

The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

Volume 59, Issue 12

MAFCA Certificate of Merit 2005 through 2010

December 2015

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America



Photo by Walter Caplan

Lonely 'A' Waiting for the Winter Rains

Upcoming Tours

Saturday December 5 - Brave the Bay - Aquatic Park, San Francisco

Saturday December 12 - Christmas Banquet - Val's Restaurant, Daly City

January 2016 - President's Brunch - Date and Time to be Announced

Saturday February 20, 2016 - Annual Crab Feed - Monte Cristo Club, San Francisco

Official Publication of the
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
MAFCA

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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

President's Message

The Crab Feed is scheduled for Saturday February 20, 2016. For a while it looked like we might not have a crab feed. The start of the season has been delayed because west coast crab had been declared unsafe to eat. However it looks like the crab are recovering and should safe to eat by the first of January. Register early. The Crab Feed is always sold out by the end of December.



Brave the Bay, the SFPD fund raiser for Make-A-Wish Foundation, is on Saturday December 5 at the Buena Vista Cafe near Aquatic Park. Come early. Get there before 7:30 am. Any later and it will be crowded and a seat for breakfast in the Buena Vista will be hard to find.

I don't have a date set in January for the President's Brunch but I will announce the time and place at the Christmas Party. Those who don't attend the party will get an e-mail or an invitation in the mail.

See you at the Christmas party on Saturday December 12 at Val's in Daly City.

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
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*.

Christmas Banquet

Our Christmas Banquet will be full of fun and excitement. There will be a gift exchange and a raffle you won't want to miss. Jenny promises to provide fancy table decorations as well as party favors. Along with your unwrapped children's gift for Toys for Tots, bring a fun, funky, or fabulous wrapped gift. Bring a gift to get a gift. Use your imagination: what kind of treasure can you find for \$10 or less?

The Christmas Banquet will be Saturday, December 12 at Val's Restaurant in Daly City.

For details see the insert in this month's Choke Rod.

Brave The Bay Saturday December 5 Aquatic Park

On Saturday December 5 we will join Brave the Bay (formerly known as the SFPD Cable Car Pull) at Aquatic Park, benefiting the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Jeanine Mahl will be there to present our club donation to Make-A-Wish. Club members should bring their Model A's, breakfast at the Buena Vista Cafe, and join the morning activities.

<http://sf.wish.org/news-and-events/calendar-of-events/internal-events/sfpd-challenge>

President's Brunch

January 2016

Club perpetual president Barry Kinney is planning a tour to go along with our annual President's Brunch in January. The tour plans are not yet finalized. Information as to the date, time, and complete tour details will be published in the January Choke Rod. Additionally club members will be notified by e-mail.

Election of 2016 Officers

Elections for the 2016 officers were held at the November Meeting on Thursday November 13.

The officers for 2016 are:

President:	Barry Kinney
Vice Presidents:	Tom Escher Gunard Mahl Greg Martinez
Secretary:	Joan Peterson
Treasurer:	Jeanine Mahl
Tour Chair:	Gary Barrango
Editors:	Walter Caplan Scott Williams
Membership:	Walter Caplan

Refreshments at the November meeting were provided by **Joan Peterson**



The SF Model A Club will provide dessert at the Christmas Banquet.

Crab Feed

at the Monte Cristo Club
Saturday February 20, 2016

Doors open at 5 pm
Dinner Service begins 6:30 pm
Raffle - 50/50 Raffle - No Host Bar
antipasto, salad, pasta, crab,
French bread & butter, dessert
\$60 per person

Look for the reservation form in this issue of the Choke Rod.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Donald Parsons	December 2
David Berelson	December 6
Melanie Marie Patsel	December 9
Steve Karr	December 14
Frank O'Brien	December 18
Bob Faber	December 24
Paul DeMartini	December 30
John FB Zuffi	December 31

Dave & Marilyn Chiotti	December 2
Steve Owsley & Jack Green	December 17



The aim of intimate garments in all periods of dress has been to reveal or shape figure proportions which answer the standards of contemporary fashion. The effect of the outer garments depends greatly on their foundation for line. When straight lines have been the mode, and flat, boyish figures have been the aim, the cut of the undergarments has been such as to furnish a foundation figure which answers the demand. In a twinkling, the caprice of fashion might present very feminine designs. Presto! by the cut of the foundation garment the molded, rounded bust and hips would be revealed or illusioned.

Like a movement in a circle, the style of the outer garment controls the cut of the undergarment, which in turn determines apparent proportions and contours of the figure.

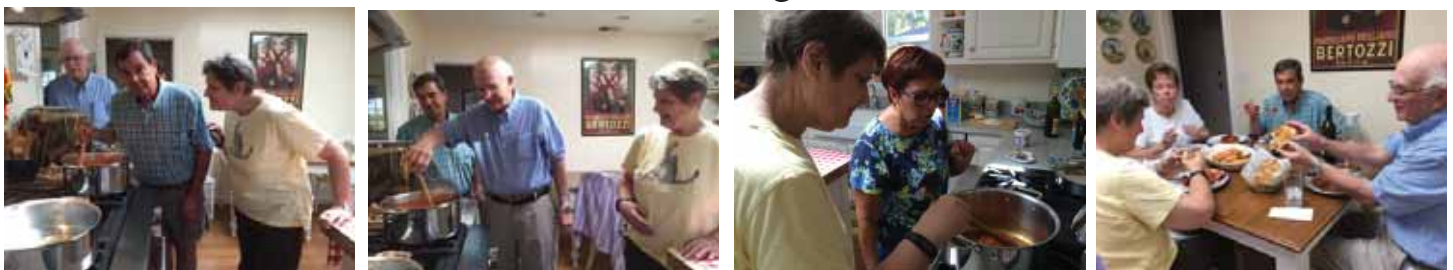
The thought of unity of outer and undergarments should not stop with cut. The foundation, in its color, fabric, and degree of elegance and decoration should conform to the ideation of the gown. This rule would demand three types of undergarments. To illustrate: If the lady should select for the formal evening occasion a black marquisette gown, she probably would choose black undergarments in harmony with the gown. The intimate apparel could be varied according to the taste of the lady. It could appropriately be lace-encrusted, or of the utmost plainness as to decoration; of the most skillful cut, either in the two-piece or the one-piece style; but elegance or fineness or richness of fabric would be the inevitable choice for the formal evening ensemble.

With a cotton-print house-dress, the intimate apparel would conform in the quality of simplicity - no elegance of texture, no elaborateness in decoration. All utility clothes would demand the same tailored undergarments in practical fabrics.

Lord Chesterfield's maxim can wisely be applied to the choice of undergarments in their relation to the outer garments which they accompany. "Be plain where others are plain; be fancy where others are fancy."

Reprinted from *The Restorer*, Mar-Apr 1982, Volume 26, Issue 6

Joan's Really Cookin'



At last year's Crab Feed, our secretary, Joan Peterson, won the cooking lesson raffle prize. She could bring three guests. Joan brought Jill Schwab and Don Hamblin from the Thunderbird Club, and John Bettencourt from the SF Model A Club. Mary Tresmontan invited the group to her home in San Mateo. She taught the group about all the different pastas, olive oils, and fresh herbs. She then showed the group how to make the red sauce from the Crab Feed. After the sauce was finished they sat down to a beautiful lunch consisting of pasta, garlic bread, a salad, and a meat dish. Everyone had a great time. The person who won it the year before and did not take advantage of it lost out big time.

Scott Williams

Hand Cranking – Safe and Easy

Starting a Model A with the hand crank was once as common as driving one. It seems hand cranking has become nearly a lost art over the decades. Following a few basic rules, hand cranking is perfectly safe and quite simple. The hand crank should be one of the most useful tools in your toolbox!

The following list outlines the procedures for starting your Model A with the hand crank. The specifics apply to a properly tuned engine. Some variations may be required and are discussed later.

- Set the emergency brake and be sure the shifter is in neutral.
- Retard the spark by raising the left (spark) lever to the top of it's quadrant.
- Lower the throttle lever approximately three notches, or until the gas pedal lowers very slightly.
- Adjust the mixture on the dash to the setting appropriate for the conditions.
- With the ignition OFF, hold the choke out (fully closed). This will require either a helper, a pull cord from the lever on the carburetor to the front of the vehicle, or one of those modern undersized and sticky choke rod grommets.



Always grip the crank with the thumb wrapped below with the fingers
NEVER push the crank down the right side of the rotation!

Carefully position the crank in place engaging the ratchet with the crank left of center in the lower of the two possible positions. Grasp the crank as shown in the photo above, paying close attention to the thumb position below the handle. Pull the crank to the top briskly but carefully. Repeat with a second pull.

At this point there should be gas running slightly from the carburetor to the floor.

- Release the choke and turn ON the ignition.
- One more pull of the crank and the engine should start. NEVER push the crank down the right side of the rotation with the key on!
- Advance the spark lever about half way down the quadrant and adjust the throttle speed.

Other considerations: Although there is no serious risk of injury when handling the crank as shown, it's startling when a kickback occurs. Most kickbacks occur when the choke is closed. The probability varies depending on the position of the crank ratchet relative to top dead center. Leaving the switch off during the choking step almost eliminates the chance of kickbacks.

With a low battery the engine will fire more quickly by hand than with the starter because the starter isn't starving the ignition system.

Variations: The car should start similar by hand as it does with the starter. For example, using the starter I always start my cold A's with the choke pulled for exactly two compression strokes or one turn of the crankshaft. At that point I release the choke and the engine fires. I NEVER hold the choke until it fires as suggested in the "Model 'A' Instruction Book".

If your car REQUIRES the choke to be held more than two compression strokes with the starter, you may need to adjust step #6 similarly.

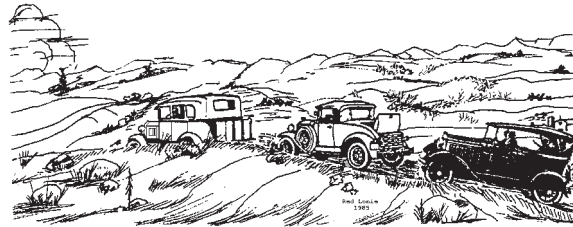
Experiment with a good battery so if you have difficulty starting, you can use the starter to determine if the problem is too much or too little gas. Be conservative with the choke. It is much easier to repeat the process than to hand start a flooded engine. A flooded engine is guaranteed to provide more exercise than you desire!

If your hand crank binds when inserted through the starting crank bushing and into the crank ratchet, don't crank start your car. Too much bind will prevent the crank from releasing from the ratchet.

Steve Owsley

2015 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

It's THE JOURNEY! NOT THE DESTINATION!

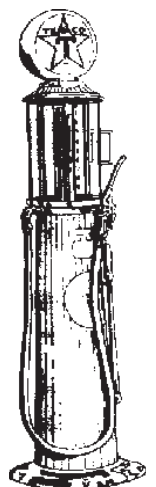


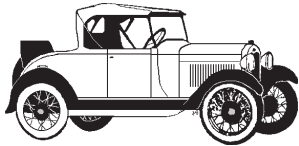
MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JAN	11	BARRY KINNEY	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH - SF PRESIDIO
FEB	21 SATURDAY	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	CRAB FEED - MONTE CRISTO CLUB
MARCH	14 SATURDAY	BARRY KINNEY	ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE - SF
APRIL	19	JOHN BETTENCOURT	SWANTON PACIFIC RR TOUR - DAVENPORT, CA
APRIL	26	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	DREAM MACHINES - HALF MOON BAY
MAY	TBA	KINNEY	SPRING SPEED WEEKEND - AUBURN, CA
MAY	25 MONDAY	CAPLAN	MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE - PRESIDIO
JUNE	20 SATURDAY	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	ST. ANNE'S HOME - FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND
JUNE-JULY	27-8	KINNEY	LINCOLN HIGHWAY TOUR - DETROIT TO SF
JUNE	28	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	PRIDE PARADE - SAN FRANCISCO
AUG	16	SF MODEL CLUB	BARRY'S MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR - PENINSULA
SEPT	13	KINNEY	ANTIQUE AUTOS HISTORY PARK - SAN JOSE
SEPT	26	MAHL	40 TH ANNUAL 28 TH AVENUE BLOCK PARTY
SEPT	25-27	CAPLAN / OWSLEY / MACHADO	OVERNIGHTER MURPHYS-IRONSTONE CONCOURS
OCT	11	BARRANGO	COLUMBUS DAY PARADE - NORTH BEACH, SF
OCT	17 SATURDAY	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	SF OLD CAR PICNIC - GOLDEN GATE PARK
Nov	8	CAPLAN / KINNEY	VETERANS DAY PARADE - FISHERMAN'S WHARF
DEC	5 SATURDAY	CAPLAN / KINNEY	SFPD BRAVE THE BAY - AQUATIC PARK
DEC	12 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.

2015 Schedule of Events

Jan 11	SF Model A Club President's Brunch - San Francisco Presidio
Jan 24-25	Turlock Swap Meet
Feb 21	SF Model A Club Annual Crab Feed
May 22-25	NCRG Roundup Sacramento hosted by the Capitol A's - www.ncrgmafca.com
June 7-12	MAFCA National Tour, Lobsters and Lighthouses of Maine, host Pine Tree A's
June 19-24	MAFCA National Convention, Loveland, CO, hosted by Model A Ford Club of Colorado





San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
Model A Ford Club of America
November 12, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by President Barry Kinney. There were no guests. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as written.

Reports of Officers

President: Barry went to Los Angeles to check out everything for his upcoming tour of the Museums. He stated it will be a 4 day trip in which we will drive. It will most likely take place in March. Barry will report more later. ♦ We elected the same slate of officers that we have had this past year. ♦ Barry reported that our dues are still \$35. ♦ The Crab Feed will be February 20th. Food Chair John reported that he did not see a problem with getting crab, since ours comes from Oregon and Washington. He will look into the availability and report to us next meeting. ♦ The Christmas party will be Saturday December 12th at Val's. We had to guarantee 45 people so bring a friend. ♦ The President's Brunch will be in January. The details have yet to be arranged.

Vice President: No report

Secretary: Joan reported that the senior bag filling will take place on Thursday December 10th in Foster City. The address is 501 Coos Ct. It starts at 10 am. All the soaps, shampoos, Christmas cards, toothbrushes, toothpastes, and other stuff some of you have donated will be put into decorated bags and will be distributed to the needy. We will start at about 10 am. Please come join us, there will be lots of great food.

Treasurer: No report

Editor: Walter needs articles. ♦ Bring a toy to the Christmas Party. ♦ We did not do the Veterans Day Parade because of the bad weather and rain. ♦ December 5th is the Cable Car Pull at Aquatic Park. It benefits the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Food and Beverage Chair: No report

Tour Chair: No report

For The Good Of The Order: Al told a joke. ♦ Charlie reported that an A400 was stolen. If anyone sees an ad for one, call him.

Joan Peterson provided refreshments for the meeting. There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm. The next monthly meeting will be Thursday January 14 at the Monte Cristo Club at 7:30 pm. John Zuffi will provide refreshments for the January meeting. The SF Model A Club will provide dessert at the Christmas Banquet.

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, January 14, 2016

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



 **the CHOKE
ROD**

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Christmas Banquet Information
Christmas Banquet Reservation Form
2016 Membership Renewal Form
2016 Crab Feed Reservation Form



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

JANUARY MEETING
Thursday January 14, 2016
7:30 pm - Monte Cristo Club
136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)
San Francisco

Holiday Party

Along with your unwrapped children's gift,
bring a fun, funky or fabulous wrapped
gift. Bring a gift to get a gift. Use
your imagination! What kind of a
treasure can you find for \$10 or less?

