



news

www.PanteraClubNorCal.com

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Minutes of Meeting 30 March, 2006

The meeting was called to order by the president at 8:09; the delayed start was due to a few computer glitches with the secretary's laptop. Of the club's officers, Bob Benson, Mark McWhinney and John Hansen were absent; Sharon Renshaw made a rare appearance, as did our former rafflemaster, Larry Stock. There were 27 members in attendance, but due to the inclement weather, there were no De Tomaso cars in the parking lot.

New Members/Guests: There were no new faces in the crowd this month.

Changes To Last Month's Minutes: Darryl Johnson was inadvertently referred to as Darryl

Adams; Darryl Adams is a Mangusta owner from Chicago who periodically visits PCNC meetings and events. Whoops! (Darryl is also an artist; his Pantera drawing is featured at the end of these minutes).

Club Treasury Report: Jim reported that cash from the track event is still coming in, including sponsorship and participant income. Too, Jack DeRyke sold Bill Santos' full collection of back issues of POCA newsletters, *Profiles* and *Pantera International* on E-bay and netted the club an additional \$450.

Club Store Report: John Hansen reported to Gary Kono that this year's club store theme is "stuff from last year" including lots of T-shirts. Attendance at the Fun Rally is expected to be at last year's level, or perhaps slightly higher. Given that this is the 35th anniversary of the Pantera, a tentative T-shirt design by Todd Glycer was passed around. Several people noted that the design featured a Pantera emerging from Alejandro De Tomaso's left nostril, and thus it received a very mixed review! Close, but not quite there yet....

Club Membership Report: Russ reported that with the formation of a new Pacific Northwest POCA chapter, PCNC suddenly experienced a sudden drop in their membership, as all of our Washington/Oregon members have understandably jumped ship.

Club Website Report: As Mark was absent, there was no formal report. However, the latest and greatest information on the Las Vegas event will be posted there, so check it out!

Past Events:

Doug Abadie Motor-Pulling Tech Session: Doug Abadie and Kay Schwartz were both present, and gave a short account of the small tech session they hosted at their house in Berkeley (covered in depth in an article in last month's newsletter). Doug wanted to publicly thank those who participated, and made note of what a terrific club we have!

Upcoming Events:

Pre-Las Vegas Tech Session — 22 April: Roger and Pam Sharp will once again open their homes to us and host the traditional pre-Vegas tech session. Larry Stock will be attending and will be bringing many parts down from Reno, but if you have any specific jobs in mind, please contact him ahead of time to ensure that he brings the parts you need. You must pre-coordinate for air conditioning service, otherwise he will not bother dragging his stash of R-12 and R-134.

Note that there is a new exit at Bailey Blvd. off Hwy 101; this exit will save several minutes over the previous route from Bernal Road. See the flyer elsewhere in this newsletter for a map and more information.

Las Vegas Fun Rally — May 3-7: The deadline for making your hotel reservations was March 30th; after that date, all the POCA rooms remaining unsold were returned to the hotel, and you will have to fend for yourself. However, Kent Snyder may know of upcoming cancellations, so if you have failed to make your reservations already, contact Kent and see what he can do for you.

Be advised when making your hotel reservations that the rates have gone up quite a bit, so be sure to shop around.

Due to the ongoing inclement weather, and the fact that Marcus Smith has to go out of town the week of the Las Vegas event, the convoy routing will instead be the same as last year's. The main party will be leaving the South Bay area on Tuesday morning at 9:00 a.m., and heading east to rendezvous with central valley members on Hwy 99. The rendezvous point is yet to be determined; contact Diane if you are considering joining the convoy from other than the starting location.

Our lunch stop will probably be in Visalia; we are still waiting to hear if Rich James will be hosting us again. We will be spending the night at the Kernville Inn. Be sure to mention AAA DISCOUNT as opposed to PCNC in order to get the numbah-one good deal of \$82.10 per night (same as last year). You must phone the hotel at (760) 376-2206 to make your own reservations.

Gary Kono will be in charge of the group that will be leaving on Wednesday morning for Las Vegas, driving straight through to arrive Wednesday evening. Contact Gary if you want to link up with that bunch.

Among the events planned for the Fun Rally is a tour of the Thunderbirds facility at Nellis AFB on Friday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. Due to greatly heightened security measures, anyone planning on taking part in the tour *must* have their names in to Kent Snyder no later than **Friday, 21 April**. After that date, the Air Force will no longer allow any people to be added to the tour list.

Las Vegas Speed Trials — May 4-5: Larry Finch is fine-tuning the track event arrangements. Sponsorship is up, and participant signups are also solid; we are very close to breaking even. All the information on the event can be found on the club's website. The track event program has been printed and mailed to Kent Snyder for him to stuff into the event packets; all the required safety forms, waivers etc. have been printed and mailed to the Pucketts.

Lodi Wine & Chocolate Tour — 13 May: Greg Jacobs has volunteered to organize a scenic drive through the eastern Bay Area, culminating in wine tasting, lunch and a tour of a chocolate factory in Lodi. This is not specifically a PCNC event, but instead is open to all comers. See the flyer elsewhere in this newsletter.

Silver State Classic Challenge — 18-19 May: From a high of 19 Panteras signed up to participate in this epic event, the number has dropped to 14, but there is still time to sign up!

Restomods In Reno Car Show — 28 May: Mustangs Plus, the area's largest Mustang parts dealer, is hosting a weekend event in Reno, including a big car show; they have created a Pantera class. You can find out more about it at www.mustangsplus.com

Vintage Mustang Owners Association Car Show — 17 June: The VMOA is holding a car show at De Anza college in Sunnyvale, and they have created a special class just for Panteras and other De Tomaso vehicles. See their website at www.norcal-saac.org for more information.

Reno/Tahoe Fun Rally — 7-11 June: The Reno/Tahoe Pantera Club will again be hosting a fun rally high in the Sierras; Harrah's hotel is once again the hosting facility. All the details will be announced in the May POCA newsletter; among the planned events are a dyno day, Go-Kart racing, a tour of a large private car collection, and more.

Monterey Historics Races/Concorso Italiano — 17-20 August: Registration for the Los Laureles Lodge has been opened up to all POCA members. A \$100 deposit is required to hold

your room; the event costs are still being worked out but will likely be very similar to last year. We only have 22 rooms available to us, and 17 of them are already reserved!

One of the themes of the Concorso Italiano is the 35th anniversary of the Pantera, so it stands to reason that there will be a higher-than-normal number of De Tomaso devotees present, so plan accordingly!

Buy/Sell/Swap:

New Products From Pantera Parts Connection: Larry Stock has been busy over the winter. Among his new products are brand new Brembo replacement rear brake rotors, w which are both vented and drilled. He is also having new GT5-style wheels made, with rear wheels in both 17- and 18-inch. He will have a complete 17-inch Campy clone wheel package available for \$2315, including tires! He also has tooled up to produce a billet aluminum water bottle bracket.

News, Clues and Rumors:

Ford OEM Speed Sensor: Larry Finch found an OEM Ford speed sensor for fuel injection systems that bolts directly up to our ZF gearboxes. Sourced from England, it is actually for European Fords including the U.S.-market Ford Mondeo. Larry has the part number available; once armed with that, you should be able to get one at your local Ford dealer, or your neighborhood junkyard.

What A Blast!: At the Fresno Autorama, a fellow named Randy Grubbs saw Larry Finch's Pantera shirt and called him over to chat. Randy owns a Pantera, but his claim to fame is that he is the builder of Jay Leno's Blastolene Special, a monster car powered by a 1200-horsepower Continental engine from an M-47 Patton tank!

Curious VIN?: Chuck Melton told the crowd that he has been conversing with a fellow back east who is in the process of trying to buy a Pantera. It is purportedly a 1974 model, but has a very unusual VIN, something in the 8464 neighborhood. Mainstream Pantera production stopped at No. 7500 and the VIN sequence resumed at 9000, but the factory did build a few special, one-off cars with random numbers in the 8000-range.

POCA Members Welcome PCNC Folks To Their Garages: Garth Rodericks found himself travelling on business, and was fortunate enough to hook up with a few POCA members. Sean Korb, a mega-computer-dork bachelor in North Carolina, invited Garth over to visit his collection of a half-dozen cars, including a very scruffy but well-loved Pantera. Sean's claim to fame is the Suprang, a '65 Mustang coupe completely fitted with fully independent suspension ripped out of a wrecked late-model Toyota Supra! Garth was also able to visit Curt March in Pittsburgh on the same trip.

Meanwhile, Mike Drew's C-5 broke down (surprise!) outside Salt Lake City; that very day, Johnny Woods from England had sold one of his work platforms to a fellow named Brooke Pitt in Utah, and Mike was responsible for arranging for the shipping. Come to find out that the buyer was in the next town over, so he picked up Mike from his hotel and they spent the afternoon together.

Brooke works as a full-time caretaker for a wealthy fellow's extensive car collection; both Brooke and the collection owner own Panteras. In fact, of the 40+ cars in the fellow's collection,

the Pantera is among his top three favorites and is the car he drives most often!

Larry Stock Show-And-Tell: After regaling his kindergarten classmates with tales of the Pantera, Larry Stock's son Richard summoned Larry for a command performance (with his car) for his class show-and-tell. The kids were blown away by the car; next week Larry will be returning to tell the kids all about the medieval castle he built when he was a teenager (really! Check it out at <http://film.rubelcastle.com>)

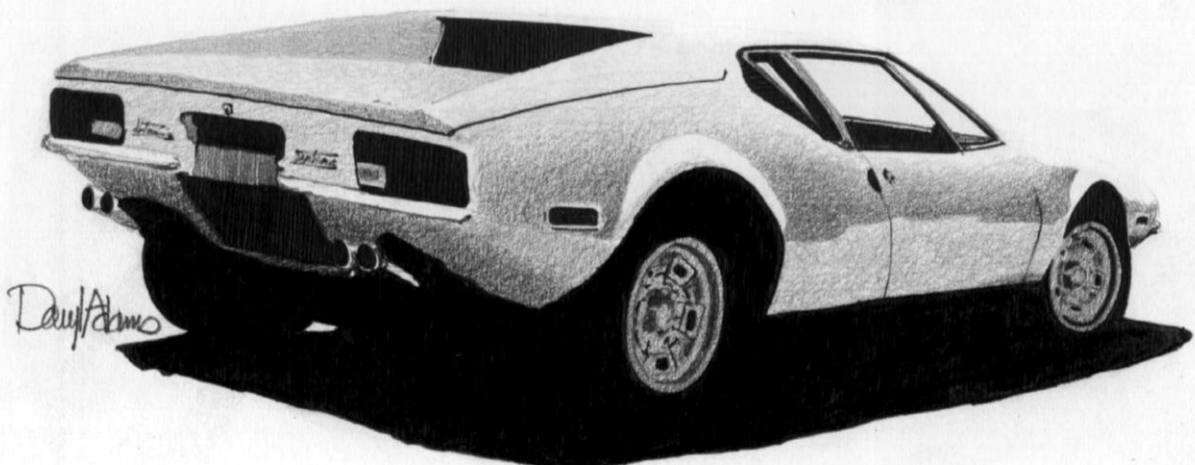
Happy Birthday To Brett: At the appropriate time, a birthday cake with candles was wheeled out for Brett Santos; everybody then got a slice as the raffles got underway.

Driving For Dinner Raffle: Due to the inclement weather there were no De Tomasos in the parking lot, and thus no raffle winner

Raffle Results: Brett put down his cake long enough to assist Roger with passing the hat, with the following results:

Cordless drill — Jim Kuehne
12v powered drink cooler — Peter Kovacs
Hand wipes — Jim Kuehne
Squeegee — Peter Kovacs
De Tomaso polo shirts — Rich Boschert, Bob Lucas, Gary Kono
Window de-icer — Gary Kono
Windex — Rich Boschert
Wine — Steve Liebenow, Ken Levin

The meeting adjourned at 9:45, but thanks to the driving rain, people avoided the parking lot and instead chose to remain indoors to chat!



Membership News

New Members for April:

All the potential new members must be on vacation, because we have no new members this month. Where is everyone?

April Membership Anniversaries:

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

Mike Drew: seventeen years

Lee Scales: sixteen years

Tom & Autumn Padula: eleven years

Axel Rolf: eleven years

Lee & Heide Hinckley: ten years

Russell Orzel & Ann Grigsby: seven years

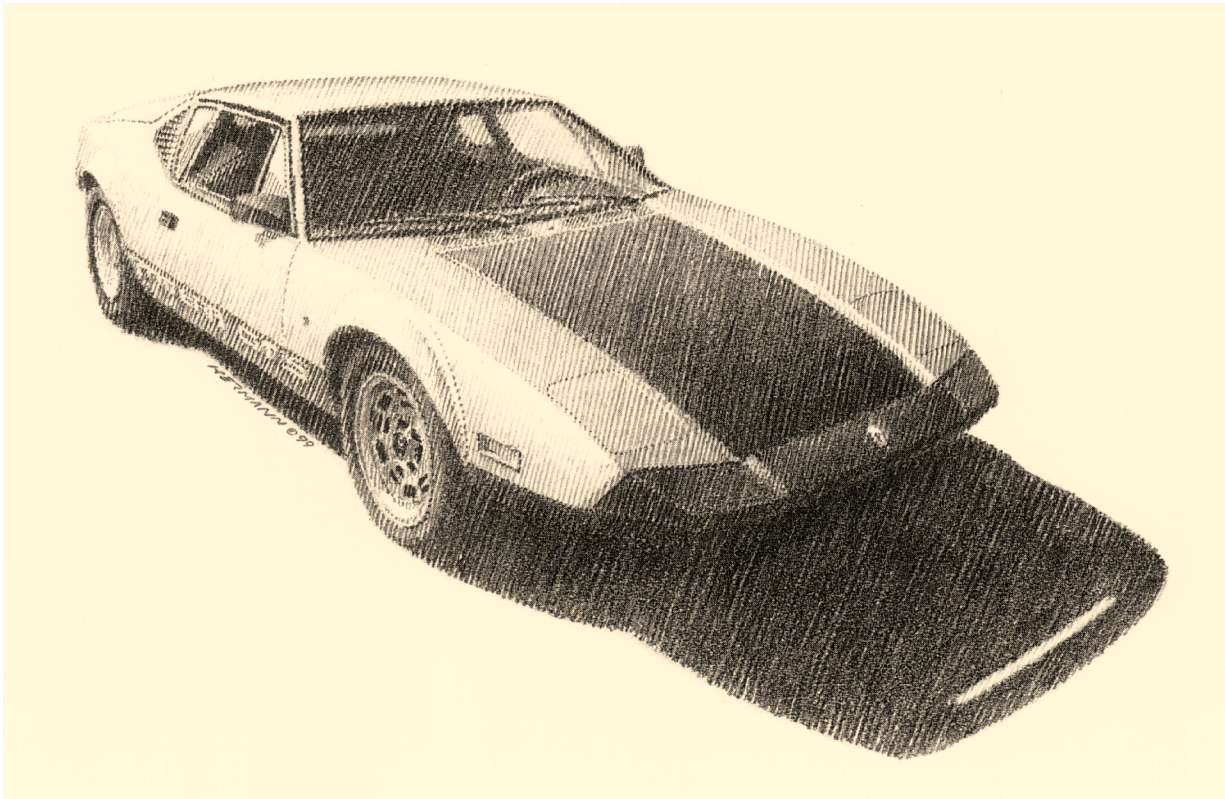
Perry & Brigit Strongin: six years

Michael Anderson: five years

Richard & Debbie Golino: two years

Scott Martin: two years

Wayne & Sharon Okubo: two years



Lodi Wine & Chocolate Tour

I am getting together a driving event on May 13th in Lodi, CA. The plan is to either meet directly at the final destination or join a savage few on a pre-drive tour and end up at the same location.

For the driving crowd, we will be meeting in Concord at the Donut Derelicts site:

Renaissance Café
5100 Clayton Rd
Concord, CA 94521-3139

We will meet at 8am and get on the road by 8:30am. I have a route that will ensure twisties and some wide open straights with an expected arrival time at the Jewel Winery @ 11am to meet up with the others.

Event overview:

We will be visiting the Jewel Winery located on Woodbridge Rd @ 11am. They have a great friendly staff, lots of parking (we will be just outside the tasting room on display), and fabulous quality wine. We have options to use their outdoor area for lunch if weather permits. They are planning to put a either a hot lunch or gourmet sandwich lunch together for us depending upon the expected turnout at ~\$15 a head. www.jewelwine.com

If we are up for two wineries, Woodbridge Winery is just down the way. The two are fun to compare and contrast because they are so different in bottle production and size! Woodbridge has a FANTASTIC tour as well. Usually about 30-45 minutes, their tour guides always have lots of stories to tell. www.woodbridgewines.com

Our final destination will be the Chocoholics Chocolate Factory, located just outside of Lodi, in Clements. They have a great gift shop, chocolate and gourmet coffee shop and viewing area of the chocolate factory. They also give dessert tours which include a home-made dessert to-die-for! www.gourmetchocolate.com/tours.aspx

If you are interested in attending please let me know in the next week. I need to put down a 50% deposit at the winery for the lunches. Please feel free to forward this on to anyone you like. This is not a closed event. All are welcome!

Thanks!

Greg Jacobs — (925) 372-5968
greg.jacobs@jacobsracing.com

***Note: This is not an official PCNC event.
This information is provided here just as
a courtesy.***

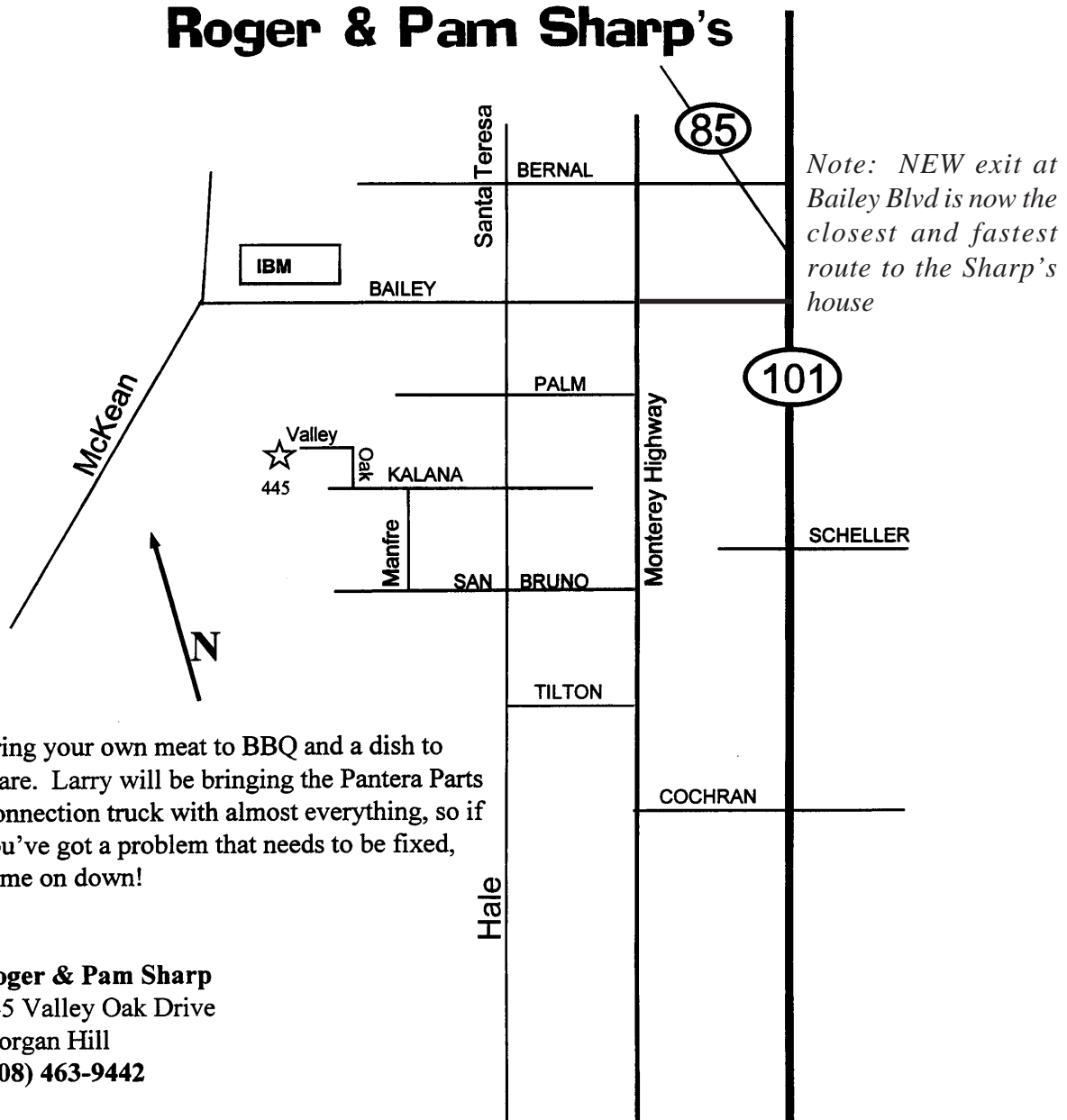
Pantera Club of Northern California *Air Conditioning/Las Vegas* **Tech Session**

Saturday, 22 April, 10:00 a.m. to midnight

This is your last chance to get your Pantera ready for the trek to Las Vegas. Priority on the lifts and in the service bays will be provided to those planning on driving their Panteras to the POCA Fun Rally.

This will also serve as a tech inspection site for those entering their cars in the Las Vegas Speed Trials.

Roger & Pam Sharp's



Bring your own meat to BBQ and a dish to share. Larry will be bringing the Pantera Parts Connection truck with almost everything, so if you've got a problem that needs to be fixed, come on down!

Roger & Pam Sharp
445 Valley Oak Drive
Morgan Hill
(408) 463-9442

Leaving for Las Vegas

Tuesday, May 2nd

We will leave Tuesday, May 2nd at 9:00 AM from Morgan Hill, eat lunch in Visalia, sleep in Kernville, then head to Las Vegas the next morning. The route will consist of a combination of freeway and back roads driving.

Our meeting place for a 9:00 a.m. departure will be the parking lot of McDonald's in Morgan Hill. Take the East Dunne Ave Exit off Hwy 101; at exit light turn left, going back over the freeway; at the 2nd traffic light turn left & McDonald's is just behind the gas station on the left. You can see McDonald's from Hwy 101 before reaching the exit.

Central valley owners can rendezvous with the main group somewhere along Hwy 99; contact Diane Dean for the exact time and location.

We are hoping that Rich James will again be hosting us for lunch at his home in Visalia. Members need to RSVP to Diane Dean at (408) 683-4861 so she can keep Rich apprised of how many to expect and prepare for lunch. It is approximately a four hour drive to Rich's house, which would be time for a lunch break. Should Rich be unavailable, we will simply eat somewhere in town.

We will be staying at the Kernville Inn. The rooms with king or double beds are \$82.10 with a AAA discount. You need to make your own reservations at (760) 376-2206.

The sign-up sheets will be available at Saturday's Tech Session, April 22nd at Pam & Roger Sharp's house, and also at the PCNC meeting.

If you cannot make the meeting or tech session but are planning to drive with the group on Tuesday, contact Diane Dean at (408) 683-4861 or DeanDM@sbcglobal.net, so we know whom to wait for Tuesday morning.

Wednesday, May 3rd

A second group will be departing early on Wednesday morning with the intent of driving straight through. Gary Kono will be in charge of this crew; contact him to arrange to join up with the group.

***Note: This is not an official PCNC event.
This information is provided here just as
a courtesy.***

NEXT CLUB MEETING

**THURSDAY, April 27, 2005
8:00 P.M.**

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

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

- April 22 ————— Pre-Las Vegas Tech Session (Roger Sharp)
- May 3-7 ————— Las Vegas Fun Rally (Kent Snyder)
- May 4-5 ————— Las Vegas Speed Trials (Larry Finch)
- May 13 ————— Lodi Wine & Chocolate Tour (Greg Jacobs)
- May 18-19 — Silver State Classic Challenge Open Road Race (Dennis Antenucci)

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



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