

Socalamx.net

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Official Monthly Publication of SoCalAMX

Vol. 3 Issue 10—May 2011



2011 American Motors Owners National Convention July 7-10, 2011 Sedona, AZ

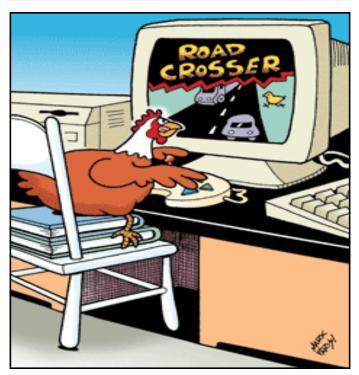
Hosted by the Cactus Cruisers http://www.amo2011.org/

Las Vegas AMC Reunion

November 4-5, 2011 Railroad Pass Hotel & Casino Henderson, NV http://snamc.amcrc.com/carshow.html

Join SoCalAMX so you can automatically receive updates and details of events listed above. Go to socalamx.net/join.htm

> Check out "socalcarculture.com" for listings of shows in S. Cal!



LATE NEW SLETTER? VA...

Well it's almost June and I haven't published the May issue of our newsletter yet. I hope you can understand I was busy in the early part of the month along with other club members preparing for our car show last weekend.

Usually I publish a report on an event the following month so an article about this month's car show will appear in next month's June issue, which actually is only a week away. Call it back to back issues I guess.



GARGTOPTAUX

For the past several years you've probably heard me complain about a few issues with my car that was no longer making it fun to drive my AMX. Well I think both those issues have been cleared up, just in time for the Sedona trip in July, and hopefully a cross country drive to Kenosha, WI., also in July, for a gigantic AMC car show in the city where our cars were born!

The first issue seemingly fixed is my supposed over-heating problems. Back in 2004 when I restored my car I had a custom radiator made for me that was called a "Desert" radiator, which was supposed to keep my engine cool in extreme conditions. Actually it worked well as long as the car was moving and had lots of air flow over the fins. However at slow speeds and idling it would always try to

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

climb in temperature. The final straw was last year in November on the way to the Las Vegas Show where we had to pull the radiator out of my car and go get a leak fixed while everyone waited for me and the repair. I already had another custom radiator waiting at home for the past year that Mattson Radiator in Stanton, CA made for me. It has the original top and bottom tanks, but the core in the middle was the biggest flow core he could put in. It was time to replace the old custom radiator for the new one and what a difference! I can drive all over or idle and the temperature just doesn't want to go over 190-period! Of course it's not the middle of the summer on a hot day over 100 degrees, but I think from what I've seen so far the new radiator is going to work out just fine!

The second issue for the past several years was an odd engine vibration. I recently put a 5-speed transmission in my car and we were thinking maybe something was out of balance, but wait, the vibration was still there even though the car was not moving, and besides the vibration was there before we put the new transmission in. So what the heck could it be? We took the fan belts off the engine to see if there was a vibration in one of the engine accessories, but no, that wasn't it.

Finally as I was under the car looking at oil leaks I took a hard look at the harmonic balancer and noticed the rubber between the inner and out hub was odd, parts of it kinda poked inward, and other parts hanging outward. So while replacing the front main seal to eliminate an oil leak I also replaced the harmonic balancer. Bingo, the vibration was gone!

MARK MELVIN

"BACK TO SCHOOL"

by Steve Fox

Saturday, April 30th, was a special day for Morse High School in San Diego, CA, as its first car show was held for approximately fifty vehicles. The event planning process began last year, when I queried my classes, asking who would like to contribute to producing our high school's first car show. Several students volunteered and away we went, planning and scheming. Our target date of February 26th was rained out, much to the disappointment of the students, who put a lot of time and energy in preparation for the big day. So, a new date was approved by the school and we continued plan. making signs. establishing to responsibilities and show duties and such. Relying on teenagers can be a blessing or a curse, depending on the teens. On the day of the show, one student never showed and another showed up forty minutes late during the critical first hour. Nonetheless, we persevered, and thanks to another teacher, Mark G., we had all fifty cars parked during the next few hours.

Breakfast was available--even John C. couldn't finish all of his cakes! This show was open to all cars, both newer and classic, and they all showed up! Several unusual trophy classifications existed, including "car most likely to get a ticket," "best drive-in," and "car most likely to burn to the ground." The music was played by two student volunteers and the playlist was eclectic, including mostly 60's and 70's music. Burgers and dogs were served later on and despite the warm temperatures, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.

Mark G. earned the "best American car" award, Stacy was awarded "best paint, Rich earned the "car most likely to get a ticket," and the "best of show" was awarded to a gentleman with a '58 Thunderbird, quite happy with his trophy. In addition to the trophies, there were two other "high points" of the show. Howard S., who brought a Subaru, revealed a motor scooter that folded up in a bag! Then, a

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"dust devil" came out of nowhere and landed right next to my car. I still can't find my AMC flag! After the show all the AMC's (myself, John C., John S., Randy K., Jon, Dominic, Rich W., Stacy T., Robert, and Jon #2 got together for a group picture.

People have asked me if I plan on another show next year.....we'll see!







National AMC Show

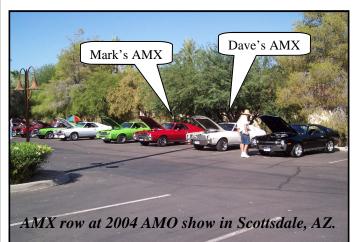
Hold on to your calendars, the 2011 National AMC Car Show, also known as the AMO National Convention, is less than six weeks away from Memorial Day weekend! This year the car show is in Sedona, AZ., about as close as it's ever going to get to us, unless we host it ourselves.

The last time AMO held the national show in Arizona was in 2004 in Scottsdale. Back then the only two cars from our group who attended were Dave and Kati's 68 AMX and my 69 AMX. This time around I think we'll be able to triple or quadruple our car total and make a nice showing.

The people going this time I understand are..

Dave and Kati Chick—68 AMX John Caley—68 AMX John and Shelly Siciliano—69 AMX Allen Taylor—69 RWB AMX Hobie Kaptan—69 AMX Myself with my 69 AMX Steve Fox—69 SC/Rambler Randy and Cindy Kirby—70 Rebel

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Bob Martinez—70 AMX Tom Dulaney—AMX/3 Project

And these folks may or may not be going as well but haven't officially notified me as of yet.

Stewart Jackson—69 AMX

Dale Crum-70 Javelin Stacy Thompson—72 Ambassador Wagon

If there are others who are going please let me know and I'll add your name to next month's newsletter. It's not too early to start planning our convoys. I think there will be cars leaving for Sedona each day on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. For those who think it'll be too hot to join us just remember that Sedona is higher in latitude and elevation than Scottsdale was, and should be just warm, in the 90's, instead of the 110's in Scottsdale. Plus the cars will be parked on the grass of a golf course instead of asphalt.

Check out the Google Map of our intended route of the car convoy to Sedona at this link ... http://snipurl.com/sedona11

For more info on the event go to the official web site at http://amo2011.org/

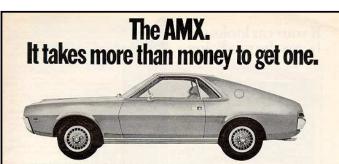
MARK MELVIN 68 AMX

69 AMX



they were about 110 degrees sitting in the sun!!





If you can find an AMX, we'll sell you one. But as this message goes to press, less than 2,000 AMX's have been produced. And we, American Motors, will only make about 8,000 more this year. You see the difficulty. Even if you have the \$3,245' necessary to buy an AMX, you may get a lot of exercise be-fore you ever get close enough to pay for one. Ah, but the thrill of being the first man in your state to own one will surely be surpassed by the thrill of being the first man in your state to drive one.

by the thrill of being the first man in your state to drive one. A two-seater, the AMX gives you the ease of maintenance associated with a family sedan, combined with the shere f fun and maneuver-ability of a foreign sports car. In fact, its incredibly uncomplex design means that, once the optional 390 engine is bro-ken in, you could roll right onto a race track and be ready to do about 130 mph. In pure stock form—without special en-gine modifications. Specially equipped AMX's with modified engines broke 106 USAC speed records. And while there are cars on the road that are faster than the AMX, we hasten to add that beating other drivers isn't the AMX's main appeal. I's the way the car reacts to you as you drive, not the usual dull split second later. You get out of lane, pass the car in front and get back in lane in one sure motion. Because the AMX offers one of the fastest steering wheel ratios of any U.S.-built car, it turns, corners, follows your direction simul-taneously. Being a sports car, the AMX is sports-car sized.

Being a sports car, the AMX is sports-car

sized

So, while the inside isn't much of a place to hold meetings, it will hold a lot of other

things. The trunk is a lot bigger than you'd expect a sports car trunk to be. Because we didn't fill it with a big spare tire. We gave you The Airless Spare.

When you need it, it "wwwhhhooossshh!"

When you never a single set of the set of th

Dift then, every early the second sec ing steering column, heavy-duty springs and shocks

To mention only a few of the AMX's

To mention only a few of the AMX's standard features. Another un-standard standard feature is the production number that will be set in the AMX dash when you (if you find one) buy it, AMX 00001 through AMX 10,000. While this number may mean a lot to col-lectors in the years ahead, we do want to point out one thing.

All AMX's are made with the same atten-

All AMX's are made with the same areas tion and quality. And while possessing a lower number may have a sentimental or prestige value, it does not in any way make one AMX better than another. Just as possessing an AMX does not make one man better than another. Just luckier.



AMO 2011 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION SEDONA, ARIZONA Cactus Cruisers AMC

July 6th - 10th, 2011

Wednesday through Sunday

Poco Diablo Resort

1752 State Route 179

Sedona, AZ 86336



877-282-5755 & 928-282-7333

www.amo2011.org

www.cactuscruisers.org

www.pocodiablo.com





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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.

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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 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

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

Member Spotlight

Now is your chance to be famous! We need volunteers for the monthly "Member Spotlight" article in the newsletter. All you have to do is give up some information on yourself and your car that you think might be fun for the others to read about.

It's easy to do, just go to http://socalamx.net/memberspotlight.htm and use the online form to send me the goods. Please send a few photos in addition to mark@socalamx.net to use along with your information about you and your car.

To get an idea of what exactly to say read a few of the recent newsletters for the Member Spotlight articles in them. Go to socalamx.net and click on Newsletter.