



# ARCC UPDATE

November 2017

## *President's Letter*

by Alex Csank, Vankleek Hill

Hi there!

It's November and the beautiful and unseasonably warm autumn weather has now shifted to cooler temperatures, with winter clearly on its way. All the leaves have dropped and the days are getting very short indeed. As is our habit, Diane and I enjoyed many wonderful little road adventures and participated in more than a few rides with and without company to enjoy the spectacular colours of the autumn leaves.

This year's CARM Autumn Leaves Tour was held on an overcast day but we were lucky enough to dodge the rain. Because the weather wasn't sunny, this year's event wasn't as popular as it has been in the past. We still had ten cars in our little group as we got underway. For the second year, we combined this event and invited members of Club Fiat Montréal and Fiat-Alfa Romeo Québec (FARQ) to join us. This year's route took us from the town of Saint Eustache just north of Montréal, up and over Deux-Montagnes and then westward along the north shore of the Ottawa River to Grenville sur la Rouge. We then took the bridge towards Ontario, stopping at the park located halfway across the bridge, where we enjoyed a nice potluck picnic by the river.



*Picnic by the river. Photo by Alex Csank.*

After lunch, we continued across the bridge into Hawkesbury and south into the country to stop at the Vankleek Hill Vineyard for a tour and tasting. Once we had tried the samples of wine, we continued southeast mounting Mont Rigaud where we wound our way over twisty roads before completing our drive and heading back to our homes. It's always nice to have a fun club drive as a season ending Alfa activity.

Sadly, no matter how much I wish I could postpone the inevitable, I know that I must once again begin preparations for storing my GTV6 for the winter. I have already put away my 1982 Honda Goldwing, and will soon exchange the place occupied by the lawn mower for the snow blower. Dryer sheets and mothballs ready to scatter inside, a full tank of high octane fuel, all my driving equipment removed from the trunk, and my fuzzy dice and bongos put away in the house until next spring. The trickle charger will be attached as well to make sure that the clock continues to work during the long hibernation. Next spring, I am planning to actually bite the bullet and take my car off the road to tackle some much needed work to get the car ready for paint. The tin worm never sleeps and although my car doesn't suffer much in the way of rust, there are some spots which require attention and the paint is tired and dull. Diane and I plan on doing most of the work ourselves here at home so you'll be reading about it as we progress our ambitious little project in the months ahead.

Soon, most of us will be getting ready for the holiday season. For many, this is a happy time of the year, filled with get-togethers, parties and meals with friends and family, but that isn't the case for everyone. If you can, I encourage you to help those who are less fortunate.

Recently, I attended the 'Life Celebration' of long-time club member Roger DiCola in Montreal, and was informed of the poor health of a few other members and spouses. Just as winter arrives whether we like it or not, our aging membership is real. We welcome our younger members, and also the newer Alfas they drive. But, as a club

made up largely of older Alfa enthusiasts, we should remember to check in on our fellow Alfisti and make sure that they continue to enjoy our Alfa camaraderie.

Please keep sending me feedback, and also any photos, articles and ideas for the newsletter. We're always looking for your input.

Rev high!

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## ***ALFA expo17 ~ Banquet***

by Alex Csank, Vankleek Hill

Saturday night's annual convention banquet was, like most events at ALFA expo17, just a bit different. This was the first time that a convention banquet was conducted in two languages, and as a result, the usual guest speaker and a few other bits were either shortened, or eliminated in the interest of saving time.



*Photo by Maurizio Tacchi.*

Beginning with a Cocktail Hour, we admired the beautiful metallic orange Montreal and pearl white 8C Spider in the convention lobby. Eventually making our way to our tables, we joined with friends (old and new), fellow chapter members, those from far away, and with folks we

had not yet met. But wherever one sat, we were all assured to be in the company of fellow Alfisti.

Montréal's treasured Kimberley Beyea Trio entertained us with soft jazz music – mostly old standards – while we enjoyed our meal. A fresh salad was followed by a choice of prime rib of beef, mushroom stuffed chicken breast, or a tasty vegetarian creation, and finished with a Canada 150 themed red velvet cake, surprise chocolates donated by Baci and coffee or tea. During dinner, two large screens were filled with photos of our convention events, people and their cars taken by several attending photographers.

Once fed, we proceeded with the banquet necessities. ARCC president and convention chair Alex Sandor Csank thanked everyone for coming and also thanked the many volunteers who put the convention together, all of the sponsors, vendors and others who helped make sure that ALFA expo17 was ready to welcome its guests. He was assisted by the Montréal area club's president Jean-Michel Reysset, who took on the French translation duties. Alex presented his better half Diane Taylor with an autographed copy of Garth Stein's novel *The Art of Racing in the Rain* for all of her help and support in preparing for the convention (her favourite book), and Jean-Michel surprised Alex with a unique handmade GTV6 themed clock from Club Alfa Romeo de Montréal for his inspiration, enthusiasm and dedication, and for his work on organizing the convention.

Introducing and turning the podium over to AROC president Cindy Banzer, who surprised all attendees with her use of French in her introductory speech, she soon called upon AROC Legal Counsel George Pezold for the long-established tradition of calling to order the AROC Annual General Meeting. Once adjourned, following a long five or so minutes, Cindy presented the Char Sommers AROC Volunteer of the Year award to Doug Zaitz and a very special Honorary Lifetime Achievement Award to Andrea and David Hammond, as well as 25 year Membership Pins to Mike Bange and Tom Rossi. Afterwards, the convention planners for *Sempreverde 2018* from NWARC presented their plan for next year's convention in Olympia, Washington. It will be a terrific event, so begin your travel plans early!

The podium was then turned back over to Alex and Jean-Michel, who proceeded to announce the winners of the Art and Model Car Concorso, Time Trials, Gimmick Rally, and the Autocross. Each winner was presented with a trophy plaque to take home. Alex also presented the ARCC Friend

of the Year award to David Hammond, and Marc Faubert was awarded ARCC's Alfista of the Year. While Marc was collecting his award, Gordy Hyde presented Marc with a special gift from the grateful folks who really enjoyed Marc's Pre-Convention Voyageur tours. Alex also gave away some nice door prizes, including a quilted Alfa Romeo vest, a piece of photographic art by Daniel Choinière, and the grand prize, which was the gift of having the cost of convention hotel stay covered by the ALFA expo17 convention.



*Photo by Gordy Hyde.*

## ***ALFA expo17 ~ Art and Model Car Concorso***

**by Diane Taylor, Vankleek Hill**



*Photo by Brewster Thackeray.*

The ALFA expo17 Art and Model Car Concorso was held at the hotel inside the Goody Room. Entries were on display from Thursday through Saturday, and were judged on Saturday morning. Three prizes were awarded in the Art category and one was given for the Model Cars.

The winner of the Art first place prize was Chrystal Abhalter, of Kenosha, Wisconsin for her Alfa logo themed cushion. The hand stitching bordering the entire pillow spelled out Alfa. Very impressive! Second place went to Canadian Ian White of Toronto for his orange Montreal print and Brittany Spruill of Baton Rouge, Louisiana

placed third for her very Canadian print of a Montreal superimposed on a Maple Leaf.



*Photo by Bob Abhalter.*

In the Model Car Concorso George Chris of West Lebanon, New Hampshire took the prize with his 1931 6C 1750. His carefully detailed scale model was beautifully presented on a mirrored base. Nice finishing touch!



*Photo by George Chris.*

The awards were presented on Saturday evening at the convention banquet. Congratulations to our winners and thanks to everyone who participated.

## ***ALFA expo17 ~ Concorso***

**by Doug Zaitz, Portland OR**

Centered for several city blocks around Rue Dante and Rue Alma (Alfa?) in the heart of Montréal's Little Italy, Alfa expo17's Concorso was home to dozens of classic Italian automobiles on Sunday. Streets were alive with vendors, a large smoker and barbecue, restaurants with menus written with chalk in Italian, and one nearly block long Italian market appropriately named Milano.

Integrated this year with Montréal's largest annual Italian car festival, the Concorso featured Alfas, however, Fiats, Maseratis, Ferraris and Lancias filled the closed city streets and allowed visitors and enthusiasts alike to view the cars up close and talk with their owners.



*Photo by Alma Beston.*

All shapes, sizes and colors of Italian cars, and a few motorcycles too, from those of the 1950's to current models of Ferraris, Fiats, and Alfa 4Cs and Giulias were on view. Most cars were shown for pure enjoyment, unjudged and casually used. From Fiat Topolino and Autobianchi to a 1990 Alfa Zagato "Mostro" (Monster) and a tricked-out 155, there was just about one of everything to see.

Nineteen Alfas were entered into formal judging for AROC's prestigious Certificato d'Oro (Cd'O), an award based on correctness of the car, with emphasis on originality. With a judged score above 95 points, the car, not the owner, is awarded the certificate, which is only awarded once – though a car may be judged again for class awards. Two of the judged nineteen were awarded the Certificato d'Oro, with several other cars previously having been awarded their Cd'Os at earlier conventions.



*Photo by Daniel Choinière.*

With such a small field, four classes were created for ease of judging: Speciale (Montreals and 1900), Spiders, Bertone Coupes and Post-1976 Coupes. The featured model, the Montreal coupe, was the best represented in the four classes, with five judged cars and three others on display (when was the last time eight Montreals were in the same place in the New World?) GTV6 coupes were represented with four judged cars.



*Photo by Daniel Choinière.*

Twelve judges were present, easily identified by their red cowboy hats with maple leaf hatbands – very reminiscent of participating in the Calgary Stampede! Judges volunteer for this duty, bringing with them their personal expertise typically derived from personal ownership and familiarity of the models they judge. Properly restoring a car often renders the restorer an expert in that model!



*Five of our judges show off the uniform! Photo by Daniel Choinière.*

The judges, in teams of three, reviewed each automobile following a quick walk-around familiarization of the field. The review included a quick interview of the owner, where judges learned about the car and its condition and special features. Judges followed pre-printed forms as they inspected the car, noting issues, both detrimental and beneficial. They refer to AROC judging and scoring guidelines.

Once each car had been judged, the untallied scoring sheets were returned to the scoring officials – additional club volunteers using pre-programmed spreadsheets to complete accurate tallying of the scores. Depending upon the field of cars, up to three trophies were awarded in each judged class.

Amid cake, prosecco and celebration, several other AROC annual and periodic awards were presented at the completion of judging and scoring.

The Pat Braden People's Choice Award was presented to Vincent Rose of Montréal for his 1974 Bertone GTV coupe with its sliding sunroof, a feature that appealed to most. This award is presented in the honor of the late Pat Braden.

The Ed Mackey Award was presented to Glenn Drew of Rockville, MD for his 1959 Giulietta Spider, a previous Certificato d'Oro winner. This award is presented to the Giulietta that was driven to the convention and that participated in all moving events and Concorso, in the spirit of the late Ed Mackey.

The Best of Show Award was presented to Oliver Collins of Toronto for his strikingly beautiful red 1954 1900 CSS Touring coupe.



*Oliver's 1900 CSS. Photo by David Small.*

We owe many thanks to the twelve judges, the team of scoring officials, the organizers, the photographers, and mostly to the entrants, who worked especially hard to prepare their cars for display and our enjoyment.

#### **Concorso Awards**

**Best of Show** – Oliver Collins, Toronto, 1954 1900 CSS Touring

**Pat Braden People's Choice** – Vincent Rose, Montréal, 1974 GTV

**Ed Mackey Award** – Glenn Drew, Rockville MD, 1959 Giulietta Spider

#### **AROC-USA Certificato d'Oro**

**Robert Vadala**, Cresskill NJ, 1969 Spider 1300 Junior

**Oliver Collins**, Toronto, 1954 1900 CSS Touring

#### **Speciale Class**

**1st Place** – Val Herrera, Double Oak TX, 1971 Montreal

**2nd Place** – Paul Szamko, Newmarket ON, 1971 Montreal

#### **Spider Class**

**1st Place** – Glenn Drew, Rockville MD, 1959 Giulietta Spider

**2nd Place** – Robert Vadala, Cresskill NJ, 1969 Spider 1300 Junior

**3rd Place** – Albert Will, Yardley PA, 1966 Duetto

#### **Bertone Coupe Class**

**1st Place** – Marc Grenier, Ottawa ON, 1974 GTV

#### **Post-1976 Coupe Class**

**1st Place** – James Gifuni, Montréal QC, 1986 GTV6

**2nd Place** – Joe Rea, Montreal QC, 1985 GTV6

**3rd Place** – Salvatore Giampiccolo, Haworth NJ, 1982 GTV6 Balocco

## ***Toronto Fall Colours Tour***

**by Maurizio Tacchi, Mississauga**

Here are a few pictures of our annual Fall Colours Tour to Creemore. The event had to be cancelled due to inclement weather on our planned day but our rain date of October 21<sup>st</sup> turned out to be the nicest day in the whole month.



*We enjoyed a bright sunny day, warm enough to run with tops down! Photo by Maurizio Tacchi.*



*It's always great to see some new blood in the form of a 4C. Photo by Maurizio Tacchi.*

## Upcoming ARCC Events

Regional representatives are requested to send your 2017 events calendars to the secretary or the editor for inclusion in the next issue.

### Club Alfa Romeo de Montréal

Date	Time	Event
1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday	Monthly	Alfas & Espresso, LaSalle Alfa
April 23	10:00am	Springtime First Drive
May 7	9:00am	Montréal City Gimmick Rally
May 21	10:00am	Gatineau Hills Road Adventure with ARCO
June 10	1:00pm	Grand Prix BBQ
June 11	12:00pm	Veteran's Hospital Tribute
June 17		Italian Car Parade in Ottawa
July 13-16		<b>ALFA expo17 Convention</b>
July 16	9:00am	Fiat Breakout
August 13	9:00am	Drive with Scuderia Alfa Romeo
September 9-10		Overnight Road Trip
September 24	10:00am	Radunno Montebello
October 14	9:00am	Autumn Leaves Tour
November 25	2:00pm	Holiday Party

### Alfa Romeo Club - Ottawa

Date	Time	Event
May 21	10:00am	Gatineau Hills Road Adventure with CARM
June 17		Italian Car Parade in Ottawa
July 13-16		<b>ALFA expo17 Convention</b>
September 24		Radunno Montebello

## Alfa Romeo Club of Canada

### National Executive

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## Alfa Romeo Club of Edmonton

Date	Time	Event
July 13-16		<b>ALFA expo17 Convention</b>

## Calgary Alfa Marque Society

Date	Time	Event
July 13-16		<b>ALFA expo17 Convention</b>

## Toronto Chapter

Date	Time	Event
1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday	Monthly	Cruise Night, La Paloma
April 5	7:00pm	AGM
April 22	10:00am	Auto Detailing Seminar
May 7	9:00am	Go-kart event, Downsview
May 22	9:00am	Victoria Day Pancake Drive
June 4	TBD	Member Appreciation BBQ
June 16-18	TBD	Vintage Festival, Mosport
June 25	10:00am	Rattlesnake Run
July 9	10:00am	Sun Collision Event
July 13-16		<b>ALFA expo17 Convention</b>
August 13	9:00am	Italian Car Day, Woodbridge
August 27	10:00am	Italian Gathering, Forks of the Credit
September 17	10:00am	Drive & Wine Tour, Niagara
September 24		Radunno Montebello
October 15	9:00am	Fall Colours Drive
November 25	6:00pm	Holiday Dinner Party

### Club mail

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