



Maddie's Pantera



More at [www.ocPanteras.com](http://www.ocPanteras.com)

August 2017

**Big Summer Nights** article will be written by two who were fortunate enough to attend. Please look forward to their articles in the coming POCA publication. Go to [www.ocPanteras.com](http://www.ocPanteras.com) to see pictures like the one above.

**Rib Trader MAGICAL DINNER** by Al Arakawa

Team Pantera Orange County's (TPOC) Gary Mitchem, while being crowned as a king, appeared a little concerned with his role on the stage of The Rib Trader Restaurant. Although looking regal wearing a crown and royal coat, Gary was ready to bolt the second Merlin-The-Magician glanced away. Merlin, however, kept him and the audience engrossed with his exceptional humor and slight-of-hand skills. At the end, Gary escaped with his sense of dignity.....barely! (No, not naked.)

TPOC continues to fill its calendar with interesting events throughout the year as the active Board members, led by Chapter President Scott Couchman, organize one event after another. Taking place in August 2017, more than 20 TPOC members and family attended the Magic, Comedy and Dinner show at The Rib Trader in the City of Orange. The terrific evening was capped by the birthday celebration for Judy McCartney, POCA's Membership Chairperson.

Special credit goes to Roger Banowetz and Larry Montgomery for their work in finding the location and making initial contacts for the event and to Gayle Huff for organizing Judy's birthday celebration.



**Death of the Stick** Experts now find that the stick shift is dying. The vast majority of cars were clutch operated by the third pedal when I first gained interest in automobiles. Only the rich folks could afford the luxury of keeping the left foot firmly on the floor. All racecars of the era were designed with this feature because it was more efficient than the slipping autos of the day. Power losses from the so-called "automatic"

were unacceptable until the mid 80s. My first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh cars all had manual transmissions. Manufacturers today are no longer offering stick options outside of a few select models largely because the automatics are much more intelligent than their predecessors. The joy of clicking the much faster paddles makes you feel like a Formula 1 driver. Besides, you no longer have to blip the throttle because the computer does it for you. Only old-timers can explain that heel and toe is not a dance step. Gone is the need to acquire that specialized skill to impress the boys as you downshift into a lower gear for the next corner. Their eyes popped when you double clutched the next one. When dragging, banging the next up shift without the clutch was called speed shifting. A blown box was often the case, but thanks to Hurst shifters for making it at all possible.

Porsche's new GT3 will offer the stick once more even though it will cost you .2 seconds for the run to 60mph. BUT, you will carry that manly smile on your face the rest of the day.

Our ZF allows us to choose the gear we want without interference. The Cleveland has enough torque to make our mistake in that selection without complaint. Instead, the 351C climbs the rev counter with aplomb. Pantera can easily take the entire Laguna Seca course in only one gear, third. Just use the left pedal to start in first gear then shift into third. You can't do that with a sequential paddle.

Don't get me wrong. Paddles are fun, but manuals are "funner" to this old-timer.

**Web site** visit is needed. We are lonely. Spend some time with us at the [www.ocPanteras.com](http://www.ocPanteras.com) site. There you'll see what Greg Ford has done to keep you informed. Get fresh ideas on repairs. Explore its content and send your comments and concerns to him or to me - if you'd like.

**Profile Article Volunteer** is needed to write submissions to Mike Haney. These are intended to let other POCA members be informed as to our activities and to invite them to join us at any of our events.

**Facebook Anyone?** "Linda and I are going to begin populating a Facebook page with a lot of our pictures and ephemera that we have accumulated over the years and invite other enthusiasts to do the same. We are not selling anything, just a gathering relaxed Group with one rule, NO RULES.

On Facebook, access DeTomaso International and join the Group. We urge TPOC to post any club information on that page. Thanks again." - Dave and Linda Adler (ed: Founding members of TPOC and multi-year, past Presidents).

**TPOC Badges** are free for TPOC members and their associates. Simply ask a Board member for one. I now recommend the magnetic ones after losing my pin version. (Moving into the modern age.)

**General Meeting** see [ocpanteras.com](http://ocpanteras.com) web site for location. 17th St Bar and Grill is our general meeting place. It is at the site of the old Zitos at 17320 E 17th in Tustin, located near the 55, 5 and 22 fwys. We normally order our food at 7PM and begin the meeting promptly at 7:30PM on the third Wednesday of each month except December. Scott is likely to have a video treat for us all.

**Get the message?** Without your current email on file, you are not getting all the communiqués that your membership dues warrant. Send Judy [jpoca2@hotmail.com](mailto:jpoca2@hotmail.com) your latest email address for the file.

**Picture of Your Car** is needed for our web site. Email one to Greg Ford at [tpocwebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:tpocwebmaster@gmail.com).

**Reminders:** from [rkunishige@hotmail.com](mailto:rkunishige@hotmail.com). Everyone with an interest in DeTomaso cars is always welcome.

Sep 10 Belmont Shore Car Show Sunday Larry 562 430-7794.

Sep 24 **Ice Cream Social** 3pm at Watson's, see Gary 714 794-7095.

Oct 13 **JPL Tour** \$10pp for 8am coach ride. Bob Singer 714 960-2323.

Nov 18 **Tech Session** at Rod's begins after 8:30. LED lights up your dash 714 374-8177.

Dec 3 **Christmas Party** Gayle Huff & Bob Singer 714 960-2323.

Dec 30 **Gondola Cruise** Bob Singer 714 960-2323.

Jan 20 **Jay Leno Show** Larry 562 430-7794.

May 6 **Pantera Palooza**

**Ads.** Submit your ad via email. We thought about raising our price but decided free is still a good one.

**Geoff Peters** is seeking a project Pantera. Please contact him at [Geoff.Peters@appliedenergy.co.uk](mailto:Geoff.Peters@appliedenergy.co.uk).

**Dave and Linda Adler** have gone to press with their latest book, *Extreme Panteras*. The book is 308 pages long with over 660 color photographs of modified Panteras, including a few from our chapter, TPOC. It will be available in October of this year from Amazon, eBay or directly from our website, [www.detomasobooks.com](http://www.detomasobooks.com). Thank you, The Adlers.

**Jonathan Barlow of Barlow Insurance offers American Modern Classic Car Insurance** at (800) 558-7772, Email: [barlowjb@pacbell.net](mailto:barlowjb@pacbell.net). You may recall his presentation at our meeting a while back.

**Tom Todak** offers Harly Wax® Carnauba, Professional Metal Polish, Plastic & Rubber Restorer and Instant Detailer.



Outshining the Competition Since 1956

Harly Wax creates a deep shine that turns a good paint job into a brilliant paint job.

The World's Finest Carnauba Wax

Harly Wax is a pure carnauba paste wax made in the USA from the highest grade of hand selected Number One Yellow Carnauba Wax from Brazil.

If You Care About Your Car, Harly Wax It

Harly Wax is safe for all finishes. It contains **NO** polymers or silicones and **NO** cleaners, powders or abrasives which gradually remove your car's finish every time you wax.



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