



ARCC UPDATE

July 2018

President's Letter

by Alex Csank, Vankleek Hill

Fellow Alfisti,

Personal Ramblings

I'm writing this month's letter in the middle of our first real heat wave of 2018, getting ready to celebrate Canada Day. I'm not a big fan of the really hot weather so I'm lucky that we have central air in our home. This weekend, the temperature is destined to climb into the upper 30's and will feel even warmer; I just wish I had a nice Alfa Romeo Spider to take out for a spin with the top down right now. Diane and I have been looking at a few Spiders, but I will need to sell my GTV6 – or trade it for a Spider – in order to have the room to park all the transportation devices (OK ... Toys!) in my driveway and garage. Last month, I wrote about automatic Spiders. I am still considering that option. However, there's a nice fellow in the Ottawa area, who owns more than a few cars, and who may be willing to trade me a very nice 92 Spider with a 5-speed for my GTV6. There's also a very nice automatic 91 Spider in the South Shore area of Montréal for sale.



Hmmm. A newer spider with Webers! I'll bet the sound is the biggest improvement. Photo by Alex Csank.

Decisions, decisions, decisions! Of course, either way I have to work out the details, but who knows what the future may bring?

Road Trip

Diane and I enjoyed a fun little road trip last week. We hopped into the Abarth and headed west to visit our friends David and Andrea Hammond in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, just a little bit north of Detroit. Dave and Andrea have been heavily involved in the Alfa community for a very long time. Dave is the immediate Past-President of AROC USA, does a lot of the editorial work for the club's Alfa Owner magazine, and has been its Convention Advisor for many years. He is also currently the President of the Detroit area chapter of AROC USA, and I've known Dave and Andrea for almost 20 years now. They are also long time ARCC members, and I'm sure that many of you know them both very well. They sure played wonderful hosts, and Diane and I enjoyed not only their hospitality, but also got to see just a small sampling of all the wonders of Motor City. Their guidance and gifted abilities as tour guides allowed us to appreciate some of the impressive architecture and history of Detroit.



Blending in! Photo by Diane Taylor.

There is just no way that one can really get to visit all the wonders in the area on a short visit like ours. It would truly take a good week (at least!) to really visit the vast number of

attractions, museums and other noteworthy places. But it sure was one terrific long weekend! Thanks Dave and Andrea! Now you'll have to come up here and stay with us!

Conventions

Most of you will remember that last summer, we (CARM and ARCC) hosted a little party called ALFA expo17 in Montréal. That was the International Alfa Romeo Owners Club convention, which included lots of participation from all over the USA and Canada, with even a few participants from overseas. We have finally tallied up and paid all the taxes and bills, and received the "all clear" from the CRA and the folks from Revenue Québec. Fortunately, we were in the black. We then took care of sharing a portion of the profits – as specified in our convention contract – with our friends from the Alfa Romeo Owners Club USA, who helped make the convention such a success. In the end, we added a healthy chunk of change (over \$5000) to our club account balance on behalf of our Montréal chapter, Club Alfa Romeo de Montréal (CARM). This money will be used to benefit the members through subsidized club events, purchases to support the needs of members, and other approved expenditures. Thank you to everyone who participated in the convention by attending, volunteering or helping out in some other way. Both of our Canadian run Alfa Romeo conventions (Toronto in 2012, and Montréal in 2017) were resoundingly successful and enjoyed by those who attended. We don't have to host another for a long while, but I'm sure that we will eventually do it again.

Speaking of conventions, the annual AROC USA convention, called *sempreverde 2018* is about to take place in Olympia, Washington. That's about halfway between Portland, Oregon and Seattle, Washington. The dates are August 8 to 12. If you can make it there, I'm sure it will be fun! Next year, the annual convention will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania hosted by the Three Rivers Alfa Romeo Club. It will take place around the same time as the Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix weekend, and promises to be a great event. Pittsburgh is just over 500 kms south of Toronto by road, so it will be easy to access for many of our members.

As always, please keep sending your feedback. George Beston is always looking for our input for upcoming editions.

Rev high!

Alex (514) 771-9513

alfaromeodriveralex@gmail.com

Vintage Festival 2018

by George Beston, Cobourg

Our drive to the track (CTMP, aka Mosport) enjoyed the benefit of a bright and warm morning. The selected route involved a balance of efficiency and scenery. If anyone else wants to explore the countryside between Toronto and CTMP this is a good way to do it:

- East on Sheppard Ave past Morningside
- Turn left onto Twyn Rivers Drive
- Twyn Rivers to Altona Road
- Altona Rd. north to Taunton Road
- Taunton Rd. west to York Durham Line
- York Durham Line north to Highway 7
- Hwy 7 east to Lakeridge Road
- Lakeridge Rd. north to Myrtle Road
- Myrtle Rd. becomes Raglan Rd. at Simcoe St.
- Raglan Rd. east to tee at Townline Rd.
- Townline Rd. south to Concession Rd. 9
- Concession Rd. 9 east through Enfield
- Conc. Rd. 9 becomes Durham Rd. 20 as it crosses Durham Rd. 57
- Continue on Durham Road 20 to CTMP

Concession 9 provides a spectacular view south towards Lake Ontario from the height of the Oak Ridges Moraine.

Upon arrival at Mosport there was one glitch. The promise of a \$20 per car entry fee was not honoured initially, but our Sue Ferguson set them straight and got a refund.

The "Field of Dreams" show was reasonably well attended with a variety of interesting cars present. We ended up with only six Alfas there, but it was enough to make our presence felt.



Ian White's GT Jr. and Brad Fischer's GTV stood out from the crowd. Photo by George Beston.

Enough of the *Poseurs Perspective*. What follows is coverage from someone who participates in these races!

Canadian Historic Grand Prix

by Christopher Creighton, Mitchell

The annual Canadian Historic Grand Prix is traditionally the highlight of the VARAC racing season and this year was no exception. There were almost 300 cars entered – the largest field in many years.

Alfa Romeo also had a strong showing with four cars entered in the Vintage/Historic Big Bore grid. Vytas Svedas was there with his still-in-development 1971 1750 Berlina. Vytas chased gremlins all weekend and although he failed to finish a race, the car left the track considerably more refined than it was when he arrived.



Vytas Svedas' Berlina. Photo by Richard Coburn.

Vytas' friend, Kevin Corrigan came all the way from Waterford, Michigan to play and unveiled his latest improvement, a twin spark head from an Alfa 155 mated to his 2 litre Nord block. The 155's twin spark head is a four valve per cylinder design. The argument for using it in SCCA Vintage racing is that it closely resembles a GTAm cylinder head used back in the day.

Through a lot of clever fettling, Kevin managed to make everything align and work properly and the car was very quick, putting in a 1:39.7 lap in the Sunday morning race.



Kevin Corrigan's GT. Photo by Richard Coburn.

Joe Cannella was there with his impeccably prepared 1969 GTV and was very fast, as usual. Unfortunately, he and Kevin had a slight coming-

together in turn 5 (Moss Corner) in the Sunday morning race and both retired. Apparently the no-contact team orders weren't as clear as they could have been. Kevin has attended the CHGP twice and both times he's left the track with body damage!

The final Alfa was Fil, my 1972 GTV. Although Fil has had the least engine development of the group (essentially a stock 2 litre with Motronic pistons and 45mm Webers), he was the only Alfa in our paddock to finish all six sessions and he ran perfectly all weekend (even if my driving could have used a bit more tuning). This was a nice result after having virtually no race time at last year's event due to a profound misfire. What a difference a year makes!



Author's GTV. Photo by Richard Coburn.

Our fellow Alfista and honorary paddock mate, Steve Hamann (he races a Lotus but his summer car is an Alfa Spider) had a very frightening incident on Saturday morning when he had an off-course excursion at Turn 2, clipped the wall on the outside of the corner and then spun back across the track where he was T-boned by a Camaro on the passenger side. This resulted in a serious but non life-threatening injury to Steve, three days in hospital and major damage to his Europa.

As we are now well aware, Formula 5000 driver Jeff Green was killed on the Saturday when his car left the track in turn 8 and struck the tire wall. Needless to say, this event cast a pall on the remainder of the weekend. Our thoughts are with Jeff's family at this difficult time.

The members of the Alfa Dogs team look forward to the remainder of the racing season with anticipation and excitement. As any racer will tell you "a day of racing is pretty much as good as it gets".

Thanks Fil!

Upcoming ARCC Events

Regional representatives are requested to send your 2018 events calendars to the secretary or the editor for inclusion in the next issue.

Club Alfa Romeo de Montréal

Date	Event
May 20	Lunch with Scuderia Alfa Romeo Québec
June 2	Espresso, Biscotti and Waterside Drive
June 9	Grand Prix BBQ
June 10	Veterans' Salute
June 16	Italian Car Parade in Ottawa
July 6	Tre Colori Dinner
July 8	Fiat Breakout
July 20-22	Raduno Estivo, Kingston
August 8-12	Sempreverde 2018 , AROC Convention, Olympia WA
August 18	Road Adventure with ARCO
September 1	Espresso, Biscotti
September 8	Drive and Supper in Bromont
September 30	Raduno Montebello
October 6	Espresso, Biscotti
October 13	Fall Colours Drive, Oka Hills
November 24	Year End Dinner

Alfa Romeo Club - Ottawa

Date	Event
May 19	Stelvio Test Drive and BBQ
June 16	Ottawa Italian Car Parade
July 20-22	Raduno Estivo, Kingston
August 8-12	Sempreverde 2018 , AROC Convention Olympia WA
August 19	Gatineau Hills Drive
September 30	Raduno Montebello
October 13	End of Season Drive and BBQ

Alfa Romeo Club of Canada

National Executive

Alex Csank	President	(514) 771-9513	alfaromeodriveralex@gmail.com
Mark Willis	Western VP	(403) 668-0379	alfa.calgary@gmail.com
Maurizio Tacchi	Eastern VP	(905) 607-3169	cvyz@bell.net
George Beston	Treasurer	(905) 375-8736	gbeston@eagle.ca
Christine Pickering	Secretary	(416) 402-5985	christine.pickering@gmail.com

Regional Contacts

Don Best	BC	(604) 939-5056	dlbest@telus.net
Bob Merchant	AB,SK,MB	(403) 244-9150	rmerchant@shaw.ca
Jack Livingstone	ON	(613) 232-6335	alfa190@excite.com
Yves Boulanger	QC	(450) 692-7478	ro.yvesliet@oricom.ca
Daniel Nicholes	NB,NS,PE,NL	(506) 459-0282	drnicholes@yahoo.com

Local Club Contact

Don Best	Vancouver	(604) 939-5056	dlbest@telus.net
Mark Willis	Calgary	(403) 668-0379	alfa.calgary@gmail.com
Chesley Wells	Edmonton	(403) 963-9199	clwells@cruzinternet.com
Frank Scalisi	Toronto	(416) 723-1419	franks1269@yahoo.ca
Marc Faubert	Ottawa	(819) 775-0632	shiraz1965@gmail.com
Jean-Michel Reysset	Montréal	(514) 219-5358	jmreysset@hotmail.com

Alfa Romeo Club of Edmonton

Date	Event
Second Tuesday	Monthly Meeting
April 17	Drive at Fast Track
May 12	Tech Session, Up Your Hoist
August 8-12	Sempreverde 2018 , AROC Convention, Olympia WA

Calgary Alfa Marque Society

Date	Event
August 8-12	Sempreverde 2018 , AROC Convention, Olympia WA

Toronto Chapter

Date	Event
May 6	Go Karts, Downsview
May 21	Pancake Run, Cookstown
June 3	Rattlesnake Point Run
June 17	Tour to VARAC Vintage Festival
July 8	Sun Collision BBQ, St Catherines
July 20-22	Raduno Estivo, Kingston
July 29	J Bird's Spider in the Garden, Ancaster
August 8-12	Sempreverde 2018 , AROC Convention, Olympia WA
August 12	Italian Car Day , Woodbridge
August 26	Fiats on the Forks, Forks of the Credit
September 9	Niagara Wine Tour
September 30	Raduno Montebello
October 14	Fall Colours Drive, Creemore
November 24	Holiday Dinner

First Saturday of every month – Espresso and Biscotti at Des Sources Alfa Romeo in Montréal.

First Tuesday of every month – drop in Cruise Night at La Paloma in Woodbridge.

Club mail

Alfa Romeo Club of Canada
P.O. Box 62, Station Q
Toronto
Ontario M4T 2L7
Canada

ARCC Update

Editor George Beston
(905) 375-8736
gbeston@eagle.ca

ARCC On Line

Website <http://www.alfaclub.ca>
Webmaster John Pickering
webmaster@alfaclub.ca
Facebook
[Alfa-Romeo-Club-of-Canada-ARCC](https://www.facebook.com/Alfa-Romeo-Club-of-Canada-ARCC)