

# 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

We are getting there! California has a population of around thirty-nine million people. On May 24, 2021 the number of confirmed new cases of COVID-19 in California dropped to 374, an extremely small percentage of the total state's population. On that same day COVID-related deaths dropped to eleven. It won't be long before schools open, universal masking will be a thing of the past, and you can attend a baseball game without fearing for your life.

Given the downturn in the number of COVID cases, I think we can make another attempt at scheduling a trip to Carlsbad Caverns. The time will be spring, May or June, of next year 2022. Those of us who are still holding Amtrak Vouchers can exercise them this year for a trip next year. We have until December 31, 2021 to reschedule. However, it might be wise to schedule at least six months prior to our trip in order to get proper train accommodations.

Joan and Cynthia are planning a return trip to the old Redwood City courthouse for a tour of the San Mateo County History Museum late in the month of June, most likely on Sunday June 27. Of course, there will be a brunch or lunch associated with the tour. Look for details in the **Choke Rod** or in an e-mail.

Unfortunately, we will not be celebrating Memorial Day this year. Memorial Day, like so many other Club activities, has been sacrificed on the alter of California COVID Protocols. COVID has made the last nine months a truly religious experience: a living hell !

I will be in Oklahoma for most of June. So I will miss our regular monthly June Zoom meeting. I should be home in time for the Courthouse History Museum Tour.

See you at the Museum,

*Barry Kinney*

## Virtual Meeting Minutes – May 13, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Barry Kinney and Walter Caplan. There were eight members attending.

Barry reported that our next outing will be Friday May 21 at the Rustic House in San Carlos. It is located at 920 El Camino Real and opens at noon, but you should arrive early as there is street parking only. It was suggested that we tour the San Mateo History Museum in Redwood City sometime in June. We will also do a lunch. More details to come later.

Jeanine talked about her daughter Ursula who is working a lot in her garden. Jeanine also reported that the goldfish our group gave Ursula when we visited South Bend in 2017 are alive and well.

Walter attended a memorial service in South Carolina and reported that you still need masks in airports and on the plane. Planes are at full capacity now. He said the weather was good but gas was scarce. John Bettencourt went to Virginia to visit his daughter and grandkids. Gas was scarce there too. He viewed the US Capitol Building and said it had a five foot concrete wall around it.

Camilla organizes a tour for her east bay Model A club every month. This month they are going to Port Costa, and for the first time will do take out food. She usually gets ten to fifteen cars to participate.

Barry has an old train set that travels around the ceiling of the room in his home from which he Zooms. He's had trains since he was twelve years old. Barry reported that he will be in Oklahoma for about three weeks in June. He talked about his house in Sulphur, OK and gave us a short history of the area. There are thirty-two Indian tribes in Oklahoma.

Jeanine gave a short Treasurer's Report. The club is solid. Our only expenses have been stamps, and the cost of the post office box.

Walter reported that Dragon Printing went out of business April 30, and Mr. and Mrs. Dragon (the Wongs) have finally retired.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Respectfully submitted,

*Joan Peterson*, Secretary

## Rustic House Pandemic Lunch

We had a good time at the Rustic House Pandemic Lunch on Friday May 21. The place has the look of an old sheet metal barn. There is plenty of outside seating perfect for a sunny day. The food service was great — the only thing lacking was our old cars. Kev Enderby was the only Club member who brought an "A". We need to get back into driving our old cars again.

This was the largest group outing since the pandemic started months ago. It was nice to see so many faces. We have been wearing masks for so long I had forgotten what some of our Club members looked like without them.

We will plan another local event, possibly in July, and make it Model A friendly. Possibly a picnic lunch at Golden Gate Park Golf Course or the Casting Ponds, or maybe Stern Grove. There is plenty of parking and we can hit a few balls, practice casting, or pitch a few horse shoes. A little exercise can't hurt ... right?

*Barry Kinney*



### BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Walter Caplan	June 2	Bob & Carol Costa	June 19
Paul DeMartini Jr.	June 12	Daniel & Juanita Sullivan	June 19
Marilyn Chiotti	June 18	Paul & Maria DeMartini Jr.	June 25
Sean Sullivan	June 27	Frank & Judy O'Brien	June 27
Rose Craig Jr.	June 29	Donald & Linda Parsons	June 30