



A Chapter of POCA

# news

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

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## Minutes of Meeting 30 January, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 p.m. by the president. All officers were present except Larry Finch, Irene Smith, Denny Morse, John Tomlin and Bob Benson. There were 21 members present, with zero cars in the parking lot. It was noted that attendance was probably off a bit due to the upcoming Super Bowl party just a few days hence.

New Members/Guests: There were no new members present.

Changes To Last Month's Minutes: Although there were no changes to the minutes noted, Steve Dalcino pointed out an error in his article on the Ironstone concours. The best of show was won by a 1930 Duesenberg Model J, not the Ford Model TT truck.

Club Store Report: Initially there was no report, then Marcus Smith walked in with a bunch of store merchandise for sale! He said Irene is trying to build up funds to create some new products for this year's Fun Rally. He brought cold-weather gear (sweatshirts, jackets etc.) to sell at the meeting, in response to the cold weather.

Club Treasury Report: Larry sent a report in which he revealed that the club's contribution to the Christmas party expenses was \$2728, a 'loss' our treasury can easily afford to absorb. This came as a direct result of the decision to use the treasury to help partially underwrite the expenses for the party. We are seeing other ways to spend down our treasury somewhat, to benefit the club's members.

Club Membership Report: Brent Stewart gave his first report as PCNC Membership Director. He had no new members to report, but did say that he successfully sent his first E-blast.

Club Motorsports Report: Bob was absent but sent in a report. There is currently a track event scheduled to be held in conjunction with the Fun Rally, on Thursday and Friday. Information on the event can be found in the POCA Newsletter. Please let event organizer Kevin Hubby know if you plan to participate.

Club Website Report: The basic framework of the website is done. It is a bare structure, not yet populated with any material. Bayani Panis sent approximately 40 bazillion images to the webmaster that he has taken at club events over the years!

Club Library Report: There is no recent activity to report. A complete list of the library's contents can be found on our existing website. Anyone interested in checking out materials is encouraged to contact Forest.

#### Past Events:

PCNC Christmas Party: Thanks and accolades were offered to all those who played a role in the staging the Christmas party, but especially Dennis and Liz Valdez. Look for an article elsewhere in this newsletter.

#### Upcoming Events:

Event Ideas?: There are no events formally scheduled for 2020 (apart from the Super Bowl party), but there are lots of ambitions. Among the ideas bandied about was a tour of the Cobra Experience museum in Martinez (a world-class museum dedicated solely to Shelby Cobras and Mustangs), a tour of a private car collection in Richmond, and another visit to Canapa Motorsports in Scotts Valley.

Bud Millard has a friend who toured the De Tomaso factory a year or two before it closed, and fully documented the experience on video. He is willing to create a presentation to show at an upcoming meeting.

Somebody suggested it would be fun to drive the back roads of the Santa Cruz mountains and take a tour on the Roaring Camp & Big Trees scenic railroad.

Bud had a proposal for a non-car event—there is a culinary walking tour of the North Beach neighborhood of San Francisco, where the participants drop into a number of bars and restaurants and sample the excellent cuisine. This idea met with a very positive response (but be sure

to drive your beater car, not your Pantera).

Mark Bailey lives at the foot of Mount Hamilton, and the road up and over the mountain is legendary. He proposed a spirited drive to the other side, then a return to his house for a BBQ.

Lots of club members are never seen because their cars are squirreled away in their garages, in bits. Many years ago we staged a “Concours de la Garage” where we traveled from one place to another, dropping in and meeting heretofore unknown club members for 30 minutes or so, admiring their projects and offering encouragement, before setting off for the next location.

Bud reminded us that the Alfa Romeo club hosts driving events and has issued an open invitation to us to take part in our Panteras. There seems to be a general appetite for driving tours and events among our club members.

Brett Santos is helping organize a charity Cars & Coffee benefit car show at the Safeway grocery store where he works, to be held in November. Watch for more information later this year.

Lou is always looking for more event ideas; contact him if you are inspired to organize something on behalf of the club.

Monterey Weekend: Steve Dalcino reminded us that we will again be at Los Laureles Lodge for the Monterey festivities. All our rooms are already spoken for, but please let Steve know if you want to be added to the waiting list.

#### Club Business:

E-blast Update: Brent Stewart is now the guy running the PCNC E-blast program. If you have information that needs to be broadcast to the club in a timely manner, please contact him.

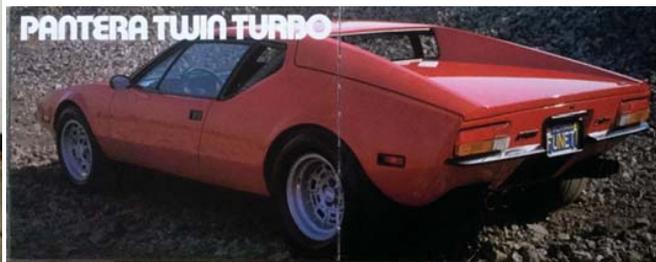
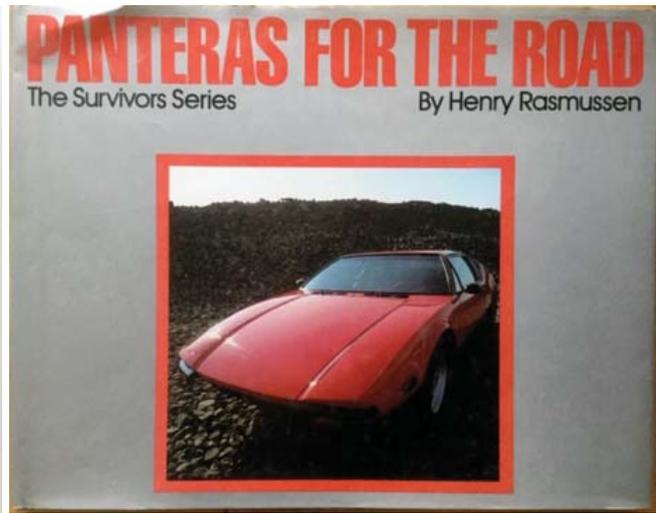
#### News, Clues and Rumors:

Holley Sniper Electronic Fuel Injection: Holley has really moved the goalposts with the introduction of their new Sniper fuel injection system, which promises ease of installation, and rapid self-tuning, at an extremely moderate cost. Brent Stewart and Rich Boschert have gained a level of expertise, as they have successfully installed systems on Brent’s V-8 Datsun 240Z and a pickup truck, and they now plan to install them in both their Panteras. Brent reports that it is very easy—the first truly plug-and-play fuel injection system. He said the hardest part was rigging up the return line to the fuel tank—and that’s not difficult at all!

Tony Blevins In Wall Street Journal: The prestigious newspaper published a very flattering in-depth profile of our own Tony Blevins in their January 23 issue. He is a key member of Apple’s management team, and his efforts, although invisible to the general public, are a key component to the success of the company. The article is available to read on-line (Google is your friend). Tony noted that he is a loyal soldier and did not cooperate in any way with the production of the article.

Dennis Fugnetti RIP: Those who were around in the 1980s may remember the name Dennis Fugnetti. He was a well-known fine arts automotive photographer in Southern California, who owned an exquisite twin-turbo Pantera. He produced several posters featuring his car (one inexplicably including stylized representations of a polished Mangusta wheel?), and his car was featured on the cover and inside the first really fine book on the marque, Panteras For The Road by Henry Rasmussen.

Dennis was active in POCA at the time, and his efforts played a role in perpetuating the



popularity of the Pantera. Although he sold his car in the early 1990s he will forever be linked to the marque, and will be much-missed by those who knew him.

Bring A Trailer Knocks It Out Of The Park: Earlier on the day, a particularly fine example of a very stock Pantera (apart from period PANTERA graphics on the sides and a blacked-out front hood) sold for \$111,000. It was owned by a former POCA President for over 20 years, before being purchased in 2016 and moving to Portland. This was a very solid result for a very solid car.

Raffle Results: Brent Stewart stood in for the missing John Tomlin. He and Brett Santos passed the hat, with the following results:

- Redline funnel — Dennis Valdez
- Craftsman wrench set — Garth Rodericks
- Easy Out kit — Steve Dalcino
- Folding utility knives — Markus Woehler
- Turtle Wax car care kit — Brian Bernard
- Shorty screwdriver kit — Lori Drew
- Swiss army knife — Gary Kono
- Work gloves — Forest Goodhart
- Magnetic parts tray — Gary Kono
- T-shirt — Lou Brizzolara
- Digital tire gauge — Gary Kono
- Corvette book — Brian Bernard
- Muscle Car book — Brian Bernard

The meeting adjourned to the parking lot at 8:47.

# PCNC Board Meeting Minutes

## 27 January, 2020

The members of the PCNC board took part in a teleconference to discuss some of the issues facing the club in 2020. The meeting was called to order at 8:15 p.m. and was attended by the five elected board members, plus Garth Rodericks. A number of topics were discussed:

**Monthly Meeting Location:** Mark has reserved the dining room at Holders on the last Thursday of each month except for November (where it conflicts with Thanksgiving) and December (where we traditionally have our Christmas party instead of the monthly meeting). In November, the previous Thursday isn't available, so we have the room reserved for Wednesday, November 18th.

There was discussion surrounding ongoing dissatisfaction with our current meeting location. Its geographical location is inconvenient for those traveling from any distance, and their policy of kicking us to the curb at 9:00 p.m. makes for necessarily short meetings. We have been unable to find a location that offers the amenities we enjoyed at the much-missed Coco's restaurant, but there is a desire to improve the current state of affairs.

It was resolved that we would insert a poll in the newsletter, seeking input from all members (but especially those who don't attend our meetings), with several alternative solutions proposed, including weekend meetings, or moving the meetings to different locations throughout the Bay Area from month to month.

**Cars & Coffee Event in November:** Brett Santos has asked for the club's support for a charity fundraiser car show to be held in the parking lot of the Safeway supermarket where he works, just blocks from our existing monthly meeting location. Look for more information as the year progresses.

**Other Event Ideas?:** A general discussion took place about club events, in which several ideas were put forth. One was a driving event where we would tour the area and visit the garages of club members whose Panteras are off the road undergoing restoration. Driving tours were discussed generally, with a specific proposal of a run up and over Mt. Hamilton, perhaps ending with a BBQ at the Bailey's house.

Anyone with ideas for events is invited to discuss them with Lou Brizzolara.

**PCNC Website Update:** Our new website is progressing, albeit at a much slower pace than originally envisioned. The basic structure has been completed, but now it needs to be fleshed out with content. At this point it is akin to a house that has been framed but still needs completion. Bayani Panis sent the website builder literally thousands of images from past events.

One technical hurdle yet to be addressed is the existing E-blast system, which utilizes our current website to facilitate the mass e-mailing of information to our members. There is no such functionality planned for our new website, so we will have to conjure up a new mechanism to ensure we retain the ability to contact everyone in a timely and efficient manner. It could be as simple as creating a G-mail account and using an address list of all our members, but the maintenance of that list will have to be handled manually, rather than by the semi-automatic means we currently enjoy.

**Video Teleconference?:** A suggestion was made that perhaps we could set up a video teleconference system at our club meetings so that people who weren't able to physically attend could still

take part. Although the idea has merit, the restaurant lacks the necessary infrastructure to make such a thing possible.

**POCA Fun Rally?:** A recent POCA board meeting discussion revealed that the numbers of registrants for the upcoming POCA Fun Rally is woefully low, and there is growing alarm among the members of the POCA board. Several PCNC board members noted that there has been next to no publicity or advertising for the event apart from flyers in the POCA newsletters. There has been seemingly little concerted effort to promote it, or build genuine enthusiasm among the club members. It was therefore resolved that we would attempt to fulfill that responsibility for our own club members. Plans for driving routes etc. will be developed in the coming weeks, and advertised widely. Hopefully we can have a strong PCNC contingent attending the event.

**Overall Club Goals:** The meeting ended with a general discussion of the goals for 2020. They were boiled down to three things: More member participation, more events, and a new, fully functional website.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:15 p.m.

## Membership News

### **New Members for February:**

We have no new members this month.

### **February Membership Anniversaries:**

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

**James Dursi and Lyn Murray:** 30 years  
**Charles and Nancy Rosebrook:** 11 years  
**Tom and Kathy Leonard:** 3 years  
**John Mowry:** 2 years

**Larry Laino:** 26 years  
**Robert Gutierrez:** 3 years  
**Clayton Engstrom:** 3 years



# Shift Knob Restoration

*Story and Photos by Ron Southern*

If your OEM white plastic shift knob works, but the original thin leather covering and (brass) emblem are shabby, deteriorating, or gone, just send it to me for a complete recovering and restoration with a high-quality stitched black leather cover, and a beautiful new lightweight aluminum De Tomaso emblem, all for just \$40. Search those garage shelves, find your old one and bring it with you to our February PCNC meeting, where my samples will be available for your inspection, or send it (with your check) to:

Ron Southern  
285 Paseo Bolivar  
Sonoma, CA 95476

And even if you have long since lost or replaced your original knob with an aftermarket polished or anodized aluminum one (as I have), I can recover those too, for that authentic concourse appearance and feel.

Knobs will be returned via USPS as a 3-day priority mail, tracked and insured, and please include your e-mail address for those tracking numbers when it ships, and the Pantera chassis number that it will be beautifying.



# 2019 Cars and Crush at City Lights Vineyard

*Story and Photos by Mark Bailey*

On a beautiful early October day in the foothills of San Jose, a hearty group of souls, some 30 strong, with over a dozen PCNC members, gathered some excellent automobile rolling art and their buckets and shears to harvest and crush the 2019 vintage of City Lights Vineyards



*It was a clear and sunny day in the vineyards overlooking silicon valley*

(also known as Mark and Linda Bailey's home) Malbec wine. In about two hours the team harvested and crushed 1800 pounds of grapes and then enjoyed the

rest of the afternoon with great food and vintage wine from City Lights.

We could not have asked for a more beautiful fall day for the har-

vest. The weather was mid-70s and clear to support our efforts. The harvest is easy and went very quickly this year. Some of the folks were looking for a Saturday

morning workout and volunteered to be the bucket runners, bringing the grapes from the vineyard to the wine room where each bucket is weighed and then the grapes crushed. Weight is important as all the yeasts etc. that go into the winemaking process are sized by the weight of the grapes.



*Lou Brizzolara and Bud Millard working "Girty" the grape crusher*

A hearty shout out to Bud Millard who worked with Mark in the crush room weighing the buckets and loading the crusher. He did a Yeomans job hefting 25 pound buckets through the entire crush. Bud must be in better shape than Mark. Mark was sore and Bud was fine!

A good turn-out of interesting cars arrived for the day. There were four Panteras, vintage and late-model Mustangs and Porches, a freshly restored Triumph TR-6 and Gary Kono's amazing Corvette.

Alotofthe guests were very interested in the winemaking process. Mark gave a winemaking class including some bar-



*Trudy Marin gets in the act, delivering freshly harvested grapes to the crushing team*



*PCNC President and host Mark Bailey gives a garage tour and shows the latest progress on his Ford Coyote-engine-powered '69 Mach I Mustang restomod*

rel tasting. As it is said “I’m not having a glass of wine, I’m having six and it is called tasking and it’s classy”.

All in all, it was a beautiful, productive and fun day at the 2019 Cars and Crush. We did not have to work too hard and



*Among the fine cars on display was Gary Kono's outrageous supercharged Corvette*



*There was plenty of interesting Ford-powered iron as well, including Brent and Bev Stewart's '66 Mustang and Dennis and Liz Valdez' Pantera L*

the effort extended was certainly worth the great food and wine we all enjoyed after our efforts. Next year we will have bottled our 2017 so anyone who wants some can take a case home with them to enjoy.

Thanks to all for joining us, and we hope to see even more of you next year!



*Some of the PCNC members present sampling some 2017 and 2018 vintages along with some truly fine food*

East Bay Grease Presents  
A TOUR OF

# Al Engel, of the Richmond Jokers, Car Collection

2801 Giant Road, Bldg A, Richmond, CA 94806

**Saturday April 11th, 2020**  
**10 am til 12:30 PM**

Behind several electric gates in Richmond's railroad district; exists one of the most comprehensive car collections in the Bay Area. Viewing long limited to members of the Richmond Jokers Car Club; we have arranged for this exclusive viewing for the Northern California Pantera Club. The collection covers five warehouses and includes everybody's favorite cars from the 50s, 60s, and 70s mixed in with one-off Street Rods (several by Brizio) and Indy Cars in a collectors' heaven of Airplanes, Engines, Juke Boxes, Toys, and Mini Cars. An exceptional collection opening just for us and our guests !

Please respond to: [matthew.kelleher@comcast.net](mailto:matthew.kelleher@comcast.net) if you plan on attending. Please include in your email , mobile phone number, and the number of persons in your party; also if you intend to attend our lunch.

We will gather in the parking lot of **Walgreen's** on San Pablo Dam Road, El Sobrante ( off HWY 80 El Portal Exit ) at 9:30 AM and caravan over to the car collection. Late comers, go directly to the address. Once you arrive, there are several electric gates to drive thru: after you drive over the railroad tracks; the collection is on the right of the first gate you enter. Please drive your Pantera to this event !

I've arranged for lunch at  
1 PM

**Cafe Soleil**, 3550 San Pablo Dam Road, El Sobrante  
510-758-6134

We have a private room and Al Engel will join us.



Lori Drew  
136 Lighthouse Way  
Vacaville, CA 95688



## NEXT CLUB MEETING

**THURSDAY, February 27th, 2020  
7:30 P.M.**

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

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## UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

April 11 ————— Al Engel Collection Tour (Matt Kelleher)

April 22-26 ————— POCA Fun Rally (Josette D'Orazio)

**REMINDER — NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE BY 15th OF EACH MONTH**