



The **FIAT**-isti



December 2019

Volume 29, Issue 4

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FEN is a fun-loving group of Italian car (FIAT, Lancia, and Alfa Romeo) enthusiasts who meet regularly throughout the year. In general, our club is geared towards social rather than the technical. The club is incorporated as a nonprofit club in Washington State and is an IRS 501(c)7 tax-exempt social club.

Club meetings are held monthly, except for July and December. A picnic in July and a holiday party in December take the place of regular meetings in those months. The regular meeting location alternates monthly between Shoreline and Renton. FEN also hosts rallies and other events throughout the year.



## Note from the Editor - By Pat Kvietkus

*This issue has been dedicated to Carrie Rice. Photos and past stories have been provided by Dan and Sooz. Photos by David and Mi Ae.*

*About thirteen FEN members were able to attend the Celebration of Life for Carrie Rice. Even the sun managed to break through the otherwise overcast day to smile on the gathering at the Harbor Inn, Port Townsend. It was standing room only for the late comers. The room was filled with love and happy memories. Carrie had thirteen grandchildren attending. These are a few of the many amazing things I heard about Carrie: Rex and Carrie married in 1961 and were married 58 years. They kept it a secret due to her position as a flight attendant. She was an avid reader, kept the family organized, and was a community activist. I will keep the hot tub and yoga stories for those who attended. She was born February 19, 1939 and past November 29, 2019.*

*In Loving Memory*

# Cooking on the Car

Article by Carrie and Rex Rice



Inspired by the book *Manifold Destiny*, we decided to cook food on the way to the Grays Harbor Tour on October 6. Following the book's recipe, we cut the sweet potatoes about one-quarter-inch thick, added a little butter, sprinkled them with Hometown #1 Blended Seasoning, and triple-wrapped them in foil. At home in Port Townsend, we placed them on our FIAT 124's exhaust manifold surface as level as possible in the hope that they would cook evenly (they did) and secured the two packages to the manifold. About 50 miles later in Hoodspport, we opened the packages to find perfectly cooked spuds.



We were so encouraged that we then tried a couple of steaks. And sure enough, in Lacey, where we were staying for the night, we had two tasty (although slightly overdone) steaks ready for our dinner. We bought some coleslaw, opened some good wine, and had the perfect dinner in our room. 🚗



### About the Book: *Manifold Destiny*

Review by Bill Wilson of *Bold Ride*

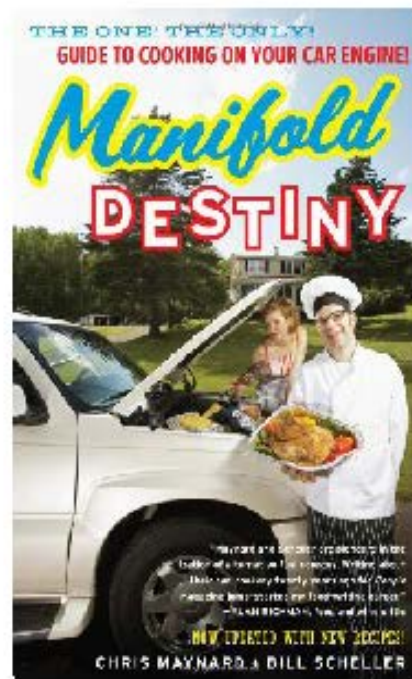
Halibut steaks. Egg-on-cheese pie. Stuffed eggplant. Pepper steak with baked potatoes. It all sounds good, doesn't it? It also sounds like the kind of fare you might only get in a fine restaurant, or perhaps in the home of a master chef. What would you say if we told you that each of these recipes come from a book about cooking on car engines? That's right, car engines.

Sounds crazy, but it's true. *Manifold Destiny* is the title of a work by two rebel chefs named Chris Maynard and Bill Scheller. It tells readers everything they would want to know about the fine art of car engine cookery. The pair discuss where to place the food packets (each recipe is prepared inside aluminum foil). They discuss the relative merits of preparing your meal on the exhaust manifold versus cooking it alongside the air filter. They also cover what parts of the engine you should never use for cooking purposes, like anywhere with external moving parts.

This may sound like a joke, but these guys are serious; and they have a long track record of success to back up their

claims. They prepared some scrumptious car-cooked dishes for Katie Couric and Al Roker on the *Today* show. They also whipped up some shrimp for the mayor of a German town while riding around in his 1956 Cadillac, making the meal directly on the vehicle's massive engine. When it comes to finding a use for all that wasted heat automobiles create, these guys have it down to a culinary science.

Probably none of this comes as a surprise to veteran truckers, who long ago learned how to heat up cans of stew on their rig's engines. But Maynard and Scheller have refined the practice by adding their considerable skills as gourmet artisans to the practice. The result is a delicious read that's a treat for both the eyes and the stomach. *Manifold Destiny* is well worth checking out.



# *Memories of Carrie from Mi Ae: FEN archives*

Photo Credits: Mi Ae



Mi Ae has provided some of the photos from her three years as the FENW Newsletter editor.

#### Photo Captions:

- Rex & Carrie at the FEN All Italian Car Show with Carrie's ultra cute (and award winning) Seat 600 "Azul"
- In their bright yellow Spider at the summer picnic and gymkhana at Greg & Elinor's in Olympia. Carrie "showing" blindfolded Rex how far to go with her hands!
- Hazel Smith judging their points as Rex backs into the tall grass.
- Beautiful, spirited Carrie 2008 (Double Coronas!)
- 
- The Rices, Rians and David M at lunch after enjoying the Rice's always-fun Port Townsend Rally 2013



## Mi Ae photos continued





### **Note from Pat:**

**S**ooz had written a very heartfelt note. They are lost in electronic heaven, as the e-mail and history has vanished from Sooz's and my equipment. I will keep looking, but all the usual places do not seem to have a copy. I apologize for not finding the lost memories from Sooz and Dan.



### **Fellow FENster Fun “Troubleshooters”- From David and Judy**

(Editors note: It would not be fitting to have a Fiat event without a parking lot hood up experience! Thanks to David for providing this story. And it was not even a Fiat!.)

**S**o good that you could all get to Point Townsend to help Rex celebrate Carrie's amazing life. I know with the many people who made it there, Rex rallied and truly appreciated the response, and our group of FENsters were well represented! Kudos to Carrie (and Rex) for contributing to and creating such a great community; her spirit really showed through the meaningful tributes.

And, BTW, this was also cathartic for Sooz and Dan Rian. They couldn't have been more thrilled to join in and especially to see and “hang out” with all of you.

AND thanks to all of YOU for your patience with my non-Fiat car issues (I do think this too was part of an appropriate tribute to Carrie's memory). Jackie and Mike were right, we needed lots of help from AAA that evening.

With the added boost of the AAA battery booster, the car did start, but by the time we crossed the Hood Canal bridge, I realized the reason the 1-year old battery went so flat (while driving) that it couldn't start the engine even with your jumper cable help. Rapidly, check engine, 4X4, ABS codes started to flash warnings and by the time we passed Port Gamble I was noticing dimming headlights and loss of performance. That along with the burning rubber smell coming from the front of the car made me assume a toasted serpentine belt (also newly replaced a month ago), but when the car finally died completely at the intersection of the 307 (8 miles shy of Kingston) and I peered under the hood to see an intact belt, I realized that we were truly all done. Must be a toasted alternator, however I don't recall ever experiencing that kind of failure:-(

So here we sit in the dark and growing cold with 2 mightily handicapped seniors in the back seat, on the “wrong” side of the water for easier forms of rescue (like calling our adult kids). AAA to the rescue for the 2nd time in one evening... and just in time since by then even the 4-ways were failing.

Kitsap towing responded within the hour with a truck large enough to flatbed the AWD BMW and carry all 4 of us across the sound to a shop near my house (we leave in 2 days for a 3 week trip so no time for me to fix this). Guess we’re finally taking advantage of the “Premier” AAA membership that we pay for every year and seldom use. The amazingly patient and friendly driver helped us boost Dan & Sooz into the extra large and tall Freightliner extra cab truck and he was kind enough to drop off the car on

Phinney Ridge and give us the extra 2 mile ride home (with a nice tip). One more transfer to one of our “spare” cars (after all FEN members know that they might need one, even if the Fiat rarely if ever leaves us stranded) and it was off to Bothell.

Dan & Sooz were great sports, never lost their enthusiasm or good humor and truly had a fun adventure... longer than planned, but, of course, we always remember these less-than-ideal events! By the time I got the Rian “troopers” home it was 10:30!

So much for driving only old cars, especially the cranky German kind! After all, we’ve always said that the car club is about the PEOPLE more than just the cars. So again, MANY thanks to YOU all. As was

said yesterday, we need to all keep paying it forward in Carries example.



## 2019 FEN Officers

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Note from Pat:

The forget Me Not seed packets were a memory thank you from the Rice family. To be planted in her memory.



## **FEN Calendar**

### **First Saturday of Each Month**

Griot's Garage Caffeine and Gasoline® Cruise-In. At Griot's Garage, 3333 South 38th Street, Tacoma, WA, 8 AM.

**January 1 New Years Day Anti-Football drive** New Years Day Anti-Football Drive - Wednesday, January 1

Start Location: Cafe Ladro, 18610 Bothell Way NE, Bothell, WA 98011 (9-9:30 AM)

End Location: MOD Pizza, 513 WA-9 Suite 515A, Lake Stevens, WA 98258 (Noon-1 PM)

More information:

<http://nwalfaclub.com/index.html>

### **January club meeting has moved to Jan 8 2020.**

Updated details to be e-mailed by Alex.

Location: Spiro's, regular time with dinner at 6:00 pm, program at 7 pm. Abarths in New Zealand by Chris Kalinski

# FIATs in the News

Compiled by Pat Kvietkus

The following is a digest of recent news items relating to FIATs, Alfa Romeos, Maseratis, and other Italian cars.

Clicking on the blue URL links will take you to the corresponding articles on the Internet in your Web browser.

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**2019 FIAT 500E, Review, Pricing, and Specs (By Breana Noble, Car and Driver, 2019)**

<https://www.caranddriver.com/fiat/500e>

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**Fiat 500 discontinued in US for 2020 (By Steven Ewing, Roadshow, September 2, 2019)**

<https://www.cnet.com/roadshow/news/fiat-500-discontinued-2020/>

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**2019 Fiat 124 Spider Abarth review: A hot Italian spin on Japanese bones (Road Show, Oct., 5, 2019)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e-wEidN7-aA>

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**One of America's Best Cheap Sports Cars Is Set to Die (By Tyler Duffy, Gear Patrol, December 5, 2019)**

<https://gearpatrol.com/2019/12/05/fiat-124-spider-canceled/>

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**Fun-Loving Fiat 124 Spider Not Dead Yet Despite Italian Report Saying It Is (By Chris Tsui, The Drive, December, 5, 2019)**

<https://www.thedrive.com/news/31332/fun-loving-fiat-124-spider-not-dead-yet-despite-italian-report-saying-it-is>

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**2020 Fiat 124 Spider Returns For The New Model Year: (By Robert Miller, Mopar Insider, Sept. 1, 2019)**

<https://moparinsiders.com/2020-fiat-124-spider-returns-for-the-new-model-year/>

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**Best of 2020 Fiat, Reviewing the 2020 Fiat Lineup (by Nikola Potrebic, AutoWise, Sept. 24, 2019)**

<https://autowise.com/2020-fiat/>

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**The Best Alfa Romeo 2021 Cars, Reviewing the 2021 Alfa Romeo Lineup (By**

**Jby Nikola Potrebic, Nov. 6, 2019.)** <https://autowise.com/2021-alfa-romeo/>

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**1925 FIAT 501 for sale, Lot Number 51, UK registered, (Brightwells, Dec. 2019)**

<https://www.brightwells.com/lot-details/100011760>