

# The Choke Rod

preserving and restoring the Model A Ford since 1956

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MAFCA 2018 Certificate of Merit

October 2021

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Model A Ford Club of America

## President's Message

Our perpetual President Barry Kinney has been back in Oklahoma once again, but lucky for us he's on his way back home to San Francisco, just in time for the 153rd annual Italian Heritage Parade on Sunday October 10. The Columbus Day Parade, as it is traditionally known, is the City's oldest civic event and the nation's oldest Italian-American parade and community celebration. The parade will wind its way from Fisherman's Wharf to North Beach - a San Francisco institution since it was established in 1868. Bob Fiorito and Gary Barrango will guide us through the parade as they do every year. This has to be the biggest party of the year. This is THE parade you don't want to miss. Details will follow by separate e-mail.

We hope to be back to live in-person monthly meetings in November - back at the Monte Cristo Club on Missouri Street on Potrero Hill. Stay tuned for updates as to future meetings.

This month's October meeting will again be a ZOOM meeting on Thursday October 14 at 7:30 pm.

Barry promises to attend and to see us all at the October meeting.

*Barry Kinney*

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## Virtual Meeting Minutes – September 9, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Walter Caplan. President Barry Kinney was absent. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as written.

Seven members were present.

The trip to Carlsbad has been postponed until further notice.

The Columbus Day Parade will be Sunday October 10. We need cars. Eight or more would be nice.

The club will donate two hundred dollars (\$ 200) to St. Anne's Home in memory of Bob Farina.

John Bettencourt reported that he will be traveling to Germany at the end of September to visit with his daughter and her family.

A service for Mike Cunneen will be held Monday October 4 at St. James Gate Restaurant and Pub in Belmont at 6 pm. Walter will send out the information.

The group discussed various restaurants around the Bay Area.

Jeanine recommended the book "No Better Friend". Jeanine said it was about a dog who escaped a shelter and went on to serve in WWII.

. Walter has tentative reservations at Val's for our Christmas party. He also has tentative reservations for the Forest Knolls holiday party. The 28th Avenue Block Party will be Saturday September 18, but it was decided that our club will wait till next year to attend, as there will be too many people and we are still in pandemic times.

.It was reported that the Great Highway is open on weekdays.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Joan Peterson*, Secretary

## Michael Matthew Cunneen 1937-2021

Michael Cunneen, 83 years old, of Belmont, California passed away on August 4, 2021 from a brief illness.

Mike was born October 3, 1937. He and his brother Pat were raised by their beloved parents, Frank and Mary Cunneen, in the tight Sunset District of The City.

Good ol' Mike was from deep Irish San Franciscan roots. His grandparents had suffered and survived the Great Fire & Quake of 1906. Mike attended grammar school at St Anne's, high school at Sacred Heart, and college at Cogswell Technical of San Francisco. Mike was always a technical guy. Even as a kid he loved taking things apart and putting them back together to make them work better. After retiring from sales at Varian Company, he started a tech company with his wife, Sally, in their garage. They named it Signet, and it went on to be very successful.

Another one of his passions was restoring old cars. He belonged to the San Francisco Ford Model A Club and was also an active pilot belonging to the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA).

Along with his family, he dearly loved his Lake Tahoe house and exploring the area with both his Jeep and motorcycle.

Mike lived the American dream. He became a successful entrepreneur, raised a loving family, and he was a genuine, kind man who was extremely generous to all his friends.

Mike is survived by his former wife, Sally, his daughter Nicole MacDonald and her husband Sean MacDonald, his son Ryan Cunneen, grandchildren Briar MacDonald, Raegan MacDonald, Ryan's daughter Hadley Cunneen, brother Pat F. Cunneen, nieces Connie Chandler, Kelly Cunneen, and nephews Pat M. Cunneen, Garrett Cunneen.



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BIRTHDAYS &  
ANNIVERSARIES



Scott Williams	October 11
Tom Mullins	October 15
Dave Chiotti	October 16
Bob Costa	October 18
Carol Costa	October 27