



SoCalAMX



Proudly A Chartered Club of AMCRC

www.socalamx.net/newsletter

Official Publication of SoCalAMX

Issue 81 May 2018

SoCalAMX Calendar

12th Annual SoCalAMX AMC Show

Saturday, May 19, 2018
Cable Airport, Upland, CA
socalamx.net/carshow

3rd Annual California Central Coast AMC/Rambler Show

Hosted by Pacific Gold Rush Ramblers
September 7-8, 2018
Radisson Hotel, Santa Maria, CA

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

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 SoCal!



2018 SOCALAMX CAR SHOW

Wow, the upcoming AMC Car Show is coming at us like a lightning bolt. Before you know it, zap, it'll be here.

The show is set for Saturday, May 19th, at Cable Airport, at 10am. I hope to see a strong turnout again this year. I have been receiving entries in the mail box and entering them into my database program. The trophies have arrived and t-shirts have been ordered. Only final preparations remain. I hope to see you at the show on the 19th.

Get your entry in the mail if you're planning on coming. It helps reduce the amount of data entry into the computer on show day.

Information available at:
<http://socalamx.net/carshow>

Confirmation postcards will also be in the mail shortly. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone there at the show.

Mark Melvin



The One That We Missed!

First a little history of the club. When I moved to West Covina in 1987, it was around the time of the beginning of what we now know as the Internet. As soon as cable was available to me, I got my computer hooked up and everything boomed after that. Wow, this Internet thing is really something, maybe it's a good way to reach other AMX owners like myself locally in Southern California. I figured there must be many other AMX owners out there, but where are they? That's how SoCalAMX got started in 2001, a simple web site with information to direct other AMX owners on how to get in contact with each other through Yahoo Groups, a new Internet messaging system at the time.

For the first year I didn't meet anyone through my new web site. Then in 2002, the second year, I met Hobie Kaptan, and Dave & Katy Chick and family. The club such as it was, grew slowly but steady over the following years. In 2007 we had our first annual AMC Car Show at the Irwindale Speedway with 50 cars, including Jeff Teague in attendance with his AMX/3.

The web site SoCalAMX has full-filled its purpose, of uniting AMC'ers from around Southern California. But we missed one. And that's what this story is about.

After announcing our 12th Annual Car Show earlier this year, one of the first entries I received was from a Steve Norbalm—in West Covina of all places—the same city I live in. Furthermore, the car he has is a 1969 Big Bad Green California 500 Special AMX, the car having been bought new by his family at the Ricker Motors AMC dealership in Whittier.

Wow, I've been living in West Covina for 30 years, I've never seen this car or met its owner. I need to call them up and go over and see it. Yesterday was the day. I cranked up my red 69 AMX and rumbled over to the address I was given to check out this car. The guy I first met was Robert Hill who was working on tuning the engine, getting it ready for our car show. But he wasn't the owner, rather a longtime friend of the family, as he explained, who was the "gearhead" doing the work for the car owner's family.

I was a little confused at first but finally figured it all out after chatting with Robert, and then Steve who showed up later. Here's the complete story. Steve's father Ron received the car new as a graduation present upon graduating from high school in 1969. He kept the car all these years, but along the way, as happens to many of these classic cars, it was

pushed into a corner, neglected and the car suffered.

Late in 2017, Steve's father Ron, the original owner, decided it was time to get the car out and rolling once again. With help from their family friend, Robert Hill, they had the car running and took it to the Covina "Thunderfest" Car Show in October. The following month in November Steve's father Ron, the original owner, passed away.

In my conversation with Robert and Steve I remarked, "Wow we've been living in the same city for 30 years and never met. How cool would that have been to cruise over occasionally with my red AMX and meet up with you and your dad?" Steve replied that his dad would have really liked that.

We can't do anything about the past, but we can about the future. I say we commit to having our cars on the road as often as we can, for meeting up with other AMC owners out there. A good start would be to come to our club's AMC Car Show on May 19th. By the way, Robert Hill and Steve Norbalm will be there with his dad's 69 AMX. The car's green paint is faded, black stripes all but gone, and the interior severely weathered. But I'm sure Steve would appreciate everyone stopping by to take a look and say hi!

MARK MELVIN



BENEDICT CASTLE CARSHOW

Sometimes things are for the better a second time around. They were for me on Sunday, April 22, at the Benedict Castle Concourse Car Show in Riverside. I attended this show last year after only hearing about it 10 days or less before the event and ended up grabbing a 3rd place ribbon for my efforts. Although a very nicely run show with Maguires car care products as its main sponsor, this event wasn't on my list of shows to attend a second time. That is until Steve Fox and I bumped into Nichole Maguire at January's Grand National Roadster Show and were talked into coming to her Benedict Castle show.

I had met a new friend, Jim Mikkelson (69 Camaro), at last year's San Marino Concourse Show. He happens to live in Riverside near the Benedict Castle, so he invited me to park my truck and trailer at his house, unload the Playmate AMX there, and drive over to the show with him.

I had to get up at 2am that morning to get ready and fetch my truck and trailer and drive out to Riverside by 5am, as Jim had to be there early around 6am to help as an event worker. As I left the trailer yard I remembered I had forgotten my "show info letter" I just received in the mail. I hadn't opened it, and not knowing if something important needed for the show was inside, I decided to stop by the house and pick it up, which caused me to arrive later than planned at Jim's house. After a cup of coffee and unloading the car, we were both off to the show.

As it turned out I was towards the front of the line upon arrival, I lucked out and had a great parking spot just inside the entrance gate. Spectators couldn't help but notice the pink lady resting there, silently yet seductively greeting them to the show.

After doing the normal cleaning on the car and proclaiming her ready for judging I grabbed my camera and headed to the far parts of the grounds to digitally record the other cars at the show. To fill out the hours while waiting for the judging results I ventured over to the food trucks and grabbed some grub, and found a few items to buy at a vendor's booth, as future gifts come the holiday season.

Because I had arrived so early with Jim the day got a little long by the time awards were announced. I was getting ready to walk over to the main stage area to listen to the awards, and Jim showed up and asked me if I had seen the ribbon on my car's dash? "No, I wasn't aware of it," I told Jim. I was pleased to discover the ribbon was red in color indicating a second-place finish. Very cool as I wasn't expecting to win anything with so many other fine cars.

When Jim was finally able to leave I followed his "Grabber Orange" Camaro out the gate and back to his house. While loading the AMX back into the trailer I realized I had Rich Truesell's backpack and camera in my trunk, where he had placed it late in the day. I called Rich to tell him where I was, and he stopped by to pick his gear up. Jim and Rich got to meet each other and a long winded conversation began, which I think turned into a new friendship, just like mine with Jim a year earlier.

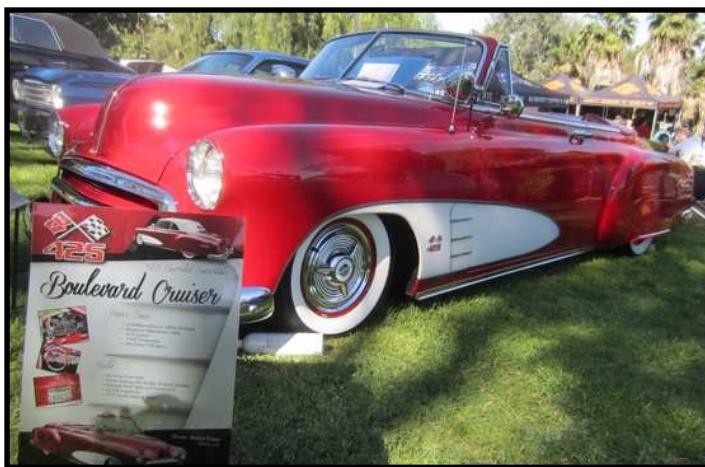
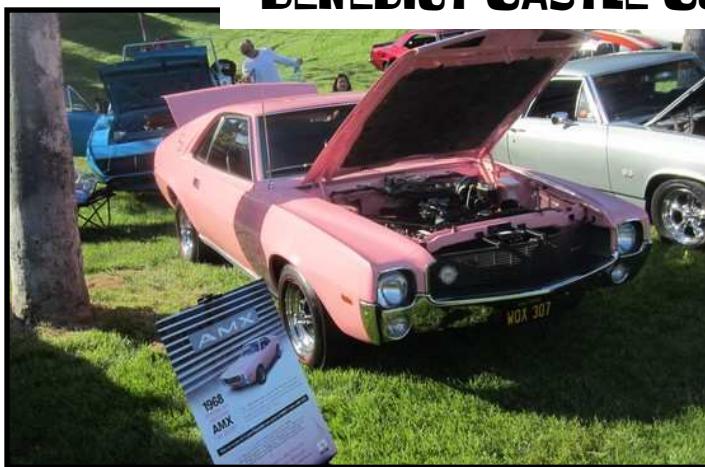
So, the Benedict Castle was indeed better this time around. Maybe I should return next year and try for a 1st Place win, since I already have a 3rd and 2nd. Make it a trifecta of wins!

MARK MELVIN

**I DON'T ALWAYS DRIVE MY
AMC GREMLIN TO CAR SHOWS**

**BUT WHEN I DO, PEOPLE FORGET
HEMIS, SHELBY'S AND YENKOS**

BENEDICT CASTLE CONCOURSE CAR SHOW





Burgers & Hot Rods!

Well actually burgers and a hot-rod magazine. On November 17 there will be a big car show at the LA Fairplex in Pomona to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of both Hot-Rod Magazine and In-N-Out Burger. At the car show, in addition to displaying your car, there's an option to race on the NHRA drag strip, for a small fee.

We as a group haven't done this in a while but we need to have a large gathering of AMCs again. Imagine if you will, at the sight of 10-15 AMCs in a row lined up at the entrance to the Fairplex parked together. We can do it, there's plenty of time to plan and pencil in the date on your calendars.

I've already signed up myself and hope to see a bunch of other AMCs there with me. It will be an event! There is no show flyer I've seen so far to include in this newsletter, but here is the link to the web site where you can get all the information and sign yourself up.

<http://tiny.cc/nov17show>

MARK MELVIN

I AM JUDGING YOUR AMC



CAR TODAY

The Traffic Stop

A lawyer runs a stop sign and gets pulled over by a traffic cop. He thinks he's smarter being a big shot lawyer from New York and has a better education than a police officer from West Virginia. The officer asks for license and registration.

The lawyer asks, "What for? Did I make a mistake?"

The officer responds, "You didn't come to a complete stop at the stop sign."

The lawyer says, "I slowed down and nobody was coming."

"You still didn't come to a complete stop. License and registration please," say the cop impatiently.

The lawyer says, "If you can show me the legal difference between slow down and stop, I'll give you my license and registration and you can give me the traffic ticket. If not, you let me go and don't give me the traffic ticket."

The cop says, "That sounds fair, please exit your car."

The lawyer steps out and the cop takes out his nightstick and starts beating the lawyer with it.

The cop says, "Do you want me to stop or just slow down?"

The Mystery Deepens

Last month I touched upon something I have wanted to do for a long time, upgrade our club's web site. Well yesterday I went ahead and purchased a new brand of web software for this purpose. I had been testing an online demo for weeks and decided this is what I have been looking for.

After the car show is over in three weeks I'll be able to concentrate on setting up our new web site and get it ready for a grand premiere. For those who take the time to use the site I think you will be pleased at the professional look and feel of the screens. Everyone will have access to the gallery to upload pictures of your cars and the car shows you attend. There will be a blog to tell us about your car, and forums to discuss anything hobby related—and for Randy Kirby—an online calendar to populate with all the upcoming events for the club.

Everyone will have to hang tight for a few more months. The mystery deepens!

MARK MELVIN

After you consider the advantages of a Gremlin, you may not buy a Pinto or a Vega.

For months, the Pinto and the Vega have been telling you about some of their advantages over the imports.

Now we're going to tell you about some of the Gremlin's advantages over the Pinto and the Vega.

More horsepower.

Let's start with our engine, for example.

There's a 6 cylinder, 135 horsepower engine in our Gremlin. Compared to 4 cylinders and 75 horsepower in the Pinto. And 4 cylinders and 90 horsepower in the Vega.

Gas mileage.

When you consider the amount of extra power you

get in the Gremlin, what we give you in gas mileage is phenomenal. Up to 23 miles to the gallon.

The Pinto and Vega both have 11 gallon gas tanks. The Gremlin holds 21 gallons. So you fill up about every 500 miles.

Wider.

On the outside, we build the Gremlin wider than the Pinto or the Vega, to make it stick to the road. And we give it a wider tread, both in the front and rear, for the same reason.

Easier parking.

To make the Gremlin easier to park, we make it almost 2 inches shorter than the Pinto.

And more than 8 inches shorter than the Vega.

Roomier.

On the inside, you'll find the Gremlin is roomier for your hips and shoulders. Not only in the front, but in the rear, too.

Extra weight.

And if the Gremlin looks heavier than the Pinto or the Vega, it is. We give it a 400 pound advantage on the Vega and a 600 pound advantage on the Pinto. For the added advantages you get while passing a truck or traveling in the wind.

Considering everything you get for \$1999,² do you still feel like running out to buy a Pinto or a Vega?

American Motors ■



**SoCalAMX's
"West Coast All AMC Car Show"**

50th Anniversary of the AMX & Javelin!

12th Annual



Saturday, May 19, 2018

**Location: CABLE AIRPORT
1749 W. 13th St, Upland, CA
Car Show Starts at 10am and Ends at 3:30pm**



socalamx.net/carshow



Cameron Earnshaw—1969 BBO AMX
2017 Best Of Show

Trophies: Top 13 "Dirty Dozen" & Best Of Show

Parts Swap Meet? Yes, Bring Your Old Car Parts To Sell!

**Pre-registrations must be postmarked by May 10
Confirmations Cards Will Be Mailed**

Food Available Onsite at Maniac Mike's Café

Proceeds to be donated to the Cable Airport Foundation



**Make Checks (\$30) Payable To "Mark Melvin-SoCalAMX Car Show"
and mail entry form & payment to: 1517 McCabe Way, West Covina, CA 91791
(One registration form per vehicle entered)**

(Men's T-shirt Sizes)

(Women's T-shirt Sizes)

(what T-shirt size?) **(S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)**

(M, L, XL)

Each pre-registered entry includes 1 event T-shirt. Sizes guaranteed only if pre-ordered. Additional T-shirts are available for \$15 each.

Name Address

City State Zip Code

Phone E-Mail

Car Year Make Model Color

All Entrants Hereby Release and Discharge SoCalAMX, Cable Airport, and its Organizers, From Any Known Or Unknown Damages, Injuries, Losses, or Claims That May Occur During This Event. I also agree to permit SOCALAMX and its associates to use my name, likeness, pictures, and photos of me or my property for advertising, publicity purposes, and relinquish any rights whatsoever.

The 12th Annual

2018 West Coast All AMC Car Show

CAR SHOW DATE & TIME

Saturday, May 19, 2018
10am to 3:30pm

CAR SHOW LOCATION

Cable Airport in Upland, CA

Hotel Information available at www.socalamx.net/carshow

Master Map on GOOGLE MAPS

<http://goo.gl/2Ja8JP>

Car show entrants, please enter the show area using the gate straight ahead from 13th St.

There is a restaurant onsite called Maniac Mike's Café, and restrooms are available there.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- **8-9:30am** - If you're an early bird why not come early and have breakfast at the airport's cafe known as Maniac Mike's.
- **9-10am** - The cars being entered in the show should arrive between these hours so they may be parked in time for the show to start.
- **10am** - The 2018 AMC Car Show begins.
- **10am-1pm** - The judging of the cars by their owners. Please turn in all ballots by 1pm so they may be tabulated.
- **2pm** - The raffle number calling begins.
- **3pm** - The car show winners are announced and this year's show will be over.



Pacific Gold Rush Ramblers
present:



3rd Annual

mc show
Santa Maria

Radisson Hotel

3455 Skyway Drive, Santa Maria CA 93455

9am-3pm SEPTEMBER 7/8

Southern California PGRRamblers 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 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: [mighty pilot@gmail.com](mailto: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 [mighty pilot@gmail.com](mailto: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 [mighty pilot@gmail.com](mailto: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