

Collings Foundation Tour and Tailgate Picnic

Sunday, July 20th

Alfa Owners of New England would like to invite the members of your club to join us at the Collings Foundation Headquarters in Stow, MA on Sunday, July 20th, when the Collings Foundation will open its aircraft and automobile museum collection to a private showing for AONE and its guests. For those of you who have never seen this fabulous collection, it is a real treat!

The Collings Foundation's collection is one of the hidden treasures of the Boston area. On display are over sixty-five antique automobiles and race cars that include the 1932 Duesenburg Dual-Cowl SJ Phaeton owned by Fred Duesenburg; a 1940 V-16 Cadillac Limousine custom-built for Al Capone; a 1927 Rolls-Royce Phantom I Phaeton built in Springfield, MA; and an Indy Car driven by Mario Andretti. The aircraft collection includes a rare original 1909 Bleriot Model XI; a WWII vintage Fiesler FI-156 Storch; and a 1943 Cessna UC-78 that was formerly flown by Revere Airways. Also on display will be several micro-cars owned by the Charles Gould Foundation. These three-wheeled cars were produced by former aircraft manufacturers Messerschmidt, Heinkel, and BMW. There is also quite a number of Indy, formula, and midget race cars, and in general a very eclectic collection of really interesting cars and airplanes.

In addition, the Foundation's grounds are themselves worth the trip! It's a beautiful setting, with lawns and gardens that complement the attractive buildings housing the collection. We'll be taking advantage of the surroundings by holding a tailgate picnic before the tour! Fill up a basket with your favorite lunchtime comestibles, pack a couple of lawn chairs, and we'll circle the wagons for a little dining and pre-tour schmoozing. We are also inviting a few other area sports car clubs to join us for this event, so you'll be able to ogle some other interesting cars besides your own before and after the tour.

Plan to arrive around noon or a little before with your picnicking paraphernalia and share your company (and your food?) with your fellow sports car buffs. The tour will then begin promptly at 1:00pm. Donation for admission to see the collection and display is \$5 per person. The Collings Foundation is located at 137 Barton Road in Stow, MA near Lake Boon. Directions and a lot more information can be found on the Collings Foundation web site (www.collingsfoundation.org) or by calling 978-562-9182. This event will be held rain or shine! If it's raining, you can either picnic with the top up or just show up a little before 1:00pm for the tour.

Although it's not required, we're asking that you contact event organizer Jim Miga (j_miga@comcast.net or 781-729-7567) to let him know that you're coming (and how many of you) so that we can give the Foundation an approximate head count.

Should be a terrific outing—hope to see you there!