



SOCALAMX.NET

www.socalamx.net/newsletter

Official Monthly Publication of SoCalAMX

Issue 5—December 2008

SOCALAMX CALENDAR

January 10, 2009

**Pepper Tree Frosty
22nd Annual "Burger Run"**
Vista, CA
www.burgerrun.info

January 10-11, 2009

Cable Airport Airshow and Car Show
Upland, CA
www.cableairport.com/airfair/

May 30, 2009

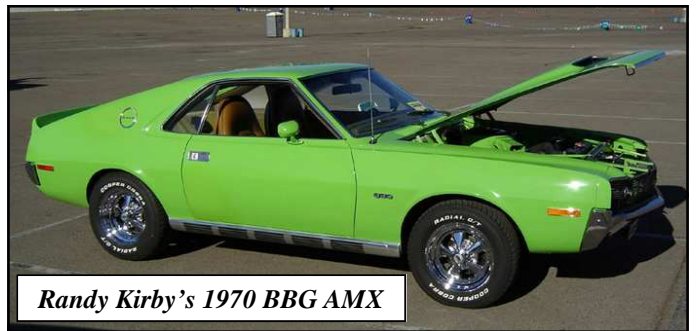
3rd Annual SoCalAMX All AMC Car Show
NHRA Museum, Pomona, CA

Get signed up on the Yahoo Groups List for SoCalAMX so you can automatically receive updates and details of events listed above.

socalamx.net/yahogroups.htm

BURGER RUN

We have a new member down south in the Escondido area who goes by the name of Randy Kirby. Randy owns a nice looking 70 BBG AMX and is itching to go cruising anywhere with his car. He has invited us to join him at the Pepper Tree Frosty car show known as the "Burger Run" on January 10. This year's show



Randy Kirby's 1970 BBG AMX

is the 22nd annual show and they had over 400 cars last year. It sounds like fun, Randy has told me there will be several other AMXs from his area joining him, and I am planning on going down there to meet him and the others. It's about a 90 min. drive from the San Gabriel Valley for others who want to join us. Check it out for yourself at www.burgerrun.info on the Internet.



San Diego Auto Swap n Show

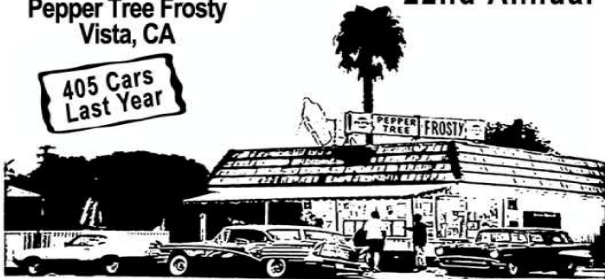
Randy went to the San Diego Auto Swap n Show at Qualcomm Stadium and met 2 AMX owners from the area. SoCalAMX continues to grow in strength!

BURGER RUN

Best Trophies in all the land! **January 10th 2009**
22nd Annual

Pepper Tree Frosty
Vista, CA

405 Cars
Last Year



Pepper Tree Frosty
270 So. Santa Fe Ave, Vista, Ca
Check us out on our web site at www.burgerrun.info
ENTRY FEE INCLUDES T-SHIRT & DASH PLAQUE
PRE 72 CARS 8 A.M. - 1 P.M.
PRE-ENTRY JAN. 5th - \$10.00 OR \$15.00 AT THE SHOW
MAIL ENTRY TO JOE FREE, 1530 LINDA VISTA, SAN MARCOS, CA 92078
PHONE: (760) 744-3340 DAY OF SHOW (760) 807-6190
(RAIN DATE -in 2 weeks- JANUARY 24, 2009 - - Make checks payable to Joe Free
---NO CONFIRMATION WILL BE SENT---
SPONSORED BY THE COUNTRY GENTS CAR CLUB AND CAR CLUB COUNCIL

Please detach before mailing
NAME: _____ ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ YEAR & MAKE OF CAR _____
SIGNATURE: _____ CLUB: _____

ALL ENTRANTS HEREBY RELEASE AND DISCHARGE PEPPER TREE, FROSTY AND JOE FREE FROM ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN DAMAGES, INJURIES, LOSSES OR CLAIMS THAT MAY OCCUR DURING THIS EVENT.

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CABLE AIRPORT

AIRSHOW AND CAR SHOW

What's better than Planes or Cars? How about Planes AND Cars? Cable Airport in Upland is having their annual Airshow/Car Show on the weekend of January 10-11, 2009. It's the same weekend as the Burger Run in Vista, who wants to go?

Part of the Air Show/Car Show is they allow pre-70 show cars to park on the ramp area near hangers, rather than in the dirt lots nearby. Then at 12:30 they parade the cars in front of the crowd while the MC talks about the cars.

In the past by bringing your classic car you avoided paying the entry fee to the event. But on the web site I see it says there is now a \$5 per person fee, cars themselves no cost.

There are no reservations to make or entry forms to mail in, you just show up on Sat. or Sun. morning that weekend.

Let's talk about it on Yahoo Groups!

www.cableairport.com/airfair/

Planes, No Trains, & Automobiles



WW2 Trainer AT-6 Texan

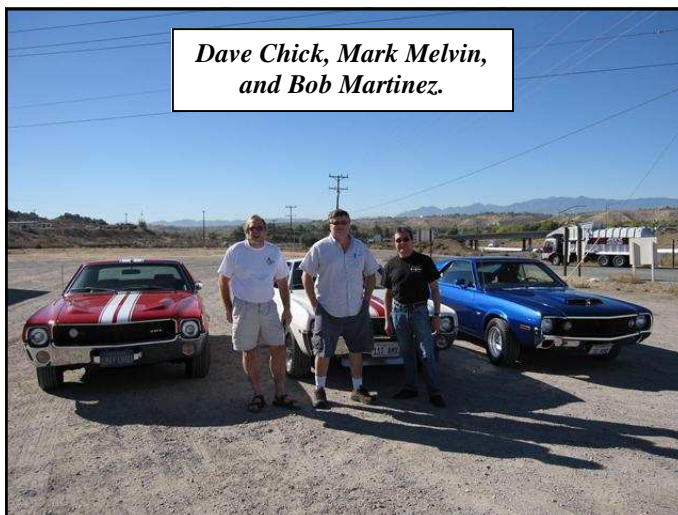
3rd Annual AMC Reunion

Boulder City, NV

Early November, on the dates of November 7-8, 2008, found members of SoCalAMX headed once again to Boulder City, NV for the AMC Reunion Car Show. This annual event hosted by the Southern Nevada AMC Car Club is organized by President Mark Ogulnick, who has done a nice job each year to draw AMCs together. Saturday's Car Show was preceded by a tour of a great museum in the N. Las Vegas Area. More on that later.

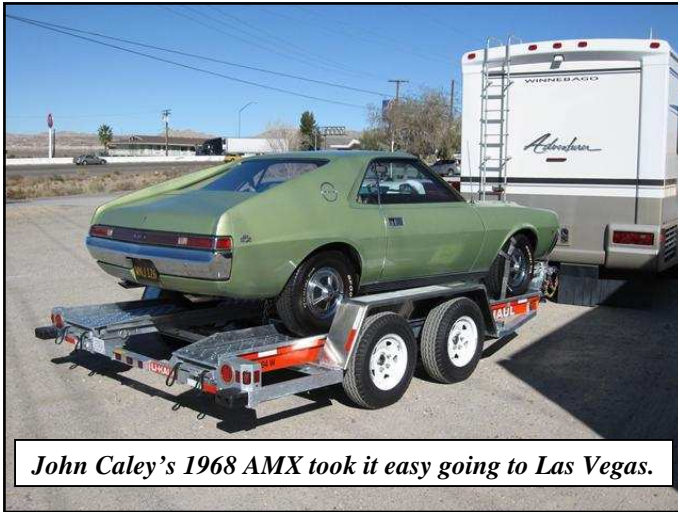
But first we had to get on the road and get there, which we did in style, on a small scale. That would be our largest convoy of AMXs (4) on our yearly trip to Vegas so far. With my 69 AMX I met up with Dave & Kati Chick in their 68 AMX and together we headed up and over the Cajon Pass and stopped at the north end

*Dave Chick, Mark Melvin,
and Bob Martinez.*



*Red, White, and Blue!
A 68, 69, and a 70!*





John Caley's 1968 AMX took it easy going to Las Vegas.

of Victorville. Not too shortly afterwards Bob Martinez and Marie in their 70 AMX, and John Caley in his motor home pulling his 68 AMX showed up. Joining John for the trip was Steve Fox without his 68 AMX.

After gobbling down breakfast burritos and coffee, but before pulling out onto I-5, a rare photo opportunity presented itself and was taken advantage of. How often do you see a red, white, and blue AMX, one a 68, one a 69, and the last one a 70 AMX, all together on the road in a convoy? That would be Dave's white 68 AMX, Mark's red 69 AMX, and Bob's blue 70 AMX. Nice! Less than four hours later we were pulling into the Hacienda Hotel in Boulder City and checking into our rooms.

We had no time to rest though, minutes later we were part of a large AMC convoy, led by SNAMC President Mark Ogulnick, headed towards a personal car collection known as the Sunbelt Automotive Museum. There were two



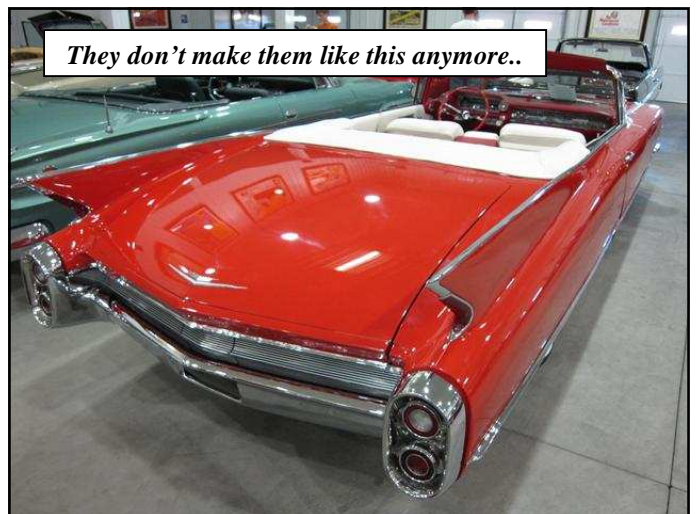
Chit chatting before going into Museum.

buildings, the first held nothing but convertible automobiles, the other had nothing but hard



All the convertibles were great!

tops. They were all great! Here is the link to all my pictures of the museum. <http://snipurl.com/sbmuseum>.

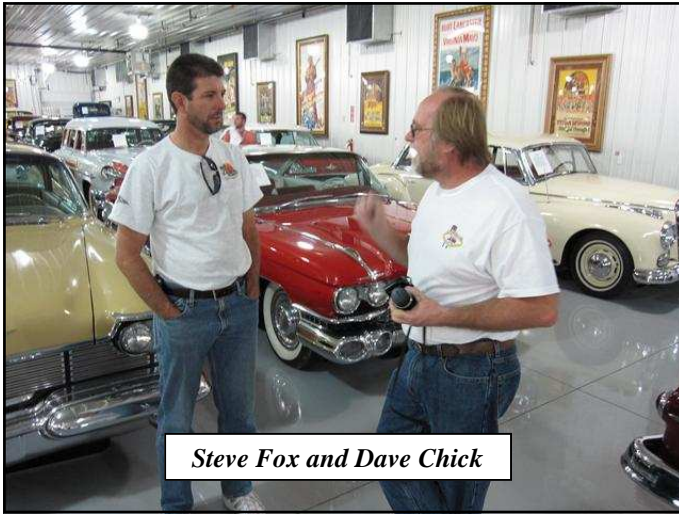


They don't make them like this anymore..

One of the Rambler owners in the group had a hot wheel bearing that had to be replaced be-



Just rows and rows of convertibles. One Hundred!



Steve Fox and Dave Chick



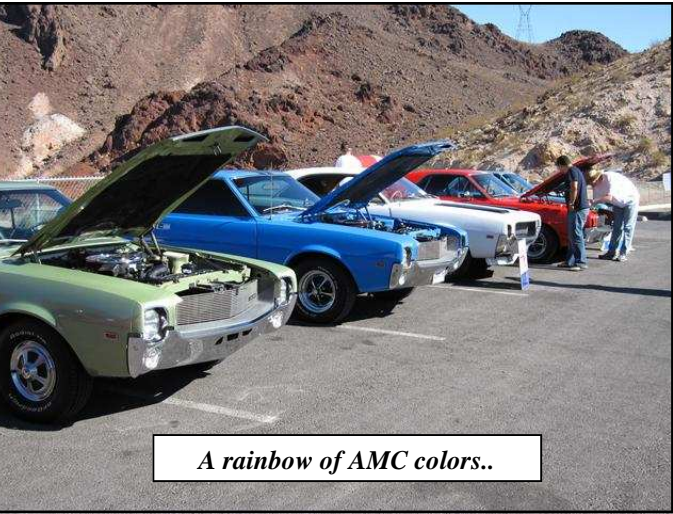
An AMX from Iowa! Wow! The gas companies must have loved him!

fore heading back to the hotel. We watched for a while and then took off for a local In-N-Out

show. Arizona's Mark Fletcher (who was ill) had his brother bring Mark's 69 SC/Rambler to the show. Even San Jose was not too far for



Stan Kelly replaces his wheel bearing.



A rainbow of AMC colors..

Burger for dinner.

Stan Kelly to bring his Rambler Wagon.

Saturday's Car Show went smoothly, as Mark Ogulnick was well prepared this year. He did a fine job promoting the event as you can see; an AMX all the way from Iowa drove in for the

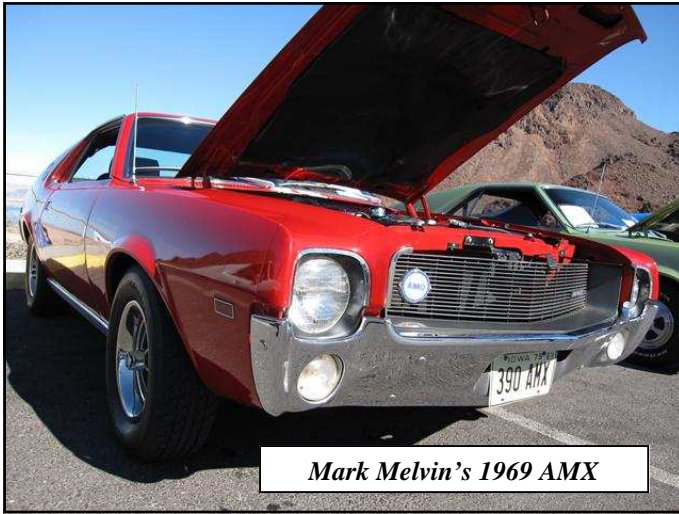
The 5th car from SoCalAMX joining us was John and Shelly Siciliano with their 69 AMX. Shelly is a master cake designer and made up



What? No AMX?

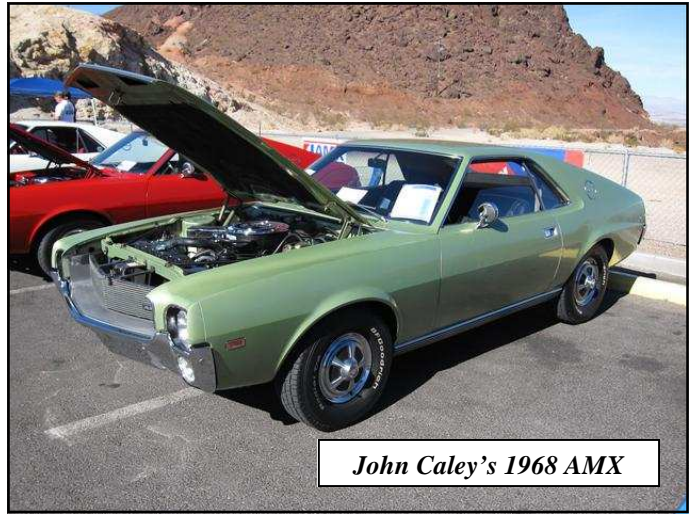


John and Shelly Siciliano's 1969 AMX



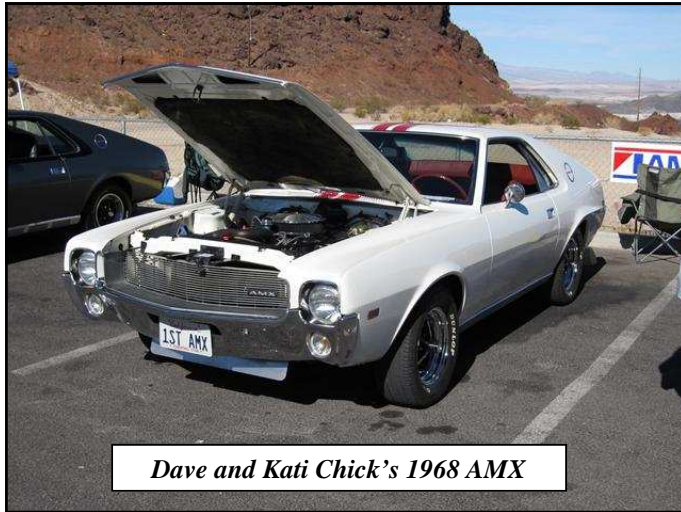
Mark Melvin's 1969 AMX

some real nice cookies with the show logo on them for all entrants to the show. Thank you



John Caley's 1968 AMX

CalAMX won an award but those others that did truly deserved their accolades.



Dave and Kati Chick's 1968 AMX

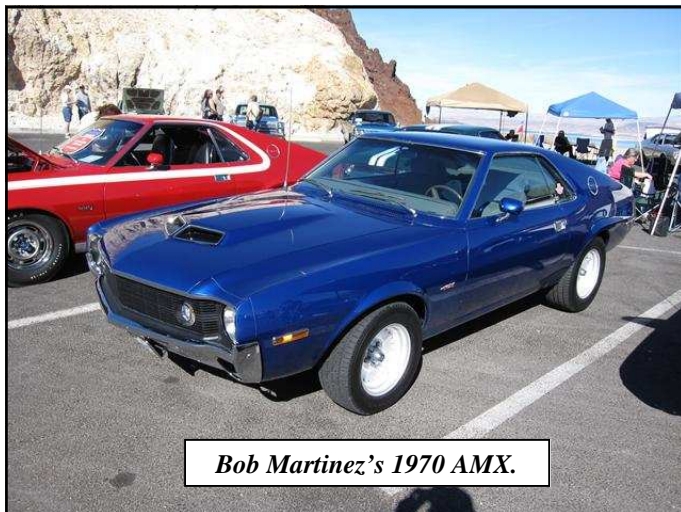
Shelly! You have a keeper there John!

The six hours of the show went by too quick for everyone. Before we knew it the time had come to hand out trophies and pick the final tickets for raffle prizes. No one from So-



Blown AMC! Wanna race?

Railroad Pass for a nice buffet. This joint also happens to be the location of next year's AMC



Bob Martinez's 1970 AMX.





Don't know the owner but it's a good looking Rebel for sure!

Reunion. The Hotel is a little bit closer to Las Vegas and has promised to take good care of



Mark Ogulnick and John Siciliano

the car show entrants and treat us like the V.I.P.'S we are!

I'm looking forward to a bigger and better show next year. Thank you Mark Ogulnick for your time and effort in this year's show!

Mark Melvin

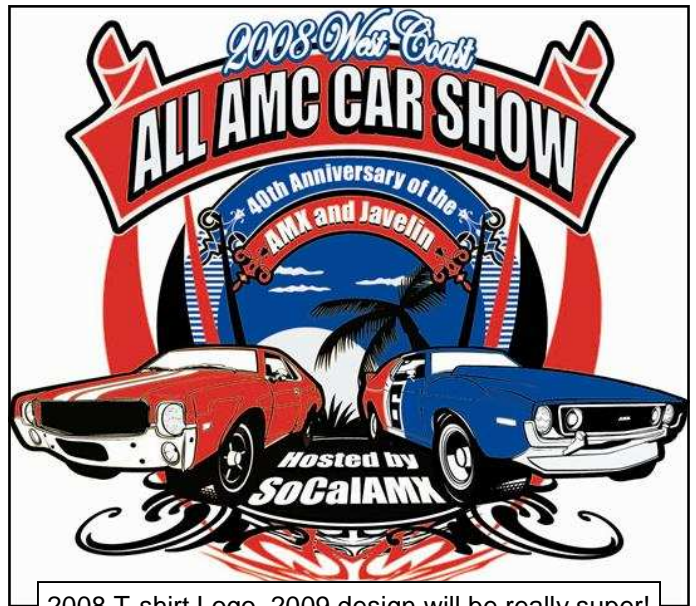
Pictures at: snipurl.com/vegas08



2009 SOCALAMX CAR SHOW

Now that everyone is back from the Las Vegas AMC Reunion show it is time to turn attention to next year's SoCalAMX car show known as the 3rd Annual "West Coast All AMC Car Show." The date is May 30, 2009, and will be held once again at the Wally Parks Motorsports Museum, also known as the National Hot Rod Association Museum in Pomona, CA.

The design for the t-shirts is currently being finalized and will be ready and used for promotion of the show by the start of next year. I am trying something different for next year's show with the t



2008 T-shirt Logo. 2009 design will be really super!

-shirts. For anyone pre-registering before the cut-off date I will mail their shirts to them in advance of the show so they can be worn to the show. I can guarantee that the t-shirts will be the best yet and you will be proud to strut around in them.

Details of the 2009 show will be ready to announce by the start of the New Year and available on the show web site. For now just circle May 29, 2009 on your calendars and keep the day open!



Picture from May 2008 Show.

Member Spotlight

Mark Melvin

I thought I'd do the monthly Member Spotlight on myself this month, hopefully without boring you too quickly. The place to start I guess is the beginning. I was born in Monterey Park, CA almost half a century ago, so yes I'm a home grown Southern California kid. After spending the first few years growing up in La Puente and Alhambra I moved to Orange around the age of 6, spent the remaining years of school there, finally graduating from Orange High School in 1977.

Is this me at age 4?



It was that summer in '77, using all my graduation money given to me, that I purchased a



High School Graduation Day in 1977! Little did I know that only three months later I would be the proud owner of a 1969 AMX!

1969 AMX as my first car. Why an AMX over the other Cameros, Mustangs, Firebirds, and Chevelles being driven by my friends? Well my uncle in 1968 upon returning from military service in Germany bought a new AMX. As a 9

year kid at the time a lasting impression was left in me each time I went for a ride in my uncle's car. To me I thought it was the fastest car in the world!

So the summer I graduated from high school, and needing my own car to get around, a red AMX was spotted in the backyard of a home at the edge of the Pomona Freeway in Pico Rivera. A large plank of plywood lay on its wind-

shield with "\$1200" spray painted across it. The owner threw the keys to us and said go ahead, check it out. The car was SOLD! The California DMV had the Vanity License plate program going so I changed my "302CQU" plate to "UNFORD." I still have people ask me, "Is that a Mustang?"



Does this look like the face of a 18 year old AMX owner?

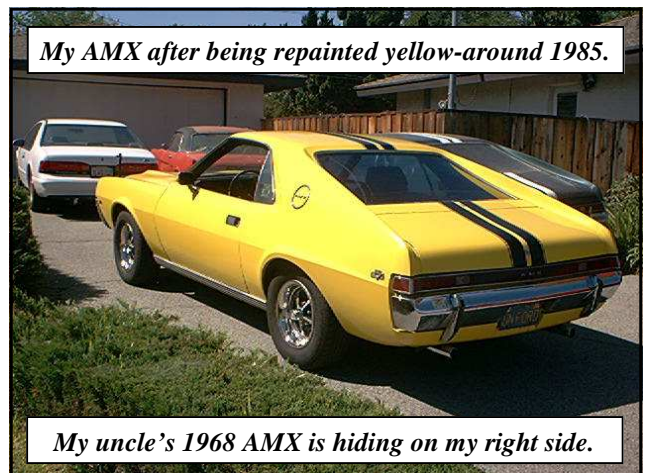
The original paint was faded so we had it repainted red. There were 120k original miles on it and a few years later we took the 390 out of

My AMX after being repainted red-around 1980.



my uncle's Gremlin and put it in my AMX. Although it was a used engine it was still a fresher engine than my original engine. A few years later for a reason I still can't remember to this day I had the car repainted yellow with black stripes. In the mid 1980's my uncle and I

My AMX after being repainted yellow-around 1985.



My uncle's 1968 AMX is hiding on my right side.



The body was stripped to bare metal.

dropped a 401 short block into the car which is still running good today.

Shortly after starting ownership of my car I was driving down a street in Orange and pulled into a school parking lot to make a u-turn. A pickup truck screeched to a stop behind me and the guy jumped out running up to my car in a breathless state. "Hey, my name is Rodger and I have a 1973 Javelin," he blabbered out. "How would you like to join our car club, JavAMX?" He handed me a flyer with information and I was present at their next meeting. We had a great time going to car shows and stuff for several years. I remember the first time I saw a Big Bad Color AMX. It was Orange and I looked at the bumpers and saw they were painted. "What the hell is that all about?" I thought to myself. I had never seen painted bumpers before.

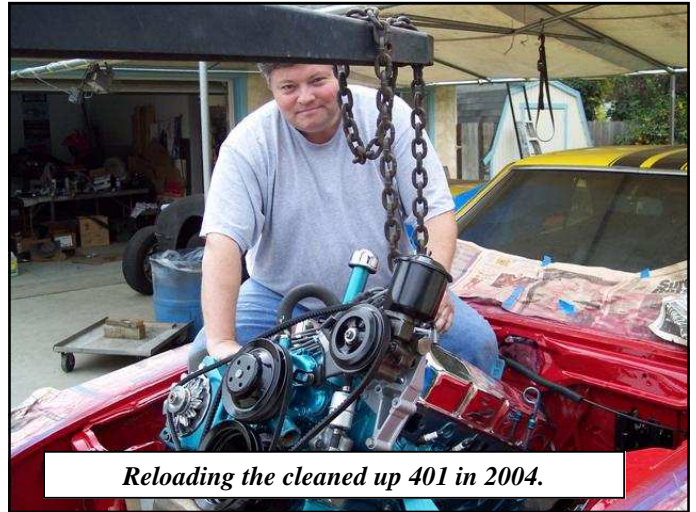
Puzzling I thought to myself one day, what happened to the club? All of a sudden I real-



Ready for its new red coat.

ized we hadn't met in a long while and JavAMX had faded away.

For the entire 1990's the car sat in my garage and was seldom driven or even fired up. At



Reloading the cleaned up 401 in 2004.

one point a friend came over to see it and possibly buy it. We even fired the engine up. In the end he decided not to buy it. Then around 2001 I realized there must be many more AMX owners in the area, but we just don't know where the others lived. I got the idea to organize AMX owners in the area by starting the so-cal-amx.net web site. The first person I met was Dave Chick with his white 1968 AMX at Fuddruckers in Monrovia on November 2,



Wow, what a difference a coat of paint makes!

2002. Dave said he knew of another AMX near him so just two weeks later on November 16 Dave and I met Keith Magee and his red 1969 AMX. SoCalAMX was off and running, and has slowly but continuously grown to today.

In early 2004, knowing the annual national AMC car show put on by AMO was going to be held close by in the Phoenix area, I decided to do a fairly complete restoration on my car. The show was still 6 months away so I figured I'd have plenty of time to finish my car. Little did I know I'd be working on my car 7 days a week from February through July. We stripped the paint completely off the car, all the interior came out and was replaced, the engine compartment was sand blasted, etc. The car had been yellow for 20 years but I decided to return it to its original red color. I was still putting the final pieces back on my car the day before leaving for Phoenix for the 2004 AMO Show. It was worth it in the end because not only did I now have a great looking car, but I was awarded a "Gold" trophy for my car! If you go to socalamx.net and click on "AMX Restore" I have a complete diary, including pictures, of the restoration of my car.



Since 2004 SoCalAMX has put on two AMC Car Shows, one at the Irwindale Speedway, and the other last year at the NHRA Museum in Pomona. Next year's show will be bigger and better, so make sure you circle the date of May 30, 2009 on your calendar.

I've met many good friends through our So-CalAMX get togethers. All I can do is recommend you come join us whenever you can. Make sure you are signed up on Yahoo Groups to get updated messages about when and where we meet. Till we meet again, Happy Motoring!



Picture taken by Rich Truesdell in front of my high school.

FREE! FREE! FREE!

I hope that grabbed your attention. The new SoCalAMX.net monthly newsletter has a nominal cost of \$0.00 per issue due to the availability of Internet delivery. If you have problems downloading the newsletter I will make arrangements with you to send a copy via the United States Post Office, for a small fee to cover postage.

The newsletter is published in the Adobe .pdf format because it can be viewed across all computer platforms such as Windows, Mac, and Linux. You can always download the most current version of Adobe Reader (ver. 9 currently) at their web site (adobe.com). Sometimes, if you're having a problem viewing a .pdf document, installing a fresh copy of Adobe will cure your problem. Adobe's new ver. 9 Reader seems to load much faster than past versions, but be informed the download is about 33 meggy bites!.

The newsletter is available for downloading at www.socalamx.net/newsletter. All back issues will be available as they are published monthly. If you have received a notice for this newsletter and wish to be taken off simply email me at markmel@socalamx.net and I'll get you off the list promptly.

Just think how busy I'll be if articles are submitted to me, by you, members of SoCalAMX? Send all submissions, pictures and text, to markmel@socalamx.net and I'll do my best with them. The deadline for the following month's newsletter is the 15th of the current month.

Mark Melvin,
SoCalAMX Newsletter Editor



It's nice to know you're driving the winner.

Last year a specially modified Javelin AMX beat every other car in its class in the Trans Am racing series. In the last race of the year at Riverside, we blew everybody off the track finishing one, two, three.

This year the AMX has blown up another storm by clinching its second Trans Am Championship in a row.

But when we call the AMX a winner, we're

talking about more than racing, we're talking about the way the AMX looks inside and out.

We're talking about the room you have even in the back seats; the stability of the car at all speeds; the nice balance of performance and comfort.

And only American Motors makes this promise: The Buyer Protection Plan backs every '73 car we build and we'll see that our dealers back that promise.



Buckle up for safety.

AMERICAN MOTORS BUYER PROTECTION PLAN

1. A simple, strong guarantee, just 101 words!
When you buy a new 1973 car from an American Motors dealer, American Motors Corporation guarantees to you that, except for tires, it will pay for the repair or replacement of any part it supplies that is defective in material or workmanship. This guarantee is good for 12 months from the date the car is first used or 12,000 miles, whichever comes first. All we require is that the car be properly maintained and cared for under normal use and service in the fifty United States or Canada, and that guaranteed repairs or replacement be made by an American Motors dealer.
2. A free loaner car from almost every one of our dealers if guaranteed repairs take overnight.
3. Special Trip Interruption Protection.
4. And a toll free hot line to AMC Headquarters.

AMC  **Javelin**

We back them better because we build them better.