



Grapevine



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TOKAY A's a local chapter of MAFCA



The Grapevine is the official newsletter of the Tokay "A's". Your contributions are greatly appreciated. The deadline for submission is the 25th of the month. Please direct articles to the editor. Some of the material in this newsletter may be borrowed from other publications. Permission is granted for any article appearing in the Grapevine to be used by any other newsletter. Meetings are held at 7:00 P.M. on the **SECOND TUESDAY** of the month at **Richmaid Restaurant. Come at 6:00 to visit & have dinner.**

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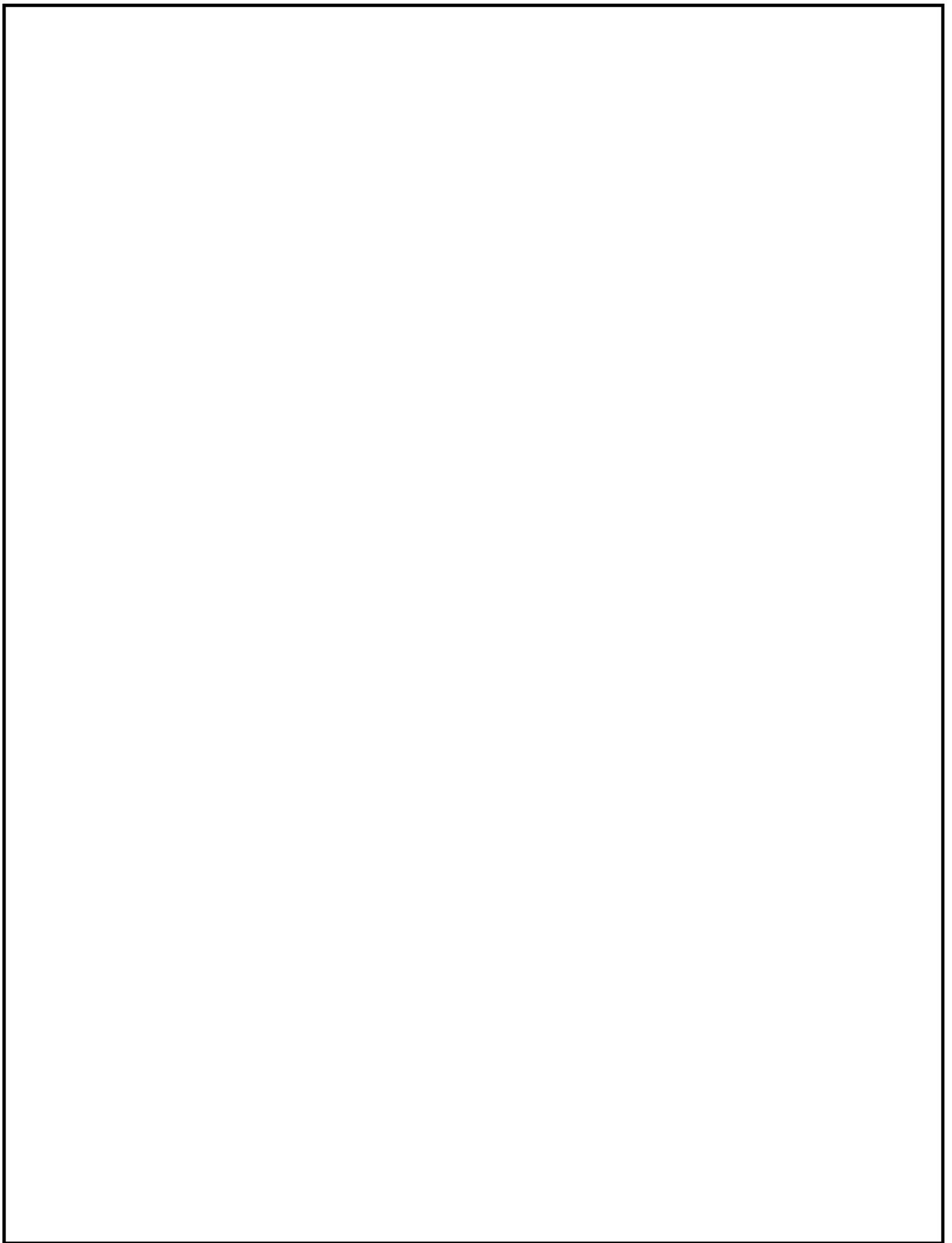
Sacramento Channel 13 Tour by Stan Renz



Rio Vista Tour By Gary Blomgren

GRAPEVINE EDITORS:

- Mike Akahori
- Gary Blomgren
- Lance Selkirk
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I'm not sure if it was myself or my wife Cindy who came up with the idea of getting the Tokay A's on the TV show The Car Czar. Part of the weekend show Good Day Sacramento, The Car Czar show airs Sunday mornings on KMAX/CW31. We were casually watching one Sunday and saw the segment of the show where the host Doug Brauner interviews people, sometimes car clubs in the parking lot for a little "color" and that show just seemed a little, well, dull. We could get a bunch of Model A's on there and look a lot better and be a lot more fun. A phone call to the station and I got the name of one of the Good Day producers. I fired off an email to her about my crazy idea to get about a dozen Model A's on the show and was she interested? She thought it was a great idea and she would put me in touch with

the producer of The Car Czar show. About 2 weeks later I got the email from that person, Kim Byrd. She was really wanting our cars for the show but could we make it the following Sunday? Lots of phone calls and emails and here we are on TV. How cool was that? Besides, I think it would be big fun to be a part of the audience and watch them tape a TV show. We've never done that before.

So Sunday morning, 8am, 8 Model A's left the Arco in Woodbridge headed for Walnut Grove, and I'm driving with Geri in her sedan. We picked up Alan Hanson in a modern at the freeway as we travelled towards Thornton. In Walnut Grove we met up with Frank and Kris Reid and we're now 9 cars as we crossed over the river to head up hiway 160 towards Courtland. Thankfully, Lance told me the bridge crossing the river near Courtland was out, it was wrapped in plastic as we passed by. One small hiccup as I missed that left turn onto Courtland Road. Nine Model A's doing a u-turn on a levee road. Sorry, guys. Next was the right onto Jefferson Blvd that would lead us into West Sacramento. The combination of a perfect Spring day, early morning and Jefferson Blvd was the idyllic country road. I've never been on that road before, but I'll be back. Passing the Port of Sacramento and on up Harbor Blvd. we made it to the TV station by about 9:40.



After parking in the parking lot for a couple of photos, we all made it past the security desk and inside the station. First stop, restrooms. Next we were asked to drive the cars around to the back lot where we lined 'em up and hung the club banner. (Thanks to Earl for his lining 'em up skills.) At that point we were asked to hang out in the break room

until Doug came in to talk to the group, half of which were our 15 members. After Doug introduced himself to the group and sort of "worked the crowd", I was escorted to the "Green Room" to meet with Doug. At this point I have no idea what to expect. Doug was courteous but somewhat hurried. He mentioned he gets a lot of car clubs who want to be on the show, so what makes us any different? Also, why should he or anyone else be interested in Model A's? Will anyone care about an old car? And if he wanted to buy one, about what could he expect to pay for one? As I started to answer his questions he quickly came back with "I don't want to know the answers, but I might ask you later". And he left the room. Okay, now what? After sitting there for about 10 minutes, I was told we were going into the studio. Sh-h-h-h, the news show is still taping.





The Car Czar show starts, and we're not just the audience, we're all part of the show. This is interesting stuff. Things are just rolling along, and Doug can be pretty entertaining. Before we know it, the first commercial break comes and we're all rushed outside to where the cars are parked and asked to line up by the cars. We're back live and here comes Doug with the microphone introducing the club and me and then asking the questions he asked in the "Green Room". I've got this! I think my interview went pretty well with some back-and-forth banter as I mentioned the club's 50 years while they panned the line of Model A's. Then it hit me...everyone loves the Ahooga horn. "Doug, this is why you want one of these cars..." and I reached into Gary's pickup and honked the horn. The look on Doug's face was priceless, I don't think he was expecting that. And just like that, we're rushed back into the studio for the remainder of the shows' taping. Many of our members got their mugs on TV. I've never watched the taping of a TV show, and I've never had so much fun, either. After the taping I introduced myself to the producer, Kim Byrd, a very busy young lady.

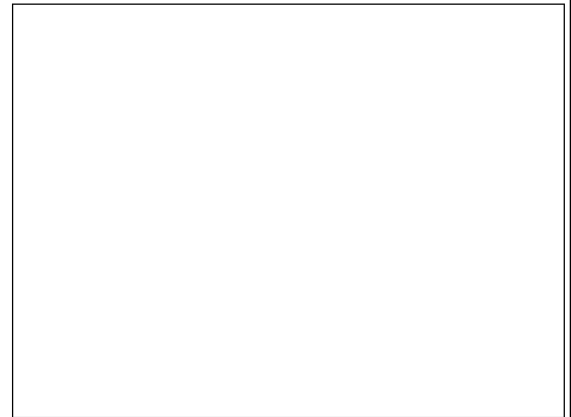


Another photo opportunity in front of the station as we lined all the cars up {we can never have too many pictures}. Everyone have fun?? Great, now let's all go get lunch. We crossed over the river into Sacramento on a very narrow and old bridge but what a great view.

Down "j" street to The Old Spaghetti Factory located in the old railroad station. Great building! They had a table waiting for us. And after a nice lunch, back down 15th street, down South Land Park Drive, and leaving town on Freeport Blvd. A quick little tour of one of the prettier neighborhoods of Sacramento. Freeport Blvd. becomes the river road leading back to Walnut Grove where we wave goodbye to Frank and Kris. A short ride further and we're back home, All in all, a good day, no breakdowns and I didn't lose anyone in Sacramento.

After I got home, I emailed Kim to thank her and mentioned we had so much fun we would love to do it again. She emailed back saying how much they enjoyed our cars and as a group, we were the most interesting and least boring clubs they've had on the show. She welcomes us back any time. If you didn't get to see or tape the show, it is supposed to be posted online to YouTube very soon. I'll try to make copies. Thanks to all of you who made it on a Sunday and on short notice, and thanks to Geri for letting me drive.

Stan



Delta Tour With Gary and Mary Ann

May 19, 2012



The Delta Tour centered on the historical aspects of our Sacramento/San Joaquin River Delta. Also discussed were some of the present day water issues so important to all of us. The Tour was organized as a Joint tour with the Stockton Delta A's and our own Tokay A's. The turn out was excellent with 19 Model A's, 3 moderns and a total of 46 members and guests!

The day started for the Tokays at 8:00 am at Arco in Woodbridge. We met up with the Delta A's at 8:15, at Peltier Rd and I-5. The weather was great; clear and no wind. The long group of cars followed the levee road on the east side of the Sacramento River and made a comfort stop by the wharf in Isleton. Mary Ann had baked six dozen cookies which disappeared in a flash. Off the A's zoomed down the river to Rio Vista.

Our host in Rio Vista was a 4th generation Rio Vistian, Phil Pezzaglia. He is very involved with this small river town which was a major stop for paddle wheel steam boats during and after the California Gold Rush between San Francisco, Sacramento and Stockton. Phil is Chairperson of the Chamber of Commerce and the spark plug behind the Rio Vista Museum. For a small town they have done an exceptionally good job with the five rooms and thousands of displays. To add to the authenticity of the museum the building was once a blacksmith shop. Around the corner from the museum is a bakery that was once a movie house for the silent film era. (www.rio-vista-ca.com/history)

At 11:45 the long string of Model A's crossed back over the large Sacramento River to the Discover the Delta Foundation site. The Farmers market crew had prepared BBQ tri tip sandwiches, salad and a choice of water, soda or one of the local Delta/Lodi wines. All this for \$10.00! Dr Ken Schiedegger and Laura Gregory, a Twitchel Island farmer and Foundation supporter were introduced and explained a little about the Foundations goals and objectives to help to inform and educate the public about how unique and yet fragile our wonderful Delta is. Their web site goes into more detail: www.discoverthedelta.org

After lunch a few cars branched off for home and afternoon/evenings commitments. The rest of the group went on to the very small town (800) of Isleton and their "Old Town" or China Town.

Isleton has been able to save about two blocks of the old area and one of the buildings has been turned into a museum which features the role the Chinese played in making the Delta as we know it today with its 52 Islands, 3/4 million acres of rich farm land between Antioch, Stockton and Sacramento. Isleton provided the A's with two docents and our group was split in half. Part stayed with Wendy MacDonald at their Museum and the rest went with Sharon Fong on a walking tour of Old Town. (<http://www.isletoncoc.org/history.html>)

I could not have asked for more from our Delta River Hosts. They were wonderful! We are so fortunate to live here and have such a wonderful resource at our "Front Door".

Gary & Mary Ann Blomgren



Tokay A's
Box 861
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TO:

APPLE HILL MEET
September 27-29, 2013

Save the date!

Plans are being made for the Hangtown A's Apple Hill meet. Registration forms will be available this fall on our website, <http://www.hangtownas.org>

If you think you've seen all that the area has to offer, we may surprise you. So don't miss out on the fun.

Registration at the host hotel will require your meet registration number to receive the discounted rate. Details will be in your registration confirmation.

Hangtown A's - Placerville, CA

Co-Chairpersons, Trudy Vestal and Eileen Brandstetter