# IL CAVALLO ROSSO



## 1,850 Miles in a DINO Ferrari! Part 2

Tim Greenshields

The names in this story have been slightly changed to protect the innocent...and maybe the guilty! This is what happened. Honest.

I turned in the Canadian title, paid my state taxes, put the new Colorado license plates on the DINO and smiled. Two weeks later, I had a late night call on the home phone. The authoritarian deep male

voice on the other end asked, "Are you the person that recently and illegally imported a Canadian Ferrari into the USA without the proper procedures and

EPA/DOT paper work? Why didn't you stop at the United States Customs border control point in Buffalo. New York and do that?"

I hesitated to say anything, but then replied, "Yes, that's me but I didn't drive the car across the border "

"Don't leave your house because we are sending our agents over with a tow truck to seize the car and we have an arrest warrant just in case. We'll be there in 10 minutes!"

The phone died with a sudden and ominous sound.

Federal Agent James Border looked at me with pained exasperation through the screen door. "Step out of the house immediately and keep your hands out of your pockets! Where is the Ferrari? There isn't a garage at this house. Agent Smith and I want make sure you haven't hidden the car away somewhere in the last few minutes. First off, do yourself a big favor and don't cause any trouble and show us the car!"

I felt absolutely miserable. I was emotionally drained. "The car is under the sagging car port in the back of the house. I don't have a garage for it," I stammered.

> With flashlights blazing, agents Border and Smith followed me around the corner of the house to see the red DINO. "You stand clear now as we inspect the car, but don't try to escape," yelled Border. And with that remark, he opened the driver's door quietly and disappeared into the dark-

ness. "Agent Smith, write everything down that I tell you."

I honestly didn't know what to do but simply stand there,

either shaking with the fear of being arrested, having the Ferrari towed, or from the cold night air in November 1975. I waited, feeling completely helpless and alone. I had been taken by surprise with these two Federal Department of Revenue Agents. I had frozen in a crossfire of urgent problems. Believe, me, I was nervous as hell and even thought about taking off, but I loved that Ferrari so much. I had worked so hard, scrimping, saving, and working extra jobs to raise the money to buy it. A full \$12,000 you know!

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Continued page 6

### Schedule of Events for the Rocky Mountain Region

May 20, 2012	Morning Brunch and drive up the Buckhorn Canyon. Once again Dr. Alan Wolfelt will be hosting this exciting drive through the canyons outside of Ft. Collins CO. More information to follow. Contact John Babos at <a href="mailto:Babosjac@msn.com">Babosjac@msn.com</a> .
Jun. 3, 2012	Automezzi is back on. A celebration of Italian Motoring. Held at the Flatirons Mall beginning at 09:00. Go to <i>automezzicolorado.com</i> / for online registration. Contact John Babos <u>babosjac@msn.com</u> , 303-688-2937 for more information. (Note: This is not an FCA sponsored event).
June 9, 2012	CECA Track Event, Saturday, Pueblo Motorsport Park, Pueblo CO. Contact Bill Miller at 303 421-3009 (Note: This is not an FCA sponsored event).
Jun. 10, 2012	Cerebral Palsy Concours d"Elegance at Arapahoe Community College Contact John Babos at Babos-jac@msn.com. Entry form in this issue. Print and mail. (Note: This is not an FCA sponsored event). See entry form this newsletter.
June 23, 2012	CECA Track Event, Saturday, Pikes Peak International Raceway. Fountain, CO. Contact Bill Miller at 303 421-3009 (Note: This is not an FCA sponsored event).
Jun 24, 2012	The FCARMR Picnic. Kathy and Lou Ficco have again offered their magnificent estate for the annual picnic. Watch for specifics in future emails and news letters. Contact John Babos at <a href="mailto:babosjac@msn.com">babosjac@msn.com</a> or Bert Smith at <a href="mailto:enigmathist@gmail.com">enigmathist@gmail.com</a>
Jul. 8, 2012	CECA Track Event, Sunday, Pueblo Motorsport Park, Pueblo CO. Contact Bill Miller at 303 421-3009 (Note: This is not an FCA sponsored event).
Jul. 22, 2012	Squaw Pass Pizza Dash. Norm Littlejohn is once again hosting a beautiful drive through the Rocky's culminating with a Pizza extravaganza. More details to follow. Contact John Babos at babosjac@msn.com.
Aug. 17 19	Ferrari Fall Foliage Tour, well almost Foliage and Fall. This will be a destination tour originating in Santa Fe, New Mexico. (Note this is a date change.), Contact Fred Bishel at fred.bishel@atmel.com.
Aug, 25, 2012	Morgan Adams Wings and Wheels Over Denver Concours d'Elegance. Contact John Babos at <a href="mailto:Babosjac@msn.com">Babosjac@msn.com</a> (Note: This is not an FCA sponsored event).
Aug. 25, 2012	CECA Track Event, Saturday, Colorado State Patrol, Golden CO. Contact Bill Miller at 303 421-3009 (Note: This is not an FCA sponsored event).
Sep. 1, 2012	The FCA Rocky Mountain Region's celebration of the FCA's 50th Anniversary. Celebration activities will begin at 1:00 at the Landmark in Greenwood Village. Proceeds will go the Ronald McDonald House Charity. Watch for addition information in upcoming emails, news releases, newsletters, The monthly News Bulletin, and the Prancing Horse. Contact John Babos at <a href="mailto:babosjac@msn.com">babosjac@msn.com</a> for additional information or if you would like to volunteer for this activity.
Sep. 5-9	Crescent Classic Road Rally hosted by the Kansas City Chapter of the RMR. See <a href="https://www.crescentclassic.com">www.crescentclassic.com</a> for details
Sep. 8, 2012	The FCARMR Annual Pasta Party. Keeping the tradition alive, Myrla and Bill Orth are opening their lovely home for the pasta party once again. Details to follow. (Note that this is a date change).
Sep.8 – 9	Vail Wings and Wheels Car Show. Watch for details in upcoming emails and news bulletins. Contact John Babos at Babosjac@msn.com. (Note: This is not an FCA sponsored event).
Sep. 15, 2012	Concours Non D'elegance. See the final day of the Colorado Grand in Vail CO. More details to follow. Contact Paul Gilpatrick at <a href="mailto:pgilpat@hostworks.com">pgilpat@hostworks.com</a> . (Note: This is not an FCA sponsored event).
Sep. 22, 2012	CECA Track Event, Saturday, High Plains Raceway, Byers CO. Contact Bill Miller at 303 421-3009 (Note: This is not an FCA sponsored event).



#### **Update on Paving at High Plains Raceway**

Just a note to let everyone know about the latest improvements at your track. We have started installing "Carolina" apex curbs, to the FIA/FIM dimensions approved and recommended by Alan Wilson. This week we did two turns and will do more as the free time in the schedule allows. I hope to have the entire track done by Nov 1. They have a rough brushed finish and eventually they'll be painted with non-slip paint.

On Turn 3, hite pvc pipes will allow water to drain through the curb instead of pooling up in front of it; they'll be cut flush after the concrete cures.

We are doing this "in house" - Mike and I, and one of our hourly workers are doing them ourselves. Since the most expensive part of concrete work is the labor this means we are saving approximately 75%-80% versus hiring a contractor.

THX Glenn Conser HPR General Manager

#### Drive your Ferrari in California Charity Drive in September

Would you be interested in driving Highway 1 in California in September with 40 other Ferraris? And stay in first class hotels in both San Francisco and Los Angeles? With the Rocky Mountain Region's Fall Foliage tour moved to August, this opens the opportunity to drive the legendary highway for a good cause, September 13-16. All details at Ferrari Owners Charitable Foundation web site: <a href="www.FogRally.com">www.FogRally.com</a> Sponsors include FerrariChat and Ferrari of San Francisco.

Seven cars can be transported in an enclosed semi-trailer, Denver to San Francisco and then Los Angeles to Denver, for approximately \$1000 per car, round trip. (Quote from plycargroup.com.) If you are interested in sharing the cost of group transportation, please call or email Kent Miller, <a href="mailto:jkentmiller@aol.com">jkentmiller@aol.com</a>, 303-832-5412. Note: this is not a FCA event.

#### Announcing The FCA-RMR FFFT 2012

Join us August 17, 18, 19, 20, 2012

Well it's not quite Fall and as far as I can tell, last year, we really didn't see any Foliage, unless you count a rock slide, mudslides, and snow! None the less it's about great cars, drives, friends, scenery, and fantastic food and wine.

The FFFT for 2012 is a destination drive to Santa Fe New Mexico.

We have blocked off rooms at two spectacular resorts in order to accommodate as many members as would like to participate.

The cost for this year's tour is \$850.00 per couple or \$450.00 per single\*\*.

Reserve your place early as space will be limited

For more information or to reserve your place: Fred Bishel: fred.bishel@atmel.com

\*\* Price does not include Hotel Accommodations





#### June 10, 2012 ~ 9am to 3pm at Arapahoe Community College ~ Benefiting CP of Colorado

Our preferred method of registration is to complete your registration and payment online at www.cpco.org/concours. If this is not convenient, please fill out this form and send it back to us via mail, e-mail or fax.

#### 2012 Concours Registration Form



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#### Mail, Email, or fax form to:

Attn: Terri Armstrong c/o CP of Colorado 801 Yosemite Street Denver, CO 80230 Phone: 303.226.5520 ~ Fax: 303.691.0846 Email: tarmstrong@cpco.org



Thank you for participating in this year's car show! Please visit opoo.org to see the life changing work that happens throughout CP of Colorado because of generous contributors like you! 1850, continued from page 1

"silver case and then bought his red DINO with American dollars. Did you smuggle that blue Ferrari in from Mexico too? All of this is unbelievable and for God's sake, who drove the Canadian Ferrari across the USA border?"The speedometer is in miles per hour, not kilometers, the instruments are also in US Fahrenheit and it is a left hand drive Ferrari with a 5 speed transmission," smirked Border. "And another thing agent Smith, this car has a leather interior indicating a North American/Canadian car. The euro models had cloth inserts in the leather seats."

"Let's check the glass. It better be S1 and S2 and if they aren't, we're calling the tow truck that is waiting right down the street."

I'd been expecting, well, an argument or something, probably with an in your face interrogation from these agents. I knew they would eventually do that as the other one watched me closely with his hand inside his pocket. I could tell they were armed. It was a dark night and they didn't know me or the neighborhood where I lived. They probably thought I was a smuggler. I started to say something, but there just wasn't anything to mutter.

Agent Border nodded sternly, "You're a lucky guy tonight but you're not out of trouble yet. It's only the beginning you see. The front windshield is an S1 and the sides are S2, also indicating this was a American/Canadian Ferrari, so it's not as bad as we thought."

"The engine also is in compliance with straight headers for a 1972 model. The later DINOs were required to have belt driven air pumps that produced less emissions for the EPA and DOT and there is a positive crankcase ventilation, PCV valve, which was standard equipment on all vehicles worldwide because of its benefits not only in emissions reduction but also in engine internal cleanliness and oil lifespan."

"This is a smuggled grey car, isn't it," Border glared at me. "You deliberately smuggled this car into the United States of America because you didn't want to pay the required customs fees and taxes. Well, I betcha' that you were also trying to get around the emission testing weren't you? You planned all of this out, didn't you? Tell me the truth NOW, cause we're here to find out!"

The blazing light from the flashlight was an inch from my nose.

Border continued to yell at me. "Automobiles that are brought illegally into our country and across the USA borders are grey market vehicles and are subject to seizure and the owners are often arrested and taken to jail. If you are arrested tonight you will be removed from jail at a future date for an appearance in a Denver federal court."

"You will face the fines and penalties. Agent Smith and I may seize the car tonight and you won't get it back. It will be auctioned off at a secret Federal Government location to the highest bidder or destroyed and your fine will be the value of the car, which is \$12,000! You won't get the car back because you will be in jail for smuggling. What do you say to that," Agent Border barked out.

"Oh my gosh, \$12,000? I don't have that much money anywhere and I just bought the car for that amount. I won't have anything left. I spent every penny I had on this Ferrari and driving it back to Colorado. The Lord only knows I didn't realize I was doing anything illegal," I stammered.

"How'd it happen then, because this ain't no joking matter," Border scowled again while pointing his finger one half of an inch from my cold dripping nose. "Tell us the truth NOW!"

I had built up a smidgen' of courage and said, "I sold my blue 1965 Ferrari 330 GT 2+2 Mark 1 to Bud and his noisy, whirling, jostling blond girl friend Bambi from California just a few weeks ago, paid off my loan at the bank with President Don, and then flew to a Toronto French chalet restaurant on the shores of Lake Ontario and bought this red DINO from Gustavo Laube. Good grief, he was speaking in a crazy combination of various languages and sometimes I couldn't tell at all what he was saying."

Agent Border looked me straight in the eye, shook his head and said, "You're lying! Things don't happen that way and you're making all of this up. Remember we have an arrest warrant for you tonight, and besides, how can you be doing all of these Ferrari purchases on a public school teacher's salary?"

1850, continued from page 6

"You're too young and you live in this little shack of a house with no garage and now you're tellin' us that you just sold the blue Ferrari that you bought in Texas to a rich fellow in California, the one with the whirling blond woman, and then flew to Canada to meet a mysterious French restaurateur that smoked Gitanes cigarettes from a slender

"Now listen to me," shouted Border. "If you're guilty, tell us and I will share that with the Federal judge in Denver. He may reduce your sentence. That is a serious issue. The United States Department of Revenue wants to know who drove the car across the border and you're going to tell us NOW."

I was trying to sound strong. "Gustavo drove the DINO across the border when we approached the Buffalo, New York United States Customs border control point. It was raining heavily and the agent working the gate that night was waving cars through without stopping anyone. It was about 11 pm. Gustavo and his beautiful Gabrielle with the jangling bracelets were attending a dance at the Buffalo Grand Palace Hotel. I never drove the DINO until that night in Buffalo when he handed me the keys."

"This is an intriguing story,' Agent Smith winked as he looked at me with a puzzled grunt. "So, you never drove the car until it hit the USA. Did you pay Mr. Laube' in Canada or in the United States?"

"I am telling you the truth. I paid the money in American dollars to Gustavo in Canada but he assured me the correct procedures were being followed when I would then pay the required customs fees and taxes back at the Colorado Department of Motor Vehicles."

Agent Border went silent and then spoke in that authoritarian deep voice that I had been listening to for the last forty five minutes, "We think that Mr. Laube' set you up to buy his Canadian titled Ferrari, drove it across the border as the owner to get it into the United States, and then gave you the keys so that you could drive the DINO back to Colorado."

"It was his plan to export it illegally into the United States so that he wouldn't have to pay those taxes and he found a taker like you, got his American dollars in Canada, went to the bank in Toronto while you waited at the French Chalet restaurant with the big beer gutted chef and then he and that woman Gabrielle smoked Gitanes cigarettes as they drove the Ferrari to New York. It was all planned out, don'tcha see that?"

I had to admit that maybe this had really happened. The automobile illegal grey market in the 1970's and 1980's had been a huge business for smugglers trying to bring various vehicles into the United States from another country through <u>channels</u> other than the maker's official distribution system.

I would never have planned it illegally, but convincing Agents Border and Smith was going to be a tough task for me. "I am not lying," I answered back in an angry sort of whisper. I let my voice trail off and in one of those calm, controlled voices, said, "I want to make this right and what can I do to keep the Ferrari and avoid being found guilty of these accusations?" Agent Border's eyes swept over the Ferrari again, the sagging carport, and my face, which had lost its enthusiasm. "Humpf," he snorted as the written report was stuffed into an unmarked brown envelope. "I want you to know this my friend. We will not file charges against you because of your cooperation with us tonight, the car is legal by 1972 EPA and DOT standards, and it's obvious that you're innocent."

"Our department will send you a bill for the required customs fees and taxes and this better be paid in thirty days, or you will be hearing from us again! We can always bring a tow truck. Do you understand?"

We exchanged raised eyebrows. "Yes sir, I understand. I will pay those fees and taxes once I receive that in the mail." I had been lucky. The federal case against me was dropped for my cooperative honesty. I partially restored the 1972 Ferrari 246 GTB, serial number 1470 and participated with it in several Rocky Mountain Region events in the late 1970's. Those four chrome exhaust outlets would always blast out an impressive stirring sound that would dazzle racers, boys, and men who dreamed of running the Mulsanne Straight at the 24 Hours of LeMans.

All in all, I had learned several huge life lessons. I thought this was would be the end of my days dealing with law enforcement officials and almost being a fugitive. My presumed car smuggling days were behind me now! The police stayed away from me, (mostly) for five years until I finally sold the DINO. But then I found myself in yet another Ferrari on west bound I-70 in Missouri with red flashing lights behind me and a big bag of money on the seat beside me! To be continued...

Tim Greenshields www.tgrestorations.com timgreenshie@earthlink.net

#### "Kick Off Your Heels and Drive It Like You Stole It!"

RMR PCA, together with Woodward Wealth Management, would like to invite the ladies of the region to enjoy a day of their own at the racetrack. RMR is once again hosting our Ladies' Day DE Event out at the Colorado Highway Patrol Track in Golden, CO on Saturday, June 9, 2012. For those new to the idea of driving on a track, this is the perfect opportunity to get some one-on-one instruction. For the seasoned drivers, don't worry, you will get a run group that allows you to summon up your inner *speed queen!* 

On-line registration opened April 14th on Motorsportreg.com and continues through Monday, June 4th at 11:59 PM. Pre-tech sessions will be held on May 30th at Eurosport Limited, Poudre Sports Car, Car Quip, and Stevinson Porsche. Please try to get your car safety checked in advance of the event, as problems found at the track may not be easily corrected.

For those of you unfamiliar with the CHP track, there are no concessions available, so bring some snacks and a lunch. The club will have some beverages on site. There will be a tent, tables and chairs, but bring a chair or two for your staging area.

Please remember to wear long pants, a long sleeved shirt (both cotton), and appropriate driving shoes (sneakers are a good choice) while driving on the track. Bring a helmet if you have one. Helmets should be Snell approved S2005/M2005 or newer. Otherwise, the club has a few from which to choose. (Note: This is not an FCA sponsored event.)

Best of all, the cost is only \$75 Per Driver!



# RECIPE BOOK TO BE A FUNDRAISER FOR MORGAN ADAMS FOUNDATION

I KNOW OUR CLUB MEM-BERS WELL ENOUGH TO UN-DERSTAND THAT WE ALL LIKE TO EAT WHICH ALSO MEANS COOKING DOES GO ON AT OUR HOUSES. HERE IS THE DEAL. BOBBIE SMITH HAS AGREED TO PUT TOGETHER A FERRARI AND FRIENDS COOKBOOK TO BE SOLD AT MORGAN ADAMS AS A FUNDRAISER FOR THE MORGAN ADAMS FOUNDA-TION. BUT SHE **NEEDS** YOUR RECIPES.

WE ALL HAVE THOSE FAVOR-ITE "GO-TO" NEVER FAIL RECIPES IN OUR REPER-TOIR AND IT IS TIME TO SEND A COPY OF THEM TO DON'T LET HER BOBBIE. DOWN IN THIS ENDEAVOR. SEND YOUR RECIPE NOW. MALE MEMBERS WHO RE-CEIVE THIS, PLEASE SHARE IT WITH YOUR SPOUSE IF SHE IS THE ONE WHO DOES THE COOKING.

SEND RECIPES TO BOBBIE SMITH AT

bobbi1218@gmail.com. AND DO IT TODAY.

#### A Message from John Babos FCA-RMR Dresident

As you probably know, the Ferrari Club of America will celebrate its 50th anniversary beginning this year. Our club began in 1962, when three enthusiastic Ferrari owners were at the Elkhart Lake races and saw a Ferrari Barchetta in tatty condition. Later in the day, the hood was opened revealing that the Barchetta had a Chevrolet engine! The group agreed that something had to be done to discourage such modifications and to encourage the proper preservation and restoration of all Ferraris. One year later, in 1963, the Ferrari Club of America (FCA) was incorporated.

Starting on Friday, August 17, 2012 at Concorso Italiano, the Ferrari Club of America will embark on a 12 month celebration culminating in a return "home" for its 50th Annual Meet – a Gran Finale, at Road America/Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin from July 30 to Aug 4, 2013. During this 12 month period, volunteer FCA members will drive a new specially prepared Ferrari 599 on a continuous relay, one lap of North America, visiting over 50 major population centers across the United States and Canada.

On the tour, the lead Ferrari 599 will carry a symbolic "baton" and visit: every FCA region and chapter, every Ferrari dealer in the U.S. and Canada, and as many other Ferrari-related events as feasible.

In addition to the 599 relay car, there will be a Local Lead Relay Ferrari chosen in each city. One member's Ferrari, in each city, will be chosen to receive special graphic treatment similar to the 599.

Finally, every FCA member will have the opportunity to display large 50th Anniversary decals on both side doors of his/her Ferrari, for use during convoys, rallies and other local events. This is going to a great time for all of us. I'm currently working the FCA's Executive Secretary, Theresa Gilpatrick on the events for our region.

The preliminary plan at this point is to meet the 599 on Aug 31, at a scenic photo location such as Loveland Pass and designate drivers to drive it to Ferrari of Denver for a reception for club members.

On Saturday, September 1 we are planning activities at the Landmark Complex at Greenwood Village that will provide proceeds to the Ronald McDonald House Charity. And we will need volunteers to make this happen, if you're interested please give me a call.

And of course the term limit for many of the board members is coming to an end. I have received nominations and hope to have an election for new officers before the end of June. If this is something that you might be interested in, please give me a call. And finally thanks to all of you for the great support in hosting and managing activities.

Thank You John J. Babos 303-688-2937



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# Sign up now to volunteer with the FCA 50th Anniversary Tour. Contact John Babos to Volunteer Today!

