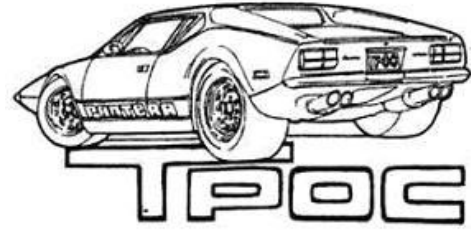


B25 Mitchell



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

July 2017

**Lyon Air Museum** stands as a tribute to those who fought for world freedom during WW II. Each time I visit this small collection, I puff up with pride in the “greatest generation”. This showcase of a small fraction of their achievements stands as a helpful reminder and a glimpse into our future. I stand in awe of the B17 whose image is an integral part of my childhood memory of the TV series, *Twelve O'clock High*. The docent told so many stories while we strolled about. One was about a bride whose wedding dress was fashioned from a parachute brought home by her fiancé. Another spoke of the use by Howard Hughes to lure starlets into the night skies above Hollywood. Both theaters of war, European and Pacific, were on display along with their relics. The one that struck me the most was that of the fine example of the North American B25 Mitchell bomber.

This medium bomber whose role in early WW II reinstated pride in America and warranted a peak into history by the soft spoken words from our guide. In January shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Naval Captain Low watched Army medium bombers lift off from a Norfolk runway that had been painted as a carrier flight deck. He submitted his idea to the Army brass to use their bombers launched from carriers. The idea was accepted and Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle was assigned the project. Two B25s were prepared as a test and the carrier Hornet was ordered on its maiden voyage to be their platform. Both successfully climbed into the skies without bombs or a full complement of crew. The Lt. Col. gathered 80 volunteer flyers for a “top secret” mission. He selected the B25 and heavily modified it to carry 1100 gallons more fuel by removing the belly torrent, installing a tank there, another above the bomb bay and its crawl way. Even the tail guns were removed to save weight and broom handles were painted and attached to mimic 50 cal. Countless training hours were spent to lift off within 500 rather than the normal 2,000 feet. Little did they know then that the carrier selected was 50 feet shorter. They were to carry four 500 pound bombs, fly 2,400 miles using their 1700hp Wright engines burning the old standard 130 octane aviation gas. All were then sent to Alameda Naval Air Station for deployment. Once at sea on the Hornet, they were told of their mission to bomb Japan in retaliation for the December 7<sup>th</sup> attack. The intent was to launch about 350 miles from Japan but it was not to be. Instead, a line of picket ships surrounded her as defensive line some 650-750 miles from their homeland. It was there that our fleet was spotted. Picket ships were sunk but not before they sent a radio warning. Admiral Halsey ordered the attack on April 18, 1942 four months following the start of war knowing full well that they would unlikely make the China landing once they completed the bombing of Japan. Doolittle was the first of sixteen to leave the deck forming a single line all the way to Tokyo. Nine planes hit the Capital with the remainder bombing Yokohama, Nagasaki, and Kobe. One flew to Russia where they were imprisoned because she had not yet declared war on Japan. Two died at sea. One failed to open his chute. Eight were captured in Japan where three were executed. 64 survivors were protected by the Chinese Nationalists at a heavy cost to their population (10,000+ lives). Doolittle felt the raid was a failure because of the loss of planes and crew. He feared court martial but instead was promoted to Brigadier General and given the 8<sup>th</sup> AF along with the Medal of Honor and Medal of Freedom. The grateful Nation now understood that it would triumph over the Rising Sun because it can and will reach anywhere around the world to right injustice.

Perhaps someday I'll write of the displays within the hanger of other planes, Packards, Duseys, Steve McQueen's motorcycles, Ford Jeeps, German tractors or even Hitler's Mercedes but not today. Today it is a simple story to be told to my grandson of a time when we had the ingenuity, resources and manufacturing ability to defend ourselves from foreign powers who would do us harm. It was a time when Americans were willing to protect their way of life.

**POCA Fun Rally** is covered by others in the *Profiles* magazine so I'll not report on it here except to say returning to the track but with my Pantera is a lifetime special for me. Oh, eight cylinders is better than just four there.

**Big Summer Nights** is in need of a write up from any of you who wish to share your impression of the event. Simply write a few paragraphs or more and send it to me at [rkunishige@hotmail.com](mailto:rkunishige@hotmail.com). I was not able to attend.

**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 fways. 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.

Aug 26 **Rib Trader** Bob Singer 714 960-2323.

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/Garage Tour**

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.

**Weekly Events:** Saturday: HB Donut Derelicts Adams & Magnolia

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

**Do you want to be "published"?** Dave and Linda Adler are working on their book, *Extreme Panteras* that should be in print in late 2017. If you have or know of somebody who has a Pantera with at least 3 visible modifications, we invite you to submit a photo or two and some information about the car to us for consideration. Please email the photos and a brief summary to: [info@davidadler.com](mailto:info@davidadler.com). We will get back to you to discuss your car. Thank you for your help.

**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** now offers Harly Wax® Carnauba Wax, Harly Wax® Professional Metal Polish and Harly Wax® 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.

web: [harlywaxusa.com](http://harlywaxusa.com)  
email: [harlywaxusa@aif.net](mailto:harlywaxusa@aif.net)  
phone: 714.771.4484



**Michael Leone of Insurance Center Associates offers Haggerty Insurance** email: [mleone@inscenter.com](mailto:mleone@inscenter.com):