



November 2013

Random Thoughts

Submitted by Gwen Randolph

- As we drove from Sturbridge, MA up to the Mohawk Trail on the NEFA Leaf Peeper cruise, the colors went from mostly green to oranges & golds. Again this year we had a beautiful day, which is always welcome. Check out the pictures on Page 2. As I write this two weeks later, our area in RI is passing peak, but still colorful. I love fall. Unfortunately the leaves are already falling around our house & though soon only a few tenacious leaves will be clinging to the branches, even they know that their time is short & that they will also be falling to the ground. Of course, this all means we will be out very soon raking, blowing and sucking up those leaves. That part of fall I don't like :)

- There has been discussion about re-printing some of the older tech articles from past Fiero Pride newsletters. This month we're bringing back "How to Brake your Fiero" from the March 2006 issue. See Pages 4.

- ***Don't forget the NEFA Holiday Party and Annual Meeting on November 10, 2013. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending. As members we all have a say in the future of the club. A flier will be going out soon.***

NEFA Holiday Party and Annual Meeting

November 10, 2013

Save the date

More information to come

Our NEFA Leaf Peepers Tour

Submitted by Ray Paulk, NEFA President

For those who missed the tour, what a wonderful day we had. The best leaf peeping was on our ride from Sturbridge, up through middle MA to the Mohawk trail. I sometimes get complacent & forget how beautiful the state of MA is. There were many places we could stop to view the vast countryside.

My wife, Janet, went with me, which meant I couldn't take my Fiero as she can't maneuver getting in & out. I tried to convince myself that her Honda CRV was a "re-body" even though for me there is no way to sell that concept. At least we weren't alone because Roger Coulson was also in a "re-body" as his Fiero is in Andy Virzi's Fiero Paint Shop getting rejuvenated. It took the

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French King Bridge, Gill, MA

Continued from page 1.....Our NEFA Leaf Peepers Tour

Fieros in the group – the “re-bodies” stayed at the back of the line - to get heads turning as we passed by.

The Apple place was huge! You don't see too many apple places that require staff to direct parking. We got some apples & Janet has promised me a nice pie!

I personally liked the French King Bridge...especially the adrenaline rush from the height. Gwen & Janet didn't get too far walking out onto the bridge....50 feet at the most. They clung to each other as they made their way back to solid ground. I went to the middle where I took a panorama shot with my iPhone (*see photo bottom of page 1*). I then used a program & made a video. Hopefully you can enjoy almost the same rush I had looking down at the CT River below. [French King Bridge](#)

At the restaurant where we had lunch, I decided to have a Gyro sandwich. When asked what I was getting, I said Gyro with a hard "G" sound. Oops... guess that's not right as I was quickly corrected to use a guttural "gh" sound. This was also confirmed by the waitress.... who knew? I just know I like 'em!

The Yankee Candle Store – the final stop on the cruise - in South Deerfield, MA.....what marketing! It amazes me how huge this place is. They even give you a map when you enter as it's very easy to get turned around & lost. And all that based just on candles. People like them, so it was worth it. Of course after we left Yankee Candle, as it seems with all of our cruises, Janet had to go back & hit some of the shops we had passed, but hadn't stopped at. I had my French King Bridge rush & was mellowed, so we backtracked a bit & Janet got to stop at "her" places, which is only fair.

Thanks so much to our Activities Directors for planning this out for us.



NEFA Happenings - 2013

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

September 19-21, 2014 – Pontiac Celebration show weekend. Warwick, RI. Great show! Great weekend! turnout at the 2012 show. Pass the word. Let's have even more Fieros on the show field for the 2014 show. Great location! Raising money for two great charities is the icing on the cake. Mark your calendars.

Fiero Travel Tips

Submitted by Jerry Antunes

Next year September 19-21, 2014 - the Pontiac Celebration will be held in Warwick, RI. It is held every other year & is well attended. At the last two events there were quite a few Fieros in attendance. I strongly recommend attending this event. Even if your Fiero is just a cruise night car, it's a lot of fun with workshops for the gear heads & activities for the spouses. So, if you plan to drive your Fiero to this or any out of town event, but you feel that your car has lots of miles on it & you're concerned about a break down, you can be prepared for most problems if you follow these basic steps:

1. You need to carry your Haynes or Chiltons Repair Manual with you. This way if someone else works on your car they will have all the info they need (no excuses for not knowing).
2. Make sure all your belts & hoses are in good condition. If you're not sure, carry a spare.
3. If you have a 2.8 V-6, you should consider carrying a spare ignition module. It seems they don't like heat & sometimes fail. If you can't install it yourself, any mechanic or friend can install it without worrying about where to find the right part.
4. Be sure to have a couple of spare fuses handy. I've seen a member whose car started running poorly & after hours of checking, found that one fuse for the fuel injectors had blown out.
5. An extra hose clamp or two may be handy to have.
6. Don't forget the Duct Tape. It's a good temporary fix for a leaking hose. I've even seen it used to make a muffler hanger.

7. Tools you should carry.
 - a. 3/8" ratchet wrench with a 3/8, 1/2, 10mm & 13mm sockets & a short extension.
 - b. Screw Drivers (flat & Phillips).
 - c. Pliers/Wire Cutters.
 - d. 7 mm, 15 mm, & 15 Torx driver
8. Jumper Cables
9. If you are a member of an auto club, make sure you have 100 miles towing. This way you're sure to get towed to the closest repair facility.

It doesn't matter how many miles are on your car, most break downs are not caused by how many miles you have on your Fiero. Remember, the engine & drive train & many other parts are 24 - 30 years old so unless you completely rebuilt your car or replaced all of the major mechanicals, anything can happen.

Consider driving your car to local cruise nights, including some highway miles a week or two before your big trip, to check its roadworthiness.

So what's the worst that can happen? You're driving to an event & something goes wrong & you can't fix it on the spot. You have to be towed to a repair facility & they tell you it will take a day or two. What to do? You rent a car & continue to the event, enjoy yourself even though you don't have your car. It's not that bad. You don't have to worry about cleaning the car and now you have all the time in the world to talk & enjoy the event. Here's your chance to learn so much about the Fiero & get lots of ideas for your project.

Submitted By Phil Randolph

How to Brake your Fiero

As you are aware, the brakes on a Fiero are not one of its greatest assets. There are some brake upgrades that use bigger rotors, but most, if not all of those, require

both big money and machine work. There must be an easier way to improve the braking system. While doing some work under the hood of my Chevy S10 pickup I happened to take a closer look at the power brake booster. A quick check with a measuring tape and some thinking I had a thought, "Aha, this might work."

Bob Parker of Kick Hill had a Jimmy in his yard and I asked about the booster and he said, "Sure, take it, but first off let me tell you that they are a son of a gun to remove if the dash is still in the vehicle" (took a week for the cuts on my hands to heal). After comparing the Jimmy booster and the Fiero unit, the swap appeared to be fairly easy. (See Pictures 1 & 2)

Unbolt the MC and just move it out of the way, then unbolt the booster. Remove the bracket from the Fiero unit by cutting/filing/grinding the rivets. (See Picture 3) Now for the hard part - the push rod going to the pedal is not long enough on the Jimmy booster so it has to be lengthened. The center of the hole should be 6 1/2 inches from the end of the bracket so I made up a threaded connector so that I could have some wiggle room. (See Picture 4) A small amount of BFH work is required on the frame for the

new booster to clear. (See Picture 5) Bolt everything back up (don't forget the little push rod between the MC and the booster) and now you can stop. (See Picture 6)



Pic 1 - Fiero booster



Pic 3 - Bracket



Pic 2 - Jimmy booster



Pic 4 - New setup



Pic 5 -
BFH work



Pic 6 -
Finished

Custom License Plate Frames for your Fiero

Submitted by Roger Coulson

I found this nice, easy to work with company on the web that will make thin, 'Say Anything' license plate frames that are legal in all 50 states. They are very well made. The price has recently increased to only \$12.99 delivered. In the attached picture you can see one of the ideas I came up with. If I was to do this again, I would just have "Fiero" on the top line.
http://www.reiddesign.net/say_anything.html



Following is an email received by Ray Paulk from our NEFA member, Pat Delamare, who lives in France. A big thank you to Pat for submitting this informative information.

Hello Ray,

My friend fixed my Fiero after my accident, plus he did few different things, Maybe this one under can be nice to put in the NEFA Forum?

Pat

PS translation from Google !!

Malfunction of the lifting mechanism of a lighthouse on FIERO 87/88 second generation (small motors). A weakness in the functioning (difficulty performing the cycle, low speed or stop before the end of the cycle of rise) may look like a motor fault, but can often be due to a deterioration of the stop system limit. Indeed, as the automatic gates system stops when it encounters resistance. This is expected to design, in either end position is caused by an abnormality.

It is best to check & possibly change if they are of dubious gear & three damping cylinders in white plastic. These small parts are inexpensive room or \$18.50 \$ 34.50 the pair. They are often the cause of the defect. It is recommended to limit the shipping of the ordered pair, because if a headlight is defective, it is not uncommon that the second monitor closely.

Meanwhile the engine costs \$109 & it would be a shame to meet the same problem after changing the engine! These are prices FIERO STORE to my knowledge among the cheapest. More can find almost anything on FIERO on this site.

NOTE from Phil Randolph: Just in case something got lost in the translation from French – the following is what I believe he meant. If you have second generation (87-88) headlight motors & they stop going up & down, the problem most likely is the three plastic bumpers in the gear train rather than the motor itself. It's cheaper to replace the bumpers than the motor. Also if one side goes, the other will soon follow. Also, Rodney Dickman - www.rodneydickman.com – is another good source.

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

Classifieds

Cars: Jody Lemos, a former cornerstone member of NEFA has finally come to a point where he must sell his 30 trophy 1986 Fiero GT. He is moving and has no place to store this car. Ray Paulk used to call him "Jody Loud Pipes" as his car has a strong growl to it. Sounded great! Of course, if you don't like that exhaust, he still has a brand new Borla system you can install - worth \$500+ by itself. Jody is asking \$3500.00 or B/O. It will come with original wheels, a spare engine and some other goodies . 122,000 +miles on it. Still in great shape. Jody lives on the Cape. Please contact him Jody by calling Jody's cell @ 1-508-246-7889 or at home @ 1-401-965-0909 or e-mail @ cobrajet2010@hotmail.com.

Parts: Matthew Turner from NH and the Nor'easter POCI member has some Fiero parts he wants to sell. Hood ('84 - '87) \$50. Deck lid ('84 - '87) \$50. ECM ('86, 4-cylinder, standard shift) \$20. Instrument Cluster (1986) \$40. Coolant Pipes (run the length of the car - both sides) \$50. Radiator (4-cylinder) \$20. SE Aluminum Rim (Complete, very good condition, with good tire) \$40. V-6 Valve Cover Gaskets - \$10. Passenger Side Window Glass - \$15. Matt also has a lot of additional parts (emblems, headlight motors, radios, recall kits for brakes, V-6 shift cable, etc.). If someone wants every Fiero part I have left (there are a lot more items than mentioned above, including the GM manuals, etc) = \$150. Contact Matt Turner @ (603) 679-5738 until 9:00 PM or Matthew.Turner@peak-ryzex.com. Matt also has 1963 Lemans and 1968 GTO parts if you are interested.

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

Apparel: Polo shirts with the NEFA logo embroidered on the left front. Nice quality shirts at a reasonable price. You may have seen a few members wearing these shirts. <http://tcpromos.com/shop/private-store>

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.

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 if you have any questions.

Ray Paulk, NEFA President and Membership Director