



news

www.PanteraClubNorCal.com

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Minutes of Meeting 26 May, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. on the dot. All officers were present except for Diane Dean, Rich Boschert and Trevor Fougere. There were 13 Panteras in the parking lot! 41 people signed the roster.

New Members/Guests: **Evan Matthews** arrived a bit late, behind the wheel of Peter Kovacs' other Pantera. He owns a tuning shop and has worked on three PCNC cars lately. He spoke briefly about the great back roads in the Hollister area, and tentatively proposed organizing a back roads/winery tour for us.

Kevin Hubby brought his mom, **Angela**, who was slated to accompany him to the Fun Rally in Reno, hoping to get lucky on the slot machines.

Although she had attended the tech session at the Sharp's house, this was the first club meeting for **Lysianne Doute**; her husband Denis attended his first meeting last month. They joined PCNC formally at the meeting.

Changes To Last Month's Minutes: The instructions for the upcoming Reno convoys accidentally referred to a North Bay rendezvous, when referring to what was the South Bay meeting point. Also, the Doute Pantera is #3988, not #3966.

Club Treasury Report: Gary wrote some checks for the track event programs and T-shirts, and got some income from track event registrations, and POCA membership reimbursements. The balance is basically even since last month.

Club Store Report: Rich was absent but Brent Stewart stood in for him, passing around the signup sheet for the club store in Reno, and delivering club jackets that people had pre-ordered.

Club Membership Report: Brent didn't have much to say, as we had no new members since the previous month.

Club Name Badges Report: Bob was present, with his name badge this time! If you don't have a badge, or want a second one, let him know.

Club Website Report: Mark has been busy updating the website with the latest information on the POCA Fun Rally and track event.

Club Motorsports Report: The track event was coming together nicely, and with some last-minute signups, we are looking like we will at least break even, and perhaps turn a slight profit. Sponsorship is up against two years ago, signups are down, and expenses are about the same.

Larry is also organizing tickets for the parking corral for the Monterey Motorsports Reunion. We need to sell \$3000 worth of race tickets in order to qualify for the corral. We are gambling that people will come through and buy tickets; if you intend to attend, please arrange for your tickets and corral pass right away. Information can be found in the POCA newsletter and on the PCNC website.

Club Library Report: Forest had nothing new to report this month.

Past Events:

Pacific Coast Dream Machines Breakfast: Tony Blevins pulled out all the stops hosting what has become an annual party, held just before the Pacific Coast Dream Machines show. In response to a joke by Ron DeMaderios a few days earlier about having bikini-clad girls serving Mimosas, Tony actually rounded up a bevy of babes to do just that! What's more, their bikinis were in the colors of the De Tomaso logo!

Almost a dozen Panteras and a Mangusta filled the street in front of Tony's house, along with several delectable Brand X cars. Tony flew his parents and one of his best friends from his hometown in

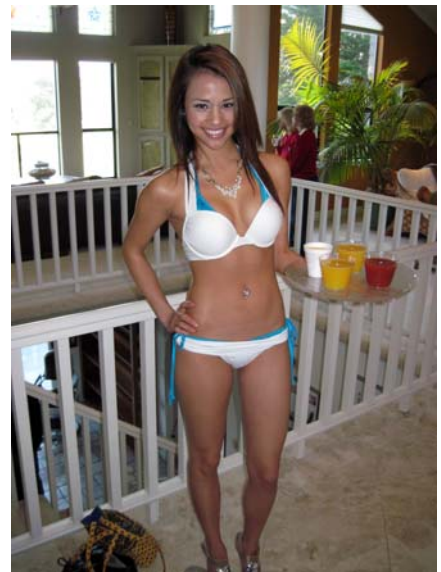


North Carolina, and together they whipped up a southern-style breakfast to die for. Once our appetites were sated, Tony led a convoy to the site of the show, a few miles away. He brought both his Panteras (his buddy drove his silver '74). Ironically, both broke down! The '72 overheated as it approached the show entrance, and the '74 sputtered to a halt on the way home with a dead fuel pump!

Tony received a well-deserved round of applause for his efforts on our behalf, and promised that next year's breakfast would be even better!

Oh yeah, the car/airplane show was pretty neat too....

Sonoma Wine Country Tour: Chuck Banks discussed this fantastic event (covered in detail elsewhere in this newsletter). The day was a great success; Larry Finch and Trevor Fougere were out front on the drive, but Chuck said the fastest thing seen all day was the donuts leaving the table in front of his house!



Tech Session At The Sharp's: Fine weather helped produce a fine turnout of cars at the Sharp's home. Due to space considerations, an article will appear in next month's newsletter.

Upcoming Events:

Monterey Weekend — 18-21 August: The Monterey weekend is right around the corner, and the club is once again hosting a dinner and offering accommodations at the Los Laureles Inn. We have 17 rooms reserved, and right now all of them are spoken for and Diane is working on a waiting list. If you're interested, let her know right away!

Ironstone Vineyard Concours d'Elegance Weekend — 23-25 September: Kevin and Valerie Abbey are organizing a club weekend around the Ironstone Vineyard Concours d'Elegance, in Murphys. The group will depart the Bay Area Friday morning and work their way up to Murphys. A dinner has been orchestrated for Friday night. The concours will be on Saturday, and pre-registration is required. (Go to <http://www.ironstonefoundation.org> for concours registration).

Following the concours, we will have another group dinner at the Blue Lake Springs Snowflake Lodge.

The chosen event hotel, the Murphys Inn, has already filled up, but rooms are still available at the Murphys Suites down the street. Go to <http://www.murphyssuites.com/> and make your reservation now, as rooms will likely sell out long before the event!

So far, 20 people (and 10 Panteras) have signed up for the event, with more promised in the near future.

Watch the newsletter and the PCNC website for more information later in the summer.

Hole In The Ground Tour — Date TBA: Mike Fertitta is working to put together the third installment of his Hole In The Ground tours. This would be an overnight trip sometime in the Spring, with the stop in Jackson. Saturday, we would visit two caverns, have a luncheon, and tour a winery. On Sunday, we'd tour another cavern, have lunch, and visit another winery. The date will be established by next month's meeting.

Berkeley/Napa Tour — Date TBA: Matt Kelleher is working on putting together a tour which would first take in some spectacular, off-the-beaten-path high-end restoration shops (think Pebble Beach class-winners!), and the exotic car emporium Fantasy Junction. The original plan was that this would then be followed by a cruise to Napa, where we would enjoy lunch and visit some wineries, including some owned by well-known vintage racers who have their race car preparation shops on the premises. However, a poll of the members present at the meeting revealed that they thought this was a bit ambitious, and so Matt will split that off and create a separate event for that.

Anticipate a date towards the end of the summer or the fall for each of these events; the first will likely be in September.

Club Business:

No Gambling With Club Funds: A motion was made and passed to prevent club funds from being used to purchase raffle tickets at the POCA Fun Rally. Although the idea seems to have some merit, last year \$500 of club funds was spent, with zero winning tickets. The risk/reward ratio was deemed inadequate to justify a repeat performance.

Buy/Sell/Swap:

Ferraro Steering Wheel: The original Panteras came with a lovely two-spoke steering wheel made by Ferraro. Ford made the decision to replace it with the cheap, ugly Capri wheel for crash safety reasons. The first few hundred Panteras imported to the USA had these wheels removed and replaced; for years they were stacked up at Bill Stroppe's shop, until they were scrapped!

Now they are extremely rare and desirable items. Larry Finch recently managed to find one in Italy, and now has it for sale. Not cheap! But if you buy it you'll be the only one on your block to have one, for sure!

Larry also has the electrical portion of the ignition switch assembly available.



Euro GTS Model: Chuck Melton has some Tomy Euro GTS Pantera models available in 1/43 scale for \$15.

Nuts!: Installing a Pantera starter can be quite a miserable chore, as clearance is very tight. The M10 x 1.5 studs normally use a nut with a 17mm head, and often it's next to impossible to fit a socket in there. Mike Drew found some serrated flange nuts that have a 15mm head, which can make all the difference in the world, and they're only 50 cents each.

Pieces Parts: Matt Kelleher owns the wrecked '74 Pantera that was seen in a recent POCA *Profiles* and he's parting it out. If you have parts needs, let him know. Although the car was

pretty well hammered, there is a lot of good stuff still remaining, including a rather nice 351C.

News, Clues and Rumors:

Borelli Motorsports: Lori Albino wanted to give props to the people at Borelli Motorsports. They were guest speakers at PCNC meeting a few months ago. Since then, she has rented a fully race-prepared late-model Mustang and run it in a couple of track events at Thunderhill and Sears Point. She said that the Borelli people treated her extraordinarily well, the car was fast and reliable, and she couldn't have asked for more.

The Borelli folks have a great workshop and an attached clubhouse, and have offered us the use of their facilities for parties, club events etc.

It's Always Sumthin': Mike Drew and Lori took Mike's Pantera on the Sonoma Wine Country Tour, and in a gross tempt of fate, Mike remarked that there were no mechanical problems encountered on the tour. They noted a rubbing sound when the car negotiated tight right-hand corners, and Mike made a mental note to investigate when they got home.

After the tour ended they decided to take the scenic route back via the twisty roads around Lake Berryessa, with a stop for dinner at a small country diner. And so it was that with darkness about to fall, they departed the diner, got a few miles up the road, and then the experienced what the English so colorfully express as "a failure to proceed".

FOOM! Clouds of steam, and a pegged temperature gauge! And they were in the middle of nowhere, with not so much as a light (much less any buildings) in sight.

A nondescript white Honda sedan had been tailgating them badly when the car blew apart, and the driver was kind enough to pull over and stop behind them. When he got out of the car, clouds of marijuana smoke followed! The driver was *completely* baked.



As water poured from a blown overflow hose, the fellow reached into his trunk and came up with two gallons of water! (For his bong perhaps?) He then lit up a joint and stood around watching and offering advice.

Meanwhile, the owner of the property they were stopped in front of appeared, and he offered a lift to the top of his mountain where cell phone coverage would enable a call to AAA for a tow truck. Lori duly set off with this potential mass murderer (hey, somebody had to watch the car, right?) into the dark wilderness. Meanwhile, another fellow stopped, this one a professional mechanic. Mike theorized that the water pump belt had snapped, and a few minutes of investigation revealed this to be true. He found a spare belt in the car, but the mechanic said, "No, that one will never work" so they were dead.

Eventually, Lori returned (safe and sound), everybody left, darkness fell, traffic dwindled away to nothing, and it started to rain.

After waiting for more than an hour for the tow truck, Mike suddenly remembered that the spare belt in the trunk was the one that had been on the car before the current one. It worked before? So he went to install it, and hey presto, it fit after all!

The cooling system was topped off, and all seemed well. It seemed prudent to wait for the flatbed anyway though. When the tow truck arrived, rather than a glitzy roll-back, it was more

like “Mater” from the movie “Cars”. No way they were going to tow the Pantera on a twisty mountain road on a hook! So instead, they drove home with the tow truck following behind, just in case. They made it home without any further dramas, at about midnight....

Driving For Dinner Raffle: The winner was Brent Stewart.

Raffle Results: Trevor’s absence wasn’t planned, and thus there was no time to organize a stand-in rafflemaster, so there was no raffle this month.

The meeting therefore adjourned early at 9:04 p.m.

PCNC Board Meeting May 26, 2011

The Board Meeting was called to order by the President at 6:40 p.m., prior to the monthly club meeting.

Present at the Board Meeting: President Ron DeMaderios, Vice President Garth Rodericks, Secretary Mike Drew, Treasurer Gary Kono, Membership Coordinator Brent Stewart, Motorsports Coordinator Larry Finch.

Track Event Finances: Gary Kono discussed track expenditures and income. Larry Finch said he thinks we are poised to make a profit of \$300 overall. Gary Kono thinks we are on track to *lose* \$1700, and we need to have additional revenue from T-Shirt sales, additional registered drivers, and lunch time tour participants to break even. (*Events later showed that Larry was right*). Larry requested and received a check for \$1,346.11 to cover track T-shirts and \$10.36 to cover mailing costs for a trophy for a previous year participant.

Larry also requested food vouchers for registered drivers at the Reno Track Event and for selected individuals helping out with putting on the event. The Board approved up to \$350.00 for these vouchers.

POCA Brochure: Brent Stewart will get quote for an updated version of the “Join POCA” brochure with PCNC contact information printed on it. The Board approved an expenditure of up to \$100 for Brent to get (500) brochures printed up.

PCNC Events Cost Reimbursement: Ron DeMaderios brought up the subject of reimbursement for PCNC event hosts. Mike Drew pointed out that there is an existing PCNC Policy that the Board can reimburse the event host up to \$100 for expenses directly related to staging a club event. The Board decided to leave the policy as is and offer reimbursement whenever an event host requests it.

President’s Dinner: Ron DeMaderios brought up the subject of having a dinner or some ceremony to honor past POCA Presidents and Chapter Presidents at the Fun Rally. There was no interest by the Board Members.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Membership News

New Members for June:

Sorry to say we have no new memberships to report this month.

June Membership Anniversaries:

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

Brian Bernard: nineteen years	Cheryl Pastone and Les Morgan: seventeen years
Chuck and Suzie Melton: fourteen years	Steve and Merry Dalcino: twelve years
Rob and Amy McMullen: four years	Randy and Cindy McAyeal: two years
Mathew Kelleher: one year	

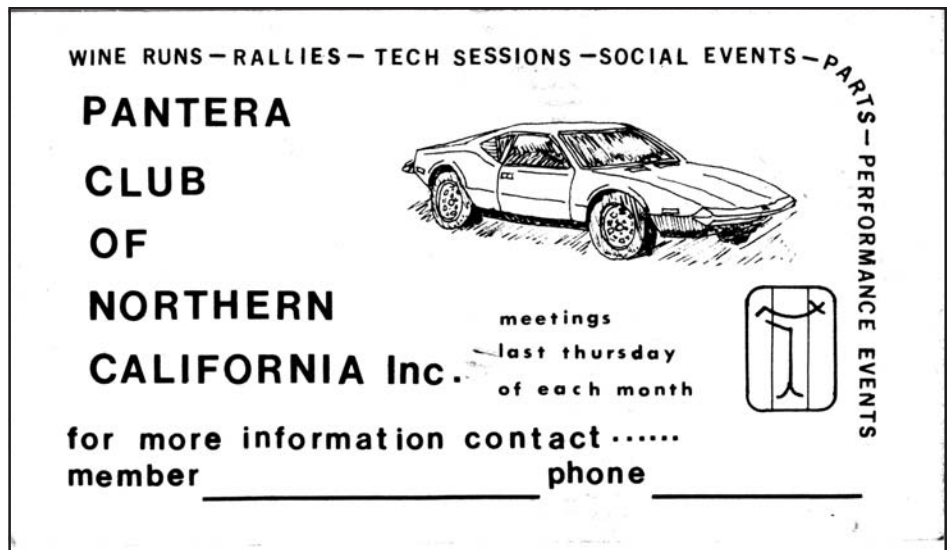
Blast From The Past

by Mike Drew

Recently, Chuck Banks was cleaning out his Pantera, which for many years belonged to the late PCNC stalwart Rich Agiorni. While poking around, he discovered a business card that PCNC had produced sometime in the late 1970s or early 1980s.

The intent was clearly to enable owners to share information with prospective new club members. In the pre-internet days, this was normally done via telephone, and the card has spaces where the club member could scribble his name and telephone number. Upon meeting somebody who expressed interest in the car and the club, the member could reach into his glovebox, emerge with one of these cards, and potentially convert that interest into club membership for the interested party.

The typesetting and artwork are delightfully antiquated, giving this card enormous period charm. The question is, would PCNC be interested in doing something like this again? In fact, Brent Stewart has spearheaded a campaign to have a PCNC-specific version of the "Join POCA" trifold made, and hopefully we will be distributing them to members shortly.



Sonoma Wine Country Back Roads Tour

Story by Chuck Banks

Photos by Mike Drew, Lori Albino, Chuck Banks, and Ron DeMaderios

So, living in the suburbs of PCNC land here in the North Bay, my wife Lorie and I wanted to see if we could entice a few of our fellow club members to the Sonoma Wine Country for a day. We called Gary Kono, (who was PCNC Events Coordinator at the time) to purpose a club drive up our way. Gary took our proposal to a

meeting and the membership gave a resounding YES! We had not planned a PCNC event before and reality sat in. Would anyone actually show up? What if we had 50 cars show up? Yikes!

We thought we would just do our best and whatever happened would hap-



Mike Drew

Happiness is looking outside and seeing a dozen Panteras lined up in front of your house!

pen. I put a little time into picking out some back roads that I have always enjoyed. Lorie started to plan a few things we could do to keep the day interesting. Before you knew it, we had a plan and the event day was growing closer.

Trevor Fougere came up to do a

pre-drive with me. As luck would have it we had a stunning day for a drive. It was actually perfect, well except for the 200 or so bicyclists doing their own event that day. Better this day than the day of our event.

So with 14 Panteras and two brand X cars signed up, our tour was cast in stone. Everything was ready but Mother Nature had a different plan. Our tour was scheduled for May 14. For many this would be an overnighter. Rain was the forecast for the Sunday. With my limited experience even I knew that most Pantera owners cringe at the thought of driving in the rain. Would anyone show up in their Panteras or would we have a row of Hondas out front?

Much to my surprise we had 12 beautiful Panteras roll into our neighborhood the morning of the tour right on time! Two had dropped. Bob and Dena Lucas had some mechanical difficulties early on that morning. He called for assistance and the car was taken home. They left word that as soon as they could, they would change cars and meet us in Healdsburg for lunch. John Colombero had traveled to his



Mike Drew

The morning began with coffee and donuts (fruit? What fruit?) Just before our departure, each crew drawing a card from Lorie's bag



Chuck Banks

First things first—fuel stop! Diane Dean is clearly ready for fun as Tom Galli fills the tank in her Pantera

home in Dunsmuir earlier in the week only to find that excessive snow had caused the roof to collapse in the garage that housed a hot rod in progress. This had to be dealt with.

I learned something about the club after everyone arrived. Forget about serving fruit and muffins to these folks. They go straight of the DONUTS!

We planned to incorporate a poker hand into the day, so Lorie passed out a single card to each team. Additional cards would be handed out at each en-route stop, and at the end of the day, the best hands would win various prizes.

So after we fueled up we were off. We headed out of Santa Rosa up Calistoga Road to Calistoga. It was pretty uneventful, just a nice drive. We had lunch reservations at 11:30. Lorie looked over at me and said “Chuck we’re going to be too early.” I was a little worried that no one would be hungry, but little did I know that Lorie had cursed us. You see, there is some construction on Hwy 128 consisting of two stretches of one-lane road controlled with stop lights. We hit the first one just right and blew through it. The second one turned red before we got there. There were so many cars backed up that we couldn’t even see the light. Finally, it must have changed to green and cars

were moving. As it came into view it was red again. We sat there for almost exactly 15 minutes! Fortunately most of us weren’t in a hurry. I swear I heard a horn honk a few times. On the bright side the delay did create a few unexpected photo opportunities. Finally a pilot car came through and we were on our way.

Healdsburg is kind of a tourist town this time of year and the sight of

our thundering Panteras rolling down Main Street must have been breathtaking. Into the Bear Republic micro brewery we went. We all ordered up drinks, burgers and such for a filling meal.

Before you knew it we were back on the road and heading toward the Sonoma Coast. On the way we passed a few Ferraris going the other way. I can’t believe they expected to see a half mile of Panteras that day. We also saw a herd of CHPs huddled up on the side of the road. Everyone gave a courteous wave as we went by. At least that was what I was told?

The weather was holding as we turned onto Hwy 1. I never get tired of driving this road. We stopped for a break at Portuguese Beach. Legs were stretched and pictures taken. The backdrop was beautiful. Everyone appeared to be having a good time. Off we headed towards our final destination, Chateau St. Jean Winery in Kenwood, east of Santa Rosa (where I work).

On the way Larry and Trevor went by for a little spirited driving. I was a little envious but kept it under control. We continued on through Bodega and Sebastopol then past Santa Rosa on Hwy 12.

Once we arrived at Chateau St. Jean we saw that Bob and Dena were



Chuck Banks

The back roads were beautiful and deserted, but unfortunately we ran into a construction roadblock that had us sitting for almost 15 minutes



Mike Drew

We had a nice drive to Portuguese Beach. We stopped to admire the views, and the waves crashing on the beach

there to greet us. Little-seen PCNC member Paul da Cruz also pulled in driving his beautiful and very stock '72 Pre-L Pantera.

We drove up to the truck scales and each of us got a chance to weigh our cars. We had decided to offer up prizes for the heaviest and lightest cars to be given later. Once weighed, we formed up on the lawn in front of the Chateau and headed in for a private tasting.

As the tasting wound down the car weight prizes were given. There was a



Mike Drew

Brand X was represented by this Camaro and Corvette coupe



Lori Albino

Driving on Highway 1, we were blessed with virtually no traffic

tie for lightest with Mike Drew and Trevor at 3,060 lbs. Mike was originally at 3100 lbs, but then he thought to remove his tool bag, which it turns out weighs 42 lbs! Tom Galli (driving Diane Dean's Pantera) was the heaviest, but he was the only one whose car was weighed while the driver was still sitting in his car. He received a container of SlimFast for his efforts and was a good sport to boot.

It was time to walk off a little of the vino so we went on a tour of this lovely Winery to get educated on the



Mike Drew

Upon arriving at the winery, every car was weighed on the truck scales, normally used to weigh the wine grapes



Mike Drew

Rarely-seen PCNC member Paul DaCruz and his Pantera



As the shadows grew long, the Panteras were parked on the lawn of the Chateau St. Jean winery

Mike Drew



Chuck Banks

After a long day of driving, we were rewarded with the opportunity to taste some of their finest wines. More than a few bottles were taken home that day!

finer points of winemaking. It felt good to stretch our legs again. After a walk through the Winery and gift shop we headed back to our home to pass a little time before dinner.

Dinner was at Checkers Bistro in downtown Santa Rosa. It's a small elegant restaurant with wonderful food. This was a great opportunity for Lorie and me to really get to know our fellow club members. This was one of the reasons we wanted to host an event in the first place. Great conversations

were had by all.

The Pantera gods had smiled on us this day. Everyone seemed to have a great time. Surprisingly the stress of



Mike Drew

Chuck Banks gave an interesting and informative tour of his winery

hosting had worn off early in the day, Lorie and I had a great time too. It was easy!

The final tally was a wonderful day, new friends and many "trouble free" miles (if you don't count Bob and Dena Lucas, who got a tow truck ride in the morning, and Mike Drew and Lori Albino, who threw a water pump belt on the way home).

If you have ever thought of hosting an event, go for it. We'd love to see the back roads in your neck of the woods!



Ron DeMaderios

The event ended as they all should—with a great dinner!



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NEXT CLUB MEETING

**THURSDAY, June 30, 2011
8:00 P.M.**

**COCO'S RESTAURANT
1209 OAKMEAD PARKWAY
SUNNYVALE, CA**

(Take Lawrence Expressway South Exit off Highway 101)

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

August 18-21 ————— Monterey Weekend (Larry Finch/Diane Dean)

September 23-25 ————— Ironstone Vineyard Concours d'Elegance Weekend

REMINDER — NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE BY 15th OF EACH MONTH