

NorCal AMCs Newsletter



*Edition Four
2005*

IMPORTANT DATE
January 19, 2006
**First NorCal AMC meeting
of 2006**

It's time to
turn in your
Membership Dues
& Applications.
Mail them in or
drop them off at our
first meeting of
2006.

Club News

The Picnic—September 18th. If you missed it, you missed a good time with lots of AMCs (and non-AMCs too) parked around the ole' Guistino Cul-de-Sac. The below picture was taken early on in the event, with our President's Myrtle in the middle, Nolan's Pacer on the left and Sue's marvelous Marlin on the right. Of course, there's Vivo and Greta in the driveway, and our newest NorCal AMC members—Larry and Nancy Sautter—in the middle with the big truck. Not an AMC, but to make up for it, they are owners of a '75 Pacer and a '60 Nash Metropolitan.

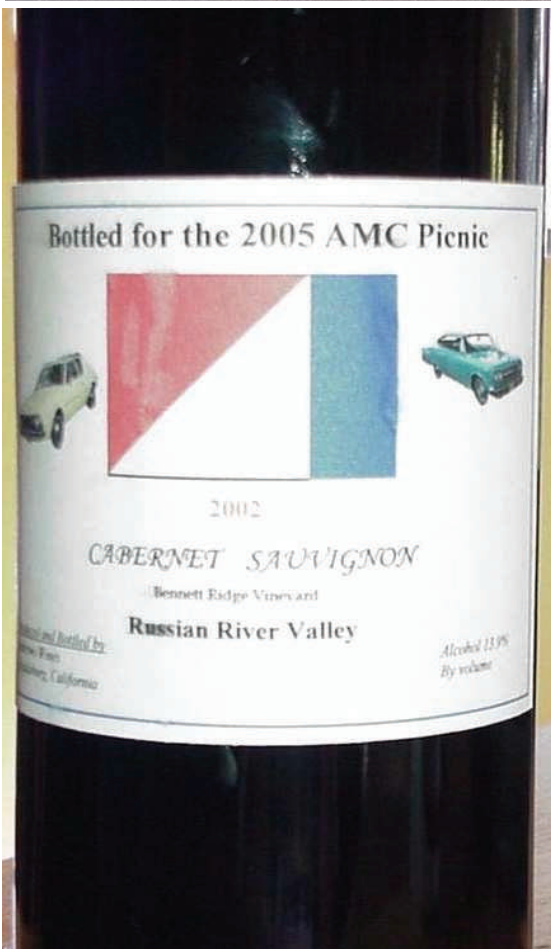
Terrie and I had a great time hosting the party and I hope that everyone had as good a time as we did. Hats off to my wife for planning and organizing the event and running the BBQ.



Club Picnic—continued



There was a good showing of Club cars parked around our neighborhood. It is always a pleasure seeing all of our AMCs in one spot. Thanks to all who ventured over to Rohnert Park with their prized vehicles.

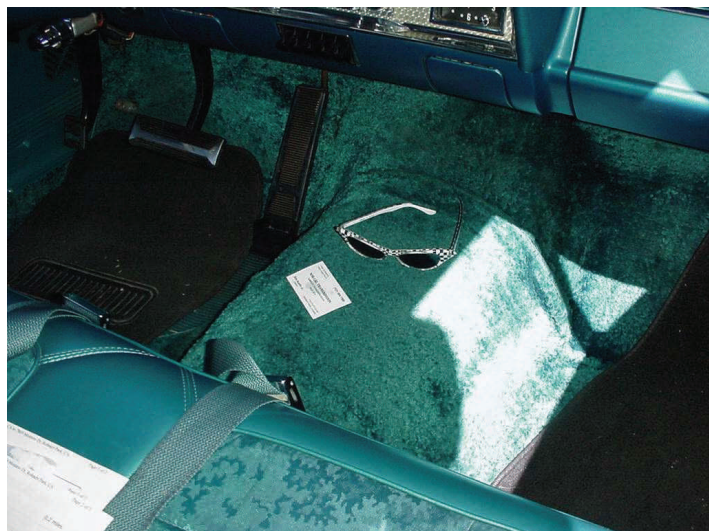


John Andrews bottled this special wine just for the occasion. Thanks John!





Club Picnic—continued



But as you know, our Club isn't all about the AMC brand. We welcome every unique car that will have us. And non-auto too. For instance, Bill's, ahem, unique motorcycle. Nice guardian angel you have painted on the tank, Bill.

A good time was had by all, we had tons of food and a never ending supply of fine cold beverages. Hope to see all NorCal AMC members in '06!

—Ross Guistino

Quote of the Year

After the picnic, we had a few of the guys hanging out on the back deck smoking cigars and finishing the brew. Out of the blue, Tyson asks the Million Dollar Question:

"Can I pee on your dog?"

Bits & Pieces

Please join me in expressing condolences on the passing of Richard DeCroff's father on November 18th. Although the death was expected due to illness, it is still a hard thing to go through.

On a lighter note, but not in the least any less painful, Richard has recently had knee replacement surgery. A day after surgery and he was up and about. You can't keep the President down. We wish you a speedy recovery.

This just in from our Man in the East, Denis Roberge: "I've petitioned the **PLYMOUTH** City Council Members to change the city's name to **RAMBLER**, Indiana. They seem to be **DODGE**ing the issue for now but I do look **FORD**(ward) to the day I can be the **AMBASSADOR** of **RAMBLER**ville. I don't want to stir up a **HORNET**'s nest of **GREMLINS** because these guys give me the **WILLYS** and with my weak heart, I may need a **PACER**(maker)!!!"

And more Denis-isms: "Upon further consideration, the political **MACHINE** is preparing to throw **JAVELINS** at me. They don't seem to understand the **SPIRIT** of my gesture. The **NASH**ing of their teeth will not deter my **MATADOR**-like tenacity. I am not a **REBEL** but rather an **EAGLE** who has swept down to snatch the **CONCORD** grapes of wrath from the **MARLIN** who happened to be vacationing in Napa at the time. Tomorrow we will do GM...NOT! Time is money and I'm too **JEEP**!"

And these final words from Denis: "I am a **BARACUDA**, exclaimed **PLYMOUTH** to his friends **DUSTY** and **SUN-DANCE**, as the **NEON** sign glowed in the distance. Even with his **STEALTH**, a **PROWLER**'s **SHADOW** was seen via the **SATELLITE VOYAGER** as he entered the **DODGE CARAVAN** in the **DURANGO** desert. Our hero **LANCER** took a battery **CHARGER** and **FURY**ously stunned the **SHADOW** of the **CHALLENGER**. With the **CHALLENGER** down for the count, our hero struck him with a **VIPER** he had hidden in his pants, and then finished him off with a **DART** from his **MAGNUM**. I believe this is where the term **CUDA**-de-grace was coined!!!"

"A judge for the **PONTIAC** Indians who resides in **CATALINA**, **BONNEVILLE** and **LEMANS** for the Euro flair, was overheard to say, 'I feel like a **TEMPEST** in a teapot, if you get my **VIBE**'."

Ever wonder who other AMC owners are or where they live, or even pictures of their cars? Well now there is a cool website called Frappr which allows you to add your name, City and a picture of your car(s) on a map of the United States.

So far, Richard, Nolan, Fred, Sue, Walt, Alan, Tony, Nancy & Larry, Joe and I have entered our names into the directory. Why not do it today? The URL is:

<http://www.frappr.com/amclist>



Special thanks to AACA member Matt Wilson for contributing this design. If you would like to contribute a design, please contact the AACA.

Editor's Note: This new stamp alert was provided by Eddie Stakes

For more info on the new stamps go to this website: <http://www.zazzle.com/contributors/home/default.asp?cid=238931359156274695>

From an AMC Lister: Has anyone seen the Gremlin T-shirts at Wal-Mart? The caption on the shirt reads "Roll Like A Rock Star" with a Gremlin in the center. The car has "Gremlin" on the side of it and it has rallye wheels.



More Pieces & Bits



Eddie Stakes points out this spectacular recent eBay auction. A rare pink Olds 442 Hot Wheels toy went for the outrageous bid of \$5,655.00. He says an MIB AMX in its original pack went for \$3,250 last year.

This little unknown fact submitted by Russ on the AMC List:

"...(Henry) Ford...is credited with the concept of the assembly line in manufacturing. He in fact got that idea from watching the Armour Meat Company in Chicago using the same technique; workers standing in one spot, having the product brought to them, etc. He copied it and is falsely credited."

A blonde pushes her BMW into a gas station. She tells the mechanic it died. After he works on it for a few minutes, it is idling smoothly. She says, "What's the story?" He replies, "Just crap in the carburetor". She asks, "How often do I have to do that?"



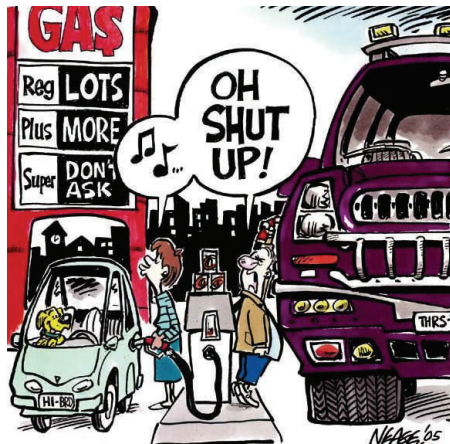
And another Eddie reference....

A true AMC Fan.....

Eddie Stakes' AMC mailbox

AMCs on Television:

- Home Depot commercial; green early 70s Gremlin being driven by some guy dressed up like an Elf.
- Sears ad with a snowy Pacer
- A '74-76 Gremlin in Weezer's new music video for their song "Beverly Hills"
- Phillips 66 Garage commercial: Pacer Coupe driving through the decades as the driver and the Pacer age. The world advances and develops all around them and eventually the Pacer is REALLY beat down. It pulls into a Phillips 66 Garage and the announcer talks about the renewing properties of their gas...a beautiful Pacer sedan drives out! The owner puts in an 8 track with "Hold Your Head Up".
- Tom Jennings (AMC List) submits: In Greg Araki's movie, MYSTERIOUS SKIN, one of the main characters has a 74 or 76 Gremlin, Maxi Blue, throughout the movie. The main character is the son in the old TV show 3RD ROCK FROM THE SUN, which of course featured a breadbox American convertible. Pure coincidence, I think.
- Yellow '74ish Gremlin on psoriasis commercial. You know the one....some young guy pulls up to the beach in his bitching yellow Gremlin with black stripes and surf board on top. This same guy and his Gremlin show up in another commercial for the psoriasis medication a few months later.





Pacer III

Nolan Dehner



It was early spring of 1975 when my family and I visited an old college buddy in Los Angeles. We decided we wanted to visit Disneyland and went with him in his month old '75 Pacer. I remember how comfortable it was riding in that car. Lots of room and the view was great thru those large windows. Fast forward 30 years to December 2005, and that very same 1975 Pacer D/L now rests in my garage in Windsor, CA.



A history of Pacer III: After driving the Pacer for 89,872 miles, the Electronic Ignition Control Unit gave out while my friend's wife was driving in downtown Pasadena. The car was towed home and parked in the yard where it sat for the next 21 years. It became home to squirrels, mice, spiders, acorns, twigs and it also became a parts depot for the 13 others vehicles my friend owned. After a lot of consideration I decided to have the car brought to Windsor by a trucker who is one of a number of folks who specialize in hauling tractors around the country. They are a helluva lot cheaper than the professional automobile haulers. (If you want more information about these haulers, let me know and I'll pass along a website address.) Pacer III is now in my garage with a quart of Marvel Mystery Oil in the cylinders and awaiting a new battery, tires, paint, plugs, points, wires, distributor cap, hoses, etc, etc. Was this car a good deal?? I haven't decided yet. Being a Southern California car, it has no rust. The body is in very good shape and was never in an accident. All the glass and chrome and the high style wheels are in good shape.

This makes the seventh Pacer in The Nor Cal AMCs Club. Dave P. has one, Richard has two, I have two, Walt has one and the Sautters have one, unless someone has a couple hidden in a garage that we don't know about. Any Pacers in Indiana, Denis?

I was particularly impressed with the now known fact that mice really like rubber hoses! They have chewed holes in every rubber hose in the engine compartment and I've yet to look under the dash or to the rear of the car.

It took two days of scrubbing to get the black crud off of the roof and hood. It was necessary to use a razor blade to scrape the dirt off the glass, inside and out! The Navaho style upholstery looks very nice on the bucket seats except that whenever you touch it, it crumbles. The rugs disintegrate with a touch as well. The rear view mirror is missing as is the alternator, horn, under hood light, battery, hatch struts, window handles, cable operating the gear indicator on the dash, and rub stripes on the doors, but.....the AM/FM and 8-Track tape player WORK!! Check back with me at this time next year to see if I've got it running.

Nolan Dehner, President—Public Relations Division
Nor Cal AMCs Auto Club
Corporate Office: Santa Rosa, CA
Members and Branches located in: Healdsburg, Windsor, Rohnert Park, Vallejo, Anderson, Hayward, San Rafael, Larkspur, Salinas and our newest branch in Plymouth, Indiana.

An interesting coincidence:

- When Nolan got his first Pacer six years ago it had 89,877 miles on the speedometer.
- When his new old Pacer arrived, it had 89,872 miles on the speedometer. A five mile difference.



Denis' Dandy Drivers - A truckload of AMCs



These pictures were taken back in August. What are all of these mostly AMC cars doing on one transporter, you ask? They all belong to Denis Roberge and all of these unique vehicles are headed back east to be with their owner. These beauties were being stored at Slow's place in Marin.

Denis, would you like to give us an update on how you are doing back east and more importantly, how your vast collection of one-of-a-kind iron is shaping up?



A little birdie sent me this picture. This '60 Rambler Wagon was once owned by Denis. What's the story on it Denis?

Other Member News

Fred Hyre recently sold his '82 Eagle 4x4 wagon on eBay. The winner flew up from L.A. and drove it home.

Nolan passes this note along from the website 4wheeler.ca "One Pacer I didn't buy!!!" I'm not sure who owns this monster but here's the owner's description: "Yes its a Pacer with a D60 front spooled, FF14 bolt with a Detroit, np205, 500hp / 500ftlb AMC 401 mated to a built 727. Those are 46x22 ag tires on custom rims. It has a 4000 stall converter with dual coolers each with its own elec fan and a deep sump pan. The frame is a 75 NT chero with the last 10" bobbed off. There is no lift in the suspension and has custom 2-leaf packs at all 4 corners. It also has dual electric fans for the rad. There are parts from all kinds of different Jeep and AMC vehicles in this rig.





NorCal AMCs Car Club

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Newsletter suggestions, articles and pictures are always welcomed and encouraged. Send your information via the email address noted above or mail your thoughts to:

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"Dedicated To The Proliferation And Enjoyment Of All Things AMC"
Rambler, Nash, Hudson...AMC! Do you or someone you know own or used to own an old Rambler, or perhaps a Gremlin? You're not alone. There is a small group of car owners who are proud of their American Motors heritage and meet the third Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at Round Table Pizza, 2065 Occidental Road in Santa Rosa. We call ourselves the NorCal AMCs. Everyone is welcome to attend. Don't have or never heard of an AMC? No problem. Do you have a passion for old cars and want to see them restored? Need that hard-to-find part? Stop in and talk with us, maybe we can help. If you think you'd be interested in joining our Club, then feel free to contact us via email, snail mail or cell phone. Thanks!

Membership Application:
http://www.sonic.net/rossg/NorCal/NorCal_Application.pdf

NorCal AMC Meeting Dates for 2006

Held on the Third Thursday of every Month

- January 19
- February 16
- March 16
- April 20
- May 18
- June 15
- July 20
- August 17
- September 21 - tentative pending
Picnic Details
- October 19

No meeting in November & December

