



news

www.PanteraClubNorCal.com

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Minutes of Meeting 29 January, 2004

The meeting was called to order precisely at 8:00 p.m. by new club president Terry Morofsky. All officers were present except for Diane Dean and Mark McWhinney. Despite the favorable weather, there were only two Panteras in the parking lot, and 32 members attended the meeting.

New Members/Guests: The members of PCNC welcomed **Michael Frazier**, a POCA member from San Antonio visiting the area on business. He entertained the crowd by telling us about the Pantera he has owned for 16 years; when he went to buy it, it was completely dismantled and located inside a house! The seller had to tear a wall down in order to get the car out. Michael said that there are about a million people in the San Antonio area, but only about a dozen Panteras, of which only four or five are ever seen. He was astounded at our 'large' meeting turnout....

Club Treasury Report: Jim said that it had been so long since we'd had a meeting, he hadn't had the opportunity to give a report in quite some time. He had written a few checks to pay for club newsletters, and the Christmas party, but the treasury is still quite healthy.

Club Store Report: Gary Kono (the store Elf) had nothing new to report.

Club Membership Report: Due to unforeseen circumstances, the club roster was not mailed with the January newsletter as has been the norm in the past; it will probably be distributed with this newsletter.

Past Events:

Mini Tech Session: Chuck held a small one-car tech session at his house to help Jason Eaton square away a few details on his almost-completed Pantera. Jason was horrified to find only 1.5 quarts of oil in his ZF gearbox, along with some metal shavings—DOH! They flushed and filled the gearbox and it appears to be none the worse for wear.

Upcoming Events:

Mini Tech Session— 28 February: Chuck Melton will be holding his first club tech session at his home in Sunnyvale on Saturday, 28 February. See the flyer elsewhere in this newsletter for details. He will probably have a second tech session sometime in March.

New Owner Welcome and Perpetual Tech Session — 5-7 March: Two Panteras have recently changed hands in PCNC territory, and to help make the new ownership experience a positive one, the owners will both be bringing their cars to Mike Drew's house for a few immediate repair/upgrade projects before they motor down the road. The first car will appear in his driveway on the evening of Thursday, the 4th, and work will commence on Friday. Paul Da Cruz will then bring his new car by on Saturday the 6th; if necessary work will continue through Sunday. Anybody wanting to lend a hand on various small projects, or just



hang out and welcome new folks to the fold is welcome to stop by. See the flyer elsewhere in this newsletter.

Speedring Karting Challenge — 13 March : Greg Jacobs announced his intention to stage another karting event at Speedring, the indoor go-kart racing facility in Santa Clara. He will work with Diane to select an appropriate weekend in March. Look for a flyer elsewhere in this newsletter, assuming the coordination takes place before late February.

Air Conditioning Tech Session/Easter Egg Hunt — April TBA: Roger Sharp announced plans to hold a tech session sometime in April, hopefully in conjunction with an Easter Egg Hunt for the kids. Further details will be forthcoming in the next month or so.

Las Vegas Speed Trials — 22-23 April: Bill Santos reported that the track event sponsorship campaign is going quite well, and pledges might even be (dare we say it?) slightly ahead of schedule. However, as the cost to stage the event will be in the region of \$12,000 to \$15,000 for the two days, we still have a long, long way to go. Bill still has lots of “maybes” to work on.

Meanwhile, Chuck Melton has been hard at work creating an event website which captures all the essential information and enables potential entrants to get an early start on registration. The site was released to the public on 28 January, and already had literally hundreds of ‘hits’. The address for the site is: <http://www.geocities.com/lasvegasspeedtrials/index>

Big Bend Run — 24-25 April: Michael Frazier discussed the Big Bend open road race, held in western Texas the same weekend as the Las Vegas Fun Rally. Several PCNC members will be skipping the POCA event to campaign their Panteras in the Big Bend Run. The course features 59 turns in 55 miles, and is run two ways, from Big Bend to Fort Stockton, and back. The towns realize their local economies benefit greatly from this event, and thus the local constabulary looks away when a full-on Winston Cup car ambles down the street....

Reno-Tahoe Fun Rally — 4-6 June: Larry announced that the dates for the event have been selected; Harrah’s will again be hosting the event. Besides the expected dyno day at the Mallory ignition facility, they are also hoping to stage a track event, possibly in conjunction with Checkered Flag Racing.

King Of The Castle Napa Valley Wine Tour And Car Show — 20 June: Terry Morofsky has organized an all-day car show and wine tasting at The Ledson Winery in Napa Valley (<http://www.ledson.com>), featuring a BBQ and live music. The cars must be staged by 10:30 a.m. and are required to stay until 3:00 p.m.

For those interested in making a weekend of it and staying at a Bed & Breakfast, you need to make your reservations early, as this is a very popular weekend. Cancellations will normally be charged 10% of the cost of the stay.

Pony Express — 24-27 June: Larry announced that the Pony Express, which used to be a one-way 85 mile run, will now be a 114 mile two-way run. They are going to create a 155 mph class with a 165 tech speed, which is where he will campaign his Pantera.

Concorso Italiano — 13 August: On-line registration for the Concorso Italiano is now available, at www.concorso.com. Contrary to some rumors, the prices are unchanged, at \$50 to display a car (including two entry passes) or \$60 each for entry passes alone. Last year’s renegade Ferrari club competing event won’t be repeated this year.

Club Business:

Officer Election Results: For those who weren’t at the Christmas Party and didn’t read the post-party article in last month’s newsletter, Terry Morofsky announced that he had been elected club president (which explained his presence at the front of the meeting....)

Christmas Party Raffle Results: Larry reported that the monthly club raffles from January to November of 2003 resulted in a net profit of \$800; that money was then used to purchase prizes which were raffled off at the Christmas party. The total proceeds from the Christmas party (whose prizes also included fantastic contributions from many loyal Pantera vendors)

totaled \$1240, which was deposited into the club's coffers.

Buy/Sell/Swap:

JHP Motorsports Suspension Components: James Jordan has created an all-new billet aluminum suspension package for Panteras. Unlike old-school billet aluminum suspensions (which are L.A.-style street-rod setups designed to look good, but unfortunately weighing substantially more than the stock pieces, and still utilizing the stock, expensive ball joints and bushings), his package is engineered from top to bottom to serve as an economical replacement for the stock components. His A-arms use cheap, \$35 ball joints on all corners. All four corners are fully adjustable, thanks to stainless steel 3/4 inch rod ends fitted with inexpensive polyurethane bushings. The ball joint can be offset to one of two positions for additional caster. The price is \$3000 for the entire package, but that includes all eight control arms, all ball joints, bushings, rod ends, and the lower shafts to attach the rear hub carriers to the lower control arms. In the works are replacement billet aluminum hub carriers, which will be fitted with four angular contact bearings on each side.

For more information, go to www.jhpmotorsports.com

News, Clues and Rumors:

Pantera Si Brochure At Local Swap Meet: Steve Liebenow reported that while wading through literature at a local automotive swap meet, he stumbled across a De Tomaso-produced sales brochure for the last-generation Pantera Si, circa 1991 or so. Curiously, the brochure was stamped by the California Department of Transportation??? The selling price of \$25-35 or so dissuaded him from purchasing it.

Mountain View Clubhouse?: Chuck Melton is working on getting a group of people together to rent a large workshop in the Mountain View area. The shop would be dedicated garage fix-it space, and would be complete with tools and a lift, and ample outside parking. The theory is that a small group of people would store their project cars there and have a place to work on them, in exchange for paying a monthly fee. Contact Chuck for more information.

Brussels Pantera Summit: Mike Drew reported on his recent visit to Brussels, where he went to photograph the factory GT/4 race Pantera which raced at Le Mans in 1972 and again in 1975, finishing both races. While there, he had the opportunity to spend several days with Claude Dubois, the former race car driver (who himself drove at Le Mans eight times, among a host of other events) and later Shelby and De Tomaso distributor for all of Europe. Mike had lots of stories to tell, as Claude (at age 72) hasn't lost his touch behind the wheel, and treated the central park in Brussels as his own private racetrack at night!

Claude will be the featured guest at this year's Las Vegas Fun Rally, which promises to make a great event even better!

Damage Tally: After Larry Finch's wild off-road ride (described several months ago), he took his slightly mangled Pantera down to Precision Pro-Formance. The chassis will have to be straightened slightly, lots of sheetmetal work will be done up front, a few new components fitted, and finally the entire car will be painted. The cost to repair the car will be \$33,000; fortunately he had the foresight and presence of mind to insure his car for \$45,000, and has a written appraisal of its value by Julie Summerfield at \$50,000. The time and money invested in getting

that appraisal suddenly makes a lot of sense, as otherwise it is quite possible the insurance company would have totaled the car.

Driving For Dinner Raffle: With only two De Tomaso cars in the parking lot, it wasn't too competitive; Bob Benson got the nod and had his dinner paid for by the club.

Raffle Results: Larry flat-out forgot to bring any raffle prizes to the meeting! Hearing this, Mike Drew ran out to his car and retrieved a newly purchased mechanical roller seat and supplied it as one raffle prize, along with a calendar (featuring a Pre-L Pantera) he had donated earlier in the evening. Larry and Brett once again passed the hat, with the following results:

Coco's Pie — Russ Britschgi
Free Dinner — Jason Eaton
Mechanics Roller Seat — Mark Tumbarello
Sports Car Calendar — Bob Benson
Key Blanks — Dennis Turrin

The meeting adjourned to the parking lot at 9:15 where the automotive chat continued; the last people didn't leave the parking lot until close to midnight.

Membership News

January Membership Anniversaries:

We congratulate the following persons for the indicated years of continuous membership in the Pantera Club of Northern California:

Philip Miller: eleven years	Barry & Kimberlee Muller: eight years
Steve & Linda Liebenow: seven years	Kris Hearn: five years
Terry Morofsky: four years	Curt Hall: four years
Larry & Nowassa Henley: one year	

February Membership Anniversaries:

We congratulate the following persons for the indicated years of continuous membership in the Pantera Club of Northern California:

Doug Abadie & Kay Schwartz: fourteen years	James Dursi & Lyn Murray: fourteen years
Michael & Roxanne Fertitta: eleven years	Larry & Dee Dee Laino: ten years
Roger Whiting: six years	John & Connie Hansen: five years
John & Merv Bentley: four years	James Rosenburgh: three years
Lincoln Auperin: one year	Gerald McGinness one year
Joel Montero: one year	Mike Wilwerding: one year

New Membership Rosters Are Being Printed Now!

New membership rosters may be ready for mailing with this newsletter. If not, they will be handed out to all members attending the February meeting, and if you cannot attend that meeting your roster will be mailed to you with your March Newsletter.

If you find any errors or omissions in the new Membership Roster, please contact Russ Britschgi at 408/866-1677 or E-mail to: rbrit@openminds.us

PCNC's Winter Tech Event

Tech Check Day!

Is your Pantera prepared for the drive to Las Vegas and the track event at the Las Vegas Speedway? Bring it to the Tech Check Day to have experts evaluate it and determine if you have any maintenance issues which need to be addressed!

General Info:

Date: Saturday, Feb 28th, 10am - 5pm+, Rain or Shine!

Location: Chuck Melton's Garage, 897 W. Olive Avenue, Sunnyvale

Directions: www.mapsonus.com, or call (408) 306-3989

Food: To Be Decided: Likely BBQ & Drinks, and bring what you like!

The Plan: At this "Tech Check Day" event, we'll focus on inspecting Panteras in search of any mechanical gremlins which might be hiding. If we find problems that small and manageable, we'll fix them on the spot, but if we can't, at least you'll know in plenty of time to get them fixed.
Wear your PCNC club shirt!

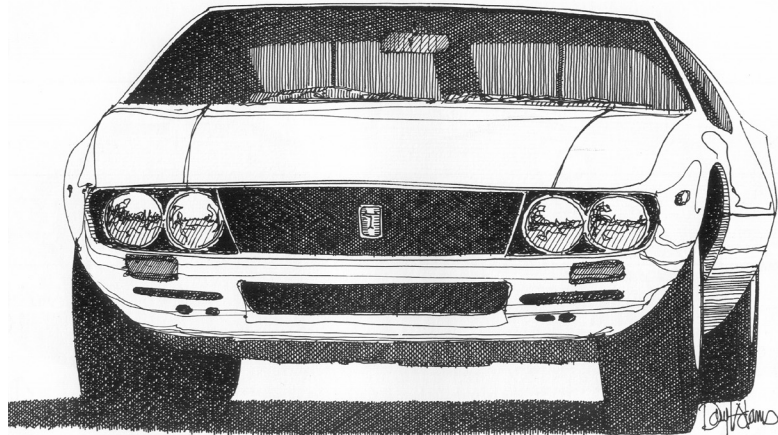
Parts & Supplies: Several parts stores are near by, including Pep Boys, and Kragen's. I have a small supply of spare Pantera parts also.

Tools: I have everything necessary, including a new vacuum bleeder and ZF tool.

Optional Tasks: Engine Oil Change, ZF Fluid Change (Chuck can dispose of old fluids.)
Check & Repack front wheels bearings
Track Event Tech Inspection (Chuck has the form)

Stop by for the day, or just a little while to bench race !

For further information, give Chuck a call!



New Owners Welcome

Perpetual Tech Session

Friday, March 5 thru Sunday, March 7

TIME: 9:30 a.m. to ???

LOCATION: Mike Drew's House
136 Lighthouse Way, Vacaville

INFO/RSVP: (707) 452-9284, MikeLDrew@aol.com

FOOD: A (small) BBQ and refrigerator will be provided. Bring yer own grub!

PARKING: Plenty of parking available, **BRING YOUR CLUB CAR!**

Two new Pantera owners will be bringing their Panteras to Mike Drew's house for a once-over, steering rack rebuilds, and a few other minor jobs. Work will commence on Friday morning and may continue through Sunday evening! What better way to



welcome new owners to the fold than to come on out and help them get their new cars straightened out and roadworthy?

DIRECTIONS:

Take I-80 to I-505 (near the Nut Tree)

Take the first exit off I-505 (Vaca Valley Parkway)

Turn Left, drive across the freeway, through the stoplight.

Continue through the stop sign.

Take the third right onto Roscoe Marvic Drive

Drive around to the back side of the oval, to 136 Lighthouse Way. Look for the three VW Sciroccos!



The Pantera Club of Northern California

Speedring Karting Challenge

Saturday, March 13, 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.

PCNC is offering you the opportunity to experience the same racing that started the greatest drivers in the world! Imagine competition-prepped karts in wheel-to-wheel action on a challenging road course with the same technology of a modern Grand Prix to provide your race stats! The Formula 1 Champion of the World keeps his edge driving on his dad's kart track...this could be the place you start your racing career.

Overview

- * Your personal introduction to the exciting world of motor racing.
- * Real racing experience with hands on total control and passing.
- * Maximum of 14 drivers per race—minimum age 18 years.

Race Format

15 minutes qualifying, followed by a 35-minute race

- * Safety Briefing by Track Manager or Race Director.
- * 15 minutes of pre-race practice and qualifying for start grid position.
- * Grid formation.
- * 35-minute Sprint Race from standing start to checkered flag.
- * Driver completing most laps wins!
- * Lap of Honor with checkered flag.
- * Computer generated timing sheet at end with lapping summary provided to each driver.

Other Information

- * Drivers must check in no later than 12:00 noon for a MANDATORY safety training and race orientation meeting.
- * Complete driver protection provided: full coverage helmet, race suit, balaclava, neck brace, and gloves. (Bring your own helmet if you have one.)
- * Need to supply sensible shoes (running or trainers are best).
- * Have shorts and a T-shirt to wear under the race suit, and a change of clothes for post-race socializing

Pricing

- * \$70.00 per driver

Directions

SpeedRing Address:
2900 Mead Avenue
Santa Clara, CA 95051

From 101 North:

- * Take the GREAT AMERICA PKWY exit towards BOWERS AVENUE. Drive 0.3 miles.
- * Keep RIGHT at the fork in the ramp. Drive 0.1 miles.
- * Merge onto BOWERS AVE. Drive 0.8 miles.
- * Turn RIGHT onto MEAD AVE. Drive 0.1 miles.
- * Speedring is located on the left.

From 101 South:

- * Take the GREAT AMERICA PKWY exit. Drive 0.1 miles.
- * Take a LEFT at the light onto Bowers Ave. Drive 0.9 miles.
- * Turn RIGHT onto MEAD AVE. Drive 0.1 miles.
- * Speedring is located on the left.

Registration Information

Drivers should pre-register for this event, as space is limited. Payment in advance is required to secure a spot. Limited slots may be available on race day on a first come, first served basis. Make checks payable to PCNC and send to:

Greg Jacobs
648 Fig Tree Lane
Martinez, CA 94553
greg.jacobs@jacobsracing.com
(925) 354-3561

For more information, go to <http://www.speedring-kartracing.com/>

NEXT CLUB MEETING

**THURSDAY, February 26, 2004
8:00 P.M.**

**COCO'S RESTAURANT
1209 OAKMEAD PARKWAY
SUNNYVALE, CA
(Take Lawrence Expressway South Exit off Highway 101)**

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

February 28 ————— Tech Check Day (Chuck Melton)

March 5-7 ————— New Owner Welcome and Perpetual Tech Session (Mike Drew)

March 13 ————— Speedring Karting Challenge (Greg Jacobs)

April TBA ————— Air Conditioning Tech Session (Roger Sharp)

April 21-25 ————— Las Vegas Fun Rally (Gary Roys)

**REMINDER — NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE BY 15th OF EACH MONTH
www.PanteraClubNorCal.com**



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