

pantera
CLUB OF NORTHERN
california



A Chapter of POCA

news

www.PanteraClubNorCal.com

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Minutes of Meeting 29 January, 2015

The meeting was called to order by new president Forest Goodhart at 8:01 p.m. He noted with some sadness that Judy was absent, because she had fallen a week ago and broken five ribs! All officers were present except for Darryl Johnson, Bob Benson and Denny Morse. There were 28 members present, and two De Tomaso cars in the parking lot.

It was noted that Bud Millard was present, and would almost assuredly be assigned the role of Events Coordinator and relieved of his responsibilities for the club store. We are still looking for somebody to manage the club store, or else we will simply liquidate our current inventory and shut the store down. The store has proven to be the club's main source of income over the years, so we really would like to keep it open if possible. Bud pledged to help ease a newcomer into the job. If you'd like to volunteer please contact Forest!

New Members/Guests: The club welcomed **Mark Bailey**, a southern California native who has moved to the Bay Area after spending time in Maryland. His Pantera is still on the east coast, but he brought a photo taken at a track day at Summit Point Raceway. He said he attained 150 mph on the front straight, and managed to spin out twice without damaging anything!

Also joining the group was **Mike Kearney**, who is looking for a Pantera. He has attended a few club events but this was his first meeting.

The club was also happy to see **Rich Walling**. He's been a member for years but hasn't attended a meeting since about 2007. His '73 Pantera is in a million pieces in the former Todd Glycer workshop in Belmont. It's been completely blown apart for restoration, and is down to bare metal right now. All parts have been purchased (he said he bought one of everything, from everybody). He hopes to have it back together, resplendent in red, in the next six months.

Club Treasury Report: Larry Finch now has control over the club's bank account. Tom Galli did an outstanding job fully documenting the status of the treasury to make turnover as painless as possible. He also has all the 501(c)7 paperwork complete, except for the club store accounting.

Club Store Report: Tom Galli went to Bud Millard's house and boxed up and inventoried all of the contents of the club store. It is now in suspended animation, awaiting a volunteer to bring it back to life....

Club Website Report: The club newsletter and info on all our upcoming events is posted on the website.

Club Motorsports Report: The Optima Challenge is auditioning cars on February 28th/March 1st at Thunderhill. Bob is planning on entering his Firebird in hopes of being selected to participate once again.

Speedway Motors is hosting an autocross in conjunction with the SCCA at Crow's Landing in Patterson, in California's central valley, on March 6/7. Thanks to the seemingly endless pavement offered by the disused airfield, the courses are normally quite large.

The Goodguys car show is in Pleasanton on 28/29 March and they are hosting an autocross. Tech is simple; the car just needs to be safe. They would like to see more Panteras out there running.

Checkered Flag Racing Association, the open track club founded by PCNC members, is having an event on 30 March, running the full five-mile track. Several PCNC members have committed to attending, hopefully at least some of them driving their Panteras?

The POCA Fun Rally track event on 16-17 May will be the last opportunity for cars to run at speed at the Texas World Speedway, arguably one of the fastest tracks in the USA. At least 30 Panteras are already signed up but there is plenty of room for more!

Club Library Report: Forest said there had been no activity of late. He's going to be sending an article to Denny to publish on the website.

Club Membership Report: Greg Taylor gave his last report as the outgoing Membership Coordinator. He said at the end of the year PCNC had 143 members, while the year prior we had 144. He had a changeover meeting with Lori Drew, and she will now be taking on the responsibilities of the office. He expressed that he greatly enjoyed serving the members of the club, and he looks forward to continuing to participate, as well as working on his Mangusta with the hopes of finishing it soon-ish.

Lori then discussed our newest member, Doug Field, who has a white '73 Pantera and lives in Los Gatos. Doug was able to attend the June in January party and meet some club members; we're hoping to see more of him in the upcoming year.

Past Events:

Christmas Party: Greg Taylor did a great job as Master of Ceremonies. For the details of the event, he said, "Read the article in the newsletter!" Ben Gage took a moment to say that this was his first-ever PCNC Christmas Party and he thought it was extremely well-done, and scored it highly. Greg Taylor and Bob Lucas and their loyal Significant Others did a great job pulling it all together fairly late in the year, and Brent did a terrific job with the raffle.

June in January Party: Against all odds, the weather was terrific and this prompted a fantastic turnout of club members and cars. The grille was loaded with all kinds of food, yet Forest managed to miss it somehow! Peter Kovacs Pantera made its first public appearance in several years, but almost immediately found itself on the lift due to a bad miss. While there were concerns about burned exhaust valves, the problem turned out to be a loose ignition wire. See the article elsewhere in this newsletter.

Morro Bay Road Trip: The Konos, Goodharts and DeMaderioses did an "inns and feathers" weekend run down to Morro Bay, taking their three Panteras on a birdwatching tour. It was completely uneventful, with no mechanical issues and no rain. They stumbled across a rather scruffy-looking Pantera parked on the street and left a note on it, inviting the owner to come join them, but they never heard from him. Later that day, a friend of Brent Stewart's happened to spot the three Panteras parked together, shot a photo and sent it to Brent asking, "Hey, do you know these guys?" Yes, it's a small world....

Upcoming Events:

Hearst Castle Tour — 28-29 March: The long-promised nighttime tour of Hearst Castle starts at 7:00 p.m. on the Saturday night. The group will meet in the morning at the Rio Del Mar shopping center in Aptos, then cruise south to Big Sur for lunch, before continuing on to San Simeon. Bud Millard, who is organizing the event, has reserved rooms set aside at the Motel 6 for \$85.99 per night, and he has also booked a restaurant to accommodate us for dinner that evening (early) and breakfast in the morning. Dinner has to be early because we have to be at the castle by 6:30 p.m. for our tour, which will cost \$36 per person. You will have to call the Motel 6 to make your own room reservations, and book the tour through Bud. Don't let inclement weather stop you—the tour will take place rain or shine, and everyone is welcome even if they leave their Panteras at home. See the flyer elsewhere in this newsletter.

Pacific Coast Dream Machines — 26 April: This event has historically clashed with the Fun Rally, but there is no conflict this year, so perhaps somebody would be interested in organizing a PCNC contingent to take part? Contact Bud Millard if you would like to take on the job.

Monterey Weekend: If you want a room with PCNC, make your reservation now. Those who reserved in the past have priority until March 1st, and then the rooms will be opened up to all POCA members. As of now there are seven rooms available. The hospitality suite will be open to everyone, including those just visiting for the day, and those with dinner-only reserva-

tions. Come early, and have a great time before and after the dinner. Contact Steve Dalcino to make your reservations.

Buy/Sell/Swap:

Green LED Gauge Bulbs: Garth Rodericks had three sets of ultra-bright LED interior lights, in green, for the bargain price of only \$10 per set.

Compressor For Sale: Brent Stewart offered up a Craftsman 220V portable air compressor with a 20-gallon tank. If you're interested, let him know.

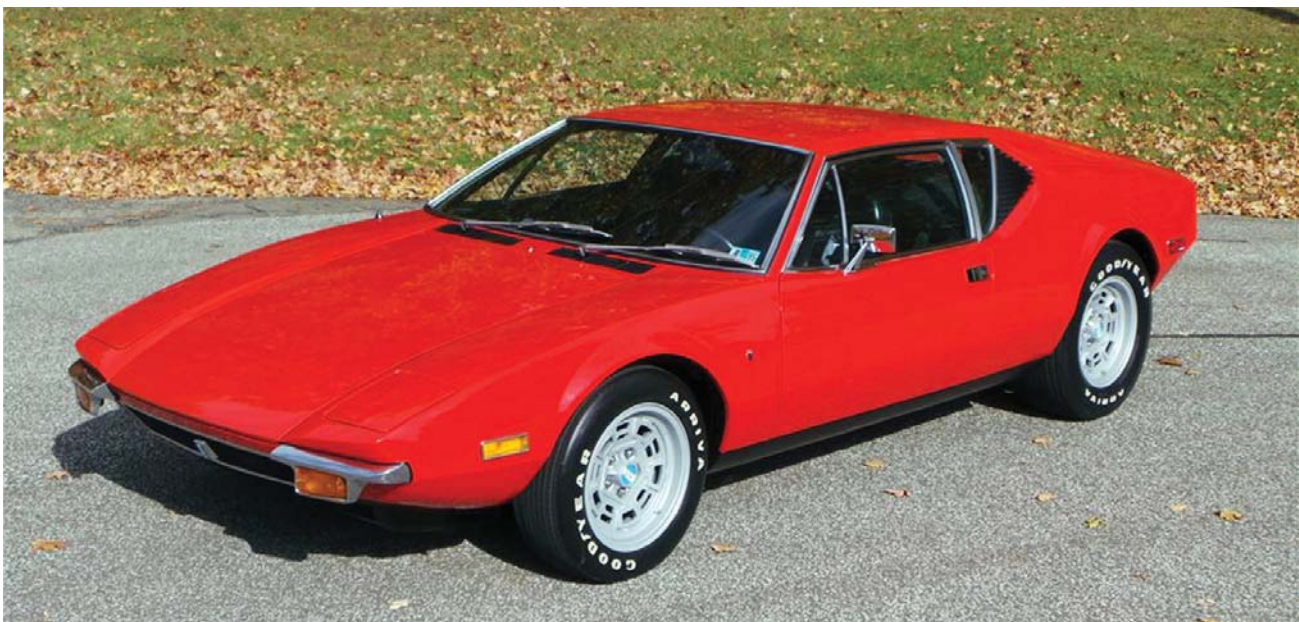
Chuck's Corner: Chuck Melton had some steering rack spacer kits available, polished acorn nuts for the ZF, and door key blanks.

News, Clues and Rumors:

Roger Sharp's Pantera Sold: Ron Southern announced that Roger Sharp sold his Pantera #3189 to a fellow in Santa Rosa who calls himself Mike the Snake. He loves the car, and had put four tanks of gas through it in the first week of ownership. Mike recently underwent open heart surgery, so he is still recovering and can't attend meetings or functions yet. But he plans to join the club and be as active as possible once he heals. He lives just a block away from Chuck and Lori Banks, so hopefully there will be some synergy there.

Radio-Control Record Contender: Greg Taylor showed off a rather sophisticated-looking R/C car chassis. He has ambitions of creating a jet-powered R/C car and setting the world's speed record. He plans to design his own body, using the TLAR (That Looks About Right) method to work out the aerodynamics. Although several people suggested he make it look like a Mangusta, he says he plans on having form follow function so it won't look like a production car. Stay tuned for more developments.

Barrett/Jackson Auction Results: Panteras did extremely well at the Arizona auctions this year; a tidy Pre-L that was yellow with blacked-out trim sold for \$55k, while a one-owner, low-





mileage, bone-stock red Pre-L bid sold for an astounding \$123K! Better call your insurance agent, as it's time to raise your coverage limits again!

At the same auction, Richard Rawlings, host of the TV reality show *Gas Monkey Garage*, paid \$330,000 for the Ring Brothers customized Pantera show car.

Poster from Europe: Mike Drew showed off a fantastic poster, reproduced from an original 1970 scale drawing of the side view of the Pantera. It was one of a treasure trove of original factory documents recently unearthed by a European Pantera owner, and he was kind enough to reproduce it and send it to Mike and Lori as a gift.

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

Polished aluminum shift knob — Walter Miranda
Bottle of port — Walter Miranda
Bullit DVD — Larry Finch
Tommy Hodges Extreme Pantera T—shirt — Larry Finch
Hex wrench set — Steve Dalcino
AFR Heads hat/T—shirt — Rich Walling
R/C Ferrari — Mike Kearney
50—piece tool set — Ben Gage
Man cave snacks and mug — Lori Drew
PI T-shirts — Mark Bailey, Kevin Abbey
Three—flashlight assortment — Randy Welch
Drawings of Bud Millard's custom cars — Greg Taylor
Busted Knuckle garage sign — Brett Santos
Craftsman Combination wrench set — Forest Goodhart

The meeting adjourned to the parking lot at 9:00 p.m.

Membership News

New Members for February 2015:

PCNC is pleased to welcome **Ernie and Jeanne Gabiati** from Lafayette. They recently purchased a 1971 Pantera, #2269, from PI Motorsports. The car was originally white, then was repainted silver. They are having the car restored back to its original white and anticipate it will be finished in April. Ernie first became interested in Panteras when a friend of his let him drive his Pantera last year. Ernie has a number of other cars as well. He's looking forward to attending his first meeting behind the wheel of his Pantera!

February Membership Anniversaries:

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

Byron and Paul Tomingas: 36 years
Roger and Elana Thomas: 21 years
Greg Taylor and Diane Silven: 8 years

Mike and Sue DeFazio: 25 years
Steve and Linda Liebenow: 18 years
Chuck and Lorie Banks: 7 years



Cooling System Tech Tip

Story and Photos by Stephen Nelson

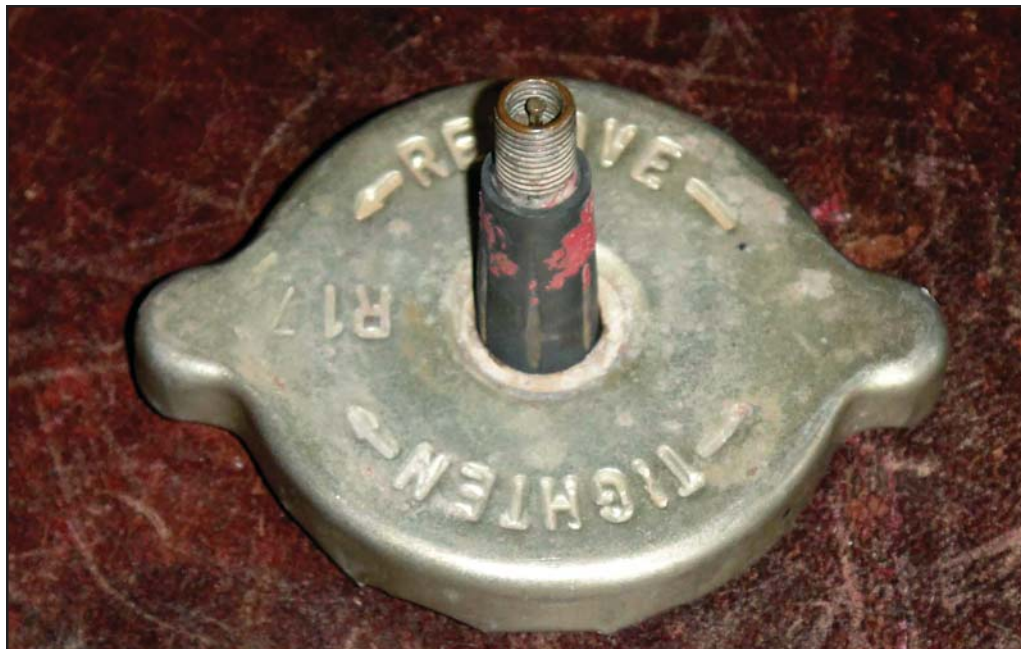
Years ago, I wanted to pressurize my Pantera's cooling system to look for leaks. While one can always start the car and let it warm up, I was looking for something faster. I realized that an old radiator cap can be repurposed with little effort and turned into a valuable diagnostic tool.

I took a radiator cap, removed the "guts" and drilled a hole in the cap. I then took an old innertube, and cut a circle out to match the inside diameter of the radiator cap, with the valve stem in the middle of the circle. With the valve stem sticking through the hole in the cap I had a ready method for pressuring up a cooling system.

Of course, this also makes it possible to explode a cooling system if too much pressure is applied! In the case of our Panteras, I pressurize the swirl tank and put the regular pressure cap on the reservoir, thereby limiting the amount of pressure that the cooling system sees. As long as the regular pressure cap is working as advertised, it



The innertube is cut out to perfectly match the inside contours of the cap



Attaching a pump to the valve stem enables you to gently pressurize the system

will vent any pressure above the rating on the cap.

Perhaps a surer way to avoid overpressurizing the system is to use a bicycle tire pump or a portable electric pump; both will add pressure slowly enough that you won't run the risk of damaging the system.

While I have one of those nifty pumps that attach directly to the radiator cap, I find this is a lot easier!

June in January Party

Story by Mike Drew

Photos by Todd Glycer and Mike Drew

Todd Glycer and Renee Lovette had an ambitious scheme—to host a party at their stunning custom-built home in Soquel, south of Santa Cruz, to celebrate June in January. The general scheme followed the traditions that have been laid down by club members ages ago—they would open up their house (along with their fantastically equipped garage, complete with three lifts) to one and all. Guests were expected to bring a side dish to share, along with their own meat to cook on the outdoor grille.

Of course, in order for the party to live up to its name, the weather would have to be spectacular, which was by no means a foregone conclusion. However, on the night before, we were all pleased to see nothing but sunshine and gentle breezes in the forecast. And so it was that we awoke to splendid weather, which would ensure that Panteras were coaxed from their wintertime slumber to make the journey.

(Well, except for ours of course—mine still has a missing U-joint in one



Just as in ancient times, men seem to gravitate around the cooking fire....

halfshaft and Lori's engine is in Missouri being tended to by Dan Jones, Dave McLain *et al*).

Our drive down was made all the better by Brett Santos who jumped aboard in Sunnyvale, and was proud to tell us of his upcoming promotion at

work. Well-done Brett!

When we arrived, there were already a handful of Panteras present, along with a couple of Sunbeam Tigers (Todd's other passion). Todd had arranged to sell a set of Tiger wheels and tires to a fellow from the San Louis Obispo area, and invited him to drive up on the day and join the party while he was picking them up. He and his friend stayed all afternoon and had a terrific time!

Todd and Renee took turns giving tours of their home to those who hadn't seen it yet (if you have yet to see it, you're in for a treat next time), and Renee was proud to show the vegetable garden which is both aesthetically pleasing, and productive.

Todd soon took up station at the grille,



Naturally enough, the kitchen proved to be the social epicenter of the party

and even though everyone was nominally supposed to be providing their own vittles, he had purchased enough tri-tip steak and chicken to feed an army, so most people's hot dogs and hamburgers went back home with them! Meantime, the kitchen was covered with a variety of side dishes, and sodas and beers were discreetly placed in coolers around the property so nobody had to travel far to reach refreshments.

More Panteras started arriving, one after the other. While there were many familiar faces, we were pleased to see a new member driving his recently purchased white Pantera L. Doug Field soon found himself, and his car, at the center of attention, as people examined



Doug Field managed to do the impossible, and bought a wonderful, almost-bone-stock Pantera L from the original owner!

it from every possible angle and expressed appreciation. He evidently made a fine purchase (from the original owner, no less) and is well-positioned to get years of enjoyment from it.

A prior commitment meant he had to leave early, and as he pulled out to go home, the Liebenows arrived in their well-traveled Mangusta and took his spot, further adding to the variety of De Tomaso cars present.



Doug's Pantera drew a lot of attention, as did the immaculate Sunbeam Tiger behind Forest's Pantera

The afternoon grew long, yet the weather remained beautiful and clear, which is highly unusual for this time of year. We could not have been more lucky. The same could not be said for Peter Kovacs, however. His run of bad luck with his black Pantera continues unabated. His re-re-rebuilt engine only had about 400 miles on it, yet when he pulled it into the driveway it was noticeably sick-sounding. Up on the lift it went, and numerous ears were lent in an effort to discern



Peter Kovacs' Pantera up on the lift, where numerous people attempted to figure out where the expensive engine noise was coming from....



Our gracious hosts, Todd and Renee, once again outdid themselves!

the cause of his engine woes. It was clearly missing on the left side and pumping black smoke out the exhausts—not a good sign with a fuel-injected supercharged 4.6L engine.

After an afternoon spent feasting and socializing, it was time for us to leave, so we didn't get to take part in any mechanical work that might have taken place on Peter's car. We were hearing much tut-tutting and talk of burned valves or seized valve guides, but we later found out that Steve Liebenow found the problem to be shockingly simple—literally! It turns out that a coil pack connector was not properly connected to the coil pack, although it looked fine to the naked eye. As he was jiggling the wires, he got zapped with a jillion volts! BZZZZTTTTT!!!! After he recovered, and the car was shut off, he simply disconnected then reconnected the wires, and the car ran perfectly after that.

Peter was more than relieved, and greatly appreciative of all the help he continues to receive from the other members of the club.

Our thanks to Todd and Renee for hosting a wonderful party. If you weren't able to make it, hopefully you can attend the next club function!

P.C.N.C. HEARST CASTLE Night Tour



Saturday, March 28, 2015
Hearst Castle, San Simeon

- ☞ We will meet at the Rio Del Mar Shopping Center in Aptos which is east off the State Park Dr. exit of Hywy 1. We will leave there promptly at 10am and drive the coastal route to Big Sur where we will have lunch (location to be announced later).
- ☞ We will then travel to the Motel 6 at 9070 Castillo Dr. in San Simeon. The room rate is \$85.99 and you must call 1-800-544-4866 before Feb. 26th to make your reservations. Please reference reservation #M121200275. The restaurant on site is very good & serves at 5pm.
- ☞ Be at the Castle at 6:30pm. The tour is approx. 2 hours and the cost is \$36.00 per person. The evening tour combines several of the daytime tours and is very exciting! We're sure a great time will be had by all!

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

See you at Hearst Castle! ☺





Lori Drew
136 Lighthouse Way
Vacaville, CA 95688



NEXT CLUB MEETING

**THURSDAY, February 26th, 2015
8:00 P.M.**

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

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

March 28-29 ————— Hearst Castle Tour (Bud Millard)
April 26 ————— Pacific Coast Dream Machines Show (POC TBA?)

REMINDER — NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE BY 15th OF EACH MONTH