section.

Never place the lifting pad under the floor pan or under steering and suspension components. These areas may look strong enough to hold a lot of weight but are not.

Not only can these parts be damaged by the weight of the vehicle but when they let loose can cause severe injury to you. **Floor jack safety 101**. Never use a hydraulic floor jack to move something heavier than it is designed for.

Always check the rating of the floor jack and also the jack stands to be used on the vehicle. Then verify that the vehicle weight is below this rating. The (GSV) gross vehicle weight is in your owner's manual and also on the driver's side front door jamb of most automobiles. Safety stands also called jack stands are supports of various heights that sit on the floor. Make sure the surface they sit on is strong, flat and level.

Concrete is preferred and blacktop areas could be unsafe due to softness. I use 1 1/2 inch thick plywood under the



jack stands on black top areas so they do not sink into the surface.

Safety stands are placed under a sturdy chassis member, such as the frame or axle housing to support the vehicles weight.

Once the safety stands are in position, the hydraulic pressure in the jack should be slowly released until the weight of the vehicle is on the stands. Like floor jack's safety stands also have a capacity rating. Always use a jack stand of the correct size and weight rating.

Floor jack safety tips

Never put yourself under a vehicle when only a hydraulic jack supports it. Rest the vehicle on the safety stands before moving around the vehicle.

The recommended reason for removing the hydraulic floor jack after it is safely supported on the stands, is that this will eliminate a hazard such as a jack handle sticking out into a walkway.

A hydraulic floor jack handle that is bumped or kicked can cause a tripping accident and also cause the vehicle to fall. Because of my bad experience with floor jack safety as a child I believe in using **several redundant backups** when lifting a vehicle and removing wheels and tires.

I own an extra sets of jack stands. I would rather be safe than sorry and take the extra minute or two to slide a few extra jack stands under the vehicle just in case something happens. Again my number one piece of advice is if you can get away with not lifting the vehicle then do not lift the vehicle.



Steve Owsley

El Camino Real Centennial



More than fifty old cars and lots more than a hundred old people, along with some younger ones, gathered along El Camino Real at San Bruno City Hall on Tuesday morning August 7th to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the creation of the first California State Highway, which amazingly was the segment of El Camino Real between San Bruno and Burlingame. After a number of speeches from dignitaries, including members of Congress, state legislators, county and local elected officials (the usual suspects), the spectacular collection of old cars paraded down the El Camino Real to Washington Park in Burlingame where we enjoyed a picnic lunch in the summer sunshine, surrounded by a beautiful collection of old and antique cars tastefully parked on the spacious park lawns.

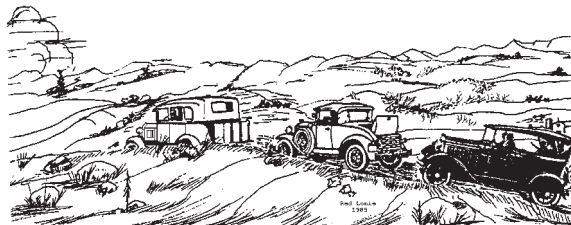
Walter Caplan





2012 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

It's THE JOURNEY! NOT THE DESTINATION!

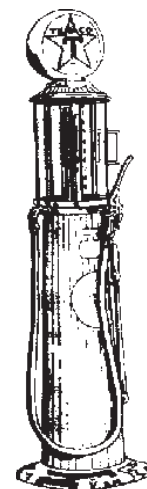


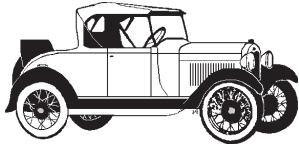
MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JAN	29	BARRY KINNEY	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH
MARCH	3 SATURDAY	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	CRAB FEED - MONTE CRISTO CLUB
MARCH	17 SATURDAY	THUNDERBIRD CLUBS	A DAY AT THE RACES
MARCH	24 SATURDAY	KINNEY	GREEK CULTURAL FESTIVAL
APRIL	27-29	KINNEY	SPRING SPEED WEEKEND - AUBURN, CA
APRIL	28-29	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	DREAM MACHINES - HALF MOON BAY
MAY	19 SATURDAY	THUNDERBIRD CLUBS	ANNUAL T'BIRD MIGRATION - RICHMOND
MAY	20	KINNEY	FRIENDSHIP DAY - CAÑADA COLLEGE
MAY	28 MONDAY	CAPLAN	MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE - PRESIDIO
JUNE	16 SATURDAY	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	ST. ANNE'S HOME - FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND
JUNE	24	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	PRIDE PARADE - SAN FRANCISCO
JULY	7 SATURDAY	KINNEY	CANCER AWARENESS SHOW, CAMPBELL, CA
AUG	7 TUESDAY	MID-PENINSULA OLD TIME AUTOS	EL CAMINO CENTENNIAL - SAN BRUNO
SEPT	9	KINNEY	ANTIQUÉ AUTOS HISTORY PARK - SAN JOSE
SEPT	15 SATURDAY	MARIN A'S	ANNUAL "OKTOBERFEST" CELEBRATION
SEPT	21-23	CAPLAN / OWSLEY / MACHADO	OVERNIGHTER MURPHYS-IRONSTONE CONCOURS
SEPT	29 SATURDAY	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	JIMMY'S OLD CAR PICNIC IN GOLDEN GATE PARK
OCT	7	BARRANGO	COLUMBUS DAY PARADE
OCT	14	MAHL	37 TH ANNUAL 28 TH AVENUE BLOCK PARTY
NOV	11	GREG MARTINEZ	VETERAN'S DAY PARADE ON MARKET STREET
DEC	1 SATURDAY	CAPLAN / KINNEY	SFPD ANNUAL CABLE CAR PULL - AQUATIC PARK
DEC	8 SATURDAY	SF MODEL A CLUB	CHRISTMAS BANQUET - BASQUE CULTURAL CTR.

If you would like to lead a tour, please call **Gary Barrango** at **415-821-2628**
We encourage Club Members to plan additional *driving tours* throughout the year.
There is room for more than one activity or tour per month.

Schedule of Events 2012

Jan 28-29	Turlock Swap Meet
Mar 22-25	Model A's are Swell in 2012 - Laughlin NV, Pomona Valley Model A Club
May 25-27	NCRG Roundup hosted by the Sonora A's - www.ncrgmafca.com
Jun 14-19	Northwest Regional Group Meet - Boise Idaho
Dec 9-12	MAFCA Annual Membership Meeting & Awards Banquet Charleston, SC - Host Palmetto A's





San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
Model A Ford Club of America
August 9, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 pm by President Barry Kinney. There were no guests. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written.

Reports of Officers

President: The Activities Chairman for the Institute on Aging needs about three or four cars on Monday September 10. The cars would be on display for about an hour starting at about 1 pm. This would be a photo op for the seniors. • The rooms at the Murphy's Hotel will be held until September 15. Gary will arrange dinner at the golf course. • The Oktoberfest will be Saturday September 15. • We will have a pasta feed at the Monte Cristo Club. It will be held on the day of the October meeting (October 11). John Zuffi will bring the food. • The Columbus Day Parade will be Sunday October 7.

Vice President: No report

Treasurer: The treasurer reported that she had paid some bills and also made deposits. We will give the \$1,500 to the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Secretary: No report

Editor: Walter needs articles for **The Choke Rod**.

Tour Chair: The Holiday party will be held on Saturday December 8.

For The Good Of The Order: Walter went to the El Camino Centennial and parade in San Bruno and Barry bought a Thunderbird. It is a black 1957 with red and white interior.

Gary Barrango brought the snacks this month and Mike Cuneen will bring them next month.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

The next monthly Meeting will be Thursday September 13 at the Monte Cristo Club at 7:30 pm.

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.
The location is the Monte Cristo Club at 136 Missouri Street in San Francisco.
The meeting place is located in a 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 13, 2012

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

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

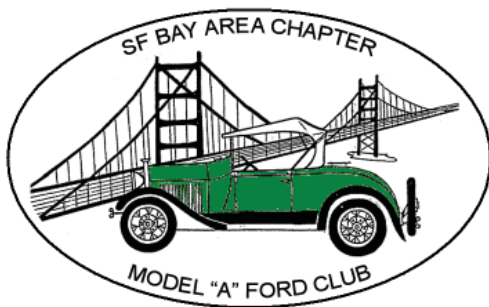


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Inserts:

- Oktoberfest with the Marin A's
- Jimmy's Old Car Picnic
- Antique Autos - History Park - San Jose



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

SAVE THE DATE
Saturday September 15, 2012
Oktoberfest with the Marin A's

Our website has been completely redesigned. We hope you like it's brand new look. Be sure to to check it out at www.sfmodelaclub.org

SEPTEMBER MEETING
Thursday September 13, 2012
7:30 pm - Monte Cristo Club
136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)
San Francisco