



news

www.PanteraClubNorCal.com

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No Meeting Minutes!

Due to the fact that there was no monthly PCNC meeting in December, there are no minutes to report, and thus (hopefully!) no corrections that will have to be made in next month's newsletter!

The club's first event will be the annual Super Bowl party and tech session held at Roger and Pam Sharp's house in Morgan Hill; see the flyer elsewhere in this newsletter for all the details.

Here's looking to a great 2010!

Membership News

New Members for January:

Charles and Nancy Rosebrook of San Mateo. They own a white very early '71 Pantera complete with pushbutton doors and a flat decklid. Charles is into muscle cars from the '60s and '70s. Yes, Steve, he even has a Cougar. They have owned their Pantera for a couple of years and Charles wants to do some work on it to bring it up to snuff. But besides the technical benefits of joining PCNC, they are also interested in trips, rallies and the social aspects of membership. Welcome to PCNC, and I think you both will fit right in.

January Membership Anniversaries:

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

Philip Miller: sixteen years

Steve and Linda Liebenow: twelve years

Terry and Sheri Morofsky: nine years

Gerald and Carole McGinness: six years

Chris McAllister and John Dilena: five years

Diane Silven and Greg Taylor: two years

Chuck and Lori Banks: one year

Barry and Kimberlee Muller: thirteen years

Curt Hall: nine years

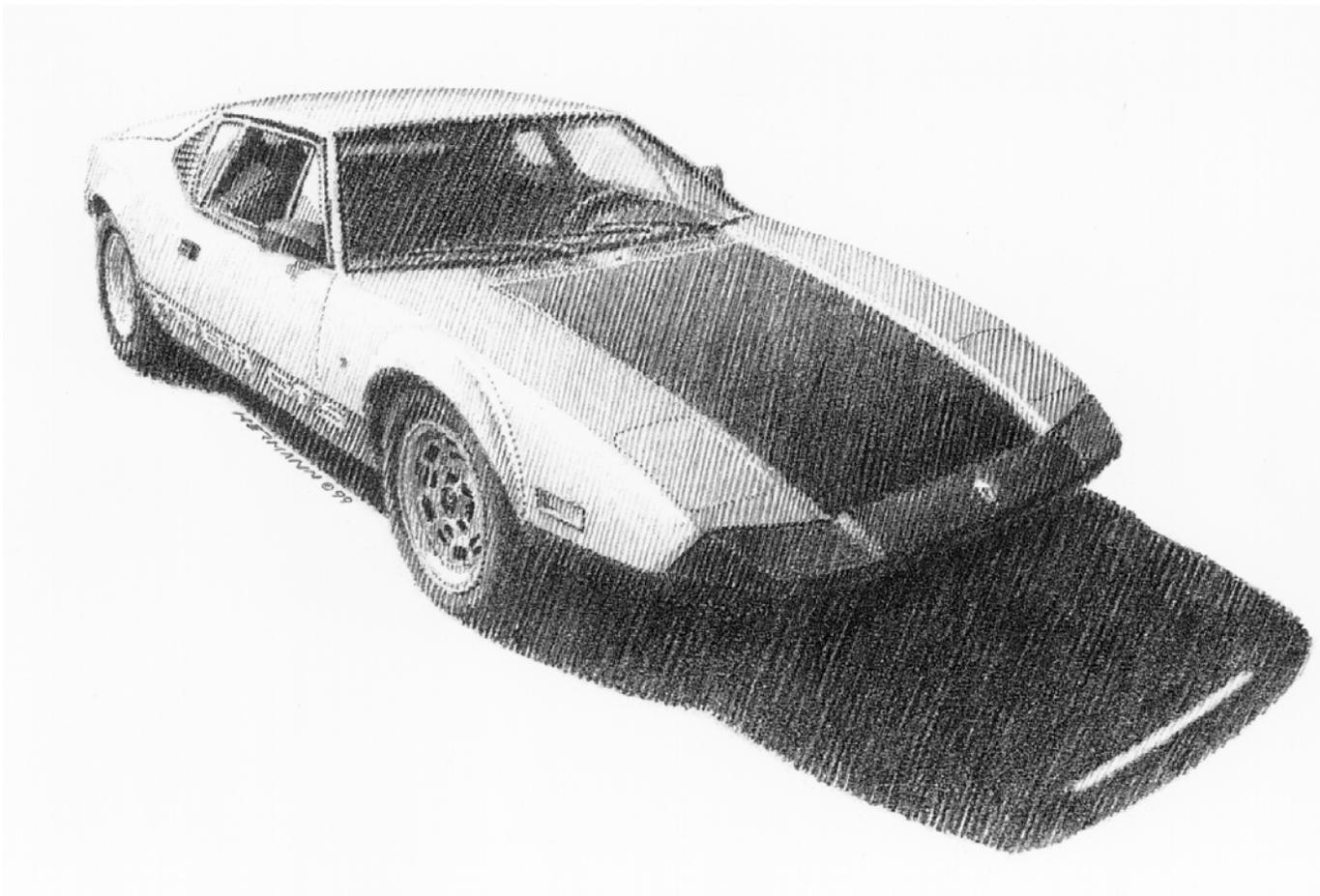
Lincoln Auperin: six years

Joel and Sheryl Montero: six years

Jay Leone: four years

Richard and Beverly Traxler: two years

Steve and Huyen Cichy: one year



Annual Membership Report December 31, 2009

Number of Memberships December 31, 2008.....	150
Number of Memberships received in 2009.....	10
Number of Memberships removed in 2009.....	< 15 >
Number of Memberships December 31, 2009.....	145
Net Membership loss in 2009.....	< 5 >

Annual Mailing List Status Report December 31, 2009

Of the one hundred sixty-two mailings of our December newsletter, one hundred forty-five were to members, nine were to suppliers (who have supported our Annual Christmas Raffle or the Track Event), four went to POCA chapter presidents (or assignees), two were to paid subscribers, one was to a POCA officer, and one was "other".

Russ Britschgi
Outgoing PCNC Membership Coordinator

Charities Vote

(2009)

By Russ Britschgi

Usually this is voted is taken at our November meeting, but that didn't happen last year. So at our next meeting you will select the charities to which we wish to make a donation from our 2009 benevolence fund. For 2008 the benevolence fund was set at \$600. The bulk of this fund comes from the club store sales at the Reno Fun Rally. But additional funding comes from the club raffles and other activities.

A ballot will be available at our January 28th meeting for you to make your selections. The benevolence funds will be divided equally between the two with the most votes.

All seven of the charities have

been on the ballot in the past. There will also 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 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.

Alzheimer's Association, Northern California & Nevada: (A donation was made in 2008.)

Alzheimer's is a very slow degenerative disease of the mind for which there is no known cure. It can easily take over ten years for it to run its course and end in death. Alzheimer's is often the subject of humor with jokes about forgetfulness and repetitive actions, etc., but for the victim and those family members and friends who support and care for the victim there is little humor at all.

The Alzheimer's Association serves as a support group for those bearing the burden of caring for and attending to the needs of the victim,

and also as an advocate for funding for research into the cause and the finding of a cure.

Alzheimer's is just one of the forms of premature senility that can start as early as age 40. If you have not yet had experience with these diseases, you will. Perhaps an aunt, an uncle, a friend, a parent, a spouse, or even you.

Canine Companions: (A donation was made in 1996, 2001 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, 2000 and '06.)

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. Cancer can be a slow and insidious disease which puts a great deal of stress on both

the victim and the victim's family and friends. While our small donations may not appear that big when it comes to the 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 Woummn.)

Guide Dogs for the Blind: (Donations were made in 1990, '91, '93, '94, '96, 2000, '01, '02, '04, '06, '07 and '08.)

This San Rafael based charity was incorporated over 60 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, 2002 and '07.)

The Make-A-Wish Foundation was founded as a non-profit organization 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 till finally you can't talk or breathe. Its progress is slow and steady. Both the victim and the family members can see its progress week by week. The ALS Association is the only national not-for-profit voluntary health organization whose sole mission is to find a cure, and to bring hope and comfort to people living with ALS, as well as their families and care givers. It also provides referral services, support groups, and respite care, and lends equipment.

Summary:

Please give these few charities some thought and make your choices wisely.



PCNC's Awards Banquet and Christmas Party

*Story by Russ Britschgi
Photos by Mike Drew*

We did it again. On December 18th PCNC held a superb Awards Banquet and Christmas Party to wrap up yet another year. We've come a long way from the first party I attended almost 25 years ago. Then about a dozen of us gathered in Jim Blackburn's livingroom to sing a few songs after a pot luck dinner. But that was then, and today we dress up (and for some of you guys that is a major improvement from your greasy garage grubbies), we have a private room at a fine restaurant, attendance exceeds the high fifties (that is the number of attendees is over 55, not the age), we hand out awards, we have a raffle with major prizes, and we announce the new officers for the next year.

This year, as last year, the event was held at Trader Vic's / Dinah's Garden Hotel in Palo Alto. The weather was cool but dry so there were no water puddles to splash through from the car to the entry. Garry and Sue Choate, the event planners and organizers for



Sue Choate cheerfully greeted everyone at the door; she and Garry put an enormous amount of work into staging this party!



Rafflemaster and incoming PCNC Membership Chairman Brent Stewart hustles tickets to Mark McWhinney and Randy Welch

this function, must have been there all afternoon because the room was well set up with amazing centerpieces (most of which were car themes) for each table. Also Rafflemaster Brent Stewart had an impressive assortment of raffle prizes displayed at one end of the room. This was the same room we had last year, and it is so enjoyable to not be crowded into some small back room as so many restaurants seem to want to do. This establishment seems to have it just right for our needs, and that is not to mention the availability of the hotel for those who would wish to not drive home after an evening of partying.

The social hour was scheduled to start at 6:30 p.m., and by 7:30 there were 58 Panthera aficionados busy greeting, conversing, mixing, mingling, and generally getting with the

program. Among those spotted early on were Jim and Emilia Seiferling from Capital Panteras along with PCNC members Steve and Merry Dalcino, and Ron and Bobbie DeMaderios. Also in attendance were Forest and Judy Goodhart, Tom Galli and Diane Dean,



Diane Dean and Russ Britschgi, getting into the holiday spirit

and Todd Glycer and Renee LoVette. The Hosier family showed up in force with Barry, Joan and Linda being present. And as long as we are talking families, Lori Albino and son Kai were there. Rumor has it that Kai may soon have his own membership in both POCA and PCNC.

While it was publicized that dinner would be served promptly at 7:30, this did not happen. It was a little after 8:00 before President Garth Rodericks got us seated and the first course was served. Again the food was very good and the steak melted in your mouth. It was about dessert time when Garth got us started on the rest of the evening's activities.

First Rafflemaster Brent Stewart got us in the mood by pitching the sale of more tickets, and then the raffle got down to business. The drawings were done in segments but the net results were like this:

Nancy Haney won a U.S. standard gear wrench set which she will presumably share with Michael but most likely only when he is working on her Pantera. A Pantera-size 42 piece Craftsman tool kit went to Jim Kuehne. The Lucases left with a spa package and gift basket for Dena and a Ford Mustang RC car for Bob. Steve and Linda Liebenow won a PCNC hoodie sweatshirt while



Soon it was time to sit down to a wonderful banquet

Mike Drew won two sweatshirts from PCNC, one with a hood and the other without a hood; he gave one away to Jack Columbero, who had bought a lot of raffle tickets but managed to not buy any winners himself. For the Hosiers,



Jim and Emilia Seiferling, co-presidents for life (or so it seems!) of Capitol Panteras



Each year, Nancy Haney chooses the Christmas party to totally reinvent herself, and this year was no different, as she shed about 15 years with a simple hairstyle change and a big smile!

Joan was the only winner with a set of metric gear wrenches. Roger and Pam Sharp won a Garmin GPS and a Pantera International gift card for clothing, and a \$50 gift certificate from Panteras by Wilkinson went to Randy Welch and Linda Libician-Welch. Larry and Donna Finch now have a Pantera wall clock, a \$50 gift certificate from Panteras by Wilkinson, a set of racing jack stands, a Craftsman U.S. standard wrench set, and a McGuiar's detail kit. Donna will presumably be receiving a cash grant of an equal amount to buy whatever she wants for herself. A cocoa gift basket from Diane Dean was snared by Mindy Mendoza and Tony Blevins.

Russ and Doris Britschgi took home a Craftsman creeper, no less than three gift baskets, a bottle of Benson wine, and a 211-

piece crescent tool set. There's several less excuses for his Pantera not running now! A bit set, a Pantera International gift card for clothing, and a \$50 gift certificate from Panteras by Wilkinson went to Randy Welch and Linda Libician-Welch. Larry and Donna Finch now have a Pantera wall clock, a \$50 gift certificate from Panteras by Wilkinson, a set of racing jack stands, a Craftsman U.S. standard wrench set, and a McGuiar's detail kit. Donna will presumably be receiving a cash grant of an equal amount to buy whatever she wants for herself. A cocoa gift basket from Diane Dean was snared by Mindy Mendoza and Tony Blevins.

Bob Benson got some more bling for his Pantera with a polished stainless steel shift gate from Panteras by Wilkinson. Brent and Beverly Stewart received a Craftsman screwdriver set and a bottle of Comedy Day wine. Brian Bernard and Estela Romo won a \$50 gift certificate from Panteras by Wilkinson and a holiday gift basket. Gary and Mary Ann Kono carried off a Mag-Lite flashlight set, a Nikon camera, and a bit set. Trevor Fougere and Jill Lee took a torque wrench. After buying all those tickets, I'll bet Trevor was really torqued.

Mark McWhinney snagged a set of racing jack stands and some Sharks tickets, Brett Santos and Patty Alveolar took a Santa candy plate, while Ken and Darlene Levin collected a wine basket donated by Diane Dean. This allowed Darryl Johnson and Connie Martin Johnson to take home a Baileys gift basket, a De Tomaso Racing history book, a bottle of Comedy Day wine, and an Apple Nano. Ah, a good book, a bottle of wine, some relaxing music, and some snacks for the gift basket; what more could you ask for?

What more could you ask for, what more could you ask for? Well for example there were the Meltons. Chuck and Suzie cleaned up by taking an 18-piece Craftsman screwdriver set, a bar stool, two De Tomaso posters, a Santa with a bottle of vodka, an Edelbrock 750 carburetor, and a Craftsman roll-away and tool chest set—and that doesn't even count the prizes they won, that they elected to give back to the



Garth Rodericks presented the President's Award to Larry Finch for his hard work as PCNC Motorsports Coordinator

raffle for others to win!

Or there were the Choates. Sue and Garry seemed to have separate piles of tickets and together did quite well with Garry getting a Craftsman rolling seat, an RC airplane, a Craftsman creeper, a Craftsman metric wrench set, and an Emilia Seiferling De

Tomaso afghan. Sue collected a Ferrari RC car, an autographed Sharks hockey stick and puck, a PCNC sweatshirt, and the 42" plasma TV. It was a good day if your last name was Choate!



Mike Drew was a double-winner in the raffle, winning a PCNC sweatshirt—twice!



Garry Choate was a deserved winner of one of PCNC's Most Active Member awards

And as a final giveaway, the centerpieces were raffled off with one each going to Larry and Donna Finch, John and Cheryl Columbero, Mindy Mendoza and Tony Blevins, Garry and Sue Choate, Gary and Mary Ann Kono, Brett Santos, Darryl Johnson and Connie Martin-Johnson, Chuck and Susie Melton, and Lori and Kai Albino.

Interspersed among the raffle segments, awards were given out to the people who helped plan, promote and host the numerous events the club held during the past 12 months, starting with the 2009 Super Bowl Party and ending with this year-end Christmas and Awards party. It is wonderful that the Club officially recognizes all these super people for their time and efforts to make events and activities happen. Without you we would just be a dinner club meeting at a Cocos.

Other awards presented were the Certificates of Appreciation given to the three members who were the most active during the year. Points are awarded to members for hosting events, serving as officers, attending meetings and events, writing articles for our publications, or bringing in new members. At the end of each year the three members with the most points are recognized as being the Most Active. The system is meant to be purely objective and not subjective at all. This year the top three active members were Garry Choate, Richard Boschert and Mike Drew.

Congratulations Garry, Rich and Mike for your participation in PCNC during 2009.

The President's Award is presented each year to the one person selected by the Club President for his or her outstanding efforts to further the Club and/or the De Tomaso automobile. This year President Garth Rodericks selected Larry Finch for his outstanding work in the area of motor sports. It is through Larry's energetic and enthusiastic efforts that the PCNC Track Events at the Las Vegas and Reno POCA Fun Rallies have been the premier motor sports activities for the De Tomaso marque. Fine work Larry, and well-deserved recognition.

And finally, just before his last official act as PCNC President, the closing of the party, Garth announced the results of the officer election for the year 2010. They are: President, Ron DeMaderios; Vice-president, Garth Rodericks; Secretary, Mike Drew; Treasurer, Steve Liebenow; and Mem-

bership Coordinator; Brent Stewart. Congratulations officers; work hard, be faithful to the membership, and have a good time.

With that we closed out another good year in the history of the club, and we look forward to even better times next year, and that starts with the 2010 Super Bowl Party on February 7. See the flyer included in this newsletter. I look forward to seeing you there!



After a successful year in office, Garth Rodericks turned over the PCNC presidency to Ron DeMaderios



The entire group posed for a group photo at the end of the evening

Radiator Tech Session

Story and Photos by Mike Drew

The members of the Pantera Club of Northern California have always worked together to help keep our cars on the road. Over the years we have had numerous tech sessions, some with upwards of 10-15 Panteras being worked on during the course of the day. As a consequence, as the years have passed the overall standard of our cars has been elevated to the point where it's difficult to find anything to do anymore.

So we're always thrilled when a new car appears that has some needs! In this case, it's the '71 Pantera of Lori Albino. Although the car has been in the club for nine years, it never quite received the attention it deserved, until now.

Past tech sessions have seen us attacking various systems, including rebuilding both rear suspension uprights. The car had come quite aways since we first started, but it still had two crucial

failings—it overheated badly, and the headlights didn't work.

The causes were easy enough to discern. The original radiator had been hacked and whacked in an attempt to make it a single-bypass design. It was

visibly tired, leaking, and well past its sell-by date. As for the headlights? Well, both limit switches were missing, which was the first clue as to why they wouldn't go up and down!

Since budget is an issue, tried-and-true technology was sought to alleviate these concerns without breaking the bank. Steve Wilkinson came through, when he gave Lori (for free!) a perfectly good Hall Pantera replacement radiator, and also sold her some used Meriah fans, plus a hose kit and stainless steel pipe kit, and a pair of limit switches.

Suitably armed, we were ready to tackle the projects!

Lori and Kaizer Jr. arrived at Mike Drew's house early in the morning and started to get set up, and one by one, others started arriving. Despite the great weather, only one other Pantera showed up, driven by Markus Woehler. He has owned his Pantera for more than ten years, and his drive from Monterey to Vacaville was the furthest he'd ever been in the car! Unfortunately, along the way, his new speedometer angle



With the radiator removed, Jim Seiferling and Mike Haney worked on straightening out the wiring and fixing the radiator fan and headlight circuits



Steve Dalcino installed new braided steel brake lines, then bled the brakes with Mike's pressure bleeding system

drive failed and his speedo quit. Although he came just to help out with Lori's project, soon he had one of his own to contend with.

With Lori's car in the air, and more and more people arriving, people set to work. Mike served as the site foreman, pointing out necessary tasks and finding volunteers to take them on.

Although this was set up to be a tech session, inside the house a craft fair broke out! Several wives had come along, and set up shop at the kitchen table to manufacture custom Christmas cards. Too,

several came armed with copious quantities of food, and a veritable feast was prepared.

All too soon, the siren song of the nearby outlet stores proved too difficult to resist, and together they piled into several cars and split for a little pre-Christmas retail therapy.

Meanwhile, in the garage, the Sawzall made short work of the under-car water pipes, and crusty old hoses were being removed. The front wheels

were off, and the ancient rubber flexible hoses (one of which had been abraded by the 17-inch Campagnolo replica wheel) were replaced with new braided steel hoses, and then the brake fluid was flushed and the brakes bled.

A team carefully removed the hood, and then lifted the radiator and sucker fans out of the way, along with about 50 pounds of extraneous wiring! Before the new radiator could be installed, Jim Seiferling went to work

with his multimeter and set to the task of installing and hooking up the radiator fans, and fixing the headlight system.

Due to an oversight, new fans had been procured, but the necessary mounting brackets were forgotten. Mike went into one of his spare parts rooms and came out with a perfect pair! This sort of thing was to be repeated again and again throughout the rest of the day....

Meanwhile, Markus' speedometer situation was investigated. The new angle drive had locked up solid, and when it did, it broke the end off the speedometer drive gear. This is a pretty spendy piece (\$300-ish) and is inside the gearbox itself. Markus' furrowed brow was countered by a twinkle in Mike's eye as he dashed back into the house, and came back moments later with a brand new NOS speedo drive gear, still in the original Ford box!

Changing this gear is not a job for the faint at heart. It's secured with a bolt, and if that bolt is removed incautiously, the gear can fall into the gearbox; the only way to get it out is then to remove the gearbox and take it apart!

Armed with a powerful magnet, and vice-grips, and the necessary wrenches, Mike and Markus together



Markus Woehler bravely went where others fear to tread, and replaced his broken speedometer drive gear. This is not a trivial job; get it wrong and the gearbox has to come out!



Lori did her part, putting on a heck of a feed and ensuring the crew was full and happy throughout the day! Next time, she's committed to wrenching!

managed to extract the broken gear without drama, and install the new one.

(Dennis Quella subsequently stood behind the first angle drive he sold, not only replacing it for free, but also providing a replacement speedo gear which is now back in Mike's parts stash).

Back on the lift, Jim was struggling a bit. The headlights would go up and down when power was applied to the appropriate terminals on the motor, and they would turn on and off properly, but they would not raise and lower on their

own, using the switch in the cabin. Aided by Mike Haney, eventually the problem was narrowed down to the headlight motor relay.

This is a fiendishly complicated device, which is really a power routing/reversing component rather than a simple relay. It's a Pantera-specific

part, not the kind of thing you could ever hope to find in an auto parts store. Testing revealed that the one in the car had gone bad.

Furrowed brows all around, until Mike dashed back into his parts room and emerged with not one, but *two* brand new replacements, still in their

original Ford boxes!

With the appropriate relay installed, the headlights operated perfectly, for the first time since the Albinos originally bought the car back in 2000! Who knows how long the prior owner had gone without lights too?

While all that was going on, Markus got a good look at his heater hoses, and a good thing too—they are well past their prime and ready to blow. The hose clamps were rusted solid, so it would have been a large undertaking to try to sort it out. We're going to tackle that shortly, when he gets back from his upcoming deployment to Macedonia.

It was dark by this point, and Jim and Mike stepped aside while others who had been speculating for awhile stepped in to lay the new radiator and fans in place. Hose



Julian Kift drove from Reno and then worked tirelessly on the car, well into the evening. He had this impish grin on his face the entire time!



Mike Haney spent quite some time upside down under the dashboard, finally tracing the headlight problem down to the incredibly complicated headlight motor relay

clamps were tightened, and then a marvelous implement was deployed to fill the system.

This tool uses shop air to place a vacuum on the entire cooling system. Doing so helps to isolate leaks also. With all the air evacuated from the system, a hose is then dropped into a jug of premixed anti-freeze, valves turned, and the fluid is sucked right into the car! Repeated iterations enabled the entire cooling system to be filled, with no air at all in the system, meaning that no bleeding is required! Brilliant!

On initial startup, a minor leak was discovered where the Front End Team thought the Back End Team had tightened the close clamps, and vice-versa. Once that was sorted, the car was started up and allowed to idle as the system was tested.

It heated up to 180 degrees, then one fan kicked on, it cooled down

slightly, and the fan kicked off. The car absolutely refused to even get hot enough to trigger the second fan! In order to test its function, the first fan was disconnected. The temperature then rose to 200 degrees, the second fan kicked on, and it cooled right back down to 180 degrees, and kicked off.

A cooling system simply couldn't be more perfect than this, all accom-

plished without the gimmicks of laid-down aluminum radiators, sucker fans, extra fans, etc. etc. Just simple, stock-style components in proper working order is all that's necessary.

With a great sense of accomplishment, those that remained to the end helped put tools away, and Kaizer Jr. and Lori motored away at about 9:30 p.m. The headlights did a fine job of

showing the way home as the car ran at a steady 180 degrees.

Mission accomplished!

Next up for this car is a clutch change; the car was equipped with a 'racing' clutch that is simply brutal, total overkill. A new diaphragm clutch kit has been procured, and it will be swapped out at the Super Bowl party/tech session. Then (aside from air conditioning, and maybe a 10-quart oil pan) this car will be well and truly done, and Lori will be able to drive it anywhere and everywhere. And she will!



Steve and Markus checked the radiator hoses for possible leaks



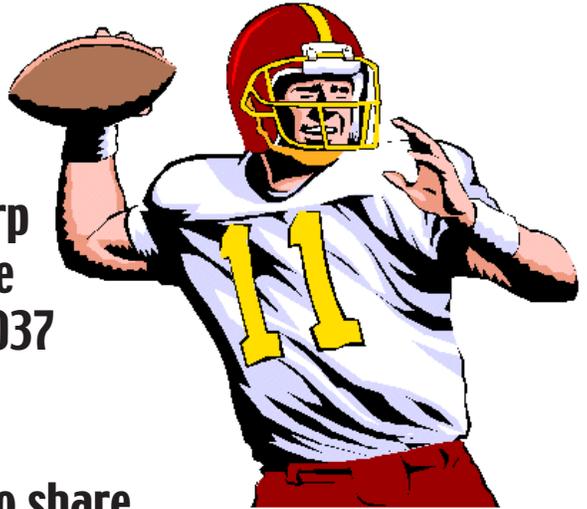
Kaizer and Julian worked together to effortlessly fill the cooling system using an incredible device that relies on vacuum generated by a standard air compressor; it eliminates all air in the system, and hence all need for bleeding!

Super Bowl Party, Chili Feed, and Tech Session

When: Sunday, 7 February
9:00 a.m. to ??????

Where: Roger and Pam Sharp
445 Valley Oak Drive
Morgan Hill, CA 95037
(408) 489-9442

Bring: Drinks, a side dish to share.



The game starts late in the afternoon, but guests are welcome as early as 9:00 a.m. We will be performing a Pantera clutch change, among other tech session



projects.

There will be several different types of chili available. Please bring a side dish to share, and bring your own drinks. A grill will be available if you want to grill your own meat.





Russ Britschgi
143 Carlyn Ave.
Campbell, CA 95008

NEXT CLUB MEETING

**THURSDAY, January 28, 2010
8:00 P.M.**

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

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

February 7 ----- Super Bowl Party/Tech Session (Roger Sharp)

REMINDER — NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE BY 15th OF EACH MONTH