

# The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

Volume 62, Issue 10

*Celebrating the Model A for More Than Sixty Years*

October 2018

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America



Photo by Cynthia Torres

## The Portland Tour

see pages 4-5

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### Upcoming Tours

Sunday October 7 - Columbus Day Celebration - San Francisco

Sunday November 11 - Veterans Day Parade - San Francisco

Saturday December 8 - Christmas Banquet - Val's Restaurant, Daly City

Official Publication of the  
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter  
MAFCA

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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: sfmodelaclub@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

# President's Message

The Portland Tour was an enjoyable three days. We visited two world class museums, did a little antiquing at the Lafayette School House Antique Mall, visited the Colombia River Gorge, and stayed in the McMenamins 1915 Kennedy School, a unique lodging, dining, and gathering place, which brims with original artwork, live music, history and creative and inspiring spaces.



I want to thank everyone who contributed to the success of this venture. Our drivers, Cynthia Torres and Earl Hibler, did a great job getting us safely to our destination. We had a few navigational errors but Mr. GPS kept us on track and together most of the time. Special thanks to John Bettencourt who deserves all the credit for finding the Kennedy Hotel and to Walter Caplan, the guy who reasons through the logistics and is always there to lend a hand during moments of uncertainty. I also want to acknowledge Joe and Kathy Higgins for bringing our treasures home in the trunk of their car. A sincere thank you to everyone who came on this trip for their contributions and participation. It was a pleasure for me to plan the trip and gratifying to see so many club members come along for the ride.

See you at the October meeting, Thursday October 11.

*Barry Kinney*

The San Francisco Model "A" Ford Club encourages membership in MAFCA, the National Model "A" Ford Club. Benefits include an excellent bimonthly 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*.

## Mayor's Veterans Day Parade Sunday November 11 Fisherman's Wharf

The club has been invited once again to participate in the traditional Veterans Day Parade being held this year on Sunday November 11. The parade will start on the Embarcadero at North Point Street and proceed west along Jefferson Street, past the reviewing stand on Jefferson Street, near Leavenworth Street, and then disband.

The Veterans Day Parade traditionally honors and remembers the veterans of our armed forces. If you are interested in being part of our contingent, contact Barry Kinney at 415-282-2789.

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## Christmas Banquet Saturday December 8

**Our Christmas Banquet will be full of fun and excitement.** There will be a gift exchange and a raffle you won't want to miss. Jenny promises to provide fancy table decorations as well as party favors. Along with your unwrapped children's gift for Toys for Tots, bring a fun, funky, or fabulous wrapped gift. Bring a gift to get a gift. Use your imagination: what kind of treasure can you find for \$10 or less?

**The Christmas Banquet will be Saturday, December 8** at Val's Restaurant in Daly City.

See the insert in next month's **Choke Rod** for details.

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## Columbus Day Celebration 2018 Italian Heritage Parade Sunday October 7

San Francisco's 150<sup>th</sup> Annual Italian Heritage Parade on Sunday, October 7, 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.

**We will be the 45th contingent in the parade and will be meeting around 10:30 am on Powell Street between Bay Street and North Point. Almost the same place as last year. After the parade we will gather Castagnola's restaurant at Fisherman's Wharf.**

If you are interested in being part of our contingent, contact Gary Barrango at 650-572-1142 or 415-821-2628.



## 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

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Refreshments at the September meeting were provided by **Barry Kinney**

**Ralph Hofschilt** will provide refreshments at the October meeting



## The Portland Tour

The Portland Tour was unique starting with our stay at the Kennedy School. The hotel motto: "Don't run in the hallways, Please. You Might Spill Your Beer! " Built in 1915 the school house has been restored and remodeled into a unique hotel with fifty-seven comfortable rooms complete with original chalk boards and cloak rooms, a restaurant, multiple small bars, a movie theater, soaking pool, gift shop and brewery, Extensive original art work and historical photographs cover walls and ceilings, doorways and hallways. In this school it is permissible to fall asleep in class.

Our next stop was the Western Antique Aeroplane and Automobile Museum in Hood River, Oregon. To get there we drove up the spectacular Columbia River Gorge. The WAAAM museum is a delightful collection of antique airplanes, motorcycles, trucks, tractors, bicycles, engines, tools, and various odds and ends related to historical motorized transportation. This is truly a museum with something for everyone. Lunch was in Hood River at the Riverside Restaurant on the bank of the Columbia River.

Our last day in Oregon was spent antiquing at the Lafayette School House Antique Mall and touring the Evergreen Aviation Museum. The school house is a three story wood frame building built in 1923 and converted to an antique mall in 1988. There are eight classrooms filled with art glass, china, toys, books and memorabilia. The basement and adjacent gymnasium are filled with antique furniture, stuff you would recognize from your grandmother's house. After lunch at the Oregon Hotel in McMinnville we traveled on to the Evergreen Aviation Museum to see Howard Hughes' Spruce Goose, the SR -71 Spy Plane, and a Titan II Missile, just to name a few.

The trip was short and full of activity. We all came home a little fatigued but assured that we had seen two of the best air and space museums the West Coast has to offer.

*Barry Kinney*



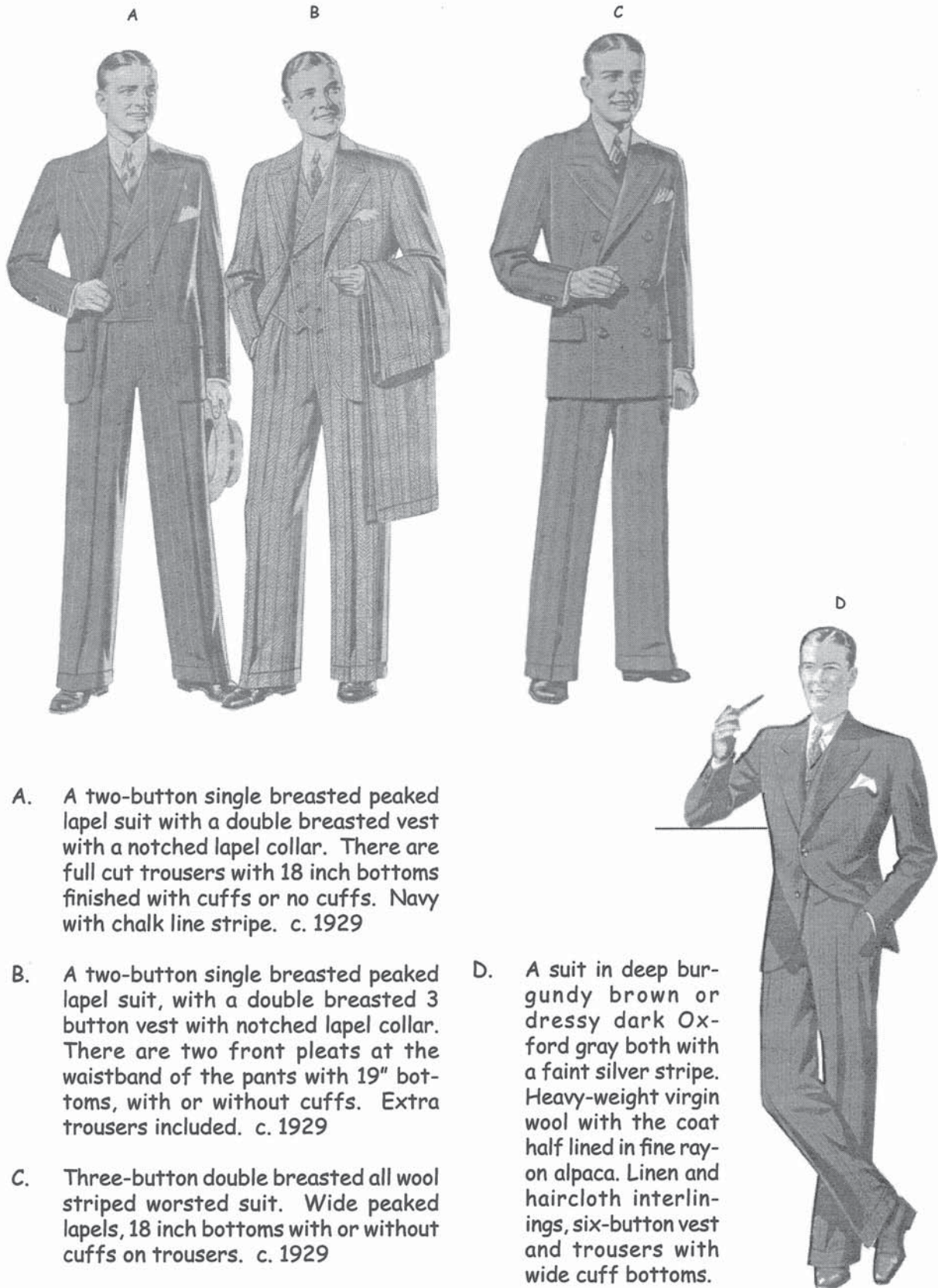
Photos by Cynthia Torres





## Men's Daytime Wear

Men's fashion changed very little during the Model A Era. However, there were a few styling changes during this time. Suit coats fit snugly. There was a distinct indentation at the waist, but not tight. Trousers legs were straight.



- A. A two-button single breasted peaked lapel suit with a double breasted vest with a notched lapel collar. There are full cut trousers with 18 inch bottoms finished with cuffs or no cuffs. Navy with chalk line stripe. c. 1929
- B. A two-button single breasted peaked lapel suit, with a double breasted 3 button vest with notched lapel collar. There are two front pleats at the waistband of the pants with 19" bottoms, with or without cuffs. Extra trousers included. c. 1929
- C. Three-button double breasted all wool striped worsted suit. Wide peaked lapels, 18 inch bottoms with or without cuffs on trousers. c. 1929

- D. A suit in deep burgundy brown or dressy dark Oxford gray both with a faint silver stripe. Heavy-weight virgin wool with the coat half lined in fine rayon alpaca. Linen and haircloth interlinings, six-button vest and trousers with wide cuff bottoms.

## Technical Q & A - Part 5

Excerpts of question to and answers by MAFCA's Technical Director Chuck Christensen

**Q:** I am working on an early 1931 82B. I would like to know what color to paint a couple of the parts. The door header strips and door top cover plates. From what I found in all the books I have, I am not sure since rubber goes under the header strips and the glass needs to go in after painting. Did they come black or body color? It appears that the garnish moldings on the doors and rear window are black, as is the windshield garnish and dash rail. The color I am painting this is medium cream, so if I get one of these wrong it's really going to show. Thank you for any help you can give me with this matter.

Rick Jewell

**A:** The door header strips and door top covers go body color. The dash rail, rear window frame, door garnish moldings and windshield pillars go black.

**Q:** I own a 1929 closed cab pickup which I bought restored. (1) The front bumpers and the two outer bumper clamps are all black, not chromed and there is no center bumper clamp at all. Is this normal on a commercial vehicle of that date or did the restorer just take a cheaper route? (2) I have a manually operated windshield wiper. Is this normal on a commercial vehicle or did the restorer install this because he did not have a motor? (3) I have an "Otwell" heater manifold on the engine, but there is no corresponding hole in or cover flap on the firewall. Our club library (Canada's Capital A's in Ottawa, Ontario) has a book on Model A aftermarket product advertisements of long ago and I saw an ad for an "Otwell Health Heater" manifold. Would you know where and how I could find out more about this product and its component parts ?

Amir Anders

**A:** (1) The bumper bars should be chrome plated with the front surface polished and the edges and back surfaces left dull chrome. The bumper clamps are also plated with bumper clamp blue paint in recesses. You should have a center clamp also.

(2) The 28 /29 wipers and the frame had a tube through the top for the wiper shaft to go through.

(3) My only reference is page 137 of *Those Wonderful Unauthorized Accessories for Model A Ford*. I do not recommend the use of manifold heaters because a crack could pump exhaust into the cab and create an unhealthy situation. The casting does hold a true shape so the exhaust ports line up. The original manifolds have a problem with sagging at number four, creating a leak. I would leave the heater manifold on but don't cut a hole in the firewall.

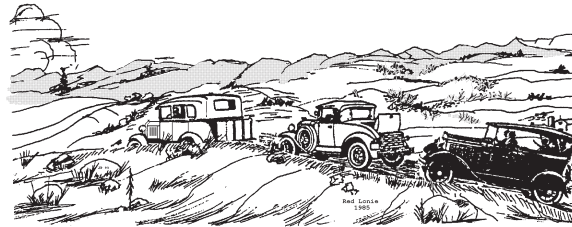
**Q:** I have found a 1928 closed cab pick- up with the Ford script stamped in the rear cab panel above the window. Can you tell me why this is there, and if it has any special meaning, as I have not seen one like it before?

Dean M. Lyons

**A:** The Ford script is an AR feature and was discontinued in early 1928 . You will also find the window about 3" higher than the standard 28/29 cab back panel. The reinforcement ribs could also vary on your cab.

## 2018 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

IT'S THE JOURNEY — NOT THE DESTINATION

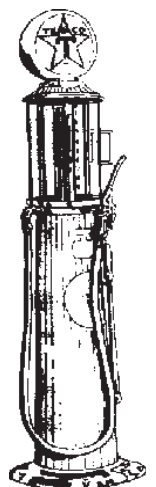


MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JANUARY	14	BARRY KINNEY	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH - HALF MOON BAY
FEBRUARY	3 SATURDAY	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	CRAB FEED - MONTE CRISTO CLUB, SF
MARCH	17 SATURDAY	BARRY KINNEY	ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE & FESTIVAL - SF
APRIL	1	RALPH HOFFSCHILDT	EASTER PARADE - UNION STREET, SF
APRIL	28	KINNEY	F. A. S. T. SPRING HILLCLIMB - AUBURN, CA
APRIL	29	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	DREAM MACHINES - HALF MOON BAY
MAY	20	MPOT FORD CLUB	FRIENDSHIP DAY - REDWOOD SHORES
MAY	28 MONDAY	CAPLAN	MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE - PRESIDIO
JUNE	16 SATURDAY	CAPLAN / KINNEY	ST. ANNE'S HOME - FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND
JUNE	24	CAPLAN	PRIDE PARADE - SAN FRANCISCO
JULY	21 SATURDAY	KINNEY	RADIO DAY BY THE BAY - ALAMEDA
AUGUST	3 FRIDAY	KINNEY	BOCCE BALL - ORANGE PARK, SSF
SEPTEMBER	15 SATURDAY	KINNEY	ANTIQUE AUTOS HISTORY PARK - SAN JOSE
SEPTEMBER	21-23	CAPLAN / MACHADO	OVERNIGHTER MURPHYS-IRONSTONE CONCOURS
SEPTEMBER	22 SATURDAY	MAHL	43 <sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL 28 <sup>TH</sup> AVENUE BLOCK PARTY
OCTOBER	7	BARRANGO	COLUMBUS DAY PARADE - NORTH BEACH, SF
OCTOBER	20 SATURDAY	CAPLAN	SF OLD CAR PICNIC - GOLDEN GATE PARK
November	11 SUNDAY	CAPLAN / KINNEY	VETERANS DAY PARADE - FISHERMAN'S WHARF
DECEMBER	1 SATURDAY	CAPLAN / KINNEY	SFPD BRAVE THE BAY - AQUATIC PARK
DECEMBER	8 SATURDAY	SF MODEL A CLUB	CHRISTMAS BANQUET - VAL'S - DALY CITY

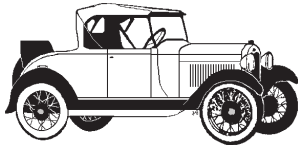
If you would like to lead a tour, please call **Gary Barrango** at **415-821-2628**  
We encourage Club Members to plan additional *driving tours* throughout the year.  
There is room for more than one activity or tour per month.

## 2018 Schedule of Events

**Jan 14** SF Model A Club President's Brunch – Half Moon Bay  
**Jan 27-28** Turlock Swap Meet  
**Jun 24-29** 2018 MAFCA National Convention – Sparks, NV  
 Hosted by the Northern California Regional Group - NCRG  
[www.ncrgmafca.com](http://www.ncrgmafca.com)







**San Francisco Bay Area Chapter**  
**Model A Ford Club of America**  
**September 13, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by President Barry Kinney at 7:30 pm. There were two guests: Bob Fioritto, VP of both YMI and the Monte Cristo Club, and Carmella Smith. The Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as written. Bob Fioritto thanked the club for it's donation to and sponsoring of the June 3 Golf Tournament that help the seventeen families who lost homes in the Napa/Santa Rosa fire of October 8 & 9, 2017. Bob presented the club with their thank you card.

Bob also discussed plans for the annual Italian Heritage Parade on Columbus Day, Sunday October 7. Our contingent will assemble near Fisherman's Wharf between 9:30 and 10 am - specifics and details will follow in an e-mail.

**Reports of Officers**

**President:** The Portland tour was discussed and recounted. Fifteen members participated – a GREAT time was had by all attendees. ♦ The Ironstone Concours will be Friday - Sunday September 21-23. Jill Schwab will have lunch for the group on Friday at her house in Sonora – we plan to arrive at her home between noon and 1 pm. ♦ The Columbus Day Parade will be Sunday October 7.

**Vice President:** Absent

**Past President:** No report

**Secretary:** No report

**Treasurer:** Absent

**Editor:** We received a second thank you letter from Santa Rosa fire victims for our donation.

**Food and Beverage Chair:** No report

**Tour Chair:** No report

**For The Good Of The Order:** Next month we will have an update on the Bent Rod Award.

Barry Kinney brought refreshments to the September meeting. Ralph Hofschildt will provide refreshments for the October meeting.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

*Walter Caplan,*  
for 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 11, 2018**

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 Goat Hill Pizza at 18th & Connecticut.

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)

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter  
Model A Ford Club of America  
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San Francisco, CA 94131-0387  
415-621-0500

**OCTOBER MEETING**  
**Thursday October 11, 2018**  
**7:30 pm - Monte Cristo Club**  
**136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)**  
**San Francisco**

**RENEW NOW**

**see Insert for**  
**2019 Membership Form**  
**Deadline: January 31**