



# SoCalAMX



Proudly A Chartered Club of AMCRC

[www.socalamx.net/newsletter](http://www.socalamx.net/newsletter)

Official Publication of SoCalAMX

Issue 59 November 2014

## SOCALAMX CALENDAR

### 28th Annual Burger Run

Saturday, January 10, 2015

Pepper Tree Frosty

Vista, California

<http://www.burgerrun.info/>

Check the online Calendar at [socalamx.net](http://socalamx.net)

Join SoCalAMX so you can automatically receive updates and details of events listed above. Go to [socalamx.net/1/join.htm](http://socalamx.net/1/join.htm)

Check out "socalcarculture.com" for listings of shows in SoCal!

## Burger Run 2015

The next major car show I see coming up that more than a few club members attend each year is the "Burger Run" in Vista, CA. This is a cool show, only \$10 gets you in and includes a t-shirt.



The SoCalAMX gang at the 2009 Burger Run.

One neat aspect of the show are the trophies. They are all 100% hand crafted and unique each year. It is a kick to see the creativity that goes into these much coveted pieces of hardware.

I remember Steve Fox won once a few years ago. Hey, I even won once and received the "Biker's Pick" award! It was a little moped mounted on a marble plaque.



The "Biker's Pick" award I won two years ago!

This year the show is on January 10, 2015. We usually meet at the McDonalds in Vista at 6am around the corner from the show so we can park together. Talk to Randy about details.

MARK MELVIN



# BURGER RUN

**Best Trophies in all the Land!**  
**Pepper Tree Frosty**  
**Vista, CA**

**28th Annual**  
**January 10th 2015**

**Biggest, Little**  
**Car Show in**  
**San Diego County**



**Enter Eucalyptus Ave. & Civic Center Dr.**

**Gates open at 6:00 AM for Participants**

Check us out on our web site at [www.burgerrun.info](http://www.burgerrun.info)

**Pepper Tree Frosty, 270 So. Santa Fe Ave, Vista, Ca.**

**ENTRY FEE INCLUDES T-SHIRT & DASH PLAQUE - PRE '72 CARS - 8 A.M. - 1 P.M.**

**PRE ENTRY BY JAN. 5TH - \$10.00 OR \$15.00 AT THE SHOW**

**MAIL ENTRY TO JOE FREE, 1530 LINDA VISTA DR. SAN MARCOS, CA 92078**

**PHONE: (760) 744-3340 DAY OF SHOW (760) 807-6190 - RAIN DATE: JAN. 17, 2015**

**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO JOE FREE**

**CONFIRMATION WILL BE SENT BY E-MAIL OR USPS FOR EXPRESS CHECKIN**

**SPONSORED BY THE COUNTRY GENTS CAR CLUB AND CAR CLUB COUNCIL**

\*\*\* PRINT CLEARLY \*\*\*

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR & MAKE OF CAR: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ CLUB: \_\_\_\_\_

**(Circle One) T-Shirt Size M - L - XL - XXL - XXXL**      **Your Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_

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

# Vegas or Bust!

Or

## ROAD WOES WORRIES

The 2014 Las Vegas AMC Reunion is officially over. It was another great show put on by Southern Nevada AMC Club president, Mark Ogulnick, and his club!

The fun filled weekend started on Thursday, when myself, Mark & Cheryl Fletcher, Steve Fox, John & Shelly Siciliano, Allen Tyler, and Randy and Cindy Kirby met up at the McDonalds in Victorville, right off the 15 freeway. Unlike one year recently, when someone (me) had a radiator problem at the same spot, this time everybody was good to go and we left convoy style around 1pm and arrived in Henderson, NV around dusk.

On Friday at 11am there was a long convoy of AMC cars that traveled from the Railroad Pass, the host hotel, to the Las Vegas strip and the Shelby Mustang museum, where we had a tour of the facilities.

On display there was the very first ever Shelby AC Cobra built by the legendary Carrol Shelby. The tour guide told us that a person once offered \$25 million for the car and was turned down.

After the tour we headed back towards the area of the hotel, and since the Shelby tour was short time wise, it was decided to start the Friday bar-b-q early, which worked out well, because the bar-b-q wrapped up by the time it got dark, and chilly.

Saturday, the day of the AMC show, the weather could not have been any better. The sky was cloudless, and the temps in the low 80's, with a gentle breeze.

Besides meeting two new friends, Rod & Debra Clement (69 AMX), who enthusiastically joined our club on the spot, members of SoCalAMX who were at the show were; Steve Fox 1969 SC/Rambler, Allen Tyler 1969 AMX, John & Shelly Siciliano 1969 AMX, Randy & Cindy Kirby 1970 AMX, Bob Martinez 1970 AMX, Jay & Rosemary Baker 1969 AMX, Dave & Katy Chick 1968 AMX, Mark Melvin 1969 AMX, Mark & Cheryl Fletcher

1967 Rouge, and Dale Crum 1970 Javelin. Also at the show sans his 68 AMX, was Richard White, and Jeff Jung from Texas stopped by.

Of course as always, the show went by too quickly and before we knew it we were inside the hotel at the awards presentation, where the club was well represented on stage.

Jay & Rosemary Baker won Best of Show with their 1969 BBO AMX.

Mark & Cheryl Fletcher: 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the American Class with their 1967 Rouge.

Dale Crum: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the Javelin class with his red 1970 Javelin.

Steve Fox: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the Specialty/High Performance class with his 1969 SC/Rambler.

Randy & Cindy Kirby: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in AMX non-stock with his BBG 1970 AMX.

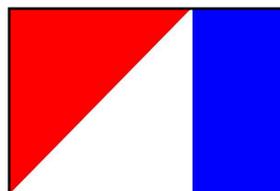
John & Shelly Siciliano: 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in AMX non-stock with their blue 1969 AMX.

Dave & Katy Chick: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the Stock AMX class with their white 1968 AMX.

Mark Melvin: 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in the Stock AMX class with his red 1969 AMX.

In contrast to the problem free trip to Las Vegas, the trip home was an adventure for some. Bob Martinez had some engine problems which resulted in a stop in Nipton, CA to re-adjusted rocker arms on the engine's left side. Randy Kirby had an electrical issue between Baker and Barstow that required a quick repair to his wiring, which got him home. My \$15 electrical repair box I've had in my AMX for the past 10 years, got dusted off and used twice this trip.

The next year is going to go by quickly! Plan on having your AMCs ready early for the 10th annual AMC Reunion in November of 2015!



# 2015 Las Vegas AMC Reunion

## *SoCalAMX Trophy Winning Cars*

For pictures of the 2014 Las Vegas AMC Reunion use this link: [snipurl.com/vegas14](http://snipurl.com/vegas14)



**Jay & Rosemary Baker: 1969 AMX "Best of Show"**



**Mark & Cheryl Fletcher: 1967 Rouge "1st Place American"**



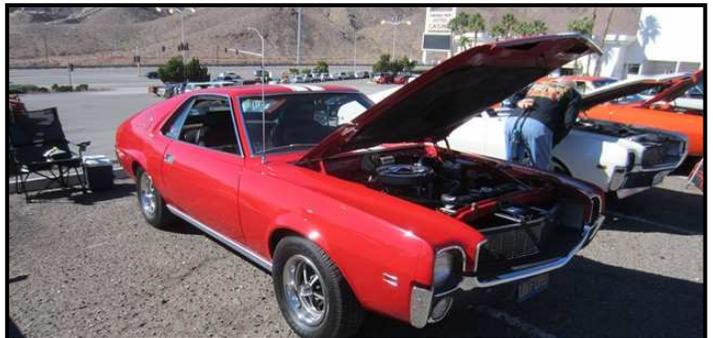
**Randy Kirby 1970 BFG AMX "2nd Place Non Stock AMX"**



**John & Shelly Siciliano: 1969 AMX "3rd Place Non Stock AMX"**



**Dave & Katy Chick: 1968 AMX "2nd Place Stock AMX"**



**Mark Melvin: 1969 AMX "3rd Place Stock AMX"**



**Dale Crum: 1970 Donohue Javelin "2nd Place Javelin"**



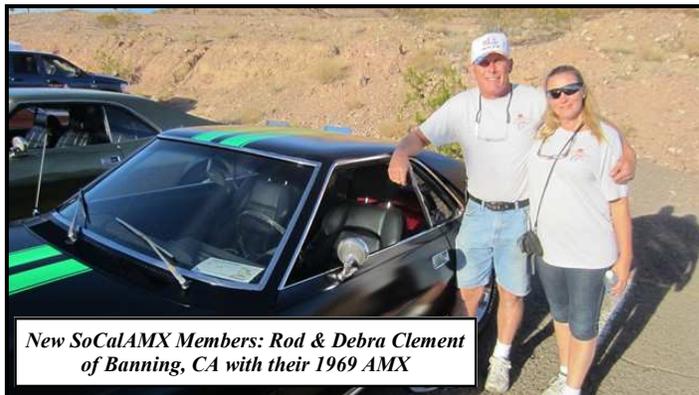
**Steve Fox: 1969 SC/Rambler 2nd Place "High Performance"**

# 2015 Las Vegas AMC Reunion

*More Pictures From The AMC Show In Las Vegas Weekend*



**Allen Tyler: RWB 1968 AMX**



**New SoCalAMX Members: Rod & Debra Clement of Banning, CA with their 1969 AMX**



**Robert Martinez: 1970 AMX**



**Photo-Op At The End Of The Show**



**Meeting Up At McDonalds On Thursday For "The Convoy"**



**The ladies of SoCalAMX: Shelly, Cindy, Katy, and Mary**



**Randy Kirby supervises work on Break Down Bob's AMX**



**Here's proof Bob Martinez can wrench on a car!**

# THE DRAG-ON-LADY

Hey, Shirley Shahan was recently inducted into the Mopar Hall of Fame. She's the great gal who drove the SS-AMX known as the Drag-On Lady, who was the first woman to win a NHRA event. I found this information on her career.



During 1959, Shirley Shahan gained national acclaim as the only woman to compete in a field of

nearly 40 male drivers for the super stock class title at the 1st annual Fuel and Gas meet in Bakersfield, California. Shirley ended up winning the Bakersfield competition which set a precedent and ended all myths that drag racing was only for men.

The Wynn Oil Company, located in Azusa, California, offered Shirley Shahan sponsorship as the, "Drag-On Lady." Shirley agreed and became the latest addition to the company's growing racing team back in the 1960s. Mr. David L. Blackmer, Wynn's manager of racing, announced the sponsorship that followed Shirley's debut of her new 1967 Dodge Coronet at the Carlsbad Raceway.



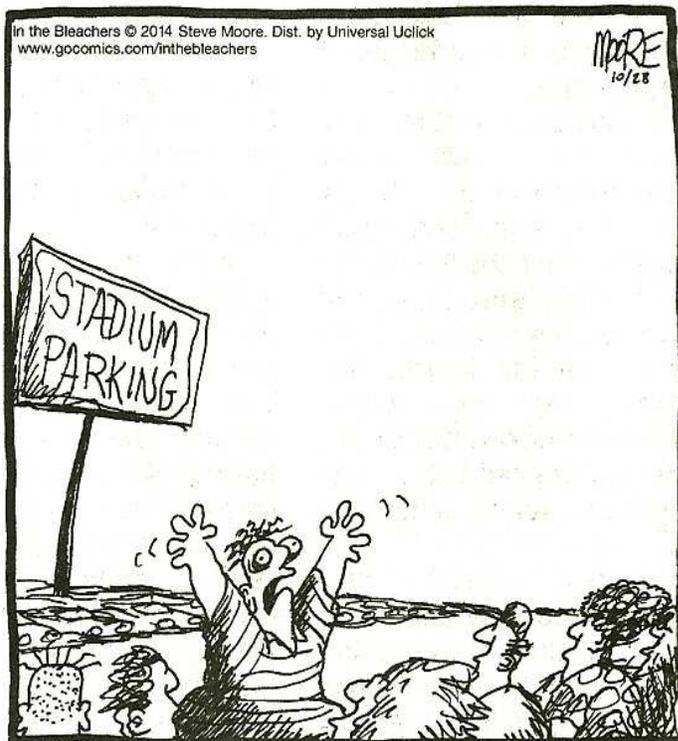
Shirley, now known as, "Wynn's Drag-on Lady", traveled throughout the United States appearing at various drag strips and had personal appearances on behalf of the Wynn Oil Company and its distributors. In 1969, Shirley also raced the AMX Super Stocker, which was a spectacular crowd pleasing record setter at Irwindale Raceway.

In 1972, Shirley decided to retire her helmet on her 19 year driving career and devote herself to her family. Today, Shirley still attends many drag racing shows and has left behind many trophies and broken records that will always be a part of drag racing history. Shirley quotes, "It was a good life and I'm proud of what I've accomplished".



**Baby Sitting 101 for Mechanics!**

## In the Bleachers by Steve Moore



**"This is insanity! The game ended three days ago! We can't all wait for the lot to empty before we find our cars!!"**

## MY RED 1969 AMX

I was talking to Jay Baker at the recent Las Vegas AMC Show and told him I had bought my 69 AMX 37 years ago when I was 18. He said, "Wow, didn't know that." I needed another article for the newsletter to fill in some empty white space, and came across a few old photos of my car so I thought I'd write up a short article and share those photos.

So the history of my AMX and why I bought it goes back to 1968, when my Uncle Larry returned home from Germany after serving 2 years in the U.S. Army. Upon returning home he bought a brand new 1968 Rally Green AMX, which he still owns to this day. I was just nine years old so when my uncle took me for rides around the block in his new AMX, I thought it was the fastest car around. I remember his dual quad manifold.

Just nine years later I turned 18 and needed my first car. Well we found a Matador Red 1969 AMX sitting in a back yard you could see from the freeway, with a big plank of plywood lying across the front window saying "For Sale: \$1200."

My uncle and I drove it a few miles over to his mechanic to look it over, he gave his blessing saying it looked to be in good shape, even with 120,000 miles on it, and by the end of the day it was at home in my driveway.

The paint on it was rather faded so we had it repainted red, put a rebuilt 390 in it, and it was my daily driver for six years, until I bought a new Chevy truck in 1983. Somewhere along the way in the 1980's I decided to repaint the car a Corvette Yellow color, which it remained for 20 years.

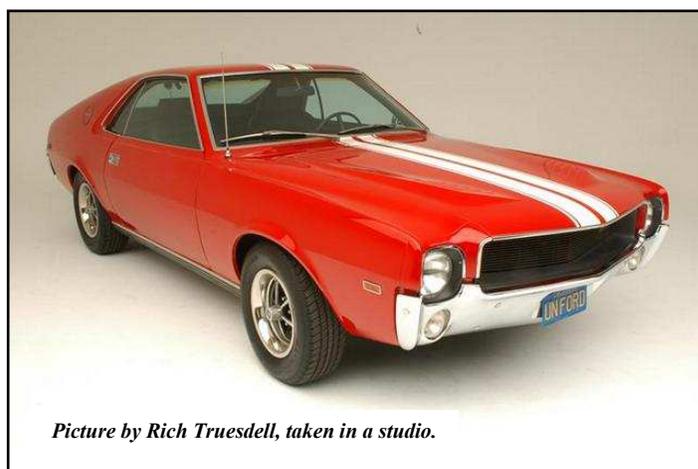
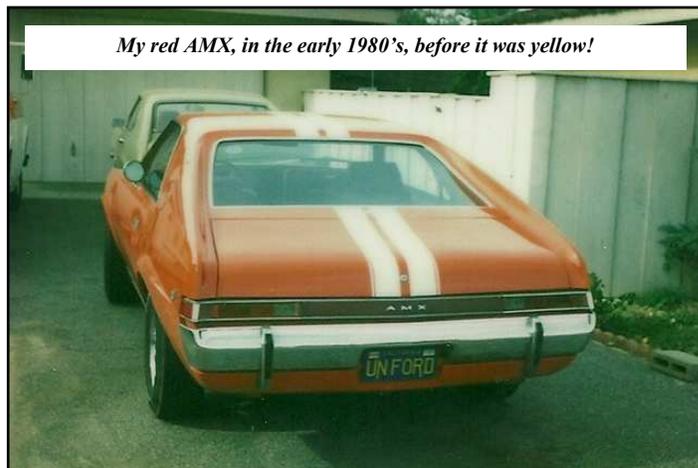
The AMX sat much of the time for the next 20 years, and fortunately most of that time it was sitting in a garage, so the car stayed in good condition out of the sun.

In early 2004, with the AMO National AMC Show being held in nearby Arizona that summer, I decided it was time to clean it up and get it ready for the big show. In a quick five months we did a major restoration, everything but put it on a rotisserie, changed the color of the car back to red, and won a gold trophy in the junior class.

My car has ended up being anything other than a trailer queen, I decided to do what my car was made to do—Drive! I have driven it to Denver twice, St. Louis once, and Kenosha in 2011, and in addition to all nine AMC shows in Las Vegas, half a dozen times to Phoenix, Reno, Sacramento, and all over Southern California for shows that SoCalAMX goes to as a club.

So now I face a dilemma, with the Playmate AMX understandably taking more focus over the next few years, when will I get to drive my trusty, dependable, 4 wheeled friend—my red 1969 AMX?

MARK MELVIN



# Playmate AMX Update

For this month's report on the current progress of the Playmate AMX, there won't be too much new information.

As reported last month, the car is almost finished. The only new news I guess is that the guy who is going to paint the car came over to Allen's house to look it over, and talk a game plan with Allen and I as to the best course of action to paint the body.

The guy who is going to paint the body has painted cars for 18 years and works full time at a local auto body shop. He will probably bring a friend over to Allen's and the two of them will be able to block sand the car together, and quickly have the body ready to paint. The time frame now looks like it will get painted by mid-December.

Allen says the car will be completely finished by the end of the year, or early January. No hurries to finish the car. It will take as long as it takes at this point.

After the Playmate AMX is finished, I may hold off on showing it, until a big "reveal" presentation at our club's annual car show on May 30, 2015. The location is still to be determined, but everyone will be notified well in advance..



## *YOUR CAR GOES HERE!*

*This space is reserved for a future article from a SoCalAMX member, about their treasured AMC vehicle. Read the article on the previous page about my red 1969 AMX as an example.*

*Believe it or not, the club members are interested to hear about you and your car's history. It doesn't need to be long or detailed, just type up something in an email, attach a few pictures, and send it! I will spell check and grammar check it for you if you like.*

*My email address is: [mightypilot@gmail.com](mailto:mightypilot@gmail.com)*



# 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](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](http://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](http://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](http://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](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 [mightypilot@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