

April 2017

Volume 4 Issue 4

Editorial Comments: A Busy Spring Season for the Alfa Club Continues – Come out and join us!



Alfa Romeo Selection of the

Month April 2017

Car Name: New Alfa Duetto design – Dustin Hoffman move over!





Recent Events: Cruisin" The Capital Car Show – Down Town Clearwater

Sun, Mar 26 at 12:00 PM @ REH On The Road

Ruth Eckerd Hall On The Road Presents the 4th Annual Cruisin' at The Cap Street Party on Sunday, March 26 from noon to 5 pm. Reminisce over your favorite classic cars on display while enjoying an afternoon of live music starring Tampa Bay's own Black Honkeys. Specialty food vendors will have food and beverages available for sale. This free event will take place on the 300-400 blocks of Cleveland Street and Downtown Clearwater

This year was another beautiful day for the free annual event in Clearwater. Both Barry Andress and Bob Scott participate this year with their cars and stuck around to enjoy all the free music and food making it another successful car show.

Be sure to look for this event next year and come out with your car and add to our Alfa presence.

Recent Events: Festival of Speed at Amelia Island March 10[®]-11[®] and St. Pete at the Vinoy April 2nd

Once again the Festival of Speed at Vinoy Park put on a great car show with wonderful weather. Two of our club members won awards. Here are some photos of this event .





Recent Events – Tarpon/Crystal River Rally & Luncheon

This year we had a great route mapped out with some advice from the local Porsche club and club member Milton Watts. This has elements of what the Club calls their favorite roads in Florida. The rally ends in beautiful Crystal River where we have organized a great seafood place for lunch as well. Milton Watts put on another great event for the club this year with ever member who make the run said it was the best rally yet with lots of great twisty roads and great weather this year.



Recent Events – Tarpon/Crystal River Rally & Luncheon – continued



Into the Land of Oz

"Up a lazy river in the morning sun" Rivers don't get any lazier than those in southwest Florida as they sloooowly meander their way to the Gulf of Mexico. But driving roads around those twisting waterways can be exciting!

The roads twist and turn because the land is so flat; in the southern half of Florida you can set a bowling ball down anywhere and it won't go anywhere. The rivers muddle along, taking the path of least resistant, like in "The African Queen." But on April 15th Florida Alfa Club Alfas weren't muddling, they were swiftly motoring along two river deltas.

Milton Watts arranged the tour along the Gulf beginning in Tarpon Springs in the delta of the Anclote River. The quaint city has a Greek heritage dating back to the late 1800s when it was famous for its sponges and became one of the leading maritime industries in Florida. Unfortunately, in 1947 red algae wiped out the sponge fields in the Gulf but nascent fields were found in the 1980s and sponging is once again a vibrant industry. Tarpon Springs still has the highest percentage of Greeks in the U.S. and it's evident by the many colorful restaurants and shops with Greek names on them: Yianni's, Dioniso's, Costa's and of course, the sponge boats. The movie, "Beneath the 12 Mile Reef" starring a very young Robert Wagner was made there in 1953. It was only the third movie made in Cinemascope.

Recent Events – Tarpon/Crystal River Rally & Luncheon – continued

The ten cars, eight Alfas, a 1973 Volvo and a restored 1967 Vette met in a mall parking lot at 8:00 AM. The Alfas spanned six decades: FAC members Polly & Delmas Greene's "Green Bean" 1969 GTV; John & Cheryl Picot's 1973 GTV 2000; Pete & Joyce Bouchier's 1973 "Silver Bullet" spider; Bob & Carolyn Scott's 1987 spider Veloce; Jim Ferguson's 1989 spider Quadrifolio; Bruce Brock's rosso 2015 4C Launch; Jon Fox's 2015 "Batmobile" 4C spider; and SWFLs Tom & Carol Rossi's 2016 Florida white spider.

After much gyro shifting around the bends of the Anclote the group finally got into fifth gear going north along a straight stretch of US Highway 19. This was the first road tourists travelled south in automobiles along Florida's west coast. They camped along the highway which became littered with tin cans and the tourists in their Tin Lizzies came to be called "Tin Can Tourists." After WWII Highway 19 became very busy and in 1947 Weeki Wachee (Winding River in Seminole) Springs produced its first mermaid show. It consists of women wearing fish tails and halter tops swimming under water in a large windowed tank. They can really hold their breaths because the show still goes on seventy years later!

The group didn't stop to watch the mermaids or, a little bit further up the road, the "mermaids of the sea," manatees grazing at the Ellie Schiller Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park underwater observatory. There are tour companies that will take you to herds where you can kayak, paddle board, swim &/or snorkel among the gentle giants weighing 1,200 lbs. or more. They're cute in their sea cow way but not as pretty as the mermaids at Weeki Wachee.

Just north of Homosassa, Milt, who was navigating in Bruce Brock's 4C lead car, turned the snake of cars left onto the Ozello Trail, out into the Crystal River delta. On both sides of the Trail, like most roads and highways in the southern half of Florida, canals are dug to provide dirt to build a berm on which to build the roads. The land is so shallow that houses and even single wide trailers are sometimes on stilts.

It didn't take long for the cars to begin slithering along and around over and back and over and back and around again the meandering Crystal River like snakes writhing in a pit. Stick shift driver's right hands constantly worked the gears and the thumbs of the 4C drivers tried to keep up with their eight gear automatics and the sound of it all was as sweet as the song of the sirens of the sea. There were no speed limit signs out there, instead there were many, yellow, speed warning signs and most had large LEDs which blinked the recommended speed limit and SLOW DOWN, SLOW DOWN, SLOW DOWN. I think we blew out a few of the LEDs. But, since they were only warning signs, we did not break any laws.

At the end of the road was a small dock, a gravel parking lot and Peck's Old Port Cove Restaurant and Crab Farm. Milt had made reservations for seventeen; we all went in and enjoyed very fresh seafood lunches. We left at unplanned, individual intervals so we wouldn't interfere with each other's ride back, some of which put grins on the driver's mouths and closed the eyes of their passengers. The next morning, while most people were at Easter Sunday worship, at least one driver went back and took the empty Trail alone. He wasn't in church but God was with him. By: Harmon Heed











Up Coming Events – Westley Chapel Alfa Dealer Kickoff Meeting



A great event with several vintage cars participating. The Giulia Test Drives were a Blast too.



Up Coming Events – Westley Chapel Alfa Dealer Kickoff Meeting: continued

Florida Alfa Club Premiers More Alfas

The Florida Alfa Club recently participated in its eighth dealer debut, this time at Parks Alfa Romeo in Wesley Chapel when it premiered the 2017 Giulia on Wednesday, April 19th. Twelve AROC members attended, nine FAC members, two SWFLs and one Middie. Their nine Alfas were lined up in the parking spaces right in front of the showroom.

The premier didn't begin until 5:30 but the Delmas Greene had coordinated ahead of time with Jennifer Cofini, Marketing & Digital Coordinator, Kathy Burke, head of sales and George Rodriguez, general sales manager in advance that the club members would arrive at 4:00 so they could test drive the new Giulias before the crowd gathered. The dealership dedicated two new Giulias and two technicians for the drives. With three club members in a car the techs drove to a nearby platt with new roads, one long and straight and other nice and curvy. There they stopped and the club members rotated driving. There were no time or speed restrictions.

The consensus was absolute: the car's acceleration, braking and cornering were superior to our expectations. We were relieved they didn't turn us loose in a Quadrifolio that we weren't ready for. The dealership doesn't carry that top model in its inventory; it sells faster than the dealers can get them so it is a special- order car. But Parks has the other models, the base, base AWD, Ti and Ti Lusso and too many to count in too many colors. There were three new Giulias in the new showroom to show the different packages and interiors.

Outside, in the sunshine, were the club Alfas: Delmas & Polly Greene's blue, 1973 Montreal; Harmon Heed's blond,1964 Giulia spider; Jeff Hanson's red, 1993 spider; Jim Ferguson's red, 1989 spider Quadrifolio; John Picot's silver, hard topped 1986 spider; Cheryl Picot's amaranto, 1973 GTV; Barry Andress' cherry red, 1972 GTV; Pete Bouchier's "Silver Bullet" 1973 spider; and Middie Mark Sibon's red, 1987 spider veloce. FAC president Frank Mann brought his BMW 3.0 CS. SWFLs Tom & Carol Rossi brought family that wouldn't fit in their white, 4C spider so they drove an accommodating non-Alfa sedan.

Up Coming Events – Westley Chapel Alfa Dealer Kickoff Meeting: continued

When the crowd arrived they ogled and awed at the many models and magnificent condition of the more mature Alfas.

Back inside there was an abundance of Parks staff to answer questions and present the options available on the new Giulia. There was an open bar and light Italian buffet dinner. And a violinist and a lady painting in oil a portrait of the Giulia, in red. It was, once again, an Alfisti instance of symbiotic support, a sharing of the old and new, of referring potential members and buyers. And it was fun! By: Harmon Heed



Up Coming Events - Lakewood Ranch Exotic Cars Fest

On Saturday May 13th, the previous Sarasota Exotic Car Fest will be rescheduled under new management and moved to down town Lakewood Ranch More details to follow but save this date.



Contact Bob Prancevic immediately if you want to enter a car. We would like every 4C or Giulia in the club there so sign up today. Ruggero TOO!

EXOTIC CAR SHOW

MAIN STREET IN LAKEWOOD RANCH

MAY 13, 2017

10:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION FORM

This is a charity fundraising event presented by the FERRARI DRIVERS GROUP and MANATEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE benefitting FLIGHT TO THE NORTH POLE, INC. This charity is a non-profit foundation registered with the IRS as a 501(c)(3) entity and the Florida Department of Agriculture. Their mission is to bring joy to terminally ill children during the holiday season. All proceeds of this event will be donated directly to FLIGHT TO THE NORTH POLE, INC. The event is sponsored by FERRARI OF TAMPA BAY, THE SARASOTA STUDIO – A DIVISION OF DIMMITT AUTOMOTIVE GROUP, and LAMBORGHINI OF SARASOTA. **REGISTRATION FEE:** \$50.00 per vehicle. Space is limited and cars are subject to approval.

Parking space location(s) will be emailed upon entry acceptance. Car Show is Rain or Shine – NO REFUNDS.

Name:		
Address:		
City:		
State:	Zip Code:	
Phone:	•	
E-Mail:		

CAR INFORMATION:

Make Model Year

#1_	
#2	
#3	
#4_	
#5_	

Up Coming Events – Annual Pizza Party and SIM Racing Event



Once again - this year we are holding Time Trials for the Florida Alfa Club's annual Pizza Party and SIM Racing Event held at the home of Ruggero & Carla Santilli. Test your skill around the Sebring Track in an exotic car for prizes and bragging rights not to mention Carla Santilli's spread of Italian delicacies, Pizza and Wine.

During practice laps – tours are available of Ruggero Santilli's paddock and garage. You never know what additions to his extensive car collection you will find.



Come ready for the competition and hungry for Food, Fun, and Laughter! When: Saturday June 3^{ed} from 10:30 AM until the food is gone and tires are too. More Details to follow – Save this Date!

Up Coming Events – AROC Expo17 National Convention July 13th-16th in Montreal, Canada

This year the AROC National Convention will be held in Montreal in honor of the 60th anniversary of the introduction of the Montreal model at Expo 67. Make plans to be there and bring your Montreal to what should be quite an anniversary party.



Please plan to join us for the AROC-ARCC "ALFA expo17" 2017 National Convention! The Convention will be based in Montreal, Canada, from July 13 through 16 (Thursday to Sunday).

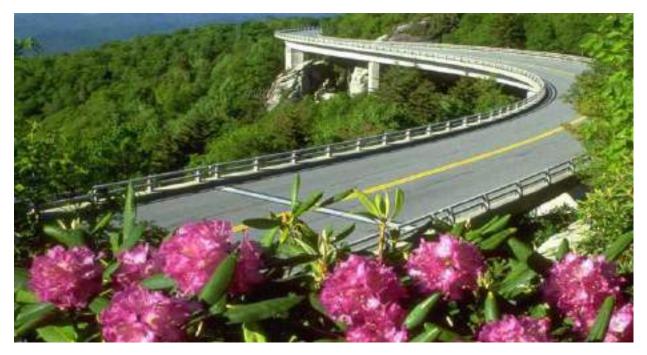
Website: www.alfaclub.ca

We encourage you to use our online registration system and to pay via PayPal. You are encouraged to register before April 30th in order to take advantage of our generous early registration discount.

POSTED IN (2) SOCIAL EVENT, (3) RALLY, (4) TOUR, (5) TECH SESSION, (6) AUTOCROSS & TRACK, (7) CAR SHOW, (8) REGIONAL

Up Coming Events – FAC Drive to Boone North Carolina

Join us for a road trip to the Greene Farm in Boone, NC. September $14^{th} - 17^{th}$ with an overnight stay and dinner in Savanah on the way up hosted by Joost Gompels.



After arriving in Boone, Polly and Delmas Greene have our time in the mountains all planned out with several drives on various twisty mountain roads and dinners planned at only the best Boone has to offer. You are welcome to extend your stay as well. Contact Polly Greene for details.



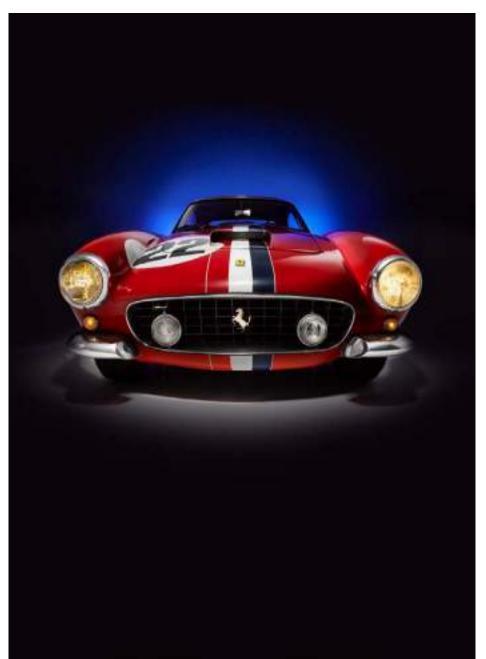
Up Coming Events:

April 2017 Events: Festival of Speed (St Pete) at the Vinoy, April 2⁻, 8:30 AM (Barry) Sarasota Sunset Motor Sports Cars & Coffee, April 8", 8:00-10:00 AM FAC business meeting, Carrabba's grill, April 13°, 6:00 PM Tarpon/Crystal River Road Rally, Saturday April 15[°], Milton DuPont Cars & Coffee, St Pete, April 15°, 7:00-9:00 AM SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Philippi Estates Park - April 29°, 8:00-10:00 AM May 2017 Events: Breast Cancer Car Show/Rally, Tarpon Springs, May ?, (Barry) FAC business meeting, Beef O' Brady's, May11th, 6:00 PM Sarasota Sunset Motor Sports Cars & Coffee, May 13[°], 8:00-10:00 AM Lakewood Ranch Exotic Car Fest, (Sarasota), May 13th, More Details to come (Bob Prancevic) DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, May 20°, 7:00-9:00 AM SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Philippi Estates Park - May 27^{*}, 8:00-10:00 AM June 2017 Events: Pizza & SIM Racing Party & Biz Mtg., Santilli's House, Saturday June 3⁻, 11:00-2:00 PM (Frank) Sarasota Sunset Motor Sports Cars & Coffee, June 10°, 8:00-10:00 AM DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, June 17[°], 7:00-9:00 AM SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Philippi Estates Park - June 24", 8:00-10:00 AM July 2017 Events: Sarasota Sunset Motor Sports Cars & Coffee, July 8", 8:00-10:00 AM **No FAC Business Meeting** Alfa National Convention – Montreal – June 13°-17°, with a tour on the 9° (Polly) DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, July 15, 7:00-9:00 AM SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Philippi Estates Park - July 29, 8:00-10:00 AM

Up Coming Events: Continued

August 2017 Events:

Sarasota Sunset Motor Sports Cars & Coffee, August 12th, 8:00-10:00 AM **No FAC Business Meeting** DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, August 19th, 7:00-9:00 AM SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Philippi Estates Park – Aug. 26th, 8:00-10:00 AM September 2017 Events: Sarasota Sunset Motor Sports Cars & Coffee, September 9, 8:00-10:00 AM FAC Business Meeting & Road Trip to Boone, NC. September 14-17 (Delmas/Polly) DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, September 16[°], 7:00-9:00 AM SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Philippi Estates Park Sept. 23rd, 8:00-10:00 AM October 2017 Events: FAC Business Meeting – Carrabba's Grill – October 12th, 6:00 PM Sarasota Sunset Motor Sports Cars & Coffee, October 14th DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, October 21st 7:00-9:00 AM FAC Annual Fort DeSoto Picnic & Car Show – October 22nd Shelter #2 – (Harmon) SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Philippi Estates Park – October 28th, 8:00-10:00 AM November 2017 Events: Viva AlfaCelebration – Disney – November 3rd & 4th - (Polly) FAC Business Meeting – Carrabba's Grill November 9th, 6:00 PM Sarasota Sunset Motor Sports Cars & Coffee, November 11th DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, November 18th 7:00-9:00 AM SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Philippi Estates Park – November 25th, 8:00-10:00 AM Sebring HSR Historic Racing – Sebring – Nov. 30th – Dec 3rd (Barry) December 2017 Events: FAC Annual Holiday Luncheon – Alfanos – Saturday December 9th (Polly) Sarasota Sunset Motor Sports Cars & Coffee, December 9th DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, December 16th 7:00-9:00 AM SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Philippi Estates Park – December 23rd, 8:00-10:00 AM



The Festival of Speed Events: <u>http://festivalofspeed/.com</u>

Diplomat Golf & Tennis Club - Sunday Nov. 13^{*} – 10:00AM – 4:00PM Hallandale Beach – November 13^{**} Central Florida Auto Show – Nov. 24^{**} Orlando – Ritz Carlton – Dec. 3^{**} Amelia Island – Omni Plantation – March 10^{**} – 11^{**} St Petersburg – Vinoy Park – April 2^{***} Mission Inn Resort – Howey in the Hills – March 26^{*}(Date changed)

Restoration Projects:

This is a new section we are debuted last month that covers FAC member's restoration projects throughout their various phases from the initial purchase of the car and its original condition – through the various phases of disassembly – stripping the chassis - rust repair – metal panel replacement – engine rebuild – body prep and paint – and finally reassembling the car.

We have received a lot of positive comments on this new segment of the newsletter and hope it continues to be informative and fun. If you have any questions about any specific project featured here please contact me directly or the car owner list below with questions or recommendations.

First up is a continuation of Mike Villani and his 1958 Alfa Romeo Sprint MBAlfa@AOL.com

Mike Villani's 1958 Sprint Vol: 5



New Dash cap and package shelf Photos



Cars for Sale:



For Sale - a Silver 1967 Duetto boat tail spider.

Several photos and details of the car can be found using the provided link below.

https://www.dustrawn.com

For Sale Red Spider

Here is a beautiful low mileage (25K miles) red Spider for sale residing in the Naples area. From the photo's she seems in fantastic condition. The owner is accepting offers but would like to get \$15K.

John H. Mitchell, MD 1-239-596-7998 (H) 2933 Golfside Dr 1-847-977-7988 (C)

Naples,FL 34110 jhmsrm@aol.com



Cars for Sale continued:



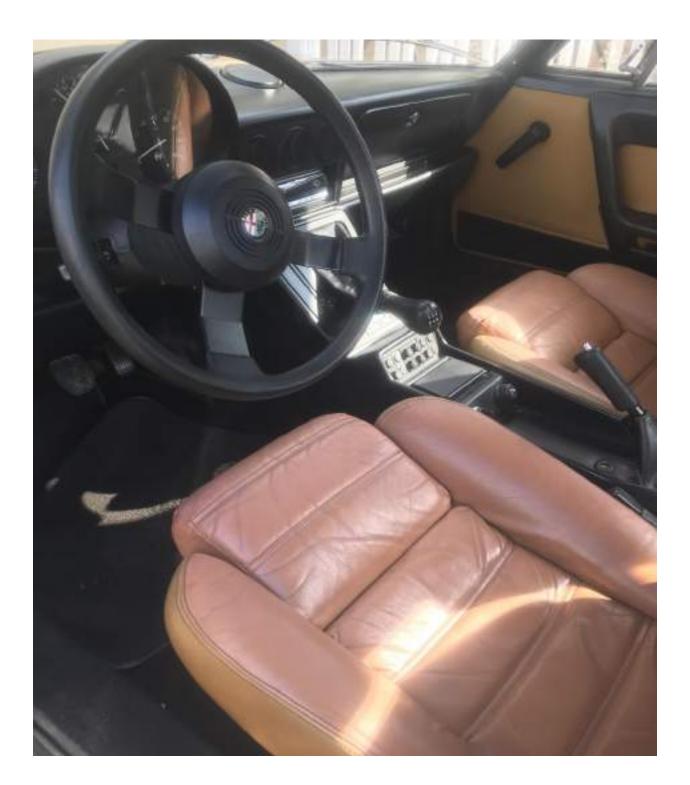
Here is a nice 1986 Spider for sale in a rare gold color!

It's a 1986, 79,194 miles. Good top, no rust or dents, leather has age cracks but no tears. Runs great although it does need a new battery which I'll be replacing this week. \$12,000.00

Jim Bernstein 813-610-9629



Cars for Sale continued:



Cars for Sale continued:

"FOR SALE, 1982 spider veloce, in great condition. New tires, very good Sunshine Yellow paint and canvas top, very clean black & tan interior, 68,000 miles. Located at Classic Cars of Sarasota 7910 25th Court East Sarasota, FL 34232. (941) 355-1955. Video can be seen at <u>cleanclassiccars.com</u>. Asking \$18,900 or best offer."





Shops of Interests to Vintage Car Owners in the Area:

This month's Focus: ProFab Customs – Powder Coating Services



When I recently got my Alfa GTV back from a full bare metal restoration and paint, I realized there was a few more things that needed to be done before I could start the reassembly in earnest. Although I had ordered many new custom and racing suspension parts from Alfaholics in the UK www.alfaholics.com www.profabcustoms.com , many of the original suspension parts would need to be reused and they were in sad shape with 40 years-worth of grease and grim. I started degreasing them and hours of scrapping and brushing later, I said there had to be a better way, so I contact my friend Tom Argue of Tom Argue designs www.tomarguedesigns.com and asked him to recommend a local shop for Powder Coating services. This is how I was introduced to ProFab guys Joe McDede and Gerry Miller. They took my dirty grimy suspension parts and degreased them, baked them, primed and powder coated them to perfection all at a very reasonable price. They are highly recommended.

For the best Paint, Full Restoration and Fab shop around visit Tom Argue Design.



Top 20 SEMA winner and featured on numerous Car Magazine Covers – Simply the best. Highly Recommended! Tom Argue Design 5020 110. Ave. North Clearwater, FL. 33760 info@tomarguedesign.com www.tomarguedesign.com PH: 727-573-2233

Shops of Interests to Vintage Car Owners in the Area

Exotic Motors South has had a name change to European Exotic Center. They are still located in the same shop and run by the same talented technicians with a much larger storage facility for storing their extensive exotic car collection They are an Authorized Service Center for Ferrari, Maserati. Lamborghini, Alfa Romeo, BMW and Koenigsegg. They have extensive experience with vintage car mechanicals as well as the most modern of Exotic cars.

Now working in conjunction with Tom Argue Designs for paint and restorations work, the combination is a tour de force – one stop shop for service and restoration of new and vintage sports cars and exotics of all kinds. Don't let the numerous exotic cars there scare you away - their service work is competitively priced and their technical knowledge unsurpassed. Highly recommended.

European Exotic Center 13000 Automobile Blvd. Clearwater, FL. 33762 PH: 727-254-9723 http://exoticmotorssouth.com/



A Visit is worth the trip just for the cars inside!

Shops of Interests to Vintage Car Owners in the Area Woody's Custom Metal Polishing

One of our club members had some bright work done only to find out that the shop he had taken it to was actually farming the work out to a specialist shop and marking it up. Some how he found the actual shop that did the work and would like to share that company with our members now.

I am embarrassed to say that Woody's Custom Metal Polishing was right under my nose too just blocks from where we live, and I did not know about it partly because he is located in a very small strip Mall right next to a Pawn shop, so when you drive by all you see if the sign for the Pawn Shop unless you look closely.

One of our club members – Barry Andress – took his bent and dirty Giulia bumper to Woody's and got it back in perfect shape and shiny as new. Barry highly recommends the place for all our bright work needs. Here is a list of items Woody's can polish. He also does Bike parts too.

Intakes Valves Covers **Bell Housings Aluminum Blocks** Aluminum Heads Transmissions **Air Compressors** Alternators Wheels **Timing Covers** Distributors Radiators All types of Stainless Steel and bright work Here is where to find him and his contact information: Woody's Custom Metal Polishing Galen Lamb 1688 Clearwater Largo Road Clearwater, FL. 33756 PH: 417-655-1214 He is located on the right side of Clearwater - Largo Road when headed south just before the red-light intersection of Ponce de Leon Blvd. If you see the Shell station at the red light you just past his place. Obviously if you are headed north on Clearwater - Largo Road he would be on the left just past the Shell Station at Ponce de Leon Blvd.

Check him out and let us know your experience and results!

Note from the Editor: This is an area of the newsletter we would like to expand to include detailed vehicle descriptions and High Quality photos of member's cars for sale within our region or beyond. From time to time we will also include Alfas for sale that were spotted that we feel would be of interest to our members either to purchase or simply comment on. Coming soon will also be a Focus area dedicated to our Members personal cars either fully restored or still in restoration. Send us your photos.

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