



May 2013

## Random Thoughts

Submitted by Gwen Randolph

- Cruise nights - at least most - have finally started, but my T-top & Phil's Packard were out of commission for a few days so we stayed home the first week. They are both fine now & we've gone to a couple of cruise nights finally. It's gets a little cool when the sun starts to set so jackets are needed, but everyone is outside enjoying the music, checking out the cars - familiar ones and new ones acquired over the winter - & happy to see everyone. We all laugh because in a few weeks we'll be grumbling that it's too hot. We humans just can't be satisfied.
- Roger Coulson has written a nice article about his experience in 2012 with his Fiero at cruise nights & car shows - see Page 2. He has also compiled websites that list cruise nights in the New England area & is sharing this research with everyone. A big thank you to Roger for his research.
- Adding to Roger's list, below are a few websites that Phil & I use.

<http://cruisinbruce.com/>

<http://autosoftheworld.us/>

<http://www.djcarguy.com/>

<http://www.tri-statecruisers.com/events.php>

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Check out the newly updated  
NEFA website

<http://www.fieropride.com>

Be sure to check out the new "Member's Rides" section and if you don't see your Fiero please send a picture of your pride and joy Fiero to Gwen at: [pran@cox.net](mailto:pran@cox.net).

## Reverend's Review

Submitted by Andrew 'The Reverend' Virzi

My barn find Formula project is progressing nicely & will soon be on the road. I'm at the point where I have done a total repaint of the Talbot yellow color & black under hood & trim. Painting the trim included the plastic rocker panels. To take them off I drilled out the factory aluminum rivets & removed the covers. After they were painted I used correct factory NOS aluminum rivets to reattach the rocker panels. However, I had no luck in finding a rivet gun that would accept the size of those rather big rivets. After looking long & hard & asking other Fiero enthusiasts what they used, I didn't get any satisfactory answers.

I thought one particular rivet gun at Harbor Freight Tools might work, but unfortunately they didn't have one in stock. I did find a rivet gun that I thought would be a suitable though - Harbor Freight Pittsburg brand hand riveter (item # 97757). It comes with 40 assorted size pom rivets that are almost stock looking & are black like the factory style. However, there aren't enough rivets in the package in the size I need & I'll either have to make do and use the slightly smaller rivets included to finish both sides of the car or go back to the store & see if they have the rivets I need in stock. They were out of them the last time I was there, but I do see them on their website.

Initially using the rivet gun was frustrating. First, most of the rivets broke off without getting a good grip. I changed my technique by pumping the gun to set the rivets, which helped eliminate this problem. If you go full tilt on the first squeeze, the rivet won't extend properly & merely snap off without expanding & holding. The next problem was that the gun works wonderfully if you have the hands & grip of a gorilla.

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Reverend's Review.....continued from Page 1

I could not squeeze the extremely short handles together no matter how I tried. Using a little old fashion ingenuity - see Photo 1 - I modified the handles by extending their length with vice grips. The extra length was just what was needed to make this gun work easier. This product is made in China & I'm surprised the Chinese engineers didn't figure this into the design, unless of course they used a gorilla to test this gun. I paid \$12 plus change & find this rivet gun works well - with modification to the handles - & seems to be a good value for the price. I give the product four out of five stars.



Photo 1

Reverend's Review.....continued

**A shop tip from the Rev:** If you've ever cleaned your carb or TBI unit with carb cleaner, or for that matter anything with a plastic extension nozzle on it, here's a quick tip that will keep that nozzle in place & not finding a home in your plenum or manifold. Use tape. In my case, masking tape. Wrap tape around the nozzle & spray tip - see Photo 2 - to keep it in place.



Photo 2

## Cruise Nights, Car Shows, Where are the Fieros?

Submitted by Roger Coulson

Where are all the Fieros on Cruise Nights & Car Shows? I went to more than twenty Cruise Nights & Car Shows last year & I only saw one Fiero. In the eastern & central Massachusetts area there are lots of Cruise Nights. The biggest is the bi-weekly Thursday Cruise Night at Foxboro Patriot Place, where the number of cars on display is 2,000 - 2,500. The weekly Wednesday Cruise Night in Lancaster at Kimballs brings several hundred cars. There are lots of other Cruise Nights too. How do you find all the local Cruise Nights & Events? I'll start with one of the larger consolidators in my area, the MAAC (Maynard Area Auto Club) Events page.

<http://clubs.hemmings.com/maynardaac/events.html>.

This is a great consolidator, BUT only as good as the information entered. Sometimes you will see an event listed on two different dates. Sometimes you will see the wrong date or an event that has been cancelled. The

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best way to confirm the information is to go to the events web page or to a sponsor, e.g. Mass Cruisers Foxboro @ <http://clubs.hemmings.com/masscruisers/> or Kimball Farm Lancaster @ <http://www.kimballfarm.com/cruise.shtml>.

One of the bigger events I went to was the Manchester Cruising Downtown - <http://cruisingdowntown.com/>. It is also the only event where I saw a Fiero. This year's event is August 31. For something different I went to the Simsbury Fly-In & Car show - <http://www.simsburyflyin.com/>. There were over 500 cars & still no Fieros. This year's event is September 15. There may be new events or Cruise Nights in your local area like the Thursday night Cruise-In/Fly-In - [http://www.eaa196.org/drivein\\_flyin.pdf](http://www.eaa196.org/drivein_flyin.pdf) - June, July, & August at Minuteman Airport, Stow, MA.

Over twenty events last year & I only saw one Fiero? That will be changing this year since I will be bringing my 88 Formula. Why not bring your Fiero too.

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Advertise your sale items.....Fieros or Fiero related. Send your sale item information to Gwen at [pran@cox.net](mailto:pran@cox.net). The NEFA eNews goes out to a wide audience.

## **Classifieds**

### **Fieros:**

**87GT** - 4.9 5-speed car for sale. If you were at the annual meeting in November this car was there. Asking \$6000. Has Allante intake, Bosch Design 3 injectors, RCC suspension & bump-steer correction kit. All power options, sunroof & subwoofer. Cruise was disconnected since it interfered with Allante intake. A/C needs recharge. Needs new rear struts. Lots of new parts including recent paint job. Gets about 25mpg highway. You can contact Lou Dias at: [loudfiero@gmail.com](mailto:loudfiero@gmail.com). Check out the car on his Facebook page or the Youtube links below.

[https://www.facebook.com/loudias?ref=tn\\_tnmn#!/photo.php?v=3763725899296&set=vb.1461082870&type=3&theater](https://www.facebook.com/loudias?ref=tn_tnmn#!/photo.php?v=3763725899296&set=vb.1461082870&type=3&theater)  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WZbYLaI2B5U>  
[v=FI22ngXKFaw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FI22ngXKFaw)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?>

**Fiero Toys and Collectibles:** Are you interested in Fiero collectibles? Ray Paulk, **Fiero Toy Box**, as over 500 unique Fiero toys in his personal collection and tons of toys in inventory, but don't expect cut rate prices as most Fiero toys are rare and hard to find. If you are interested you can contact Ray at [Ray@RaytheRealtor.com](mailto:Ray@RaytheRealtor.com)

### **Repair/Painting:**



This is a company owned and operated by Andrew Virzi, NEFA's Treasurer.

**Do you have something Fiero related to sell or have a Fiero related service you want to advertise? This is the place. Send your contact information to Gwen at: [pran@cox.net](mailto:pran@cox.net).**



**Help us by sending pictures of your Fiero for publication in the NEFA eNews and the the new "Member's Rides" section of the NEFA website. Send pictures to Gwen @ [pran@cox.net](mailto:pran@cox.net). Here is a picture of Bill Dorosz's convertible Fiero taken at NEFA's tech session on April 27. Now it's your turn to send in a picture.**

## **NEFA Happenings - 2013**

**June 2, 2013 – 29th Annual All Pontiac and Oakland Spring Car Show** - Wallingford, CT - Sponsored by the Nutmeg Chapter P.O.C.I. & Barberino Nissan at PNA Park 171 North Planes Highway Wallingford, CT. Rain or shine. For more info contact Mike O'Neill at (203) 266-7089, Noel Evans at (860) 868-7723, or Jack White (860) 526-9748 or for registration form & flier for the show: [www.nutmegchapterpoci.com](http://www.nutmegchapterpoci.com).

**June 2013 - 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Buick, Pontiac, GMC Auto Show** – Merrimack, NH. **Show canceled for 2013.**

**June 26 – July 1, 2013 - 30<sup>th</sup> Fiero Anniversary show** – Sponsored by the Midwest Fiero clubs. Mark your calendars. Check out <http://www.fiero.nl/forum/Forum1/HTML/088485.html> on Pennock's Forum. This should give you all the information you need. Some of the NEFA member are attending.

**July 14, 2013 - picnic and pool party at Phil & Gwen Randolph's in Coventry, RI.** More information to follow. Mark your calendars.

**July 28, 2013 – Autos of the World Car Show – Warwick, RI.** Hundreds of cars of all makes attend this show. A wonderful show to attend in a great location. Check out their website: <http://autosoftheworld.us/>

**August 3, 2013 – NEFA Annual Swap Meet.** Once again we'll hold the swap meet at The Fiero Store in Manchester, CT. Make up your lists of things you want to buy, sell or swap. More information to come.

**August 11, 2013 – 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam, CT Main Street Cruise.** Rain date 8/18. Join the fun! A wonderful day checking out hundreds of autos that park on the streets. Restaurants, antique shows & burnout pits. Shouldn't miss this one. There's a good chance you'll see someone you know.

**September 29, 2013 – 30<sup>th</sup> Annual All Pontiac & Oakland Fall Car Show** – Wallingford, CT. Rain date October 6. Sponsored by the Nutmeg Chapter P.O.C.I. & Barberino Nissan.

**September 2013 – Fort Adams Car Show** – Fort Adams State Park, Newport, RI. Fantastic location overlooking Newport Harbor. **DATE TBA.**

**October 2013 – NEFA's Annual Leaf Peeper Tour.** Route & date will coincide with the changing of the foliage. A wonderful day cruising in the fall with other car enthusiasts. Always a fun event.

**November 10, 2013 – NEFA Holiday Party and Annual Meeting.** More information to come.

**September 19-21, 2014** – Pontiac Celebration show weekend. Warwick, RI. Great show! Great weekend! Great location! Raising money for two great charities is the icing on the cake. Mark your calendars. We had a good turnout at the 2012 show so let's pass the word & have even more Fieros on the show field for the 2014 show.

Continued from Page 2.....Cruise Nights, Car Shows.....

I saw one of our members (name omitted to protect the guilty) at the Millbury show last fall, but he was not in his Fiero. I saw two of our members at Kimballs (names omitted to protect the guilty), but they were in another classic car & not in their Fiero. We need to show off our Fieros. Mine is in restoration condition & would not win any prizes, but I have seen other club member's cars & they certainly would.

This year get out there & show off your Fiero! At which Cruise Night or Car Show will I see your Fiero this year?

*NOTE: Contact Roger at [Fiero@RogerCoulson.com](mailto:Fiero@RogerCoulson.com) if you'd like to meet up with him at a cruise night or car show.*

**The NEFA eNews is the official newsletter of the New England Fiero Association**

All past issues can be viewed on the NEFA website.  
<http://fieropride.com>

**Family membership is \$10.00 by check or \$10.65 by Paypal at <http://fieropride.com/indexnefa.php> or Mail your check, made payable to:**

**New England Fiero Association**  
**Ray Paulk, 19 Bens Way, Hopedale, MA 01747**  
Contact Ray at: [Ray@RaytheRealtor.com](mailto:Ray@RaytheRealtor.com) if you have any questions.

Ray Paulk, NEFA President and Membership Director

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- We had no problem with my T-top on our trip to Daytona for the FL Fiero Weekend in March, but after we came home, Phil found liquid on the floor under the car one morning. Apparently one of the new rear struts that he had replaced in the past few months failed. The parts store had a record of the purchase so thankfully replaced it without question. While Phil was under the car replacing the strut, he found a brake hose that could stand replacing so a call to The Fiero Store was made for the parts needed to avoid any problems – I do appreciate good brakes :) Once Phil replaced the brake line the car needed to be aligned so to the shop it went. I have spent a considerable amount of money for parts on "my" car this month. Good thing I like old cars & good thing Phil is a good mechanic who doesn't charge.

- At one of the cruise nights we go to they give out a free raffle ticket for prizes & my ticket won me a bag of products used to clean wheels. Also in the bag was a brochure advertising a storage facility for your car. Now I know people who need to rent a garage for those purposes because they don't have enough room at their house & I know people who own boats will use storage facilities, but this was new to me. The facility is in Portsmouth, RI in what looks like a huge warehouse. Apparently they offer many services too. Who knew!

- NEFA held its first tech session of 2013 at Bob Aceto's house in Wallingford, CT on Saturday, April 27. Bob hoped that just bleeding the brakes on one of his many Fieros would fix the problem. **See pictures to the right.** After trying the easy solution for quite some time, it was decided that the easy solution wasn't working & that Bob needed new parts. Bob called a few places, but found that the parts needed were not in stock & would need to be ordered, which brought the tech session to an end for the day. Even though the easy solution didn't work out we still had fun getting together & trying. NEFA members always have fun when we get together. It's a Fiero thing! As part of the day's activities, most of us went to a local Italian restaurant just around the corner from Bob's house – a great restaurant BTW - for more bonding. Hopefully now that the good weather is here we'll see more members at the next NEFA event.

- Enjoy your Fieros!

