

Volume 02 | February 2026



## *Starting* Grid - Upcoming Events



## OCP's Monthly Events



### *Drive with Gerry*

**Drive:** Carbon Canyon Run to Flo's  
**Date:** Saturday, February 21, 2026  
**Time:** 6:45am  
**Wheels Ups:** 7:05am



### **General Meeting & Social**

**Date:** Wednesday, 02-18-2026

**Time:** 6:00pm - 7:00pm - Social / Dinner

**Meeting:** 7:00pm - 8:30pm

**Place:** El Torito Mexican Restaurant  
17420 17th St, Tustin, CA

Come join your fellow club members in a warm and inviting atmosphere, where you can enjoy Mexican cuisine and camaraderie of shared passions! This is more than just a meal; it's a delightful opportunity to catch up on the latest updates from our chapter and the exciting changes at POCA that will rev your engines! Plus, don't miss out on the tech session led by Larry Goodnough, designed to turbocharge your skills and enhance your automotive know-how. So, bring your wives and fellow car enthusiasts along, because the more, the merrier! Let's shift gears together and strengthen the bonds within our Pantera community—your presence is the key ingredient to a fantastic evening!

**Distance:** 26-Miles

**Meeting Place:** ARTIC - 2626 E Katella Ave., Anaheim CA 92806

We are thrilled to invite you to an exhilarating drive through the picturesque Carbon Canyon, culminating at the renowned Flo's Restaurant located at the Chino Airport. This scenic route promises not only breathtaking views but also the opportunity to connect with fellow members of the Orange County Panteras community. Flo's is celebrated for its generous portions, so be sure to arrive with an empty stomach, ready to indulge in a delightful meal together. We understand that your time is valuable, and rest assured, we will ensure everyone is home before noon, allowing you to enjoy this outing without disrupting your busy schedules. Be on the lookout for additional event emails to RSVP to confirm your participation and help us foster the connections that make our community thrive.



### **2026 PALOOZA UPDATE**

The OCP Board has been diligently working to organize this exceptional event, securing sponsorships

and planning every detail for the upcoming Pantera Palooza Plus, which proudly stands as the largest Pantera car show in the world! This year, we aim to surpass previous successes, and our ambitious goal is to gather 100 Panteras at the show. We encourage each member to share this exciting news with fellow Pantera enthusiasts and to prepare their vehicles for this momentous occasion. To ensure the success of the Palooza, we encourage all OCP members to contribute their time and effort, fostering a spirit of collaboration and community that reflects our inclusive culture. With only six board members managing the event, your support is invaluable in making this event truly remarkable. Many wives and adult children helped with the 2025 Palooza registration information booth and set up. It would be appreciated if we could include many more this year. Stay tuned for more details on the event highlights, and let us come together to celebrate our shared passion for Pantera automobiles! What is planned so far:

Pantera Drive to Big Bear for Lunch - Friday, May 15th  
Welcome Dinner - Friday Night May 15th  
Palooza Car Show - Saturday, May 16th  
Pantera Drive & Dinner - Saturday Evening, May 16th

## Rear View Mirror



### **January "Drive with Scott Bill Stroppe Memorial Drive"**

What an incredible day we had at the Drive with Scott event! The camaraderie among our members was palpable as ten stunning Panteras and two non-Panteras gathered bright and early at Denny's for a hearty breakfast. The excitement was electric as we set off on a picturesque drive up the coast toward Signal Hill to Bill Stroppe's former shop, where Scott



### **JANUARY GENERAL MEETING**

What a fantastic start to the year, OCP family! We kicked off January's General Meeting & Social with a bang, and let's

Couchman shared fascinating stories about Bill Stoppe's legendary business, connecting us to the rich history of our beloved automotive community. To honor Bill's memory, we made a heartfelt visit to Forest Lawn Cypress, where we laid flowers at his mausoleum, demonstrating our commitment to remembering and celebrating the legacies of Bill's contribution to the early days of the Ford Pantera program. The day was filled with joy and laughter, and we were all back home before noon, leaving us with warm memories to cherish. We look ahead, to more adventures together, embracing the spirit of OCP and the shared automotive experiences!

just say, Gerry Bornman is feeling like a superstar after snagging the "Winner Winner, Chicken Dinner" title—and a cool \$20 off his dinner to boot! 🍗🍷 If you missed the fun, don't fret! We're inviting all of you and your wives to join us at February's General Meeting at the Tustin El Torito Restaurant, where the laughter, camaraderie, and maybe even a little friendly competition will be in full swing. So, dust off those party shoes and get ready to mingle with your fellow OCP members. After all, there's nothing quite like sharing good food and good vibes with great friends! Mark your calendars, because we can't wait to see you there! 🍷🌟



## 2025 OCP Annual Awards

At our January 2026 gathering, we had the immense pleasure of honoring Louie Villa with the prestigious Orange County Panteras "Enthusiast of the Year Award" Though he could not accept his well-deserved accolade at the 2025 Christmas Brunch due to illness, his spirit and dedication to our community truly shine through. Additionally, we celebrated Jay Stewart's remarkable achievement of winning the Odometer Challenge award for the third consecutive year, a testament to his commitment and passion for his beloved Pantera. As we look ahead, let us encourage one another to participate in future events, share our own stories, and continue to build the vibrant culture that makes OCP so special.



## **Pantera Market Place**

January has been nothing short of exhilarating for Pantera enthusiasts, with the thrill of three stunning models selling on Bring-A-Trailer for impressive prices between \$58K and \$118K! Not to mention, a set of Campagnolos brought in a remarkable \$3.1K, and Pantera seats fetched an astounding \$3.4K! The recent Barrett-Jackson Auction in Scottsdale further showcased the allure of these magnificent machines, with prices for three remarkable Panteras soaring from \$72K to an eye-popping \$188K. This vibrant market is a testament to the passion and dedication of our Pantera community, proving that whether you're hunting for an affordable gem or dreaming of a breathtaking showstopper, there's a Pantera out there just waiting for you to claim. With the market poised for continued growth, now is the perfect time to dive in—whether you're considering making a purchase or simply eager to share your stories and experiences with fellow enthusiasts. So, let's ignite the conversation! Explore the websites for more details, and let's come together to celebrate our shared love for Panteras!





## OCP Finance Corner

OCP is pleased to report a solid financial standing, with a beginning bank balance of \$9,760.74 as of January 1, 2026, and a healthy ending balance of \$9,801.71 as of January 31, 2026. This positive trajectory not only reflects our commitment to financial responsibility but also underscores our dedication to fostering a vibrant and engaged community. We invite all members to take an active interest in our financial health by visiting our webpage for the complete Financial Report at [www.ocpanteras.com](http://www.ocpanteras.com).

As we gear up for the much-anticipated May's Pantera Palooza, we can't help but feel the excitement buzzing. While our bank balance may take a little dip from all the deposits we're making to ensure an unforgettable experience, let's embrace this investment with open arms.

*On the **Light** Side - Are You There Yet!*

Several days ago as I left a meeting at a hotel, I desperately gave myself a personal TSA pat down. I was looking for my keys. They were not in my pockets. A quick search in the meeting room revealed nothing. Suddenly I realized I must have left them in the car.

Frantically, I headed for the parking lot. My wife has scolded me many times for leaving the keys in the ignition.

My theory is the ignition is the BEST place not to lose them. Her theory is that the car will be stolen. As I burst through the door, I came to terrifying conclusion. Her theory was right! The parking lot was empty. I immediately called the police. I gave them my location, confessed that I had left my keys in the car, and that it had been stolen.

Then I made the most difficult call of all, "Honey", I stammered: I always call her "Honey" in times like these. "I left my keys in the car. and it has been stolen".

There was a period of silence. I thought the call had been dropped, but then I heard her voice. "Idiot", she barked. "I dropped you Off"!

Now it was my time to be silent. Embarrassed. I said, "Well, come and get me." She retorted. "I will, as soon as I convince the policeman I have not stolen your car." Yep, it's the golden years! Cheers!



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