

Posted on 9/10/09 at: <http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/alfaseeya/message/52782>

Hi Alfa friends,

Larry, I used your mailing list to include all the new Alfa rally friends I met and added a couple of others to update everyone. After leaving MN I headed out on the planned route via Route 2 to head to Glacier Park in MT.

After stopping a couple of days at Spirit Lake Casino Campground in Devil's Lake I headed toward out toward Williston, ND. On the way there I had a tire blow out on the right side of the tow dolly that took the fender off. I stopped on the desolate, isolated Route 2 and thank goodness I had cell phone coverage to call roadside assistance. After a couple of hours I had a new tire put on the dolly and got to Williston and stayed a couple of days at a campground there.

From Williston, ND, on August 25, my next planned destination was Havre, MT before finally getting to Glacier Park. About 100 miles from Havre, MT between the cities of Malta and Dodson, MT, where there was absolutely NO cell phone coverage, I was flagged down by a passing motorist who informed me that I was on fire!! I pulled off the road and when I got out and went around to the drivers side of the RV the compartment door where the batteries are was surrounded in flames! I ran back into the RV and grabbed the fire extinguisher, but it was like spitting into the ocean... didn't make a dent. It was really windy out there on the desolate prairie and it really whipped the fire faster, in spite of another passing motorist who finally stopped and used his fire extinguisher, to no avail at all. Thankfully his local cell phone was able to get out and call the fire department... which out there are trucks with barrels of water in the bed. By the time they got there the motorhome was already half gone. Needless to say, it burned to the ground, taking the dolly and my Toyota Prius with it. My cat, Beau, was also a fatality in the fire, as I had no time to go back inside to try to find him in all the smoke and flames. Luckily I grabbed my purse when I headed out the door to check on where I was on fire, so all I had left was the clothes on my back and the contents of my purse.

It made the news because they said that my mh had started 4 fires along Route 2 about 30 miles behind where my coach burned. I couldn't believe that was so since I had been checking all my mirrors and camera and never saw any smoke or fire, and where my MH burned to the ground, the dry prairie grass there never caught fire or spread. They reported it burned hundreds of acres and took 3 fire departments and a water helicopter and most of the rest of the night to get the fires under control. Now I'm worried to death about lawsuits from those landowners for something I still find it hard to figure out how I could have started in the first place.

Have been filling out insurance forms and waiting to hear something from them, which so far I have not. Have been living in motels and have a rental car to get around while I'm looking to find another car and another Alfa to replace the ones I just lost. My Alfa was an '04 See Ya, so if anyone knows of any one with an Alfa for sale, please let me know. As others have found, I've looked at other MH's but I still love the arrangement, amenities, and size of the Alfa.

Murphy's Law seemed to follow me from the day I got on the road 4 months ago, so I guess it's now a fact that "if it weren't for bad luck, I'd have no luck at all"... sadly. However, I've put my life in the Lord's hands and with His help am picking myself up, dusting myself off, and starting all over again.

Hope I will shortly be able to join all of you on the road again with another Alfa... and if not, then SOB of MH. Already miss being in my "home" on wheels.

alias,
Newbie Nancy