

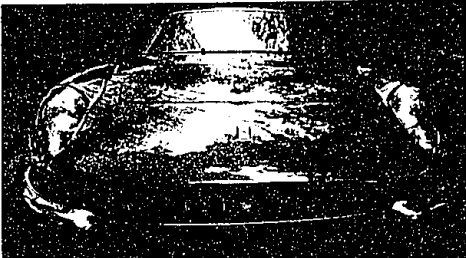
Ferrari from page A1

show that only selects one car per model year. It's quite a thrill," Smedberg said. Although he has been collecting, restoring and trading vintage cars for 30 years, this is the first time he's entered a show. He said it will probably be his last because he prefers the mechanical reconstruction to the appearance stuff. Before he trailers over to Concours early Sunday morning, Smedberg still has to rewire a bug in the passenger side elec-

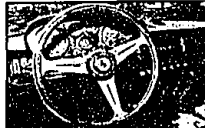
tric window, tweak the engine's timing with a tune-up, and wash and polish all the surfaces to a mirror finish. "I haven't driven it on the road yet, but will a little bit after the show. My wife and I will drive in a 1,000-mile road-rally, Automobile Magazine's Celebration Tour, from Ypsilanti to Tobermory (Ontario) and back to Ann Arbor in September," Smedberg said. He estimates the Ferrari has less than 40,000 original miles.

"This is a sedan, a family car. I tried to remain true to the original, but I customized to a certain extent. I took certain liberties," he said, such as changing the original back seat to a luggage shelf, and designing glass teardrop-shaped domes for the headlights to continue the contour of the nose to the grill. "The heart of the Ferrari is the

Seeing the classics
What: Concours d'Elegance, fund-raiser for Meadow Brook Hall.
When: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday.
Tickets: \$20 for adults, \$10 for those age 13-17, free for children 12 and under. Free parking.
Where: West side of Adams Road, south of University Drive.
Info: (248) 370-3140.



Sleek look: Smedberg custom-built the headlight covers on the classic car's front end. Below, a view of the car's dashboard.



V-12 engine, which is known for purring like a kitten. In its day, this car's top speed was 150 miles per hour. It did not accelerate as fast as a Camaro or Corvette, but from an engineering stand point, it is a dream, he says. The high-performance 4.3 liter engine is 365 cc per cylinder, with overhead cam, individual headers, two distributors (allowing for shorter firing time for each cylinder), three two-barrel carburetors, and independent suspension to all four wheels. "When I got this car, I took apart literally everything, from the engine, to suspension, to the brakes, so that it could be cleaned, sand-blasted, painted or replated in chrome." Under the hood, Smedberg upgraded the original-equipment radiator with two fans, a marked improvement to the cooling system, a necessary face-saving design for an automotive engineer who worked as a cooling-system specialist for 10 years with Cadillac. He used suppliers and import shops from the area, throughout the country and Italy, but also designed many of the parts and

tools needed in his garage with a Bridgeport Drill and Harrison engine lathe. He estimated about four hours work to make a tool for the job and one hour of labor on the car itself. "The biggest problem in restoration is taking it apart. Most people can put clean, shiny new pieces together, but it took all of my years experience to take apart the rusty, broken, mucky pieces," he said. In some cases, parts are unavailable, such as a special bolt used for water supply. He produced 25 of his stainless-steel bolts for sale to other Ferrari owners. While he's 99 percent ready now for the show, Smedberg ran into some surprises in the rebuilding process that sidelined him longer than expected. There was the reconditioned starter that wouldn't start, and a leak from the power steering pump only detectable with the engine running. But getting it right was "a matter of pride." Smedberg, who has lived in Farmington since 1969, also designed and built his family home and several pieces of furniture inside. He has also owned 20-30 classic cars, including four Ferraris, Porsches and an original aluminum-bodied Cobra.

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Waitress helps 'Make-A-Wish'

April Martin hasn't worked as a waitress for several years. But she will take a turn as waitress 5-9 p.m. Aug. 4 at Mayberry's Family Restaurant in Farmington Hills to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Martin is donating her tips and Mayberry's is donating her wages for the night to Make-A-Wish, which benefits terminally ill children and their families.

The restaurant will also donate an additional \$1 for anyone who brings in a newspaper article on Martin's activities (Hint, hint, clip this article).

Mayberry's is also accepting checks that night on behalf of Make-A-Wish. Checks are tax deductible and should be made

out to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan.

Besides waiting tables, Martin is raising money for through the Wish-A-Mile 300 bicycle race to be held Aug. 8-10 from Camp Dearborn in Milford to Irish Hills area, near Jackson, and back.

Martin has been involved in the bicycle race for several years, but she wanted to do more.

"I've seen how make a wish touches the lives of these families," said Martin, who lives in Southfield. "It gives them one week with no hospitals, no doctors and they have one week where they're treated like royalty."

Mayberry's is at 27810 Grand River, next to Botsford Hospital.

'Family Day' set for Sunday

The fifth annual Family Day in the park, hosted by the city of Farmington Hills Recreation Division and the Commission on Children, Youth and Families will be held from noon to 5 p.m. Aug. 3 at Heritage Park in Farmington Hills.

With the help of Target Department Stores, the free event includes moonwalks, hayrides, reptiles from Marine Safari, stage acts, crafts and a petting zoo.

Heritage Park is on Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile roads.

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