

The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

Volume 61, Issue 5

Celebrating the Model A for Sixty Years

May 2017

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America



Photo by Scott Williams

Memorial Day Observance details on page 3

Upcoming Tours

Monday May 29 - Memorial Day Observance - The Presidio of San Francisco

Saturday June 17 - Father's Day at St. Anne's Home - San Francisco

Sunday June 25 - 47th Annual Pride Parade - San Francisco

Official Publication of the
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
MAFCA

President's Message



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Spring is here and we are too.

Thanks to Ralph's arrangements and the presence of John Bettencourt and Mike Cunneen we were there at the Easter Parade and accompanying celebration along Union Street. Next up will be our participation in the annual Memorial Day ceremonies at the Presidio on Monday May 29. Afterwards we will lunch up the hill at the Presidio Golf Course Cafe.

Then only weeks later for the fifteenth year we will celebrate Father's Day at St. Anne's Home on Saturday June 17. We will end month parading up Market Street up at the front on the 47th annual Pride Parade, followed by a picnic lunch on the campus of UCSF Mission Bay.

Mark your calendars - wash and polish up your Model A (or other suitable vehicle) and get yourself ready to join in the upcoming spring and summer fun activities.

I'll see you and the May meeting, Thursday May 11 at the Monte Cristo Club.

And remember, a number of us gather before the meeting at 6 pm at Goat Hill Pizza for dinner. Feel free to join us for dinner this month or any month in the future.

See you at the meeting on Thursday May 11.

Barry Kinney

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: sfmodelclub@icloud.com 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

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*.

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

47th Annual Pride Parade Sunday June 25

It is the 47th anniversary of this distinctly San Francisco experience. Our contingent will be near the front of the parade and afterwards we will proceed UC Mission Bay for a picnic lunch. If interested in driving your "A" in the Pride Parade, contact Walter Caplan for more information at whcaplan@comcast.net or call 415-621-0500

Tour Leader: **Walter Caplan**

Refreshments
at the April meeting
were provided by
John Zuffi

Victoria Acosta
will provide refreshments
at the May meeting



Father's Day at St. Anne's Home Saturday June 17 – 2 pm

This year marks our fifteenth Annual Father's Day Gathering at St. Anne's Home with the Little Sisters of the Poor. Be a part of our celebration with the residents and staff of St. Anne's Home. Assemble at the Home at 1:30 pm for the event. Located at 300 Lake Street between 4th and 5th Avenues. The residents at St. Anne's Home are eagerly anticipating our arrival on June 17st. It gives them great enjoyment to see and ride in our old cars. There will be an afternoon social with refreshments following the driving tours through the Presidio.

Tour Leader: **Barry Kinney**, RSVP 415-282-2789

Overnighter to Murphys Ironstone Concours d'Elegance Friday - Sunday, September 22 - 24

By popular demand, for a eleventh 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



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Dan Sullivan	May 6
Fred Grafelman	May 9
Victoria Amber Martinez	May 10
Maria Rosario Young	May 14
Jean Kling	May 19
Maria Victoria Young	May 19

Women's Daytime Wear - 1929

Skirts were still at the knee for daytime wear. Pleats were often arranged in front or at either side of the front, or in clusters at one side. Loose panels were seen in the back of the skirts. Drapes and flares continued to give fullness, although the hip line was snugger than in 1928. The uneven hemline dipped considerably on either side or in the back. The waistline was still at the hip but creeping upward. Necklines were lower than 1928. Some of them were square, round, and the "V" was still popular. Matching jackets, short or three-quarter length were stylish. Cloche hats continued to be popular, many with brims, side ribbons or ornaments. The brim of the hat was slightly above the eyebrow.



A. A bloused waist front with lace at the V-neck, tucks at the shoulders, and a jabot with a rhinestone pin accent this dress. The skirt has a wrap around design and a rhinestone pin.

B. This dress has a bloused waist front finished with lace. Bows at the cuffs, a scalloped front peplum, and shirring in front add interest.

Reprinted from *A Book of Fashion Facts*, MAFCA

For Sale: 1928 Model A Rolling Chassis

Professional restoration, complete rolling chassis, \$6K invested, asking \$4K firm. Contact Scott 320-293-9603



The Relay Switch and the Model A

By Lynn Sondena, Sandy, Oregon

What is a relay switch? It is a switching device operated by a low current circuit that controls the opening and closing of another circuit of higher capacity. A relay switch is used to make a more direct connection between the battery and horn. The voltage drop is lessened and higher voltage is available to operate the horn. Thus the horn will not be sick sounding, providing it is in good working order and properly lubricated. It will be ready to AHOOGA!

Sick sounding horns may be caused by loose or corroded terminals, or the charging rate may be set too low. Some examples of electrical circuits that use relay switches are the horn, fog lights, auxiliary lights, power windows, power doors and antennas. I will focus on the Model A's that have been converted to 12 volt, negative ground systems. I will cover how to wire the relay switch into the horn or fog light circuit, as their wiring is similar. These two circuits are more likely to be found on the Model A that was converted to 12 volts.

Why do I need a relay switch? In very simple terms, a relay switch is a safety switch. It prevents overheating of the device and its wiring so fire hazards are reduced. They are also a positive on/off switch for the device. For example, if your horn button shorts out so the horn stays on, that will produce heat which can cause a fire. If the horn switch shorts out and a relay switch is being used, then current is stopped and no overheating is present. A horn circuit is a "Switched Ground Circuit", the relay switch is not grounded. The fog lights use a "Switched Power Circuit", the relay switch is grounded using #86 for the ground.

The following is a breakdown of the numbers on the relay switch for a switched grounded circuit. Number 30, 85 and 87 are wired the same in both circuits.

30 - the hot wire coming into the relay, usually a 20 amp or 30 amp fused wire.

85 - the wire to the horn button. (or fog lamps).

86 - connects to 30 after the fuse. (This provides power to both relay contact switches).

87 - the outgoing wire to the horn. Note: there are two connectors on the relay.

This is for two horns or two fog lights. Just cap the one not used.

As a note, China tried to copy this numbering system, but they use 51 for 30 and 88 for 86.

When you are wiring, be sure to use insulated covered, slide-on terminals and coat them with dielectric grease. (Fig.3) These protect the terminals from the elements and allow for easy disconnection.



Figure 3 shows the wiring diagram for the 12-volt negative ground relay switch.

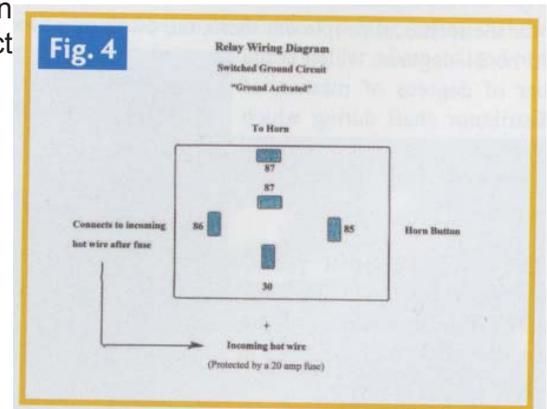
Note: If using the relay for other applications such as fog lights, #86 is connected to a ground and not to #30.



Figure 1 shows a relay switch. Now you ask, what do the numbers on the bottom of the relay switch mean?

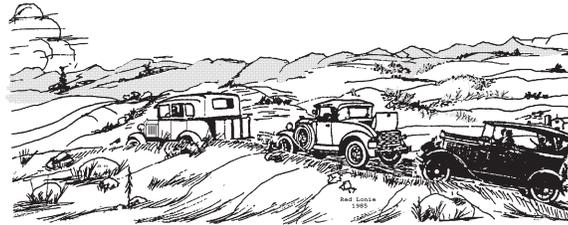


Figure 2 shows the SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers) first set up these numbers to be a uniform standard in the United States of America.



2017 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

It's THE JOURNEY! NOT THE DESTINATION!

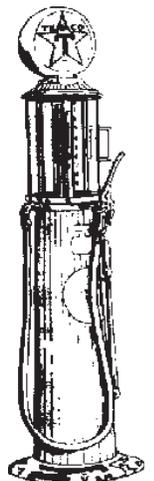


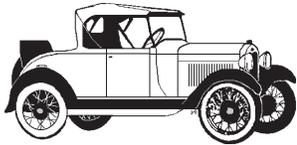
MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JANUARY	22	BARRY KINNEY	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH - REDWOOD CITY
MARCH	11 SATURDAY	BARRY KINNEY	ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE - SF
APRIL	16	RALPH HOFFSCHILD	EASTER PARADE - SF
APRIL	23	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	SWANTON PACIFIC RR TOUR - DAVENPORT CA
APRIL	29 SATURDAY	KINNEY	F. A. S. T. SPRING 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
April 13, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 pm by Vice President Gunard Mahl. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as written. There were no guests.

Reports of Officers

President: Absent.

Vice President: The Easter Parade will be Sunday April 16. Ralph will be in charge. The parade is rain or shine. We will meet at Union and Octavia at 10 am. Walter will send out an e-mail on this. ♦ The Memorial Day Parade at the Presidio will be Monday May 29th. We will meet there about 9 am. Lunch will be afterwards at the Presidio Golf Club cafe around 1 pm.

Secretary: No report

Treasurer: Jeanine has her mobile deposit working and deposited all the checks she had. ♦ She wrote and sent the \$100 to ACCC. Check is a donation in Franz's memory. ♦ We currently have 30 paid members.

Editor: Walter is working on the Grand Tour. There will be more information next month. We have 12 people signed up. ♦ We may be meeting in the downstairs food area of the Monte Cristo Club in the future, due to the dancers practicing in the bar area. ♦ Walter moved that the club spend \$250 to purchase a monitor so we can have entertainment in the future at monthly meetings in the lower area of the club. This was approved. He will try to have it for next month. ♦ Walter will go next Wednesday to get the old Choke Rods from Franz's warehouse. ♦ The Modesto A's are challenging other clubs to donate to the National Model A Museum, so it can stay open and have a significant endowment. ♦ We will work on the club budget next month. ♦ St. Anne's Home annual event will be on Saturday June 17th, the Saturday before Father's Day.

Food and Beverage Chair: No report

Tour Chair: No report

New Business: None

For The Good Of The Order:

We had no entertainment. John Zuffi provided refreshments for the meeting. Victoria Acosta will provide refreshments for the next meeting. There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 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, May 11, 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.

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



in this Choke Rod

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www.sfmodelaclub.org

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
Model A Ford Club of America
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415-621-0500



MAY MEETING
Thursday May 11, 2017
7:30 pm - Monte Cristo Club
136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)
San Francisco