



Reno Fun Rally



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

March 2009

**Reno Fun Rally** is at a new venue with a promise of even greater amount of fun for all. Judy McCartney, Bill and Cindy Harris are working hard to better their efforts from last year. Reno is the host town for hot rodders during its "Hot August Nights" event and they really know how to make car enthusiasts welcomed. Believe me there is nothing like cruising the Main in a '57 Chevy – maybe a Pantera would be better. Mike Drew has already reported on the many features of the track including its quirks. The new layout offers more challenges to test our skills. Don't you love the idea of a boat cruise on Lake Tahoe? How about stomping some grapes? It is important for us to register early to help those working on our behalf to adjust the events to make sure everyone will be accommodated. So, please submit your registration early.

We are trying to arrange for a caravan or two from SoCal to Reno. Questions that remain outstanding are: (1) Which day(s) should we leave? (2) Should we plan an overnight stop? (3) Once into the hills, should we take the twisties or super highway?

**Track Ratio** From Nov 2008 Racecar Engineering by Mark Ortiz.

Some say a smaller rear track moves around the cones faster. This is used in the current F3 cars and F430. Driver accommodates the narrower track with a tighter apex. For Slaloms some cars use a rear track 4 inches narrower. Wider rear track helps in back heavy cars like a V8 914 with a wider tire patch. Problem is to remember that the rear requires constant attention and the need to drive wider apexes. Adding rear track does make for less load transfer so the rear sticks better than the front. Increasing the rear lateral load transfer reduces the front transfer while adding oversteer. Kart racers find freer (understeer) handling when a shorter front track is used.

For live axles with only leaf springs, the expectation is a tighter handling (understeer). Roll center and resistance remain the same. Live locked axles on a wider rear track produces push but limited-slip can unload the inside tire in hard cornering for a sudden oversteer.

An extreme example is the three wheeler. Here the meter maid Harleys of the 40s and 50s along with the 30s Morgans come to mind. A modern model is the proposed electric Aptera. Placement of the wide wheels front or rear is not as important as the weight location. Stability is gained by moving the balance point over the two wheels and away from the single one.

Consider our Panteras with big rear fender flares to accommodate wider track and stock front footprint a la high performance 911 Porsches. The reduced lateral transfer allows us to raise the rear to gain down force through the attack angle. The center of gravity moves slightly forward. Reducing the inherent oversteer can also be done by lowering the front tire pressure while raising rear pressures or by adding toe-in at both ends. Perhaps Jack DeRyke can add this to his aero studies to increase high speed downforce.

**Modern Headlights** are destined for 7 members. I'll call a meeting for the team upon my return.

**Wheels Wanted** for two members. Scott Couchman and Darrell Mountjoy seek an 8 inch 72 Pre L wheel each. Both want to return the cars to original state. Darrell would consider acquiring a full set. If you can help, email me and I'll forward the info to them. This is one way to make room for more stuff and still help a member.

**SEMA Action Network Thanks You.** "I am truly impressed by the passion SAN members have for this hobby and their dedication in protecting it from legislative threats," said Duggan. "While we celebrate this victory by keeping Cash for Clunkers out of the **stimulus bill**, SAN members are urged to remain vigilant as we collectively work to protect this great American tradition." (Politicians are expected to try again this year---ed.)

**TPOC logo items** are ordered so see Dave Rudderow at the next meeting or call (714) 969-1301 for delivery.

**Badges** make this writer look smart. Help my failing memory problem by requesting your free badge and pin it to a prominent place for all who need it. Alternatively, I ask each member to tattoo their names on their forehead.

**TPOC Roster** is available at the POCA.com site. Sign up for this valuable feature along with historical articles and technical information.

**Events** from below need to be logged into your 2009 calendar. Bill Harris has volunteered to be our Events Coordinator and has established a sign in calendar for us. Email him, [wlhpantera@aol.com](mailto:wlhpantera@aol.com), with your planned event. Also missing are the Tech Session dates that you'd like to see. So, call me at 714 374-8177 to gather the gang for your project to get your ride on the road. Let's fill the calendar with an event each and every month.

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

- Mar 22 **LB Swap Meet** at Long Beach Veterans' Stadium 6am-1pm.
- Apr 4 **Alex Watt Garage** houses a number of old cars in Point Loma. Donut Derelicts begins for 100+ fun miles.
- Apr 8 **TPOC Mtg** 7pm Mel's Drive-in 12241 Seal Bch Blvd, Seal Beach 563 431-7951.
- Apr 15-18 **LB Grand Prix**
- Apr 18 **Wine Tasting Run to Los Alamitos** culminates a breakfast after the Donut Derelicts meet. Enjoy food, drink and friends the entire day. Show your Pantera or other car too. Contact Larry Montgomery or Bill Harris. See POCA site for contact info.
- Apr 19 **Fabulous Fords Forever** is to show our cars the Ford community 10AM-3PM at Knott's Berry Farm. Register your Pantera in the Exotics class 29 for only \$30 at [www.fordcarclub.org](http://www.fordcarclub.org) or 626 914-3738 before 4/6/09 now that POCA Rally is in June.
- Apr 11 **Annual Tech Session** for Reno run at Rod's garage.
- Apr 25 **Seal Beach Car Show**.
- May 16 **Headlight Tech Session** at Rod's garage.
- May 13 **TPOC Mtg** 7pm Mel's Drive-in 12241 Seal Bch Blvd, Seal Beach 563 431-7951.
- Jun 6-7 **HB Concours** is for two days, Saturday for Hot rods & Sunday for us. See <http://www.hbconcours.org/>. See a variety of cars and motorcycles in a beautiful setting at the HB Central Library 10am to 4pm 714 375-8414. It's a great way to show you car prior to the run to Reno.
- Jun 10 **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. Experience the Reno-Fernley Raceway 4.3 mile track and test your skills safely on the longest USA road course. Thursday and Friday are scheduled but be sure to attend the Friday exhibition race. Once again, PCNC will allow \$20 noontime tours as in LV.
- Jul 8 **TPOC Mtg** 7pm Mel's Drive-in 12241 Seal Bch Blvd, Seal Beach 563 431-7951.
- Jul **Justice Brothers Racing Museum**.
- Aug 12 **TPOC Mtg** 7pm Mel's Drive-in 12241 Seal Bch Blvd, Seal Beach 563 431-7951.
- Aug 14 **Concorso Italiano** at Monterey bay \$125 before May 31 email [ci@concorso.com](mailto:ci@concorso.com).
- Aug 14-16 **Monterey Historics** Laguna Seca.
- Aug 29 **Big Bear Air Fair** is August 29, 2009, 8a to 4p <http://www.bigbearcityairport.com/airfair.html>. Possible optional overnigher. See Roger Banowetz.
- Sep 9 **TPOC Mtg** 7pm Mel's Drive-in 12241 Seal Bch Blvd, Seal Beach 563 431-7951.
- Sep 13 **Belmont Shore Show**
- Oct 14 **TPOC Mtg** 7pm Mel's Drive-in 12241 Seal Bch Blvd, Seal Beach 563 431-7951.
- Oct 25 **Wings, Rotors and Wheels** on Sunday Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> is a \$30 planned event. Check out <http://www.wrexpo.net/>.
- Oct 31 & Nov 1 **Willow Springs Open Track** by Jim & Cherie Saxton's West Coast Racing 626 285-2024 [jim@westcoastracinginc.com](mailto:jim@westcoastracinginc.com). It is always a pleasure to hear the roar of our cats running at speed down the front straight. The average "Joe" in his street car can skip the race class and 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. You can even experiment with spring rates or tire pressures to balance the handling characteristics.
- Nov 11 **TPOC Mtg** 7pm Mel's Drive-in 12241 Seal Bch Blvd, Seal Beach 563 431-7951.
- Dec **Christmas Party**
- Dec **Gondola Ride**

### **What do we need to do to get more of you attending our meetings and events?**

Send comments to Rod Kunishige, 1107 Main St. Huntington Bch, 92648 714 374-8177 [rkunishige@hotmail.com](mailto:rkunishige@hotmail.com).

**Missing email addresses** for the following members are needed to update the POCA files: Mark Blakey, Jeff P. Maxwell, Bob P. Mento, Ron Buck, Henry Nakamura, Curtis Poulin, Richard J. Schmitz, Sandy Golden, Ivan G. Speer Jr, Dr. Neil Graham, Dr. William Stewart, Frederick C. Heitman, Ron Huff, Don Welch, W Michael King and William Koneval. Please email Judy at [jpoca2@hotmail.com](mailto:jpoca2@hotmail.com) if you want email copies of the newsletter.

**Email bounced:** [eboston@hhf.stjoe.org](mailto:eboston@hhf.stjoe.org) Dr. Eugene Boston [mjdpanter@comcast.com](mailto:mjdpanter@comcast.com) [al\\_judyv@verizon.net](mailto:al_judyv@verizon.net)  
Al Vollandri [goutexpectations@sbcglobal.net](mailto:goutexpectations@sbcglobal.net)