



# news

[www.PanteraClubNorCal.com](http://www.PanteraClubNorCal.com)

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## Minutes of Meeting 23 February, 2012

The meeting was called to order by the president at exactly 8:00 p.m. All officers were present except for Mike Drew, with Steve Liebenow ably taking notes on his behalf. Bob Lucas was only able to stay briefly, to drop off some name badges. There were five Panteras in the parking lot, and 28 members signed the roster

**New Members/Guests:** The club welcomed **Ron Southern**, attending his first club meeting (although he was at the Super Bowl party a few weeks previously). He has owned his yellow L-model Pantera since 1976; he served as a driving instructor at the Bondurant Racing School for ten years (his Pantera is pictured next to a period SCCA race Pantera on the next page). He inexplicably parked the car many years ago, but is now experiencing newfound love with the car. He has just

rebuilt the right rear axle (after doing the left one many years ago), and his next project is to free up the frozen brake calipers.

Ron has long been dedicated to his Pantera—so much so, that many years ago, he had a very detailed tattoo of his Pantera applied to his arm!

Ron brought his friend **Mike Ronald**, who is himself now looking for a Pantera!



#### **Club Treasury Report:**

The treasury is still afloat, but we took a big hit due to the extravagant purchases in support of the Christmas party raffle. Income trailed expenses by a modest amount.

**Club Store Report:** Rich is working on some new items for the upcoming POCA Fun Rally. It was suggested that he bring more items to sell at the club meeting—at least as much as can be fit into his Pantera!



**Club Name Badges Report:** Greg reported on Bob's behalf and said that he had some new name badges in stock.

**Club Membership Report:** Greg reported on the three members who have joined the club since the last meeting, but then reported that four members have allowed their membership to lapse, due to moving from the local area and/or selling their Panteras.

Greg also spearheaded a project to establish a process/procedure for sending flowers (or making a similar appropriate gesture) to the loved ones of club members on behalf of the membership, should an event occur that is appropriate and consistent with the need for such a gesture. The expense will be limited to approximately \$80 per occurrence.

Greg displayed some draft copies of "Join PCNC" brochures that he designed, which will be handed out to club members to distribute at car shows etc. The full-color brochures feature many photos of cars and people, taken at the recent Super Bowl party. They met with much acclaim, and there were numerous suggestions for minor improvements, i.e. using the PCNC logo instead of just the words "Pantera Club of Northern California", etc.

There was a short discussion on the topic of 'dual membership' i.e. the policy of allowing people to join as members of PCNC when they are already POCA members and formally affiliated with another POCA chapter.

**Club Motorsports Report:** The featured marque at the historic races in Monterey will be the Cobra, in celebration of its 50th anniversary. We will once again be hosting a parking corral at the track.

**Club Library Report:** Roger Sharp donated years worth of back issues of the POCA newsletter, POCA Profiles, and PCNC newsletters. Forest has updated the library inventory listing for posting on the PCNC website.

**Club Website Report:** Mark has updated the website, including uploading the library contents mentioned above.

Somebody asked about the POCA website; they tried to access the membership page and it only displayed the first 50 or so members. Others reported no problems, so it might have been a temporary glitch.

A question was raised about the possibility of ‘opting out’ of hard-copy newsletter delivery, since the newsletters are also posted on the club’s website. Although the idea sounds tempting, the reality is that the newsletter printing costs skyrocket on a per-unit basis when the quantity is decreased, so that if only half the club members received the newsletter, the cost to produce it would probably be about the same.

### **Past Events:**

**Super Bowl Party:** The Stewarts once again hosted a terrific party! They received a well-deserved round of applause for their efforts. Besides the food and the socializing, there was a pretty decent football game to watch, and a tech session broke out in the street in front of the house (which had started at Chuck Melton’s house, migrated to the party, and ended at Rich Boschert’s house!) See the article elsewhere in this newsletter.

### **Upcoming Events:**

**April PCNC Meeting — 19 April (ONE WEEK EARLY!):** Due to the conflict with the POCA Fun Rally, the April PCNC meeting will be held one week early. All newsletter submissions will similarly need to be turned in one week early.

**POCA Fun Rally — 25-29 April:** Various routes to Chandler, AZ are being considered, including a one-day freeway drone for the trailer-haulers, a two-day freeway drone, and a more adventurous all-back-roads route. More details will be issued at the March meeting, and posted on the PCNC website.

**Pacific Coast Dream Machines Show — 28-29 April:** For the first time, this show will expand to two full days. Unfortunately it conflicts with the POCA Fun Rally, so Tony won’t be hosting his delicious breakfast pre-show party and bikini show.

**Palo Alto Concours d’Elegance — 24 June:** Bud Millard has invited us to participate this year (via his friend, who is the grounds manager for the show). The tax-deductible \$50 entry for two people includes lunches. Panteras would be eligible for Class D — Foreign Car. The organizers are unrealistically ambitious and wanted all entries turned in by March 6th (???) but Bud has arranged for the organizers to stretch that. The entry form was included in the February PCNC newsletter.

**Other Potential Events:** Still in the works are the Los Laureles event in conjunction with Concorso Italiano, a possible visit to the Ironstone winery, another Sonoma fun run by Chuck Banks, and a long-awaited tour of east bay restoration shops by Matthew Kelleher. Stay tuned for more information...

Of course, if you are interested in hosting an event, please contact Diane Dean and let her know!

### **Club Business:**

**Help Wanted:** Several club offices were unfilled as of the start of the meeting. John Columbero is slowly going to take over Event Coordinator duties from Diane Dean, but the club is missing a rafflemaster, and Bob Lucas wished to step down as Name Badges guy. After a bit of gentle arm-twisting, Kevin Abbey volunteered to take over as rafflemaster, and (a few days after the meeting), Lori Albino agreed to take on the Name Badges duties.

We still need to get the raffle supplies (tickets, prizes, etc.) from Trevor, and Kevin is soliciting any and all contributions for the raffle from club members!

**Buy/Sell/Swap:** There were no items offered for sale this month.

### **News, Clues and Rumors:**

**Breaker Bar Handoff:** Chuck Melton presented Brent Stewart with a replacement Craftsman breaker bar. Brent's gave its life for the cause attempting to remove a very tight axle nut from Chuck's suspension upright. It turns out that the previous owner of Chuck's car really wanted the nuts to stay in place, so he *welded* one of them to the axle! Even after the welds were ground/cut away, the nuts wouldn't budge; it turns out that the fellow also used red Lok-tite! Some time with a blowtorch and a 500-lb impact gun finally resulted in success.

**Second Mangusta Spyder?:** Chuck was surprised with a new entry to the worldwide De Tomaso registry—a second Mangusta Spyder! It is a very late car (8MA1236), and the new owner (who bought it in Italy and brought it to his home in Germany, where the photos were taken) also has a GT5-S. It subsequently was learned that this car was originally built as a coupe, and converted to Spyder specification in Italy at some point in its life. Although it looks similar to the genuine article, there are numerous detail differences between the two.

**Pantera Shredding?:** Bob reported that he was run down and stopped by a crazy-acting woman who excitedly told him that she had just opened a new portable paper shredding business, and named it Pantera Shredding after Bob's car!

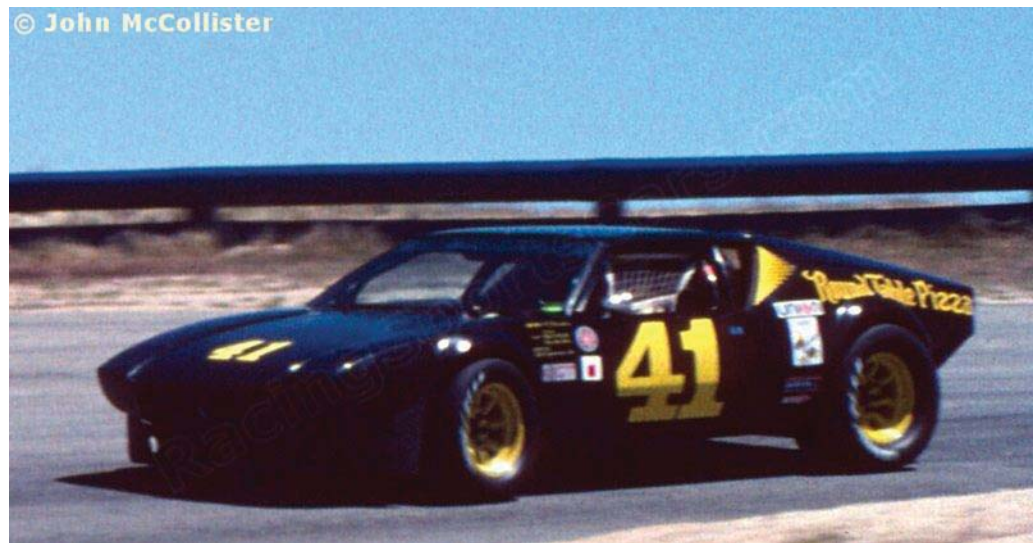


**Local ZF Repair:** Bud Millard found a fellow who runs a shop called JP Enterprises in Redwood City. He claims to do ZF work, and his pricing is noticeably lower than the established ZF repair facilities. Bud said he was very impressed with his shop and attention to detail (and keeping the price down...)

**Mangusta Mania:** Greg Taylor's ongoing Mangusta restoration has taken a new turn—ever the glutton for punishment, he has decided he wants Weber induction! He has farmed out the engine build and hopes to have it back in a few months.

**Domino's Ain't Got Nothing On This!:** Long-time PCNC members will remember Pete Brailer, who owned the Round Table Pizza restaurant in San Mateo. PCNC meetings were held

there in the early 1980s, before the move to our current location in the late 1980s. Pete bought a Pantera new, and had it completely race-prepared by Dick Guldstrand (noted Cor-



vette racer, who also served as the De Tomaso importer for race cars and parts to the USA). It was equipped with all the Gr3 race equipment (roll cage, Webers, 180-degree exhausts, uprated brakes etc.) and Pete raced it (with a notable lack of success) in the SCCA from 1973 to 1977.

The car is now owned by a fellow in Arizona, who is restoring it with an eye towards vintage racing it. It now has an all-aluminum stroker motor and he promises to have it on the track at the POCA Fun Rally!

**De Tomaso iPhone Case:** Tony was proud to show off his new De Tomaso logo iPhone case. He purchased it on E-bay from a company called DC Graphics.

This company is run by a brother and sister, and they produce a variety of De Tomaso-themed banners, coffee mugs, laptop cases etc. etc. The brother owns a Pantera of course! You can see the full line of available items at their website, [www.dcvinylgraphics.com/](http://www.dcvinylgraphics.com/)



Due to the lack of a rafflemaster, there was no raffle, and the meeting adjourned to the parking lot at 9:15.

# PCNC Board Meeting

## 26 January, 2012

The meeting was called to order by the president at 6:30 p.m. All elected board members were present.

The first topic of discussion was the PCNC Track Event certificates which were distributed via the POCA raffle at last year's Fun Rally. The certificates entitled the bearer to a free entry at the presupposed 2012 PCNC track event. At the time, we had no way of knowing that the Fun Rally would move, and the track event would be taken over by another organization.

The question was then raised by one of the winners: was the PCNC certificate good for this year's track event? After much discussion by the board, it was decided that we would honor these certificates at our next track event (whenever that is), but that they have no cash value, and thus we are not obligated to pay funds out of our treasury to another entity to enable the bearer to drive for free at their event this year.

The next discussion involved the appointed club officers. While most positions were filled, there were still vacancies for the club's events coordinator and rafflemaster. It was decided to wait until the Super Bowl party to select the events coordinator, as there were several volunteers for the job. There were no volunteers for the rafflemaster position, and we are still looking for somebody to step forward. Forest has agreed to become 'dual-hatted' and continue in his role as club librarian, while serving as president at the same time.

This then led to discussion of the club's finances, and specifically our accounting practices. Tom Galli is very dissatisfied with the methodology used in the past to keep track of club funds. Although there is no sign of any impropriety, the records are still a bit vague and difficult to analyze. He has taken the time to transfer all of the entries from the club checkbook to Quicken, a financial planning/tracking software program, so that we can properly analyze our income and expenses, and determine if there are areas that require attention.

The club raffle has historically operated on a separate budget. Originally it was a fundraising tool for the club, where a small amount of seed money in January was turned into a rather healthy donation to the club treasury at the end of the year. However, in the last few years, extravagance has displaced fiscal conservatism, and it's believed that the purchase of expensive prizes to give away at the Christmas party may have consumed a substantial percentage, if not all of the profits generated by the raffle to date—if not more.

Unfortunately, we have yet to receive an accounting of the 2011 raffle income and expenses from Trevor Fougere, the outgoing rafflemaster, so we're unable to make that determination for sure. We will continue to seek the answer to this question, and the incoming rafflemaster will have to establish reasonable accounting practices and report periodically to the board as to the status of the raffle funds.

Originally, the prizes in the raffle were almost exclusively donated by club members, Pantera

vendors, and outside parties. We have moved away from that model and the club has been purchasing the raffle prizes with funds from the raffle proceeds and/or the treasury. We will endeavor to return to the model of soliciting donations for the raffle in order to allow it to fulfill its intended purpose.

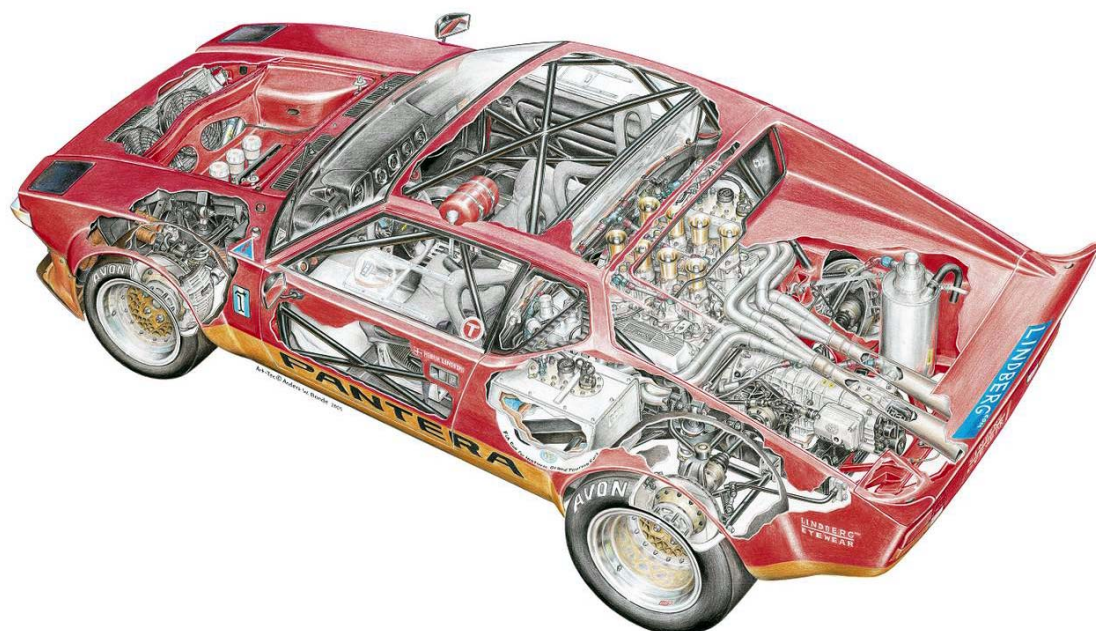
The 'Driving for Dinner' raffle has also been subjected to abuse recently. The original intent was to inspire people to drive their Panteras to the club meeting; the winner was entitled to having the club pay for his or her dinner. However, some winners began demanding that the club pay for two (or more) dinners, including bottles of wine etc., and this was agreed to without the knowledge of the board. Forest therefore proposed suspending the Driving for Dinner raffle indefinitely, as it didn't really seem to be achieving the desired goal, and was clearly costing the club money each month.

Talk turned to the club membership database. Russ Britschgi has been working for untold years, managing the club's database using a rather archaic program on his equally archaic Mac computer. Thus the current membership chairman is still dependent upon Russ for the actual management of the club's roster. Greg proposed purchasing some inexpensive software which would be modern and cross-platform-compatible, so that the membership database could be managed by anyone. In the short term, it will be necessary to recreate the entire database by hand, copying the information from the old one to the new one. But once that is done, the current membership chairman would be able to take care of the database, and pass that responsibility on to his successor in the future.

Greg proposed to have the new membership database up and running by the April meeting.

Greg then proposed creating a new "Join PCNC" brochure, modeled generally after the existing POCA brochure, but with a dedicated PCNC focus. The board approved of the idea and he said he would have a prototype for review by the February meeting. Once the prototype is finished, we will examine the costs and determine how many we want to print, and how we would distribute them to the members of PCNC, for them to in turn distribute to prospective members.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:30 p.m..



# Membership News

## New Members for March:

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

## March Membership Anniversaries:

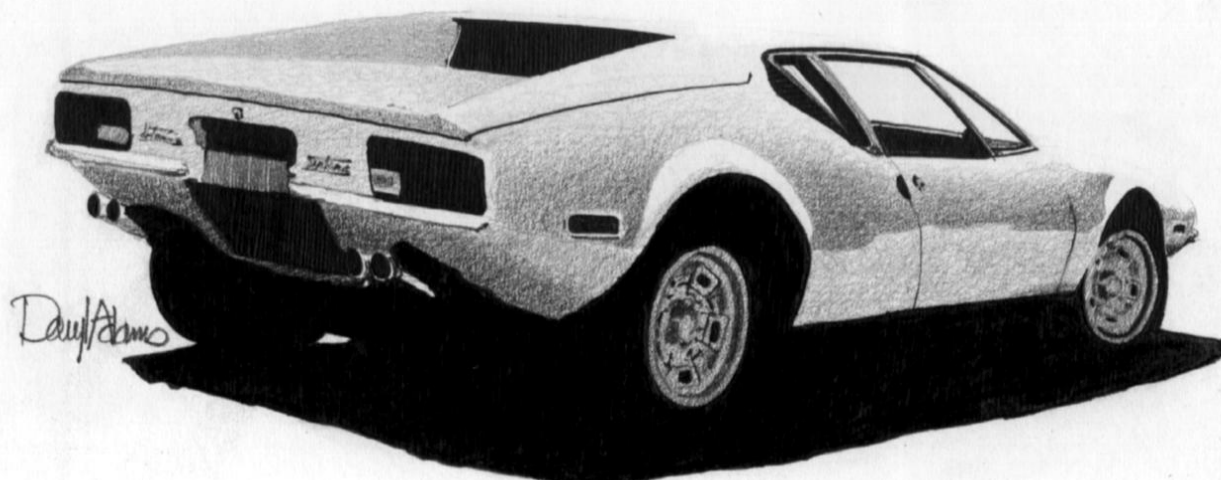
We congratulate the following people for the indicated years of continuous membership in the Pantera Club of Northern California:

**Lindsay and Estelle Crawford:** 37 years  
**Howard and Sharon Renshaw:** 33 years  
**Carl and Judy Kaufmann:** 25 years  
**Joel and Shelly Gust:** 20 years  
**Doug Kelm:** 15 years  
**Chris and Susan Clark:** 12 years  
**Bob and Dena Lucas:** 10 years  
**Carl and Mary Schumaker:** 7 years

**Diane Dean:** 36 years  
**Russ and Doris Britschgi:** 27 years  
**Eddie and Lisa Pavlu:** 22 years  
**Richard Dean:** 19 years  
**Rich Boschert:** 13 years  
**Darryl and Connie Johnson:** 10 years  
**Dennis Franks:** 7 years  
**Charlie and Eva Wertheimer:** 3 years

Wait until you see PCNC's new promotional brochures! They came out great. Thanks for all the input in their development. Everyone will get some to carry in their glove box to hand out to interested potential club members.

Greg Taylor,  
PCNC Membership Coordinator





# Super Bowl Party and Accidental Tech Session

*Story by Mike Drew  
Photos by Chuck Melton*

Brent and Bev Stewart once again opened their lovely home to the members of PCNC, offering up a wonderful location from which to enjoy the Super Bowl. Although the intention was merely to host a social gathering, along the way a tech session accidentally broke out!

Chuck Melton's Pantera has been off the road for quite some time, due to a noticeably bad rear axle. At the same time, Ron Southern's long-moribund Pantera needed axle help, so it was decided to gather at Chuck's house prior to the party to take advantage of shared knowledge (not to mention Chuck's Ford-produced dedicated Pantera service kit). The idea was that we would quickly deal with three axles, then merrily proceed to the party.

The reality was a bit different. Ron removed his assembly and carried it in the back of his other car, and it was ex-



*The day got off to a good start, as Ron Southern's axle proved unusually cooperative. Here Lori Albino presses the assembly apart with Mike Drew's help*



*This is just plain evil. Some fool decided that the best way to secure the axle nut was to weld it to the axle!!!*

ceptionally well-behaved. In a relatively short time, we pressed his worn assembly apart and installed new bearings and a fresh axle, and he was ready to go!

Chuck lived up to his name of Murphy's son. When we took his hub carriers off his Pantera, we were dismayed to see that a previous owner had *welded* one of the nuts to the axle! The other one wasn't welded, but it might as well have been—it resisted all attempts to dislodge it.

We finally decided to proceed with the parts to the party, in the hopes that Brent would have sufficient toolage to let us get it apart. And so it was that we formed a three-car convoy, and by three different routes (two of them actually correct), made it to the Stewart home.

When we got there, the driveway and the street were littered with Pan-

teras (as well as a few other interesting cars), and a party was well and truly under way!

All thoughts of Pantera repairs were dislodged by the desire to eat, drink and be merry, and to that end, we entered the house and made our way through the throngs of club members to the amply stocked kitchen, filled to bursting with all kinds of food! After our appetites were sated, we drifted back towards the street in the hopes of finishing the job.

Brent came up with an angle grinder and a Dremel tool, and I set to the task of carefully grinding away the

welds securing the nut to the axle, without hurting any of the adjacent parts. Eventually this job was done, but then it came time to remove the nuts.

Brent only had a half-inch breaker bar and a jack handle for added torque. The breaker bar and the piece of angle iron bolted to the axle flange were both

visibly bending, and the nut was showing no sign of budging. Finally the breaker bar broke—we were obviously not getting anywhere. I was fairly convinced at this point

that blue Lok-Tite had been employed—nothing but intense heat would let us get it apart.

Rich Boschert then volunteered to continue the work at his house, so we loaded up the parts in Chuck's Jeep and made our way there. A little bit of work with the blue-tipped wrench got things nice and cherry red, and then his 500-pound impact gun was employed. Although it wasn't easy, eventually the nuts sprang free!

Rather than continuing the work, we elected to return to the Stewart home, and



***John Columbero's Pantera is looking good, back on the road after a comprehensive suspension overhaul. In the background is Jim Kuehne's new Chevrolet Chevelle SS 396 big-block***



***Mike got down to business with an angle grinder, and later a Dremel tool with a cutoff wheel, to carefully cut away the weld and allow the nut to be removed—or so you would expect...***

arrived in time to witness the end of what turned out to be an extremely close game. After some post-game socializing, people began drifting towards the door, and eventually we made our way for the exit ourselves.

The Stewarts once again did a fantastic job hosting this party, aided in no small part by the numerous people who contributed various types of food. And Rich Boschert saved the day by agreeing to forgo some of the party to help Chuck get his axle nuts off.

Thanks to everyone who made this such a great and productive day!



*We finally had to resort to the blue-tipped wrench to melt the Lok-Tite; the 500-ft/lb impact gun then showed this nut who's boss!*



*Among the many De Tomaso cars present was Peter Kovacs' long-lost black Pantera with supercharged 4.6 Liter power*



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## NEXT CLUB MEETING

**THURSDAY, March 29, 2012**  
**8:00 P.M.**

*ONE WEEK EARLY!*

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

**(Take Lawrence Expressway South Exit off Highway 101)**

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## UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

April 19 \_\_\_\_\_ PCNC Monthly Meeting (ONE WEEK EARLY!)

April 26-29 \_\_\_\_\_ POCA Fun Rally (Judy McCartney)