

# WELCOME TO VELOSTRADA

By L. Wayne Ausbrooks, Editor

Welcome everyone and thanks for taking the time to check out FerrariChat's new monthly online publication. In case you were wondering, this whole thing was cooked up by Rob, who wanted to add even more value to the Silver and Rossa subscriptions. When Rob approached me with the idea, I was also looking for a way to expand my recently developed web log, so it seemed like the natural thing to do. After a month or so of plotting, planning and preparing, you're looking at the result and we hope you like what you see.

Though this first issue is a modest one (we have more interesting stuff brewing for your perusal with future issues!) we were thrilled and honored to have a couple of "old pros" jump right on board from the start to help us get this thing fired up.

One of these is the legendary Ed Niles, who will indulge us each month with tales from his 40+ years of involvement in the Ferrari community and of the more than one hundred Ferraris that have passed through his ownership in *Ed's Fact-Free Diet*. Facts be damned, Ed promises to give it to us exactly how he remembers it!

Another "old pro," renowned horse trader and Ferraristi extraordinaire Michael Sheehan, has signed on to contribute classic articles from his archive as well as new and updated material done exclusively for *Velostrada* in *Sheehan's Corner*. In between issues, be sure to check out what Mike has cooking by dropping in on his website, Ferraris-Online.com.

Something else that should prove to be interesting is our revolving editorial column, where FerrariChat subscribers have the opportunity to stand up and let their uncensored opinions be heard on any issue relative to Ferraris and/or FerrariChat.com. Turn about is fair play, though, when other users have the chance to send in their comments and rebuttals to be published the following month. See *Making the Turn* in this month's issue for details.

To give you some insight into where we're headed with this, a few of the things that are in the works for future issues include a market analysis

column dealing with the newer cars that aren't covered in my vintage-oriented *Mercato Auto Storiche*, a column dealing with track and motorsports events and a column for fresh technical articles and tips, all of which should be introduced over the next couple of months. Another upcoming change is that, beginning with issue number four, *Velostrada* will only be accessible to subscribed users (so subscribe now!).

In the meantime, I'm open to all comments, suggestions and material submissions, so feel free to drop me a line at [LWAusbrooks@aol.com](mailto:LWAusbrooks@aol.com), but be sure to put "VELOSTRADA" in the subject line to avoid having your message thrown out with the garbage.

I'd like to say "thank you" to those that contributed their skills to the making of this first issue (Dean S., Ed N., Erik N., Matt L., Mike S. and Ryan A.) and, again, a big thanks from Rob and I to all of you subscribed users out there. We hope this adds to your F-Chat experience.