

# The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

Volume 62, Issue 9

Celebrating the Model A for More Than Sixty Years

September 2018

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America



## Bocce Ball

See page 5

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## Upcoming Tours

Thursday August 30 - Sunday September 2 - Portland Tour - Portland, OR

Friday-Sunday September 21-23 - Ironstone Concours d'Elegance - Murphys, CA

Sunday October 7 - Columbus Day Celebration - San Francisco

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: 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

## President's Message

I hope those who attended the August meeting enjoyed the video on Carburetors prepared by the Dallas Model A Ford Club and that it was informative. We will try to dedicate a little time to "Show and Tell" at each meeting. If you have an issue or a problem with your car let me know and I will do my best to find something or someone who can help.



Bring your pictures of the Portland Trip to the September meeting for our "Show and Tell" segment. We will show a CD that details the history of the museums we visit and their collections. This was a trip to remember.

I am making plans for a train trip through the Southwest. Are you interested? if so please let me know.

See you at the September meeting on Thursday September 13.

*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.

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**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*.

## Overnighter to Murphys Ironstone Concours d'Elegance Friday - Sunday, September 21 - 23

By popular demand, for a twelfth 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 on a "first come, first served" basis. If you reserve one of the Club rooms, you will be obligated for two nights. No exceptions.

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

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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 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 Barranga at 650-572-1142 or 415-821-2628.

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Refreshments at the August meeting were provided by  
**Walter Caplan**

**Barry Kinney**  
will provide refreshments  
at the September meeting



## Portland Tour August 30 - September 2

The plans for the Tour to Portland in August are complete. Hotel and travel reservations have been made. In summary, we will arrive in Portland on Thursday August 30, 2018 and depart on September 2, 2018. During our stay in Portland we will visit the Western Airplane and Auto Museum, The Columbia River Gorge, and the Evergreen Air and Space Museum. Those club members who will be attending include: Walter Caplan, John Zuffi, John Bettencourt, Earl Hibler, Mike Cunneen, Kathy and Joe Higgins, Cynthia Torres, Charlie Kascal and Victoria Acosta, Barry Kinney, and Don Barnes, for a total of 12 people.

We have reserved two cars with Enterprise Car Rental. We will arrange to pick up those people arriving by train on Thursday afternoon and anyone who will be arriving at the airport. Those club members who are driving will come directly to the Kennedy School House Hotel at 5736 NE 33 Avenue in Portland, Oregon.



Portland here we come!



## 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

# Lincoln Highway Military Convoy Centennial Tour September 2019

[Editor: A number of club members participated in our a la carte version of the Lincoln Highway Centennial Tour in June of 2013, celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of the Lincoln Highway's extending coast to coast from downtown Manhattan to Lincoln Park in San Francisco. We joined the western tour group heading east from San Francisco, spent the night in Sacramento, and continued on to Auburn, where we waved good-bye to the tour as it headed east, and waited dutifully with Dr. Barry for a tow truck to arrive to tow his 1957 Thunderbird back home after a breakdown – he drove the T-Bird rather than his Model A because he said the T-Bird was more dependable (see **Choke Rod** 2013, volume 57, issue 7, page 6 for details).

Next September the Lincoln Highway Association, along with the Military Vehicle Preservation Association, is planning a 100th Anniversary of the Transcontinental Army Convoy Tour from Washington, DC to San Francisco. If there is sufficient interest among club members we might consider joining the September 2019 Tour in Auburn or some other point east and complete the tour along with all the other vehicles as they triumphantly enter San Francisco upon completion of their transcontinental journey.]



The Lincoln Highway Association is pleased to announce that it will be hosting a tour commemorating the centennial of the 1919 Army convoy across the Lincoln Highway. The original convoy during the summer of 1919 was a monumental event, important in the history of the United States.

On that convoy was a young Army officer by the name of Dwight Eisenhower, who learned many lessons as they crossed the country on the Lincoln Highway. He learned that military vehicles are often too heavy to cross bridges designed for passenger cars, resulting in the need for temporary bridges to enable river crossings. This knowledge proved useful when the Allied forces moved men and equipment across Europe during World War II, as the Germans destroyed bridges in their path. He learned the importance of good roads, not only for civilian travel, but also for national defense, as it is imperative for the armed forces to be able to move quickly and efficiently to provide this important function. This knowledge was reinforced again during World War II, when Eisenhower saw the great roads the Germans had on which to move their war machine. From these experiences came today's Interstate Highways, which had their beginning during Eisenhower's presidency in the 1950s.

During the first two weeks of September, 2019, we will retrace the path of Eisenhower and the Army convoy. The tour will begin near the White House in Washington, DC, and will travel at a leisurely pace averaging 200 miles daily, ending in San Francisco at the Lincoln Highway's western terminus. Because of the historic nature of this tour, participants are welcome and encouraged to drive vintage vehicles from any era – military or civilian – as you please.

The event is structured so that it allows each vehicle's "crew" to travel at its own pace during each day. Meals, attractions and lodging are pre-arranged, and we always gather as a group for dinner each evening. Participants are able to join the tour for a minimum of two days, or for the total length if time permits. The number of vehicles is limited to a maximum of 60 at any time, and registration will begin in January, 2019. Details will be available in future issues of the Forum, on the LHA website, and by contacting us at [tours@lhtp.com](mailto:tours@lhtp.com).

No doubt there will be other tours commemorating this historic event next year. In particular, the Military Vehicle Preservation Association (MVPA), will also be sponsoring a similar tour, designed specifically for military vehicles. Information for this tour will be posted on their website as it becomes available.

# Bocce Ball at Orange Memorial Park

Our First Bocce Ball Game Day was outstanding. The game is simple enough. Each team tries to get their red or green bocce balls as close to the white ball as possible. The team that gets their balls the closest wins the game.

We met at Orange Memorial Park in South San Francisco. We started at 11 am and played til 1:30 pm, with occasional breaks for a sip of wine and a taste of focaccia.

The Green Team and the Red Team each had a coach, both of whom graciously and tirelessly explained the technique and the strategy associated with Bocce. It was a tight contest but in the end the Green Team won the day and come home with the trophy.

Following the game we adjourned to the Garden Club in South San Francisco for a late lunch. The Garden Club is an old school place full of regulars. The meals are served Italian style. The daily specials include meat loaf and lamb shank, good satisfying comfort food.

The credit for this outing goes to John Bettencourt. John did the leg work and set up the event. John talked with members of the Italian American Citizens Club (founded 1916), the organization that sponsors and maintains the Bocce courts. Then John arranged for our Bocce coach, "Taco", to be there on Friday to explain the game and show us how it's played. Thanks, John!

We had a great day. So great that we may do this on a monthly basis. The current line-up is as follows: GREEN TEAM – Charlie Kascal, Kevin En[derby], John Bettencourt and Joan Peterson. RED TEAM – Walter Caplan, Victoria Kascal, Ralph Hoffschmidt, and Barry Kinney. Jeanine Mahl rotated in as a substitute.

The date for the next Bocce Game Day will be announced soon. Hopefully it will be on a Friday in September. Plan to slip away for an hour or two for a little wine, a little focaccia and a little relaxed game of Bocce. If you can't make the game then come down for a late lunch / early dinner at the Garden Club.

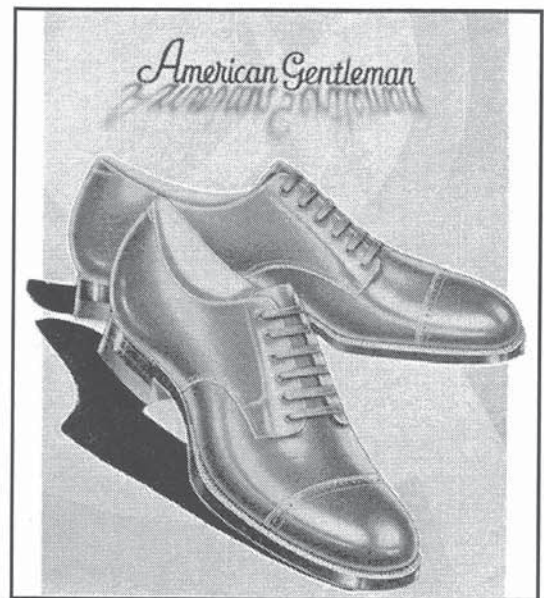
*Barry Kinney*



Photos by Walter Caplan

## Men's Dress Shoes

The shoes pictured on these pages are what men on a daily basis wore during the era. For work or dress, the same style shoes were worn. The only exception is very formal wear, which required an opera pump. The choice of high top or low top oxford was a personal preference. The toecap varied with pointed, rounded, and square shapes. These styles did not change during the era and can still be found in today's shoe stores. The difference is that only natural materials were used during the Model A era, while today man-made materials, such as vinyl and urethane are used in manufacturing shoes.



## Technical Q & A - Part 5

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

**Q:** I recently had a local shop work on my 1928 Tudor and they unfortunately lost the key. I do not have a spare. What do I need to do to solve this problem? I seem to remember that the key that worked was not even cut – is that possible?

John Bush

**A:** To help you solve your problem I need to know what switch you have. Is it a restored, original pop-out ignition used for blue ribbon judging, a reproduction pop-out made overseas, or is it a replacement ignition switch? If it is an original, you can order a key blank from you model A parts dealer and have a lock smith cut it to fit. This will be expensive, but necessary to keep the car original and the judges happy. If you have the reproduction pop-out you will see a number on the face of the switch. This number will be zero to eight and your dealer will have these cut and ready to use for about \$3 each. Order two or three and keep them on separate key rings. If you have the replacement switch, order a new switch. It will come with two keys and will cost around \$9. When you say the key that is lost was not even cut, I am going to guess you have the reproduction pop-out.

**Q:** Having just begun to work on my 1930 Coupe generator, I find it has no cutout but has two wires coming out of the generator body which were then screwed back into the body, possibly where the cutout would be attached. There is no post for wires to be attached. Should the cutout be placed where these two wires are and then the wires attached to the cutout? Is my generator the wrong one for the car? The number on the generator body after the Ford script UR12. I have tried to compare the generator to various articles but to no avail. Have been a member for a couple of years and appreciate your help.

James C. Fisher

**A:** Your generator is an aftermarket, but can still be used unless you plan to have the car judged at a regional, divisional or national meet. All original long type generators had a post which connected to the cutout with an "L" shaped bracket part number A-10550. You will need to take yours to an automotive electric shop that specializes in starters and generators and ask them to identify the ground wire which you will bolt to the cutout mounting bolt. The other will attach to the armature side of the cutout. Don't put a lot of money in the rebuilding of the after-market. Find a restorable original and buy the new parts for it.

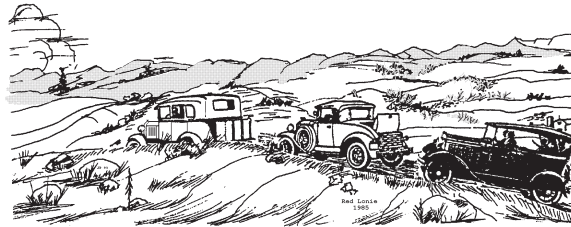
**Q:** How do I eliminate the rattle in my steering wheel? It appears only at just before shifting, approximately 1800 rpm. It appears to be coming from the horn button because when I place my hand on the horn the rattling stops. When I replaced the horn button and shaft I used the felt rings but to no avail. The car has been completely restored to exceptional condition. All rattles have been eliminated but this one.

Glen Mozingo

**A:** The light rod horn button assembly needs a brass light rod bushing. The bushing, part number A 3529, slides up the horn rod to the top under the switch handle. This is an anti-rattle bushing. If that doesn't do it, try drilling several small holes in the tube sidewall and inject glue to secure the wire inside the tube.

## 2018 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

IT'S THE JOURNEY — NOT THE DESTINATION

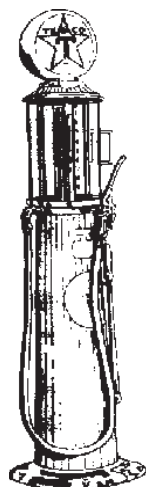


MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JANUARY	14	BARRY KINNEY	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH - HALF MOON BAY
FEBRUARY	3 SATURDAY	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	CRAB FEED - MONTE CRISTO CLUB, SF
MARCH	17 SATURDAY	BARRY KINNEY	ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE & FESTIVAL - SF
APRIL	1	RALPH HOFFSCHILDT	EASTER PARADE - UNION STREET, SF
APRIL	28	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

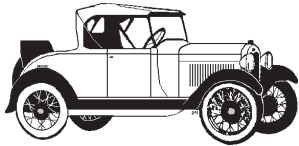
If you would like to lead a tour, please call **Gary Barrango** at **415-821-2628**  
We encourage Club Members to plan additional *driving tours* throughout the year.  
There is room for more than one activity or tour per month.

## 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**  
**August 9, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by President Barry Kinney at 7:45 pm. There were two guests: Victoria Looseleaf and Jill Schwab. The Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as written.

**Reports of Officers**

**President:** The Portland tour is all set. Some will leave Wednesday evening August 29 by rail and others will fly or drive. ♦ Bocce ball was at Orange Park in South San Francisco on Friday August 3. It was a fun day. Ten or so attended. A group went to the Garden Club afterward for a late lunch. ♦ The Ironstone Concours will be Friday - Sunday September 21-23. There are still several rooms available. Jill Schwab will have lunch for the group on Friday at her house in Sonora. More details to follow. ♦ The Columbus Day Parade will be Sunday October 7.

**Vice President:** Gunard talked about his trip to Cuba. He had a great time.

**Past President:** Absent

**Secretary:** No report

**Treasurer:** Jeanine wrote three reimbursement checks and she deposited a check from Bob Nicholson.

**Editor:** We received a 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:** Jill Schwab welcomed our group heading to Ironstone to her house in Sonora for lunch on Friday September 21. She is about 35 or 40 minutes drive from Murphy's. ♦ Barry brought a CD from the Dallas Model A's all about the many carburetors produced and available for Model A's in the years 1928 through 1931.

Walter Caplan brought refreshments to the August meeting. Barry Kinney will provide refreshments for the September meeting.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

*Joan Peterson*, Secretary

[Editor. Welcome back Joan.]

**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 13, 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)

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**SEPTEMBER MEETING**  
**Thursday September 13, 2018**  
**7:30 pm - Monte Cristo Club**  
**136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)**  
**San Francisco**