



news

www.PanteraClubNorCal.com

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Minutes of Meeting 26 October, 2006

The meeting was called to order by president Gary Kono at approximately 8:10 p.m. All officers were present except for John Hansen, Sharon Renshaw, and Mike Drew (with Steve Liebenow ably filling in). There were 30 members present, and seven Panteras in the parking lot.

New Members/Guests: Although there were no new members present, the club was pleased to welcome back a long-time member, **John Columbero**, who says he was a PCNC member back when Jack DeRyke was a kid! He has been working on his '73 Pantera L since suffering a small incident after a Super Bowl party years ago. The work has been completed to the extent that he was able to drive his car to the meeting. People especially admired the license plate, which is QUIK CAT.

Changes To Last Month's Minutes: During the chaos of the raffle, a few of the raffle winners and prizes they won got mixed up.

Club Treasury Report: Jim opened by saying that Anita (who is taking care of her parents in Oklahoma for the time being), said to say hello and pass her best wishes to the club. Jim reported that we have received all the income associated with the Monterey event, and paid most of the bills, and are still financially healthy.

Club Store Report: Gary reported that he had some PCNC 25th anniversary T-shirts available in most sizes, for only \$15 each.

Club Membership Report: Russ didn't have anything new to report.

Club Website Report: Mark reminded the audience that the PCNC newsletters are available on-line in full, living color.

Past Events:

Comedy Day In The Park: The event was a success, and even had a bit of a tech session associated with it, as Bob Lucas' car broke down and Steve Liebenow McGyvered it back to life. One of the comedians was a blind person, with a guide dog, and he was in the process of getting a new one. He was very thankful for remembering Guide Dogs for the Blind, a charity that PCNC contributes to. See the article elsewhere in this newsletter.

All-Italian Car Show In Alameda: There were no club members in the audience who were at the show; see the article elsewhere in this newsletter.

Tour To The Gentry's: The tour was a success, thanks in no small part to the generosity of Brian and Kathy. Watch for a report in next month's newsletter.

Track Event: Although the hoped-for Pantera participation at the Thunderhill track day fizzled out to only one car, that of Bob Benson, several other club members made the trek up there to watch and cheer him on. One Corvette driver in particular was deeply surprised by the speed of Bob's car; he looked in his mirror and saw Bob behind him, then looked again and he was gone. He figured that he had just blown Bob away, but the next thing he knew, he looked out his windshield and saw Bob in front of him and pulling away!

Upcoming Events:

November PCNC Meeting — 30 November: Traditionally, the November PCNC meeting is held a week early due to the conflict with Thanksgiving. However, this year is unusual in that there are five Thursdays in the month, with Thanksgiving falling on the fourth one. So the monthly meeting will be held on the last Thursday of the month at the usual place and time.

PCNC Christmas Party — 8 December: The party will once again be held on Friday night, December 8th at the Crown Plaza Cabana Room in Palo Alto. There is a flyer elsewhere

in this newsletter, and the same flyer will also be mailed to each household to ensure that spouses and calendar-keepers who don't always read the newsletter get a chance to see it! There will be three choices for dinner, and rooms can be reserved in the hotel for \$99 per night. Among the raffle prizes will be a \$1500 vacation giveaway for a trip to Hawaii or Mexico...or Alviso! Be there for your chance to win!

Superbowl Party — 4 February: The traditional first event of the year will be held in conjunction with the Super Bowl at the home of Roger and Pam Sharp. Watch for a flyer in next month's newsletter.

Club Business:

Proposed Bylaws Change: A vote was taken among those present, and Russ hastily tabulated the results like a madman (incorporating the mail-in ballots he had also received). The measure was defeated by almost a 4-1 margin, so the status quo will remain in effect.

2007 PCNC Officer Nominations: Nominations are now open for the 2007 PCNC board positions. The current incumbent officers have indicated they seek to hold their offices, except for president Gary Kono who is hoping somebody else will step to the fore. Please present nominations to Steve Liebenow or Bob Benson.

News, Clues and Rumors:

Mazda Driving Event: Bob Lucas reported on a driving event he attended at Moffat Naval Air Station the previous weekend. Designed to identify drivers with talent and potential (and also to highlight the current range of Mazda products), the event affords attendees the opportunity to sample the latest Mazdas and compete for best time on an autocross course. Some of the attendees were putting down better times than the Mazda team drivers, by a fairly large margin. The event was effective, as Bob was rather seduced by the RX8, with a redline in excess of 10,000 rpm, 50/50 weight distribution...Bob is now thinking either red or black!

Driving For Dinner Raffle: And the winner was

Raffle Results: Roger announced that he was striving to expand the nature of the raffle prizes to have items that appealed to all people, "...more than just a shiny crescent wrench". And the winners were:

Angle Grinder — Brian Bernard
Allen Wrenches — Darryl Johnson
Track T-shirt — Connie Johnson, Tom Galli
T-wrenches — Bob Benson
Circuit tester — Mark Tumbarello
Armour-All Wipes — Mark Tumbarello
WD-40 — Rich Walling
Hand Cleaner and towels — Bob Lucas

The unusually short meeting was adjourned to the parking lot at 9:08 p.m.

Membership News

New Members for November:

John & Cheryl Colombero of San Jose. Well, not exactly new. John and Cheryl are rejoining after an absence of several years. During this hiatus, John had the front end of their yellow '73 Pantera rebuilt after all the sheet metal got rearranged due to stopping too late for someone who stopped too soon. John reported at our October meeting that what started out as an \$8,000 job ended up as over \$20,000. Now that that is behind them, they have more time and money to get back into having fun. Glad to have you back.

Steve Griffin of Morro Bay. Steve owns a black '74 Pantera. Those of us who went on the tour to the Gentrys' had a chance to meet Steve and see his beautiful car. Steve has owned a Lotus or two in the past, and although a Lotus may be nimble, it certainly lacks the sheer torque of a 351 Cleveland. He is quite pleased with that and is busy taking care of the few remaining cosmetic items he hasn't gotten to. They must be relatively small items because the car really was looking good. Steve, we hope to see you at one of the upcoming tech sessions. See you soon.

November Membership Anniversaries:

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

Rod Pack: 25 years

Erik Belter: 14 years

Mike & Cheryl Harper: 12 years

Keith & Cindy Gilmore: 9 years

George & Rose Selby-Hele: 8 years

Jason Eaton: 7 years

Mike & Lisa Stauber: 5 years

Byron & Jean Hight: 18 years

Roger & Elana Thomas: 13 years

Ken & Beth Ingels: 10 years

Steve & Linda Bogart: 8 years

Todd Glycer: 8 years

Bob Benson: 5 years

Alex & JoAnn Watson: 1 year

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 >.

PCNC Club Store Charities Vote

By Russ Britschgi

It is time again for you, the members of PCNC, to decide which charities should be the recipients of the chapter's benevolence funds. The benevolence fund is derived from a set percentage of the gross revenues received from the club store sales at the Las Vegas Fun Rally.

A ballot will be available at our November meeting for you to make your selections. The benevolence funds will be divided equally between the two with the most votes.

Six of the following seven charities have received donations from PCNC in the past. There will be a blank space for write-in charities. The charities are:

New Horizon School for Homeless Children: (A donation was made in 2004 and '05.)

This charity was new last year. It is located in Santa Cruz and serves the needs of those kids whose parents may be out of work and out of a home in the areas of Santa Cruz and Watsonville. For children, homelessness is well beyond their control. They are the ones who suffer the most and understand the least.

Beating the Odds Scholarship Fund: (Placed on our list for the first time three years ago.)

Beating the Odds is a scholarship fund for high school seniors or college freshmen. All recipients must be either on government assistance or living below the poverty line. Other guidelines for selection are: character references, lack of family support, a 3.0 or better grade point average, have fallen through the cracks, parents cannot be professionals or managers, and parents cannot have attended college.

In general the fund hopes to address the needs of students who have the talents and desire to further their education but do not have the financial backing from their families.

Canine Companions: (A donation was made in 1996, '01 and '05.)

Based in Marin County, this organization provides dogs trained to assist people with what for most of us is just normal living. These dogs may be used by paraplegics or quadriplegics for such tasks as opening doors or for retrieving items that have been dropped. They may serve as the ears for someone who cannot hear such things as doorbells and audible warning devices.

The American Cancer Society: (Donations were made in 1995, '97, '98, '99', and '00.)

As a national organization, the Cancer Society has long been at the front in the fight against cancer. It is dedicated to the elimination of cancer through prevention, the saving of lives, and the diminishing of suffering through research, education and service. While our small donations may not appear that big when it comes to funding of a research project, it can certainly help to pay for a support group or to supply someone with needed medical equipment. (The 1998 donation was actually made to the cancer research program at Stanford University Medical Center in honor of Ellis Woumm.)

Guide Dogs for the Blind: (Donations were made in 1990, '91, '93, '94, '96, '00, '01, '02 and '04.)

This San Rafael-based charity was incorporated over 55 years ago. It has been breeding, raising

and training dogs to serve as the eyes for blind people ever since. Last year, over 1,000 puppies started the process of learning to assist those without sight.

The Greater Bay Area Make-A-Wish Foundation: (A donation was made in 1998, '99 and '02.)

The Make-A-Wish Foundation was founded in 1980 in response to the wish of a terminally-ill boy who wanted to be a policeman. Officers of the Arizona Department of Public Safety granted Chris Greicius his wish with a custom-made uniform, a helmet, a badge, a ticket book and a helicopter ride. This one child's delight in having his wish come true provided the impetus for the creation of a national organization.

Since the Greater Bay Area Chapter was formed in 1984, well over 1,500 wishes have been granted to kids and children not expected to survive to age 18.

The Bay Area Chapter of the ALS Association: (A donation was made in 2002.)

A few years ago amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, ALS, claimed the life of former PCNC member, Chuck Brown. This cruel disease slowly takes away your ability to walk, stand, use your arms and hands until finally you can't talk or breathe. Its progress is slow and steady. The ALS Association's missions are to find a cure, and to bring hope and comfort to people living with ALS, as well as their families and caregivers. It also provides referral services, support groups, and respite care, and lends equipment.

Summary:

Please give these charities some thought and choose wisely.

Gold Country Brunch Run

Story by Emilia Seiferling

Photos by Jim Seiferling and Mike Drew

Last year our first joint brunch with the Reno/Tahoe Pantera Club was held at the Rainbow Lodge. Jim Nowlin, President of Reno/Tahoe Panteras, organized that event. It was now Capitol Panteras' turn to arrange this year's brunch. The goal was to find a good restaurant with adequate parking equidistant between Reno and Sacramento, which was a real challenge. We chose the Nevada Queen Inn in Nevada City, California as the location for our second joint brunch!

The Sunday of the outing found the weather to be much cooler than it had been, i.e. perfect. The expected high was in the mid-80s.

Part of the Capitol Panteras group was to meet at Mimi's in Sacramento and then head out to the restaurant. We left home in our newly purchased Pantera (from Howard Renshaw III) and drove there along a road that gently meanders along the Sacramento River from Antioch in the South to Sacramento in the North. The sky was clear blue and the Sacramento River was like glass, due to the absence of the usual Delta Breeze.

We were the first car to arrive at Mimi's, and soon we were joined by PCNC President Gary Kono and his wife Mary Ann. We now had two Panteras. We waited to see who would arrive next. Tom and Kathy Vona arrived



Jim Seiferling

The parking lot saw the members of PCNC, Reno/Tahoe Panteras and Capitol Panteras mingling among the cars

in their Corvette. Their Pantera did not get out of the shop on time to drive to Nevada City. The next to arrive was Mike Drew; due to engine problems with his Cobra, he was in the "Scirocco of Doom". It was making an awful noise when the brakes were applied. The guys tried to check it out as best they could in the parking lot of Mimi's. The general consensus was that it was a stone caught in the backing plate of the braking system, and thus it was safe

to drive. (The stone soon fell out).

A few other club members arrived in their daily drivers. We exchanged a few cell phone numbers, and every driver got a map that Jim had prepared. We were now about 15 minutes behind schedule and ready to depart.

Our mixed caravan headed out with Jim in the lead; Highway 80, to Highway 49, to Highway 20. This was not an exciting drive but the traffic was flowing smoothly and no one got sepa-



Mike Drew

All three clubs were represented in the parking lot with Panteras of various descriptions

rated from the group.

Once in Nevada City, it was a simple exit and a short trip to the Nevada Queen Inn. There was a large parking lot that wrapped around the Inn and restaurant. We followed it to the very back looking for other Panteras. We found them all parked together in the furthest back lot. The Reno/Tahoe group had arrived a few minutes earlier, and they had all driven their Panteras!

We were also joined by Capitol Panteras member Greg Armitage. Greg drove over from his home in Penn Valley in his BMW. His Pantera has been in pieces for years, but he got motivated to attend club events after bumping into a few of us in Monterey. Greg was unable to stay for lunch, but wanted to say hello to everyone.

The last of the Capitol Panteras members to arrive was Henry Kirk and Karen Kimbel, who had made the arrangements with the restaurant. Henry had his Pantera. They had planned to arrive earlier, but that was not to be.

While the group chatted and inspected cars, we were joined by Lamar and Toni Fairchild of Placerville. Lamar is our newest POCA recruit.

Mike Drew met him in the Long Beach airport the week before. Lamar's son noticed the De Tomaso logo on Mike's shirt. You can all imagine the rest. Lamar's show-quality Pantera is almost roadworthy. The recent diagnosis of a wheel bearing/axle problem has the car waiting for repairs.

One more couple joined us just before we walked to the restaurant. Friends of Tom and Kathy, from their Corvette Club. They live in the area and were free to join us for lunch. The more the merrier!

Although Larry Stock's Pantera was in the lot, he was nowhere to be seen. He and his son Richard had gone for a ride on the antique train, and they joined us later.

We made our way to the Trolley Junction Restaurant in the Nevada Queen Inn, where they gave us a private room for our lunch. All 23 of us were seated at one table! I think the restaurant did a fine job for such a large group. They did not restrict our menu choices. We were able to order off the regular menu.

Despite the large portions, some people managed to save room for dessert! The common justification for des-

sert was "I'm not eating for the rest of the day". The restaurant didn't even have a problem with doing separate checks!

There was lots of conversation and sharing of Pantera information between everyone. The only quiet time was when everyone was eating. This was the first time since we joined POCA that we had been at a day event with three POCA Chapter Presidents in attendance. By chance, all three were seated in a row at the table! The lunch ended with thank you's to Karen for organizing the lunch. We hope that this will become an annual event with the Reno/Tahoe Panteras and PCNC as well.

The 115-mile drive home went well. Jim decided to take a different route home. We wanted to avoid the afternoon traffic in the Roseville area of Highway 80. We went home via Highway 20 to Marysville, then Highway 70 south to I-5. The traffic flowed well for most of the drive, only the occasional "Sunday Driver" slowed us down. Gary and Mary Ann caravanned with us to Sacramento, then we parted company.

Without functional AC, we drove with the windows down. The resultant airflow loosened the head liner on the driver's side. Add one more thing to Jim's to-do list. It was a good test for the Recaro seats. Jim's back did fine. My back was a bit sore after we got home. So the debate over which seats to keep is not yet settled. Will it be the Recaros or the C4 Corvette seats? A couple more longer trips may still be necessary to decide on which seats to finally install.

We hope to have even more people and cars at the third annual joint Capitol Panteras - Reno/Tahoe Pantera Brunch Run next year! What better excuse can there be to get out and drive your Pantera?



Jim Seiferling

Everyone was seated at one long table for the delicious luncheon

All-Italian Car Show

*Story by Mike Haney
Photos by Emilia Seiferling*

Nancy and I successfully made it to down to Alameda for the All-Italian car show, which is staged by the Alfa Romeo club and is a benefit for the Alameda Special Olympics. I say successfully since her Pantera had only been out of the garage once since I re-worked its brake lines and put a new clutch slave cylinder in it. I installed a standard-throw unit, but Nancy was surprised that it took so much less effort than the old one. I guess the old one had deteriorated more than we had thought. Nancy's car ran fine, and definitely sounds better with the extra plates in its Supertrapp mufflers.

We met Capitol Pantera members Jim and Emilia Seiferling at Red Top Road just off of Highway 80 and caravanned down to Alameda. In Vallejo we saw an old Fiat sedan getting on the highway, followed closely by a 348 Ferrari. I figured the Fiat needed a reliable chase car, but they arrived soon after us, with the Fiat park-



Jim and Emilia used their decklid for their picnic table!

ing next to Jim's Pantera. We arrived at the show site to be directed into the formation of Italian cars, which were arranged in a starburst pattern with an open center with red, white and green flags.

There were five Panteras in total, including a couple which we hadn't seen before, belonging to Gary Glenn and Carl Schackelford. Steve and Mary Dalcino brought theirs, although we didn't even see them until after lunch.



Gary Glenn's Pantera is equipped with 17-inch Mustang Cobra R wheels



Carl Schackelford chats with Gary Glenn and another fellow behind his beautiful Pre-L Pantera

Lunch was an Italian pasta, sausage, salad, and garlic bread meal, which only cost \$6. That seems the proper meal for the all Italian car show!

Emilia counted about 50 motorcycles, mostly Ducatis and Moto Guzzis. Doug Abadie rode his mostly-legal Ducati 996 SPS since his Pantera is still awaiting the Donovan transplant from his perished Corvette.

The star of this year's show was a beautiful Ferrari 250 Pininfarina coupe. Nancy really liked the fact that it had a very nice patina and wasn't overly restored. There were lots of Maseratis (including a Bora and a Ghibli coupe), Ferraris, Fiats, Lancias—actually quite a few Zagato-bodied Fulvias, and of course lots of Alfas.



Nancy's Pantera, freshly equipped with a new clutch slave cylinder and brake lines, and extra plates in the SuperTrapp mufflers, ran just beautifully

Two cars showed up that I thought were noteworthy—a late model Alfa Spider (which weren't officially imported to the US), and a late-model Fiat Barchetta. I have seen the Spiders in Italy and I have heard of late-model Alfa Spiders getting Federalized (and one story of a gray-market converter going to jail), but I had never seen the Fiat up close. They both looked really great and I have to wonder why Fiat never bothered to import them. I believe that they would have sold very well, having much more character than the Miata.

Next year the car show will celebrate its 20th year, and will feature Zagato. I hope that the beautiful Zagato-bodied Maserati A6G we saw last year will show up again.

Comedy Day In Golden Gate Park

Story by Mark McWhinney

Photos by Garth Rodericks

Comedy Day is an annual event in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park with dozens of stand-up comedians performing on stage for the public. Of course, as all PCNC members and owners of other 30 year old Italian exotics know, comedy and car repair involve a lot of standing around, cursing, and beer drinking, so it is only natural that we put a comedy stage and a car show side by side. Um, OK, stay with me on this one.

This year's Comedy Day was held on October 1st. As in years past, we began the day with a caravan up the Peninsula starting at the Trader Joe's parking lot near Bill Santos's house. With Bill there in spirit and Brett there in person, we met up with several Panteras and a Mangusta. Greg Jacobs even drove down from Concord for run with the caravan. Naturally, we drew a number of onlookers and turned old men into teenagers.

Instead of bringing my Pantera this year, I drove the support truck. (Well, actually I have not gotten around to fixing my Pantera's radiator fan wiring that went up in smoke in Las Vegas.) However, as we would later find out, the support truck came in handy.

At the appointed time, we lit up the Cleveland's and headed up the road. Half way up, we stopped by the Father

nose the ignition problem and save the day.

Using various bits from the support truck and his MacGyver skills, Steve was able find that the Mallory ignition box was getting only 9.3 volts. The Malloy units get real finicky if they are not served up 12



The group met at the rest area on Hwy 280



Once at the park, they were joined by several other Panteras

Junipero Serra rest stop where we picked up Todd Glycer in his yellow Pantera and had an impromptu parking lot show. We then rolled into Golden Gate Park for placement and set up.

Several other Panteras joined us at the park along with a few farm-animal logo Italian exotics.

When Bob Lucas (no *known* relation to the Price of Darkness) tried to start his car to reposition it in the field, the starter would spin, but the engine would not catch. Of course, we sprang into action and headed over to the open bar. Fortunately, Steve Liebenow and Roger Sharp were there to diag-

volts, unlike the Ford Duraspark boxes which can run on the electrical equivalent of fumes.

Finally, after much discussion including input from the homeless wandering around the park, the executive decision was made to bypass the wiring by running a lead directly from the positive terminal of the battery directly to the small red wire. With a fire brigade holding various bits of wire along the length of the Pantera, Steve under the car holding the wires together, and Bob in the car turning the key, we got it started. We then headed over to join the others.

As in years past, we were given back stage passes to mingle with the comedians and get food and drink. We also had a special VIP section with director chairs in front of the stage. This year there were no big name comedians like Robin Williams last year, but we had a great day of entertainment and camaraderie.



Steve Liebenow saved the day for Bob Lucas, whose ignition system didn't want to ignite anymore

PCNC CHRISTMAS PARTY & AWARDS BANQUET

- WHEN*** *Friday, December 8, 2006, 7:00 till 11:00*
Hors d'oeuvres available prior to dinner
- LOCATION*** *Crown Plaza Cabana Palo Alto*
4290 El Camino Real, Palo Alto, CA 94306
(650) 857-0787
- DRESS*** *Holiday Dressy*
- COST*** *\$50/Per Person (Make checks payable to PCNC)*
- MENU CHOICES*** *- Grilled Breast of Chicken w/ Spicy Mango Salsa*
- Baked Filet of Salmon w/ Creamy Mushroom*
Duxelles & Proscuitto Wrapped in Pastry Puff
- Grilled Filet Mignon w/ Green Pepper Corn*
Brandy Sauce
- OVERNIGHT*** *Crown Plaza rate of \$99, same as last year. Please*
identify yourself from the Pantera Club
- QUESTIONS*** *Diane Dean (408) 683-4861 or deandm@sbcglobal.net*

RSVP'S BY DECEMBER 3, 2006

Make Checks payable to PCNC, and mail to
Diane Dean, 815 W. San Martin Ave, San Martin, CA 95046

Don't forget to include your menu choices when making your reservation!

NEXT CLUB MEETING

**THURSDAY, November 30, 2006
8:00 P.M.**

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

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

November 30 ————— PCNC Monthly Meeting

December 8 ————— Christmas Party (Diane Dean)

February 4 ————— Super Bowl Party (Roger Sharp)

REMINDER — NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE BY 15th OF EACH MONTH

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