

# The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

Volume 57, Issue 8

MAFCA Certificate of Merit 2005 through 2010

August 2013

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America



Photo by Frank Cheng

## Pride Parade

pages 4-5

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## Upcoming Tours

Sunday September 8 - Antique Autos - History Park, San Jose

Friday-Sunday September 27-29 - Ironstone Concours d'Elegance - Murphys, CA

Sunday October 13 - Columbus Day Parade - San Francisco

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

Jeanine Mahl

#### 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.

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

Scott Nealey's Choke Rod article did a great job chronicling our adventures on the Lincoln Highway. I, unfortunately, had more adventure than I wanted. Scott's dad, Stan, come to my rescue more than once. I am actually looking forward to having the Bent Rod Award home again. I know Charlie wants to keep it. He was afraid to bring it to the last meeting for fear he would be forced to give it up.



We recieved a nice note form Jerry Nieto thanking the Club for our contribution to the Weingarten School for the Deaf. He also noted that the Oberkotter Foundation had matched our contribution making the total a tidy sum. Our contribution will certainly help change the lives of children the school serves.

We are looking forward to Ironstone. All of our rooms at the Murphys Inn are spoken for. There may be some rooms avilable in Angel's Camp or other towns nearby. If you are not staying with us at Murphys Inn, let us know so that we can include you in the Saturday night banquet.

I am trying to put together a Lincoln Highway/South Western Tour for 2014. We will go as far as Kearney, Nebraska on the Lincoln Highway and then loop down through Kansas, Oklahoma, West Texas and return over the southern route through New Mexico and Arizona. This will not be a tour for the faint of heart.

See you at the August 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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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*.

## Overnighter to Murphys Ironstone Concours d'Elegance Friday - Sunday, September 27 - 29

By popular demand, for a seventh 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.

A limited number of hotel rooms have been reserved by Barry Kinney for club members. If you reserve one of the Club rooms, you will be obligated for two nights. No exceptions.

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

**Tour Leader: Barry Kinney**

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## Columbus Day Celebration 2013 Italian Heritage Parade Sunday October 13

San Francisco's 145<sup>th</sup> Annual Italian Heritage Parade on Sunday, October 13, 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 2013 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.

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

**Barry Kinney**  
will provide refreshments  
for the August meeting



## Lincoln Highway/Southwest US Tour September/October 2014

A Lincoln Highway/Southwest US tour is being planned for late September and early October of 2014. The Plan is to follow the Lincoln Highway as far as Kearney Nebraska and then turn South on I-35 through Kansas and Oklahoma and then West through Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. Most of our tour will follow Highways 80, 8 and 10 but much of the tour will be on back roads through parts of the country you would never normally see or visit. The tour will take about two weeks and cover about three thousand miles. So, if you decide to come along, bring the most reliable vehicle you have and leave the Model A behind.

Like the Lincoln Highway Tour we did this year, you are welcome to do the entire tour or just the part that appeals to you. Highlights will include: Middlegate Station NV, Stokes Castle in Austin NV, Keyhole Bar in Eureka NV, Ibabah Trading Post in Ibabah UT, Fort Bridger State Historic Site, Virginian Hotel in Medicine Bow, Lincoln Theater and Plains Hotel in Cheyenne, Guthrie National Historic Site, Western Heritage Museum in OKC, Chickasaw Cultural Center, International UFO Research Center in Roswell NM, Historic Mesilla NM, War Eagles Air Museum NM and Carlsbad Caverns National Park.

The entire list of sites and stops is at least twice as long. Barry will be driving this route in October this year and he will have a detailed schedule prepared in time for our December meeting. An alternative route would be to turn West in Oklahoma City and come home over old Route 66. This would shorten the trip by about two days and 500 miles. If you are interested, call Barry at (415) 282-2789 and let him know which route you like best. He is open to suggestions.

**Tour Leader: Barry Kinney**



## Birthdays & Anniversaries



Gunard Mahl	August 2
Gary Barrango	August 4
Nick Craig	August 7
Bob Craig, Jr.	August 8
Susan Bettencourt	August 8
Jack Hart	August 14
Jack Hart	August 14
Maria Asuncion Young	August 15
Bev Kling	August 16
Colleen Rosenblat	August 16
Zack Rosenblat	August 24
Tom Machado	August 27
Jack Green	August 31

Barry Kinney & Coragine Savio	August 9
Gary & Cheryl Barrango	August 26
Dan & Tracy Bowermaster	August 27

# Everyone Loves a Parade!

This year's Pride Parade proved it. Market Street was thick with people - there were so many bodies lining the Parade route that there wasn't a square inch of unoccupied standing room. Estimates are that far in excess of one million people turned out to observe the Parade and celebrate the US Supreme Court's marriage equality decisions. The SF Model A Club was positioned near the front of the Parade - we were contingent 39 out of over 260 entrants. Our contingent consisted of ten cars, a respectable showing for the San Francisco Model A Club. Our group of seven Model A's included the Scott Nealey family, Andrew Bright and his daughter, Tom and Terry Machado who drove all the way from Stockton early that morning, Gunard and Jeanine Mahl, Walter Caplan and Gordon Miller driving the Red and White fleet pick-up, Steve Owsley and Jack Green driving Walter's sedan, and Barry Kinney with Tom Mullins and Bob Farina and his daughter Becky, as well as Todd Sucey in his '65 Thunderbird, Wilder Ceplo in a '67 Mustang, and Stuart Fong and his daughter Lauren in a Cobra. Each car sported a large club logo and sign on the door advertising us as the San Francisco Model A Ford Club.

When the parade began Walter led us onto Market Street behind Scott William's Volvo convertible which was carrying San Francisco philanthropist Alvin H. Baum, who was honored as the Pride Parade's Lifetime Achievement Grand Marshal.

The crowd lined the sidewalk from curb to storefront. As we proceeded up Market Street the enormous crowd became more and more enthusiastic. The crowd greeted us with waves, wide smiles, cheers, catcalls, hand signals, and numerous compliments. We returned the enthusiasm with our distinctive honking horns (ah-ooga), the Red and White pick-up police siren, as well as waves and smiles of our own. We traveled the parade route in about a half hour's time and then turned south and headed for our traditional picnic site at the UCSF campus in Mission Bay, just south of the AT&T ballpark off of Third and Sixteenth Streets.

Walter brought Molly Stone sandwiches and a variety of salads and side dishes and sodas. Beer, fine wine, and great champagne were contributed by Scott Nealey, Arnie and Annise Brokstein and Fred and Kathy Allen. We lunched at our usual spot, shaded in trees on artfully crafted park benches and chairs. The afternoon winds were diverted by large attractive modern steel and glass buildings which are coming together to make up the new Medical Campus of the University of California. And to our relief, all this is just a short walk from clean nearly new rest room facilities.

We enjoyed our lunch, congratulated ourselves on a job well done, and spent the remaining afternoon in casual conversation. Once again a great time was had by all.

*Walter Caplan*



Photos by Frank Cheng



Top row photos by Frank Cheng





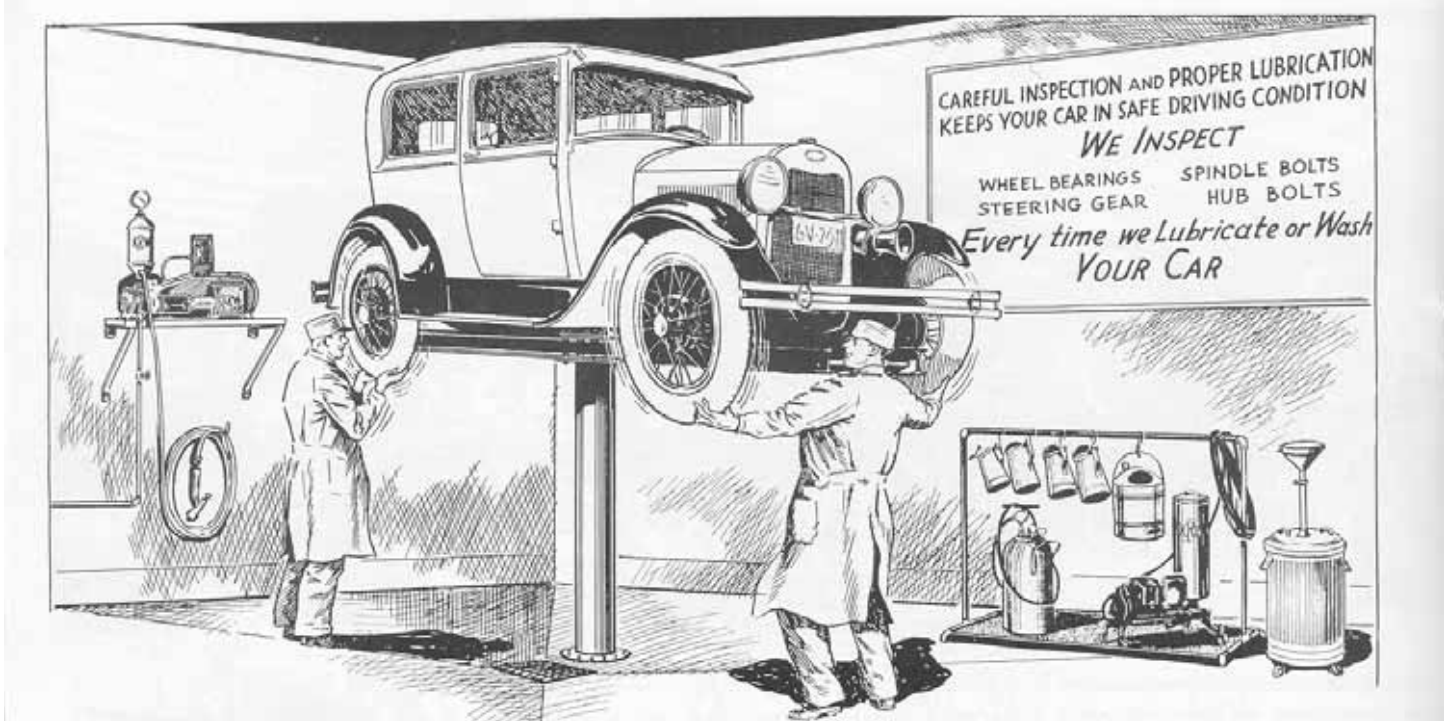
Lounging apparel, not to be confused with sleeping apparel, is shown in varied styles, fabric and colors. Silk, satin, pongee and crepe are the most popular material used for these leisure ensembles. Bright colors are featured often along with a combination of pastels, solid and patterned fabrics.

Loose sleeves, usually raglan, emphasize the casual look in the coat while the pajama is sleeveless. As a general rule the legs are very wide at the bottom, sometimes measuring 22 inches around. Contrasting trim is often used to accent the collar and sleeves giving to greater detail.

The loose, casual affect is the key in the line of demarcation between the informal and casual and the free-and-easy suggestion comes from this general overall appearance. Many times the Oriental touch is seen in lounging apparel, especially the beach coat which is a "cousin" to our featured garments.



## This Inspection May Prevent a Serious Accident



Now that summer is here, we will be getting the old cars out for some tours and activities. The State of California does not require owners of antique automobiles have an annual state inspection. What this means, you are solely responsible for the condition of your antique car. Now how would one become a responsible and prepared motorist? It simply means you must performed the necessary inspection and preventive maintenance to prevent any unfortunate occurrences. You might ask, what should I look for during an inspection of my Model "A"?

- Horn, does it work and work every time you push the button?
- Lights, do all the lights work including the brake lights and directionals if you have them installed?
- Wiper, does the wiper work and is (are) the blade(s) in good condition?
- Tires, are they fully inflated and in good condition? Are the warning bars showing? Are the front tires wearing unevenly? Are the tires weather checked? Spare full of air?
- Brakes, jack up the car and check brake adjustment using the stick method. Does the parking brake hold the car on a hill?
- Front end, While the car is on jacks check the front end for any loose parts. If there is excessive play in the king pins replace them. Check pitman arm tie rods, wheel bearings and steering wheel for excessive play.
- Battery cables and terminals should be cleaned and secured.
- Rear end, Make sure the rear wheels have no up or down play indicating a worn hub and bearings. Rotate the wheels and listen for excessive bearing or gear noises.
- Check the exhaust system for holes, leaks, a broken hanger, and exhaust manifold cracks.
- Are there any coolant leaks or excessive oil dripping ?
- Has the oil been changed this year?
- Have you greased the fittings in the front end, rear end, brakes, water pump, clutch, etc.
- Oil the distributor, generator, horn, door hinges and accelerator linkages.
- Check your tools and spare parts that you should carry.
- Check your fan belt and hoses for cracks and swelling.
- Check the clutch for excessive or not enough travel.
- Check your transmission, steering sector, and differential oil. Change it if you haven't done it in a few years.
- Is there any broken glass or lenses that needs to be replaced?
- Headlight adjustment, are your lights searching for the sky or pointing too low? Are the reflectors in clean shiny condition?
- Inspect your fan blade for cracks and belt for tension.

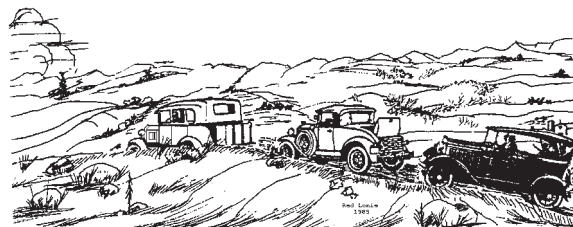
As you can see there are these and other areas on your car that need occasional attention to keep you antique car in top notch condition.

Happy Motoring.

*Peter Crosby*

## 2013 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

It's THE JOURNEY! NOT THE DESTINATION!



MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JAN	27	BARRY KINNEY	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH
FEBRUARY	2 SATURDAY	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	CRAB FEED - MONTE CRISTO CLUB
APRIL	6 SATURDAY	CAPLAN	NIKE MISSILE SITE - MARIN COUNTY
APRIL	7	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	GREEK CULTURAL & FESTIVAL - CIVIC CTR, SF
APRIL	27-28	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	DREAM MACHINES - HALF MOON BAY
MAY	3-5	KINNEY	SPRING SPEED WEEKEND - AUBURN, CA
MAY	13 MONDAY	KINNEY	WEINGARTEN SCHOOL TOUR - REDWOOD CITY
MAY	19	KINNEY	FRIENDSHIP DAY - REDWOOD CITY
MAY	27 MONDAY	CAPLAN	MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE - PRESIDIO
JUNE	15 SATURDAY	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	ST. ANNE'S HOME - FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND
JUNE	23-24	KINNEY	LINCOLN HIGHWAY CENTENNIAL TOUR
JUNE	30	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	PRIDE PARADE - SAN FRANCISCO
SEPT	8	KINNEY	ANTIQUE AUTOS HISTORY PARK - SAN JOSE
SEPT	27-29	CAPLAN / OWSLEY / MACHADO	OVERNIGHTER MURPHYS-IRONSTONE CONCOURS
OCT	13	BARRANGO	COLUMBUS DAY PARADE
OCT	19 SATURDAY	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	JIMMY'S OLD CAR PICNIC IN GOLDEN GATE PARK
OCT	TBA	MAHL	38 <sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL 28 <sup>TH</sup> AVENUE BLOCK PARTY
NOV	11	CAPLAN / KINNEY	VETERANS DAY PARADE ON MARKET STREET
DEC	TBA	CAPLAN / KINNEY	SFPD ANNUAL CABLE CAR PULL - AQUATIC PARK
DEC	14 SATURDAY	SF MODEL A CLUB	CHRISTMAS BANQUET - BASQUE CULTURAL CTR.

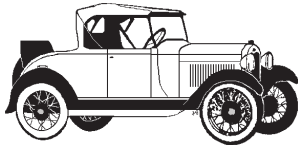
If you would like to lead a tour, please call **Gary Barrango** at **415-821-2628**  
We encourage Club Members to plan additional *driving tours* throughout the year.  
There is room for more than one activity or tour per month.

## Schedule of Events 2013

Jan 26-27	Turlock Swap Meet
Jan 27	SF Model A Club President's Brunch
Feb 2	SF Model A Club Annual Crab Feed
Mar 21-24	Model A's are to be Seen in 2013 - Laughlin NV, Pomona Valley Model A Club
May 3-5	Lake County A's - "Back to our Teens in 2013" 19th Annual Spring Opener
May 24-27	NCRG Roundup hosted by the Acorn A's in Pleasanton - <a href="http://www.ncrgmafca.com">www.ncrgmafca.com</a>
Sep 3-8	Northwest Regional Group Meet - Bend Oregon
Dec 4-8	MAFCA Annual Membership Meeting & Awards Banquet, San Antonio, Texas







**San Francisco Bay Area Chapter**  
**Model A Ford Club of America**  
**July 11, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 pm by President Barry Kinney. There were no guests. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written.

**Reports of Officers**

**President:** Ironstone Concours will be Friday - Sunday September 27th-29th. We have 6 rooms reserved. The rest are all sold out. • Barry purchased some items for the Crab Feed raffle from an estate sale. If anyone has items they would like to donate see Joan or Jenny. • Barry has pictures from the Lincoln Highway Tour and Father's Day at St. Anne's Home. We will try to show them when someone is here who can operate the VCR. • The Thunderbird Regional Convention will be July 31st- August 4th in San Jose. • Nell Richmond won the Jim Steiner Memorial Trophy at the Palo Alto Concours with her '62 T-Bird. • The Giants game trip has been cancelled due to lack of interest/participation. • Barry reported on the Lincoln highway Tour. They had a nice lunch at the Banta Inn and stopped at a museum in Elk Grove. They spent the night in Sacramento. They visited the Auto Museum then went on to their last stop, Auburn. Barry is now the proud owner of the Bent Rod Award. He achieved a trifecta. Once for a flat tire, second for a brake problem, and third for an ignition problem. His T-Bird went home on a tow truck.

**Vice President:** No report

**Secretary:** No report

**Treasurer:** Jeanine reported that she has a catalog for patriotic stuff if anyone is interested. • She gave a report on the club accounts. • Jeanine does not want to pay the bank \$3 a month to get copies of checks. The club voted not to pay the \$3. Jeanine will make copies of the checks herself. • Jeanine will check on the number of paid members and make a report next month.

**Editor:**

**Tour Chair:** No report

**For The Good Of The Order:**

Jeanine Mahl brought refreshments. Barry Kinney will bring refreshments for the August meeting. There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm. The next monthly meeting will be Thursday August 8 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, August 8, 2013**

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



## in this Choke Rod

President's Message .....	page 2
Club News .....	page 3
Pride Parade.....	pages 4-5
Fashion .....	page 6
Tech .....	page 7
Tours & Schedule of Events .....	page 8
Meeting Minutes.....	page 9

Insert:  
Model A For Sale



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

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Model A Ford Club of America  
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415-621-0500

**AUGUST MEETING**  
**Thursday August 8, 2013**  
**7:30 pm - Monte Cristo Club**  
**136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)**  
**San Francisco**