Motoring Gazette

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Official publication of;

Classic Motoring Society

& Bellefontaine Hill Climb Revival

Greetings Drivers! This month your *Motoring Gazette* is being penned on the beach at Hilton Head Island as the Concours d'Elegance looms large this weekend. So this will be a brief *GAZETTE*. This year I am honored and privileged to Judge the ***American Sports Cars*** class, I will have to channel my inner Phil Schott for help with the several Corvettes on the field; this array includes a 1953, that is the 300th Corvette produced. Filling out the class are Kaisers, T-Birds, along with Corvette C2 and C3 models. In any case this is always a very nice show with a relaxed atmosphere, spectacular cars and a very friendly vibe; if you have not attended this Concours, do your self a favor and put it on your schedule in the future. www.hhiconcours.com will give the insight to plan that trip in the future.

October was a driving adventure with DRY weather from start to finish, the extreme heat and dry conditions in September have produced a florid display of vegetation across the river valleys that crisscross the area. The Autumn Classic Driving Tour on October 10 drew 57 pre-entries with a number of late entries adding to the fun as a beautiful day dawned for a ride exploring the Little Miami River and its tributaries. The geography satisfies the driving enthusiast's interest with roads that wind through valleys and over ridges, onto prairie before plunging onto woodland ripe with flora and fauna. The Clifton Gorge drew our attention as we wound our way through the homeland for the Miami Tribe along the banks of the Little Miami, Caeser's Creek, the Anderson Fork, Todd's Fork and the East Fork rivers. The parade of sports cars was a spectacle as it snaked through the 97 mile route, Lotus, Triumph, Porsche, Ferrari, Skyline, Miata, BMW, Alfa, Corvette, MG, S2000, Austin Healey, Jaguar, Morgan, Mercedes-Benz, and more added to the flavor of the day. Thaks to Caleb & Brenda Miller for leading the Spirited driving bunch, Tom Berning directed traffic and marshalled the cars at the start, Menk's Coffee Truck was a hit, and the staff a Nick's in Xenia got us fed and watered at the end of the drive! Many Thanks to all that drove with us, we supported Public Radio in Clermont County 88.7 WOBO and the Gardner Neuroscience

Institute of the UC Foundation this year. Mark your calendar for the second Saturday in October 2027 for the next Fall Classic Driving Tour!

Drivers, Navigators and Cars queue up for the Fall Classic Driving Tour October 10

Zakira's Garage hosted their final open house for 2026 October 17, drawing a selection of cars from around the region that wowed those gathered. The Bellefontaine Hill Climb Revival sponsored the donuts for the day; Zakira's has been a supporter since the first Climb in 2019. The cars in the shop are always fascinating, the projects on display for all to enjoy. Thanks to Taras, Cris, Jon and all the crew make Zakira's a hub for the car collector community. Nex up is their annual Daytona 24 Watch Party in January, watch this space for details.

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October 17 Bob Weiler & Harvey Camins traveled to New Haven Kentucky to judge at the Kentucky Railway Museum Car Show. We will get a rundown of the show at the Gearhead Gathering Lunch on Thursday November 5.

The Concours drive at the end of October went well, Harvey reported having some fun navigating in a proper Italian automobile. Maybe we can coax further information from Wes or Michael at the Gearhead Gathering Thursday November 5.

Thursday November 5, 2026; Gearhead Gathering at Jake Sweeney Alfa Romeo, 5969 Centennial Cir Front, Florence, KY 41042, at 12 noon. Followed by lunch a Ford's Garage in Florence about 1 :30 pm. RSVP NOW! Right NOW! Skip Jones will be demonstrating the new Fiat Topolino personal mobility vehicle, explain the function and feasibility of the latest tiny car from FIAT. We will have a chance to wheel the Topolino, check its performance and handling; bring your checkbook and leave a downpayment.

The Motoring Society will be making up for a lost opportunity to celebrate a wonderfully preserved Alfa Romeo Spider Veloce during this visit to Jake Sweeney Alfa Romeo. Skip Jones has assumed stewardship of this dynamic piece of automotive history. Originally purchased by the legendary Bob Nutter, Skip has maintained the car in exemplary condition throughout the years.

FIAT Topolino is versatile and mobile

November and December are skinny times for classic automobile activities, but America's Packard Museum comes through with the Blackjack Ball on Saturday November 14 to immerse us all in a world of Classic Automobiles. Take a night to step back in time to the 1930s, play the tables like you are Jay Gatsby, enjoy the cars, the people, the thrill of the big jackpot along with fine fare and beverage. Get the lowdown at; www.americaspackardmuseum.org.

Thursday December 4 is the monthly Gearhead Gathering and our annual visit to America's Packard Museum. Lunch at the Spaghetti Warehouse at noon followed by a visit to the Citizen's Motorcar Company offices and showroom, within walking distance of the restaurant.

LATE BRAKING NEWS!!! Saturday November 7, 2025. Barn Find adventure to Portland Indiana. I have gained access to several buildings in Portland Indiana, not far off US 27, containing Alfa Romeo, Porsche, Jaguar cars and parts. Models include Jaguar XK140 OTS, Porsche 356B Coupe, Porsche 914-unknown, Alfa Romeo Guilia GT, Alfa Romeo Guilia TI Super, plus parts and some equipment. The collector of these items passed away and his children are culling the herd a bit; there is a barn with 15 cars I have not yet seen, what I have seen are project cars, cars that need total restoration, but are solid enough to be a sufficient. Laura and I are picking up two Alfas and invite everyone to come look for what they want/need, get out of the house, take a road trip (about 2 hours), The family are "Car People" with other interests and want to move the items to a useful place. Contact me to get more information.

As for now, I gotta Go! Surf's UP!