



SoCalAMX



Proudly A Chartered Club of AMCRC

www.socalamx.net/1/newsletter

Official Publication of SoCalAMX

Issue 83 July/August 2018

SOCALAMX CALENDAR

3rd Annual California Central Coast AMC/Rambler Show

*Hosted by Pacific Gold Rush Ramblers
September 7-8, 2018
Radisson Hotel, Santa Maria, CA
pgramblers.org/santamaria.php*

13th Annual Las Vegas AMC Reunion

*November 2-3, 2018
Hoover Dam Lodge
Boulder City, Nevada
snamc.amcrc.com*

In-N-Out/Hotrod Mag Car Show

*70th Anniversary
Pomona Fairplex
November 17, 2018
tiny.cc/nov17show*

Check the online Calendar at socalamx.net
Join SoCalAMX so you can automatically receive updates and details of events listed above. Go to socalamx.net/1/join.htm

Check out "socalcarculture.com" for listings of shows in SoCall

Santa Maria AMC Show

Next month's AMC Car Show hosted by the Pacific gold Rush Rambler's Club is sneaking up on us. Or most of us. Some of us? Not me. I called the host hotel yesterday and made my room reservation.

The date for the show is Saturday, September 8. On Friday there is a "Wine Country Backroad Rally" from Santa Maria to Solvang, with a stop at the Vintage Motorcycle Museum. Cost is \$8.00 per person.

Flyer and registration form available at <http://pgramblers.org/santamaria.php>

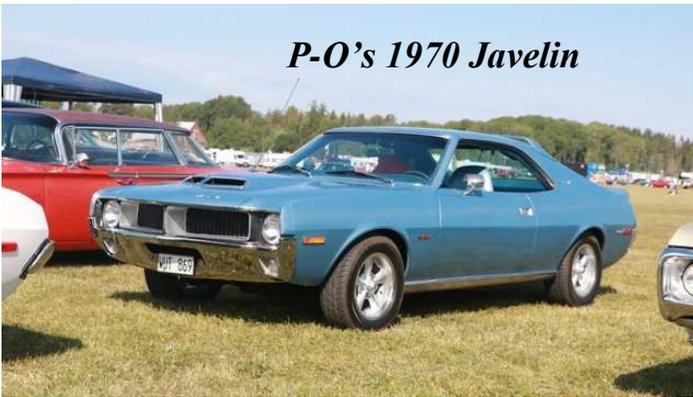
Note there is no vender fees so bring your parts you need to sell. For Special Room Rates contact the hotel directly and mention: "Pacific Gold Rush Rambler" or "PGRUSH." 805-928-8000

Contact: Stan Kelly skelly6567@gmail.com ph: 408-821-7812



VACATION IN SWEDEN

This story started back in 2007, when at the AMO National AMC car show in Denver, Tom Dulaney introduced me to one of his very good friends, a guy from Sweden who told everybody he meets in the US, to simply call him P-O. Over the years I have had the opportunity to meet P-O several more times, usually when he visits the US and comes to California to visit Tom Dulaney or at a national show. On one of those visits a few years ago P-O invited me to come to Sweden for a special car show they



P-O's 1970 Javelin

have in a town called Västerås. It's a car show for American made cars only, and they have in attendance a number of about 15,000 cars. Say what? 15,000 American cars in Sweden at the same place? P-O probably didn't think I'd take him up on his offer but a few years later I bought my airline ticket and told him I'm coming! Well that trip just took place in the early part of July and this story is a report of that trip.

I have a very good friend in Denmark that used to live in the US. That's where we first met each other, and he became the brother I never had. A trip to Sweden couldn't be planned without a stop in Denmark to see my buddy Kim Seligmann. After flying into Copenhagen and one day in Kim's hometown of Nykobing, we loaded up our gear into his car and headed into Sweden for the long drive up to Västerås to see what this car show was all about.

We arrived around 6pm, just in time for dinner. The three of us decided to walk into town and find a nice outdoor restaurant to eat at. It's not a problem to walk around at night because it doesn't get totally dark until 1am due to the high latitude the country is positioned at. That's a problem in the morning for sleeping in because

the sun comes back up over the horizon shortly after 3am.

Somehow, I got enough sleep and was ready to go the next morning to go see the Great American Car Show in Västerås. Kim and I piled into P-O's 1970 Donahue Javelin and we motored over to the airport where the show was held at. It was a very well-run show with plenty of volunteers directing cars where to park. We parked and started walking up and down the rows of cars. Thousands of American cars, as far as the eye could see. GTOs, Cadillacs, Mustangs, Camaros, Fords, Chevys, Dodges, even a few AMC/Ramblers.

At night after the car show closed at the airport, large numbers of people chose to occupy their time by doing what we do best or used to do anyway. Go cruise the main drag and show off your car. In Sweden however, the driving laws are slightly different. There is no law against drinking in public, not even in a moving car. The cars cruising around the town had party-goers hanging out the windows, doors, and even trunks, while singing to loud music and flashing lights. It was all quite sane and under control. The BAC limit in Sweden is strict: .02 so every car's driver was a "designated driver."

After the Västerås show Kim and I followed P-O further north to his home town of Mora. There we got to meet his wife and one son and enjoyed a bar-b-q Swedish style with moose steaks and chicken. We also got to meet two other AMC'ers in town, one with a 67 Rebel if I remember the year correctly. And also, a 66 Ambassador Wagon which I got to drive around town for 10 minutes or so. It felt like I was driving a big caddy.

The following day Kim & I were headed south back to Denmark and home for me to finish out my trip. P-O told me there is an annual AMC meet called the Euro Meet. Sweden, Finland, and Norway take turns hosting the show. P-O invited me to come to it. Maybe some day I'll be able to make a second trip to Sweden. It'd be fun. P-O said he'd even let me drive one of his other AMCs to the show. Now that would be tremendously fun!

Mark Melvin

American Car Show in Sweden



Just slap the Swedish plate on top!



P-O checking out a Rambler



Gremlin



One of P-O's friends with a Marlin.



Pontiac



Just lot's and lot's of cars.

American Car Show in Sweden



Bumper Stickers. Top 2 rows translated: "I'm fat, you're ugly. At least I can lose weight."



In the US: Car Judging. In Sweden: Car Assessment.



Partying is partying! Just do it like Charlie!



Translation: Ice Cream!



Keeping the peace since we here!



Chevy Impala



Cadillac's are very popular in Sweden!



Buick

PLAYMATE AMX REUNION

Eight years in the making. Ever since I bought the famous pink Playmate AMX in 2010, I have waited for the chance to complete the story of restoring the car back to its original condition. The car was purchased by me in 2010, restoration started on it in 2012 and was completed in 2015. To complete the story, I needed to meet the Playmate herself, Angela Dorian, who was originally given the new car by Playboy in 1968, as her grand prize for being chosen Playmate of the Year.

The only one keeping me from completing the story was the Playmate herself. Shortly after I bought the car in 2010, the Playmate, now known by her real name of Victoria Vetri (Rathgeb), got herself a new address in the California State Prison for Women for nine years. After serving 8+ years of her sentence she was released recently into a low level security facility as a reward for good behavior to finish her full sentence.

With little to no warning I learned the Playmate was out and about. Somewhat. She could leave her facility under supervision for a weekend event. A friend of the Playmate contacted me on Saturday of that weekend. With little time to do so, we hatched out a plan to surprise Victoria on Sunday, the following day, by me bringing the pink AMX to her location so she could see it for the first time since she sold it, and the first time since the car's restoration.

I trailered the car to a location nearby and got the car out, shined up and warmed up. Then exactly at 1pm as Victoria was lead to the building's entrance for "something," I pulled up with her former prize car, now shining brightly, unlike the last time she saw it when it was beat up and battered. She bolted ahead of her friends with her hands on top her head while exclaiming, "Oh my goodness, it looks like new!" She knew it was her old car as soon as she saw it.

After introductions, I led her around the car and pointed out all the work that had been done. Her face beamed with pride as she posed for pictures with me and others. Bystanders nearby wondered who this lady was that was the center

of attention and causing such a fuss as she posed for pictures and the photographer's flash fired off repeatedly like a strobe.

So, the story of the Playmate AMX has come full circle for me now that I have met the car's original owner, Victoria Vetri. But the story has not ended with the first meeting. The story has continued as I've already had a second and third meeting with her. She has told me she is looking forward to coming to future car shows and joining Angela (that is what she named her car, after her Playboy name.) You too will get a chance to meet her. She is quite a gal, with a lot of history to talk about.

Mark Melvin



PLAYMATE AMX SHOWING

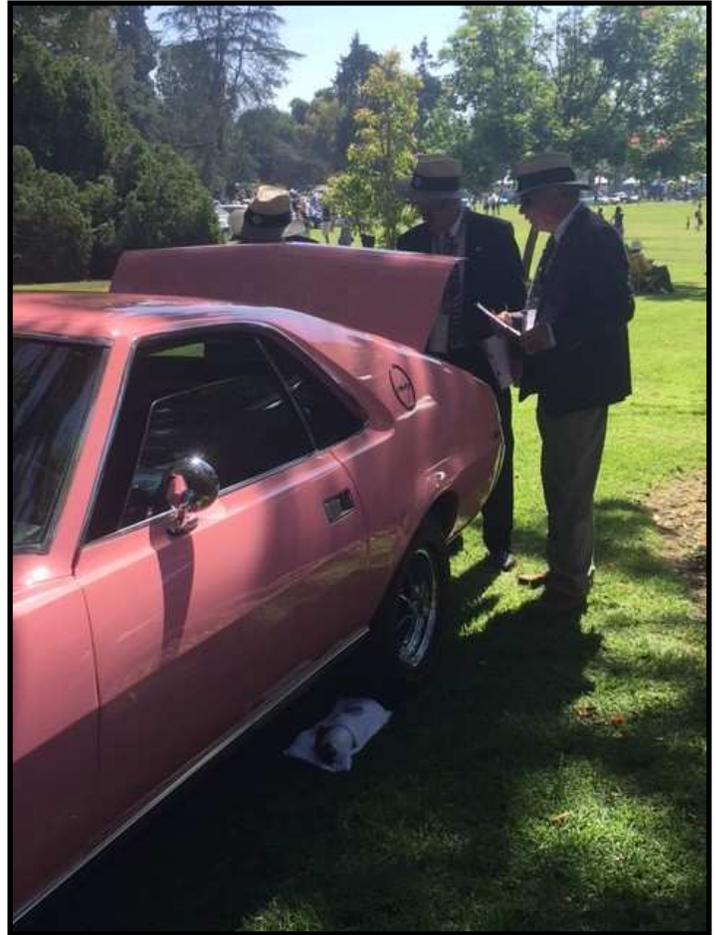
Last year I displayed the Playmate AMX at the San Marino Motor Classic show near Pasadena. It's a very nice show with lot's of great cars. The Playmate AMX drew a lot of interest but in the end, it failed to win any award.

But at the show I met a nice gentleman by the name of Jim Mikkelson who had a 69 Camaro in the same Pony Car Class as me. Jim and I talked at the show and by the end of the show exchanged contact information. Jim's car is beautiful and spotlessly clean. It earned him a 2nd place award last year.

Between last year and this year Jim invited me to bring the Playmate AMX to his house in Riverside and he'd go over my car with me and give it the same treatment he gives his car. He showed me all his secret cleaning techniques and cleaning materials. We went as far as scrubbing the brake and gas pedals and wrapping them in paper so they wouldn't get dirty while moving the car before the next show.

The result? At this year's San Marino Motor Classic Show, the Playmate AMX moved into the winner's column with a 3rd place trophy. Thank you Jim M. for sharing your valuable time and detailing tips!

Mark Melvin



Playmate Sandbuggy?

During the restoration of the Playmate AMX every nut and bolt came off the car, so we could do a through cleaning of the car. During the cleaning process sand kept pouring out of the inspection holes in the frame rails. Where did all of this sand come from? We used air hoses and water hoses to blow the sand out of the rails. Eventually the sand stopped coming out of the holes. This was important to do because when the time came to paint the bottom of the car we didn't want sand to come out and get all over the wet paint.

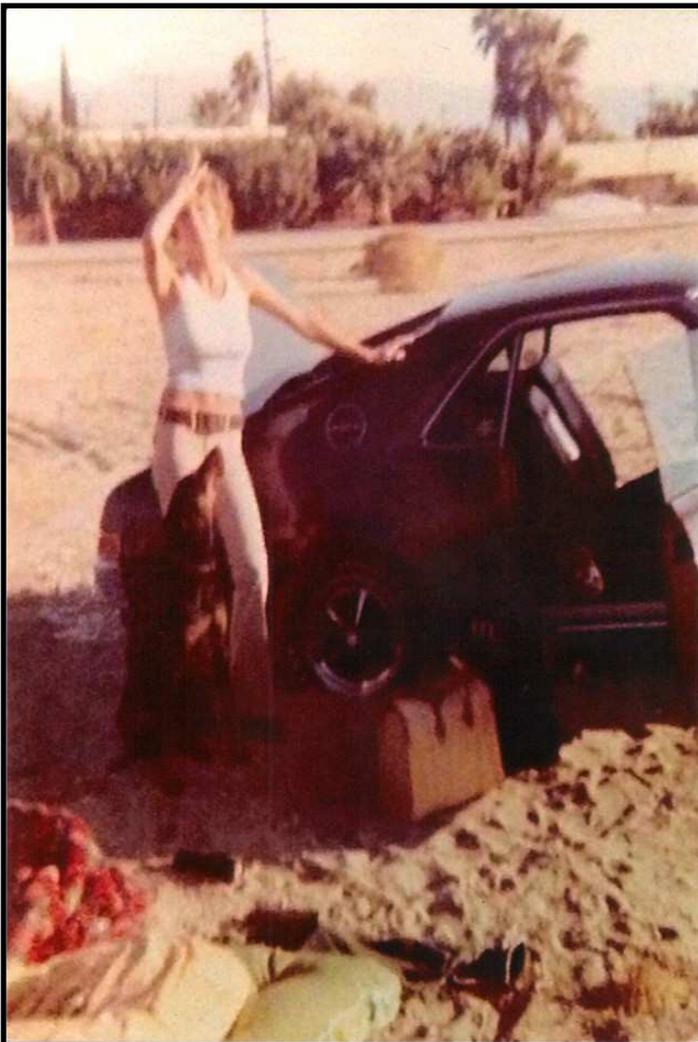
As you read in an article in this newsletter I've now had the opportunity to meet the Playmate and talk to her about her car. Allen Tyler who helped restore the car told me to ask the Playmate the next time I see her about the abundance of sand in the frame rails.

Last weekend while visiting with Victoria and looking through a pile of her personal photos I remembered Allen's request. "Hey Victoria," I started to tell her the story about discovering sand in her car. Going through her pictures she hands me the next one on top of the stack. I took one look and remarked, "Oh my goodness! What is this picture about Victoria? I can't believe it!"

She looked puzzled at my reaction and answered, "Oh this is when I got my car stuck on the beach one day and had to have it towed back to solid ground."

So there you have it. Her car hooked up to a tow truck was literally drug through the sand back to pavement, all the while packing sand into the frame rails via the inspection holes. How many more zany stories about her car are locked up in her brain I wonder?

Mark Melvin





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Pacific Gold Rush Ramblers
present:



3rd Annual

Santa Maria

Car Show

Radisson Hotel

3455 Skyway Drive, Santa Maria CA 93455

9am-3pm SEPTEMBER 7/8

Southern California PGR Ramblers Rally- Friday

Club Show- Saturday

Fun bunch of Guys & Gals and Muscle, Muscle, Muscle!

Contact

Stan Kelly, (408) 821-7812
skelly6567@gmail.com

Radisson Hotel,
(805) 928-8000

2018

*3rd Annual
Calif Central-Coast
AMC/Rambler Show*

September 7-8, 2018

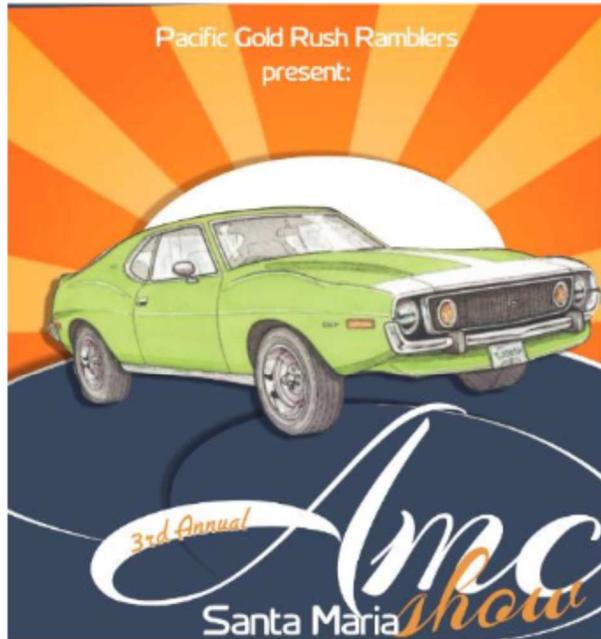
Radisson Inn

Santa Maria CA 93455

Host Hotel: Radisson Hotel - 805-928-8000

3455 Skyway Dr., Santa Maria, CA 93455

Mention "Pacific Gold Rush Ramblers" "Rambler"
for special night rate.



3rd Annual Central-Coast AMC/Rambler Show

Registration Form:

Name: _____

Address _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ email: _____

Entry Number:

Car Registration:

Before: August 1, 2018: \$35.00 After August 1, 2018: \$40.00

Year / Make / Model

1. _____ @ \$35.00 = \$ _____

2. _____ @ \$35.00 = \$ _____

2018 Mid-Coast Santa Maria Tee Shirt :

___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL T-Shirt included with Pre-Registration – while supplies last at event

Total Amount Enclosed:

\$ _____

Make checks payable to: **Pacific Gold Rush Ramblers**

Mail this form and payment to: Pacific Gold Rush Ramblers, c/o Stan Kelly 1378 S Newcomb Street Porterville, CA 93257

Hosted by: Pacific Gold Rush Ramblers

For more information, visit our website: www.pgrr.org
or Contact: Stan Kelly, (408-821-7812) or Ken Norman, (805-878-8096)

2018 LAS VEGAS AMC REUNION



AMCRC Southwest Regional



November 2-3, 2018

Hoover Dam Lodge
18000 Highway 93, Boulder City, NV 89005



For room reservations, call Hoover Dam Lodge at 1-800-245-6380 or 702-293-5000. Make sure to mention code AMC2018 for the special room rate.

Show Features

Friday Tour followed by FREE Barbeque hosted by SNAMC
Event T-shirt Dash Plaque Raffles Awards

For more information, visit:

www.snamc.amcrc.com

www.hooverdamlodge.com



Metropolitan

Jeep

2018 Las Vegas AMC Reunion Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

E-mail _____

Club Affiliation (s) _____

VEHICLE(S) REGISTERED:

Make _____ Model _____ Year _____ Color _____

Make _____ Model _____ Year _____ Color _____

Make _____ Model _____ Year _____ Color _____

REGISTRATION FEE: **\$40** per car (registration includes t-shirt, dash plaque and goodie bag)

Please indicate shirt size: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___ XXXL ___

Additional shirts available for **\$20** per shirt: Qty ___ Size(s) _____

NOTE: Due to the limited quantity of show t-shirts, you must register or place your order NO LATER THAN October 1st to be guaranteed a t-shirt. After October 1st, there is no guarantee that t-shirts will be available.

SWAP MEET SPACE: \$30 per space (20' x 20') No. of spaces _____

TOTAL OF ALL FEES..... \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: **SOUTHERN NEVADA AMC CLUB**

Mail to: Las Vegas AMC Reunion, c/o Larry Daum

80 W. Story, Pahrump NV 89060

Show officials reserve the right to restrict entrants to acceptable behavior during any and all activities related to this event. In consideration of acceptance to participate, by execution of this registration form, entrants and participants release and discharge the meet committee members and sponsors from any and all liabilities and/or claims from any cause, whatsoever, that may be suffered by any entrant to his property or person

Signature

Date



SUPPORT YOUR NEWSLETTER

Writers are needed to help support this AMC newsletter. I welcome submissions from each of you who attend the events we go to each month.

You don't need to be a super writer or own a wiz bang word processor program. All you have to do is just send me a simple email as your article text and I'll do all the formatting and spell checking for you.

Please do attach pictures to your email if you have them! Send your stuff to: mightypilot@gmail.com

JOIN AMCRC!

SoCalAMX has become a chartered club of the national AMC club known as AMCRC, or AMC Rambler Club. Although membership in AMCRC is not required for membership in SoCalAMX, it is encouraged that everyone join AMCRC to support the national and local clubs, and the AMC hobby in general.



To join AMCRC go to amcrc.com and click on the "Join" link on the side.

What do you get for joining AMCRC? You get a Start Up Packet, a quarterly publication, and Services. Read about the details at: <http://amcrc.com/info/info.htm>

FREE! FREE! FREE!

I hope that grabbed your attention. The 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 X (ver. 10.x 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 Reader seems to load much faster than past versions, but be informed the download is about 52 meggy bites!.

The newsletter is available for downloading at www.socalamx.net/1/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 mightypilot@gmail.com 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 mightypilot@gmail.com 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