

The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

Volume 61, Issue 3

Celebrating the Model A for Sixty Years

March 2017

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America



Photos by Samuel Granger

Get Your Easter Bonnet Ready

Information on page 3

Upcoming Tours

Saturday March 11 - St. Patrick's Day Parade - San Francisco

Sunday April 16 - Easter Parade - San Francisco

Sunday April 30 - Pacific Coast Dream Machines - Half Moon Bay

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
MEMBERSHIP: Walter Caplan

President's Message

Our friend, long time club member, and past president Franz von Uckermann, before he passed in January, sent me some information he had gleaned from an article concerning carbon emissions and atmospheric CO₂. He felt that this information was pertinent to our hobby and asked that we consider printing it in The Choke Rod. The news is all good. The EPA yearly greenhouse gas emissions report noted that greenhouse gas output for year 2015 fell 2.2% and that US energy-related CO₂ emissions hit a 25-year low for the first six months of 2016.



Since 1997 (the year of the Tokyo Accords) US greenhouse gas emissions have plunged 7.3%, much more than any other developed nation. The environmentalists like to point to electric cars and solar energy as the reason for the plunge, but the EPA credits the switch from heavy carbon based fuels to cleaner natural gas. Green energy still accounts for less than 5% of energy consumption in the U.S. It is interesting to note that greenhouse gas produced by cars does not figure strongly into the equation. The country is driving just as much but CO₂ emissions continue to decline. Go figure. Thanks, Franz.

See you at the meeting on Thursday March 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*.

St. Patrick's Day Parade Saturday March 11

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.

27th Pacific Coast Dream Machines Half Moon Bay Sunday April 30

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.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



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
Johanna Bettencourt	March 29
Barry Kinney	March 31

Nick & Josie Calabrese March 25

Easter Parade Sunday April 16

Union Street's 25th Annual Easter Parade and Celebration will be held on Sunday April 16, under the leadership of Ralph Hoffschildt and his wife Rita in their lovely 1930 Roadster. We will make our way along Union Street past a surprisingly huge throng of spectators. Several thousand families, mothers, fathers, grandparents, multitudes of children, and assorted others will line the parade route from Laguna Street to Fillmore Street.

If you were concerned that San Francisco was losing its ability to retain families, the Union Street Parade and Celebration will show you otherwise - young families are alive and well in San Francisco, and gathering together on Easter Sunday for a joyous outdoor experience with their fellow San Franciscans, dressing up, wearing silly hats, playing, snacking, and parade watching. Come join the fun.

Memorial Day Observance at historic San Francisco Presidio Monday May 29

The Mayor's 2017 Memorial Day Citizen's Committee has invited the SF Model A Club to be part of the official City & County's 149th Memorial Day observance. The traditional event will be held at the Presidio National Cemetery. We have been asked to display our pre-WWII vehicles at the Main Post at 9 am. The Parade will begin at 10:30 am, followed by the Formal Ceremony from 11 am to 12 noon. **The committee has set aside a special location at the ceremony site to park and exhibit our cars.** We will assemble at the Presidio Main Post for a running board breakfast at 9 am.

We will gather after the ceremony for lunch at the Presidio Golf Course Cafe. If you plan to join us for lunch, you must RSVP Walter so that there's seating for all.

Tour Leaders: Walter Caplan, RSVP 415-621-0500
whcaplan@comcast.net
Barry Kinney, RSVP 415-282-2789

Refreshments
at the February meeting
were provided by
Gary Barrango

Jeanine Mahl
will provide refreshments
at the March meeting



Let It Blow

With the severe weather we've been having in 2017 we could use these "Storm Proof Overcoats" from the 1927 Sears Roebuck catalog. Considering that they were in fashion 90 years ago, they don't look too bad. What do you think?

LET IT BLOW!

Storm Proof Overcoats

A Serviceable and Inexpensive Ulster

We don't believe there is a better ulster anywhere for this low price. And you men, who are looking for the overcoat that most effectively combines durability, style, warmth and low price, will find this coat a source of lasting satisfaction to you. It's made of a good weight fabric, nearly three-fourths wool, in a rich dark brown that is very attractive. Lined throughout with a good grade of cotton twill. Large convertible collar. Adjustable sleeve tabs. Two big, roomy pockets with flaps and all around belt. Length, 48 inches. SIZES—36 to 48 inches chest. State chest measure taken over vest. Shpg. wt., 7½ lbs.

45K8319—Dark Brown..... **\$11.95**

Dependable Style and Quality

This ulster will answer all your coat needs satisfactorily and at a small cost. You can depend on it for lots of wear and to keep you warm in the coldest weather. You can depend on the style to give you a well dressed appearance anywhere. And the price affords you a liberal saving. The coat is made of a heavy, nearly all wool overcoating in a dark brown mixture or an oxford gray. Double breasted muff pocket style with half belt in back and two large lower patch pockets with flaps. Upper half lined with cultured Venetian. Sleeves fully lined. Large convertible collar. Sleeve tabs. Length, 48 inches. SIZES—36 to 48 inches chest. State chest measure taken over vest. Shpg. wt., 5½ lbs.

45K8320	Dark Brown Heather.....	\$14.95
45K8321	Oxford Gray.....	14.95

Heavy All Wool Sheep Lined Ulster

Every man, at one time or another, has wanted a coat like this. It's stylish, good looking and very comfortable. Made of fine all wool dark brown mackinaw cloth, lined with first quality sheepskin, and has a large shawl style collar of Australian opossum fur. Made in the double breasted style illustrated with belt all around and two extra large, double stitched patch pockets with flaps. Sleeves are lined with felted cloth and have double knit wristlets and arm shields. The coat will serve you well and prove a mighty good investment. The price is lower than ever. Length, 45 inches. SIZES—36 to 46 inches chest. State chest measure taken over vest. Shipping wt., 11 lbs.

41K581—Brown Mackinaw Cloth, Sheepskin Lining, Fur Collar.... **\$29.95**

Heavyweight Wool Lined Black Dog Fur

Here at last, men, is your opportunity to buy a warm, good looking fur coat of excellent quality at a very modest price. Furs! It was man's first protection from the elements and today, more than ever before, its superiority is recognized everywhere. And of course, prices generally are pretty high. But every man can afford to buy this splendid coat for the simple reason that it's serviceable and low priced. Made of fine black dog fur. Has body lining of all wool blanket cloth and is lined in yoke and sleeves with Venetian. Has double knit wristlets, firmly secured loops and olives, and a huge collar that can be fastened snugly around the neck. Small vent in the back. Length, 48 inches. It's a wonderful coat—big value for your money!

SIZES—36 to 48 inches chest. State chest measure taken over vest. Shipping weight, 11 pounds.

45K8350—Wool Lined Black Dog Fur Coat..... **\$37.50**

To Find What You Want, See Index Pages 550 to 570

How to Adjust Model "A" Brakes

The following article is by Randy Bare, Ottawa, Illinois and Starved Rock Model "A" Club.

While on a club outing a fellow club member expressed a concern that his brakes were not operating at an acceptable level. This reminded me of a procedure given to me in the early 80's and one I have used several times since with exceptional results. I have never seen a procedure as simple as this printed before, so I thought I should submit it for all the other enthusiasts to use and hopefully enjoy. This method can be performed with basic hand tools and basic mechanical knowledge. Keep in mind that the end result will always be dependent on the condition of the moving parts. I recommend inspecting all brake parts prior to beginning, check clevis/pins for wear, make sure the cross shaft operates smoothly, check actuating levers for wear and also verify brake linings are not excessively worn.



The hardest part of this method is rotating the clevises on the brake if they have not been adjusted for a long time. If possible I recommend soaking these areas with penetrating oil for a couple of days before beginning. Remember ADJUST all brakes then go for a test drive. It usually takes about an hour to perform this procedure, unless repairs are needed to the moving parts identified during the initial inspection.

PROCEDURE

Disconnect all brake rods at the clevises. Make sure the cross shaft is adjusted all the way to the rear or that the activating arms are in the vertical position.

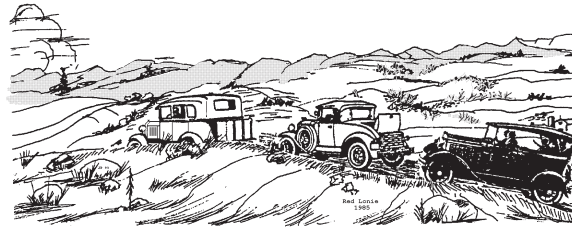
Start by turning the adjusting wedge on the backing plate. Tighten until you get a slight drag while turning the wheel. Try to get all wheels equal. This is quite critical; so have one person to do all four wheels.



Next pull the rear brake rod forward as hard as you can and adjust the clevis so that you can just slide the pin through the holes, remove pin and lengthen the rod by two full turns. Reinsert pins and cotter keys.

2017 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

It's THE JOURNEY! NOT THE DESTINATION!

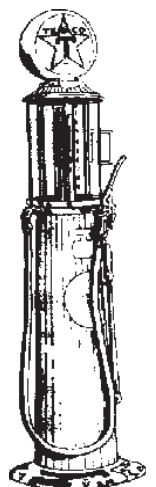


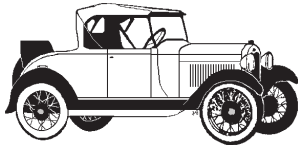
MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JANUARY	22	BARRY KINNEY	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH - REDWOOD CITY
MARCH	11 SATURDAY	BARRY KINNEY	ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE - SF
APRIL	16	RALPH HOFFSCHILD	EASTER PARADE - SF
APRIL	23	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	SWANTON PACIFIC RR TOUR - DAVENPORT CA
APRIL	29 SATURDAY	KINNEY	F. A. S. T. SPRING HILLCLIMB - AUBURN, CA
APRIL	30	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	DREAM MACHINES - HALF MOON BAY
MAY	29 MONDAY	CAPLAN	MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE - PRESIDIO
JUNE	17 SATURDAY	CAPLAN / KINNEY	ST. ANNE'S HOME - FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND
JUNE	25	CAPLAN	PRIDE PARADE - SAN FRANCISCO
AUGUST	TBA	KINNEY	BARRY'S MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR
SEPTEMBER	9 SATURDAY	KINNEY	ANTIQUE AUTOS HISTORY PARK - SAN JOSE
SEPTEMBER	TBA	MAHL	42 ND ANNUAL 28 TH AVENUE BLOCK PARTY
SEPTEMBER	4-19	BARRY KINNEY	GREAT MICHIGAN/MIDWEST TRAIN TOUR
SEPTEMBER	22-24	CAPLAN / MACHADO	OVERNIGHTER MURPHYS-IRONSTONE CONCOURS
OCTOBER	8	BARRANGO	COLUMBUS DAY PARADE - NORTH BEACH, SF
OCTOBER	TBA	CAPLAN	SF OLD CAR PICNIC - GOLDEN GATE PARK
November	12 FRIDAY	CAPLAN / KINNEY	VETERANS DAY PARADE - FISHERMAN'S WHARF
DECEMBER	2 SATURDAY	CAPLAN / KINNEY	SFPD BRAVE THE BAY - AQUATIC PARK
DECEMBER	9 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.

2017 Schedule of Events

Jan 22	SF Model A Club President's Brunch – Redwood City
Jan 28-29	Turlock Swap Meet
May 16-20	NCRG Roundup Modesto hosted by the Hub Tour – Lodi CA – www.ncrgmafca.com
Oct 1-6	MAFCA National Tour – Pacific Coast Hwy – Paso Robles to Napa Valley hosted by the Bakersfield Chapter
Dec 5-8	MAFCA National Awards Banquet, Oklahoma City, OK hosted by Sooner Model A Club of Oklahoma City





**San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
Model A Ford Club of America
February 9, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm by President Barry Kinney. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as written. There were no guests.

Reports of Officers

President: We should make a donation in memory of Franz von Uckermann to the ACCC (Association of California Car Clubs) of \$100. ♦ Everyone had a nice time at the President's Brunch at Angelica's in Redwood City, which followed a mini running board breakfast at our meeting place outside the Hiller Aviation Museum in San Carlos. ♦ The St. Patrick's Day Parade is Saturday March 11 - if interested call Barry. ♦ The Easter Parade is Sunday April 16 - Ralph usually coordinates the event.

Vice President: We will be at the Indianapolis Speedway on September 19 - and will be arranging rides if they are available on that date. ♦ The 17th Annual Antique Autos in History Park, presented by the Santa Clara Valley Model T Ford Club and History San José, will take place on Saturday, September 9, 2017 from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. This event fills History Park with stock antique autos, fire equipment, bicycles and motorcycles of all makes from 1900 to 1945. The featured vehicles this year are "Trucks, the Workhorse of the 20th Century." Also located on the grounds will be the Early Day Gas Engine and Tractor Association. There will be antique crafts demonstrated and antique collectibles displayed. Admission to the event is \$5.

Secretary: No report

Treasurer: Jeanine reported that we have 26 paid members and 2 members promised to pay at the meeting.

Editor: Walter again outlined the 2017 Grand Tour. In the coming months he has some DVDs to show at our monthly meetings.

Food and Beverage Chair: No report

Tour Chair: No report

For The Good Of The Order: Gary Barrango provided refreshments for the meeting. Jeanine Mahl will provide refreshments for the next meeting. There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Walter Caplan, Acting 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 9, 2017

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.

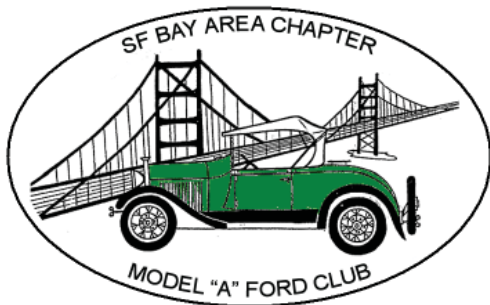
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Choke Rod

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Meeting Minutes.....page 7

Insert:
2017 Membership Renewal 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



MARCH MEETING
Thursday March 9, 2017
7:30 pm - Monte Cristo Club
136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)
San Francisco