

# ALFANATIC



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## Two AROC-WI and FCA Joint Events in October

Saturday, October 21

JWS Classics



6900 Industrial Loop Greendale, WI,

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

AROC-WI and the FCA are invited to visit John Spulde's JWS Classics. (phone 262 923 0632) John is a Ferrari club member who founded JWS in 2012 to market "condition one" automobiles, specializing in sixties muscle cars. John is, of course, a collector in his own right. You can expect to see some great cars this Saturday.

Saturday, October 28



Valenti Classics

9848 S 57th St. Franklin, WI

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

The following Saturday, AROC-Wi and FCA will visit Valenti Classics. (phone 414 421 6300) The father-son Valenti team first set up shop in Caledonia in 1994 and later relocated to a larger facility in Franklin. They are a full-service classic car operation, offering sales, service, restoration, custom builds and consultancy.

Thanks to club member Roy Ferrari for arranging these visits. Join us for one or both events.

### **2017-2018 Local, Regional, and International Events Calendar**

Anything missing? Send dates for events we've missed and we'll include them in the next calendar. email: [rabhalter@att.net](mailto:rabhalter@att.net)

September 3	Lake Mills Cars & Coffee, 8 a.m.—11 a.m., Lake Mills, Wisconsin
September 8-10	Third Annual Ephraim Hill Climb, Tour, and Concours, Ephraim, Wisconsin
September 10	Wheels of Italy, Minneapolis, MN <a href="http://wheelsofitaly.com/events/wheels-of-italy">http://wheelsofitaly.com/events/wheels-of-italy</a>
September 15-17	VSCDA Elkhart Lake Vintage Festival, <a href="#">Road America</a>
October 1	Lake Mills Cars & Coffee, 8 a.m.—11 a.m., Lake Mills, Wisconsin
October 14-15	MVP Track Time: <i>Cheese Heads on Track</i> , Road America
October 21	<b>AROC-WI and FCA visit to JWS Classics, Greendale, WI</b>
October 28	<b>AROC-WI Visit to Valenti Classics, Franklin, WI</b>
March 9-11, 2018	<a href="#">Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance</a> , Amelia Island, Florida
May 5, 2018 (T)	<b>AROC-WI Das Krurze Klausenrennen</b> , New Glarus, Wisconsin
Aug 4-5, 2018 (T)	Milwaukee Concours d'Elegance weekend
Aug 8-12, 2018	<b>AROC Sempreverde 2018</b> (National Convention), Olympia, Washington
Aug 26, 2018	Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance

## Records Broken at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Italian Car and Motorcycle Show

By Bob Ludwigson



The sun was shining as I pulled into Reina's lot to help set up for the ICAMS show. With help from Reina's people we started to set up the registration canopy and tables. Then Steve Wirtz, Gary Schommer, and Cody Allen from the Cancer society arrived and we finished the set up. We were open for business!

However, there was already a car there to check in! The owner said, "Well, I just had the time so I came over." Then a steady stream of cars started to arrive, some making a line out to the street. All told, a total of 42 cars were registered—a new record.

Our show is a charity event, and this year our charity was the American Cancer Society. Cody Allen set up collection buckets at registration, as well as at the food table and in the showroom store. Steve Wirtz and Gary Schommer handled the check in, and encouraged people to donate whatever they could. The registration fee was \$12, but most people gave \$20.

Reina's started cooking the food and soon people were enjoying Italian sausages and hamburgers. There was gelato for dessert. At check in, each exhibitor was given ballots to vote for their favorite cars. At 2:30 p.m. the results were announced. The winners are listed on the next page:



*Steve Wirtz and Cancer Society's Cody Allen (l) at check-in*



*ICAMS attendees enjoy lunch*



 *Alfas on display at 20th ICAMS*



After the show ended, we totaled up the donations and they came to \$1,700, another new record for amounts collected at the ICAMs show! Our treasurer, Randy Swanson, prepared a check and on the following Thursday Steve Wirtz formally presented the money to the Cancer Society.

In appreciation, Cody Allen provided the following comments: “On behalf of the American Cancer Society, I would like to sincerely thank the Alfa Romeo Owner’s Club of Wisconsin for their donation of over \$1,700. Through their generosity, we are able to continue our life-saving mission by providing free programs and services to cancer patients and their families throughout Wisconsin while funding ground breaking research to hopefully end cancer once and for all. We would also like to thank the team at Reina’s for hosting this wonderful event. Thank you all who attended and for your support of the American Cancer Society.” – Cody Allen, Community Manager

As we totaled up the amount of the donations, I asked Cody, what \$1,700 will do for the society. He said it will fund free housing for 7 cancer patients while they are receiving treatment. To me that makes all the work necessary to put on a show like this worthwhile. 🍀



Steve Wirtz (center) and Filippo Reina present check to Cody Allen, American Cancer Society

ICAMS People’s Choice Winners				
<b>Alfa Romeo</b>				
1st Place	#27	Bob Abhalter	1966 Giulia Super	
2nd Place	#39	Daniel Levy	2015 4C	
3rd Place	#8	Bill Siegfriedt	1974 GTV	
<b>Ferrari</b>				
1st Place	#23	Ken Plumb	2017 F12	
2nd Place	#19	Rick Matheu	1981 GTSi	
3rd Place	#10	Mark Stavropoulis		
<b>Lamborghini</b>				
1st Place	#34	Greg Deuster	2015 Hurican	
2nd Place	#31	Nick Naylor	2003 Murcielago	
3rd Place	#6	Raymond Retzlaff	2011 Gallardo	
<b>Fiat</b>				
1st Place	#35	Blasé Catanse	1977 124 Spider	
2nd Place	#40	Tom Grosser	1974 124 Spider	
3rd Place	#9	Brian Smith	2017 124 Spider	
<b>Other Italian Vehicle</b>				
1st Place	#2	Glenn Hanke	1959 Lancia	
2nd Place	#17	Scott Patton	1972 Pantera	
3rd Place	#29	Craig Skala	1971 Pantera	
<b>Motorcycles</b>				
1st Place	#41	Eric Trosper	1972 MotoGuzzi	
<b>Best Italian Design</b>				
	#2	Glenn Hanke	1959 Lancia	

## ALFAS SHINE AT MILWAUKEE CON-COURS SHOW AND GLOW

By Bob Ludwigson

On a beautiful Saturday, August 5, collector cars assembled at Veteran's Park at Milwaukee's lake front for the annual Show and Glow car show. Some 300 cars were on exhibit. Of those, 6 were Alfa Romeos. The cars were displayed in groups. Ours was group 400 which represented miscellaneous European makes.



Also present were selected vendors and dealers. These included Reina Motors, Motion Products, and Hagerty Insurance. International Motors, located in West Allis, had several New Alfas on display, including the Stelvio SUV.



Judges roamed the grounds and picked a favorite car from each group. The car selected from our group was an original Volkswagen Beetle. Attendees also had the opportunity to pick a favorite vehicle. The winner of the voting was a 1971 MG Midget Bonneville. It was so named as it had set a Bonneville Salt Flats record.



*People's choice Bonneville Midget*

Speaking with event manager Mike O'Krongly, I was reminded of the challenge he presented to our club. If we would have pledged that 8 or 9 Alfas would show



*Judge's favorites grouped*

up we could have gotten our own group. He said he loves Alfa Romeo, and would like to see us all together. I explained to him that our ICAMS car show was held only one week later, and that's where our efforts had been directed prior to the Concours. Maybe next year; how about it guys? 🍀

## Comer Fares Well at Mecum Monterey Auction

*But top consignments fail to sell*

By Bob Abhalter



AROC-WI club member Colin Comer listed several cars from his collection in the Mecum Monterey auction this year and most sold for very strong prices. Unfortunately, some of the headliners failed to find new homes. Thirteen cars were listed and nine sold, including a three-owner 1985 Alfa Spider which went for \$15,000, before buyer's premium. The 1963 Studebaker Avanti R2, which sold for \$115,000, set what might be a world record for Avanti sales.

The completely original ex-Hal Chalmers 1965 Sprint Speciale failed to find a new owner at a high bid of \$200,000, about \$25,000 below expectations.

Also not selling was the magnificent 1958 ex-Briggs Cunningham Lister-Jaguar "Knobbly" which only reached \$1.6 million. That car was driven across the block by Kevin Caulfield, Tom's son and well known to AROC-WI New Glarus hill climb attendees.



Colin's herd-thinning continues at the Mecum Dallas Auction next weekend, September 6-9, where he has consigned his rare 429 Cobra Jet 1971 Ford Ranchero, one of 82 produced. 🍀

## Alfa Romeo Sales Steady in August

FCA reported total U.S. sales of 1,140 Alfa Romeos in August, bringing the year-to-date total to 6,084. Giulia sales dipped below 1,000 to 916 units. Alfa moved a steady 21 4Cs and 203 Stelvios in the period, the first month in which Stelvios were generally available. Overall U.S. industry sales were down by 4.2% compared to last year. 🍀

## Alfa 6C3000 Best of Show in England

The one-off 1960 Alfa Romeo 6C 3000 CM Pininfarina Superflow IV took top honors at the Salon Privé Chubb Insurance Concours d'Elegance held Aug 31– September 2 at Blenheim Palace in Woodstock, U.K.



The 6C motor was originally developed in 1952 for a proposed larger Giulia. In 1953, that engine appeared in a series of space frame chassis racing coupes with bodies fabricated by Colli. Fangio drove one to second place at that year's Mille Miglia, but none finished the LeMans 24 hour race. Subsequently, Alfa chose to withdraw from competition and distributed the remaining chassis to customers and coachbuilders. One went to Pinninfarina.

Pinninfarina used their chassis as the basis of a number of concept cars—four to be exact. The Superflow IV is the last iteration. Following its introduction in 1960 at the Geneva Show, Alfa Romeo sent the Superflow IV on a tour of its American dealers. The car now resides in a U.S. collection.

When looking at the car, one can see some lines that later appeared on the Duetto, especially the rounded tail treatment. 🍀

## Alfas at Auction – August

By Bob Abhalter

In May's *Alfa Owner*, member Bob Lubran reacted to my February report on Bring-a-Trailer auctions. He suggested that I do a feature on eBay and Craigslist, the other outlets he has used to buy and sell Alfas. Happy to oblige, Bob, and thanks to you and the others who have taken the time to comment on my reports.

I write about Alfa Romeos offered at auction because there is a general interest in our cars' worth in real-life settings that produce verifiable results. Sale or no sale? How much did it sell for? It's a matter of record. In that context, writing about buying and selling on Craigslist and eBay is problematic.



*This well restored 1974 GTV sold on Bring a Trailer in August.*

## Craigslist

Craigslist.org could be described as the internet version of your local paper's classifieds. You can use its listings to find a house, a boat, or a car. You might also be able to find a job or "gig." The site also has some more purely social sections where, if you're so inclined, you can probably buy yourself some trouble of one sort or another. There are no auctions and no results are recorded.

Can you buy or sell an Alfa or parts there? Certainly! I've purchased items from Craigslist sellers and was pleased with the results. I'm sure most Craigslist transactions come off just fine but there are enough anecdotes of deals gone wrong to make one wary.

Today's search of the Chicago listings yielded nine Alfas for sale—seven Spiders of various ages and a

Milano Verde, all from private parties, plus a 164L offered by a dealer. Most are priced appropriately, if perhaps a bit on the high side. The dealer with the 164L is swinging for the fences, asking \$6,999 for a well-detailed and complete car albeit with rust in progress on the right rear wheel well. I'm sure you can find comparable listings, but you won't find me reporting sale results in this column.

## What About eBay?

I used to haunt the Alfa listings on eBay looking for bargains or special cars, but I hadn't visited for a while. To prepare this report I reviewed the last thirty days of Alfa Romeo listings and came up with some interesting findings.

I found 212 listings for 158 individual Alfas. Fifty-four were re-listings of unsold cars. Of those listings only 81 were auction listings, while 97 were Buy-it-Now (BIN) listings (twenty offered both options).

But did they sell? Of the 158 Alfas offered on eBay, 34 sold, for a sales rate of 22%. Three-quarters of those cars were auction sales, while the balance were BIN sales. Of the 26 successful eBay auction sales, 9 were "project" cars, ranging in condition from "some assembly required" to moldering heaps of rust. This is one reason that the realized price for auction cars on eBay averaged only \$13,685. Disturbingly, another dozen eBay cars were initially recorded as sold but then re-listed, indicating some problem with the initial sale.



*This driver quality 1969 Spider ran on BaT in August but did not sell.*

## eBay vs. Bring a Trailer

Should you prefer eBay or Bring a Trailer for buying or selling an Alfa? Like so many similar decisions, it depends. In contrast to the volume of cars listed on

eBay, only 13 Alfas made the Bring a Trailer listings during the same period, however 11 sold for a sales rate of 85%. The BaT Alfas sold for an average of \$27,080. You may conclude that if you can get your car into the BaT listings it is more likely to get sold and will sell for a higher price.

Assuming you could find the car that you want on either site, which site is a better deal for the buyer? eBay buyers pay the amount of the winning bid. There is no buyer's premium. Bring a Trailer buyers pay an additional 5% of the winning bid, up to \$5,000. Advantage eBay.



A pretty nice Milano Verde went for \$13,000 on BaT.

As a seller, you will pay Bring a Trailer \$95 to list your vehicle. eBay listings are, by-and-large, free. The final proceeds of the BaT sale are all yours. eBay will take a cut, namely 10% of the final sale, up to \$750. Advantage Bring a Trailer.

But what do you get for your money? BaT “curates” its listings. They pick and choose among submissions and encourage sellers to provide extensive documentation and detailed pictures. You will rarely if ever see a car relisted on BaT. There is value here for the buyer. Potential buyers must establish credit, thus reducing the chance for broken transactions, providing value for the seller.

eBay sellers can and do list anything, any way they want. If your listing doesn't sell, you can relist it as often as you want. eBay also has mechanisms for assuring that both buyer and seller perform. There is, of course, a place for both eBay and Bring a Trailer. If you have a car of interest that also interests the gate-keepers at Bring a Trailer, as a seller you can be assured of a focused audience and a good chance of a sale. eBay is the simpler and easier path to take for a seller. The barriers to entry are lower, but the

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### Cars Wanted 1930s-1960s

Jaguar XK, XKE, MGA, MG T-series,  
Austin Healey, Mercedes SLs, Porsche  
356, 911,  
Triumph TR-3,-4,-250, Alfa Romeo,  
Morgan  
Other European classics and exotic cars.  
Any condition, any location.  
Serious Buyer, will pay the most.  
**Steve's British Connection**  
630-553-9023  
[sbcinc@aol.com](mailto:sbcinc@aol.com)

chance of success is, at least statistically, slimmer.

Buyers will go where the cars are. If you find the car of your dreams on Bring a Trailer, there is a better than even chance it will be as good as it is represented to be, but you'll most likely pay a premium to own it. If you find your next project on eBay and you get it for a decent price, you'll be happy with that result also.

## Cars

The August Bring a Trailer results included a strong result for an extremely nice **1974 GTV**. A west coast car with factory air, it underwent a comprehensive restoration by a California GTV specialist. It was striking in Alfa red with black Alfatex interior, came with maintenance records dating back to 1984, and had an immaculate engine compartment and underside. The extensively documented car had lost its side marker lights as most restorations do, and wore 15-inch GTA replica wheels. It sold for a healthy \$76,500.



*This GTV6 ran twice on eBay. Buyer beware.*

Unmolested Milanos don't turn up that often and even less often get offered by dealers, who tend to steer clear of these quirky but wonderful sport sedans. A Texas dealer offered a red **1989 Milano Verde** on Bring a Trailer in August. It was said to have come from a San Francisco collection consisting mainly of Alfa sport coupes. Sporting an indicated 66,000 miles, it was claimed to be in stock, unmolested condition with the exception of a single repaint in the original color.

The photos show a clean car, inside and out, however the Recaro seats have been reupholstered using non-original fabric and the driver's arm rest is lumpy, the most obvious signs that some shortcuts were taken in its refurbishment. That said, the buyer "stole" the car

for a high bid of \$13,000, somewhat less than the dealer was hoping for but nearly double the current median selling price for a Verde.



*A favorable eBay outcome—an all-original 1960 2000 Touring Spider*

Finally Bring a Trailer offered a green **1969 Spider**. The car was offered by its San Francisco owner and appeared to be a nice car, overall, but showed signs of use—the usual dings and chips collected by a car that is regularly used. The Spider sported a period-style luggage rack attached to its trunk lid, was reupholstered, and sported aftermarket floor mats. Non-period side mirrors and radio were fitted. The most glaring fault was signs of a poorly repaired nose, lacking the "peak" so often erased by an unplanned meeting with another car. The Bring a Trailer community liked it, but not enough. The high bid of \$22,500 failed to meet reserve.

Meanwhile, over on eBay, we find a **1984 GTV6** that was sold twice, first in July by an Indiana "restorer" and again in August by the unhappy South Carolina winner of the first auction.

The car was represented as a clean California car with a new paint job and an extensive list of new or replaced components, including tires, brakes, exhaust, and "Alfa Romeo seat covers," to name a few. The included photos didn't look all that bad. The exterior looked clean, the seat covers were laughably bad, and the tops of the rear seats were obviously sunburnt, cracked, and peeling beyond redemption. The sellers represented themselves as experienced Alfa Romeo restorers. There was no reserve and the starting price was low enough so what could possibly go wrong? Twelve bids later it sold for \$3,000. A bargain, maybe.

Not according to the second seller, who says, “We bought this on eBay and believed it was a restored car... it is not. It did not run when it showed up, despite the ad that we bought it from, and it had lots of issues, and we took it to the shop and had it repaired and made drivable. It runs and drives but still has odd electrical issues but nothing serious.”

He goes on to say, “We have been asked about rust. Under the hood, on the edges of the car where the hood closes against, there has been rust repaired clearly. They did a poor job, looks like fiberglass mat and liquid glass.... it is smoothed out, mostly, and painted, but not professional and was probably done in their back yard.” The second owner was able to move the car on for \$3,150. Now someone else can experience the joy of resurrecting this beast.

There are at least two lessons here: First, if a deal looks too good to be true, it probably is, and second, never trust a seller’s representations without verifiable evidence.



*eBay 2000 Touring Spider interior*

Finally, a Florida dealer listed a one-owner **1960 2000 Touring-bodied Spider** for sale on eBay. The white car had striking and well-done red upholstery and looked to be in good order overall. Represented as all-original, the showroom photos don’t show pictures with the top up, but the engine compartment is tidy, as is the rest of the car. There is some pitting on the gauge bezels and the gauges themselves look cloudy. The car was listed as sold on August 13 for \$61,900 after six bids—a reasonable result for a desirable car, perhaps even a bargain if it’s as represented. 🍀

## Also in September



Don’t forget the VSCDA’s Elkhart Lake Vintage Festival being held next weekend, September 15-17.

This year the festival is featuring Porsche. (But we won’t hold that against them.) In addition, Formula Juniors will be celebrating their diamond jubilee.

Friday’s schedule will feature practice sessions and a two hour endure. Saturday will feature qualifying races and the Formula Junior feature race. Also, don’t forget the road course re-enactment, a police-escorted tour of the original Elkhart Lake road course.

The popular “Gather on the Green” concours is Saturday night on the grounds at the Osthoff resort.

Sunday, you’ll have to decide between the feature races or “Bill’s Thing” (see front page.) but if you’re energetic you might get to do both. For further information, visit the Road America website.

## October 6 Road America SCCA Track Time Event Benefits March of Dimes

The March of Dimes is the beneficiary of SCCA’s October track time event at Road America. The October 6 event is a non-competitive SCCA PDX (precision driving experience) track-day event. Driving instructors will be available and cars must conform to the SCCA’s rules. An afternoon lapping session for street cars will also be offered and a party at the track will follow.

Further information is offered on the SCCA Milwaukee site as well as the March of Dimes national site. (Do an events search for *Drive for Babies*, Plymouth, WI.)

## Monterey Motorsports Reunion Photo Gallery

Miss going to Monterey this year? Me too. Check out this gallery of paddock photos from the Petrolicious site, for a taste of what we missed.

<https://petrolicious.com/articles/gallery-walking-the-paddock-at-the-rolex-monterey-motorsports-reunion>

## Classifieds

*Alfanatic* will post brief non-commercial classifieds for members and friends at no charge. Email the [editors](#) to make a submission.

### For Sale

#### Parts

Weber 32/36 DGV carb, and air cleaner housing and intake manifold (restored and painted) for 1300cc normale (750-101), all in excellent working condition. Best offer. Jon Block, [\(248\) 505-0606](tel:(248)505-0606) cell, or [jblock8586@wowway.com](mailto:jblock8586@wowway.com)

**2001 Alfa 156 V6 2.5**, 6-speed manual. Red with black leather interior. Car is in very good condition and can be driven right away.



Total mileage is about 150,000 miles. Water pump and all pulleys and belts replaced at 120,000 miles. Suspension, radiator and clutch replaced at 135,000 miles. Runs great! Extra sets of wheels with snow tires and performance tires.

The only problem with the car is a very slow leak in the power steering fluid and an occasional glitch in the immobilizer. The immobilizer reads the key code. It can go months without a problem. When it doesn't unlock, a few tries usually does it. Or there is a work around bypass procedure that will get you home. A \$50 part may fix it for good. The gear shift also doesn't easily return to center with the sideways spring. You have to move it a bit between second and third.

Car sounds great, feels great and is a real head turner. \$7,000 or best offer. Russ Whitford [veloce192@sbcglobal.net](mailto:veloce192@sbcglobal.net)



**Four Used Cromodora Wheels** for 72-74 Alfa Spider. Surface and finish would benefit from some reconditioning but otherwise ready for that rally! If desired, and strictly at my cost—no adder—I would be willing to get them E-Coated ready for paint refinishing. Make me an

offer!

Also, **Rear Bumper** for 1972-74 Spider. Make an offer.

James Huff, 514 Simon Drive, Hartford, WI 53027, [jphuff4@gmail.com](mailto:jphuff4@gmail.com)



### **1987 Alfa Romeo Spider Quadrifoglio**

Luxury trim package. Silver on gray leather including factory hard top, custom wooden MOMO steering wheel & gear shift, new tires, nose bra, bikini cover & full cover. Garaged, no winters, rust free original. Fun ride. Pulls strongly & idles smoothly. 37,240 miles \$15,000 O.B.O. Rockford, IL [dek\\_cmk@yahoo.com](mailto:dek_cmk@yahoo.com)

### **1985 Corvette**

Red/Red, 4+3, removable hard top. 51k miles and stored inside since new. All original. Body and interior in great shape. This car is move-in ready and is a nice ride. Blue Book value \$12,000.

Contact: Jim, 262-642-5068 or [jzyla@wi.rr.com](mailto:jzyla@wi.rr.com)

## For Sale

### 1986 Spider

Convertible= FUN!! 1986 Alfa Romeo Spider. Five speed manual transmission and electric windows, 96,000 mi. It was totally refurbished four years ago. Four-year-old canvas top. A small amount of money to pay for a really nice convertible. New starter in 2015 and about \$1,200 in repairs. Runs great! Fun fun fun. The paint is five years old and it is a purple-blue paint with a shift. It changes colors as it goes by. Asking \$5,500, Brodhead, WI. Contact: Tomasan Harnack [tnhc@charter.net](mailto:tnhc@charter.net), 608-295-0535



### 1965 Giulia Sprint

For parts -- body is very bad, 1600 engine is apart, transmission & differential are available, other parts as well.

**1967 Fiat Dino 206** -- car is in running condition.

**Books** (Alfa, Ferrari, etc)

Contact: Graziano Rossetto @ 414-351-2155

### Period 101 Series Air Cleaners

Mike Juneau has an original 101 Series “Normale” air filter canister and a reproduction Veloce canister for sale. The Veloce unit comes complete with the pad-printed FISPA lettering but without the mount and straps.

He says, “The Veloces are exceedingly rare and the reproduction you cannot tell from the original. Anyone interested can drop me a line.”

[alfaman1966gtv@gmail.com](mailto:alfaman1966gtv@gmail.com)

### Wanted

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Good used windshield for a 1967-1969 Alfa Spider (roundtail). Must be from an early spider. Later windshields are different. Call Bob at 270-564-2821 or mail: [rabhalter@att.net](mailto:rabhalter@att.net)

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## SUBMISSIONS

Do you have a story you'd like to share? Have a restoration in progress or finished? Taken a memorable road trip or have a funny car story? Pictures, lessons learned, maintenance tips? Whatever. The *Alfanatic* is always looking for material to publish. Email your submissions to the editor at [rabhalter@att.net](mailto:rabhalter@att.net) and share with your fellow Alfisti.

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