

The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

Volume 60, Issue 10

Celebrating the Model A for Sixty Years

October 2016

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America



Photo by Barry Kinney

Ironstone Concours d'Elegance

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Upcoming Tours

Sunday October 9 - Italian Heritage Parade - San Francisco

Saturday October 15 - SF Old Car Picnic - Golden Gate Park

Sunday October 29 - St. Anne's Parish Festival Car Show - San Francisco

Sunday November 13 - Veterans Day Parade - Fisherman's Wharf

Saturday December 10 - Christmas Banquet - Val's Restaurant, Daly City

Official Publication of the
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
MAFCA

President's Message

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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

October is here and our overnight trip to Ironstone is in the rear view mirror. We are now looking forward to the fall season, a time when we celebrate the current year and plan for the year ahead. This is the time when we traditionally select our leaders for the upcoming year. I think we have a good hard working group guiding the club. I am hoping that they will agree to serve another year. That said, we are not wedded to this job and will be glad to step aside and make room for new blood.



We had a great time at Ironstone. The show, as always, was spectacular. This show has become more popular over time. We have anticipated that more of us will be coming next year and have already reserved additional rooms.

At the request of Club members, the Board of Directors has proposed a change in our Bi-Laws. An article in this issue of **The Choke Rod** outlines this change. This change will be considered at the October meeting and voted on at the November meeting. We will need a quorum. Put the November meeting on your calendar.

We have two important events this month, The Columbus Day Parade and the St. Anne's of the Sunset Car Show. Look for details in this issue of **The Choke Rod**.

See you at the 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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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*.

Columbus Day Celebration 2016 Italian Heritage Parade Sunday October 9

San Francisco's 148th Annual Italian Heritage Parade on Sunday, October 9, 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.

St. Anne of the Sunset Annual Parish Festival Car Show Saturday, October 29

The St. Anne Parish Festival will be held Friday, Saturday, and Sunday October 28, 29, 30. There will be Free Admission, Games, Raffle, Silent Auction, Entertainment, Food and Beverages. The festival will conclude with a pancake brunch on Sunday October 30.

Our own Casey Martinez is planning a car show to be held on Saturday October 29 - from 10 am until 2 pm. Cars will assemble on the south side of Irving Street between Fourteenth Avenue and Funston as early as 9 am. Casey says "I'm looking for nice cars - and I know you have one. Please come and show your car and help a good cause at the St. Anne's Parish Festival." Contact Casey directly if you are interested in displaying your nice car.

Tour Leader: Casey Martinez 415-725-2450

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

Jenny Jump will provide refreshments at the October meeting



Proposed By-Laws Change

It has been brought to the attention of the Club Board of Directors that the Club on various occasions has chosen to subsidize a number of Club activities without first gaining approval of the Club Board or the Executive Committee.

Those Club expenditures have had general approval of the Club and have been legitimate and transparent. However, Club members recognize that it is important that the Club approve expenditures with official actions and in accordance with the By-Laws.

However, the By-Laws are not specific with respect to who must approve Club expenditures. The By-Laws give the Treasurer the responsibility and prerogative to dispense Club money when necessary and without restriction. The Executive Committee serves as the Finance Committee but no specific language outlines the responsibility of the Finance Committee regarding expenditures.

To correct this discrepancy in the By-Laws the Board has proposed an addition to Section 7 of the By-Laws. The addition reads: All Club expenditures that are not of a routine nature or that exceed \$500 must be approved by the Executive Committee.

If this addition is approved, Section 7 will read: The Executive Committee shall act as the Finance Committee of the Club. All Club expenditures that are not of a routine nature or that exceed \$500 must be approved by the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee consists of the Club Officers, the Editor and the Immediate Past President.

A vote will be taken on this change to the Bi-Laws at the November 2016 meeting.

For Sale: 1929 Model A Sport Coupe

Owned for over 20 years – in excellent condition – believed to have original lacquer paint with some imperfections, especially on hood. Mechanically perfect, always garaged, maintained by Bob Craig Sr. Won Second Place at Silverado Country Club. Contact longtime club member Steve Karr directly at 415-244-2134.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Mike Cuneen	October 3
Scott Williams	October 11
Tom Mullins	October 15
Dave Chiotti	October 16
Bob Costa	October 18
Carol Costa	October 27

Ironstone Concours d'Elegance 2016

The Ironstone Foundation Concours d' Elegance at the Ironstone Winery in Murphys was just as grand this year as in past years. The Winery is a spectacular venue. The cars are displayed on green grassy meadows separated by small groves of trees and bisected by a small creek.

Above the meadows the cars are displayed in a wide terraced amphitheater area in front of a large bandstand. During the show an orchestra plays music from the 30's and 40's. This is a spectacular venue and a true Concours d' Elegance.

The cars are displayed by class. The class list includes Antique, Vintage, Open, Vintage Trailers, Commercial, Unrestored Prewar, and Postwar to mention just a few. The judges designate a percentage of cars in each class to receive an Award of Merit but only one car in each class will receive the Best in Class Award.

This year the San Francisco Model A Club did very well. Tom and Terry Machado won Best in Class with their 1969 Mustang Mach I and an Award of Merit for their 1967 Lehman Peterson Lincoln stretch limousine. Kevin Enderby won best in Class with his 1929 Model A Roadster. Congratulations to Tom, Terry and Kevin!

We toasted the winners and celebrated the day with dinner and some lively conversation at the Old Murphys Hotel on Saturday night. The celebrants included Tom and Terry Machado, Al Thomas and Jenny Jump, Joan Peterson, Rita and Ralph Hoffschildt, and Victoria Acosta and Charlie Kascal.

Because the Ironstone Concours has become one of our annual events, rooms have been reserved for the 2017 Show. Next year the event will be held on Saturday September 24. Look for tour details in the January 2017 issue of **the Choke Rod**.

Barry Kinney



Service Stations of Yesteryear



The handbag may give a piquant touch to one's costume, or it may be "as sounding brass and tinkling cymbal." With a suit or a wool dress, the leather or tweed handbag fitted with convenient cosmetic requirements will sound just the right note. The handbag may be chosen to harmonize with the costume in color, or it may be the color of the hat, shoes, or gloves, and so produce a logical harmony. Or, it may compliment the trimmings of the dress and emphasize a slight contrast with the general tone of the ensemble. A black-and-white ensemble may be enlivened by a bright red leather purse.



Linen, embroidered in brilliant colors and homespun, makes very good-looking bags which are especially suited to summer sports outfits. They may be of various shapes and sizes, as shown in the illustrations. The design, as well as the color of the handbag, should be carefully considered. A rectangular or large circular bag would give a flamboyant effect. The long narrow purse might produce a line which would give slenderness to the wearer.

For after noon, the lamb or brocade and beaded bags are suggested and because of their adaptability to differ \ent ensembles. Suede or antelope bags, with jeweled frames and even a vanity case (made so alluring that it is impossible to frown at the carefree user), give an important accent.

Needlepoint embroidery or brocade are often carried, and the bags fashioned of it give an air of quiet elegance to a sober outfit like a bit of old tapestry gives to a somber room. Tapestry, too, may be called into service, and a most durable and interesting bag added to a daytime ensemble.

Flat envelope purses in different sizes are made of rich brocades, or brilliant silks, or of soft shiny pin leather in gay or quiet colors. These are as flat as a wafer and have no handles. They add as much to the good appearance of an afternoon costume as the afore-mentioned pouch-bag. For evening, bags studded with rhinestones, silver and gold mesh, or embroidered with pearls, have graced many formal ensembles. With a formal evening costume, an exotic bag-pouch shape, embroidered, is mounted on a frame set with multi-colored stones. The fabric bags of non-tarnished gold brocade can be pouch shaped or envelope.

Tinkering with Our Toys (Part 2)

by Arnold "Bud" Dodge — Yakima, Washington

Very often a simple hint or procedure can save considerable disappointment and frustration. Many of us working on the mechanics of our Model As have become experts "after-the-fact." The following is a personal on-the-job compilation of brief and to-the-point suggestions. These might be helpful in an endeavor to become a "before-the-fact" expert.

With 50 years of writings in this area by numerous authorities, it is not without some trepidation that there can be recall of some "old hat" and debatable ideas. An honest attempt has been made to avoid a major invasion in this area.

NOISES

- A strange idle knock can come from a crankshaft pulley that is slightly short. The ratchet nut can not be drawn up enough to tighten the pulley on the crankshaft. A thin washer under the ratchet nut (or a new pulley) will repair this and stop the oil leak at the same time. A loose pulley can usually be easily found by rocking the fan blade.
- To remove a fan blade from the water pump shaft, remove blade retaining nut, screw on a headbolt nut about half its depth, follow this with a headbolt stud, tighten, rap bolt sharply with a hammer while holding fan blade. The fan blade will loosen and pump shaft will not be damaged.
- Intermittent noises in flywheel region can originate from starter Bendix drive working its way into the flywheel ring gear while car is being driven. a small spring loaded retaining lug located at the edge of the Bendix gear is usually at fault. If stuck, light oil will free it up, if broken or worn out it will no longer hold the idle gear in "home" position.
- Constant or intermittent valve noise after installation of adjustable pushrods is not uncommon. The lifter surfaces are not always square with the valve base and the oil cushion is lost. While this is annoying there is no harm if valve adjustment is within specs. With wear-in the noise often quiets down.
- An unexplained intermittent noise in front of engine can be caused by omission of the tension plunger on the end of the camshaft. The side cap of the timing gear cover can be carefully removed to check.
- Many disconcerting sounds can originate from front motor mounting and side splash pans. Pushing in the clutch can aggravate these sounds especially when motor is warm. With a bit of patience these nuisance noises can be eliminated.
- One source of hard-to-locate engine noise can be the fan. Even slightly loose fan front roller bearings can set up a nasty resonance or clatter at certain engine speeds due to a small degree of blade imbalance, a whipping fan belt or an out-of-round pulley. The sound resembles loose wrist pins or piston slap and usually occurs in the higher speed ranges and can be detected by temporary removal of fan belt. While the noise, once identified, is of minor consequence, it may mean that the fan will self destruct in time . Replacement parts may be the only answer. In any case, frequently inspect fan blades for cracks and loose rivets if of that type.

- Some fiber replacement camshaft timing gears are off-center. This can create some unusual idle knock frequencies. A faulty gear can be readily noted during engine assembly by observation while turning engine over. Replacement with a quality gear is best. A rat tail file can be used to adjust and center the gear mounting holes. It is essential to draw up the large mounting nut very securely.

WATER PUMP

- New or rebuilt water pumps take a while to settle down and stop leaking. The leverage afforded by a large screw- driver on the gland nut can break off tightening lugs especially if you run out of threads. Back off and add a packing ring or two. Tighten slowly over several hours of operation. This can be done very effectively while motor is idling if due respect is given fan blade and tightening is not overdone. Leaking will stop.

WATER OUTLET

- Save your nerves and the flanges on the upper water outlet. File head (usually not needed) and outlet mating surfaces square. Use a thin layer of non-setting Permatex. No gasket. You can now tighten all headbolts without wincing. Re- placement outlet gaskets often squeeze out on the ends and can eventually cause a break in outlet casting as head is drawn up.

OVERHEATING

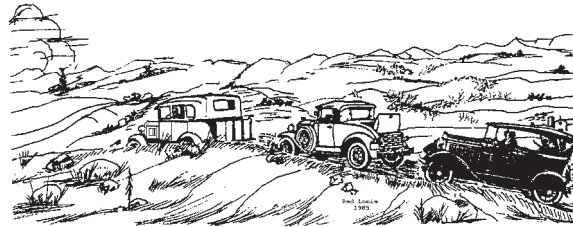
- Many Model A's have been accused of overheating just because a leaky radiator cap gasket permitted windshield spotting from expanding coolant from a normal operating engine.
- Air bubbles showing at the radiator filler neck may not be a leaky head gasket, but air pulled in through the water pump grease fitting or past pump packing. Always use a capped type grease fitting at pump base fitted with a gasket under screw cap. Properly packed and maintained pumps should not leak air.

COOLING SYSTEM

- A leaky gasket on the water inlet on side of engine is just in the right place to trickle coolant on the dipstick and into crankcase. This can cause an unfounded worry.
- No use trying to fill your radiator to the top as it will just bubble out the overflow tube to seek an operating level. Don't be over confident, though, add a bit of coolant now and then to assure a safe level. A rubber tube extension on your overflow tube outlet will help keep water marks off of the firewall.
- The slight fluid oozing of a head gasket is not uncommon even on trued blocks and heads. Replacement copper head gaskets have a minimum of crimping and can allow capillary action to pull fluid out the sides. One-quarter to a half a can of radiator sealant usually will stop this unsightly condition if the problem persists. Do not exceed normal head- bolt torque (50-55 foot pounds). It may make the condition worse.

2016 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

It's THE JOURNEY! NOT THE DESTINATION!

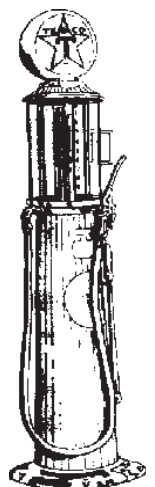


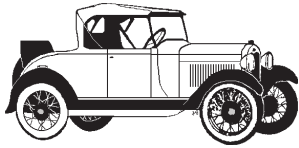
MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JAN	31	BARRY KINNEY	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH - BASQUE CULTURAL CTR.
FEB	20 SATURDAY	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	CRAB FEED - MONTE CRISTO CLUB
MARCH	12 SATURDAY	BARRY KINNEY	ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE - SF
MARCH	16-21	BARRY KINNEY	LOS ANGELES MUSEUM TOUR
APRIL	23	KINNEY	SPRING SPEED WEEKEND - AUBURN, CA
APRIL	24	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	DREAM MACHINES - HALF MOON BAY
MAY	30 MONDAY	CAPLAN	MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE - PRESIDIO
JUNE	18 SATURDAY	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	ST. ANNE'S HOME - FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND
JUNE	26	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	PRIDE PARADE - SAN FRANCISCO
AUG	14	KINNEY	BARRY'S MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR
SEPT	11 SUNDAY	KINNEY	ANTIQUE AUTOS HISTORY PARK - SAN JOSE
SEPT	17 SATURDAY	MAHL	41 ST ANNUAL 28 TH AVENUE BLOCK PARTY
SEPT	23-25	CAPLAN / OWSLEY / MACHADO	OVERNIGHTER MURPHYS-IRONSTONE CONCOURS
OCT	9	BARRANGO	COLUMBUS DAY PARADE - NORTH BEACH, SF
OCT	15 SATURDAY	CAPLAN / OWSLEY	SF OLD CAR PICNIC - GOLDEN GATE PARK
OCT	29 SATURDAY	MARTINEZ	ST. ANNE'S PARISH FESTIVAL CAR SHOW, SF
Nov	13	CAPLAN / KINNEY	VETERANS DAY PARADE - FISHERMAN'S WHARF
DEC	3 SATURDAY	CAPLAN / KINNEY	SFPD BRAVE THE BAY - AQUATIC PARK
DEC	10 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.

2016 Schedule of Events

Jan 30	Turlock Swap Meet
Feb 20	SF Model A Club Annual Crab Feed
May 27-29	NCRG Roundup Modesto hosted by the Modesto A's - www.ncrgmafca.com
June 19-24	MAFCA National Convention, Loveland, CO, hosted by Model A Ford Club of Colorado
Dec 5-8	MAFCA National Awards Banquet, Reno NV, hosted by the Sagebrush Chapter





San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
Model A Ford Club of America
September 8, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Barry Kinney. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as written. There were no guests but Kev Enderby made a surprise appearance at this month's meeting.

Reports of Officers

President: Reservations have been made at the Murphys Inn motel. Walter's are under the individual's names, the rest are under Barry's name. The group will leave Friday between 9:30 am and 10 am from Diamond Heights. We will have lunch at Knight's Ferry. Be sure to bring a picnic lunch with you. We will travel on Old Sonora Road to Highway 4. Friday's dinner will be on our own. Saturday we will have dinner at the Old Murphy's Hotel. Dinner will be at 6 pm. ♦ Barry has suggested that we do a By-Laws review. There is nothing in the current By-Laws about spending money without board authorization. This apparently got left out of the revisions awhile back. He said that we need to add this clause to the existing by-Laws. It was suggested that we provide funds available for discretionary items. We should vote if the item is over \$500. The decision would be up to the Board of Directors. Anyone who leads a tour should get funds for refreshments. Everyone should have a copy of the By-Laws. ♦ Gunard moved that the club not send paper Choke Rods to people who are not paid members, with an exception for other clubs. We would do e-mail only. We have 33 paid members and 6 lifetime members in the club.

Vice President: No report

Secretary: No report

Treasurer: Jeanine reported on our bank balance.

Editor: No report

Food and Beverage Chair: No report

Tour Chair: No report

For The Good Of The Order: Al reported on the trip to Bonneville. The event had been closed for two years. They had it this year. Greg Martinez qualified for 185 in the short coarse and from 157 to 163 mph on the long course. He broke both of his own records. He might race at El Mirage this coming weekend. He would like club members to come to help or just cheer him on. Casey Martinez is hosting a car show at St. Anne of the Sunset Church on Saturday October 29 from 9 am until 2 pm.

Jeanine Mahl provided refreshments for the meeting. Jenny Jump will provide refreshments for the next meeting. There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 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, October 13, 2016

A number of club members gather together for dinner before the monthly meeting at 6 pm.

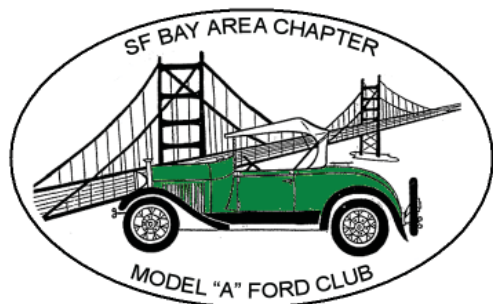
Please feel free to join us – dinner location will be at Goat Hill Pizza at 18th & Connecticut.

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



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www.sfmodelaclub.org

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OCTOBER MEETING
Thursday October 13, 2016
7:30 pm - Monte Cristo Club
136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)
San Francisco