



ARCC UPDATE

October 2012

Europa Rally 2012

by George Beston, Cobourg



Photo by Brad Golden.

For a number of years now, the Toronto area members of the North American Ferrari Club have invited Alfa Club members to join them in their annual fun rally. I've participated in a number of these events, and found them to be challenging and rewarding. We've always had good top-down weather and excellent company. This year was no exception. From the rendezvous at Weston Rd. and Major Mackenzie Drive we drove for about three hours in perfect top-down weather. There was never a dull moment because we were on the lookout for the answers to a variety of route questions. There was frequent doubling back on the part of most of the participants in an effort to get the correct answers to all the route questions. The major benefit of the tricky questions was that we got to see many of the participating Ferraris and Alfas going and coming – over and over again!

The rally ended at The Manor banquet hall in Kettleby for Sunday brunch. While the participants were enjoying the elaborate meal (the dessert table included a fountain of liquid chocolate!) Bill Coutts and his helpers pored over the answer sheets to come up with the official results.

Fortunately for us, the Alfa Club results are counted separately and we get our own awards for the first three places:

- 1st Michael DiPanfilo and Corrado DiRosa
- 2nd George Beston and Adam Beston
- 3rd Anthony Tersigni and Frank Scalesi

Thanks to the efforts of Brad Golden, attractive trophies were presented reflecting these results.

The Ferrari club awards were a bit different in that there is a trophy for last place, the cow award. It's actually a large Holstein figurine with a long history as a last place award, and is handed out with much hilarity. It may bring a measure of luck with it, because last year's cow award winner was second overall this year.

This is a great event, and deserves to be on everyone's calendar next year.

Creemore Drive

by George Beston, Cobourg



Photo by Madalyn Hamann.

So, two weekends in a row provided us with outstanding driving conditions. The Creemore drive started out as one of Dave Munro's Sunday drives, and has now become a bit of a tradition for the Toronto chapter. The plan for this year's event morphed a bit as the time grew near. The Seven contingent ran into difficulties and didn't appear,

and our leader Dave Munro had a last minute opportunity to attend the Goodwood revival in the U.K. and asked me to fill in as leader. No problem, except both of my Alfas were out of action with minor issues which couldn't be resolved in time for the drive. Hence, Mrs. Beston's "honorary Alfa" was pressed into service for the day.



Brag Golden's dog Humber along for the ride! Photo by Madalyn Hamann.

We enjoyed about 100km of very pleasant sports car roads on the way to Creemore, especially the River Road out of Horning's Mills.

We encountered not one, but two radar traps along Side Road 10 not far before Horning's Mills. This was a little surprising considering the general lack of traffic, but the good news is that both were occupied with transgressors who had already been pulled over. The OPP presence might have been related to the large number of motorcycle groups touring that part of the country these days.

Upon arriving in Creemore we enjoyed a fine pub style lunch at the Old Mill House. After lunch and conversation, each of us headed home taking our own route. I'll do this again next year, hopefully in an Alfa.

CARM Fall Drive

by Alex Csank, Montréal

Early on an overcast, somewhat windy Saturday the 22nd of September, 14 Montreal-area Alfisti and 8 Alfas met just South of Montreal for a driving tour through the Chateauguay Valley to Lake Placid, New York. Our tour leader, Bruno Orsini did a great job of planning and leading the group safely through some great Alfa roads, with all of us having plenty of fun all the way there! While a couple folks turned around after the drive and went back, 12 of us stayed in Lake Placid overnight, meeting for a nice supper Saturday night. On Sunday, we all had a chance to shop a bit in Lake

Placid, then we met for a nice lunch at the Mirror Lake Inn's Cottage on the lake, where the sun was shining, the Lobster Bisque and other food was delicious and we had a terrific view of the lake and the fall colours on the Adirondack Mountains. We then did a little more driving on some great Alfa roads, ending up in Plattsburgh for a little more shopping, before making our way home individually.



Photos by Alex Csank.

Our next event will be our last Alfa drive of the year. On Saturday, 13 October (weather and road conditions permitting), we will have a 'family-friendly' driving tour through the Chateauguay Valley area (I was originally planning to do something in the Laurentians, but roads are poor I am told), which will include a few stops (apple orchard/farm, covered bridge, etc.), and lovely little towns like Ormstown and Huntingdon.

Finally, congratulations to Phil Duffy, whose Montreal made it onto the cover of the latest issue of Hemmings Sports and Exotic car. Yes, that's the same car Phil drove to Lake Placid on Saturday and to the Alfa convention (Alfa Canadese) in June.

Ciao...and rev high!

Alfas in the News

by George Beston, Cobourg

An old favourite of mine, the British magazine **Classic and Sports Car** carried an article in its August issue entitled “Alfa’s Greatest” in reference to 105-series Alfas including Berlinas, GTs and Spiders. In its ten pages, the article provides a good perspective on these “Milanese marvels” that many of us are still busy enjoying today. This is a good read, so do what you can to get your hands on it.

In looking for the August issue, I also stumbled onto the September issue. I was about to put it back on the stand because it didn’t have the 105 series article in it, but then I noticed it included a 34 page pull-out section titled “Market Review 2012”. The Price Guide contained in this section is no stab in the dark. It is put together by researchers at Hagerty insurance to provide an accurate portrait of the current U.K. market. Included were prices of some of the Alfas that we might own or dream of. I’m taking the liberty of re-printing some of the content as food for thought.

The prices given here are for condition 2 vehicles. Condition 2 “denotes a car that is extremely good, but not concours-contending condition, which should need no further expense for thousands of miles.” Note that a pound is worth about 1.6 Canadian dollars.

Vehicle	Price Guide Value, £
Giulietta Sprint Veloce	27,200
Giulietta Spider Veloce	36,000
Giulia Spider Veloce	35,000
Giulia Sprint GT	13,600
Giulia Sprint GT	18,000
Giulia Sprint Speciale	54,800
GT Jr.	11,800
1750 Spider round tail	18,200
1750 GTV 1750	20,600
1750 Berlina	7,100
Montreal	28,000
Jr. Zagato 1600	29,200
6c 2600 Spider	40,000

The list goes on, but I’m left with the distinct impression that the Alfas we own are worth a lot more money elsewhere than they are in North America. Of course, other peoples’ estimates do nothing to put money in our pockets, but it’s certainly food for thought.

Another publication that is starting to get my attention is **Old Autos**. The issue dated August 6, 2012 contains two Alfa-related pieces; a review of the 1962-1969 6C 2600 Berlina (of all things) and

an article on a Canadian-owned classic Alfa that turned heads at Villa d’Este this year.

This is the 1933 6c 1750 Gran Sport Figoni-bodied coupé. Fresh from a restoration by RX Autoworks in North Vancouver, it won the Coppa d’Oro as best in show by public referendum, was judged as best in show at the Villa d’Este concours, and also won best in show at Villa d’Erbe the following day.

The owner of this classic is David Cohen of Vancouver. He apparently was aware of this car many years ago as a school boy in Johannesburg, South Africa. After keeping track of it and staying in touch with the collector who owned it for many years, he was able to acquire the car in 2008. A three-year restoration project followed. If you are interested, look up this car on the RX Autoworks web site.



Top photo – “then”; bottom photo – “now”. Photos from <http://www.rxautoworks.com/index.html>.

Make sure you get to the history of this car and its recent restoration project compiled and edited by Basil Cohen. The two images used here are taken from it. It’s an excellent book put together in the same style Simon Moore used to great effect in his wonderful volumes *The Legendary 2.3* and *The Immortal 2.9*. It can be saved as a pdf and viewed full size on a large monitor. Frankly, it’s a piece worth printing and binding. Enjoy!

Upcoming ARCC Events

Alfa Club of Edmonton

Date	Time	Event
April 28	11:00 am	Ron's Grease Pit Blowout
May 7	7:30 pm	Speedsters Racing
June 16	TBD	Reynolds Museum
June 23	TBD	Easy Solstice Rally
July 10	TBD	St. Albert Casino
June 17-24		Alfa Canadese
August 7-11	TBD	Rockin' Horse, St Albert
Sept. TBA	TBD	Concourse
Sept. 30	TBD	Pie Run, Stony Plain
Nov. TBA	TBD	Great Italian Eating
Dec. TBA	TBD	Christmas Tree Hunt
January	TBD	Christmas After Party

Toronto Chapter

Date	Time	Event
March 22	7:00 pm	AGM, Scarlett Road
April 21	10:00 am	1 st Choice Garage Tour
May 3	7:00 pm	Cruise Night
May 6	TBD	Sunday Drive
June 7	7:00 pm	Cruise Night
June 15-17	TBD	Vintage Festival/Drive
June 17-24		Alfa Canadese
July 5	7:00 pm	Cruise Night
July 8	TBD	Sunday Drive
August 2	7:00 pm	Cruise Night
August 5	1:00 pm	RM Tour
Sept. 6	7:00 pm	Cruise Night
Sept. 9	TBD	Europa Rally
Sept. 15	TBD	Alfas and Sevens
Oct. 4	7:00 pm	Cruise Night
Oct. 14	TBD	Fall Wine Tour
Nov. 7	7:00 pm	Pub Night
Nov. 24	6:00 pm	Holiday Dinner

Club Alfa Romeo de Montréal

Date	Time	Event
Oct 13	TBD	Chateauguay Valley
Nov 13	7:00 pm	Italian Dinner
December	TBD	Holiday Party

Other Events of Interest

- Members' **Tech Sessions**, whenever possible
- **Italian Day Parade**, June 16, Ottawa
- **Italian Car Day**, July 21, Boyd Park
- **Concorso Canadese**, August 25, Mississauga
- **Grand Prix of Mosport**, ALMS series, July 19-22
- Non-official **Cruise Nights** happen every Thursday evening May to October at the La Paloma location.

Alfa Romeo Club of Canada

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ARCC Update

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