



# 300 Star Letter

January-February 2018



CWG member Giovanni Malvicini (with nephew Jacopo) of Genoa, Italy, departing "24 Setti Pista OMP" go-kart track.  
Note: in background a 300 SL Roadster and a 300 S Adenauer sedan.

# Climbing Hills & Growing Friendships

*From our member and friend  
Giovanni Malvicini in Genoa, Italy*



*Left: Giovanni with nephew Jacopo. Below: Enrico Scotto piloting his beautiful 1934 Lancia Artina with Nico and Corrado (Nico's father). Enrico wears his Russian bearskin hat which brings him both good luck and the look of a commander from "Red October," rather than a specialist of timed stages for vintage cars.*



Last week I attended the historical re-run of the famous (at least in Italy) hill climb, Pontedecimo-Giovi. The "race" is now on timed stages (one after the other, with no interruption, very challenging) and you have to be experienced with stopwatches – if you are early, or late, by one hundredth of a second, you get a point penalty!

It is not for me, but I received a warm invitation from the president of our local veteran car club and, above all, I had the opportunity to attend, escorted by my two nephews.

It was our first ever tryout of my Gull Wing, which, so far, they had only seen parked in my garage. As it was a two-day event, it was agreed that the younger one, Nicolò, was to be with me on Saturday; the older, Jacopo, on Sunday.

I explained to the boys that we were not competing.

They were only expected to read the rule book and enjoy the show.

To my great pleasure, the course of the Pontedecimo-Giovi (to be climbed on Sunday) was closed to the normal traffic. Therefore, I had a wonderful opportunity to stretch the legs of my 300 SL.

Nicolò lukewarmly agreed but, when I met at the scrutineering, a friend of mine - namely Enrico Scotto, a fantastic, experienced specialist of competition on timed stages - Nicolò fell in love with Enrico's beautiful 1934 Lancia Artina (1924cc 17° ohc V-4) and asked me to join him as a co-driver (Enrico was actually alone) together with his father Corrado. I declined, but in front of an eight-year-old begging me, I surrendered. Enrico was more than happy to welcome onboard and train such a young supporter.

So I enjoyed a day with Dele (Adele); then, cruising

around Genoa (very slow speed; extremely warm inside the cockpit; too many people dangerously close to my car; little fun). On Sunday, Jacopo joined me and we had fun together. Roaring up to Passo dei Giovi from the Pontedecimo district was pure pleasure and a couple of laps on a small kart race track was the icing on the cake. Obviously, we collected an enormous amount of penalties, but we were happy all the same.

Oops... I was nearly forgetting to mention that Nicolo's decision proved to be very wise: Enrico won his class and was second overall!

Enjoy some pictures!  
My warmest love to each one and all of you,  
Giovanni and Adele



*Here we are (above), roaring up the hill. My 300 SL went like a bat out of hell. At left: "Prizegiving": Nico made it! The tall gentleman in blue polo (close to Enrico with no more Russian hat) is Mr. Mauro Milano Viensseux, the president of the Veteran Car Club Ligure, who convinced me to take part in the event. Well done!*