



news

A Chapter of POCA

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No Meeting Minutes...

Due to the fact that there was no monthly PCNC meeting in March, there are no minutes to report, and thus (hopefully!) no corrections that will have to be made in next month's newsletter!

The club's April meeting is cancelled because of the stay-at-home restrictions still in place, and it's likely the May meeting will be cancelled also. Watch for e-blasts with the latest information as the May date draws nearer. All proposed club events are similarly on hold, although we have ambitions of filling up the calendar once the restrictions are lifted. Concorso Italiano, Pebble Beach Concours and virtually all associated Monterey weekend events have been cancelled, and while the vintage races may take place, it's unknown if spectators will be allowed.

Here's looking to a great 2020—eventually!

Membership News

New Members for April:

We have no new members this month.

April Membership Anniversaries:

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

Mike and Lori Drew: 31 years

Tom Padula and Autumn Cardone: 25 years

Tony Guinasso: 13 years

Michael and Cindy Brunn: 7 years

Robert Bunfill: 5 years

Timmy and Tess Rodriguez: 4 years

Tom and Elece Leverone: 2 years

Hiroshi and Yoko Miyata: 1 year

Lee Scales: 30 years

Perry and Brigit Strongin: 20 years

David Luckenbach: 10 years

Paul and Cathy Rimov: 7 years

Steve and Terri Davis: 5 years

Richard Bakman: 3 years

Andrew and Michele Duafala: 1 year



PCNC Super Bowl Party

Story by Mark Bailey

Photos by Mike Drew

So many things were different for the 2020 Super Bowl Party than in 2019. Game day was a beautiful sunny day rather than windy and rainy, the Patriots, for once, were not in the game and our 49ers were! Finally, it was a great game and the Niners were SOOO close to pulling off a win. What an amazing comeback season they had.

The day started early for the Drews, Kolstoos, and Duafalas, who took part in the Superdrive rally that started south of Half Moon Bay on Hwy 1, and wound its way through the Santa Cruz Mountains, ending in the small town of Boulder Creek. Over 100 classic cars



On a brisk Sunday morning on Hwy 1, the Pantera of Erik Kolstoe is in terrific company, surrounded by a host of classic cars about to set off on the 2020 Superdrive rally



Lori Drew behind the wheel of her '71 Pantera, leading a pack of European sports cars south on Hwy 1

of all stripes turned up, with the three PCNC teams representing the marque properly in their respective Panteras. They then had a highly spirited drive on Bear Creek Road, coming back over the mountains to San Jose, arriving just in time for the party.

We had a good turnout with about 30 club members in attendance and a crowded driveway pad with a wide variety of Panteras, Mustangs and even a freshly rebuilt Triumph TR6. (Unfortunately, the TR6 was totaled the following weekend leaving its owner, Brad Ballard with 14 staples in the back of his head. Brad is doing fine and has begun work on his next project...a later-model TR6).

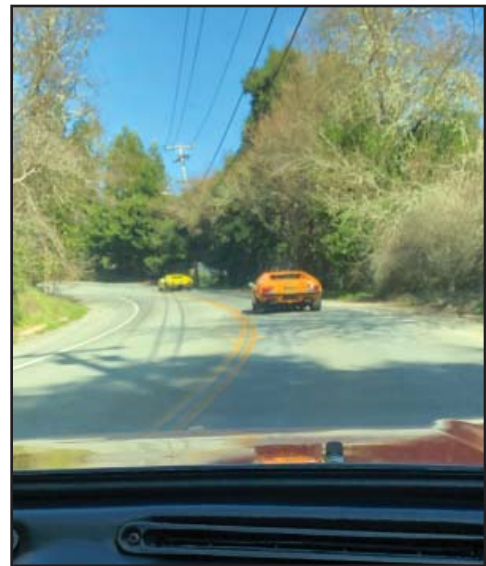
Our PCNC member from Tokyo,



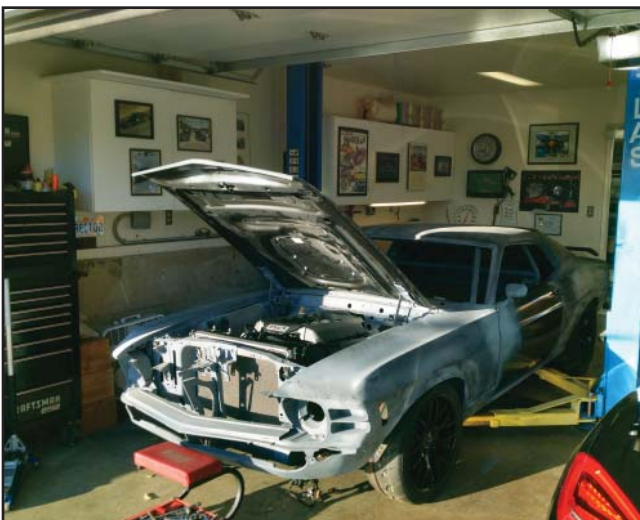
Andrew and Michelle Duafala drove their orange Pantera L on the rally



At the end of the rally we enjoyed a pre-party Italian luncheon



Nothing like a hard backroads drive to build up an appetite for even more food!



Mark's restomod Mustang is really starting to take shape



Erik fixed the ground for his lights as Bud supervised

Hiroshi Miyata, who has attended the past several Super Bowl parties while in the area for a work conference, was unable to make the party this year, but we were pleased that our sometime-Floridian, Tony Blevins, was in town and able to drive his Porsche 911 Cabriolet to the party.

Tucked away in our shops were some interesting projects and parts as well. My '70 Mach 1 Mustang project is coming along, with the body now mounted on the Roadster Shop coilover frame and the Coyote driveline in place. Work at the time was integrating the 2017 Mustang gauge cluster, steering column, center console and HVAC unit into the '70 dash and floor console. That integra-



Panteras in repose as the sunset adds brilliance to their paint. Apart from the taillight ground wire repair, nobody else had any mechanical issues

tion work is finished now as I write this under quarantine in April and it looks like it was meant to be. Also on hand for oohing and aahing was a stunning titanium exhaust system for my son's

BMW M3 project.

The Kolstoe's brought their recently acquired Pantera and got some brake light ground problem solutions from Mike Drew. Mike and Erik also



The livingroom proved to be a popular viewing area for the game, which was so good this year that even those completely disinterested in football found it exciting to watch

noticed that the right-side exhaust on my '73 Pantera was dangling on the hanger. The fiber flange donut had disintegrated—again. Mike mentioned that aluminum donuts are available and after some research I found a GM truck part made from sintered aluminum that should last forever. If anybody is interested let me know and I will send you the part number.

We had our gentlemen and ladies wagering system in place and, also in contrast to last year, Steve and Linda Liebenow did not win all four quarters...sorry guys! The winners were Lou Brizzolara, Brett Santos (twice) and our new member Andy Duafala. Congratulations to all. The win amounts will not be disclosed for legal reasons, but it was enough to put a smile on anyone's face!

The food table was overflowing with club member specialties and our City Lights Vineyards 2017 Malbec was freely flowing. A number of attendees took home goodie crates of our 2017 Malbec and red wine vinegar.

While our Niners did not pull off a win, it was a game and season to be proud of. Even some of the non-football fans watched virtually the whole game.



The dessert and hors d'oeuvres table was covered with all sorts of goodies to munch on



Mark and Linda held court in the kitchen, which was also filled with great food to eat!

We are proceeding with a remodel of our living, dining and Koi room that will make the viewing experience for 2021 even better. This assumes there will be some sort of football season and a Super Bowl! To facilitate the remodel, we will have eight beautiful, large Koi for sale. The pond room must go. Anybody interested in some Koi, please let me know.

Thanks all for a great day with good friends and amazing cars. Everybody stay healthy and take care of each other, and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone again!

Pandemic Parade

Story and Photos by Mike Drew

The shelter-in-place orders associated with the pandemic have been seriously interfering with our ability to drive and enjoy our cars. The need to respect social distancing is considered paramount. With all the modern conveniences we enjoy, including high-speed internet and an endless supply of on-demand television shows and movies to choose from, truthfully we really aren't suffering much at all, certainly compared to some of the privations our ancestors were forced to contend with.

But stop for a moment and consider how all this affects children. They don't really have the ability to understand the severity of the situation we collectively face; all they really understand is that their lives have been impacted in a decidedly negative way.

Last weekend, a grandpa in our town was lamenting the fact that his five-year-old grandson's birthday party had to be cancelled. Grandpa is a car guy, and has passed that on to his grandson, who is apparently nuts for musclecars. So he decided to do what he could to make his grandson's birthday memorable. With a little help from some neighborhood online bulletin boards and Facebook groups, he announced that his grandson would love to see musclecars, and arranged to stage a parade in front of his grandson's house!

He asked that anybody with an interest in bringing cheer to a little boy's heart meet in front of his house at 3:00 p.m. on a Sunday afternoon. Whoever was there would then line up single file



A quiet neighborhood soon found itself inundated with cars, trucks and motorcycles of every type and description

and drive around the corner to pass in front of his grandson's house, where he would be waiting and watching from the lawn.

Well, between a desire to bring cheer to a deserving child, and the simple pent-up desire to get out of the house, grandpa's neighborhood was virtually overrun with vehicles of every type and description. There were musclecars, of course, but there was also a Delorean, a psychedelic VW bus, a batch of very customized Harleys, a classic pre-war DeSoto, jacked-up 4x4 trucks and Jeeps, drift cars, lowriders, and a handful of exotics including a Lamborghini Aventador!

Right on time, everybody piled into

or onto their respective vehicles and fired up. Neighbors came out to watch and take pictures as we slowly cruised towards the grandson's house.

When we rounded the corner, we were surprised to see that both the town police department and fire department had come out in force as well! There were a dozen emergency vehicles with lights flashing and sirens and horns blaring, with everybody leaning out the windows and waving at the kid on the lawn. Many of us had made signs wishing him a Happy Birthday, and as Lori and I drove past, we could see that he was clearly beside himself with excitement!

And almost immediately it was

over. We were gone from our house only about 15 minutes. But we got to take a Pantera out for a drive, a drive with meaning, one that allowed us to remain socially distant yet still bring joy to a child's heart, and deliver a birthday present he will never forget!



Car and motorcycle enthusiasts of all stripes gathered to help salvage a child's birthday

Up In Smoke

Story and Photos by Ron Southern

Those of us who attended our February PCNC meeting will recall Tom Leonard lamenting that his '72 Pantera has been languishing at his friend Sparkys Collision Center in Santa Rosa for the last eight months while being prepared for a complete (red of course) repaint.

In the early morning hours of Thursday, March 5th a fire started at a homeless encampment beside the body shop's rear wall, and quickly spread into the shop and across the inside of the roof. Before being extinguished, most of the tools, parts, and equipment inside sustained smoke, heat, fire or water damage and all four cars in the shop at the time were completely destroyed. Fortunately, Tom's Pantera body, along with its hood, headlight buckets, and decklid had been moved just days before the fire to an adjacent paint booth area for final prep and masking, and to make room for those other four unfortunate cars lost in the main body shop fire.

Unfortunately, our search recovery



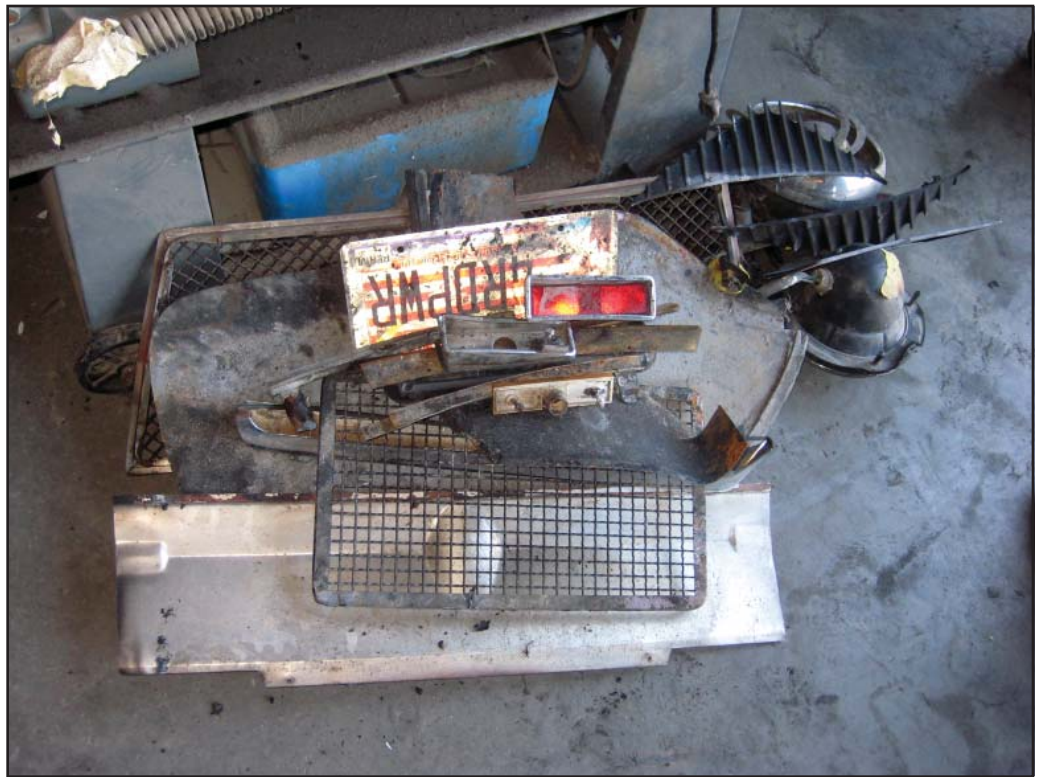
By a stroke of good fortune, Tom's Pantera was the sole survivor of the fire



Tom's car had just been repositioned from the middle of the shop to the bay on the end. All the cars in the remaining bays were burned beyond salvation

and collection effort revealed that many of the parts and trim that were removed and stored in the main body shop were damaged, with some being either salvageable or repairable (more than expected—front and rear grilles, door glass and quarter windows, quarter panel ‘gills’ etc.), completely destroyed (more here—front and rear bumpers, all marker lights, arm rests, inner door cards and outer door handles and buckets, both tail lights) or just never found in the burned-out rubble (most small attachment nuts, screws, and washers, both Ghia emblems, virtually all of the rubber seals, gaskets and wiring).

Only a few items survived com-



We began collecting recognizable parts from the back wall floor area and making a sad pile

pletely unscathed (very few—just the DeTomaso, Pantera, and Power by Ford emblems)

Now sheltered in place, (like we all are!) work on it has halted, but progress is already being made to list,

source and obtain all of the replacement parts necessary to completely rebuild #3907 and get it back on the road.

Let’s all remember that because we don’t have to be “socially distanced” from our Panteras, here is that spare time that we always wanted to be able to get out in the garage and complete that overdue maintenance wish list like I am now with #4744.

Hopefully Tom will be able to find everything he needs, and his Pantera’s paint job will be completed so he can enjoy driving it once more!



This is the part where I teared up just a little—that’s just about all of the parts that we were going to get, with those toasted armrests looking more like burned bones sticking out of the box

One-Car Fun Rally

Story and Photos by Mike Drew

It's easy to forget that right now is when the POCA Fun Rally was supposed to be happening. Lori and I got married there in 2013 and each year we celebrate our anniversary with you. This year we were shut out, stuck with a stay-at-home order.

However our cars are considered an extension of our homes. And coincidentally, auto repair shops are allowed to stay open and do business. A thought occurred to me last week—Lori's Pantera is virtually perfect apart from a bouncing speedo needle due to a bad cable. The only source for a new cable is a Pantera shop. The nearest shop is Pantera Parts Connection in Nevada.

Perfect!

So Friday she backed the car out of the garage, and after checking the oil level and tire pressures, we set off. We could easily have taken freeways and major roads



As I was the navigator, I didn't actually tell Lori exactly how far we would be driving this way. I just said, "Turn here, go there" and the next thing she knew, we were in Nevada! She was not expecting a nine-hour round-trip drive!

and been there relatively quickly, but that isn't what these cars are for. So instead we made our way to Hwy 88, one of the finest roads I have ever been on in my life. It is every bit as good, in

all respects, as anything I have seen in the Swiss Alps or Italian Dolomites. We made our way up towards the 8500-foot summit as the sinewy road turned this way and that, stopping for a moment

alongside a frozen lake.

Eventually we dropped down into Nevada's high desert. We stopped at a Scottish restaurant for lunch, known for their specialty, the 'Big Mac'. We then rolled into Carson City and Pantera Parts Connection.

We dutifully donned our masks and entered, to be



Enjoying our Big Macs while seated in the shade, looking up at the Golden Arches



Lori's Pantera enjoys a brief respite in the cool mountain air, parked alongside the fully frozen-over Caples Lake

greeted by people who seemingly didn't understand why we were doing so? Apparently there is a widespread believe among the locals that Covid19 doesn't exist there!

We spent some time being shown around, admiring all the new projects Larry is working on (having a new CNC machine, he's clearly itching to remake parts no longer available through conventional means, and has been doing a bunch of that lately), and Larry spotted a low tire and kindly provided a shot of air to get us home. (The Logo Cap valve stem caps have a rubber O-rings inside which sometimes catches the valve stem and slowly lets the air out of the valve, defeating the purpose of the O-ring which is there to help seal it!)

We got our speedo cable, Lori

posed six feet from Larry next to Kent and Sandi Snyder's Pantera (but her eyes were closed in the photo so I can't share it), and then it was time to go.

We left relatively quickly, and deliberately took the wrong direction towards home, back over Hwy 88. It was my turn the wheel. We intended to turn onto a smaller road to cut over to Hwy 50 at Pollack Pines, but the turnoff was unmarked so we missed it, and later turned onto what was little more than a paved goat track, driving for miles in second gear, passing through some very remote hamlets until getting onto Hwy 49 at Placerville.

That's a neat road too, so instead of heading home, we crossed Hwy 50 and continued north until we reached I-80 and darkness fell, at which point we begrudgingly

pointed towards home. We arrived at home just before 9 pm, after 420 miles of Pantera fun. The car returned just under 15 mpg, and absolutely didn't skip a beat the whole time.

We managed to have a terrific time, see two states, and remain socially distant the whole time apart from our brief visit to PPC. We had many of the same experiences as we have had at previous Fun Rallies, to include driving on terrific roads, visiting Larry's shop, seeing Kent and Sandi Snyder's Pantera, and eating Scottish food.

It's a shame we weren't able to be with all of you, but it's not too late for each of you to recreate our experiences in your own way. Grab your face masks and your road maps, jump in your Panteras and go for a celebratory drive!



Lori Drew
136 Lighthouse Way
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NEXT CLUB MEETING

Your Guess Is As Good As Mine, 2020
7:30 P.M.

HOLDER'S COUNTRY INN
998 S. De Anza Blvd, San Jose

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

All Upcoming Events Postponed Indefinitely....

REMINDER — NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE BY 15th OF EACH MONTH