



2nd Annual 28th Street Metro Cruise / Car Show Grand Rapids, Michigan August 26th, 2006

By: Mike Bouse



Well, it was the second time for Jon and Sharron Prisbe, Missy and me to meet here intentionally to woo other Italian car owners. This time, we came prepared! This time, we brought help along with us.

Besides our three Fiat Spiders Brian & Carol Rock brought their “new” X1/9; a beautiful example of what 25 years in a garage can produce. This car has less than 4,000 original miles on the clock, and it shows! Tom and Cindy Walters brought their X1/9 as well. Gerry & Diane Dickinson, Larry & Linda Kruth showed with their Spiders too. Brent and Aimee Caudill made it over from Holland.



We had worked hard in the preceding weeks to invite non-members, as well as F.L.U.I.D. members to our little party. Jim and Sue Watch were able to patch together a trip from the east coast of Michigan. A V-belt nearly prevented their success, but, as you know driving is an adventure. Fortunately their adventure proved victorious. New friends met on the internet were able to attend as well.



At one time, 14 Fiats were parked in the same row. This took place about mid-day, after a couple of Fiats had to leave, so all told, we had roughly 20 friends and family show up. In addition to those we expected, we met some cousins at the show. Bill (can't remember his last name) showed up in his 1975 race ready/street legal Lancia. He told us the story of how he called Italy directly to receive a letter from Fiat in order to get his vehicle titled in Arizona.

An active Alpha Romeo club is in the area, and a couple of their members stopped by for a chat. A promise of coordinating future events together was made, and they departed to drift around looking at other cars in the show. We are excited to learn that we may be able to do a cruise or two together. Wouldn't that turn some heads?

Dale Lubahn showed up in his '77 Spider which he and his brother-in-law squeezed a Chevy V-8 engine into. This car has a Mustang front end, shaved doors, frenched lights, and several other goodies. It was quite the “Cheviat”.



Pietro's Restaurant was kind enough to be our host, and what a host they were! Our name was on the marquee, and delicious pizza was served. Look for us, in force, next year at the 3rd Annual 28th Street Metro Cruise / Car Show - at Pietro's Restaurant. All pictures of this year's event can be found at <http://gallery.italiancarclub.com/michflu/2006metrocrui>/ Stop by for a visit.