

The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

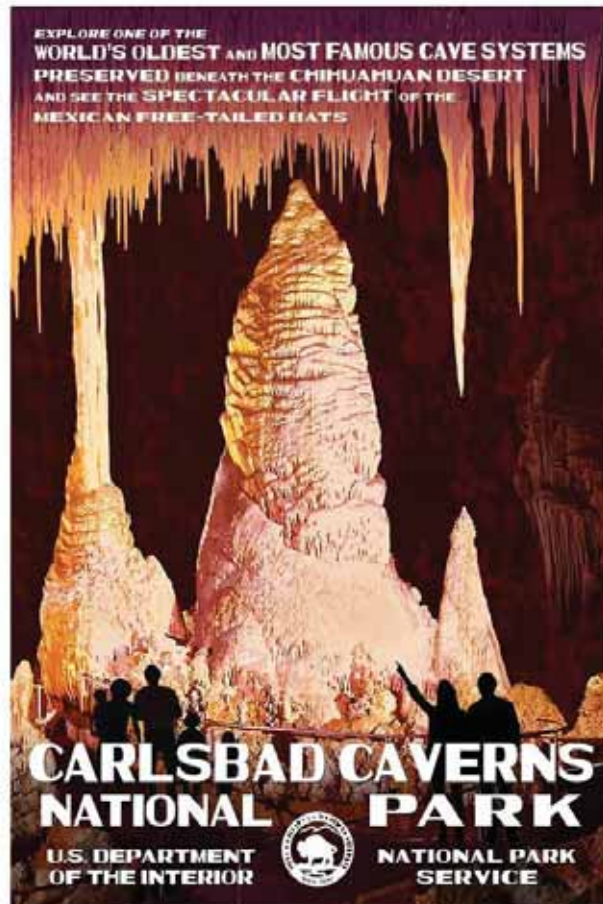
Volume 64, Issue 3

MAFCA 2018 Certificate of Merit

March 2020

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America



Carlsbad Caverns Tour

see page 3

Upcoming Tours

Saturday April 4 to Saturday April 11 - Carlsbad Tour - Carlsbad, NM

Sunday April 12 - Easter Parade - San Francisco

Monday May 25 - Memorial Day Observance - San Francisco Presidio

Official Publication of the
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
MAFCA

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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

President's Message

Our tour to Carlsbad is shaping up to be quite an adventure. We will be gone just a few short days but in that time we will have experienced an adventure in Los Angeles, two AMTRAK train rides (the Coast Starlight to Los Angeles and the Eagle to El Paso), and at least three museums with a few little surprises thrown in along the way.



We failed to register in time for the St. Patrick's Day Parade so we have no plans for a March tour. I am open to suggestions. I have an idea or two but nothing nailed down. If you have something you would like to do or see please let me know. We will need to get the information out to club members as soon as possible.

I want to thank club member Kev Enderby for the nice article he wrote for our last issue of **The Choke Rod**. It was both informational and entertaining. There is a lot more to know about car judging than meets the eye.

If things work the way we plan we will have the equipment to show a DVD on Carlsbad at our next meeting. We have been a little short on entertainment for the last month or two but I think we now have the solution at hand.

See you at the meeting on Thursday March 12.

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
562-697-2712



MAFCA dues are \$50 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 \$11 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*.

Carlsbad Tour

Saturday April 4 - Saturday April 11

Carlsbad Caverns National Park &

International UFO Museum and Research Center
in Roswell, New Mexico

Please note the dates for the Carlsbad Caverns Tour have changed: We now leave on Saturday April 4 and return on the Saturday April 11. We will be gone for SIX days including two travel days. There are two travel options: Amtrak from San Francisco to Los Angeles with a layover and then overnight by train to El Paso OR by air either on United or Southwest Airlines. Call Barry for details at 415.990.2974.

Easter Parade

Sunday April 12

Union Street's 28th Annual Easter Parade and Celebration will be held on Sunday April 12. We will make our way along Union Street past a surprisingly huge throng of spectators. Several thousand families, mothers, fathers, grandparents, multitudes of children, and assorted others will line the parade route from Laguna Street to Fillmore Street.

If you were concerned that San Francisco was losing its ability to retain families, the Union Street Parade and Celebration will show you otherwise - young families are alive and well in San Francisco, and gathering together on Easter Sunday for a joyous outdoor experience with their fellow San Franciscans, dressing up, wearing silly hats, playing, snacking, and parade watching. Come join the fun.

RSVP Walter Caplan 415-621-0500

30th Pacific Coast Dream Machines

Half Moon Bay - Sunday April 26

It's the world's largest and most whimsical gathering of motorized marvels from throughout the twentieth century - a remarkable exhibit of 2000 driving, flying, and working machines, running the gamut of exotic automobiles, US Army tanks, and antique motorcycles to restored military aircraft, Model T fire engines, massive steam tractors, and tons more. Live music, kids amusements and food booths run by local non- profits round out the festivities.

Refreshments at the February meeting were provided by Gary Barrango & John Bettencourt

Jeanine Mahl

will provide refreshments at the March meeting



Memorial Day Observance at historic San Francisco Presidio Monday, May 25

The Mayor's 2020 Memorial Day Citizen's Committee has invited the SF Model A Club to be part of the official City & County's 152nd 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 415-990-2974

For Sale: 1929 Ford Sport Coupe

\$12,000 or best offer. Call Casey (415)725-2450



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Al Thomas	March 5
Joan Peterson	March 7
Paula Escher	March 11
Jennifer Grafelman	March 14
Tom Escher	March 15
Robert Peterson	March 16
Josie Calabrese	March 19
Johanna Bettencourt	March 29
Barry Kinney	March 31
Nick & Josie Calabrese	March 25

Care of Furs (part 3)

by Joni Morgan

The current condition of a vintage fur depends much on the treatment it received in the past. While the average life of a fur is 20-25 years, even the most durable fur can be ruined sooner by improper care. The greatest enemies are moths, heat, sunlight, and friction. If you find a vintage fur that has escaped most of these ravages, then you owe it to yourself – and to the fur! – to continue its proper treatment. The following points will give you a better understanding of how to care for and preserve your era fur.

Drying Wet Fur. If the surface of the fur is damp, the fur should be combed lightly with the flow of the fur. It should then be allowed to dry slowly where there is good circulation of cool air, after which it should be beaten lightly and shaken. If water has soaked the leather, the garment should be sent to a reputable cleaner for proper treatment.

Hanging Furs. When hanging fur coats between wearings, be sure to use sturdy, padded, wide-end coat hangers. Narrow wire coat hangers are quite likely to pierce the skin simply from the weight of the coat itself. Fur scarves should be laid out flat on a shelf in their moth bags to prevent tails and feet from being caught or tangled in other clothing and damaged.

When you buy a vintage fur garment, you are making a purchase that you hope will last for some time. These pointers will help you to understand the care required, to maintain your cherished purchase for an extended life.



C "Best wearing Muskrat!" Shawl collar stands high or drops down in a cape effect. Crepe satin lining. Sears Fall/ Winter 1930

D All wool broadcloth coat with Vicuna collar and cuffs. "Fine, soft bushy fur. Resembles Fox. One of the most desired fur trimmings!" Sears Fall/Winter 1930

Technical Q & A

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

Q: I have a 1930 Model A truck. My problem is the truck backfires when going more than 30 miles per hour. I have replaced with new the following:

Brand new Zenith Carburetor	Modern points
Condenser	Coil
Additional ground wire	Ammeter
Distributor cap, rotor, high voltage wire to coil	Champion 3X plugs
Air filter body and filter (paper)	

I have made sure all are properly gapped and have set the timing so many times I could do this in my sleep. All check out, but still the backfiring. Do you have any suggestions or something I may have over-looked? I have read some confusing suggestions about the float level. Is it possible to remove the carb and do the float adjustment on the bench?

Jeff Berman

A: It looks like you've covered most of the regular points. A few things I can think of. Make certain that the condenser has a good ground. I assume that with modern points you also have a modern condenser. There must be a good connection between the distributor plate and the distributor body, and also between the distributor and the cylinder head. The carburetor float can be set on the bench, but a more accurate setting can be checked with the fuel level gauge devices available which have a small tube alongside the carb showing fuel level. I would also try driving with out the air filter and see if it might be restricting the air flow. Make sure that you are getting full spark advance. Sometimes the steering column can loosen and rotate so that the spark and throttle levers don't have full travel. Make sure that there are no exhaust or intake leaks around the manifolds. I use a small diameter rubber hose, one end in my ear and the other moving about the manifold gasket area. A small vacuum leak can cause a lean mixture condition easily. Hope this helps.

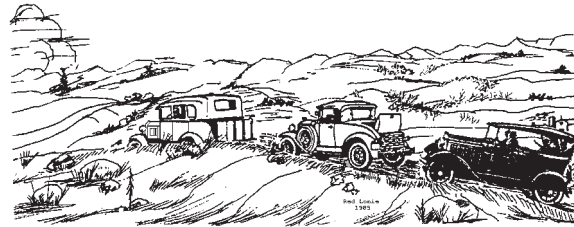
Q: I'm restoring my 1929 Model A and at a standstill with the horn. The horn does work. It has one wire coming out. When I hook a hot wire to this it will honk. My problem is how to hook it up to the horn button and how to get into the horn button. Even a book that I can order would help. Thank you.

Larry Bailey

A: The Model A horn should have two wires from the wiring loom which pass through the conduit and attach to a plate on the bottom of the horn inside the cover. One of these wires is connected to the battery side of the generator cut out and is "hot" (direct link to battery), the other wire is the "ground" wire and is connected to the horn button via the light switch assembly and passes up through the light switch tube to the horn button. Pushing the horn button completes the horn circuit and the horn should operate. If you have only one wire coming from the horn, then it has been modified or is an aftermarket horn. The original wires had push type terminals on the ends and fit into small clips in the horn. With one wire going to the horn which operates it when connected to the battery, then you will need to install a relay and wire it so that the horn button will ground the relay and connect the horn to the battery. The light switch rod is held in place with a horseshoe type clip at the end of the steering gear assembly, accessible with the light switch assembly removed. The rod has a contact on the end which contacts a terminal in the center of the light switch assembly, which is connected to the second wire to the horn.

2020 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA MAFCA TOURS

IT'S THE JOURNEY — NOT THE DESTINATION



MONTH	DAY	TOUR LEADER	TOUR
JANUARY	12	BARRY KINNEY	PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH - SF HARDING PARK
FEBRUARY	8	MORGAN	ALAMEDA CRAB FEED
MARCH	14 SATURDAY	BARRY KINNEY	ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE & FESTIVAL - SF
APRIL	4-11	KINNEY	CARLSBAD CAVERNS
APRIL	12	RALPH HOFFSCHILD	EASTER PARADE - UNION STREET, SF
APRIL	TBA	KINNEY	F. A. S. T. SPRING HILLCLIMB - AUBURN, CA
APRIL	26	SF MODEL A FORD CLUB	DREAM MACHINES - HALF MOON BAY
TBA	TBA	BARRY KINNEY	MILITARY ANTIQUES & MUSEUM, PETALUMA, CA
MAY	17	MPOT FORD CLUB	FRIENDSHIP DAY - REDWOOD SHORES
MAY	25 MONDAY	CAPLAN	MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE - PRESIDIO
JUNE	20 SATURDAY	CAPLAN / KINNEY	ST. ANNE'S HOME - FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND
JULY	TBA	KINNEY	RADIO DAY BY THE BAY - ALAMEDA
AUGUST	TBA	KINNEY	BOCCE BALL - ORANGE PARK, SSF
SEPTEMBER	TBA	CAPLAN / KINNEY	OAKLAHOMA TOUR
SEPTEMBER	TBA	MAHL	45 TH ANNUAL 28 TH AVENUE BLOCK PARTY
SEPTEMBER	20	KINNEY	ANTIQUE AUTOS HISTORY PARK - SAN JOSE
SEPTEMBER	25-27	CAPLAN / MACHADO	OVERNIGHTER MURPHYS-IRONSTONE CONCOURS
OCTOBER	TBA	MORGAN	27 TH DOWNTOWN ALAMEDA CLASSIC CAR SHOW
OCTOBER	11	BARRANGO	COLUMBUS DAY PARADE - NORTH BEACH, SF
OCTOBER	TBA	CAPLAN	SF OLD CAR PICNIC - GOLDEN GATE PARK
November	8 SUNDAY	CAPLAN / KINNEY	VETERANS DAY PARADE - FISHERMAN'S WHARF
DECEMBER	5 SATURDAY	CAPLAN / KINNEY	SFPD BRAVE THE BAY - AQUATIC PARK
DECEMBER	5 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.

2020 Schedule of Events

January 12
January 25-26
June 21-26

SF Model A Club President's Brunch – SF Harding Park

54th Annual Turlock Swap Meet

MAFCA National Convention – Kerrville, TX

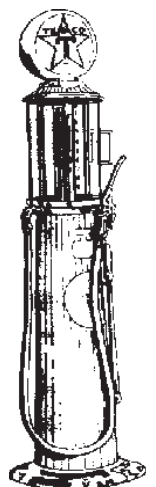
Hosts: San Antonio Chapter – The Alamo A's

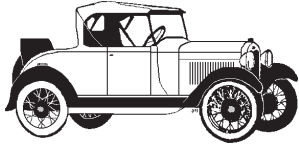
10th Annual Model A Day at the Gilmore Car Museum – Hickory Corners, MI

National Awards Banquet – Fort Worth, TX

Hosts: Fort Worth Chapter

September 19
December 3-6





**San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
Model A Ford Club of America
January 9, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm by President Barry Kinney. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as written. There were no guests.

Reports of Officers

President: The Easter Parade will be Sunday April 12 on Union Street. Go if you feel like it. ♦ Saint Patrick's Day Parade – there was no interest in doing it this year. ♦ Carlsbad trip – we will leaving on Saturday April 4 and returning on Saturday April 11. Barry passed out an itinerary to those going.

Vice President: No report

Past President: No report

Secretary: No report

Treasurer: Jeanine reported that we have 36 paid members. ♦ She wrote four checks this month. ♦ There are still people who haven't paid their 2020 dues.

Editor: Walter reported that Casey Martinez has a '29 sport coupe for sale she is asking \$12K.

For the Good of the Order: No report

There was no entertainment

Gary Barrango & John Bettencourt provided refreshments to the February meeting. Jeanine Mahl will provide refreshments for the March meeting.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 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, March 12, 2020

A number of club members gather together for dinner before the monthly meeting at 6 pm.

Feel free to join us – dinner location will be at the Goat Hill Pizza at 18th & Connecticut.

Please Note: Goat Hill Pizza has a NO SPLIT CHECK POLICY.

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



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San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
Model A Ford Club of America
PO Box 31387
San Francisco, CA 94131-0387
415-621-0500

MARCH MEETING
Thursday March 12, 2020
7:30 pm - Monte Cristo Club
136 Missouri Street (Potrero Hill)
San Francisco