



ARCC UPDATE

April 2010

Toronto Chapter AGM

by George Beston, Cobourg

We had a good turnout of about twenty members at our meeting at MiniGrid. There weren't many surprises at the meeting, and the roster of directors remained the same. We have a few more dollars in the bank than we had last year, and our proposed events schedule appears at the end of this copy of the Update.

We are very grateful to the owners and staff at MiniGrid for hosting this meeting again in 2010. Before and after the business portion of the meeting, there was visiting and re-connecting going on amongst the members present. For the first time in a long while, I didn't find any Alfa toys to buy before or after the meeting. I plan to swing by and give it another shot, and I recommend that other members consider shopping for their published materials or models at this store which has been so generous to the Toronto Chapter.

Partly because of the weather, there were no Alfas at the meeting. Both praise and sympathy are due to Gord Zimmerman, whose 164S almost got him there.



Photo by Gord Zimmerman.

Somewhere on Dundas St. West, the 164 started to overheat. Gord was looking for a good spot to pull over and investigate the issue when a heater hose

located under the dash separated from its fitting, and that filled the interior with a fog of antifreeze, and spilled hot liquid antifreeze into the carpet.

Of course Gord got to take the picture while his pal Don Reesor had to help get the 164 on the tilt & load so it could be hauled up to Pino's shop.

Because the "Red Rocket" doesn't extend anywhere close to Gord's home in Bobcaygeon, your humble servant drove Gord and Don from the meeting to Port Hope, where they were picked up by Sue, Gord's long-suffering, but ever cheerful partner.

Zagato's TZ 3 Corsa!

by George Beston, Cobourg

In celebration of the Alfa Romeo centenary this year, it seems that Alfa has commissioned three design studios to produce new concept cars for the brand. We've already seen the Bertone Pandion and the Pininfarina Zuetttanta, and the next "cab off the rank" will be from Zagato. This prototype will be unveiled at this month's 2010 Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este.

Many details of this concept car have yet to be revealed. There has been mention of a 4.4 litre V8 engine, and some of Zagato's recent offerings are reminiscent of the 8C Competizione, so we'll just have to wait and see.

Toronto Chapter Library

by David Munro, Toronto

Last year, I took over the post of Librarian from Deni Bellai. I think the Club owes Deni many thanks for his years of faithful service in that role. The contents of the library have now been moved from Deni's place in Waterdown to a more convenient Toronto location.

I keep my Twin Spark Spider Jr. in a building owned by Oliver Collins for the purpose of housing a few interesting Italian vehicles that he owns. This building has space in it that has been dedicated to the Toronto Chapter Library. Oliver has also agreed to assist with Librarian duties if I am away or unavailable.

Our library contains a number of books and reference materials on Alfas, as well as a sampling of newsletters from other Alfa Clubs in North America and around the world. A full list of library contents is available from me as are the rules and conditions for loaning out the books.

Access to the library is limited to current ARCC members, and loaning privileges are limited to Toronto Chapter members.

The location of this building is Scarlett Rd, about a block north of St. Clair. If you are interested in accessing the library, contact me at alfadave@gmail.com to get directions and arrange a suitable time when he can be there to let you in. If you are not online I can be reached at (416) 760-9368.

Calgary Stampede Breakfast

by Dot Louie, Greenhithe, New Zealand

Editor's note: This article first appeared in "Alfa News", the excellent monthly newsletter of the Alfa Romeo Owners' Club of New Zealand. It's being published herewith Dot's permission because it does cover a CAMS event that happened last summer, and because Dot's experiences reflect the development of some really wonderful long distance relationships through our shared enthusiasm for the Alfa Romeo marque. – G.B.

Plans for a trip to North America started with a simple Christmas message from Glenna and Pat Garret: "See you in Portland". I immediately started making plans to attend Veloce Del Nord in Portland and to fly to Calgary first to catch up with Canadian Alfisti, Lynne and Dean Sinnott and Gloria Steele.

Dean had also been in contact with Fred Lennard of our N.Z. club and had suggested that Fred also fly

to Calgary and join him in a road trip from Calgary to Portland. Fred was in two minds- I'd told him to make the most of opportunities and certainly a lot of American Alfisti know Fred so it would be good to catch up with them. I'd been in regular contact with Lynne, and she clinched it when she confirmed she had tickets for the chuck wagon races at the Calgary Stampede. Since I was more than ready for a break, I decided to go for it.

En route, we landed in San Francisco, sleep deprived but glad of the warmer weather and it was just a matter of making sure we got the connecting flight to Calgary. It is funny how everyone stops when they hear the Kiwi accent and everyone was friendly and helpful. Of course, processes have changed since last travelling to the States.

At Calgary, we were a little delayed but once off, I spotted Dean first. It was marvellous seeing old friends again! Being pooped out, pizza and wine hit the spot and just right and then we retired for the night.

It was an effort to wake up when the body is in a different time zone and your head is telling you to get up. I remember breakfast and a shot of coffee. Later, I scooted down to look over Dean's Spider. This car is immaculate, a real great concours car and I was sure going to ride in that en route to Portland. Dean did male bonding with Fred while I sussed out the food shopping with Lynne for the Calgary Stampede breakfast that Lynne was organizing for the CAMS group.

After shopping with Lynne for the food items for the next day's Stampede Breakfast, we went to spend the afternoon at the Stampede. I loved the way everyone dresses up for it. Lynne had her gear all organized. Everyone gets into the spirit of the Stampede. Dean and Fred dropped us off at the stadium. What a contrast it was to Auckland's perpetual state of traffic pandemonium. No comparison.

The stampede is a lot like the Agricultural and Pastoral shows I grew up with in Gisborne, only on a much bigger scale and with a great atmosphere too. There were exhibitions, cooking demos (got my first taste of Alberta beef – Stampede Sushi as the laid back chef called it), cake decorating, handicrafts including quilts, knitting, paintings, and wood and metal sculptures, with themes of "western" life and leisure activities.

Then it was time to get our seats in the stadium for the chuck wagon racing. This was horsepower – and if you've never seen drivers of a team of 4 horses doing a figure eight, then careening around a racetrack with outriders frantically working to catch up, it is the craziest thing. It has to be the

closest racing (nail biting stuff) that I have ever seen and those guys are superb horsemen and good sportsmen on top of it. In all there were eight heats to decide the winning team.

Another incredible part of the grandstand show was the riders on motorbikes jumping off ramps and doing stunts in mid-air, it was absolutely breath taking. Just as you think oh-my-goodness-there-isn't-room-for-him-to-land, there's a perfect landing and he turns the bike round to execute another trick. All around them were fireworks - what a slick and professional show. Such a buzz of adrenalin!

After the late night at the Stampede, there was no time to sleep in because it was Sunday and time for the Stampede Breakfast. Oh, by the way, did you hear the coyotes last night? What coyotes, I asked – I thought they were domestic dogs yowling! The weather was just superb, the table and grill plate was set up – Lynne said it had been quite dry, but all the flowers were in bloom and it was a great garden setting for the breakfast.

Then the Canadian Alfisti started rolling up. Mark Willis who is keen to start the Calgary club up again arrived first. Then Bob and Carol Merchant (who we last met in Seattle) appeared, quickly followed by Mary and John and Kathryn and Oscar. Fred and Dean had gone to fetch Gloria Steele and it was lovely to see her again. Gloria's present to me was a book on Canada and has some of the most stunning photography of the places I still want to visit. Lynne set Bob on pancake duty and he turned out superb pancakes, some with strawberries, apple and walnuts which we got to eat with honest to goodness real maple syrup, crunch bacon and scrambled eggs cooked by Lynne and me. One of the most pleasant pastimes has to be renewing friendships and making new friends over a meal, something Alfisti are always good at.



Photo by Dot Louie.

As I had carted over copies of Alfa News halfway around the world, I got to talking with various people and gave these out to show people what we got up to down in good old New Zealand. The guys,

of course, got to talk Alfas and I had a photo session. Then it was hoods-up and garage time when Dean got to show off his Spider and someone mentioned "project car".

It was great to see good examples of 105 series GTVs. Gloria said it really made her wish for an Alfa Romeo sports car again because there was so much more fun to be had. The bug has well and truly bitten our Canadian friends!



Photo by Dot Louie.

EFI Conversion - It's Alive!

by George Beston, Cobourg

I'm pleased to report some progress on my fuel injection conversion project. I'll prepare a full tech article on the subject in the next month or two, but for now I can report that after overcoming a number of relatively small issues, my Spider Jr. is ready to hit the road to work out the fine details of the Volumetric Efficiency Table, which is the fueling map for the system's computer.

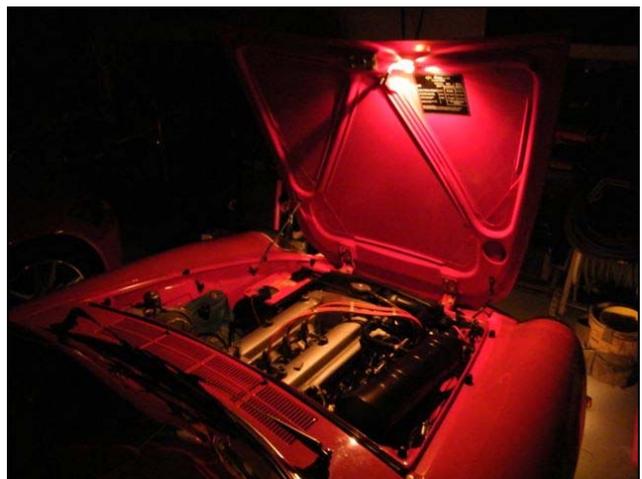


Photo by George Beston.

Upcoming ARCC Events

Toronto Chapter

Date	Time	Event
April 24	10 am	Tech Session Pinarello Motori
May 6	7 pm	Cruise Night La Paloma
May 16	10 am	Canadian Automotive Museum / Sunday drive
June 3	7 pm	Cruise Night La Paloma
June 19-20	TBD	Vintage Festival/Drive
June 23-27		AROC Alfa Century
July 8	7 pm	Cruise Night La Paloma
July 11	TBD	Sunday Drive
July 17-18	TBD	Toronto / Detroit Rendezvous - Camlachie
August 5	7 pm	Cruise Night La Paloma
August 8	TBD	Sunday Drive
August 22	TBD	Wine Tour or BBQ
Sept. 2	7 pm	Cruise Night La Paloma
Sept.10-12	TBD	Alfas at the Glen
Sept. 26	TBD	Europa Rally
Oct. 3	TBD	Fall Tour
Oct. 7	TBD	Cruise Night La Paloma
Nov. 2	TBD	Director's Meeting & Pub Night - Cam's Place
Nov 27	TBD	Holiday Dinner That's Italian

N.B. – Unofficial cruise nights happen every Thursday at La Paloma during the season.

Ottawa Chapter

Date	Time	Event
May 8	3:30 pm	Where are all the Italian Cars?
May 30	TBD	Oxford Mills Car Show
June 18	6 pm	Weekend Fest Registration – Frank's
June 19	10 am 1 pm 2 pm 3 pm 6 pm	Italian Day parade registration – Frank's Lunch Parade Italian Car Show Banquet

Alfa Romeo Club of Edmonton

Date	Time	Event
April	TBD	Tech Session - Lionel's
May	TBD	Spring road trip
June	TBD	Rally / Road Trip
July	TBD	European Car Meet Calgary
August 3-7	TBD	Rock-N-August
September	TBD	Fall Road Trip
October	TBD	Annual Italian Dinner
December	TBD	Christmas tree hunt

Calgary Alfa Marque Society

Date	Time	Event
May 6	7 pm	Cruise Night
June 3	7 pm	Cruise Night
July 8	7 pm	Cruise Night
July 17	10 am	European Classic Car Show
August 5	7 pm	Cruise Night
September 2	7 pm	Cruise Night
October 7	6 pm	Cruise Night

Events of General Interest

- AROC National Convention in Frederick, Maryland June 23-27.
- Alfa Romeo Centennario. Milano, June, 26-27
- Ferrari Shell Historic Challenge, Mont Tremblant, July 9-11
- Pittsburgh Vintage GP, July 24-25
- Vintage Grand Prix at Watkins Glen, Sept. 9-11.

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ARCC Update

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