



news

www.PanteraClubNorCal.com

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Minutes of Meeting 17 November, 2005

The meeting was called to order by the president at 8:05. Officer turnout was rather light, with Terry Morofsky, Mark McWhinney, Jim Kuehne and Mike Drew all otherwise engaged. Even Roger Sharp was absent, vacationing in Hawaii. Making up for all this absence was the presence of our long-missing Club Store manager, John Hansen, who along with wife Connie were visiting the area from their home in Jackson Hole, Wyoming!

The former apprentice Motorsports Coordinator, Larry Finch, has since been advanced to be the position of full-on Motorsports Coordinator, and he was present and accounted for. 27 club members signed in, and there were four Panteras in the parking lot.

New Members/Guests: There were no new faces in the crowd, something that hasn't happened

at a monthly meeting for a very long time indeed.

Changes To Last Month's Minutes: Although Bill Santos is no longer with us to carefully point out errors and omissions, thankfully several other people have filled his shoes in this regard! First, it was Curt Hall and not Mark Tumbarello who had attended the meeting with Peter Kovacs. Also, the cost for the Christmas party dinner was incorrectly stated in the minutes (although it was correct on the event flyer). And finally, one or more "n"s were accidentally inserted into Diane Dean's name.

Club Treasury Report: Given the absence of the club treasurer, there was no club treasury report.

Club Store Report: John Hansen was able to provide an in-person report for the first time in several years! He had brought with him several new ideas for club T-shirts. In some cases, they were modifications of existing designs. He also had some new hats, and everything was greeted with much enthusiasm by the club. He also has luggage tags galore!

With respect to the track event T-shirts, Todd Glyer will again be doing the artwork, and John will be then handling their actual production. Todd needs a photograph of the chosen car in order to complete the design of the shirt.

Club Website Report: As Mark McWhinney was also absent, there was no website report.

Club Membership Report: At this time each year, PCNC discusses honorary membership status for various club members who have left the local area but still wish to be associated with PCNC. Brett Santos had Bill's POCA membership redirected to him, which is good through September of '06. Russ Britschgi raised the prospect of renewing the honorary membership for Larry and Shari Stock, and issuing one to Michael and Roxanne Fertitta, both long-standing supporters of the club, while Diane Dean mentioned Marcus and Irene Smith. Motions were made and passed to extend membership to all three couples.

Past Events:

Bill Santos Memorial: The memorial service was well-attended by PCNC members, with approximately 100 people present, and almost 20 De Tomaso cars. The memorial was held at Bill's home, which revealed another side of Bill to people who had never been there before. Todd, Bill's older son, was present at the beginning but didn't stay long.

Bill's house showed the love and the care that he was known for; he had remodeled much of it,





most recently the kitchen and backyard.

Brett eloquently expressed his thanks for our thoughts and attendance.

Upcoming Events:

PCNC Christmas Party — 9 December: The club Christmas dinner will be held at the Crown Plaza Cabana, in Palo Alto on Friday, December 9th. The cost is \$48 each. There are three choices for dinner, and you can simply indicate the choice on your check. Space is limited, so at this point it is probably a good idea to phone Diane to confirm availability.

Roger has been very busy (some suggest *too* busy!) buying prizes for the big raffle at the party. He's worried that he won't be able to sell enough tickets to get rid of it all! And don't worry, the ladies won't be left out either, as there are plenty of non-automotive prizes in the stash. We are also receiving generous contributions from some of our Pantera parts vendors.

We also have successfully negotiated room prices at the Hilton in Santa Clara for \$59 a night (same as last year). The club currently has ten rooms reserved, but they will be released if not reserved by December 5th. Call and mention PCNC. See the flyer elsewhere in this newsletter.

Super Bowl Party — 5 February: The Sharps will be hosting this year's Super Bowl party; watch for a flyer in an upcoming newsletter.

Club Business:

PCNC Charitable Donations: Russ passed out ballots and a vote was held to determine which charities would receive donations from PCNC. Each year, PCNC donates a percentage of the profits from the club store sales at Las Vegas to worthy organizations. This year Canine Companions and the new Horizon School for Homeless Children were chosen.

PCNC Officer Elections: As each officer candidate was running unopposed, it should come

as no surprise that each won in a landslide!

News, Clues and Rumors:

Bob's Pantera History: Bob Benson related the story of meeting the original owner of his Pantera, a fellow who is still an active autocrosser despite being in his 80s! The fellow passed on a huge stack of information, all contained in a paper shopping bag! Bob initially didn't think too much of it when the first thing he pulled out was the flyer for the 2001 Concorso Italiano, but upon digging deeper, later on he found a treasure trove of old documents including the original window sticker for his car!

Also included were several vintage aftermarket parts catalogs from outfits like Mind Train and Peter Revson, as well as some correspondence from the owner to Lincoln-Mercury outlining his various problems with the car (dated 1974). Bob still has to finish wading through everything. He's sure grateful the owner didn't believe in recycling!

Diane's Pantera Gets Hit (On): Diane told a story about being pulled over by the police on the way home from Bill's memorial service, supposedly for an intermittent taillamp. But as the encounter went on, it appeared to her more and more that the real reason she was stopped was because the officer was hoping to get a test ride in the car!

Driving For Dinner Raffle: And the winner was Hans Shultz, who had only ordered a soda! So he brought home a Coco's pie instead.

Raffle Results: Bob Lucas ably stepped in for the missing rafflemeister, ably aided by Brett Santos of course, with the following results:

Angle Grinder — Hans Shultz
Cold soldering iron — Tom Padula
ZF drain plug tool — Bob Benson
Sports bag — John Hansen
Jewelry boxes — Diane Dean, Todd Glycer, Ken Levin
WD-40 — Bob Benson
Pantera Parts Connection T-shirt — Steve Liebenow
Zip ties — Todd Glycer
Shop towels — Larry Finch
Battery quick disconnects — Chuck Melton, Gary Choate
Hand cleaner towelettes — Todd Glycer
Circuit tester — Tom Padula
Super Card DVD — Hans Shultz

The meeting adjourned to the parking lot at 9:13 for the obligatory standing around and tire-kicking which went on late into the evening....

Membership News

New Members for December:

Alex & JoAnna Watson of Palo Alto: Alex & JoAnna joined thru POCA and list their interests as everything except concours. In other words they intend to drive their car, and don't mind being a little sociable at the same time. Hey, our kind of people. Welcome to the club.

December Membership Anniversaries:

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

Tim Butson: 8 years

Jon & Olivia Linke: 6 years

Peter & Christine Kovacs: 2 years

Michael & Julie Fagan: 1 year

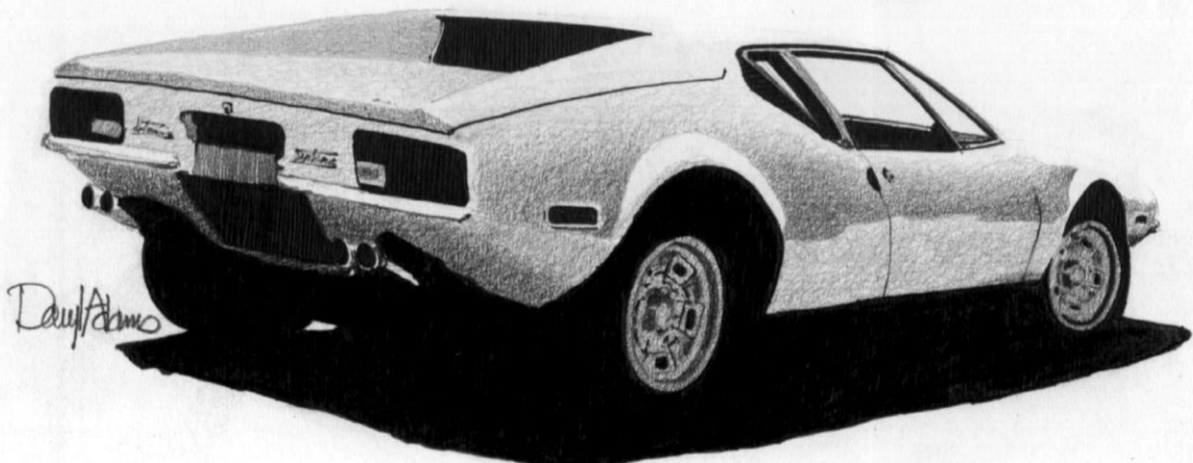
David Della Mora: 6 years

Mark McWhinney: 4 years

Ron Hyde: 2 years

New Membership Rosters Will be Printed the Second Week of January:

- 1) If you do not wish to have your address, phone number(s), and/or car information listed, you must notify the PCNC Membership Coordinator.
- 2) If the data in the current Roster has changed, please be sure the Membership Coordinator has the correct info on file.
- 3) Your E-mail address can be included if you give it to the Membership Coordinator.
- 4) The Membership Coordinator is Russ Britschgi, 143 Carlyn Avenue, Campbell, CA 95008. You may call and leave a message at 408/866-1677, or send E-mail to: <RnDBrit@earthlink.net >.



Capitol Panteras Delta Brunch Run

Story by Emilia Seiferling

Photos by Mike Drew

It was yet another beautiful day in the Delta, we are truly lucky weather-wise for this now-annual event. The destination for this years fall brunch was the River's Edge Cafe in Isleton, California. For us that is just a short drive from our home in Rio Vista (5 Miles).

We were met by three PCNC cars at our house: Mike Drew and Julie, Tom Galli, and Mike and Nancy Haney. We then formed up in a mini-caravan to Isleton led by the Pantera and followed by the Cobra, the Mangusta, and the Alfa Romeo.



The PCNC group arrived early in a variety of sports cars, and looked to the distance for the arrival of the Sacramento crowd



The Panteras of Henry Kirk and Jeff Budelli got 'rock star' parking right in front of the River's Edge cafe. Many of the PCNC and Capitol Panteras members didn't know one another so it took awhile to coax them away from the cars and into the restaurant!

We arrived at the restaurant to find two red Panteras waiting for us; Dennis Turrin and Henry Kirk and friend Karen. After the usual car talk, we went into the River's Edge Cafe for coffee and to wait for the Sacramento contingent to arrive. That group included Rick and Marsha Carlile, Carl and Leslie Stein, Jeff and Linda Budelli, John and Rene Wells, Paul Bowden and John Worseley. We ended up lining the main street of Isleton with 10 exotic cars!

The Cafe did a wonderful job with the food. They allowed us to order off either the

breakfast or lunch menu. This is a small mom-and-pop-type place, so a group of 20 was a challenge for them! But they kept the beverages full, so the leisurely pace allowed more time for conversation. Everyone reported that they enjoyed their meal. I had the chicken meatloaf sandwich on foccortia bread, odd-sounding but quite good. Carl enjoyed the lamb sandwich, another unusual item on the menu. Nancy gave the bacon very high marks! She wished that she had ordered more. Rick and Marsha did order a second helping of the breakfast potatoes!

After brunch, the group went out for more car talk and examinations of the cars. Marsha, Leslie and Dennis even managed to find something to buy in Isleton. Most of the Sacramento group took the River route home.



Once inside the café, we enjoyed a terrific feast!



Tom Galli's gorgeous Mangusta on the Rio Vista bridge



Jim and Emilia led the PCNC crowd on a scenic drive

Those that were headed to the West were taken on an escorted drive through the Montezuma Hills. Jim lead the way on Montezuma Hills Road followed by Tom, Henry and Karen, Mike and Julie, and Mike and Nancy. It was a great Pantera trip on a deserted, twisty country road. We went past farm houses, sheep and windmills (the high-tech type). We only saw two other vehicles on the entire drive!

This is the fifth year that we have arranged a Fall Delta Brunch Run for the Capitol Panteras and PCNC. This was our best-attended yet. We will plan another one for next year at yet another of the great restaurants that the Delta has to offer. Please plan to join us next year!



Soon we were way out in the country, alone except for the windmills

Pantera Club of Northern California **Journey To The Gentry's**

Story by Jack DeRyke
Photos by Jim Murch

It was a beautiful Saturday morning when nine Nor-Cal Panteras and three 'other' cars finished breakfast in Morgan Hill and proceeded to meander down to Paso Robles, with intermediate stops at a few wineries and lunch-and-potty breaks along the 155-mile drive.

The Gentrys have quite a spread down there, with horses, pigs and long-horn cattle on their extensive property near Nacimiento Lake. Led by Bob Lucas in his (gasp!) Acura, the caravan of Panteras wound its way down US 101 to King City, notorious for its over-zealous police and excellent lunch accommodations.



Nine Panteras lined up in preparation for the leisurely drive to Paso Robles

During the lunch, Roger Sharp and Jim Kuehne bowed out early, since they had a date with Brian Gentry's #2 Pantera, which had developed a nasty vibration in all gears when 'really being hammered,' according to Brian. So while the rest of us finished an excellent lunch/brunch, Roger and Jim took off for Brian's house to get a head start on the mini-tech session.

Since the two of them had built and installed Brian's new engine some 200 miles ago, they were concerned as to what might have gone wrong. Their hope was, they could quickly spot the trouble (Brian is a great guy but NOT a mechanic!), fix it and thus not interrupt the party at Brian and Kathy's ranch outside Paso Robles.

So an hour later, the rest of us fin-



Diane Dean and Linda Plescia shared Diane's Pantera. Linda's exuberance was constant throughout the event!



Jim Kuehne chose to drive his Pantera instead of his Mustang, as it's a better long-haul tourer

ished eating, and finished the trip, now behind Judy DeRyke's Toyota SUV! As will be shown later, this was shaping up to be not exactly a typical Nor-Cal tour! Since we live in western Nevada and the intervening Sierras had already had two snowstorms (one just three days before) we elected to take the 4WD truck, with chains aboard, so at least CALTRANS would let us go home if it snowed!

As we rounded a bend on the 1-1/2-lane-wide country lanes between Paso Robles and the Gentry's ranch, there was Roger parked at the turn-off...with his Pantera's left rear fender caved in nearly 18 inches!! Jim was busily changing the tire. Of course, we all stopped and got the sad story.

Turns out that while both Jim and Roger had been to the ranch several times before, somehow Roger missed the unmarked turnoff, so at 40 mph, he locked up his brakes. And Jim, close behind, unluckily had chosen that in-

stant to change a CD in his player. He said, 'When I looked up, Roger's brake lights were on, maybe five feet away....'

Two fortunate aspects of the incident; first, Roger and Jim are best of friends and both are extremely competent Pantera mechanics. Second, Nor-Cal Panteras is famous for members helping other members. It turns out that Jim owns a spare left-rear fender, which

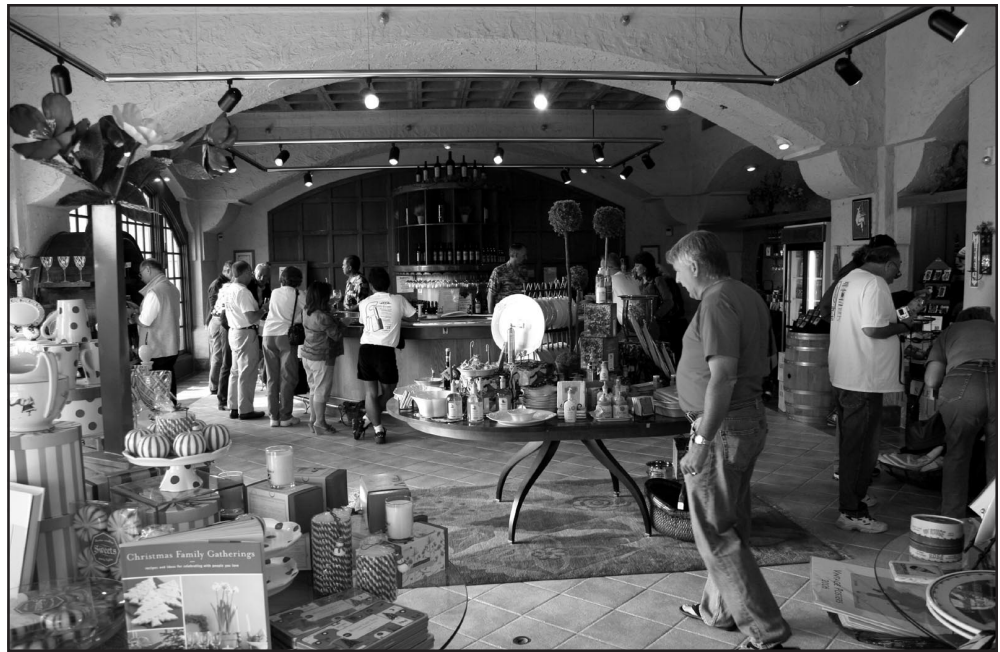
went to Roger! Larry Stock of Pantera Parts Connection has two lightly wrecked Panteras in his shop, so Jim will have his choice of a replacement fender as soon as he goes to Reno to help remove it.

The bad part of course is that this incident ever happened, but it shows once again that an instant's inattention at the wrong time can be disastrous.

Bill Santos' similar accident on the way to 'Vegas was of the same type.

Roger's car was undriveable for the 155 miles back home (the wheel and tire visible is a loaner; his 12x17" Wilkinson rim was severely torn and will need replacement. The giant Michelin Pilot 17" rear tire was apparently undamaged). The lower rear a-arm is bent and will need attention, while

Jim's car, after a bit of sheet-metal persuasion, is driveable (he drove it home Sunday) and apparently has no front suspen-



The group stopped at several wineries, where participants sampled various local wines and shopped at the well-stocked gift shops



Roger Sharp's Pantera was extensively mangled after his encounter with Jim Kuehne's Pantera; the car as seen here is equipped with a borrowed wheel and tire, as his were destroyed

sion issues.

Jim Cain was driving his Pantera on the event; he lives in the Monterey area and volunteered to drive 60 miles home and retrieve his pickup and car hauler, return and trailer Roger all the way up to his home in Morgan Hill the next day—an additional 200 miles.

For those who grouse about having to sign the event releases, this kind of stuff is exactly why they are used! While Roger and Jim will not be engaging in legal fisticuffs nor tedious explanations with insurance adjusters, other owners

may not have the repair talents nor inclination to accept their own responsibilities in such circumstances. 'Nuff said!

The tech session problem that precipitated all this unpleasantness? While poking around in the rear suspension, I found a loose connecting bolt between the left outer driveshaft and the stub axle...two minutes tightening with end wrenches eliminated Brian's vibration.

It turns out this car was literally found in a barn on the property and was



A few minutes spent with a big hammer and pry-bar and Jim's car was driveable again. He then immediately turned his attention to fixing Brian's Pantera, of course!

thrown into the deal when Brian and Kathy bought the property. Not having been driven for 15 years and with doubtful maintenance prior to it being parked, Brian, Roger and Jim have slowly been working their way through this car, fixing things as they find them. Apparently the addition of a 400-horsepower engine loosened up the old bolt (not involved in the engine change, incidentally), which allowed the companion adapter between driveshaft and stub-axle to flex, causing the vibration

Brian had noticed.

I personally am surprised that a loose bolt at that point was even noticeable, but tightening the thing seems to have fixed the shakes.

The remainder of the weekend was most enjoyable. The Paso Robles area is becoming a hotbed of boutique wineries—we visited Arciero, Tobin-James and several others I can't recall now, not being a confirmed 'wino' as is my red-headed wife (who gets teased about her red hair actually coming from the Zinfandel and Cabernet she consumes!)

No other Pantera issues arose during the entire weekend—the Gentry's dinner Saturday night was of the type you'd gladly pay big bucks to enjoy, and they steadfastly refused any payment, saying that seeing their friends and showing off their new spread was reward enough.

Brian even managed to lose regularly in the post-dinner blackjack game he started in their professionally decorated card-room—what a perfect host!



The next day the tours continued as the club enjoyed several more local wineries

NEXT CLUB MEETING

**THURSDAY, January 26, 2006
8:00 P.M.**

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

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

December 9 ————— PCNC Christmas Party (Diane Dean)

February 5 ————— PCNC Super Bowl Party (Roger Sharp)

REMINDER — NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE BY 15th OF EACH MONTH

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