

2015 Lone Star Fun Rally Preview



Pantera Owners Club of America's 34th Annual Event

Houston, Texas

May 15 – 19

La Torretta Lake Resort and Spa

2015 POCA Lone Star Fun Rally Agenda

La Torretta Lake Resort and Family Spa

Houston, Texas

DAY ONE *Friday May 15th*

Noon	Event Registration Opens
Noon – Midnight	Hospitality Suite
5:00 pm – Evening	De Tomaso Car Show

DAY TWO *Saturday May 16th*

8:00am – 5:00pm	Texas World Speedway Track Event
9:00am – 2:00pm	NASA Buoyancy Lab / Rocket Park Tour
9:30am – 3:00pm	George Bush Presidential Library and Museum / TWS Lunch Parade Laps
1:00pm – Midnight	Hospitality Suite
2:30pm – 5:00pm	San Jacinto Monument / Battleship Texas
4:30pm – 10:00pm	Old Town Spring Drive and Car Display

DAY THREE *Sunday May 17th*

8:00am – 5:00pm	Texas World Speedway Track Event
9:00am – 2:00pm	Gullo Auto Museum
4:00pm – 10:00pm	Pig Roast – Gray Gregory's Ranch

DAY FOUR *Monday May 18th*

8:30am – 10:30am	POCA President's Breakfast Meeting for Chapter Presidents
9:00am – 11:00am	Creekwood Shooting Sports Gun Range
9:30am – 2:00pm	Drive / Blue Bell Ice Cream Tour
1:00pm – 1:00am	Hospitality Suite
3:00pm – 4:00pm	Tech Session
6:30pm – 10:00pm	POCA Awards Banquet and Raffle

DAY FIVE *Tuesday May 19th*

7:00am – Noon	Hospitality Suite
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POCA LONE STAR FUN RALLY

May 15 – 19, 2015

Howdy! The Texas Chapters of POCA invite you to the 34th annual Fun Rally. Whether you want to keep up with the planned activities or have a restful week relaxing out at the pool and spa, the POCA Lone Star Fun Rally promises a good time with the options and flexibility to meet the expectations for you and your family.

Houston is easy to get to from everywhere in the United States, with good access to interstates and one of the largest airports in the nation. Weather at that time of year averages a high of 85° and a low of 65°. Because of this, we're hoping to see members and their cars from all sections of the country. It's an especially good opportunity for those of you living in the central and eastern parts of the country to attend a Fun Rally with your De Tomaso. Besides seeing all the cars, the Fun Rally provides an opportunity to connect a face to the conversations we have had on the forums and make new friends. The Lone Star Fun Rally is only going to be held here one year and it may be a while before we do another one east of the Rockies. So if you've never been to one, come on down for some Texas hospitality!

Tom Tjaarda – Guest of Honor

If that's not enough, we have invited Tom Tjaarda, the designer of the Pantera, to be the keynote speaker at the Awards Banquet. If you've never heard Tom talk before, he's a wonderful speaker and he is one of the most gracious people you will ever meet. Tom just turned 80 and we are happy to honor him at the Fun Rally. He'll be here for the entire event. You might even ask him to sign your car at the Car Show on Friday night.

La Torretta Lake Resort & Spa <http://www.latorrettalakeresort.com/>

Take a look at their website — we've never done a Fun Rally like this before! On beautiful Lake Conroe, this full-service resort and spa, which recently underwent a \$130 million expansion and renovation, will provide Fun Rally guests with an AAA Four Diamond vacation experience. A great destination for the entire family, La Torretta is a European-inspired, family-friendly, lakeside retreat featuring an inspired balance between nature, relaxation, and world-class amenities while being pampered by a conscientious, experienced staff. You might even want to bring your spouse and extend your stay for a longer vacation.

9 Restaurants Sandy Beach Aqua Park Family and Kids Activities
Golf and Tennis Fitness Center Mini Golf

La Torretta Lake Resort & Spa has set aside rooms for us until April 20th. All rooms are suites. Our rate is \$139 per night and that rate is available for rooms reserved from May 12th to the 21st so you can come early or stay later for an extended vacation using our group hotel rate. A dedicated website is now available to book your reservations on line.

<https://aws.passkey.com/event/11894914/owner/10957635/home>

You can also book your reservation by calling the resort's direct phone number, (936) 448-4400, select option 1, then option 2. Let them know that you are with the Pantera Owners Club of America

to receive the Club's reduced rates. Please DO NOT call their "877" national reservations number as that group will not be aware of our discounted room rates.

Make your hotel reservations early! You can always cancel with a full refund up to 72 hours prior to your confirmed arrival time.

Arrival

Upon arrival and hotel check in, the Fun Rally registration desk will be available in the Hospitality Suite for you to check-in. If you can, schedule your arrival for earlier in the day on Friday. This year's event kicks off with the De Tomaso Car Show on Friday evening. An early arrival will give you time to relax, enjoy the resort's facilities and pools, prepare your De Tomaso for the Car Show, or just hang out at the Hospitality Suite. Having the Car Show early will be an opportunity for all of us to get together, make new friends, and connect owners with their De Tomasos.

Fun Rally activities stretch from one side of Houston to the other. We strongly encourage you to bring your De Tomaso to drive from one venue to the next. However, if that is not an option, consider a rental car to accommodate you and your friends. We recommend an internet search on Orbitz.com or Expedia.com to find your best competitive rates from the airport. It's a long way from the airport to the resort so this may offer significant savings compared to a cab ride.

The Hospitality Suite – Greenland Exhibit Hall

The Hospitality Suite serves as Fun Rally central. Enjoy the free drinks and snacks, fellowship, and Club Stores. Meet your old friends, make new ones, and place a face to that email respondent on the forum. Videos of previous rallies, events, and the Jay Leno interview will be available for viewing. And it's here where you sign up for events. Suite hours are:

Friday	12:00pm – Midnight (<i>Open Bar 3:00pm-11:30pm</i>)
Saturday	1:00pm - Midnight (<i>Open Bar 3:00pm-11:30pm</i>)
Sunday	Closed – Moved to Gray's Ranch for the Pig Roast!
Monday	Noon - 5:00pm; 10:00pm - 1:00am (<i>Open Bar 3:00p–5:00pm, 10:00pm–12:30am</i>)
Tuesday	7:00am - Noon (<i>Doughnuts and Coffee</i>)

A highlight of the Fun Rally is the display of De Tomasos. Again this year, select cars will be displayed in the Hospitality Suite. We would like to get great examples of all De Tomaso models. If you would like to display your car, please contact Jim Gray at grayjim@cox.net.

De Tomaso Parking – The Pantera Corral and Post-Drive Tech Session

POCA has a reserved area in the parking lot that will have 24-hour security throughout the Fun Rally. It is an open-air parking location and, of course, we will keep our fingers crossed for sunny weather.

We encourage you to drive your De Tomaso to the event. There will be a section of the secured parking lot set up for you to inspect your car and make repairs if needed. And if you need help, the Space City Chapter has organized a team of fellow chapter members to assist you with mechanical or electrical problems when you arrive at La Torretta on Friday. There's even a place for you to wash your car at the resort. If you have additional tools that you could lend to the effort, some time to help others, or enjoy the camaraderie of an impromptu tech session with other owners, please drop by to lend a hand or visit.

POCA and Chapter Club Stores / Vendor Booths

The stores will be located in the Hospitality Suite. Here's a good way to support the chapters and vendors who support your hobby by purchasing something for you or your car. In view of their ongoing support of POCA, we have invited the De Tomaso vendors to display their products in the Hospitality Suite, with no fees, so they have an opportunity to meet you and showcase their new products and sale items.

If you are a vendor or a chapter store who would like to reserve space to display your products, please contact Jeff Detrich at jjd1010@aol.com.

Shopping and Other Activities

The New York Times named Houston at #7 on their "46 Places to Go in 2013" which even included international locations. Good restaurants, museums, NASA's Johnson Space Center, shopping, and sports. We're already going to some of the best things but there's more if you wanted to extend your stay. We might recommend shopping at the world famous Galleria, museum hopping at the museum district, and there's a lot more to see at the Johnson Space Center. Closer to the hotel, there are winery tours, an outlet mall in Conroe, and historic Old Town Montgomery.

Registration for the Fun Rally

Fill out a Registration Form and mail it, email it, or FAX it in. Registration Forms are available on the POCA website, <http://www.poca.com/>, and in the POCA Monthly Newsletter. Or email us at jpoca2@hotmail.com and we'll email you one. Payment can be made by check, credit card, or PayPal. There are discounts for being a POCA member and for early registration so register early; you can cancel your registration and get a full refund up to one week before the Fun Rally. To receive an early registration discount, your registration form must be postmarked or paid by March 1st. A late reservation penalty will be assessed on registrations postmarked or paid after April 20th. Please help us with event planning by registering early.

Contact the Event Organizers

John Taphorn	(713) 553-5475	jtaphorn@kingwoodcable.com
Jeff Detrich	(972) 612-5000	jjd1010@aol.com

POCA Fun Rally Committee

Judy McCartney	(760) 217-8703	jpoca2@hotmail.com
Bob Reid	(518) 495-3595	rreidcpa@aol.com
Gil Mares	(602) 628-1051	lgaato@outlook.com

Event Descriptions

There are a variety of events for you to experience drives, Texas history, engineering, culture and hospitality – all with a Pantera flair. Pick and choose the events that interest you. Events are not mandatory; if a relaxing round of golf, an afternoon by the pool, or an appointment with the Spa is your preference, please enjoy. Some of you may even want to extend your vacation to take advantage of the amenities at La Torretta.

Friday Evening – De Tomaso Car Show – La Torretta Resort



The Fun Rally wouldn't be complete without a De Tomaso Car Show. In a break from tradition, the Car Show will take place on Friday, the first evening of the Fun Rally. Since Friday is Registration Day, you can bring your Pantera to the Car Show any time before judging begins.

The Car Show will take place at the Pantera Corral and you can enter your car even if you've just arrived and haven't had a chance to wash the bugs and road grime off your car. We're always proud of those who drive their cars to the Fun Rally so no award points will be deducted for bugs and grime! Fortunately, there will be an area for you to wash your car before entering should you have time and desire to do so. Awards include:

Best Pre-L Pantera
Best L Pantera

Best non-Pantera De Tomaso
Best Wide Body Pantera
People's Choice

Best Interior
Best Engine

As is tradition, POCA's President, John Buckman, gets to select the winner of the Stanley Cooper Award for best-looking stock Pantera and the CHPIE Chapter President picks a Pantera most deserving of the Gary Powley Memorial Award. Awards will be presented at the Awards Banquet on Monday night.

One of the main reasons we are having the Car Show on Friday night is so that those planning on racing their Panteras at Texas World Speedway on Saturday and Sunday will be able to be part of the car show. We hope all you racers will unload your cars and participate. This will be a great opportunity for non-racers to see what Pantera racing is all about.

Saturday & Sunday – Performance Driving at Texas World Speedway

Texas World Speedway! It doesn't get much better than this for Panteras. It's a fast track and that's just right for their long legs.

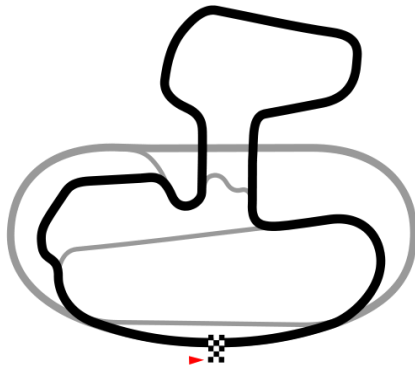
One of the reasons we're holding the Fun Rally here in Texas in 2015 is to say goodbye to an old friend. Texas World Speedway was completed in 1968 and its first sanctioned race was in 1969. Sadly, it is scheduled to close in June of 2015 following our event to make way for a housing development.

The historic Texas World Speedway is one of only seven Super Speedways in the USA and the only Super Speedway in the Southwest. The other Super Speedways are Indianapolis, Daytona, Pocono, Talladega, California (Fontana), and Michigan (TWS's "sister track").



TWS's 2 mile, high-banked oval became known as "The World's Fastest Speedway" when Mario Andretti set a world closed-course speed record of 214 mph in 1973, while qualifying for an Indy car race. That record stood in the Guinness Book of World Records for 12 years.

Rather than the 2 mile oval, we will use the preferred 2.9 mile road course. Consisting of 15 turns, some of them off camber, and the long, banked front straight that sees some Panteras exceed 175mph.



This event is designed to give drivers a fun, safe environment to explore the higher limits of their car and to improve and refine their abilities behind the wheel. The goal is to improve your skills as a driver and to strengthen your knowledge of your car's handling characteristics. As we have done in the past, drivers will be in groups depending on skill levels. This is especially important for inexperienced drivers. They will benefit from classroom learning and in-car instruction while they are out on the course honing their skills and learning the capabilities of their Panteras. You will have plenty of time on the track! There will be at least 4 sessions of 20 minutes for each group per day.

The Driver's Edge, a high performance driving school, will manage the event. Space City Pantera members have participated in many Driver's Edge events during the last 20 years. Even the Driver's Edge Team is excited, saying this will be a fitting tribute to TWS with vintage Panteras staged at a historic race facility. We already have a lot of interest in the event, so please register as soon as possible to ensure a space. If you have any questions or would like to learn more, contact Kirby Schrader at kirby.schrader@gmail.com. Registration forms are at the SCPOCA website.

<http://www.spacecitypanteras.com/funrally/>

Spectators Welcome: Visitors are always welcome at track events and we usually get quite a few of them. It's a thrill to see and hear the sound of Panteras thundering down the straightaway! Plus you'll get to wander the pits as the cars are prepped for the track. For those going on the George Bush Presidential Library Tour, it's only 13 miles to the Speedway. You can stop by the track afterwards to watch the Panteras run at speed, drive the parade laps and participate in the photo opportunity

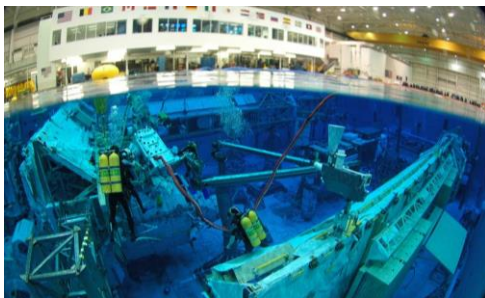
Free Parade Laps: During lunch time on both days, you can drive your car on the race track during a pace car controlled session. This presents an opportunity for those who don't want to be on the track at speed but would like to experience driving on a race track at a faster pace than you would on the

street. Your car qualifies if it has good tires, no fluid leaks and seat belts for all passengers — and YES, you can take a passenger out with you during this track tour.

TWS Photo Shoot: We will also be scheduling a De Tomaso-only photo opportunity (similar to the picture above) on Saturday at noon with the cars lined up on the front straight. The goal is to smoke the previous number of Panteras in a single photo on a race track. An effective parking brake is a must, that front straight is steeper than it looks!

Space City Panteras and the Driver's Edge will have a De Tomaso-only parking area for those who will be attending, but not running on the track. There will be food and drinks (breakfast and lunch) available on site by a local vendor. The cook and his wife have been at TWS since the day the track opened.

Saturday Morning – Drive to NASA Buoyancy Lab / Rocket Park



The Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory (NBL) is NASA's astronaut training facility located at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. The NBL is an engineering marvel. It consists of an indoor pool 202 feet in length, 102 feet wide, 40 feet deep, and contains 6.2 million gallons of water. That's 23.5 million liters for you scientists and Europeans! The pool is used to train astronauts for spacewalks in upcoming missions. The NBL contains full-sized mock-ups of the International

Space Station (ISS) modules and payloads including an operational version of the ISS robotic shuttle arm. After the NBL, we're off to Rocket Park. It's a history of the rockets used in the Space Program. Lots of horsepower! There we'll see a Saturn V Rocket, the most powerful rocket ever built. Its design played a major role in successfully transporting and landing American astronauts on the moon during the Apollo missions. Over 360 feet tall and parked on its side for excellent viewing, this Saturn V is one of only three left in existence. After lunch, you may return to the Resort or visit the San Jacinto Monument

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: The names of ALL NBL participants will have to be submitted to the NASA badging office 30 days in advance to allow for non-US citizens to attend. Your name and country of citizenship MUST be provided to John Haas, jrhaas60@gmail.com, by April 16, 2015. Even if you're unsure whether you might attend this event, get on the list just in case.

Saturday – Drive to San Jacinto Monument / Battleship Texas

How about a little Texas history. The San Jacinto Monument is dedicated to the heroes of the Battle of San Jacinto and all others who contributed to the independence of Texas. The monument is a 570 foot obelisk topped by a 34 foot star symbolizing the Lone Star Republic. The monument is listed as the tallest stone column memorial structure in the world, 15 feet taller than the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C. The American Society of Civil Engineers designated the Monument as a State and National Historic Structure. You may also want to tour the Battleship USS Texas from WWII while you're there.



Saturday Morning – George Bush Presidential Library and Museum

The museum's core exhibit focuses on the life and times of George Bush and features items ranging from a film of George Bush's first steps in Kennebunkport, Maine, to documents highlighting his service at the CIA and United Nations, and records and correspondence from his tenure as the 41st President of the United States of America. Other areas of the gallery feature a TBM Avenger aircraft, a 1947 Studebaker, ordnance from Operation Desert Storm, a segment of the Berlin Wall, and replicas of President Bush's Camp David Office, Oval Office and White House Press Room.



After visiting the Bush Library, we recommend that you stop at Texas World Speedway for noon-time parade laps and a De Tomaso photo shoot on your way back to the Resort.

Saturday Evening – Old Town Spring / Pantera Display



Over 150 shops, restaurants, boutiques, museums, antique shops, and art galleries with all the ambience and charm of a small Texas town of the early 1900's, that's Old Town Spring. Located north of Houston on the banks of Spring Creek, it was established as a trading locale by the Indians for bartering with Spanish explorers and wandering frontiersmen as early as 1745. This diverse group shaped the original town of Spring into what it has become — a shopping destination that attracts an international clientele by selling goods that appeal to every taste. Best of all, we will have premium street parking to display our De Tomasos. Bring your spouse and spend a relaxing evening

exploring the shops, museums, and restaurants or just stroll along tree-lined streets or relax in the gazebos and benches throughout the town. Or just hang out by the Panteras!

Sunday Morning – Gullo Auto Museum

This is a private event for our Fun Rally guests. The Gullo Classic Car Museum, behind the Gullo family residence in Magnolia, Texas, is in a modest looking building — at least from the outside. Inside, guests are treated to a feast of cars old and new. The climate-controlled building boasts 250 cars including a Saleen S7, a movie theatre, a mock gas station, an original 1950's soda fountain in a diner setting, pin ball machines, muscle cars outfitted with car hops and window trays and memorabilia from Gullo's 30-year automotive career.



Sunday Afternoon and Evening – Gray Gregory’s Ranch / Pig Roast



Space City Pantera’s Pig Roast, held at Gray’s Ranch, is an annual spring tradition. We begin smoking pigs about 14 hours prior and hold the temperature steady at 275 degrees through the night. You won’t be disappointed with the wonderful smoky flavor and aroma. Of course, we all know that Texas is a cattle state so if you have a hankering for beef you need not worry; we always find room on the spit for our tasty beef brisket.

The Pig Roast has always been a combination of socializing, eating and a tech session to work on cars. Great fun and we don’t want to change a thing about it this year, even with the larger number of attendees.

The Ranch will serve as our hospitality suite on Sunday. People are welcome to come by anytime during the day to work on their Panteras. We’ll have munchies and refreshments available starting at 3:00pm and the pigs come off the smoker for dinner around 6:00pm.

Monday Morning – Gun Range: Shooting Lessons

There was a small outing to a gun range at the Phoenix Fun Rally and everyone had a good time. So we’re doing it Texas style — BIG! Arguably, no visit to Texas is complete without the opportunity to make some noise. Whether a first-time gun operator or an experienced competitor, it’s a safe and enjoyable opportunity to fire plenty of rounds. We’ve arranged for a package price for gun rental, ammo, clays, and ear and eye protection.



Creekwood Shooting Sports, Conroe’s premier gun club, has been offering shooting sports entertainment since 1987. The facility includes a 36-acre outdoor shooting range and a climate-controlled 2400 square foot clubhouse. The club provides a family-friendly environment, with instruction and encouragement for children and women shooters. There will be a variety of shooting games including pistol and skeet fields that are built to National Skeet Shooting Association standards.

Monday Morning – Drive / Blue Bell Creamery



For this drive, we’ll take the backroads out to the country where we’ll stop for an ice cream and tour of the Blue Bell Creamery before returning home. Blue Bell is only available in about 30% of the nation’s supermarkets in 23 states but it ranks as one of the top three, best-selling ice creams in the country. No matter how much the market grows, quality standards never change and are never diluted or compromised. That’s why people who are lucky enough to live where they can buy Blue Bell Ice Cream say it’s "the best ice cream in the country."

Monday Morning – President's Meeting and Breakfast

Chapter presidents and a guest of their choosing meet with the POCA Board. Chapter presidents are encouraged to designate an alternate to represent their chapter if they can't make it.

Monday Afternoon – Tech Session

A tech session on power steering will be presented by Great Lakes Panteras member, Gerry Romack.

Monday Night – Awards Banquet & Raffle

Our banquet celebrates friendship, an awards ceremony and, of course, the POCA raffle. Tom Tjaarda will be the keynote speaker. A cash bar will also be available.

The Raffle is POCA's annual fundraiser and helps offset costs associated with the Fun Rally. Products range from large items for your Pantera, maybe a radiator or exhaust, to small vanity items for your car. There are also raffle items for the ladies. Raffle items are generously donated by our De Tomaso vendors, POCA chapters, POCA Board and individual members. We are grateful for their generosity and appreciate their support.

Tuesday Morning – Hospitality Suite

Coffee, donuts, granola bars and an opportunity for final good-byes before your departure.

Get your registration in early. You can always cancel if your plans change and it makes it easier for us to plan the event when we get early reservations. In addition to registering for the Fun Rally, you must make reservations separately for the hotel and track event as well.

Please contact any of the organizers if you have any questions.

We look forward to seeing you at this first-ever POCA Lone Star Fun Rally in Texas.

Lastly, we'd like to thank the following sponsors for helping underwrite the Preview. We encourage you to consider using them next time you need the services they offer.

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Assistant Vice President
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281.348.9411
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Robert E Reid

Certified Public Accountant

2706 Wellington Ave
Schenectady, NY 12306

Phone/Fax (518) 374-7949

RReidCPA@aol.com



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