

news

www.PanteraClubNorCal.com

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Minutes of Meeting 23 September, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by vice-president Todd Glyer. Among the officers, Terry Morofsky, Jim Kuehne, Mike Drew, John Hansen and Sharon Renshaw were absent. The meeting minutes were taken by John and Merv Bentley's daughter Samantha, and Diane Dean. There were 33 members and guests present, and 10 De Tomaso automobiles graced the parking lot.

New Members/Guests: The club welcomed **Brand Parks** to the meeting, who is a friend of Garth Rodericks. Brand has been bitten by the bug, and is looking to purchase a Pantera for himself. Although they are not actually new members, it was nice to see John and Merv Bentley as well as Larry Henley and his wife Nowassa again.

<u>Changes To Last Month's Minutes</u>: The back page of the September issue wasn't changed to reflect the correct date of September's meeting, and instead featured the August meeting date.

<u>Club Treasury Report</u>: Anita Kuehne ably filled in for Jim, and reported that the treasury is presently in a good state of health. A couple of checks had been received, and that evening, she'd received receipts from Paul Da Cruz, Diane Dean and Linda Plescia for expenses incurred during the Monterey event. She would write them reimbursement checks after the meeting.

<u>Club Store Report</u>: There was nothing to report.

Club Membership Report: Russ had no significant news to report.

<u>Name Badges</u>: Doris has received a shipment of name badges; if you ordered one, please contact her to arrange for delivery.

<u>Club Website Report</u>: Mark McWhinney continues to refine and update our website, and has placed information on several upcoming events on the 'upcoming events' page.

Past Events:

Monterey Historics Races Weekend: Diane had some sober thoughts to share with respect to our annual gathering in Monterey. She spoke on issues of concern involving obnoxious behavior, drunkenness, rowdy behavior and extremely offensive remarks that some members found themselves subjected to. Some of these undesirable acts were performed by PCNC members and others by some of our guests.

Already, a few people have worn out their welcome with the owners of the Los Laureles, and now a few more may find themselves in the same position. Diane discussed these issues with the involved parties, informing them that they may not find themselves welcome next year. PCNC has a good relationship with the owners of the hotel which we intend to maintain. As a club we need to be cognizant of not damaging this relationship, and the consequences that could be brought about should the owners elect to not welcome us back. Everyone's help is needed in seeing we ensure the club's good name and reputation.

<u>Silver State Open Road Race</u>: Since John Bentley's Pantera wasn't up and running yet, he hopped into his airplane and flew to the Silver State race. Dennis Antenucci was trying for his seventh finish of the season, but sadly was let down by a 50-cent part when his distributor shear pin broke about 45 miles into the race. He had been testing the motor on the dyno and it had run strongly, right up until it didn't. Nevertheless, he was still credited with 2nd in class.

Fun Ford Sunday: Steve Liebenow reported that five De Tomaso cars participated in this show, along with 400-plus other cars. It was a good day for De Tomasos, with lots of questions asked and answered. See his report elsewhere in this newsletter.

Upcoming Events:

<u>TPOC Open Track — 4 November</u>: Jim Saxton is again hosting the fall open track event, at Willow Springs Raceway in Rosamond, CA, about 90 miles northeast of Los Angeles. This is

a seriously fast track and PCNC members are encouraged to attend; for more information see the TPOC website, www.socalpantera.com.

<u>PCNC Meeting — 18 November</u>: Due to the conflict with Thanksgiving, the November meeting will be held one week early, in the same location.

<u>PCNC Christmas Party</u> — <u>10 December</u>: The club's annual Christmas Party and Awards Banquet will be held the second Friday in December, once again at David's Conference and Banquet Hall in Santa Clara. Diane has booked 12 rooms at the same hotel as last year, the Hilton Santa Clara, for those wishing to stay overnight. Our group code is "PCNC". See the flyer enclosed in this newsletter.

Club Business:

2005 Club Officer Nominations And Election: At November's meeting we will vote for a slate of officers to lead us through 2005. Russ Britschgi, Anita Kuehne and Pam Sharp form the nominating committee; their job is to recruit suitable candidates for the various open positions, and then present that list to the members of the club who will then be able to elect their chosen candidates. A ballot will appear in next month's newsletter; if you are interested in running for office, please contact one of the committee members.

See the flyer from the committee elsewhere in this newsletter.

<u>Las Vegas Speed Trials</u>: Charlie Puckett gave an update and asked for input regarding the prospects for holding the event in 2005. A show of hands determined the event would continue to be a two-day event, held on Thursday and Friday, but at the race track at Pahrump. Since the Las Vegas Motor Speedway literally doubled their prices for next year, we simply can't afford to run there any longer. Fortunately the Pahrump track is available, and at a much more reasonable cost. Too, the track is in the hands of new owners and has undergone some great improvements, which will continue in the future.

The track committee will release further details as the specifics are nailed down in the coming months. In the meantime, Bill Santos was happy to announce that PCNC has an enthusiastic new sponsor, Kevin Hubby, who has already made a generous donation for our 2005 event.

<u>Driving For Dinner Raffle</u>: The winner was Dave Lindsay, and unfortunately he neglected to pig out!

Raffle Results: Larry Stock and Brett Santos conducted the raffle in their usual way, with the results listed below. Special thanks to Larry Henley who donated raffle items which are always a big hit.

Edelbrock Manifold key chain — Dave Lindsay
DVD — Jason Eaton
Rat Fink Key Chain — Pam Sharp, Anita Kuehne, Mark McWhinney
Motor Key Chain — Mark Tumbarello
POCA Centerfold poster — Bob Benson, Mark McWhinney, Dave Lindsay, Bob Lucas

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 and the usual parking lot banter quickly got underway....

Nominating Committee Report

Pam Sharp, Anita Kuehne & Russ Britschgi

Your Nominating Committee is working hard to round up the candidates that will do the day-to-day tasks of running your club for the next year. The current officers and appointees are listed on the cover of this newsletter. The President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Coordinator comprise the Board of Directors and are elected by the general membership. The remaining positions are appointed by the Board. The current President assumes the office of Vice-President when a new President is elected as stated in the by-laws.

Thus at this time it is the task of the Nominating Committee to search out and find candidates who are ready, willing and able to fill the roles of the remaining four elected officers. In doing so there will be at least one qualified candidate on the November ballot for President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership Coordinator.

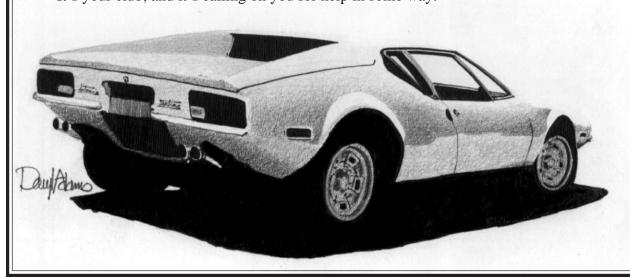
The Nominating Committee also has the responsibility to bring to the Board, in time for its January meeting, a list of candidates willing to serve in the various appointed positions. If you want to serve as either an elected officer or an appointee, please contact one of the Committee members. The club needs your help. Perhaps you even know of someone who is interested but is too shy to jump up and say, "I can do that." If you know of such a person, please give us his or her name. The Committee will contact them and let them know the duties of the job. The Committee will also be contacting the current office holders to see if they are willing to serve for another year.

The Committee members are:

Anita Kuehne: 408/732-4057 or e-mail <akuehne@kuehneconstruction.com>

Russ Britschgi: 408/866-1677 or e-mail < RnDBrit@earthlink.net>

It's your club, and it's calling on you for help in some way.



Fun Ford Sunday

Story and Photos by Steve Liebenow

On September 12th, the Nor-Cal Ford Car Club Council presented the 8th Annual Fun Ford Sunday at the Solano County Fairgrounds. This year's crowd boasted over 400 Ford products in attendance from Model A's to Lincolns. Not all the Fords were Fords, as there were some De Tomasos out and about, and not all the Fords were "Powered by Ford" either! (I just can't stand those Chevy-powered '32 Sedans and all...just can't figure the logic there!) This year was honoring 65 years of Mercury, 45 years of the Galaxie, 40 years of Mustang, and 20 years of the SVO Mustang.

The Falcon and Mustang contingents were out in full force representing the largest "clubs" attending, with a good smattering of trucks old and new! There was a section for Lincoln Mark 8's as well as the ever-present Mercury Cougars. Thunderbirds were slightly underrepresented in my opinion, and the street rod faction was well represented with classical chopped tops and colored primer jobs!

The Ronald McDonald house was giving away a very



Gary Glenn's Pantera sported chrome Cobra R wheels

nice 1968 Shelby GT500KR convertible, a \$75K value, very nicely restored down to the 428CJ motor, all for a \$5 ticket donation. Plenty of other raffle/door prizes were seen being carted away from the drawing area, although I believe our De Tomaso crowd went away hungry.

Speaking of De Tomaso's, we were well-represented by a great spread of models in attendance. Newer PCNC member Scott Martin had his white Longchamp out for the crowds to ponder "What is it and why does it rumble so???" PCNC President Terry Morofsky was present along with Dennis Turin representing the red Pantera contingent, and Gary Glenn showed up in his orange Pantera decked out in newer model Cobra R rims. My son Kevin and I dragged the Mangusta out, dusted off the sawdust (had the floors done while on vacation....) and blasted up to the show to check out the rides!.

We were parked in a beautiful shaded area just off of the main aisle, pretty much in the center of the show. Foot traffic was good and our members were seen answering questions about the cars from interested Fordophiles. We had a great vantage point for music, food, and sights.

Among the more unusual cars present, besides ours (!) was a very unrestored Ford GT40 Mk1, but before any of us De Tomaso people could check it out, it was last seen idling out of the fairgrounds! What's up with that!?? I don't think the guy waited for 11:00 before he was pulling out? People were asking if it was an unfinished kit car; no, that was a very original *original* GT40, with gas and oil stains still present in the faded off-white body color! I would have liked to have seen more than one side and a tail light panel!

There were a couple of 427 Cobras present, way down from what I would have expected, a couple of Shelbys of various years, and one '70 Boss 429 representing the muscle car era. A couple of 428CJ Mustangs were attending, and a couple of 429 Torinos as well.

The Edsel and 50's Fords/Merc's were well represented with some very unusual models again in attendance.

Occasionally we were treated to a full-on race car getting fired up and "idled" down the center strip! The balance of the time, there was a DJ spinning the old favorites, raffle drawings, and a few good vendors hawking their wares. Oh, and the food vendors were WAY busy selling dogs, burgers, and ice cream cones!

It was a very good showing for a well organized event!



Scott Martin's Longchamp turned heads all day long

The Nor-Cal Ford Car Council that sponsors this event is largely run by Nor Cal Galaxie Club members and they do a bang-up job on nailing this event down! Previously and during the early years at the old Ford plant (Great Mall in Milpitas), this event got a reputation as a "parking lot" show, but now, given the use of the fairgrounds proper, they have a place that is a beautiful setting for a medium sized event that is sure to grow! Get out and support this event next year!

Rack-O-Rama Two

Story and Photos by Mike Drew

You may recall that back in the Spring I had a monster three-day tech session at my house, where among other things we rebuilt steering racks each day. Late in August I announced a second tech session at my house, where we would endeavor to rebuild the steering rack and remove the spring spacers from the Pantera belonging to Howard Renshaw III.

He has recently purchased this car from his father, long-time PCNC member Howard Renshaw II, who had bought a Chevy SSR street rod/ pickup/whatever when they first came out. Anyway, in order to finance this highly questionable venture, he had to sell his prized Pantera.

His son heard about this almost by chance and immediately went berserk, as any reasonable son would do. He hustled and came up with the scratch to buy the car, which had been restored in the 1980's and given the Miami Vice monochromatic look. It's a very nice '74L, fitted with front bumperettes and Recaro seats, but otherwise largely stock.

With 78K miles on the steering rack, it was completely shot, and the shocks/springs still wore their spacers so the



Howard breaks out the hammer to un-peen the tie rod while I hold on for dear life and Jim supervises



Howard Renshaw's Pantera is a beautiful example of the marque, but the steering and suspension were a bit tired after 30 years and 78,000 miles

those problems.

And so it was that Howard III pulled up to my house right on time on Saturday morning. Although I had hoped for some help from PCNC types, they stayed away in droves, with exactly zero of them coming to help! Fortunately, the Sacramento club in the form of "Relay Rick" Moseley, and Jim and Emilia Seiferling came through, although neither of them had ever met or even heard of Howard before.

Soon the car was on the lift, wheels off. We were distracted for awhile by an exploding made-in-China air hose,

> but managed to bypass it and kept the air tools running. Before long the rack was out of the car.

Rick and the Seiferlings had arrived by this point, so we put them on the suspension. Rick had given me the old stock shocks/springs from his Pantera years ago, and they'd been rattling around in my parts room ever since. They only had about 40K miles on them and the bushings were in better shape so we decided to use them to replace Howard's.

Jim and Rick got the shocks and springs out at about the same time that Howard and I completed the rebuild of his rack, and Amanda sat in the shade and knitted as she usually does at these affairs. At that point we decided to celebrate a job half-done, and they were put in charge of the BBQ while Howard and I zipped into town to drop the coilovers at the tire shop, for them to dismantle and remove the spac-

Being the Manly Man that he is, Rick decided to forgo conventional soap-and-water-and-scrubbing means of cleaning the BBQ grille, and instead busted out my die grinder and paint stripping wheel! Within no time the grille was gleaming and ready to be cooked upon!

When we returned from the shop, the coals were going and the burgers and dogs were just coming off the fire. It was getting pretty hot by this point (ultimately it would reach 97 degrees inside my garage!) so we enjoyed a cool (well, cooler anyway) luncheon sitting on the grass under a shade tree.

With lunch dispensed with, and the temperatures continuing to climb, Rick and the Seiferlings bid us farewell and split for cooler places while we continued to work. Wrestling the shocks and springs back in went reasonably well, although because we didn't see the things coming off the car, we did manage to mix up some hardware and have to un-do a few steps here and there.

We then filled the rack with oil and buttoned it up, and re-installed it in the car. Despite the fact that we had inspected the boots and thought them to be in decent condition, once the rack was in the car and oil came pouring from one side, we rethought that analysis. Turns out there was a hidden split in the accordion of the boot, that we had both overlooked.

Oops.

Quickly rotating the boot so that the split was on the upper side alleviated the leak for the time being. We put three wheels on the car and lowered it down, then jacked it on the leaking side so the fluid would run downhill, and then I changed the boot for a new one I had on hand.

With that done, we gave an eyeball alignment and put the car back on its wheels. Howard dashed to the alignment shop where I'd made an appointment the day before, but they had 'lost' my appointment and it was too late to get the car done that day.

Fortunately Howard only lives about 30 miles away, so he was able to drive the car home without fear of doing too much damage to the tires due to the improper toe setting.

He did mention that the steering felt 1000% better than it had before, which was understandable as his rack was as bad as any I'd ever seen!

To celebrate the successful conclusion of the day, I de-



Rick "does the dishes" with a wire wheel on a die grinder!

cided to (gasp) take my own Pantera out for a drive! Yes, my car is actually capable of being driven, and I wanted Howard to witness it! Now, it had been sitting in the sun all day long with the windows up, so it was stifling inside. I can't roll my windows down right now due to various problems with the tracks etc. (item #758 on my list of things to do to finish the damn car), and I haven't gotten around to putting the engine hatch back in place, so once I started driving, the engine heat poured into the car, quickly raising the temperature to unbearable levels.

Still, I drove it around the block, ran it through 2nd and 3rd gears, turned, stopped, backed up, all the things you'd like a car to do. I then put it back in the garage and bailed out of it as though it were on fire!

We spent about 45 minutes cleaning up the garage and tools, and then Howard set off for home, arriving uneventfully.

There are two more Nor-Cal types lined up to have their

steering racks overhauled here, but they are both retired so we'll probably do them on weekdays in the fall since it's more convenient for each of us.

And who knows, later this fall after the car season ends and the temperatures drop, I may even be found out in my garage, working on my own Pantera for a change!



Celebrating a job half done, the crew breaks for a pleasant lunch under the trees

NEXT CLUB MEETING

THURSDAY, October 28, 2004 8:00 P.M.

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

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

November 18 — PCNC Monthly Meeting (*One Week Early!*)

December 10 — PCNC Christmas Party (Diane Dean)

REMINDER — NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE BY 15th OF EACH MONTH

www.PanteraClubNorCal.com



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