

THE VINTAGE AND HISTORIC RACING NEWS MAGAZINE

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Automobilia Monterey 2006 August 15-16 Seaside, CA “Nostalgia for Sale”

-by *Ken Vendley*

The Monterey Auto Festival week is a major vintage automobile event including racing, auctions, concours and shows. It's a yearly happening specifically paying homage to vintage and historic cars and car culture. The car aficionados who make this yearly pilgrimage are seeking a full car experience including memorabilia and all the trappings. For the last few years on Tuesday and Wednesday the Automobilia Monterey Show at the Embassy Suites Hotel in nearby Seaside is an automobilia destination for those seeking genuine collectables.

This show offers just about everything in real memorabilia an auto enthusiast could imagine. Vendors have their full inventory here before splitting to the weekend events. Its sophisticated

vendors offer badges, mementos, out of print books and magazines, posters, artifacts, photos, unique art, clothing and last but not least scale model cars.

I bought a scale model car and I say that without buyers remorse. The really big spenders are buying one car after another in six car auction tents. Well I've got that 1/12th D-50 Lancia model back home now and every day I give it a gaze with its detailed engine bay and those beautiful wire wheels. It gives a guy like me a rush to recreate the excitement and nostalgia about a car and it's right on my shelf at home.

The Automobilia Monterey show gives enthusiasts, collectors or just plain folks like me a chance to probe around, pursue an old publication, buy fine collectables and art, source a certain subject or just add to our interests and in a relaxed atmosphere. This show is also a great place to meet other people with the same interests and there were a lot of them. There were discussions going everywhere, plus many past racers were seen in the crowd as well.



**Ken's D-50 Lancia scale model
bought at Automobilia Monterey.**

There is an “Antiques Roadshow” atmosphere at this gathering in the hotel ballroom. It is good that in these eBay days that here one is able to touch and feel before you buy. Monterey is more than a weekend, it is a full week, so next year come out early and get into the swing of things at the mid-week Automobilia Monterey show. It will capture some part of your inner “autoself” longing to be rewarded and you will be happy that you came. ■