



ARCC UPDATE

June 2015

President's Letter

by Alex Csank, Ste. Anne-de-Bellevue

Summer is here! I have been having lots of fun getting out of the house to enjoy some great drives in my GTV6. Every year I am very pleasantly surprised to re-discover my love for driving my Alfa, and the absolute pleasures of "straightening out a few twisties" in the countryside! My summers are very busy, as I volunteer with the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary and a local Search and Rescue and Emergency Response team, as well as trying my best to put together the many activities for the Montreal Alfa club (CARM), and keep things moving forward with our national club (ARCC). It seems like every weekend day is filled with one activity or another ... all the way through until the late fall. And THAT's the way I like it! Getting the chance to hang out with great local and "not so-local" Alfisti and their beautiful machines, and driving on some great roads is what it's all about for me. I sincerely hope that you can take advantage of some of your time this summer to join up with your local Alfisti (and/or other sports car lovers) and do some socializing, driving and "tire kicking"!

The 4Cs are continuing to be delivered, and we are expecting the arrival of the first of the 4C Spiders at dealerships soon. On the 24th of this month, Alfa Romeo is expected to officially announce the next in their upcoming series of cars destined for the North American market. Although not yet confirmed, most of the motoring world believes that the upcoming model will be the replacement for the 159, and will be a RWD mid-sized 4 door sedan, designed to compete with the mid-sized Audi, BMW, Mercedes, Lexus and Cadillac. Expect it to be competitively priced, and it should be available by early 2016.

Hopefully, many of you will be headed to the annual AROC USA convention (*Alfamiglia Nordest 2015*), being held in Rhode Island late this month. These conventions are always a lot of fun and I strongly encourage you to go. Our

friends in the USA Alfa Romeo Owners Club will be confirming their selection for the location of the 2017 convention at their board meeting during the convention, and it looks very much like Montreal will be selected. We here in Montreal are looking at doing something very similar to the very successful *Alfa Canadese 2012* convention, and will need your help to develop and organize the event.

As I wrote last month, we will be holding our third annual *Raduno Estivo* this August. This event is a summertime "regional convention" in and around Kingston, which is a good meeting point for members from the GTA, Ottawa and Montreal. Scheduled for the weekend of the 22nd and 23rd of August, we are planning a series of Saturday drives from each of those three cities, ending at a "Meet-n-Greet" supper somewhere in Prince Edward County. Afterwards, we'll drive to our night's accommodations in Kingston. On Sunday morning immediately following breakfast, we are planning a Gimmick Rally, followed by a lighthearted "Concours". We'll end our *Raduno* with a relaxed awards lunch, and then each club and its members will head home.

To help us plan for the numbers of expected attendees, please let us know if you are planning to attend (you won't be locked into your reservation) by filling out the enclosed form (Yes, it really IS enclosed this time!) and either mailing it or scanning it and sending it to me. For mail, please use the following address: Alex Sandor Csank, 4 rue St-Étienne, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, QC H9X 1E9, or send the scanned form to alfaromeodriveralex@gmail.com. I appreciate your assistance.

As always, please keep sending me your feedback and also your photos, articles and ideas for the newsletter. George Beston is always looking for your input for upcoming editions.

Rev high!
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C.A.R.M. News – June 2015

by Alex Csank, Ste. Anne-de-Bellevue

Our first driving events of the season are behind us, including a nice group hug with the Ottawa club, which included a country drive and a visit to a local vineyard near Vankleek Hill. Many thanks to ARCO's President, Marc Faubert for planning the event. We also had a fun Gimmick Rally through the lower Laurentian Mountains.

Our club is now in full swing, with June activities like the Grand Prix weekend get together and annual BBQ, hosted by Sam and Lucy, our veterans' tribute held on Father's Day, and some of us will be headed to the Ottawa Italian car parade as well.

If you get a chance, please join us for any of our exciting upcoming events!



Photo by Alex Csank.

Victoria Day Pancake Drive

by George Beston, Cobourg

I can't imagine a better way to celebrate the extra time provided by a long weekend to get out for a top down run in the countryside with a break in the middle of it for one of those belly buster breakfasts that most of us know is a bit much, but love to enjoy when the chance comes around. The guilt somehow doesn't come home to roost given the invigorating spring air and the camaraderie of the occasion.



Photo by Lucie Collins.

For the second year running the Toronto Chapter organized a reservation at the House of Pancakes in Cookstown, and a drive through some most

pleasant countryside to get there and a different and equally pleasant trip back to the city.



Photo by Lucie Collins.

It always amazes me how varied and interesting the countryside can be. I'm very familiar with, and fond of, the hills of Northumberland County but I found the features of this area of Simcoe County equally pleasant. We did have occasion to reflect on shared use of the roadways as we followed a giant seeding rig down the road for a few kilometres at one point.



Photo by Lucie Collins.

Alma and I thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of the day and look forward to more of the same next year. Many thanks to Frank Scalesi for his work in organizing this event.

Toronto Chapter Cruise Night

by George Beston, Cobourg

It doesn't get much better than having passably warm weather and a very long June evening to enjoy one of our cruise nights at La Paloma. A very large number of Alfas and other marques turned out. It was particularly gratifying to see an impressively large number of GTVs and GT Juniors in attendance, including at least three of them that I have never seen before.



I was particularly happy to get there in my veteran Alfetta Berlina and show off its newly rebuilt engine with all of about 140 miles on it by the time I arrived. It will probably never be that clean again!



Photos by George Beston.

Alfa Tour Comes to Canada

by Bob Merchant, Calgary



Photo by Bob Jacobsen.

The Club may be interested in these pictures of the Alfa tour that passed through Waterton last year. They were shared with me by my acquaintance Jim Weisgerber who has a cabin in Waterton. His neighbour Bob Jacobsen took these pictures. It's the greatest gathering of vintage Alfas ever in Canada. The pictures were all taken in front of the Prince of Wales Hotel. There also was a small caravan of support trucks that took care of servicing and mechanical issues. Reportedly the value of this group of vehicles is just over fifty million dollars. AutoWeek published pictures of this event three months ago but did not identify the site. The tour group arrived from Glacier National Park in the U.S. and entered Canada via Waterton Lakes National Park. Their route took them through Pincher Creek, Fernie and eastern B.C. before they returned to the U.S.



Photo by Bob Jacobsen.

Warplane Museum Drive

by Maurizio Tacchi, Mississauga



Photo by Maurizio Tacchi.

On May 24th the organizers of Italian Car Day hosted an event for Italian cars consisting of a drive starting at two locations, Woodbridge and Burlington. The Woodbridge group met up with the Burlington group and 29 Italian cars – Fiats, Alfa Romeos, Ferraris, and a Lamborghini – and proceeded to the Hamilton Air Museum via the Lakeshore, North Shore Boulevard passing Hamilton harbour to Plains Rd. We then made our final approach to the airport by the 403 and Hwy 6. Once at the airport the group was allowed inside the airport grounds and onto the tarmac with some of the aircraft on display. Another Alfa joined us at the airport, a brand new 4C!

A BBQ lunch was served and the group explored the various aircraft displayed in the hangar, which is home to the only operational Lancaster bomber in North America. The only other flying Lancaster is in England.

Amelia Island Concours

by Frank Salemi, Fallston MD

First, Alfa Romeo was there making a big impression by offering free drives in a new 4C.



4C test drives! Photo by Frank Salemi.

There were many great Alfas there. Here are two shots of a beautiful 1900 Sprint Coupe by Touring.



1900 Sprint. Photo by Frank Salemi.

This Alfa was part of the Bonhams auction, and the estimated selling price was \$200,000 - \$250,000.



Photo by Frank Salemi.

This 1931 6C 1750 GS Zagato was displayed at the RM Auction on Saturday, March 14. Dr. Fred Simeone is in the middle of the group of individuals in the background. Who better to

advise on a possible purchase than Dr. Fred? This car sold for \$2.42 million.



6C 1750 GS Zagato. Photo by Frank Salemi.

This amazing 6C 2500 was made in 1942. It was entered in the 1987 Mille Miglia and has since been restored.



6C 2500o. Photo by Frank Salemi.

The coachwork on this 6C 2500 was done in house as indicated by the badge below:



Photo by Frank Salemi.

Another favourite at the show was a Giulietta SZ Coda Tonda. In the past, photographs of this beautiful SZ were often seen in the Giulietta Register's newsletter "Giuliettaletta". Bonhams sold this car by auction on December 1, 2013 in London England to its current owner in Cincinnati, OH.



Giulietta SZ. Photo by Frank Salemi.

The accompanying sign could be found confusing. This is in fact VIN # 0107, and if you read carefully it's a Coda Tonda, or round tail version, not a Coda Tronca as the headline suggests.



Photo by Frank Salemi.



Here's a look at the Coda Tonda. Photo by Frank Salemi.

20W50 Price and Availability

by George Beston, Cobourg

I'm not sure how closely other enthusiasts follow this subject, but as a DIY oil change person, I'm getting pushed around, and I won't take it any more. It used to be that my favourite oil, Quaker State 20W50, was available in single U.S. quart bottles at mass merchandisers like Canadian Tire and Wal-Mart. Through the miracle of merchandising, it would regularly go on sale for a price around \$3.30 per bottle. On those occasions I would buy twelve quarts or so and maintain an inventory to keep both of my Alfas supplied for their annual oil changes and whatever oil consumption they experienced.

My cosy situation has changed significantly over the past year. First, 20W50 has totally disappeared from the retail shelf, and second, "sale" prices for conventional oils have ballooned up to \$5.00 per bottle. My local jobbers tell me that I can still get Quaker State 20W50 from them, but their price is about \$7.00 per quart, or \$84 for 12.

My answer has been to shop around. The best deal I've been able to find is at Wal-Mart in the United States. Their house brand is called "SUPERTECH". Internet sources provide a bit of information about its manufacturer and testimonials from those who have used it. I am putting my faith on the declaration that it meets API service SN standards. On a recent brief visit to the U.S., the price at a Wal-Mart in Upstate NY was well under U.S. \$3 per quart. I bought all 15 quarts of 20W50 they had on the shelf for a total of \$58.63 in Canadian dollars.

Eye Candy

by George Beston, Cobourg

Here's what your faithful servant has been up to in his spare time for, oh, the last 18 months.



Photo by George Beston.

Upcoming ARCC Events

Regional representatives are requested to send your 2015 events calendars to the secretary or the editor for inclusion in the next issue.

Club Alfa Romeo de Montréal

Date	Time	Event
January 24		Annual Meeting and Lunch
February 21		Tech Session
March 28		Cabane à Sucre
April 18		Lunch Meeting
May 9		Springtime Tour
May 23		Laurentians Fun Rallye
June 6		Grand Prix Expo (Club Fiat)
June 7		Grand Prix Expo, Barbeque
June 14		Fathers' Day Veterans Tribute Car Show
June 21		Fathers' Day Tribute Car Show
June 20-21		Ottawa Italian Festival
June 22-28		AROC USA Convention
July 5		Fiat Breakout - Montréal
July 25		Mid-Summer Drive
August 8		Italian Car Day, Woodbridge
August 22-23		Raduno Estivo, Kingston
Sept 12		Super Auto Show, Mirabel
Sept 19-20		Lake Placid Road Trip
Sept 27		Raduno Montebello
October 3		Vineyard Tour
October 17		Fall Colours Drive
November 28		Holiday Party

Alfa Romeo Club of Edmonton

Date	Time	Event
May 2		Tech session – "up your hoist"
June 14		Reynolds History Road
June 20		Solstice Rally
August		Viva Italia
Sept 12		Concourse

Toronto Chapter

Date	Time	Event
May-October, First Tuesday	7:00 pm	Cruise Night – La Paloma
May 18		Victoria Day Pancake Drive
June 21		VARAC Vintage Festival
June 22-28		AROC USA Convention
June 28		Rattlesnake Point Run
August 8		Italian Car Day, Woodbridge
August 22-23		Raduno Estivo, Kingston
Sept 27		Raduno Montebello

Calgary Alfa Marque Society

Date	Time	Event
May 24		Airport Tunnel Car Show
May 29		Garage Tour
June 14		Reynolds Museum Show
July 19		Stanley Park European Car Show

Alfa Romeo Club - Ottawa

Date	Time	Event
May 9		Springtime Tour
May 23		Laurentians Fun Rallye
June 20-21		Ottawa Italian Festival
Sept 27		Raduno Montebello

Alfa Romeo Club of Canada

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