

# The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

Volume 58, Issue 3

MAFCA Certificate of Merit 2005 through 2010

March 2014

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America



Photo by Steve Owsley

## 2014 Crab Feed

see page 6

### Upcoming Tours

- Saturday March 15 - St. Patrick's Day Parade - San Francisco
- Sunday April 27 - Greek Cultural Parade & Festival - San Francisco
- Sunday April 27 - Pacific Coast 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: [modela@pacbell.net](mailto: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  
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## President's Message

Our biggest event of the year is history and what a delight it was. The crowd was bigger than ever and John Zuffi and our kitchen staff topped expectations. We broke records for ticket sales and dinners served. The quality, content, and number of raffle prizes was even better than in previous years. By every measure our 2014 Crab Feed was a tremendous success. Our success will translate into a generous contribution to our charities.

A number of Club members contribute a considerable amount of time and energy to this project and I want to thank them all for their unselfish effort. In addition, we need to keep in mind that the Monte Cristo Club is key to our success. I will express our appreciation in letter to their Board of Directors. However, considering what the Monte Cristo club does for us, this seems a little insufficient. I think the Model A Club owes the Monte Cristo Club a little more than just a letter.

We have completed and confirmed travel reservations on Amtrak for our members traveling to Michigan over Labor Day. Reservations after March 1, 2014 will be difficult to make. If you decide you would like to come along, we will make every effort to accommodate you. However, your options for travel accommodations will be very limited.

If you're interested in driving in the St. Patrick's Day parade on Saturday, March 15, call me (see page 3 for details).

I will be out of town in March, so I will 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.  
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*.

## San Francisco St. Patrick's Day Parade Saturday March 15

In the U.S., St. Patrick's Day isn't only for citizens with Irish heritage. The American version of St. Paddy's Day is a non-exclusive celebration of all things Ireland, complete with Guinness, bagpipes, and Irish Dancing.

SF St. Patrick's Day Parade & Festival is the Bay Area's fun and festive spin on the March holiday and has taken place since 1851. The parade – which normally starts at 2nd and Market Street – features youth organizations, schools, and labor unions from San Francisco's Irish community.

Following the parade, a festival is traditionally held at Civic Center Plaza in front of City Hall. The festival gives guests an opportunity to learn more about Irish culture and trade with exhibitions and business booths, but also provides plenty of fun with Irish dancing, beverages, and scrumptious grub.

The SF St. Patrick's Day Parade & Festival is free to attend, but make sure to show up early if you want a spot along the parade route. The Civic Center Plaza and most locations on the parade route are accessible by rail, so no need to drive.

If interested in driving in the parade contact Barry Kinney at 415-647-7077 or 415-282-2789.



## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Dominic Marquez	March 1
Eve Patton	March 1
Al Thomas	March 5
Joan Peterson	March 7
Paula Escher	March 11
Allison Karr	March 14
Jennifer Grafelman	March 14
Tom Escher	March 15
Robert Peterson	March 16
Josie Calabrese	March 19
Heather Hart	March 25
Johanna Bettencourt	March 29
Barry Kinney	March 31
Nick & Josie Calabrese	March 25

Refreshments at the February meeting were provided by  
**Barry Kinney**

**Victoria Acosta**  
will provide refreshments  
at the March meeting



## Greek Cultural Parade & Festival Civic Center, San Francisco Sunday April 27

The Hellenic Cultural Parade celebrates a long history: the 193<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of Greek independence, dating to when rebels began their fight for independence after centuries of occupation by the Ottoman Empire.

Sunday April 27 – Parade and Festival in Civic Center Plaza - includes great Greek food and dance

**Contact:** Walter Caplan - 415.621.0500 and/or whcaplan@comcast.net

They want our cars – hopefully six or more – we will be near the front of Parade and there will be a display area at the festival site for us to display our vehicles after the Parade

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## Pacific Coast Dream Machines Half Moon Bay Sunday April 27

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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## Great Michigan Ford Extravaganza Train Tour Saturday August 30 - Sunday September 7

For complete tour details see page 7.

Pre-register now to assure  
your accommodations on this tour.

Contact Barry Kinney at:  
415-647-7077 or 415-282-2789.





Edie Jones

Once again we devote this column to those members active in Model A era fashion competition, the winners at the 1978 MAFCA International Meet. With the exception of reproductions, these outfits and accessories are original – actually made in the late 1920's and early 1930's. Thus it is not surprising that the competition is often typified by formal wear.

**Winners at the 1978 MAFCA International Meet**

Best-of-Show:	Thoral & Rosemary Kenner	Oakdale, Ca.
Children:		
1st	Heather Johnson	Placentia, Ca.
2nd	Julie Peace	Charlotte, NC.
Ladies Daytime	Sharon Johnson	Placentia, Ca.
Ladies Evening:		
1st	Dorothy Curry	Modesto, Ca.
2nd	Elisabeth Riesbeck	Flushing, NY
3rd	Ethel Diller	Council Bluffs, Ia.
Men's Daytime:		
1st	Marshall Lewis	Empire, Ca.
2nd	Joe Curry	Modesto, Ca.
3rd	Mel Hodde	Atwater, Ca.
Men's Evening	Alex Leventini	Modesto, Ca.
Specialty	Bill Jones	San Jose, Ca.
Reproduction	Nina Westerholt	North Carolina



First Men's Daytime: A brown pin-stripe suit, grey fedora, two-tone shoes, cane and other authentic accessories make up Marshall Lewis' outfit.



Second Men's Daytime: Joe Curry models a daytime sports outfit of the Model A era. Trophy presentations were made by John Dingle, meet chairman



First Men's Evening: This classic, new Tuxedo, bowler hat, silver tipped cane, original shirt, suspenders, etc. won for Alex Leventini.



Best-of-Show: Thoral Kenner wears a blue pin-stripe suite with grey fedora hat. Rosemary is outfitted in a navy blue dress of 1929, with bias cut flounces, accented with a cloche hat, gloves, fur boa, and beaded purse.

# Model A Parts

The Following parts Are Available for your 28-31 model A Ford through your local Napa Auto Parts Store *Most parts may have to be orderd PRICES as of 1/2014*

<b>PART</b>	<b>Part Number</b>		<b>Brand</b>
<b><u>(Electrical)</u></b>			
Points	CS30	\$18.99	Echlin (original)
Points	CS751	\$22.77	Echlin (modern)
Condenser	FA5	\$11.88	Echlin
Rotor	FA3	\$10.77	Echlin
Spark Plugs	561(w16y)	Call	Champion
Spark Plugs	3X cha429	\$22.44 ea.	Champion (special order)
Coil ( 6 VOLT )	MPE IC7SB	\$16.09	Mileage Plus Electrical
Coil ( 12 VOLT )	IC14	\$37.99	Echlin ( w/built in resistor )
Stoplight Bulb ( 6 volt )	1129	\$1.99	Napa Lamps
Taillight Bulb (12 volt )	89	\$1.69	Napa Lamps
Stoplight Bulb ( 12 volt )	1073	\$1.99	Napa Lamps
Battery ( 6 volt )	7200	NA	Exide
Battery ( 12 volt )	843578	CALL	Exide
<b><u>(Engine)</u></b>			
Overhaul Gasket Set	fs7013c	\$75.69	FelPro
Head Gasket	7031c	\$43.77	FelPro
Intake/Exhaust Gasket	fpg MS2388S	\$8.96	Fel Pro
Oil Pan Gasket	fpg 0s30912c1	\$8.99	Fel Pro
Valves Intake	sep v130	\$23.62	Sealed Power
Valve Springs	SEPBVS71	\$3.92	Sealed Power
Valve Seat Insert (int)	218-8535	Call	Napa Engine
Valve Seat Insert ( exhaust )	218-7535	Call	Napa Engine
Piston ( std. )	224-2625	Call	Napa Engine (also avail. .080 over )
Piston Pin Bushing	223-3316	Call	Napa Engine
Cylinder Repair Sleeve	SEP SL20Y	\$87.44	Sealed Power
Piston Rings	506	\$47.49	Perfect Circle
<b><u>( DRIVE TRAIN )</u></b>			
Clutch Pilot Bearing	6203-2RSJ	\$14.16	Napa Bearing
Clutch Release Bearing	N1087	\$35.84	Napa Bearing
<b><u>( WHEELS )</u></b>			
	Timken #	Napa #	
Front Wheel Bearing (inner)	15118	BR 19118	\$22.97
Front Wheel Race (inner)	15250	15250 X	\$13.09
Front Wheel Outer Bearing	09074	BR 09074	\$24.09
Front Wheel Outer Race	09196x	09196 X	\$10.59
<b><u>MISC</u></b>			
Fan Belt	NBH 2520426	\$16.31	Napa Belts & Hoses
Radiator Hose Upper	NBH 611	\$15.99 Per Foot	Napa Belts & Hoses
Radiator Hose Lower	NBH 613	\$18.01 Per foot	Napa Belts & Hoses
King Pin Set	RPC 30107	\$176.49	Rare Parts Chassis
Tie Rod/Drag Link springs & caps	RPC 26193	\$62.15	Rare Parts Chassis

# Crab Feed

Again this year we filled the Monte Cristo Club to the rafters with Crab Lovers. There were twelve tables upstairs and twenty two tables downstairs with eight to ten people at each. We fed well over half a ton of crab to approximately 275 people. I think this must be a participation record. This was a great turnout considering that we don't advertise this event.

John Zuffi and the kitchen staff worked their magic again. We had a great crew of waitresses and our two dish washers worked very hard. Again this year the Raffle Prizes were outstanding and raffle tickets sold like hot cakes. Thanks to Jenny and Joan. Walter and friends did a great job with Registration and Al did an excellent job with the announcements and calling the raffle ticket numbers with the assistance of three of our young guests. We had very little trouble hearing over the din of laughter, cracking crab, and clanging of glasses.

Once again the Model A Club received an award from the organizers of the Columbus Day Parade. We and our cars were judged the best entrant in the parade. This was the fourth time in four years the Club has won this award. Lets do it again this year.

Two guests, Jerry and Andrea Nieto, joined us. They were representing the Weingarten School for the Deaf, our charity this year.

Tom and Terry Machado were able to make this event. They are long time Club members who live in Linden near Stockton. We greatly appreciate their willingness to come a considerable distance to participate. Club members Dave and Marilyn Chiotti came from Santa Rosa along with a gang of their friends.

We also owe Jeanine and Gunard Mahl and Nell Richmond for hosting tables at our signature event, The Crab Feed. Lastly, we want to thank John Zuffi and Ital Foods their contribution and participation. Ital Foods contributes many of the food items used in the antipasto and salads served at the beginning of the dinner. All of these items are imported from Italy. In addition they purchase several tables for their employees. John and Ital Foods contribute greatly to our success and ultimately to our charity.

*Barry Kinney*



Photos by Steve Owsley





# Great Michigan Ford Extravaganza Train Tour

## Saturday August 30 - Sunday September 7

**THE TRAVEL PLAN:** Our train, the California Zephyr, will leave Emeryville on Saturday August 30, 2014 and arrive at Chicago's Union Station just after lunch on Monday September 1. Time spent on the train totals approximately 52 hours. Once in Chicago after a brief layover we will transfer to a commuter train for the two hour ride to Kalamazoo and the Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners, home of the National Model A Ford Museum.

On Tuesday we will spend the day at the campus of the Gilmore Car Museum which consists of the Classic Car Club of America Museum, the Pierce-Arrow Museum, the Tucker Historical Collection and Library, the Midwest Miniatures Museum, the Franklin Collection, the Cadillac-LaSalle Club Museum, and of course the National Model A Ford Museum.

On Wednesday morning we will visit the Kalamazoo Air Zoo, which features more than 50 rare and historic aircraft, Full-Motion Flight Simulators, as well as historical exhibits and educational activities. Wednesday afternoon we will travel on to Dearborn, and check-in to the historic Dearborn Inn, built by Henry Ford, and a short distance from the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village.

On Thursday morning we will visit the Rouge River Plant, built at a cost of two billion dollars, where each 10 hour shift of 900 workers produces sixty F-150 Ford trucks every hour – one a minute. Then we shuttle by bus a short distance to the Henry Ford Museum for lunch and a tour of the Museum.

On Friday we will spend the day visiting Greenfield Village. On Saturday we will attend the 64th annual Old Car Festival in Greenfield Village. Sunday September 7 we will fly home to San Francisco. This is a preliminary outline and scheduling may change a little between now and August 2014 – but not by much.

**THE CALIFORNIA ZEPHYR – AMTRAK:** Our trip will begin at the Ferry Building in San Francisco, from where we will be bused across the Bay to Emeryville. There we embark on one of the most beautiful train trips in all of North America. After boarding the train and settling in, we will pass through Sacramento, climb over the Sierras before sunset, then on through Reno and Salt Lake City. We will cross the Rockies late Sunday afternoon, pass through Denver, then coursing through the plains of Nebraska, and arrive in Chicago Monday just after lunch. You can elect to reserve a roomette or bedroom in one of the Superliner Sleeping Cars. Three meals a day are included in the price of each ticket, with seating in the dining car for meals arranged by your sleeping car porter.

**GILMORE CAR MUSEUM:** The Gilmore Car Museum began in 1963 as the hobby of Donald S. Gilmore when his wife gave him an antique car for his birthday – a 1920 Pierce Arrow "project car". With the help of friends a full restoration followed. This hobby soon grew into a collection of over 30 automobiles. Mr. Gilmore purchased 90 acres of farm property and had several historic barns dismantled piece by piece and moved to the site. Today, the site includes eight historic barns, a re-created 1930's service station, a small town train station, and nearly three miles of paved roads. One of North America's largest displays of automotive hood ornaments and name badges can also be found there.

**NATIONAL MODEL A FORD MUSEUM:** The all-new Model A Ford Museum is a 13,000 square foot re-creation of a vintage Ford dealership. Complete with service bay and gas pumps (showing 18 cents a gallon). It is the largest public museum dedicated to the Model A Ford in existence. The Museum provides MAFFI (the Model A Ford Foundation) a permanent home for its collection of automobiles, display engines, and artifacts including factory photos, blueprints and research materials.

**AIR ZOO:** The Air Zoo, founded as the Kalamazoo Aviation History Museum, is an aviation museum and indoor amusement park. The Air Zoo holds many historical and rare aircraft, including the world's fastest

air-breathing aircraft, the SR-71B Blackbird. Many of its antique planes are airworthy. Among its other attractions are a 180-degree theater that projects a 4-D simulation of a B-17 bombing mission during World War II; and various amusement rides, including flight simulators of a rocket trip to Mars, U.S. Navy F/A-18 Hornets, a stunt biplane, a hot air balloon, and more.

**THE HENRY FORD:** The Henry Ford (also known as the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, and more formally as the Edison Institute) is a large indoor and outdoor history museum complex in the Detroit suburb of Dearborn, Michigan. Named for Henry Ford, and based on his desire to preserve items of historical significance and portray the Industrial Revolution, the property houses a vast array of famous homes, machinery, exhibits, and Americana. The collection contains many rare exhibits including John F. Kennedy's presidential limousine, Abraham Lincoln's chair from Ford's Theatre, Thomas Edison's laboratory, the Wright Brothers' bicycle shop, and the Rosa Parks bus.

**HENRY FORD MUSEUM:** Henry Ford Museum began as Henry Ford's personal collection of historic objects, which he began collecting as far back as 1906. Today, the 12 acre site is primarily a collection of antique machinery, pop culture items, automobiles, locomotives, aircraft, and other items.

**ROUGE RIVER PLANT:** The Ford Rouge Factory Tour is a first-hand journey behind the scenes of a modern, working automobile factory. Boarding buses at the Henry Ford Museum, visitors are taken to the River Rouge Plant and Dearborn Truck Plant – an industrial complex where Ford has built cars since the Model A and which once employed 100,000 people. The tour offers unique experiences with full walking access above the factory assembly area.

**GREENFIELD VILLAGE:** The Henry Ford is the largest indoor-outdoor museum complex in America. Patrons enter at the gate, passing by the Josephine Ford Memorial Fountain and Benson Ford Research Center. Nearly one hundred historical buildings were moved to the property from their original locations and arranged in a "village" setting. The museum's intent is to show how Americans lived and worked since the founding of the country. The Village includes buildings from the 17th century to the present, many of which are staffed by costumed interpreters who conduct period tasks like farming, sewing and cooking. A collection of craft buildings such as pottery, glass-blowing, and tin shops provide demonstrations while producing materials used in the Village and for sale. Greenfield Village has 240 acres of land of which only 90 acres are used for the attraction, the rest being forest, river and extra pasture for the sheep and horses.

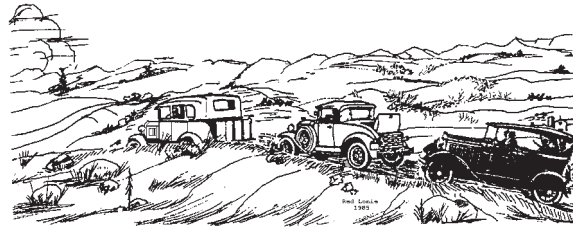
**64th OLD CAR FESTIVAL:** The Old Car Festival is America's longest running antique car show and is a true spectacle as the streets and grounds of Greenfield Village are filled with the sights, sounds, and smells of hundreds of authentic vehicles from the 1890's through 1932. We'll enjoy a self-guided tour through this fabulous exposition and talk to proud owners about their treasured vehicles. We'll watch drivers engage in games of skill, see a Model T assembled in just minutes, attend fascinating presentations, and sit back and enjoy experts sharing "car talks" while vintage vehicles pass by.

**ESTIMATE OF COSTS:** We roughly estimate the trip to cost between \$3000 and \$3500 per person. The trip organizers will work hard to get group rates and room discounts. Travelers may want to make their own reservations for the return trip to take advantage of air miles or points or other discounts awarded by the airlines to frequent flyers.

Note: We will be able to schedule train and planes as far as nine months before the departure date. Better rates and fares will be available to us the sooner we formalize our plans.

## 2014 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

It's THE JOURNEY! NOT THE DESTINATION!

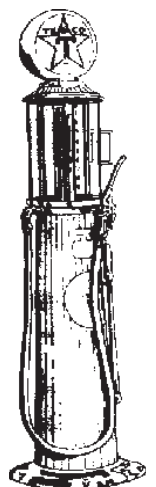


MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JAN	12	BARRY KINNEY	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH
FEB	8 SATURDAY	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	CRAB FEED - MONTE CRISTO CLUB
MARCH	15 SATURDAY	BARRY KINNEY	ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE - SF
APRIL	27	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	GREEK HERITAGE PARADE - CIVIC CTR, SF
APRIL	27	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	DREAM MACHINES - HALF MOON BAY
MAY	4-5	KINNEY	SPRING SPEED WEEKEND - AUBURN, CA
MAY	18	KINNEY	FRIENDSHIP DAY - REDWOOD CITY
MAY	26 MONDAY	CAPLAN	MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE - PRESIDIO
JUNE	14 SATURDAY	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	ST. ANNE'S HOME - FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND
JUNE	29	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	PRIDE PARADE - SAN FRANCISCO
SEPT	14	KINNEY	ANTIQUE AUTOS HISTORY PARK - SAN JOSE
SEPT	26-28	CAPLAN / OWSLEY / MACHADO	OVERNIGHTER MURPHYS-IRONSTONE CONCOURS
TBD	TBD	MAHL	38 <sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL 28 <sup>TH</sup> AVENUE BLOCK PARTY
OCT	13	BARRANGO	COLUMBUS DAY PARADE
OCT	TBD	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	JIMMY'S OLD CAR PICNIC IN GOLDEN GATE PARK
NOV	10	CAPLAN / KINNEY	VETERANS DAY PARADE ON MARKET STREET
DEC	TBD	CAPLAN / KINNEY	SFPD ANNUAL CABLE CAR PULL - AQUATIC PARK
DEC	13 SATURDAY	SF MODEL A CLUB	CHRISTMAS BANQUET - VAL'S - DALY CITY

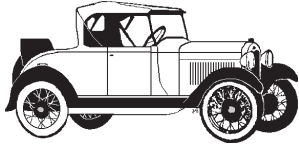
If you would like to lead a tour, please call **Gary Barrango** at **415-821-2628**  
We encourage Club Members to plan additional **driving tours** throughout the year.  
There is room for more than one activity or tour per month.

## 2014 Schedule of Events

Jan 12	SF Model A Club President's Brunch
Jan 25-26	Turlock Swap Meet
Feb 8	SF Model A Club Annual Crab Feed
March 9-14	MAFCA National Tour, Texas Hill Country, host Alamo A's
Mar 23-25	NCRG Roundup hosted by the Santa Clara Valley A's - <a href="http://www.ncrgmafca.com">www.ncrgmafca.com</a>
July 14-18	MAFCA National Convention, Puyallop, Washington, hosted by Gallopin' Gerties of Tacoma







**San Francisco Bay Area Chapter  
Model A Ford Club of America  
February 13, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Barry Kinney. Joe Higgins, a potential new member, was a guest. He has a '29 Roadster and is a friend of John Bettencourt. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written.

**Reports of Officers**

**President:** The crab feed this year was one of the best ever. ♦ There will be a meeting for those interested in the Michigan Extravaganza after the regular meeting. ♦ There is no tour set up for March as yet.

**Vice President:** Gunard bought a four door sedan. ♦ Gunard brought up some safety issues he noted at the crab feed.

**Secretary:** No report

**Treasurer:** Jeanine reported on the bank balances for the club account and the crab feed account. ♦ Jeanine moved that we set a limit of 250 people for the crab feed and that we raise the price to \$55. The motion was seconded and passed. ♦ Jeanine moved that there be no refunds for the Christmas banquet. This was seconded and passed.

**Editor:** Walter always needs **Choke Rod** articles. ♦ Walter moved that we have the Christmas banquet at Val's again and have the same type of party as last year. It was seconded and passed.

**Tour Chair:** No report

**For The Good Of The Order:** No report

Barry Kinney brought refreshments. Victoria Acosta will bring refreshments for the March meeting. There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm. The next monthly meeting will be Thursday March 13 at the Monte Cristo Club at 8:30 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, March 13, 2014**

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
Fashion .....	page 4
Tech .....	page 5
Crab Feed.....	page 6
Great Michigan Ford Extravaganza.....	page 7
Tours & Schedule of Events .....	page 8
Meeting Minutes.....	page 9



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

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Model A Ford Club of America  
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**MARCH MEETING**  
**Thursday March 13, 2014**  
**7:30 pm - Monte Cristo Club**  
**136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)**  
**San Francisco**