



# SoCal amx.net

www.socalamx.net/newsletter

Official Monthly Publication of SoCalAMX

Vol. 2 Issue 2—Sept. 2009

## SOCALAMX CALENDAR

### Coronado Speed Festival

September 26 & 27, 2009  
San Diego Naval Air Station

### Super Saturday

Saturday, October 10, 2009  
Canyon County (Santa Clarita)  
Auto Books Coffee Cruise  
Nethercutt Car Collection  
Route 66 Car Show  
<http://socalamx.net/ss.htm>

### Roam'n Relics

October 25, 2009  
Moorpark, CA  
[roamnrelics.com/events.html](http://roamnrelics.com/events.html)

### Las Vegas AMC Reunion 09

AMC Rambler Club Southwest Regional Meet  
November 6-7, 2009  
Railroad Pass Hotel & Casino  
Henderson, NV  
<http://snamc.amrc.com/carshow.html>

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

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

## PICNIC BY THE BAY

August 23, 2009

What a great day ! 8 AMX's! Steve hooked up with Mark & John C. in San Diego, then Stu & his (our) buddy Timmy (71 Beautiful Black Vette, he is our Mascot in San Diego), then John S. & his wife Shelly, Allen, & my wife & I showed up & we all headed in to Seaport Village. There must have been 300 cars there, Stacy was there with his big beautiful Wagon,

the weather was awesome, Tom Delaney rode with Mark, we found another RED 68 AMX already there & hopefully he will be at some shows ! Terry LaFerriere came down, he has a 70 but it's needing some attention before he



drives her very far. He lives in Ramona & plans on bringing his 70 to Cruizin Grand on the 4th of Sept. We (AMC's) have part of the north side of Broadway set up for AMC's on that date! COME on Down ! Any AMC's, Ramblers, ???

Anyhow, the park was great, something about





parking on grass....Plus having water on 3 sides!

Sept. 26th is Cruisin for a Cure! in Costa Mesa. We have cars coming up for that one too ! Stu, Timmy & I are pre reg'd.

Sept. 27th is the Big Racing, Car Showing, Pit cruizin Show at the Coronado Speed Fest ! Cars are coming down from the North to meet up with us Southerners for that one! 10+ Cars is a possibility!

Hope to Cruiz with everyone soon!

I only got a few BAD pix of the Show, but you can kinda see 8 AMX's..ok, squint a little...

C U on the Road!

*Randy Kirby*

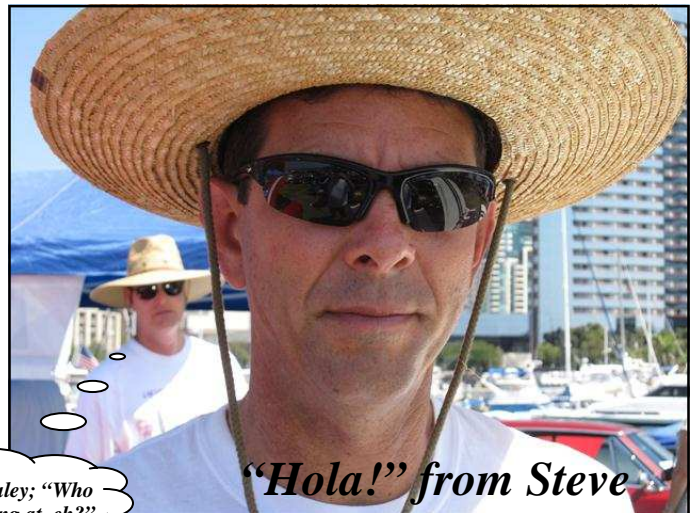
BBGAMX



## CAR CARE BY STEVE

This month I wanted to relate what I've learned about the maintenance of the cosmetic aspects of our cars, and maybe cars in general. This anecdote relates only to what I've learned. I'm sure that many of you car enthusiasts have your own tried-and-true exterior/interior maintenance methods and they work for you—so enjoy the article and maybe you'll pick up a tip or two. If not, happy motoring!

Mike Howem, detail guy at Only Yesterday (C.A.R.S.), <http://sn.im/oldautos>, has been my maintenance mentor since March 2009 and he has provided me with many valuable tips that I've put to use since my car was repainted.



*"Hola!" from Steve*

Exterior paint. First, Mike advised me that waxing a car can be a complicated or simple matter. First, you really have to look closely at the condition of your paint to decide what direction to take. Most cars that I see have many scratches, both large and small. You can buy the combo cleaner/wax and it's a one-step process. The problem with this process is that you may not be satisfied with the results, as it's a one size fits all result. Mike's opinion is that it's not the wax that makes the car shine; it's the polishing of the paint and/or clear coat. He recommends a multi-step approach, consisting of a slightly more abrasive polishing agent, to a less abrasive polishing agent, then finally a wax coat. Of course, this depends on

*(Continued on page 3)*

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the condition of the paint. You may even have to clay the paint, too, depending on how long it's been since the paint has been clayed. He likes Presta brand polishing products, and of course, there are others. As far as wax is concerned, his favorite is Mother's carnauba paste wax. Apparently, most, if not all liquid waxes are silicone-based, which means that over time a buildup of wax can occur and it can cause paint smear, paint/materials/metal dete-



Steve's Car at Spring Fling 09

rioration. He doesn't like the use of Simple Green anywhere near the paint, as it can stain the paint if not washed off immediately. You can purchase Presta brand and other exterior products from [www.tricitypaint.com](http://www.tricitypaint.com), which is the body shop worker's store to shop at. Again, these are his opinions.

Exterior brightwork. Most of us have two types of exterior metals: chrome and stainless steel. Mike likes Blue Magic paste for stainless steel. Chrome—it depends on what you want to do. If you haven't done it in a while, either liquid or paste wax used on chrome is a great protectant. If you just want to do a touch up, then your typical detail spray will suffice, like most of us already do.

Engine compartment. Mike recommends waxing the paint areas of the engine compartment. Paint gets dirty and if you have any spills, they can be easily wiped up. We've all seen engine hoses that are very bright and wet looking. If you have a '60's car, you know they

didn't look that way from the factory. I use Costco spray (I believe it's called Sprayaway) for both windows and hoses. Another product that I love to use as a cleaner is CRC electronic cleaner. This spray goes on fast, wipes off all dirt, doesn't remove paint, and leaves no residue! I use it on the intake manifold and any oily areas under the engine.

Tires. Previously, I used whatever glossy Costco brand of tire enhancer was available. Unfortunately, this and many spray-based products are silicone-based, enhance the build-up of silicone, and don't really make our tires appear to be black. Mike advises buying a can of grease and wax remover and use it liberally on the black part of the tires. You'd be shocked at what comes off! After numerous swipes of the product on the blue paper towel, it's time for a silicone-free tire dressing. Mike likes P+S High Gloss Silicone free tire dressing, #L12, or Diamond Pro Triple S Dressing, #DP 549.

Interior. Mike likes a wet rag and wipe down for the plastic and vinyl parts—that's it.

Well, that's what I've learned for the past six months. What are your detailing secrets?

## Steve Fox



This 69 AMX needs some "kar kare now!"

## Calendar Talk

Here are the events coming up in the near future. Information links for these events on the Internet are available on [socalamx.net](http://socalamx.net). Click on "Calendar."

First is the Coronado Speed Festival on the weekend of September 26 & 27. I think as a group we have decided to attend the event on Sunday, September 27. Details haven't been worked out yet, but will be talked about on the Yahoo Groups forum over the next few weeks to set up a place to meet and arrive together. You can buy and print your tickets online; the cost is only \$150 for the VIP Winners Circle, or \$25 for general admission guys like me!

On October 10 there is the Super Saturday plan of three events in one day. First the Auto Books coffee cruise in the morning in Burbank, followed by a tour of the Nethercutt Museum in the early afternoon, ending with the Route 66 car show in Santa Clarita, all three events within close driving distance of each other. However there is the possibility that the date for this may be changed to October 17, I'll know the details and inform everyone by mid-week.

October 25 is the Roam'n Relics car show in Moorpark.

November 6 & 7 is the annual AMC car show in the Las Vegas area, put on by the South Nevada AMC Club. President Mark Ogulnick is working hard, as always, to make each year's show better than the previous one. To help him plan the event he requests that you pre-register as early as possible. The show has been moved to the Railroad Pass Hotel, which is closer to those coming from S. Cal. Hey, save a few dollars in gas for the slot machines!

If there is a show coming up in your area and you'd like it to be announced here, send it to me early enough so it can be added to the list of other events.

*Mark Melvin*

## Cruisin Grand

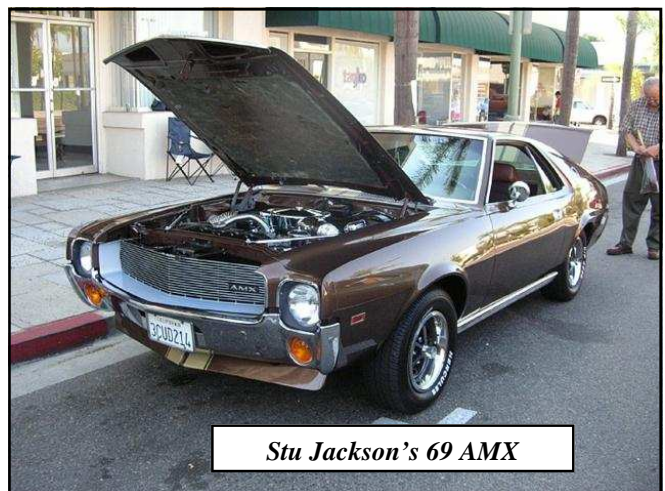
Friday September 4<sup>th</sup> 2009  
Escondido, Ca.

We had a spot for AMC's and ended up with 9 cars. We had 4 or 5 people come by & say they had an AMX, or Rambler, so we hope to see them in the future! Most were in boxes, or not quite finished yet, but most of us have something to do to our rides anyhow.....well, not Mark, or Steve, or?

Anyhow, I just wanted them to know we have no problem with unfinished projects, just show up when you can & keep in touch. The group as a whole, SoCalAMX, has a lot of knowledge & most of its members are more than willing to give up any info they may need. We need to stick together, our breed is dwindling, the cars are slowly disappearing, & we need to find all the Orphans out there!

Back to Cruisin Grand!

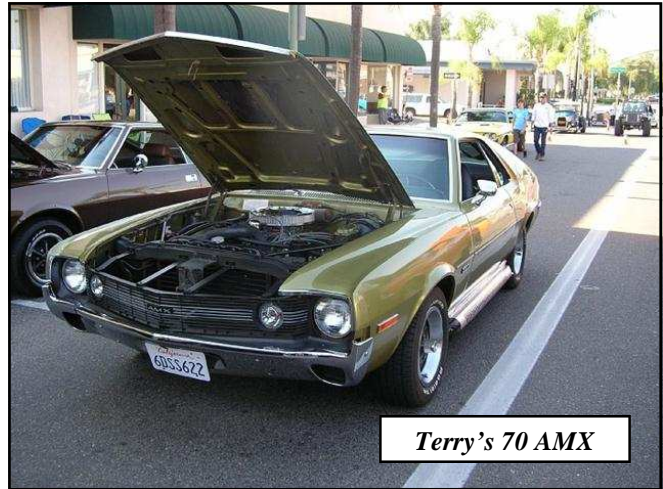
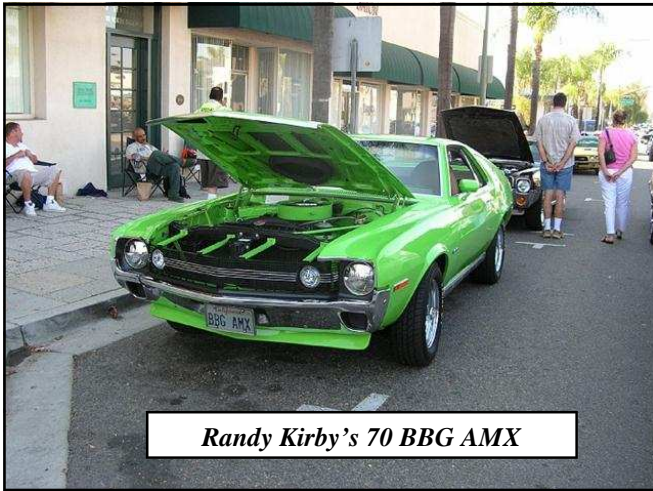
When I got there at 4:10pm, Stu was already there. He has a Beautiful Brown 69 AMX, Gold stripes, a 401 built by Penske & he just added a bunch of chrome under the hood, including cold air ducts from both sides of the radiator, too cool!



*Stu Jackson's 69 AMX*

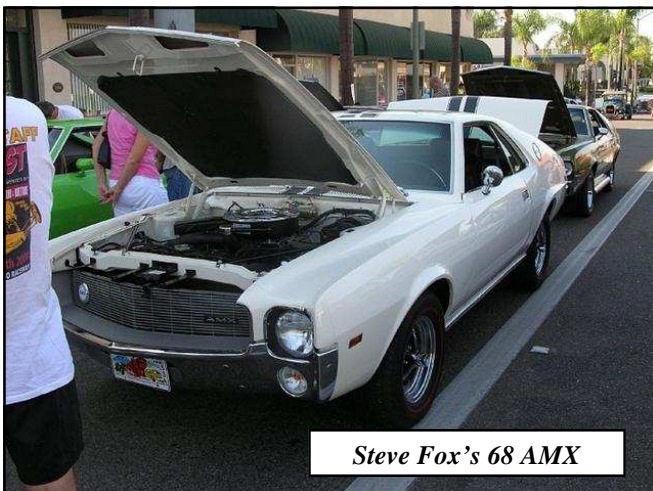
I pulled in my Big Bad Green 70 (not the original color), I just put a new grill on her, NO BREAKS! New clear signals, redid my carpet this year, now I have to fix my overheating problem (minor) before the Vegas trip. My little

360 will cruiz with ya! I just can't hear it running when I'm next to Stu's Loud ass 401...man am I jealous!



over the Auto, so the 70 had to Go....Hmmm....fine....

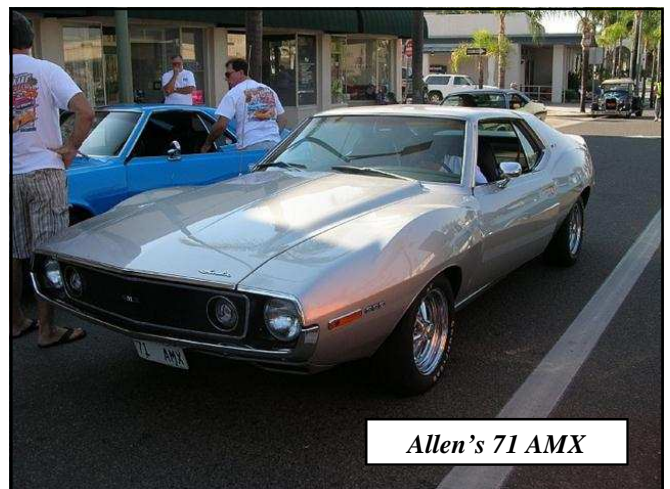
Steve was right behind me, talk about a Beautiful car! Everything is AMC, everything is where it belongs, & it looks marvelous Baby! 390, White & Right!



Allen has a Silver 1971 AMX with the same little 360 I have. I'm a little of a purest in the sense of the size of the AMX, but this silver beast looks GOOD! Even if it does have a backseat ! Both these guys (Allen & John) live in Murrietta & have become best of friends

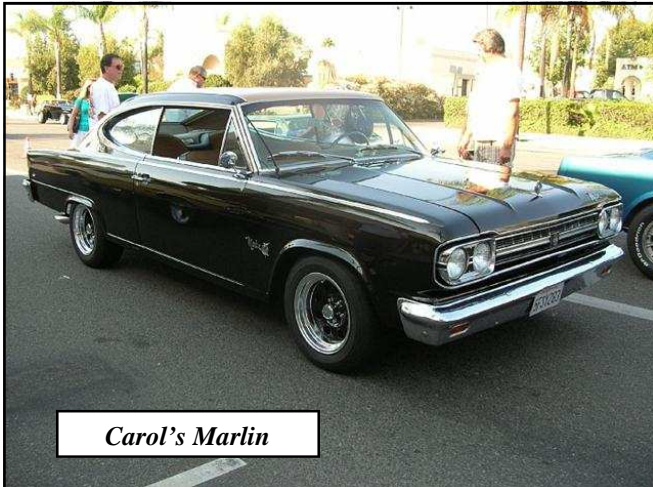
Next came Terry, he had contacted Mark through the website. He lives in Ramona & has a Golden Lime 390 1970, With Side Pipes! He's had it 11 years, got it in Florida, to Texas, & finally to California last year. He got her roadworthy to bring to Escondido & plans on making it a project to get her to make some shows with us down the road. She still looks good now! This guy is an AMC guy, He's had both A & B code Scramblers!

Then John S. & Allen pulled in. John has an Awesome looking Grabber Blue 69 with a pretty mean sounding 390. This car is all there! He used to have a 70 also, but kept the stick



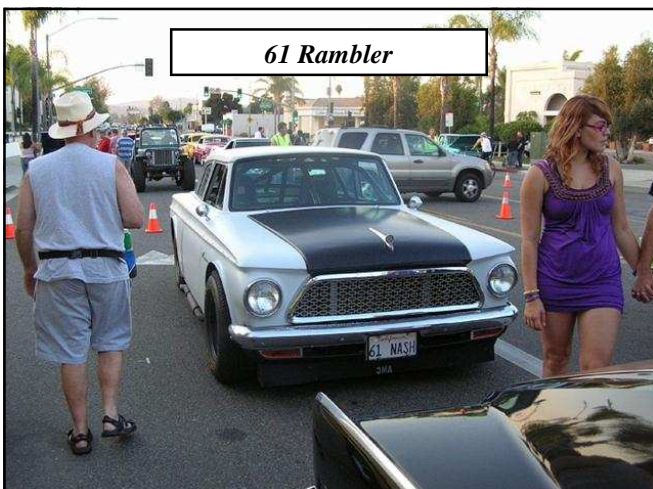
since meeting over the AMC thingy... By the way, Allen has built his own rotisserie & is rebuilding a 68 in his garage! WOW!

Carol came next. No, not in her pretty little black & red Rambler, but in her other 327 packing little Brown & Gold Rambler Marlin! (did I say little?) Both of her cars are Great pieces of History! Pix seven



Steve, Allen, John, & I went to get some chow & Stacy's Big Beautiful Ambassador Wagon was parked across the street. They gave away some of our parking cuz they didn't know what the hell they were doing, next year will be different. I have no pix of Stacy's wagon, they all came out with glare on them....too damn shi-ney of a car !

The last car to show up was a 61 Rambler, built for a race track! All caged (but a passenger seat for his wife) with what looks like a big block! I'm sorry my brain seems to be older



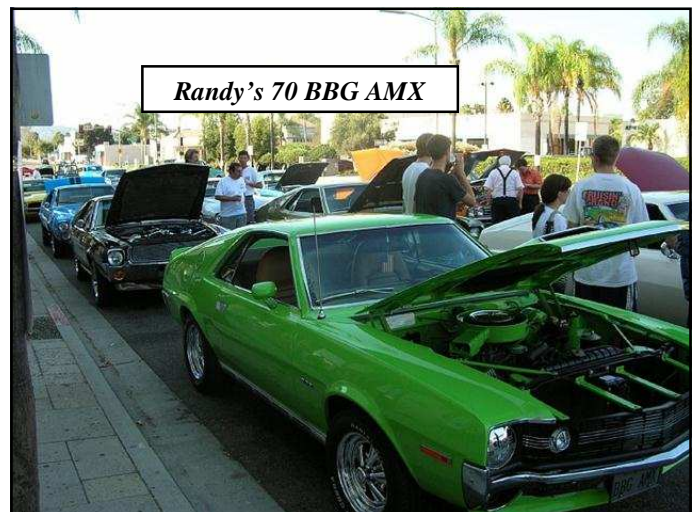
than the rest of me. I can't remember his name, nor can anyone else. I called every-one.....But Tom gave him his no# and he will possibly get a little history write up on this little beast for a future monthly.

Tom Delaney & Suzanne came out & spent the evening with us also. A few cars couldn't make it. Heather has a Beauty of a 60? Rambler, but she blew the head gasket. Rather than just fix that, she has decided to rebuild the motor, so she is down awhile. Richard (68) had to fly to Frisco for work, & Chuck (70) bought a house & is fixing it up for his daughter....Next time!

We have a great group of AMC'ers down here in San Diego County & looks like we may grow a little!

C U in Vegas Nov. 6 & 7, if not sooner! Looking like we have a nice caravan headed to Vegas.

Randy  
Kirby  
BBGAMX





# 2009 LAS VEGAS AMC REUNION

AMCRC Southwest Regional Meet



## November 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> @ Railroad Pass Hotel & Casino

2800 S. Boulder Highway  
Henderson, NV 89002  
(702) 294-5000 or (800) 654-0877

Show for the vehicles of American Motors Corporation:

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Awards  
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call (800) 654-0877

For more info visit:

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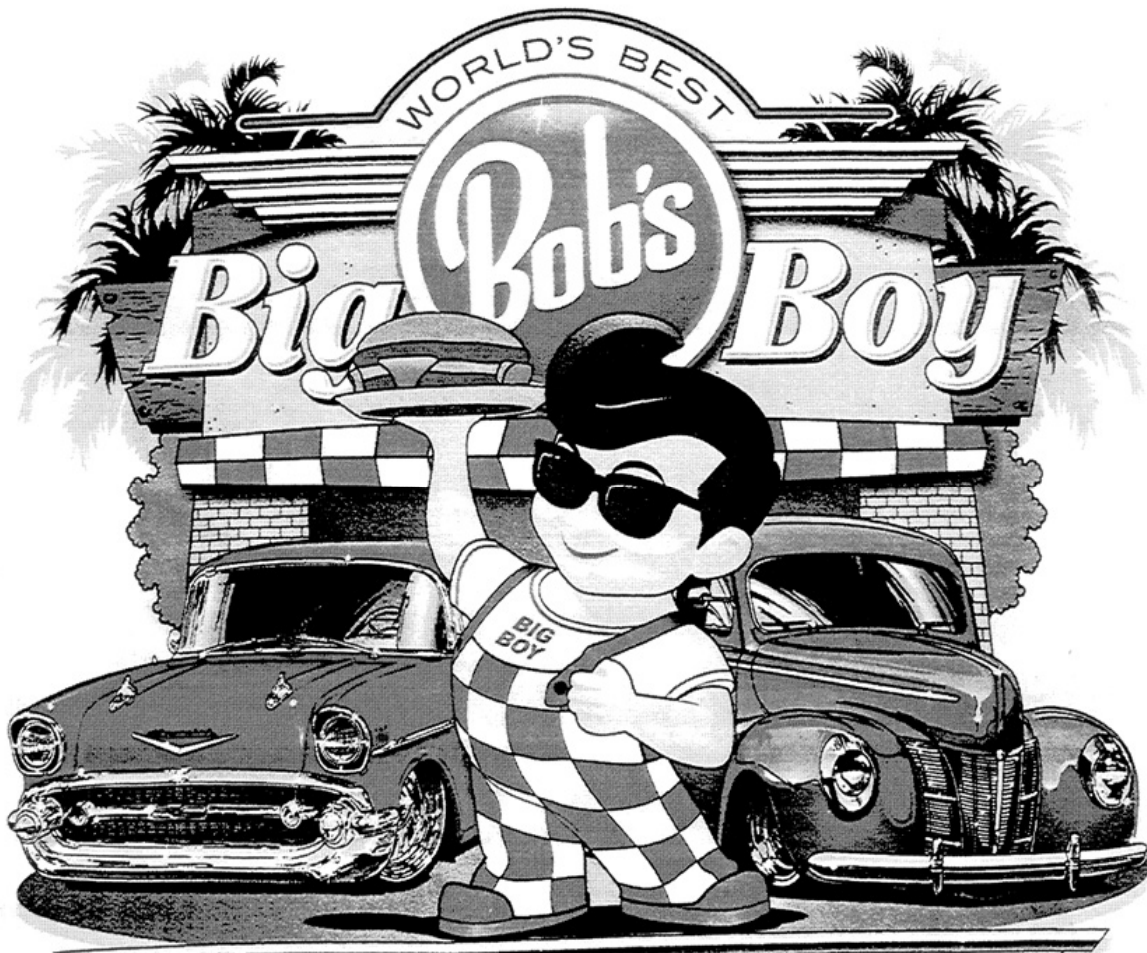
# **CRUISIN' THE BIG BOY**

**2nd Sunday**

**4pm to 7pm**

**100-A So. California Ave, West Covina**

**Vincent Ave. off the 10 fwy**



## **AWARDS**

**50/50 – DOOR PRIZE**

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[www.SoCalCarShowDJs.com](http://www.SoCalCarShowDJs.com)

Hot Rod Hot Line 951-371-5833 \* DJ Gary Cruise Line 951-681-5535



## 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.

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The newsletter is available for downloading at [www.socalamx.net/newsletter](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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

## 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!

