

History of the SCRG

The Southern California Regional Group (SCRG) was incorporated in 1999. However, long before that, a Regional Group was formed at the suggestion of Brad Balmot of the Santa Anita A's. Brad felt that by organizing the clubs in Southern California into a group, the clubs could plan joint activities for one and two-day fun events. In 1999, the SCRG decided that they would sponsor the 2002 National Convention in Riverside and felt it best that they get incorporated.

For the National Convention in 2002, members of various clubs assumed leadership for planning and organizing the Convention and almost all the clubs had some responsibility during the event. In addition to the National Convention, The SCRG sponsored MAFCA's 40th -anniversary in Buena Park on December 4- 7, 1997, and the 50th-anniversary event in Ontario, December 5-9, 2007. And like the National Convention, members of various clubs

stepped up to assume the leadership in organizing the anniversary events and most all clubs made some contributions to the event.

There were two other one-day SCRG-sponsored activities at Santa Fe Dam in Irwindale and one hosted by the Orange County Model A Club in Orange County. Also, cudos the San Diego Club that hosted a joint MAFCA-MARC meet

If another MAFCA request had popped up that needed someone to host it, the SCRG might today seem more of a cohesive group with a purpose. However, with Covid and other medical issues affecting its leadership and others, the SCRG has been relatively silent in the past years. Even in the years before Covid, there was little interest displayed from the clubs for hosting any event, be it one day or longer. The idea of a club hosting a 2 or 3-day event was not on anyone's mind. At the SCRG annual meetings, there was never much discussion of clubs inviting other clubs to events. Some information was shared about tours and activities

that clubs were conducting, but not focused on other clubs participating. From my perspective, some clubs regularly invite nearby clubs for certain tours and events.

We held the most recent meeting of the SCRG at the Pancake Breakfast in Orange. A concerted effort was made to get as many representatives from clubs in the Southern California Region to attend so that the SCRG could have an official meeting and hold an election of officers. In the days and months leading up to that meeting, the goal of the meeting was made clear, to get the SCRG in a position that a club or clubs working together might step up to the plate to organize a two or three-day fun day event for SCRG clubs. We had a good turnout for the Pancake Breakfast meeting, either because the clubs regularly attend the breakfast or some that do not regularly attend came because of the SCRG meeting which was focused on getting a Regional Event becoming a reality. Most of those that attended would be happy to participate in a 2-3 day event,

just not in their backyard. It wasn't the time to raise a hand to volunteer.

Here we are, as the leadership of SCRG with the goal of helping to facilitate region wide 2-3 day events similar to the CCRG. We are hoping that some club that has not perhaps ever thought of holding an event will magically step-up and say they will. We have some selling to do.

Many clubs are smaller than in previous years and getting smaller and need the infusion of new members to remain viable. They will be hesitant to sign up. (We do not know the size of the clubs in the SCRG.)

Since clubs have not been thinking of hosting 2-3 days events, they are probably at a starting point of what it entails and would have a long learning curve. If our goal is a 2-3 days event, we need to provide a format, a guide, and assistance.

it's the Board of Directors of a club that will decide if they will undertake the task of a 2-3 day event.

While it is essential that we have a representative from every chapter, as they are the official Members of the Board, that person may not be the President. There are probably different levels of enthusiasm among the representative. That is why we need to keep our communications open with others in each Chapter, especially the leaders.

Other than stepping up as a Region to respond to the needs of MAFCA and for getting 2-3 day SCRG wide meets held, are there some other purposes that we should be considering I know that under the official purpose there will be other wording. Are there other purposes need to be considered. Some other purposes are listed in the survey.

I believe we need to sell the new direction of SCRG to the clubs. We must recognize that only some, the larger clubs, will step forward. We need to suggest that other clubs nearby can be part of the planning.

The survey is a good idea. However, we need to agree on the words that will preface it. Hosting 2-3 day events comes at them out of the blue. We need

to put it in the context of the future SCRG that we envision. The survey will help define the direction for the SCRG.

Our Region is stretched out. It is 191 miles from Ventura to San Diego and almost 4 hours in a modern car. Because of the distances involved, any event meant to attract all SCRG club members would have to be more than one day.

Draft Survey

1. Please rank your club's priorities for the Southern California Regional Group
 - a. Assist local chapters in attracting members, improving meetings, web offerings, and newsletters.
 - b. Annual meeting, swap meet, and repair workshop to assist members putting their cars on the road.
 - c. Annual meeting with a fashion show, booths for tailors, haberdashers, period collectibles, and food stalls while near a historical site.
 - d. Annual meeting, or jamboree (2-3) days, meant to attract car owners and their families for entertainment and a chance to show off cars.

- e. A MAFCA national event locally so younger, members who are employed and with families can affordably take part.
- f. Be a resource to communicate with other clubs for collaboration and so as not to double-book the same weekend with events planned to attract the same car enthusiasts.

2. Many Model A'ers have attended the Central California Regional Group and Northern California Regional Group Jamborees. These are two to three-day generally weekend events, that are hosted by individual clubs within their region on a rotating basis. This format has been extremely successful in the central and northern parts of our state.

Would your club be a potential host for a 2-3 day weekend or mid-week event that would draw attendees from throughout the Southern California Region?

Yes No

If you answered "No" to the above question, what reasons prompted that answer? Circle all that may apply.

- a. Lack of 2-3 members to take on the leadership of the event
- b. Lack of volunteers to work at the event

- c. Lack of affordable motels and exhibit space in your region
- d. Lack of good roads for touring
- e. Lack of tour destinations
- f. Our club is already involved in a large, annual event that attracts enthusiasts from all over Southern California
- g. Spell out other reasons _____

h. Any other comments

Would you participate with other geographically close Chapters to assist in planning an event?

Yes No

Thanks for completing the survey.

Name _____

Title _____

Chapter _____

Name of Your Chapter Representative to the Region
