

## A Message From Your Club President

With less than 60 days until our 5th ICF Weekend things are starting to pop.

In the Best Spider Challenge, FIAT America, centered in San Francisco, picked their contender bringing to 3 the number of participants. Fiat-Lancia Unlimited will pick their representative soon at their national meet in Pontiac, Michigan. These cars will travel to our show for the final round. This attempt to find North America's best FIAT 124-based spider has never been done before and it is especially exciting as it coincides with a sharp rise in spider prices that reflect the newfound popularity of these models. And this year's BSC will serve as a template for us in staging competitions for other makes and models.

ICF advertising is appearing in many magazines and newsletters, some that you may subscribe to. And *Alfa Owner* again made ICF the feature of one of their issues.

The goal we set last year to offer on-line registration and payment has become a reality. This is quite an accomplishment. You can check out the 'shopping cart' at [ItalianCarFest.com](http://ItalianCarFest.com).

This is exciting: We still have challenges. At some point we will need to provide a program for Saturday's show. That is what makes our project compelling. How we will get this done is unclear, but it will get done. If not this year, next. Do you have an idea?

There are many other developments to chat about. As we focus on where we are going with ICF '07, may I ask you to consider what you can do to help out? One of the easiest things you can do is to register early. Things get busier as September approaches and the earlier registrations can be processed, the better.

Something else you can do is to volunteer early. That will help us make sure all positions are covered. Is volunteering fun? You get to hang out with people you like while being a part of the most elegant all-Italian car, motorcycle & scooter extravaganza anywhere. So please, jump on board!

*Jerry Lee Phillips*



## Project: ICCS Spider

The Italian Car Club of the Southwest has taken on a rather industrious, exciting new project! We will be restoring a Fiat spider and plan to raffle the car for charity at ItalianCarFest 2008.

We are asking for donations of cash, parts and labor to bring this project in as inexpensively as possible. Vick Autosports has already offered their assistance and even a car!

We are currently searching for an inexpensive or donated car to begin this project. Jerry and Garrick have looked at several cars, two of which it would have been generous to call 'junkyard cars'. If you have a car to donate, or know where a good candidate might be, please drop us an email. Below are two cars that have already been offered as a possible starting point for the project.

1980's Fiat



1972 Fiat



We will be tracking the progress of the project on a web site, [www.ItalianCarFest.com/ProjectSpider](http://www.ItalianCarFest.com/ProjectSpider). We will also be using the site to request donations & parts, or to solicit feedback on the direction we should go for the finished car.

So many decisions to be made: Early car or later model? Bumpers or bumper-less? Stock or sporty? Engine size? Paint color? Interior color?

This should be a fun project for our club in particular and the Fiat community in general. We plan on having weekend work gatherings to disassemble and reassemble the car. If you would like to help out, please let us know.



## Some Vespa Trivia

Piaggio, a company whose transportation roots date back to 1884, created the Vespa scooter. It was designed after World War II as a way to give the Italians inexpensive personal mobility.

Designed by an aeronautical engineer, the new vehicle featured aeronautical technology like a monocoque chassis and front suspension similar to airplane landing gear. This front suspension allowed for easy wheel changes.

Vespa got its name when Enrico Piaggio, upon seeing the new scooter, remarked "*Sembra una Vespa!*" ("It looks like a wasp!").

In the late 50's, Vespa built a micro-car, the Vespa 400. With a tiny two-stroke engine, it was only capable of 50-55 MPH.



## The New Fiat 500

The original Fiat 500 was released in 1957. If you haven't seen all the hype on the Italian car sites and numerous other places, Fiat has released a new 500 on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the original. Doing things the way only the Italians can, there was a huge launch event (performance? show? who knows what to call it...). See more on the new car at [www.Fiat500.com](http://www.Fiat500.com). The site is in Italian, but there is an English version as well.

Fiat has seen significant financial improvement lately, and a fun little car like this seems likely to continue the trend. As Britain's Top Gear magazine said when reviewing the new 500, "Your Mini is so last year, dahling".

Below are some originals and modern interpretations of Fiat advertising photos.



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### Upcoming Events:

#### 7/28 – Saturday

Dinner at Café Italia & show at Chuck's Cruise

#### 8/11 – Saturday

Second Saturday Gelati Nights at Paciugo in Plano

#### 8/21 – Tuesday

ICCS monthly meeting at Carrabba's

#### 9/8 – Saturday

Second Saturday Gelati Nights at Paciugo in Plano

#### 9/18 – Tuesday

ICCS monthly meeting at Carrabba's

#### 9/21-9/23 – Friday through Sunday

ItalianCarFest Weekend

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### Recommended Web Sites

[CarsFromItaly.net](http://CarsFromItaly.net) – A good site with lots of information on the more popular Italian marques and models. Good information on many of the lesser-known marques as well.

[FireBreathingFiats.com](http://FireBreathingFiats.com) – Do you like modified Fiats and Lancias? This site has some very nice street-legal cars, including our own Jeff Scheferman's 1972 coupe, as well as racecars. Also features some technical information and other resources.

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## ItalianCarFest Update



Show – Saturday, 9/22  
Track Day – Sunday, 9/23

[www.ItalianCarFest.com](http://www.ItalianCarFest.com)

We have a new sponsor on board, **TimePiece Public Relations & Marketing**, at the Friend of ICF level. Our friend and ICF-entrant, Scott Black, has agreed to help with PR functions and press releases for the show. This year we will be hosting press luncheons in DFW and Houston, which should help increase coverage in the press.

ItalianCarFest also has a new food vendor. In keeping with our Italian theme, we will have Syracuse's Italian Sausage Company serving food this year. Their menu includes sausage sandwiches and meatball sandwiches, as well as the usual hot dogs and hamburgers.

Two very special cars are already confirmed to be at ICF '07. Boardwalk Ferrari/Maserati has arranged for Maserati to bring a GranTurismo. This will be many people's first opportunity to see this beautiful new model. Lamborghini Dallas will be bringing a 1967 Miura, which will be the first Miura we have seen at ICF.

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## ICCS Classifieds

*Club members who would like to advertise vehicles, parts or memorabilia, either for sale or wanted, please email details on the items and your contact information to [ilBollettino@charter.net](mailto:ilBollettino@charter.net). Italian-related items only, please.*

### For Sale: 1991 Alfa Romeo Spider

White w/ tan interior and blue soft top; 56,xxx miles; \$7,500  
Email Juanamaria at [jxochipili@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jxochipili@sbcglobal.net)

### For Sale: 1992 Ferrari 348 TS

Blue w/ tan interior; 54,xxx miles; \$47,500  
Email Juanamaria at [jxochipili@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jxochipili@sbcglobal.net)

### Wanted: Trim for Fiat 124 Coupe

I am looking for the trunk lid trim piece for my '72 124 BC Coupe project.

Email Garrick at [Fiat124Coupe@charter.net](mailto:Fiat124Coupe@charter.net)

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*Please email [ilBollettino@charter.net](mailto:ilBollettino@charter.net) with newsletter questions, comments or suggestions.*

## Italian Car Club of the Southwest For Italian Car, Cycle & Scooter Enthusiasts from the Southwest

ItalianCarFest Contact: Bob Dezzany 214 668-2382  
ICCS Contact: Jerry Lee Phillips 817 521-4400

[www.ICCSW.com](http://www.ICCSW.com)