



# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL GROUP

## MAFCA

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 1 JUNE 2023

A meeting of the Board of the Southern California Regional Group of the Model A Ford Club of America was called over Zoom for June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. In attendance were Bob Moore, Bob Reeves, David Frazee, and Vickie Bartlett. Ken Lee, attending a local chapter meeting at the time, was absent.

Bob M. called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. He recounted that groups of clubs had been formed since the 1970s at the request of the national club in order to put on MAFCA events, and the idea of a geographical area that both included certain chapters and excluded others was not identified in those early years. It has been related that certain clubs at the far north of our region feel a more constructive relationship could be had for them with the Central Region than the Southern.

In 2002, with the upcoming MAFCA National Convention, it was decided to create a more formalized relationship between all of the clubs and incorporate the group with the Secretary of State. In the earliest days, each club within the region, was requested to send one dollar for each member of that club.

For the twenty years of existence, however, the SCRG has not been as active as our neighbors to the north. The group continued to meet until the pandemic, but has not hosted a jamboree or spring opener. Dues were no longer collected and there was a vote to disband, which failed.

Vickie related that some of the positives for continuing the group were synchronizing the calendars of various clubs so events would not conflict and to meet with chapter reps so we could all gain the benefits of fresh ideas and practices.

Bob M expressed his feeling that the group was first intended to provide the manpower for events that would attract or involve others from not only within our area, but outside as well, and that attendance and diversity was expected to strengthen the interest in our hobby. Something that would be beneficial not only for us in attracting new members and volunteers, but for the future relevance of our hobby.

David related that several people he had heard from were interested in attending such events, but felt incapable of hosting the events, themselves and so he suggested that the group first decide which location would be attractive for some future event, and then reach out to individual chapters to provide volunteers for individual segments, like organizing a gymkhana or handling the registration, so no single club would be overwhelmed. The SCRG would chose to organize a segment ourselves and would be there in case a club dropped the ball with their segment.

Vickie believed that certain chapters would be particularly strong in one segment or another, and so it wouldn't matter which location was selected, they would be able to fill those rolls, easily and capably.

Bob R hypothesized a large number of chapters would be stunned by being asked to volunteer for duty segments. That many, like his own club, are having problems in filling volunteer positions and encouraging participation in tours and events. That age and incapacity are shrinking our chapters. (Several chapters within our region have also either gone defunct, or at least have missed returning the annual membership renewal form to the MAFCA office in La Habra.)

Bob R expressed the hope that the group helped these struggling chapters to be more successful. Farther down the road, these now stronger chapters, would more easily provide the volunteers

necessary to take on a task for a two or three day annual event. Bob M wondered what sort of help the SCRG would be able to supply.

The importance of developing a unity between the chapters was discussed. David related that when he received the newsletter editor position with his club, there were several contacts with other clubs to whom he was expected to email the newsletter, but that it was by then out of date. He suggested that in addition to the survey requesting Chapter Representatives, the survey also request the names and contacts of newsletter editors in order to network the exchange of newsletters.

The idea was countered with the suggestion that too many emails would feel like a flood and that sub-regions within the region would be more attractive to most club volunteers, not only editors. Jill Thatch of Santa Barbara gets newsletters from all over the world, conglomerates them, and sends them out to folks who request it.

When the discussion came around again as to what we do as a group (both as board members and speaking for the SCRG) Bob R repeated that we should not plan for an event this year. David wanted to have some single evening event with the board, reps, and big wigs, in which we could more easily communicate and elect board members for 2024; no car show. Vickie related her high school reunion organizing group experience with its large Zoom attendance and break-out groups, saying that she found it both rewarding and enjoyable. There was approval for quarterly meetings, most likely in Zoom.

In order for these quarterly Zoom meetings to function successfully, assignments were put out to Board Members. Bob R would write up his ideas to present to the Board Members, and Vickie would also write up her notes and send them out. Bob M will review the wording of the survey. David will review the survey function of Google forms and send out a test survey to Board Members. As Vickie has created a similar database of member contacts as the one David recently produced (which several club contacts did not respond to), she will reach out to clubs by phone (David's attempts were exclusively by email.)

Another Board meeting via Zoom was scheduled for June 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

It was noted that Ken was no longer using the Hotmail account; that his correct email is [lee794948@gmail.com](mailto:lee794948@gmail.com)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.