ALAN SINGER, JACKSONVILLE, FL

1973 Bultaco Alpina

THE OBSESSION GROWS

This Bultaco Alpina is no garage queen. Nope, it lives in the house, and the story behind it has been a full-circle journey that took more than 40 years.

I bought it in November 1972 from the long-gone Sleger-Forbes dealership in New Jersey. Between trail riding, trials and enduro events, we did it all, and by winter 1973 it was time for a refresh. Jersey winters are too cold for garage work, so I brought the Alpina into the house; a spare 10-by-10 room became the workshop.

After a few more years of riding, followed by another refresh, I parked the Alpina and moved on to race cars and other diversions. Through a couple of moves, the Alpina came along, but after 20 years, a move to Florida left it behind. My best friend's son was ready for a full-size "yard bike," so they got it running and used the heck out of it for the next four or five years.

When the Bultaco returned to me during a Daytona Bike Week visit, I decided to restore it for its 25th anniversary. Restoring it reignited the fire, and another move two years later resulted in a house with a spare room, now converted into a museum with multiple Bultacos. My 1973 Alpina isn't going anywhere now.

