

The Choke Rod

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San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America

President's Message

I hope everyone had a fun and safe Halloween. Our most recent get together, the Halloween Pandemic Picnic, on Friday October 30 was enjoyable. I think we all had a good time visiting with friends masked face to masked face.

Of course, a lot of discussions centered around COVID-19. We are all speculating about our future and the effect the disease is having on our personal lives. Certainly, it has impacted our Club. We have no plans for a Holiday / Christmas Party nor do I anticipate a President's Brunch in January. If we do anything it will be virtual. Walter, our virtual expert, will fill in the details with e-mails to follow soon.

I did notice that people have a number of misconceptions about the virus and, although I am not an expert, I do read a number of articles from the CDC and other sources that are coming to health care workers.

Each year a new virus emerges, usually from China. The World Health Organization is reluctant to place blame on any one country so they claim that our annual seasonal virus comes from South East Asia. These viruses infect the entire world and the word "Pandemic" conveys that meaning.

We all remember the 2009 H1N1 Pandemic and so does our immune system. Every one of us is walking around with antibody protection from H1N1 because we got the "flu shot" or because we actually had the H1N1 flu. If you have had the newest flu shot you got some of the H1N1 flu particles. We are given then old stuff because there is hope that there will be some crossover protection to the new virus and because the old virus never go away. They hide someplace in our systems and wait for an opportunity to strike again. So, when you get sick with the flu it can be caused by the old virus like the H1N1 or the latest flu from China.

Some people claim that they never get the flu. Well, yes they did. They don't remember because for them the symptoms were extremely mild. The virus is not an equal severity infector but it is a 100% infector. One way or another, in time, we will all become infected with COVID -19. For some the symptoms will be severe while for others not so much. All we do with social distancing and masks in slow the rate of infection. Only vaccines prevent active disease.

Vaccines are an ingenious way to infect people with a form of the virus that produces immunity with no severe symptoms or transmissible disease. Let's pray the vaccine is available soon.

See you online,

Barry Kinney

Virtual Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Walter Caplan. President Barry is currently in Oklahoma. We had nine ZOOMers in attendance.

We will hold our Halloween Pandemic Picnic on Friday October 30 at Spreckels Lake in Golden Gate Park. It will start at 11 am. Barry will be back home by then and will be there.

- The group discussed the insurance coverage that we have with MAFCA . Their liability coverage covers our private events and invited guests, but not ones open to the public. Jeanine is going to send some information on this to Walter.
- The group also discussed forest management. Walter had recently traveled to Napa and noticed lots of fire trucks from Southern California cities returning home from helping fight the fires in the wine country.
- Then we discussed all the unrest in Portland, and some of the issues to be voted on in the upcoming election.
- Apparently no one did anything noteworthy this month, except John Bettencort who has decided to move to Florida.
- Jeanine requested that someone call her if you don't see her at our ZOOM meetings.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Peterson, Secretary