

# The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

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San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America

## President's Message

The year 2020 is coming to an end. This has been a difficult year: the Covid-19 virus has been very disruptive to life as we know it. In spite of all that has happened we have a lot to be thankful for. We can be thankful for our first responders who helped save lives at the risk of their own. We can be thankful for "Operation Warp Speed" for producing a vaccine in record time and we can be thankful for doctors and researchers who are doing all they can to fight this disease. It is because of them that next year we will be looking at this pandemic in the rear view mirror.

This year we had a few bright spots in spite of social distancing, staying at home, and wearing our masks. We had three Pandemic Picnics that were all well attended. We had virtual meetings each month which allowed us to stay in touch and, as much as possible, plan for the future.

This year we will not be celebrating Christmas in the conventional way. Our family get togethers will be smaller. We may choose not to travel far from home and we will certainly miss seeing everyone at our Annual Meeting/Christmas Banquet. But we look forward to the new year and a resumption of our monthly activities once the medical professionals give us the signal that it is safe to return to our normal life routines. In the spirit of the season we will not be asking Club members to pay dues in 2021.

I want to thank the Board of Directors for their continued support and their willingness to continue in office next year. A special thanks to our Editor, Walter Caplan, for his assistance with our Pandemic Picnics and setting up our Zoom meetings and producing our newsletter. I want to thank Joan Peterson who faithfully attends our meetings and reports all of our business in the Club minutes. A very special thanks to board members Gunard and Jeanine Mahl for their willingness to serve as Vice-President and Treasurer respectively and for their generous support of the Club. Because of you, our dedicated board members, the Club continues to prosper.

Looking forward I fully expect the Club to resume normal activities. We will get back to celebrating Veteran's Day, Memorial Day, and Father's Day along with the car shows and parades we normally attend each year. Our Carlsbad Caverns Tour is still on the table for all who would like to go and sometime in the spring we will hopefully come together for the annual President's Brunch.

Until then, I want to wish everyone a bountiful Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas! See you on the Zoom at our December meeting on Thursday December 10,

*Barry Kinney*

## Virtual Meeting Minutes – November 12, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Walter Caplan. There were seven Zoomers in attendance.

We had ten people attend our third and final Pandemic Picnic of the year at Spreckels Lake in Golden Gate Park. All had a fun time and the weather was good.

It was decided that Club Dues would be waived in 2021, since there hasn't been much in the way of club activities this year as a result of Covid-19 and there are a lot of unknowns for us in the months ahead. Next month in December we will Zoom on our regular second Thursday, December 10, for a festive holiday Zoom in lieu of our annual Christmas Banquet which will be postponed until December 2021.

John Bettencourt reported from St. Petersburg, Florida. They had a lot of rain and flooding and they had a twelve hour storm surge, but all are ok. John sold his Hot Rod and has his house up for sale. He's still bird watching and he is enjoying his visits to Fort De Soto Park.

The rest of the group discussed hummingbirds, museums, and the California DMV Real ID.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Joan Peterson*, Secretary