



news

www.PanteraClubNorCal.com

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Minutes of Meeting 18 April, 2013

The meeting was called to order by the president at exactly 8:00 p.m. All officers were present except for Mike Drew, Tom Galli, Bob Benson and Kevin Abbey. There were 29 members and four De Tomaso cars present.

New Members/Guests: While there were no new members, a great surprise was seeing long-time members Michael and Roxanne Fertitta, who were visiting from their home in Nevada. (By coincidence, Denny and Bonita Morse are moving from the Bay Area to Minden, and their new home shares a back fence with the Fertittas!).

Byron Hight brought his wife **Jeanie**, who he said attends a PCNC meeting once every ten years or so....

Changes To Last Month's Minutes: There were no changes noted. The mailing of the newsletter was delayed due to some confusion on the part of the printer regarding the inset replacement page for the club roster, but the newsletter was posted on the website and an E-blast sent out several days prior to the meeting.

Club Treasury Report: In lieu of a formal report, Darryl mentioned that he had checked into a credit card processing center. He logged an experimental transaction of \$2.00 and the club netted \$1.98. Money from the sales of the PCNC calendars has also been transferred to the club's coffers now that our PayPal account is set up.

Club Store Report: Bud will have club coffee mugs available soon, with Panteras in two different colors, and a target price of under \$10 each. He has prepared the merchandise to be displayed at the POCA Fun Rally, including signage that will help both the buyers and the sellers. Our club store layout will include three, eight-foot tables.

The store is staffed solely by volunteers, and Bud again asked for people to step up and work the store for some period of their time in Phoenix. To facilitate credit card transactions, we have a new Apple Ipad Touch which is all set up to accept credit cards.

Larry Finch kindly agreed to transport the contents of the club store to and from the event, as he is bringing his pickup truck this year.

Club Membership Report: Greg briefly reported on Michael Brunn, who joined PCNC last month (and was mentioned in the Membership News in the current newsletter).

Club Motorsports Report: Bob Benson was absent, so there was no discussion of the upcoming CFRA event at Laguna Seca.

Club Library Report: Forest was happy to report that there were actually some items checked out of the club's library this month!

Club Website Report: Darryl demonstrated the new website work that has been taking place behind the scenes. There have been lots of comparisons made with other car club sites to get ideas, and the website committee has adopted as many of the good ideas as our limited budget will allow. Google Maps is integrated in our website to provide location information for our events. Fliers for our upcoming events can have links for more information, and many other features. The website should also include membership profiles, a technical information page, information on past and upcoming events, an archive of all club newsletters, and a fully functional club store section that enables on-line ordering.

The site is presently no- (or at least low-) cost, so there is an effort to get everything associated with the club store (making it compatible with hand-held devices, phones, and personal computers) up and running. The actual store sales processes may someday be moved away from Google, but the store merchandise will still be presented on the website.

The new site is located at www.panteraclubnorcal.org; eventually the www.panteraclubnorcal.com address will redirect to this page, since we own both domain names. The information from the old website is being brought over to the new one, and once that is complete, the old website will disappear.

Note that the website is open to the public, so we need to be mindful of everything that is presented there.

Past Events:

Pre-Phoenix Tech Session: Bob Benson again hosted a terrific gathering at his shop, where several club cars were fettled in advance of their upcoming drive to the POCA Fun Rally. Fine food (burgers on the grille) and great company were both highlights of this great day.



CFRA Open Track At Laguna Seca: Brent Stewart

reported on the recent Checkered Flag Racing Association track day at Laguna Seca. Bob Benson and Mike Drew drove their Panteras at the rare 105 db day, along with Lori Albino in her Mustang and Brent in his Porsche Boxter S. David Luckenback came down to spectate, and wound up riding around with Mike for two sessions. Darryl Johnson and Bob Lucas also came to spectate.

The morning started off very wet and gloomy, and Mike spun at practically walking speed on his first lap in the rain, then parked his Pantera for the rest of the morning. Lori unfortunately wasn't feeling well, and left early, but by the afternoon the sun came out, the track dried, Mike fitted his slicks (generously transported to the track by Bob) and a great time was had by all.

Mike totally destroyed his front Wilwood brake pads (as it turns out, his front/rear bias is all screwed up and his car has far too much front brake, which overwhelmed them and led to unusual pad wear), but everybody drove home uneventfully at the end of the day.



Upcoming Events:

Vintage Mustang Owners Association Car Show — 15 June: Tom Hasenberg is one of the organizers of this concours and has created a special De Tomaso class. See the flyer elsewhere in this newsletter for more information.

Palo Alto Concours — 29-30 June: Bud Millard will be organizing the PCNC group at the Palo Alto Concours; their website is <http://www.paconcours.com/> The cost is still \$55, and you can register over the internet or by contacting Bud. Last year, De Tomaso cars came out in force and he's hoping we can have an even bigger presence this year.

Hillsborough Concours — 27 July: This event requires online registration; see the information elsewhere in this newsletter.

Hole In The Ground Tour, Part Three — 27 July: The Fertittas organized two fantastic tours many years ago, focused on great driving, and exploration of caves in the Sierra foothills. They said that they are planning a third outing to explore yet more caves, still in the Jackson area. They are going to be organizing this event on behalf of a Minden-area car club but they have invited us to join in. Watch for more information in upcoming newsletters.

Concorso Italiano — 16 August: This year will feature a special tribute to the Apollo, the brilliant and under-appreciated hybrid from the early 1960s, with Italian coachwork and Buick aluminum V8 power. Go to www.concorso.com to sign up.

Ironstone Concours — 28 September: Matt Kelleher will likely be organizing the PCNC group for the Ironstone Concours; more details will be laid out later in the year.

Kelleher Tour: After the great success of his East Bay Grease Tour last year, Matt Kelleher is working on another tour event for 2013, with help from Bud Millard. The date is TBA, likely sometime in the fall. He plans to return to Moal's hot rod shop, the Ferrari workshop of Patrick Ottis, Eric Zausner's incredible clubhouse next door, and also pay a visit to the high-end paint shop that does all their work. Watch for more information in upcoming newsletters.

Buy/Sell/Swap:

Mangusta For Sale: Tom Galli reported that a 1969 Mangusta (8MA612) is available for sale in the Reno area. Contact Jerry Brubaker (his contact information is in the POCA roster) for more information.

News, Clues and Rumors:

Performance Art Gone But Not Forgotten: Performance Art was a short-lived high-end alignment and dyno shop in Gilroy, which folded due to the poor economy. Many of the technicians there are now working at Borelli Motorsports.

Rescue Tape: Garth Rodericks showed off some innovative stretch-and-seal tape, available from Home Depot. This tape can be used to wrap water hoses and effect temporary repairs in the event of leaks.

Raffle Results: Brent (standing in for Kevin Abbey) and Brett passed the hat, with the following results:

De Tomaso artwork poster — Chuck Melton
Tool wrap and tote — Steve Liebenow
Radio controlled helicopter — Chuck Melton
20" Craftsman tool box — Brett Santos
Craftsman BBQ set — Steve Dalcino
Craftsman screwdriver sets — John Colombero
Ford license plate frame — Denny Morse
Adjustable wrenches — Forrest Goodhart
Heat gun — Gary Kono
Wine (Wente White) — Larry Finch
Wine (Wente Red) — Denny Morse

The meeting adjourned to the parking lot at 9:28.

Membership News

New Members for May:

We have no new members in May.

May Membership Anniversaries:

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

Bob Crowell: 22 years
Rich Walling: 12 years
Garth Rodericks: 10 years
Terry Griggs: 8 years
Gary Spratling: 6 years
Brent Stewart: 5 years
Don Bockman: 3 years
Brian Welch: 2 years

Glenda Perrucci: 13 years
Ernie Gerloff: 10 years
Scott Carpenter: 9 years
Dan Lem: 6 years
Dennis Wilson: 6 years
Kevin Abbey: 3 years
Richard Spratling: 2 years



2013 Calendar of Events

June 15 Vintage Mustang Owners/Nor-Cal Shelby Club Car Show, Cupertino
<http://www.vintagemustang.org> or Tom Hasenberg (408) 374-4966

June 29-30 Palo Alto Concours, Palo Alto
<http://www.paconcours.com/> or Bud Millard (650) 697-6894

July 7 Cars in the Park, Burlingame
DanAndersen@comcast.net or (650) 342-8005

July 21 Hillsborough Concours, Hillsborough
www.hillsboroughconcours.org

August 10 Car Crazy Car Show and BBQ, San Mateo
<http://www.carcrazypromotions.org/>

August 16 Concorso Italiano, Monterey
<http://www.concorso.com/>

August 16-18 Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion, Monterey
<http://www.mazdaraceway.com/rolex-monterey-motorsports-reunion>

September 28 Ironstone Concours, Murphys
<http://www.ironstonefoundation.org/>

October 6 Horses to Horsepower, Redwood City
<http://www.horsetohorsepower.net/>



Albino-Drew Wedding and 2013 POCA Fun Rally

Story by Steve Dalcino

Photos by Mike Drew, Kevin Wilson and Thomas Tornblom

Our plans to attend the Albino-Drew wedding were made the day Lori gave my wife Merry the firm wedding date. The fact that the 2013 POCA Fun Rally would coincide was just an added plus. The only decision we had to make was: How to get there?

Driving the Pantera would eat up a good portion of the annual mileage our insurance policy allots us. Add to that the fact that I find freeway driving, and the long, straight stretches across the Mojave rather tedious. So we decided to wimp out, leave the Pantera at home and fly to Phoenix. We soon found some other flight-minded PCNC members in Garry and Sue Choate, and Barry Hosier and his mom Joan, so we coordinated our trips. On Wednesday morning Merry and I shared a flight from Oakland to Phoenix with Barry and Joan. We met Garry and Sue at the Phoenix airport where we all rented cars. In keeping with the Italian theme of the Pantera, the Choates and Dalcinos rented Fiat 500s, while Barry (we call him "Bucks Up" Barry) sprung for the high-end wheels, and rented a Mini

Cooper convertible.

As you might expect, the two Fiats arrived at the hotel to find the Mini parked and cooling down with Barry and Joan already checked in and waiting for us with cool drinks in their hands.

After check-in, we located Randy and Linda Welch and the eight of us set out to reconnoiter. The Wild Horse Pass Hotel easily lived up to all the glowing accolades we'd heard from last year's Fun Rally attendees. It was quite nice. And the hospitality suite, though much smaller than the room we used at Circus Circus, was located in the hotel rather than the casino, which made it much more convenient. The grounds were extensive and quite beautiful in an arid sort of way. Mike's and Lori's Panteras were parked side by side in the huge *porte-cochère* with a big black bow tie on Mike's windshield and a white veil over Lori's roof. Mike, Charlie McCall,



Julian Kift finishes loading the Welch and Drew Panteras in his 18-wheeler

and Geoff Peters were out there graciously greeting guests as they arrived. The corral was quickly filling with cars and, of course, we had to inspect and admire each one.

We soon met up with most of the rest of the PCNC contingent. Peter Kovacs, who was there with his son, along with Bob Benson, trailed their cars, Russ and Doris Britschgi drove their Subaru, Steve and Linda Liebenow drove their Mangusta, Forest and Judy Goodheart drove their Pantera, and Brett Santos was there along with Larry Finch who brought the club store down from the bay area and tirelessly administered it for the event.

In my opinion the most remarkable PCNC car there was that of Randy and Linda Welch. They purchased their "new" Pantera late last year from Jim and Emilia Seiferling. This is an early 1971 car that had been extensively altered over its 300,000 mile (!) lifetime. The motor was supercharged at one time (requiring an altered power brake system). The geometry of the Dallara suspension had been changed. The wiring harness had been hacked and spliced so many times that it was untraceable.



Among the wilder Panteras present in the parking lot was this lime green '72 belonging to Dave Hall of Colorado

There was a host of other alterations too numerous to mention. The car was a reliability nightmare. The former owner sold this car and bought another Pantera just to avoid the monumental headache this one had turned out to be.

But, as you probably know, Randy has never been bothered much by headaches. Shortly before Christmas 2012 he casually said, "this car is going to Mike and Lori's wedding." He and Linda and a few friends proceeded to completely disassemble every component of the car (the only thing left untouched was the transaxle, as it had recently been rebuilt by RBT). They installed all new suspension and steering, with adjustable springs and shocks, and brought it back to the original Dallara geometry, with almost every component replaced. They put in all new state-of-the-art wiring, a complete new interior, and a firewall reduction kit. Every moving part, right down to the window regulators, was reconditioned or replaced. The motor got a complete exploratory teardown and rebuild which included a new camshaft and valve train, new ignition, and new exhaust.

The fact that this is a very early production car means that it doesn't match the commonly available shop manual in some ways. Some of the parts made for the majority of Panteras on the road today won't fit this car. Add to that all the alterations the car has



Charlie McCall (wearing a robe emblazoned with the De Tomaso logo) flew over from Spain to perform the wedding ceremony

endured over the years, and nothing was a simple bolt-on. Nothing went together as the directions stated. Nothing worked on the first or second try. The likely sources of shake-down problems were infinite. Progress was much slower than they had hoped for. The car was 'done' only days before the wedding. The closest thing to a shake-down run was the drive to the alignment shop. So, with fingers crossed, Randy and Linda drove the car 180 miles over mountain roads across the Sierras to Carson City (with Lori in her Pantera and Mike in a chase car) where they put the car in

Julian Kift's transporter for the ride to Chandler. The car was used every day in Arizona, hauled back to Reno and then driven back over the Sierras to Stockton, without a blip. Wow. I think that's quite remarkable since I have trouble keeping my lawnmower running!

At 6:00 p.m. Wednesday evening, 220 people from all over the USA, Canada, and Europe gathered in The Wild Horse Pass Hotel's ballroom, which had been turned into a chapel for the occasion. Charlie McCall was standing at the pulpit in a white frock with a



The wedding party, joined by Mike's mom and Lori's granddaughter, posed in front of Mike's and Lori's Panteras (who many said were married this day as well!)



Even the wedding cake had a De Tomaso theme!

large De Tomaso emblem across the chest. He looked rather like a modern day Friar Tuck. This was all on the up-and-up since he had gone to the trouble of getting certified to legally preside over Mike and Lori's wedding. Mike's mom was sitting in the front row looking radiant with a twinkle in her eye and a big smile on her face. Lori's brother Wally and his family were beaming in their seats across the aisle.

John Taphorn gave a touching tribute entitled "How Does A Nerd Get A Trophy Wife?" followed by Garry and Sue Choate offering words of wisdom with "Tips For A Long And Successful Marriage."

Mike appeared in his Mess Dress uniform with his best man Geoff Peters at his side. A striking pair, they could have easily passed for the heroes in a Tom Clancy novel.

Next came the procession down

the aisle, led by Lori's lovely daughter Gabriella, the Maid of Honor. Lori was elegant, in an exquisite white dress, walking down the aisle on the arms of her two sons, Kaizer and Kaleo, in their respective uniforms.

After a touching ceremony (Charlie may have found a new calling) the congregation adjourned to the foyer and open bar while the hotel staff reconfigured the room for dinner and danc-

ing. This time was happily spent renewing old acquaintances and making a few new ones.

Soon we were ushered back into the Ball Room and were greeted by an *hors d'oeuvres* table, two pasta stations, a carving station, a salad station and an open bar. During dinner Geoff Peters gave a touching testimonial to Mike and Lori. Then Gabriella graciously welcomed Mike into their family. A little later on came the cutting of the Red Velvet Wedding Cake, the first dance, various party games, and then the introduction of a strange blue concoction called "Pantera Love Potion". Someone said, "if you put it into a cooling system it will cause the engine to immediately overheat". Someone else thought it was some kind of antifreeze. Another theory was that it made your hair curly. I wasn't about to try it.

Everyone was up bright and early



Charlie McCall admiring Dale Eriksen's Pantera at the track

Thursday morning (11:00 a.m. is bright and early. Isn't it??). Well, most people were up before noon anyway, and no one seemed to have suffered any ill effects from the Pantera Love Potion. So Thursday got off to a great start. Lori and Mike spent the day with Lori's kids (Kaizer is a police officer in L.A. and Kaleo is a Navy special forces type, stationed in Mississippi. They get few chances to all be together, so they wisely took advantage of this one). Many people headed off to Canyon Lake and lunch at Tortilla Flats. Sue, Doris, and Merry were off to an outlet mall. Garry and I headed for the track.

"Firebird Raceway is right across the road from the hotel. Right? We don't need to check a map. Do we???" Yeah, well, the hotel is surrounded by four roads, and I chose the wrong one to cross. So, after several fun-filled miles touring the desert in a Fiat (thank goodness for air conditioning) Garry came up with a great idea. We rolled down a window, shut off the motor and listened. "Yup, the track's a coupla miles that-a-way". We were there in no time.

The turnout at the track was a little shy of what we expected. That's not necessarily a bad thing. The drivers didn't have to contend with much traffic and they each got a little more track time. PCNC was represented by Bob Benson, Peter Kovacs, and Larry Finch, although Larry was without his car.

We watched Bob, several other Panteras whose owners we did not recognize, Jim Cozzolino in his NSX, a kit Cobra, a Lotus, several other brand X's, and last but not least, a Bugatti Veyron. Jeff Maxwell was there with his race truck, but we didn't see it run. We had a great time watching the cars blister the track, but by about 1:00 p.m. we were getting a little dry, and a little hungry. The lunch wagon had yet to appear so Garry and I decided to head back to the hotel for some sustenance. No need to roll the window down and listen this time. We could see the hotel from the track. The return trip took thirty seconds.

We had a nice lunch with Randy, Linda, and Barry in one of the casino restaurants.

Back at the Fun Rally there was a

tech talk on fasteners being given by ARP in one of the conference rooms. I spent the rest of the day in the hospitality suite visiting with people that I don't see anywhere near often enough.

Friday morning saw a large group head 90 miles up into the mountains to Payson with San Diego Panteras.

Another group, including many of the PCNC people, drove to the Commemorative Air Force museum in Mesa, where we saw a nice collection of American, British, and Russian military planes dating from the WWII period to modern times. All of the planes at this facility are certified and in proper flying condition. Some were undergoing maintenance procedures as we watched. We had fun sticking our noses in every hatch and open space we could find. We crawled through the cabin of a B-17 (it's a little tighter than it looks in the movies). They even fired up one of its radial engines for us (it was almost as loud as Darryl Johnson's car). Then it was on to an excellent lunch at a nearby Mexican Cantina. After lunch there was a decision to be made. Go back to the air-conditioned comfort of the hotel with its pool and hospitality suite? Or go to the shade-less, triple-digit-temp asphalt of the track to watch Bob win his class? While I was standing in line at the bar in the hospitality suite pondering my problem, I decided that the risk of getting lost out in the middle of the



The Panteras travelled in convoy on the way to Payson

desert while looking for the track was just too great. I learned later that Bob won his class anyway.

Friday night saw a very nice awards dinner in the hotel theater. There were many fascinating speakers. The awards were too numerous to list. The keynote speaker was Al Axlerod who related several great stories of the early days of the Pantera.

The first scheduled event for Saturday was a car show at 4:00 p.m. So, with plenty of free time in the early part of the day, the Choates, the Dalcinos, and the Welchs drove to Scottsdale to visit one of Randy's friends. This fellow could have been a character from a

Clive Cussler novel. One side of the house had an attached garage, but on the other side there was an attached airplane hanger. And, like in the Clive Cussler novels, the hanger was filled with cars. There were hot rods of the Rene Moale and Chip Foose variety. There were vintage racecars. There were Corvettes of all the significant years. Each car was a pristine show car, and he wasn't a stickler for originality. A 1954 Corvette that looked like a 100 pt restoration turned out to have a fabricated tube frame, C-6R suspension, and a ZR-1 four-cam motor. I could have stayed there all day, but we had to get back to the hotel in time for the caravan to the car show. We actually got back in time for a little breather before the 3:30 p.m. departure for the Car Show, so I went up to the room to relax for a minute or two. It was nearly 7:00 p.m. when I awoke. So all I can tell you about the car show is that all those who attended had a great time.

Later in the evening the POCA raffle took place, with a huge array of prizes supplied by our generous De Tomaso parts vendors along with a long list of very generous donors.

That concluded a thoroughly enjoyable four days with one of the best groups of people imaginable. The facility and the staff were impeccable. POCA and the Pantera Club Of Arizona deserve an enormous THANK YOU for the huge amount of work that they put into this event. It was GREAT!



The car show was terrific...or so I heard!



36th ANNUAL VMOA CAR SHOW IN CONJUNCTION WITH NOR CAL SAAC

SATURDAY JUNE 15, 2013
at De ANZA COLLEGE
(STEVENS CREEK BLVD. & STELLING RD.)
CUPERTINO, CA



All models and years of Mustangs, Shelbys, Cobras, Panteras and Ford GT's as well as '60 -'70 Ford and Mercury Muscle Cars are welcome!

Fee for entries postmarked by 6/6/13:	\$30 for 1st car (includes T-shirt) \$20 for additional cars (without T-shirts)
Fee for entries postmarked after 6/6/13:	\$40 per car (includes T-shirt)
Pony Corral (Cars for sale):	\$20 per car (does not include a T-shirt)

Registration: 8:00 - 10:00 AM

People's Choice Voting: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Awards Presentation: 2:00 - 3:00 PM

Free Admission for spectators (Parking \$3.00 on campus paid to De Anza College)

Note: VMOA reserves the right to reclassify your car if we deem that it was entered in the incorrect class.

For additional information:

Call Tom at (408)374-4966

email: CarShow@vintagemustang.org

<http://www.vintagemustang.org>



Greg Taylor
730 Walnut Ave.
Burlingame, CA 94010



NEXT CLUB MEETING

**THURSDAY, May 30th, 2013
8:00 P.M.**

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

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

- June 15 ----- VMOA/Nor-Cal SAAC car show (Tom Hasenberg)
June 29-30 ----- Palo Alto Concours (Bud Millard)
July 27 --- Hole In The Ground Tour, Part Three (Michael and Roxanne Fertitta)

REMINDER — NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE BY 15th OF EACH MONTH