



## A Marinite Discovers Italy's Most Famous Race

by Ron Wren, Auto Magazine Writer

Twenty-five years ago Sausalito's Martin Swig had a life-changing experience: he drove an historic race car in the re-created Mille Miglia. As a classic car fan, you know about the Mille Miglia—the thousand miles (mille miglia) race than ran from Brescia to Rome and back again from 1927-1957, and was re-staged in 1982 as a fast tour instead of a “balls out” competition.

Swig had an inspiration to bring the Mille, in a non-race version, to the U.S. and invited drivers with cars that could have qualified for the original Italian event to enter the brand new California Mille.

For almost two decades, Alfas from Australia, Bentleys from Britain, and a host of exotic and one-of-kind Talbot Lagos, Lancias, Aston Martins and even a Chrysler and Ford or two have found their way to San Francisco's Nob Hill on the last Sunday in April. There the California Mille cars are displayed in the largest free show of its kind in America. The following day, some 75 Mille cars head for northern California back roads, towns like Honeydew and Ferndale, and all the adventure that can be packed in four days and one thousand miles.

“If you like the Tiburon Classic Car Show. I think you'd better mark your calendar for the 2010 California Mille,” says Swig. “It's an adventure that will certainly change your life.”

