



# ARCC UPDATE

September 2009

## Toronto GTV Get-Together

by George Beston, Cobourg

Pictures probably say it better than words ever could. A few GTV owners declared August 30th as a day when they would get together for a drive consisting only of GTVs. The weather wasn't the brightest, but it didn't stop the group from enjoying their cars.



*On the road together. Photo by Jon Finkelstein.*



*The rendezvous. Photo by Jon Finkelstein.*



*Taking a break along a forest road. Photo by Jon Finkelstein.*



*Above and below are two of the many portrait-style pictures taken by Jon. In this case, Ian White's GT Jr., made famous by that XM satellite radio ad on TV a few years ago. Photos by Jon Finkelstein.*



## Alberta Bentley Road Trip

by Mark Willis, Calgary

On September 13th, the Calgary Alfa Marque Society (CAMS) met the Alfa Club of Edmonton (ACE) half-way between the two cities for lunch. We had eight cars altogether; four cars from Calgary of which only two were Alfas and four Alfas from Edmonton. In addition, Jack Thompson and his wife showed up with their camper because they were in the area. We had a very nice lunch at the Monkey Top Saloon in Bentley, Alberta, just north west of Red Deer near Gull Lake and had an opportunity to admire each other's cars.



Photo by Mark Willis.

One of the Calgary cars (not mine) was a beautiful Dutch Blue 1971 Spider which had just come out of the garage after an eight year long restoration. It was a beautiful day with a temperature of 27°C, and some of the poplar trees were starting to turn colour.



The lunch crowd at the Monkey Top Saloon. Photo by Mark Willis.

## Targa Newfoundland Prep

by Adam DiCarlo, Toronto

*Editor's note: Adam and his co-driver participated in the 2008 Targa Newfoundland. Lots of information was available about this on last year's Targa Newfoundland website and Adam has posted videos and some other information on our [alfcaclub.ca](http://alfcaclub.ca) site. He volunteered to contribute this article for the Update so we could gain some understanding of the effort required to prepare for the event. I hope this inspires somebody out there to take on the event in the future!*



Touring class was the best choice for Team Fratelli Pazzeschi for a number of reasons. My 1750 GTV is very original and I wouldn't want to put a roll cage in it. My goal is to preserve it, while driving it. I own this Alfa Romeo because it is such a joy to drive and look at. I have always used my GTV as I think it was designed to be driven; Touring provided the opportunity to drive it quickly on some great (and not so great) roads, plus show off what I think is a landmark automotive design. It helps that Alfa Romeo has a long history in racing and the original Targa event in Sicily.



Photo by Adam DiCarlo.

In retrospect, the car was well prepared for the event, but we – the humans – could have prepared ourselves a bit better!

Car preparation consisted of:

- Rebuild of the entire suspension (all bushings, shocks).
- New brake booster.
- Fluid and filter change.
- Getting the heater valve to work (we wanted to be able to clear the windshield if it was damp).

- New tires and refurbishing the original steel wheels. I went to what was close to the original profile tires (75) so that we had a bit more ground clearance. Also, the car handles a lot more like it was intended to with the skinnier taller tires and made the town sections of Targa a real hoot with some four wheel drifting.
- Locating and installing a correct fire extinguisher.
- Devising an in-car camera mount.
- Determining the optimal layout and producing the stickers for the sponsors, putting them on. There is a video of us applying them at our send off in Toronto at [www.alfaclub.ca](http://www.alfaclub.ca).
- Designing and producing the flyer for hand outs at car shows. I really liked the results of our cut out model of the car that was part of our flyer.

Reflecting on the time for car prep, I would say we spent 5-7 days going over the list of required items, gathering or buying the parts and getting them installed or secured in the car. Even things like locating three triangles, first aid kits and sorting the tools we thought we would need took a bunch of time. We had to figure out if our insurance would cover the event (I have special classic car insurance for the Alfa), and I spent time looking at the rules and on the phone with Targa personnel to determine where we could put our sponsors' logos. Spread this time out over 6 weeks or so and you were doing something to prep for Targa every day!

The heavier work of rebuilding the suspension and going over all of the vital systems was left to Pinarello Motori in Toronto. They did a great job, including supporting us over the phone when we had our fuel pump issue the day before the Prologue. This work was completed over a three week period and parts cost about \$2,000.

I would have to say that the prep for Targa was minimized since I have repaired or replaced items on the Alfa every year for most of the thirteen years I have owned it. In short, it was in pretty good shape before we decided to go to Targa which made things a whole lot easier. I don't believe in deferred maintenance.

So overall, we kept costs down by doing things ourselves where possible, trading services (we got the labour in exchange for the sponsorship with Pinarello Motori) and driving the Alfa from Toronto to Newfoundland and back. Further savings were realized since Jeff booked all of the accommodation himself and in most cases we were closer to the arenas for the car shows than the other Targa participants. How is that for grassroots power!



*Jeff, Adam and the GTV just prior to departure.*

Driver and Navigator preparation consisted of participating in 2 TSD rallies in Ontario. In the first event we finished last with 13 penalty minutes. In the second we finished second last with 12 penalty minutes! So finishing with 6:17 penalties over 5 days is better, with lots more room for improvement.

School of hard knocks! The two rallies we participated in were nowhere near enough prep! We spent hours converting from kilometres to miles, getting the odometer conversion factor right, and doing the calculations for the splits. We started by using the actual time (via a quartz clock synchronized with the rally clock) for splits and final times – this was brutal when we did not go off in the preset starting order, or at the right time since Jeff had to re-do the calculations adding minutes and sometimes 30 seconds at the start of a run! We eventually switched to a stop watch which made things easier for Jeff. Had we known before hand, we would have gone with stop watches from the beginning! In conclusion, I would agree that Touring is very accessible and is the lowest cost way of participating in Targa. My smile was no smaller than those on the faces of the Targa drivers!



*Photo by Jerry Curtis. [www.pbase.com/icicle50](http://www.pbase.com/icicle50)*

## Upcoming ARCC Events

### Alfa Romeo Club of Edmonton

Date	Time	Event
June 10	TBD	Wetaskawin
June 27	TBD	Porsche meet
July 14-19	TBD	AROC Convention
August 10	TBD	Rock'n August
August 29	TBD	Concours
September 21	TBD	Fall Colours Run
November	TBD	Italian Dinner
Dec. 13	TBD	Tree Hunt

### Ottawa Chapter

Date	Time	Event
June 8	7 pm	Pub Night – Pub Italia
June 20	9:30 am	Italian Week parade
June 25	7 pm	Tech Session
July 1	10 am	Italian Car Show
July 14-19	TBD	AROC Convention
July TBD	TBD	Summer BBQ event
Aug.10	7 pm	Pub Night – The Swan
Aug.15 or 16	TBD	Beau's Brewery
September 13	TBD	Drive to Calabogie
September 19-20	TBD	Drive to Algonquin
October 17	TBD	Italian Car Christening Party
November 7	7:30 pm	28 <sup>th</sup> Annual Pot Luck

### Toronto Chapter

Date	Time	Event
May 10	TBD	Sunday Drive
May 30	10:30 am	Restoration Shop Tour Legendary Motor Cars
June 4	7 pm	Cruise Night La Paloma
June 21	TBD	Vintage Festival/Drive
July 2	7 pm	Cruise Night La Paloma
July 5	TBD	Sunday Drive
July 14-19	TBD	AROC Convention
July 19	TBD	Summer Wine Tour
August 6	7 pm	Cruise Night La Paloma
August 9	TBD	Sunday Drive
August 16	TBD	Picnic, BBQ
September 3	7 pm	Cruise Night La Paloma
September 27	8:30 am	Europa Rally
October 1	TBD	Cruise Night La Paloma
November 4	TBD	Director's Meeting & Pub Night
December 5	TBD	Holiday Dinner Marino's Restaurant
Feb 27, 2010	9:30 am	Directors Meeting

### Calgary Alfa Marque Society

Date	Time	Event
May 2	TBD	Drive to Nanton RCAF Museum Tour
May TBD	TBD	Garage Tour
June 6	TBD	3 Hills car show
June 27	TBD	Drive to Gleichen Blackfoot Museum Tour
July 11	TBD	Stampede Breakfast & Alfa Car Show TBC
July 14-19	TBD	AROC Convention
July 18	TBD	European Car Show, Stanley Park
July 25	TBD	Drive to Canmore via Hwy 1A
August 1	8:30am	Local meet & coffee
August 22	TBD	Drive to Chain Lakes & Picnic
September 10	7 pm	Parking lot meeting
September 26	TBD	High River Car Show

## Alfa Romeo Club of Canada

### National Executive

Read Collacott	President	(613) 489-3192
Harry Hamilton	Western VP	(403) 463-2235
Tony Adams	Eastern VP	(416) 222-2406
Jack Thompson	Past President	(780) 481-1708
George Beston	Treasurer	(905) 372-3552
Christine Pickering	Secretary	(416) 498-6553
	Messages	(416) 499-7129
	Fax	(416) 499-4517

### Regional Contacts

Don Best	Vancouver	(604) 939-5056
Mark Willis	Calgary	(403) 668-0379
Chesley Wells	Edmonton	(403) 963-9199
Anthony Tersigni	Toronto	(905) 918-0457
Jack Livingstone	Ottawa	(613) 232-6335
Yves Boulanger	Montréal	(450) 692-7478

### ARCC Update

Editor:	George Beston
Telephone:	(905) 372-3552
E-Mail:	<a href="mailto:gbeston@eagle.ca">gbeston@eagle.ca</a>

### ARCC On-Line

Our Website:	<a href="http://www.alfaclub.ca">http://www.alfaclub.ca</a>
Webmaster:	Adam Di Carlo
E-Mail:	<a href="mailto:dicarlo_adam@hotmail.com">dicarlo_adam@hotmail.com</a>