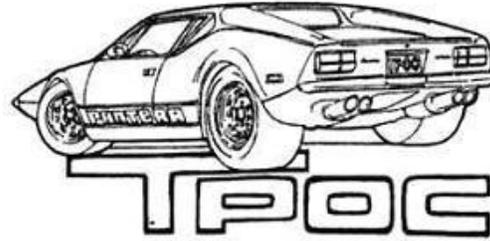




Lotus in a downpour.



www.ocpanteras.com

November 2008

Willow Springs was marred by rain showers that called for several red flag sessions. It also offered an opportunity to learn exactly how our Panteras handled at the extreme without the speed normally demanded. Instead, the reactions to input at 45 mph are those at twice the speed thus reducing the risk of damage. Dallas Raines called the station and found a prediction for clearing skies, but, alas, it was not to be. The track truck led many a session for a more controlled event and to check the seriousness of hydroplaning. The strangest sight was that of two SUVs on track chasing each other at very fast paces signaling the advantage of 4-5,000 pounds on a wet day. My only tour of the track was with Jeff & Dallas in his Cayenne going over a hundred on turn 9 leading to the front straight. Dan Courtney exercised a new Z06 since both his Panteras are down. Ask him about Chevy designs.

Christmas & Gondola events are upon us. Send your check to Bob Singer, please. We must commit to a set number of guests through our payment so help by signing up now. We do want everyone to attend and share in celebration of the year. 89 TPOC members, their associates along with other chapters and friends are all invited.

Events from below need to be logged into your calendar. Your participation helps the club. So, fill your calendar today. Finally, won't you plan an event for next year to your favorite spot? How about a ride, then lunch?

Reminders: from rkunishige@hotmail.com. Everyone with an interest in DeTomaso cars is always welcome.

Dec 7 **Christmas Party** call Bob Singer 714 960-2323 if you'd like to help. Finbars Italian at 620 PCH, Seal Bch 562-430-4303 has been selected for the site of good cheer. It's never too early to sign up for this annual fete: mark you calendar and tell Bob that you'll be there. Be sure to invite the other Chapters and family members to join us for chances at the door prizes. They always add a very festive tone to the gathering for all to enjoy. Pantera parking is arranged for us.

Dec 27 **Gondola Ride** another Bob Singer special so practice your favorite Opera aria and join the singing. Boat leaves promptly at 5:30 so be sure to wear very warm clothing (or not). We must send money early so write your \$20 check to Bob now. Wine, cheese and bread are traditionally provided for all. A Fajitas buffet (\$21) will be at El Toritos, 2nd & PCH after the ride.

Jan 7 **TPOC Mtg** 7pm Mel's Drive-in 12241 Seal Bch Blvd, Seal Beach 563 431-7951.

Feb 11 **TPOC Mtg** 7pm Mel's Drive-in 12241 Seal Bch Blvd, Seal Beach 563 431-7951.

Mar 7-8 **Willow Springs Open Track** by Jim & Cherie Saxton's West Coast Racing 626 285-2024 features both Pantera and Ferrari clubs. In recent years, professional racing teams have joined the sessions to exercise their skills. This offers a learning experience by trailing their line. Our Panteras have sufficient power and suspension to at least remain on the same lap as Larry Stock proved last year. What we need is simply both the desire and the funds to prep our cars. The average "Joe" in his street car can choose from the other three classes as well as take advantage of the many instructors who freely donate their time to ride with you or even drive your car to show how they'd approach the racing line. Car control is what you gain as a result. Give a ride to anyone carrying a helmet printed with "Rod" he loves it.

Mar 11 **TPOC Mtg** 7pm Mel's Drive-in 12241 Seal Bch Blvd, Seal Beach 563 431-7951.

Jun 10-14 **POCA Fun Rally** held in Reno, NV for the first time. Plan to join fellow members on our ride to the rally.

TPOC logo items may be ordered including blue denim long sleeve shirts, white polo shirts and white hats. Sign up at the next meeting or call Dave Rudderow (714) 969-1301. Price is near break-even to encourage displaying our chapter logo with pride.

Badges make this writer look smart. Help my failing memory problem by requesting your free badge and pin it to a prominent place for me to read.

A/C Wanted to replace mine. Donate your old condenser unit to an old retiree. My under dash unit leaks more than the Titanic and I need both the heater and a/c to curb the global warming effect on my aging body.