

pantera
CLUB OF NORTHERN
california



A Chapter of POCA

news

www.PanteraClubNorCal.com

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Minutes of Meeting 22 May, 2014

The meeting was called to order by the president at 8:00 p.m. sharp. All officers were present except for Greg Taylor and Denny Morse. Turnout was a bit light, with only 24 members present, but there were five Panteras in the parking lot.

New Members/Guests: Marcus Smith brought his coworker **Jill** from Santa Clara, who lets him crash on her couch when he's working in the Bay Area.

Changes To Last Month's Minutes: Bob Benson's address was printed incorrectly on the masthead (it has been corrected for this issue). There were also one or two minor typos, but no substantive changes noted.

Club Treasury Report: We received our first quarter rebate from POCA, and deposited \$45 collected at the Boschert tech session. Checks were written to pay for the roster printing, and the website domain renewal. All in all, the treasury remains on a slight upward trajectory.

We will soon be filing an application with the IRS to become a 501c(7) non-profit organization. The application is 19 pages long (!), and the cost to apply may be as much as \$400. Yikes...well, that's one way to ensure we don't have any profit at least!

Club Store Report: The contents of the club store were all boxed up and ready to be transported to the Fun Rally via the president's SUV.

Club Membership Report: Although Greg wasn't present, he phoned in his report and said there were no changes this month. Several people complained that they were not receiving E-blasts and thus weren't being directed to the club website to download the newsletter. It was reiterated that if you aren't getting the e-blasts it means that Greg doesn't have a current e-mail address for you, and you need to contact him and let him know.

Club Website Report: Denny was similarly absent, and the website has been relatively static apart from uploading the latest newsletter.

Club Library Report: Forest said he had nothing new or exciting this month. Somebody jokingly asked if he would be taking the library to the Fun Rally, and Judy retorted, "I want to take it to the dump!"

Club Motorsports Report: Checkered Flag Racing Association will be running the new five-mile Thunderhill track early in October, and several PCNC members are planning on attending. It should be epic!

Past Events:

Boschert Tech Session: The tech session at Rich Boschert's house had light attendance, but fun was had by all present. Lee Scales had a fair amount of work performed on his Pantera (mostly by Rich Boschert), Mike Drew and Forest Goodhart worked on Mike's driveshafts and found out how effective a 20-ton press can be at breaking things, and Lori's Pantera engine was evaluated and found to have 15 good camshaft lobes. See the article elsewhere in this newsletter.

Upcoming Events:

Vintage Mustang Owners of America Car Show — 21 June: PCNC member Tom Hasenberg is one of the organizers of the VMOA annual car show, and he always works to establish a dedicated De Tomaso class. Previous iterations of the show have seen upwards of ten De Tomaso cars on display, so hopefully we can make a good showing this year as well. See the flyer elsewhere in this newsletter.

Blackhawk Museum Tour — 28 June: PCNC will meet for a private tour of this world-class automobile museum in Danville, including an opportunity to position our cars on the plaza for a photo op. After the photo shoot, we will have a docent-guided tour, then have lunch in Blackhawk Plaza. An RSVP is required to ensure we have enough seats for lunch—if you intend to come and haven't already notified Bud, please do so now.

See the flyer elsewhere in this newsletter for all the details. The road up to the plaza in front of the museum is accessed via the back of the shopping center parking lot.

Monterey Weekend — 13-17 August: While there are no rooms available at Los Laureles, there is a waiting list. The dinner will be held on Friday night, and of course tickets are still available. Deposits have all been collected, and final payment is due by June 15th.

The Concorso Italiano is now on Saturday, but the PCNC dinner will still be on Friday night. Dinner is included for those who are reserving rooms; all others will be charged \$50 each. This year's theme will be, "A Tribute To Tony Harvey". To that end, Steve Dalcino is looking for photos of Tony; if you have some please send them to him. Come dressed in Tony's favorite threads—either motorcycle garb or a Hawaiian shirt!

Monterey corral passes are now arranged directly through the track, not PCNC, and the cost is \$25 for three days. Corral cops will ensure there are no trucks etc. parked in our lot. Laguna Seca should have a website up and running soon where you can order race tickets and corral passes.

Ironstone Concours Weekend — 26-28 September: The application form for the concours is now available from the Ironstone winery website. Kevin Abbey will again be hosting the PCNC contingent. There will be a dinner on Friday at Murphy's Hotel, and at the Sequoia Woods country club on Saturday. Hotel reservations are hard to come by, so make yours now!

Other Upcoming Events: Bud has been busy planning future events, including a trans-Sierra tour in October (potentially a joint event with Reno-Tahoe Panteras), and an overnight Hearst Castle tour in November. We would travel down Hwy 1, overnight in Cambria in individual cottages, then come home on Sunday. He doesn't want to plan the event if there is no interest in attending, so please contact him to express general interest and then he'll get to work on planning it!

He's also working on a tour of the extensive collection of Oracle CEO Larry Cramer. Stay tuned!

Christmas In Jeopardy?: Russ made a very stern announcement to the effect that if we didn't have some volunteers step forward to plan the club's Christmas party, Christmas would be canceled! If you think you can help, please step forward and volunteer now!

Club Business:

Pam Sharp Update: Pam fortunately had overseas trip insurance that paid for all the expenses incurred with her Roman illness, including her rebooked flight home. She is now resting at home, not fully recovered and still weak. She has a positive attitude and asked to say hello to everyone present, and looks forward to phone calls from well-wishers.

Honorary Membership: A proposal was made and passed to afford honorary membership to POCA Membership Chair Judy McCartney, in recognition of her many years of devoted service to the club.

Bill Santos Award Suspended: The Bill Santos Memorial Award was nominally issued at the Fun Rally in conjunction with the PCNC track event awards, but given that we are no longer hosting the event, the board decided to suspend issuance of the award.

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

News, Clues and Rumors:

Mangusta Moneymaker: A Mangusta that was given a paint job and a poor quality engine rebuild in the USA, which looked very nice but had numerous originality and quality issues, was purchased last fall in California by an English investor. He shipped it to England, then entered it into the Bonham's Monaco auction, where it sold for a record \$341,000! Prior to the auction, the car was inspected by noted Mangusta expert Johnny Woods who pronounced it 'undriveable' in its current condition, and issued a long list of relatively small, but very necessary fixes. Hopefully the new owner gets the memo; for sure he has pockets deep enough to afford the maintenance!

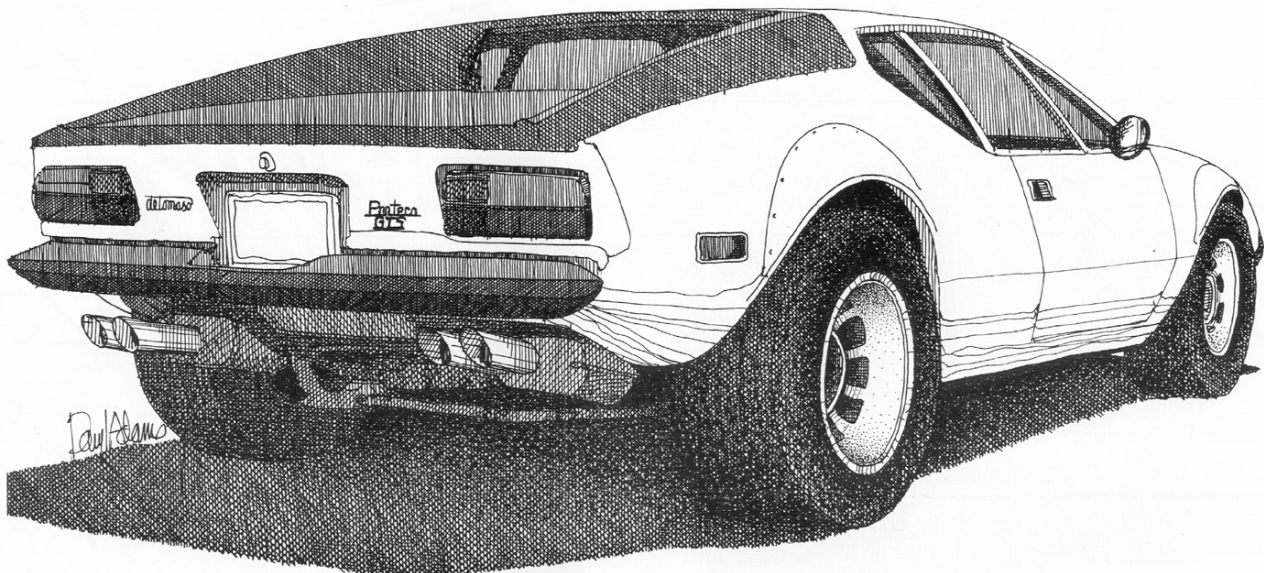
Sacramento Club Booming: The last monthly meeting of Capitol Panteras had record turnout, with 17 people and six Panteras present, including two cars that are brand new to the club (one formerly owned by long-distance PCNC member Mike Vallee). The June meeting will be held at the Capitol Auto Museum on June 19th.

Driving For Dinner Raffle: This program has been brought back in limited form, with a \$10 gift card to Coco's. This month's winner was Lee Scales.

Raffle Results: Brent and Brett passed the hat, with the following results:

- Bob Benson T-shirt (last one) — Darryl Johnson
- Car detailing kit — Steve Liebenow
- R/C helicopter — Forrest Goodhart
- De Tomaso flag — Doug Johnson
- Drill/driver bit kit — Ron DeMaderios
- Flashlight set — Flashlight
- Clock radio — Brett Santos
- Pliers/Screwdrivers kits — Ben Gage

The meeting adjourned to the parking lot at 9:06 p.m.



A Few Thoughts from the President

by Russ Britschgi

These cars aren't fun any more.

"What?" you ask. "How can you say that? Your car is at home in its garage!"

Well, you're right. I didn't drive my Pantera to the San Diego Fun Rally. I drove an SUV. Now it's true I needed it to transport the Club Store, but I also had a load of tools and some room left over for perhaps two passengers and their luggage if necessary. What I am getting at is there were no breakdowns. I planned to drive the sweep position and pick up the pieces along the way. That was not needed. What kind of fun is that?

Zero failures. Bring back the good old days: Rich James's Mangusta losing a front wheel bearing halfway between "Nothing" Death Valley and the town of "No Place", Jim Kuehne trying to make it to our planned overnight stop with a plugged radiator, Bill Santos

with a missing rear suspension bushing that caused the rear toe to change radically in every corner (giving him a somewhat wild ride through the mountains), Steve Liebenow's plugged air filter, and on and on. Even my Pantera losing an alternator, necessitating periodic battery swaps with Roger Sharp's so I could make it home with just the battery powering the fan and headlights.

Ah, those failures made the trips interesting and fun. (Well, I admit it was less fun when it was my turn to be parked by the side of the road.) It's the breakdowns that make the trips memorable, and I have seen one on just about every Fun Rally trip I've been on. It's those little problems that bring the members together, pitching in to get the offending cars back on the road. It's that "no one left behind" spirit that makes for the teamwork PCNC has always had.

So come on guys, we need something more than Bob Lucas's dead battery in a gas station, two blocks from a parts store, to make it memorable. That problem was solved by the time I got there. I had just looked into the front luggage compartment to see Bob removing the old battery and a total stranger was setting a brand new one on the ground next to my feet. Total down time couldn't have been more than 15 minutes; hardly memorable, Bob.

So guys and gals, let's crank it up a notch. We only have three more trips left this year — Ironstone in September, the Trans-Sierra Trip in October, and Hearst Castle in November — to get things back to normal. Let's get out there and give those motorheads something to do. Let's put some fun back into Pantera ownership!

Happy motoring!

Membership News

New Members for June 2014:

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: 22 years

Chuck and Suzie Melton: 17 years

Randy and Cindy McAyeal: 5 years

Lysianne Doute: 3 years

Kendall Swenson: 1 year

Les Morgan and Cheryl Pastore: 20 years

Steve and Merry Dalcino: 15 years

Matthew Kelleher: 4 years

Lou and Karen Brizzolara: 1 year

Pre-Fun Rally Tech Session

Story and Photos by Mike Drew

On a beautiful Saturday in May, Rich Boschert was kind enough to host a tech session at his incredible home in Los Gatos. Rich's home is incredible not because it's a McMansion (as are some of the homes in his area), but rather because it's an untouched throwback to a bygone age, when Los Gatos was truly 'country'. A modest house faces the street, and at the end of the very, very long lot, past a barn converted to a garage, there are old-school workshops, the kind with sliding doors suspended from above, or even no doors at all.



The heart of any PCNC tech session is the food! Brauts and burgers aplenty were on offer, as well as lots of other goodies



Rich's dad was an endless source of stories and anecdotes; here he regales Cheryl Colombero as they enjoy lunch

Within are endless toolboxes with everything you could need to fix (or break) just about anything imaginable.

Rich's place is a sort of clubhouse for neighborhood motorheads, and there were a couple of performance Mopars up in the air being wrenched on all day, and a turbo-charged SVO Mustang even appeared for awhile.

Ostensibly the tech session was intended to perform repairs to cars destined for the long drive to the POCA Fun Rally in San Diego, but those planning on making the trek showed an unusual degree of confidence in their cars, and stayed away in droves. This afforded the

opportunity for others to have their Panteras worked on instead.

Lee Scales' Pantera had demonstrably suffered from a distinctly non-working carburetor, as evidenced by the great improvement when Rich Boschert's loaner carb from his Dodge tunnel-ram setup was set atop the Pantera intake manifold. That carb unfortunately had secondaries that were out to lunch, so at this tech session, the loaner was removed and replaced with the other carb from the Dodge.

Along the way, several other problems were found and fixed on Lee's car, including broken muffler hangars and loose driveshaft bolts. As usual, Rich was a veritable mechanical dervish, constantly jumping into and out of and un-



It was a valiant effort, but ultimately the attempt to rebuild Mike's driveshafts proved fruitless, as U-joint caps broke left and right!

der the car, a blur of activity and focused energy!

Speaking of energy, Rich's father is a bit of a mad scientist with a pas-

sion for electricity, and he had numerous electrical gadgets on display, including one that, if touched, would make all your hand stand on end as it passed a jillion volts through your body!

Fairly early on in the proceedings, time was called and everybody gathered around the grille. Hot links and burgers were laid out, along with a bunch of other munchies and desserts. So far only one Pantera had been worked on, but the dozen or more people were enjoying themselves just fine.

I had brought my Pantera driveshafts and new U-joints in a box. Although I have all the tools necessary to change them myself, I lacked the confidence to tackle the job on my own, and wanted some adult supervision. Forest Goodhart has been at it for more years than I've been alive, and he was eager to help.



Lori waxes philosophical over her wounded engine with Diane and Doris as a Mopar slowly comes together in the background



Lee Scales and Steve Liebenow watch as Rich Boschert and Tom Galli discuss the work completed on Lee's car

Very quickly, eagerness gave way to dismay, as one of the new U-joint caps ruptured when it was pressed together. This meant I wouldn't be able to complete the task, but at least we could get partway there. More troubles made themselves known after we got the first U-joint installed; it turns out a previous owner had installed a replacement U-joint and evidently broke two of the four caps, and lacking suitable replacements, chose to fit smaller caps with sleeves to make up the difference. We hadn't seen them, and now the sleeves had fallen in and were touching the U-joint cross and preventing proper movement. So it all had to come apart again, whereupon a second cap broke!

Putting them all together again, a roller fell over into the bottom of a cap and punched right through, for a total of three wrecked caps! Forest was mortified (he has been changing U-joints since forever and had *never* broken one, much less three), but under the circum-

stances I can't see what we could have done differently. Sometimes, stuff just happens....

Having run out of U-joints to break, we turned our attention to Lori's car, which has had a distinctly tappety sound in the engine for years. She climbed in the engine bay to pull a valve cover, but soon Forest was all over it, feeling around and removing unseen bolts in a rapid fashion. With the valve cover off, we started the engine, and saw seven rocker arms merrily rocking, and one just sort of ambling up and down, moving hardly at all. Although we didn't dive in any further, the consensus is that this is not merely a flaccid lifter; the camshaft is probably shot.

As the engine has 95K miles on it, it would be pointless to just change the cam. A full engine rebuild is therefore on the cards, but as an interim step, she'd like to get a temporary engine to get the car back on the road, so she can rebuild her engine in a leisurely fashion. Does anybody know of a running

351C engine that could be had cheaply, or merely borrowed for a few months?

John Columbero's Pantera was suffering from clutch hydraulic woes, and he was unable to bring the car to the event. Several of us planned to swing by his house after work was complete to try to sort it out, but sadly the day stretched so long that there simply wasn't time. Fortunately Brent Stewart was able to drop by the next day, and discovered that the system was empty. He filled it up and bled it, and it seemed to work fine, although one has to wonder where the clutch fluid had gone, and how long the new fluid would remain on board before the clutch failed again?

Anyway, at the end of the day, everybody drove home happily, and the Panteras present were either in better shape than when they arrived, or at least questions had been answered so plans could be established to get them back to good health.

Thanks to Rich and his father for opening their home up to us!



37th ANNUAL VMOA CAR SHOW

WITH

NOR CAL SAAC

SATURDAY JUNE 21, 2014

at De ANZA COLLEGE

(STEVENS CREEK BLVD. & STELLING RD.)
CUPERTINO, CA

CELEBRATING
50 YEARS



of
MUSTANGS



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 6/12/14:	\$35 for 1st car (includes T-shirt) \$25 for additional cars (without T-shirts)
Fee for entries postmarked after 6/12/14:	\$45 per car (includes T-shirt)
Pony Corral (Cars for sale):	\$25 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>

P.C.N.C.

BLACKHAWK Museum Tour & Lunch



Saturday, June 28, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.
at the Blackhawk Plaza in Danville, CA

- ☞ We will meet at the upper plaza in front of the museum for a photo session so bring your Panteras and your cameras because there is sure to be some great photo ops.
- ☞ After the photo shoot, we will have a docent-guided tour of the museum.
- ☞ We will then proceed to the Prickly Pear Cantina located within the Blackhawk Plaza for a nice lunch.

Please R.S.V.P. to Bud Millard @ (650) 697-6894 or bmillard601@comcast.net

Directions to Upper Plaza: From 580 take Crow Canyon Rd. East and go 4.2 miles, and then turn right on Camino Tassajara. The first left (at the Century Blackhawk Plaza Theatre) is the entrance to Blackhawk Plaza. The 2nd right takes you into the main parking area where you will then go left up the hill to the first lot on the left where you will be directed to the upper plaza.

See you at Blackhawk! 👍



MONTEREY 2014

PCNC is proud to announce The 2014 Monterey Motorsports Reunion “Good Times Dinner” to be held on Friday, August 15, 2014 at Los Laureles Lodge in Carmel Valley.

This year we will be celebrating Tony Harvey, the man known as the father of the PCNC “Monterey Historics” event. Tony loved the grace, the elegant style and the mechanical efficiency of the Pantera. He loved fast motorcycles. And, he loved putting smiles on the faces of his countless friends.

So, in the Harvey tradition, we are going to put on a fabulous barbecue on the terrace of Los Laureles Lodge, under the trees, under the stars (maybe fog), surrounded by De Tomasos, and a group of the most enjoyable people you’re likely to ever come across. Chef Martin Rodriguez has promised to amaze us with a delectable array of culinary delights. Bob Benson has agreed to fill us in on his participation in the Optima Batteries “Ultimate Street Car Invitational” this past winter. And, in the Harvey tradition, there will be “People’s Choice” Awards for The Most Beautiful Car, The Most Desirable Car, and the Best Cure For A Mid-Life Crisis.

Come early and enjoy the armchair racing, the “broke-down by the side of the road” stories, the banter, the camaraderie, and the refreshments of the PCNC Hospitality Suite.

Dinner starts at 7:30, and is **BY RESERVATION ONLY**. Dress is casual. The price this year is \$50.00 per person (\$100.00 per couple) and reservations **MUST** be in by July 10. Those with Los Laureles rooms booked through PCNC get two dinner tickets with their room.

Please RSVP by sending payment to: PCNC’s “Good Times Dinner” c/o Kevin Abbey, 1605 Clee Street, Belmont, CA 94002 (make checks payable to PCNC).
See you there!





Greg Taylor
730 Walnut Ave.
Burlingame, CA 94010



NEXT CLUB MEETING

**THURSDAY, June 26th, 2014
8:00 P.M.**

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

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

June 21 ————— Vintage Mustang Owners of America Show (Tom Hasenberg)

June 28 ————— Blackhawk Museum Tour (Bud Millard)

August 13-17 — Monterey Historic Races/Concorso Italiano Weekend (Kevin Abbey)

September 26-28 ————— Ironstone Concours Weekend (Kevin Abbey)

REMINDER — NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE BY 15th OF EACH MONTH