

The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

Volume 59, Issue 7

MAFCA Certificate of Merit 2005 through 2010

July 2015

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America



Photo by Frank Cheng

45th Annual Pride Parade

pages 4 - 5

Upcoming Tours

Sunday August 16 - Barry's Famous San Francisco Peninsula Mystery Tour
Friday-Sunday September 25-27 - Ironstone Concours - Murphy's CA
Sunday October 11 - Columbus Day Parade - North Beach, San Francisco

Official Publication of the
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
MAFCA

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

President's Message

Summer is here and we are busy. We had a nice turn-out for our traditional Father's Day and St. Anne's Tour. Thanks to everyone who participated. This time of year it is always a little harder to get people together for this event. There are so many competing activities especially for those members who belong to more than one car club or who take vacations during the summer months. Again, thanks to Charlie and Victoria, Ralph, Mike, and Walter for bring their cars to St. Anne's Home on Saturday June 20.



Several of our members have asked about the Membership Roster. We do need a new one. You will be receiving a form by mail detailing the information we currently have for you regarding your mailing address, phone numbers, etc. Make any necessary corrections and/or additions and return the form to the Editor or the Treasurer or bring it to the next meeting. If your information is current you can ignore the form.

See you at the next monthly meeting on Thursday July 9.

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*.

Barry's Famous San Francisco Peninsula Mystery Tour Sunday, August 16

We will meet at a time and place yet to be determined. Dr. Barry has promised to lead us on an exciting tour down the Peninsula to places yet undisclosed. Complete details will follow in the August **Choke Rod**.

If you tend to believe what Barry says, then this will be a tour unlike any you've yet experienced. If not, well

Save the date. This is one you don't want to miss.

Overnighter to Murphys Ironstone Concours d'Elegance Friday - Sunday, September 25 - 27

By popular demand, for a ninth year the Club is planning another fabulous 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

Happy Independence Day



Columbus Day Celebration 2015 Italian Heritage Parade Sunday October 11

San Francisco's 147th Annual Italian Heritage Parade on Sunday, October 11, 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

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.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



James Young	July 6
Leonel Jones Young	July 6
Jonathan Mahl	July 9
Ursula Mahl	July 9
Ryan Barrango	July 14
Cheryl Barrango	July 16
Rachelle Marquez	July 17
Jennifer Karr	July 24

Dessert at the June BBQ & meeting were provided by **The Club**

Barry Kinney will provide dessert at the July meeting



45th Annual Pride Parade

Equality without Exception

This year we had six cars in the Pride Parade, one more than last year. All the cars were elegantly adorned with multicolored leis, flags, and new magnetic placards on the doors as well as big parade buttons, both courtesy of Ralph Hoffschildt.

Walter Caplan led us up Market Street in his beautiful sedan followed by Ralph in his elegant roadster. He was flanked by Mike Cunneen in his flawless 32 Phaeton and John Bettencourt in his bright red roadster. Bob Faber and I brought up the rear in our less than lovely but reliable coupes. Each car was filled with happy and smiling passengers waving their hands to the shouting crowds, numbering in the hundreds of thousands, who were lining the length of Market Street.

There was just as much bling and foolishness as in any previous parade. There were the floats, the politicians, dancers, and bikers. It is always a mixed bag of displays and performers. However, this year there was a little more enthusiasm. This was a special time and a special parade because it followed by two days the United States Supreme Court decision on marriage equality, granting lesbians and gays the right to marry under the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Our cars were loaded with happy parade goers. There was a lot of waving and picture taking. I kept an eye on the Motometer and tried not to slip the clutch more than necessary.

The crowd was large, responsive, enthusiastic, and well behaved. The costumes in the crowd rivaled the ones in the parade itself. Eye contact with anyone in the crowd would get you an immediate smile and a wave.

We were positioned near the front of the parade. Walter pulled some stings with parade organizers and got us the number five spot. The result was that we finished ahead of the crowd and were able to speed away to our post parade picnic at the the UCSF Mission Bay campus. Walter had arranged for reserved parking and sandwiches from Molly Stone's. It was a friendly, warm, and comfortable day. Might we do it again next year? I hope so.

Walter, thanks for a job well done.

Barry Kinney





Father's Day at St. Anne's Home

Father's Day at St. Anne's Home has become a wonderful tradition. I'm not sure who has the most fun, our passengers or our club members. Although the day was cool and a little windy we had a number of people anxious to ride in the rumble seat of a Model A. We loaded up and headed out to the Palace of the Legion of Honor through the Lincoln Park Golf Course. The views of the Marin Headlands and the Golden Gate Bridge were spectacular. Some of us headed down hill to the Presidio Main Post, past the parade ground, and into the Cemetery. Our route took us back through the Arguello Gate, around Presidio Terrace, and back to St. Anne's.

We met at St. Anne's Home a little before 2 pm. Bob Farina was on hand to greet us. Bob and his wife Dee were responsible for starting this club event at St. Anne's more than fifteen years ago. No other event warms the heart more than this one. We hear some great stories from our passengers about their exploits in and around cars they have owned and loved through the years.

We finished the day with a specially prepared luncheon that included sandwiches, fresh fruit, beverages, and sweet treats. We had a wonderful time with our friends at St. Anne's Home and we will keep the tradition alive by celebrating Father's Day at St. Anne's Home again next year.

Barry Kinney





For the first time in the history of the National Convention fashion competition, a child took "Best-of-Show". Therefore, we are devoting this column to children's fashions.

Just as today, children in the Model A era wore their clothes out faster than mother could keep up with a replacement. Of course the exception to this would be the nicer dress-up outfits, saved for "special", like Sunday school and parties. One other exception would be outgrown clothes, but usually in that event they were handed down to the next in line; sister, brother, cousin or friend. If you're wondering why we even mention the attrition of fashions, it emphasizes the excellent condition of the current winners.

Chris Franceschini, First Place winner, models a wool knicker outfit which includes the popular bill cap, knee socks and leather oxfords along with a cotton shirt topped with a bow-tie.

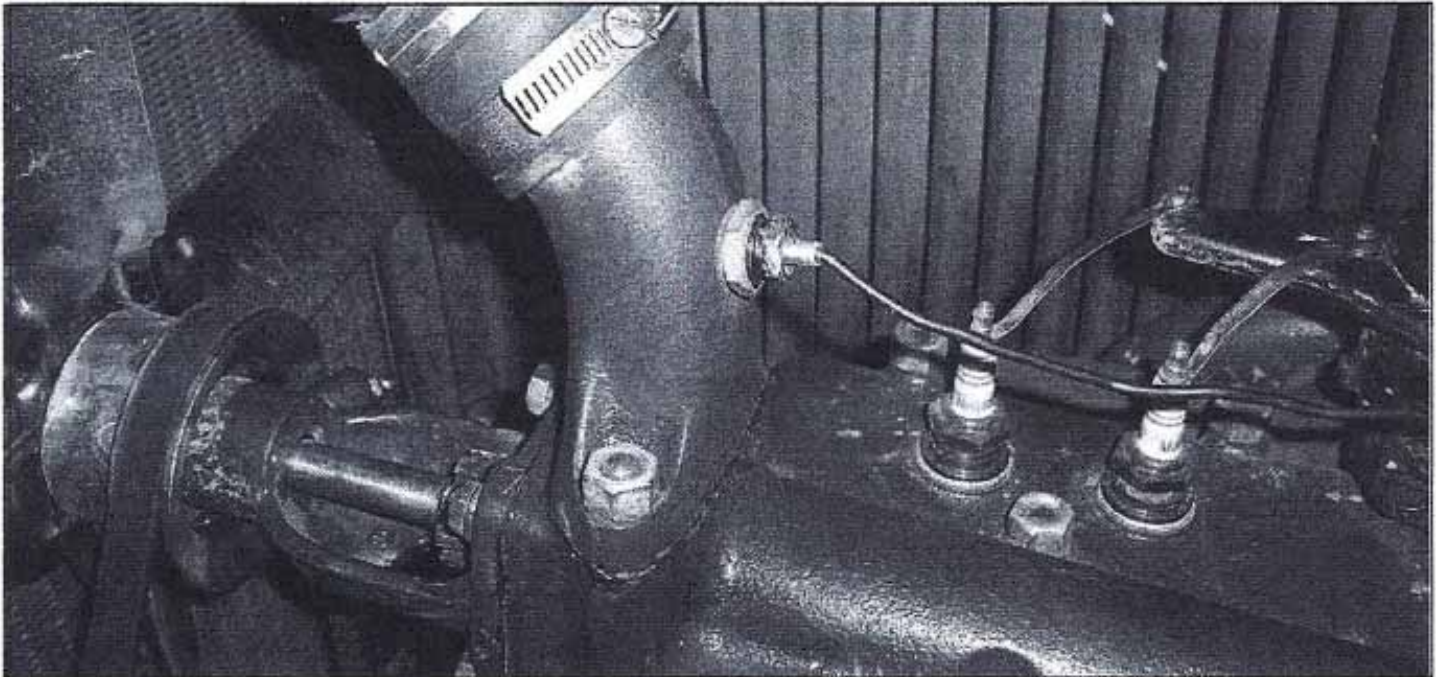
Walter Halstead, sixteen months old, wore a romper suit worn by his great uncle in 1930. He is carrying a stuffed animal nearly identical to the one shown in a picture of the uncle, that was passed around for all the judges to view. Walter placed second in the Children's category.

Jennifer Jones, models a silk dress topped with a coat and hat to match. The lining of the coat and hat features the same material as the dress. She also is carrying children's white leather gloves and a child's silver mesh purse. Her shoes are new-old stock as well as her white silk socks. Her ever important accessory is a child's gold bracelet. JENNIFER placed Best-of-Show in fashions.



Do I need a thermostat on my Model A?

That is a question that has been kicked around the garage for some time now. The early thoughts were that a thermostat was needed to slow the water flow in the radiator. Extensive tests have shown that changes in the rate of water flow through the radiator results in negligible change in water temperature. A Model A radiator should cool the engine under normal driving conditions.



A good clean radiator, even a stock one, should keep the engine operating at a normal level (160 -170 degrees). If your engine is running hot you should look at all of the things that could cause that to occur. An older radiator, one that appears in good shape and flows well, may have deteriorating connections of the fins to the tubes, which reduces its ability to transfer heat to the surrounding air and is usually the cause of engines running hot.

The original design of the Model A radiator is for a Thermo-Syphon system used in conjunction with a water pump. The entire cooling system was engineered to use the best of both types of systems. The thermo-syphon system keeps the coolant in place until the engine reaches an operating temperature of around 180 degrees. The pump increases the flow of coolant when the engine is operating at higher speeds and the thermo-syphon system would not move the coolant fast enough to cool the engine. So the Model A was equipped to have a thermostat of sorts with the thermo-syphon system helping the engine warm up before the coolant started moving.

This still doesn't answer the question regarding installing a new thermostat. The modern fuel of today requires the engine to operate at above 160 degrees to burn clean and with the most efficiency.



Tests were made using a new reproduction radiator along with a high compression head. The Motometer temperature gage (thermometer) on the radiator cap takes it's readings through a special stud, mounted in Motometer. Through many operating conditions, the thermometer never rose to the operating range on the Motometer. A modern temperature gage with degree readings was then installed along with a temperature sensor mounted in the upper water outlet neck. After running the Model A through many operating conditions it was surprising to find that the newly installed temperature gauge never rose above 140 degrees on a hot summer outing.

After seeing the engine operating so cold, a 160-degree thermostat was installed in the upper radiator hose. In a short period of time the engine water temperature now rises to 160 degrees F as seen on the Water Temperature Gauge. The opening and closing of the thermostat can be seen on the temperature gauge as the indicated temperature rises to 170° and then drops to 160° as the thermostat opens and closes.

Installing a thermostat will allow the engine to operate at the most efficient temperature range, getting the most out of the fuel that is being used and at the prices we are being forced to pay you best get the most out of your money.

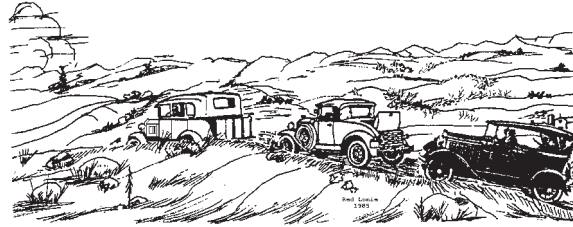


This is an easy and beneficial improvement that will make your Model A operate at an efficient temperature level, allowing complete and proper burning of the fuel, thereby reducing unburned fuel and fuel contaminants that produce carbon buildup Water Temp Gauge and sludge in the engine. The illustrated thermostat can be purchased from any Model A Parts Supplier in temperature ranges of 160° or 180°F operation. Installing a water temperature sensor in the upper water outlet neck and a water temperature gauge, will provide a more accurate indication of your engines operating temperature.

Steve Owsley

2015 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

It's THE JOURNEY! NOT THE DESTINATION!

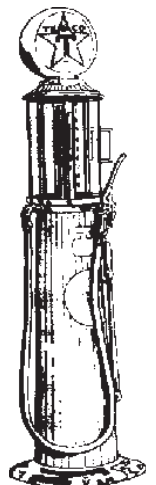


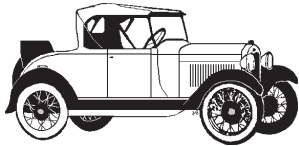
MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JAN	11	BARRY KINNEY	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH - SF PRESIDIO
FEB	21 SATURDAY	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	CRAB FEED - MONTE CRISTO CLUB
MARCH	14 SATURDAY	BARRY KINNEY	ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE - SF
APRIL	19	JOHN BETTENCOURT	SWANTON PACIFIC RR TOUR - DAVENPORT, CA
APRIL	26	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	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	TBA	MAHL	39 TH ANNUAL 28 TH AVENUE BLOCK PARTY
SEPT	25-27	CAPLAN / OWSLEY / MACHADO	OVERNIGHTER MURPHYS-IRONSTONE CONCOURS
OCT	11	BARRANGO	COLUMBUS DAY PARADE
OCT	TBA SATURDAY	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	SF OLD CAR PICNIC - GOLDEN GATE PARK
Nov	8	CAPLAN / KINNEY	VETERANS DAY PARADE ON MARKET STREET
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
June 11, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 6:25 pm by President Barry Kinney. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as written. Mike brought Erwin Abrams and Stuart Fong brought his daughter.

Reports of Officers

President: We are celebrating our 55 year anniversary. We combined it with our BBQ this month. Walter brought a cake. ♦ Saturday June 20 will be Father's Day at St. Anne's Home. We will meet there at 1:30 pm. ♦ The Pride Parade will be Sunday June 28. We will probably meet around 9 am South of Market. Walter will e-mail more info later. He will also send a form for everyone's sandwich order. ♦ The overnight to Murphys will be Friday - Sunday Sept 25 - 27. There is one room still reserved. We might need to add more. ♦ We had a good turnout for the Memorial Day Parade. They had an expanded Parade route. We had a good lunch at the Presidio golf course cafe. The club picked up the tab for the meal.

Vice President: No report

Secretary: No report

Treasurer: No report

Editor: No report

Food and Beverage Chair: John Zuffi thought that in the future we could do a BBQ in conjunction with a car tour.

Tour Chair: No report

For The Good Of The Order:

The Club brought refreshments. There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm. The next monthly meeting will be Thursday July 9 at the Monte Cristo Club at 6:45 pm. Barry Kinney will provide dessert for the meeting.

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, July 9, 2015

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



in this Choke Rod

President's Message	page 2
Club News	page 3
45 th Annual Pride Parade	pages 4-5
Father's Day at St. Anne's Home.....	page 6
Fashion	pages 7
Tech	pages 8-9
Tours & Schedule of Events	page 10
Meeting Minutes.....	page 11



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



JULY MEETING
Thursday July 9, 2015
Monte Cristo Club
7:30 pm meeting
136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)
San Francisco