

# The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

Volume 61, Issue 9

Celebrating the Model A for Sixty Years

September 2017

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America



## Great Michigan / Midwest Train Tour

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### Upcoming Tours

September 4-19 - Great Michigan /Midwest Train Tour

Sunday September 17 - Oktoberfest with the Marin A's - Marin Rod & Gun Club

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

Sunday October 8 - Columbus Day Celebration - San Francisco

Official Publication of the  
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter  
MAFCA

## President's Message



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Gary Barrango

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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

On Monday September 4, 2017 twelve of our club members are embarking on a whirlwind tour by train, plane and auto to the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village in Dearborn, Michigan. We won't be back from Dearborn and points in the midwest until Tuesday September 19. However, while we are gone, the Marin A's are hosting their exciting fun-filled Oktoberfest on Sunday September 17 at the Marin Rod and Gun Club. Again this year they have invited our club to attend. So, if you are not coming along to Dearborn, try to get to the Marin Rod and Gun Club in San Rafael for a little fun and BBQ with the Marin A's.

Just after we return from our great train tour adventure I will be leading our annual tour to the Ironstone Concours in Murphys. This year we are only a handful. If you plan to go but are not traveling with the Club please let me know. I will reserve for a group dinner at the Old Murphys Hotel on Saturday evening September 23. If I don't hear from you before Friday September 21, I will assume you are not coming to dinner with the group. Call me at 415.647.7077 or 415.282.2789. If you don't get me directly please leave a message.

My plan is to meet at the Diamond Heights Shopping Center parking lot at 8 am on Friday September 22, 2017. I plan to leave town at 8:30 am. The route will be I-580 and I-5 to Stockton and then on highway 120 to Oakdale and on to Angels Camp and Murphys. With stops along the way we should be in Murphys at about 3:30 pm.

Mark another date on your calendar: the Columbus Day Celebration, Sunday October 8, 2017. This is one celebration you do not want to miss. Plan to come. Call Gary Barrango at 650.572.1142 or 415.821.2628 to join the 149th annual Italian Heritage Parade.

**NOTE: THE SEPTEMBER MEETING WILL BE ON HELD ON THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 28, 2017.**

This will be the last Thursday in September. A group of us will meet for dinner before the meeting at 6 pm at Goat Hill Pizza.

See you at the meeting on Thursday September 28.

*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](http://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*.

## Marin A's Oktoberfest

Sunday, September 17  
Marin Rod & Gun Club - San Rafael

The Marin A's have invited the Napa A's, the Sonoma A's, and the SF Bay Area Chapter to their 2017 Oktoberfest at the Marin Rod and Gun Club in San Rafael.

The Marin A's request you bring your Model A (if possible), hat, sunscreen, sweater (could be warm, could be foggy), camera, and any adult drinks you may want. Food and drink (water and soda) provided by the Marin A's. There is no cost - we are guests of the Marin A's.

We will meet for a running board breakfast, before we depart for San Rafael and Oktoberfest.

**Last time we all had a great time.**

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## 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. Accommodations are limited on a "first come, first served" basis with a two night minimum. No exceptions.

The 2017 route to Ironstone will be: I-580 to Castro Valley. Then we will travel the Altamont Pass Road to Grantline Road. We will turn north on Tracy Road to Highway 4 into Holt CA for lunch.

From Holt it is a straight shot through Stockton up Highway 4 to Murphys. The only stretch of freeway will be that section between San Francisco and Castro Valley. From Castro Valley it will be all two lane back roads. It may take a little longer to get up the hill to Murphys but the route is scenic and void of trucks and fast cars.

Call Barry at 415-282-2789 to reserve a room.

**Tour Leader: Barry Kinney**

Refreshments  
at the August meeting  
were provided by  
**The Club**

**Ralph Hoffschidt**  
will provide refreshments  
at the September meeting



## Columbus Day Celebration

### 2017 Italian Heritage Parade

Sunday October 8

San Francisco's 149<sup>th</sup> Annual Italian Heritage Parade on Sunday, October 8, 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



Kevin Richardson	September 11
Judy O'Brien	September 13
Victoria Acosta	September 15
Vincent Ryan Frueh	September 15
Jenny Jump	September 16
Dan Bowermaster	September 17
Christina DeMartini Reyes	September 22
Ken Kling	September 22

James & Daisy Young	September 18
Robert & Nina Petersen	September 28

# Ladies Beach Wear

Active sports wear was designed for comfort and ease of movement. Womens' skirts had deeper pleats. Blouses had darts at the shoulders. Bare legs with canvas shoes and rolled ankle socks were acceptable. Close fitting hats or head bands were worn. Matching jackets were often worn with sports outfits for a dressier look.

Beach wear included beach robes, beach pajamas, wide brimmed hats for women, rubber bathing shoes and caps. Bathing suits for both men and women were either one piece or two piece often with belts.

These sports fashions show how the participants and spectators would have dressed for golf, tennis, and other outdoor activities.



# Technical Q & A - Part 1

By Jim Cannon

I don't know about you, but my memory is not what it used to be. I don't always remember the details of how something was on my car when I took it apart. That makes it harder for me to put it back correctly when I am reassembling.

To help overcome that, I take dozens of pictures with my digital camera at every step of disassembly. You never know what you will need to see at a later time.

I have also lately started taking pictures of things at each step of reassembly. This allows me to confirm how I put it together if I have a problem at a later time. It is unlikely I will remember a few years later how I oriented "this piece" on assembly or if I installed a new "that piece." The pictures help.

**Q:** I would like to know the cotter pin finish from the factory? And was there a different finish in different areas of the car/truck?

Chet Clymer, Bandon, Oregon

**A:** In general, all Model A era cotter pins were unfinished steel. There were a few special applications (I know some windshield wiper arms/blades, possibly others) where the pin was made of brass.

The correct head shape for a Model A cotter pin is a full round circle. Modern pins come with the head bent off-center to the wire legs to form a tang out to one side; these are not correct. So you need to get pins with the correct head shape.

Ford called for specific length pins for various applications. You measure the length from under the round head to the tip of the shorter of the two legs. You usually bend the longer leg over the top of the threaded bolt and the shorter leg down along the hex side of the nut.

From the *Restoration Guidelines & Judging Standards*: "In the interest of preservation ... plain cotter pins may be cadmium plated or stainless steel." – (ref.: *Judging the Model A*, page. 12). Of course, they still must have the correct head shape.

The Model A parts suppliers sell sets of pins with the round head in both plain steel and stainless steel. I find the stainless pins to be harder to bend, but they stay looking nice.

There is also a book called "Ford Model A Standard Hardware" sold by MAFCA. This 36-page manual is a compilation of standard parts from all 11 chassis parts books Ford used throughout the Model A Era. A good source to research the number, size, shape and finish of any subassembly standard parts for your car, regardless of the year.

**Q:** I am interested to know what is the main cause of what I call Bunny Hopping or surging when crawling in low gear. I notice some cars in our club do not have this problem so it is obviously something that can be fixed. I have recently changed engines and have a balanced flywheel and pressure plate and did not have this problem in the previous engine. I am not the only one in our group with this problem. Hope you can help.

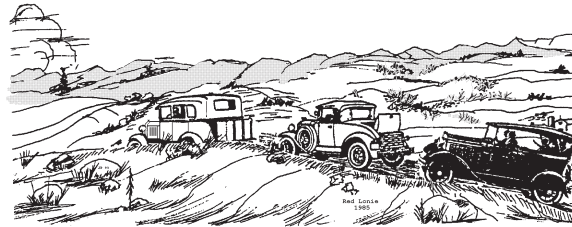
Lindsay Harris, Australia

**A:** I know the phenomenon you are describing. On cars that I have owned that have done it, it was caused by one or more things, usually compounded. Anything that gets the engine surging gets it started. This is usually fuel mixture (usually too much fuel), but could also be spark timing too advanced for very low RPM (near idle). Combine this with a bit of wear in the drive train (transmission, u-joint, differential gears, rear axles) and it gets worse. Slop in the distributor rotor, due to wear in the drive gear where it mates to the camshaft or worn distributor shafts, also makes it surge because of timing changes.

In your case, with the new engine, I'd look at idle mixture, including the Gas Adjusting Valve, and drivetrain. The new engine might also just be tight and need to wear in to run smoothly at low RPM.

## 2017 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

It's THE JOURNEY! NOT THE DESTINATION!

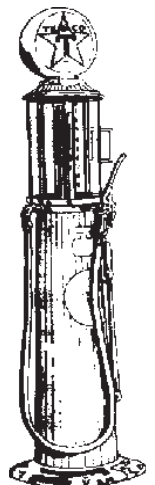


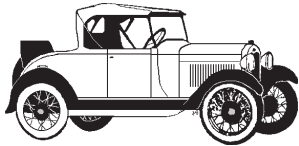
MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JANUARY	22	BARRY KINNEY	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH - REDWOOD CITY
MARCH	11 SATURDAY	BARRY KINNEY	ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE - SF
APRIL	16	RALPH HOFFSCHILD	EASTER PARADE - SF
APRIL	23	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	SWANTON PACIFIC RR TOUR - DAVENPORT CA
APRIL	29 SATURDAY	KINNEY	F. A. S. T. SPRING 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
JULY	22 SATURDAY	KINNEY	RADIO DAY BY THE BAY - ALAMEDA
SEPTEMBER	9 SATURDAY	KINNEY	ANTIQUE AUTOS HISTORY PARK - SAN JOSE
SEPTEMBER	4-19	BARRY KINNEY	GREAT MICHIGAN/MIDWEST TRAIN TOUR
SEPTEMBER	17	MARIN A'S	OKTOBERFEST - MARIN ROD & GUN CLUB
SEPTEMBER	22-24	CAPLAN / MACHADO	OVERNIGHTER MURPHYS-IRONSTONE CONCOURS
SEPTEMBER	23 SATURDAY	MAHL	42 <sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL 28 <sup>TH</sup> AVENUE BLOCK PARTY
OCTOBER	8	BARRANGO	COLUMBUS DAY PARADE - NORTH BEACH, SF
OCTOBER	21 SATURDAY	CAPLAN	SF OLD CAR PICNIC - GOLDEN GATE PARK
November	12 SUNDAY	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

<b>Jan 22</b>	SF Model A Club President's Brunch – Redwood City
<b>Jan 28-29</b>	Turlock Swap Meet
<b>May 16-20</b>	NCRG Roundup Modesto hosted by the Hub Tour – Lodi CA – <a href="http://www.ncrgmafca.com">www.ncrgmafca.com</a>
<b>Oct 1-6</b>	MAFCA National Tour – Pacific Coast Hwy – Paso Robles to Napa Valley hosted by the Bakersfield Chapter
<b>Dec 5-8</b>	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**  
**August 10, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 7:25 pm by Editor Walter Caplan. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as written, and we saluted the American flag by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Stuart Fong was our guest.

**Reports of Officers**

**President:** Ironstone Concours (overnighter to Murphys) will be Friday - Sunday September 22 - 24. If you need a room, see Walter or Barry. ♦ Tonight's dinner will cost \$ 10. ♦ The Marin A's Oktoberfest will be Sunday September 17 at the Marin Rod and Gun Club - see the article in this month's **Choke Rod**. ♦ The family of Jack Hart is selling his 1931 Model A coupe. If interested, see the article in this month's **Choke Rod**.

**Vice President:** Gunard reported on his trip to Vietnam with his daughter. They had a great time. ♦ Gunard drove a race car around the track at Indy. He said it was a blast.

**Secretary:** No report

**Treasurer:** Jeanine wrote checks to Barry for tonight's dinner, Walter for printing, and Ralph for signs for the cars. ♦ We need a plan to generate some income. Walter talked to Gary about finding a date for the Crab feed in January or February 2018.

**Editor:** Al reported on Radio Days in Alameda. Six members attended, and everyone had a great time. It was a fun event and we had a great lunch at a local bar and burger place in downtown Alameda. ♦ Walter received a thank you from ACCC for the memorial gift in Franz's memory. ♦ Walter discussed final plans for the Grand Tour in September. He needs \$ 100 in cash from everyone going. This is for gratuities on the train and the box dinner on the train from Chicago to Dearborn. We will leave Monday September 4 from SFO at 9:10 am on Alaska Airlines. We will be staying at the Best Western Plus Pioneer Square Hotel at Pioneer Square in Seattle. We will travel from the airport by streetcar to our hotel. We will leave the following Wednesday on the Amtrak Empire Builder train to Chicago and Dearborn.

**Food and Beverage Chair:** No report

**Tour Chair:** No report

**Old Business:** No report

**For The Good Of The Order:** No report

The Club provided refreshments for the meeting. Ralph Hoffschmidt will provide refreshments for the next meeting.

**Our September meeting will be held the last Thursday of the month, Thursday September 28.** There was no entertainment. 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, September 28, 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 the Monte Cristo Club.

The Choke Rod  
is available online in color at  
[www.sfmodelaclub.org](http://www.sfmodelaclub.org)



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[www.sfmodelaclub.org](http://www.sfmodelaclub.org)

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**SEPTEMBER MEETING**  
**Thursday September 28, 2017**  
**7:30 pm - Monte Cristo Club**  
**136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)**  
**San Francisco**