



NorCal AMCs Newsletter

Club News

By Ross Guistino



February 2009 Car Club Meeting: The Editor was out-of-town for this meeting but Mr. Always-on-Hand Dehner was kind enough to take some notes for me. Seventeen folks (great turnout!) were in attendance. We had some Club

dues paid tonight which put our coffers up over the \$400 mark. A '73 Hornet Sportabout was spotted by Mark at the Windsor Pick'n Pull which will come in handy for the new addition to the Ehinger driveway, another Hornet. Not to be outdone, Tyson dragged home another Javelin and is selling his '64 BelAir to make room for it. And speaking of dragging, Dave casually mentioned his 120 mph Gremlin run. Yikes! Vivo barely makes it to the 70s, I can't imagine anywhere close to 100 in it! Tonight's Bring-Your-AMC gift certificate was won by Mark. Don't forget folks, if you drive an AMC to the AMC meeting (what a concept) you will receive

Tyson's newest acquisition
The Purple Javelin
Catch the full story on Page 5

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Edition Two

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a free raffle ticket for a \$10 gift cert to Round Table. That will buy a couple of beers, one of which you can share with the Editor.

March 2009 Car Club Meeting: Eleven Members attended tonight, a small but dedicated crowd. Ross gave info on paid-up members; we lost our Oroville contingent but we still have our long distance Member—Denis in Indiana. The majority present tonight voted to send a \$75 donation (\$50 from the Treasury and \$25 from a private donation) to the Rohnert Park Senior Citizen Center in keeping with our new tradition to lend a helping hand to those in need. Ross and Terrie to present the check to a Rohnert Park Official. And speaking of those in need, the classic car enthusiast needs everyone's help in defeating Bill 859 which threatens to pass into law that all of our old cars be required to pass an annual smog test. This puts undue burden on us and our cars and doesn't really gain much in terms of reducing pollutants or easing the state's budget problems. Pineapple's name was mentioned as he's organizing a car show but the big news was that he is 88 days on the wagon. Coming to a theater near you in a couple of years will be an animated movie featuring, if we're lucky, Nolan's Pacer. More on this later as well as more on Nolan's Pacer's star roll in the April edition of Automobile Magazine. Gene brought up his find of the day. A small upholstery company called Aces High where he had two bucket seats and the rear seat of his '67 Camero done for \$650. They look great! The young man doing the work is Chris Plant.

[Aces High Auto Trim](#)

90 Sebastopol Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95407
707-570-2639

The raffle tonight netted \$29 and tonight our Bring-Your-AMC raffle contestants were Charlie, Nolan, Ross, Tyson and Mark. Charlie was the big winner of the Round Table Cert.

April 2009 Car Club Meeting: A dismal attendance tonight, Richard, Ross, Nolan, Mark, Walt and Roger. Tyson would have been there but he decided to bleed his brakes just before the start of the meeting and it was taking longer than expected. Oh yeah? Really? We know where his priorities lie. Half of tonight's attendees drove their AMC and Mark won the coveted Cert. Mention of the ECA Julliard Park Father's Day show brought forward promises from Mark and Ross to attend. (Editor: later inquiries reveal that Tyson, Mike and Nolan are attending too) Raffle tonight: \$20.

May 2009 Car Club Meeting: To make up for April's lack of AMC bodies, May filled the room. Fifteen folks graced the pizza parlour: The Bocklunds, Magills, Stumbaughs, Ehingers, Ross, Nolan, Tyson, Dave, Roger, Walt, and guest speaker Alan Galbrit. Alan was in town to promote his Concours d'LeMons being held in Monterey on 8/15/09. More later. Tonight Richard was absent so Mark filled in like a good V.P. should. We discussed taking the tour of Mare Island in Vallejo in July where we would parade our classics over to the Island, bring a sack lunch and spend the day touring the grounds. Cheryl discussed the car show she is organizing to be held in Windsor on 7/26; only 45 cars will be permitted. We will have another NorCal AMC Breakfast at Norm's

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kitchen at 8am and then head over to the Green. Nolan mentioned the AMC trading cards designed and made by Richard Estemeyer from The AMC List. See sample later in the Newsletter. Bring-Your-AMC: Mark, Tyson, Ross, Nolan and Dave with Mark winning the prize two months in a row. He's on a roll. Raffle: \$41

Star Showing: In our last issue (you remember EVERYTHING in that last issue, right?!) we spoke of Nolan's good fortune with all the interest from photographers wanting to photograph his Coupe. Aside from the shoot in an Oakland warehouse for a professional photographer's personal portfolio, in February Nolan was contacted by Eric McCandless from Automobile Magazine who took over 30 pictures of the crisp red Coupe of which 10 made it into the April issue. On Page 76 you'll see Nolan's '76 Pacer Standard in various stages of being photographed and driven at Fred Stoke's ranch on Old Redwood Highway just south of Windsor.

In another wave of good Pacer Karma, in March Nolan was contacted by several designers (one of which is in the above picture)

working for Pixar Studios interested in photographing the Pacer for possible inclusion in a new

**NEXT MEETING DATE: JULY 16TH, 7PM,
ROUND TABLE PIZZA, 2065 OCCIDENTAL RD,
SANTA ROSA. BRING A RAFFLE ITEM AND
COME ENJOY AN EVENING WITH AMCERS.**



Hey Marie,
did you hear . . .

2nd Annual
Antique &
Collectible Show

Elegant Flea On the Green

Sunday, July 26th, 2009
9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Old Downtown Windsor Town Green

For information visit www.windsorfarmersmarket.com

Graphics by Tina Castelli



animated movie which shall remain nameless by request of Pixar. Both Richard and I piggy-backed onto Nolan's Karma and drove our AMCs

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(Richard's silver Pacer and my orange Gremlin) to his house to meet with Bert Berry, Jack Chang and Andrew Schmidt. Their main focus was to take photos of the paint, chrome and the many angles of our cars to



get a better idea of how to animate the cars for the movie. Cross your fingers that one or all of our cars will be seen in all their animated glory in the not so near future.

Roadside Safety

By MotorWeeks' Pat Goss



Sooner or later we're all stranded beside the road with a broken car or in a minor fender bender. Some of the things that you want to do to make sure that you're safe: get the car off the road as far as possible. Then you need to be seen. That means a glow-in-the-dark vest for you and flashing arrows for your car so people see it too.



Here we have a Safety Puck. This is a unit that has a series of flashing LED's that are very bright, they flash in a variety of patterns, and really attract attention.

Docu-Dent is an interesting set of tools. It has inside all of the things that you need to collect the necessary information when you have a minor accident. Has a disposable camera, measuring ruler, whistle, paperwork, pen - all of it. You should have it in the glove box of each one of your cars. But a lot of us overlook the obvious and the obvious is right here: a fully charged cell phone.



New Toy #5, Purple People Eater

Tyson Barbera

On Tuesday February 6, 2009 I saw an ad about a 1973 Javelin on Craigslist. The ad read, "73 AMC Javelin project car \$800 obo" with an Oakland phone number. The picture showed a purple Javelin missing the passenger door and fender. The ad said it had a running v8. I called the guy and was told it was originally bought for parts to restore a '73 Pierre Cardin Javelin. Then he told me the good news—The door was in the car and that the fender was put on after the picture was taken. He said it was a project because they (the body shop) cut the rocker panel off and the A-pillar. We talked on the phone describing the way it was cut and where, as I looked at my car for reference. It didn't sound that bad. And being a professional body shop, they drilled the spot welds and removed the panels as AMC welded them together.

I hung up the phone and began to wonder—Could this be a parts candidate or could it be the custom Javelin I always wanted? I looked at my car again. I realized it could be an easy fix since I can weld. Maybe weld the door shut to solve the problem. Cut the roof off, and viola! a roadster AMC.

I went to talk it over with a fellow welder. We used his computer and looked at the car again to see if the seller updated the photos as he promised to do, but didn't. Then my friend said—Lambo doors! We laughed, then thought, wow--never been done. Since I can only drive a trailer forward I was really banking on the fact my buddy could help me out. He said, "Parts alone it is worth the drive. I'll ask Peter (his boss) for the truck."

So another phone call was made to make an offer for the beast. I asked about the pink slip, air in tires, registration, and if any offers had been made. "Cash talks", he said and added that a man from Stockton was coming the next day with \$600. "So you are saying first come first serve?" "Right", was his reply. "Well, I can definitely beat him there since I'm coming



The Jav needs, ahem, a few things to make it whole again.

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from Santa Rosa. The only problem is that I'm not going to offer you \$600; I'm going to offer you \$500, and I will beat him there in the A.M. Is it worth my time to beat him to the punch?" I asked. He answered, "\$500 is better than nothing?" and he promised to take the ad off Craigslist as long as I was serious.

I got up super early to get to class to set

up part of the day and make that call. I rechecked the directions with the man and left at 8:35 in the morning, rolling into a pretty high end body shop at about 9:30. I met Tony in the office and we left promptly to go to another garage three bays down.



Tyson had to work some of his welding magic.

There past the silver Testarossa, Mercedes v12 and the MK2, was the purple beast up against the wall. The shop had big 16 inch tile floors and the whitest of walls. The car had a quarter size oil spot under it. He put a dead battery in it and it didn't start. So we jumped it with a power pack. It fired right up and died since it was out of gas. So with a little gas and power, we tried the key again. It fired up and ran but would not stay idling.

I said, "Well it runs, I've looked at, I guess the next thing is bill of sale, paper work, and to pay you." He looked very surprised that I didn't back out of the deal or look over the car. We finished the paper work and I handed the man a rubber banded roll of cash with a five on top. He glanced at the roll and said, "five hundred?" I nodded and he stuck the roll in his pocket without counting it. I asked if he wanted to count it. He smiled and replied, "naw". We walked out of the office and I said, "I'll be back with help and the truck and trailer around 4:00 p.m." I shook his hand and went back to work and finished my day.

The truck and trailer was running late and we didn't leave Petaluma until around 2:50 p.m. I thought we'd be late but lucked out because of minimum traffic, showing up at the shop just under an hour later. The car was already out front of the shop waiting for the trailer. When I fired the car up I watched both of my friends jump and jaws drop when the car made its beautiful mu-

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sic. It drove right up on the trailer and we began to strap it down. I took all of the parts from the interior that may have fallen out (no door), and placed them in the trunk. The front fender we stuck in the truck bed. The shop also offered me the parts from the wrecked car. So of course I took the parts and threw them in the truck bed as well. After a final look at the trailer, car and junk we all agreed we were ready to get home ASAP. It was now 4:40 pm on a Wednesday afternoon and we STILL had to get back across the 680/880 interchange.

We got home a little after dark, parking the truck trailer combo in front of my neighbors—the ones who love me. I rolled the car off the trailer towards my house where it stopped rolling about two feet into my drive way. I dropped a battery in and it would not start. I just saw this running; cranking over real strong. WTF? Oh! Out of gas. I poured all of the gas I had in the anti-freeze bottle gas tank strapped to the radiator. It fired right up again and was almost idling. I put the pedal down and roared them all the way up the driveway.

We drank a job-well-done beer, sat around and looked at it, and then threw a car cover over it so no one would see the door and fender were missing. It was a good day and now dark. Too dark to really see what was under all that crap. The trunk and interior was chock full of parts; not much garbage.

CRUISE NIGHT



707-473-9604
ASK FOR CHRIS OR RITA



3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH STARTING
MARCH 18TH 2009. 11AM-8PM.

48 HEADSBURG AV. HEALDSBURG CA. 95448

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A week went by and after messing with it I've decided to keep it as a daily driver! A Beater. I'll be selling my '64 Chevy (anybody interested??) for money and the room. I have emptied all of the crap out of the car and started to paint the underside black. I sprayed the two mismatched wheels silver. I've touched up all of the paint with Whiteout on the stripe and a dark pink Sharpie on all of the Bondo and blemishes on the body. I washed the car with WD-40 to take the oxidation off and ripped the original carpet out. I've also been welding and straightening the front end back into shape. It looks much better than it did a week ago. It's starting to look like a real old muscle car, not a beater with the side missing.



Javelin "Batmobile" picture provided by Tyson

My real plans for the car are to strip out the entire interior, save what I want for my car and sell off all of the stuff I won't need. Then begin measuring the roof for the chop. Yes I am going to make a roadster—a car with no roof and doors welded shut. A jump-in car. I want to use the original metal and fold the pieces of the car so there is less welding and cutting. Now I was told if I leave the doors operational that my friend will buy the Lambo door kit for swing up doors. Yep dark metallic blue, convertible, and Lambo doors. How about a white Carson topped Javelin? Oh the kustoms I want!

Now it is:

- 1973 light blue Javelin AMX Pierre Cardin 360, 4bbl
- 1973 purple Javelin with white stripes 360, 2bbl

Richard Estermyer

Ypsilanti, Michigan

AMC Proud Owner's
2009
PREMIERE EDITION # 01

OWNER Richard Estermyer **LOCATION** Ypsilanti, MI
CAR 1974 Javelin **ENGINE** 304 cid
CARB 2bbl **TRANS** Automatic
EXT COLOR Black **INT COLOR** Black Saw Tooth

ACCESSORIES My 1st AMC bought in 1985, became our Organ Donor Car in honor of our son Nathen, living donor lung transplant recipient.

Series ONE 2009 PhotoGraphics, Ypsilanti, MI 734 417 9494 Richard Estermyer
javelinman74@hotmail.com -or- a70stingautomobilia.com
to submit your AMC!

AMC Trading Cards. Richard Estermyer is now offering trading cards on his website: www.a70stingautomobilia.com