



ARCC UPDATE

October 2018

President's Letter

by Alex Csank, Vankleek Hill

Hi folks,

Once again, our short but very busy Canadian Alfa driving season is coming to a close. As the days get ever shorter and the leaves and temperatures fall, we all go through that very Canadian ritual of getting ready for another winter. But the autumn is a wonderful season, filled with a rainbow of changing colours on the foliage and trees, harvesting, Thanksgiving, Halloween, and – of course – the annual autumn driving tours and personal road trips most of us truly enjoy. Our clubs in Toronto, Ottawa and Montréal each have driving tours scheduled for the weekend after Thanksgiving. As I write this letter, I am doing the final planning for CARM's *Autumn Leaves Tour*, which will be the last CARM driving event for the 2018 season. Hopefully, our clubs will send photos and articles about these events so that George Beston can publish them in next month's ARCC Update. I hope you all get out and enjoy the colours, and that the weather is good for your drives.

By early November, most of us (or at least those with older Alfas and probably anyone with a 4C) will have put our little Italian beauties into hibernation for the winter. In fact, our folks in Calgary and Edmonton have already seen heavy snowfall that came early this year. But for those with AWD Giulias and Stelvios, the fun continues ... just remember to put on some good snow and ice tires.

Raduno Montebello

On a cool and cloudy Sunday, September 30th, members of many Italian Car clubs (and a few other folks) from the Montréal, Ottawa and Toronto areas once again displayed their beautiful cars on the peninsula at Château Montebello. This Québec landmark, in the picturesque countryside along the banks of the Ottawa River east of Ottawa is the location of the

annual AMICI *Raduno Montebello*. As always, there was plenty of gorgeous Italian eye candy on display, and also a handful of vintage French and German cars.



A new Giulia flanked by ancestors at Raduno Montebello. Photo by Alex Csank.

Inside the Château, many attendees took advantage of the terrific Buffet Brunch offered by the hotel. Some members of ARCO, CARM and Montréal's FARQ clubs left a bit early to drive to a quiet park in Plaisance, Québec for a picnic at a beach on the banks of the river. If you have never been to Château Montebello, or to the annual *Raduno*, you really should plan to visit. It's a beautiful hotel, and the event is always a memorable experience.



4Cs at Raduno Montebello. Photo by Alex Csank.

November Events

November is usually used by most clubs as a time to get together for a *Holiday Dinner* to mark the end of another year of club activities. Getting

together over a good meal and a few beverages is a great way to spend a cool evening. Please enjoy your local get-together!

On Sunday November 4th, AMICI (Associazione Motori Italiani Canada Insieme), the association of Italian car clubs of Canada (mostly from Montréal, Ottawa and Toronto) will be holding its annual meeting in (or near) Kingston to coordinate club events for the 2019 driving season. As an ARCC member, you are welcome to join us for the meeting. If you plan to attend, please let me and your local club's President know so that I can reserve a seat for you at our 'restaurant lunch' (pay-as-you-go).

Please keep sending me feedback, and also any photos, articles and ideas for the newsletter. George Beston is always looking for your input.

Rev high!

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The HalfaBURTON Tour

by Sue Ferguson and Gord Zimmerman

Nine Alfas met on Friday, September 14th at the McDonalds at Highway 115 and County Road 3 near Newcastle for a three-day driving adventure into the Haliburton Highlands where we experienced hot sunny weather, great roads and the best of companionship. The trees were only beginning to show colour but beckoned a second run on the roads later in the fall. The Alfas ranged from a 1954 1900 to a 1998 Spider – six Spiders & two GTVs which made an impressive line of cars on the roads.



Chilling out after lunch. Photo by Gord Zimmerman.

Day One saw the crews head north via Bethany's Ski Hill Road, stopping briefly to view the Buddha at the entrance to the new Buddhist Centre, then onward to downtown Bobcaygeon for

lunch. During the break we sat by the Trent Seven Lock, shopped for shoes at Bigley's and toured the town.

After lunch we drove towards Buckhorn and took 507 to Gooderham. This is one of the premiere driving roads in Ontario with its forty kilometres of challenging twists, hills and turns.



Photo-op at Lake Gooderham. Photo by George Beston.

After a photo-op in Gooderham by the lake we drove the hilly and twisty 503 to Haliburton, another great Alfa driving road. The evening saw us settled in at the Pinestone Inn where car conversation broke out and new and old friendships were fostered.

Saturday was the longest drive of the weekend at 350 km but once again over great road surfaces with no traffic, other than a line of Alfas. Passing lakes, rock cuts and tree vistas were the menu for the day. Highway 118 out of Haliburton, the Loop Line, Baptiste Lake Road and then Birds Creek brought us to Highway 62 North to Maynooth where we stopped for a break and enjoyed the local farmers' market. At Maple Leaf we cut onto the Boulter Road which provided great driving experiences, tree canopies, twists and turns and a bit of wildlife.

At Combermere we turned north again to Barry's Bay where we stopped for lunch at the Ashgrove Inn and were met by the hospitable owner. Who would have thought that sitting on the deck for lunch overlooking Kaminiseg Lake would be so hot in September? The lucky ones among us had shade umbrellas at their table.

After lunch our drive proceeded at a leisurely pace with a few quick paced curvy sections added to the mix when the roads allowed. We then headed south on the Madawaska Rd. towards Maynooth passing lakes, hills and swamps and once again on great road surfaces.

The final leg towards Haliburton took us on the Peterson Road which skirted the southern reaches of Algonquin Park past Elephant Lake and onto the western side of the Loop line into Wilberforce where we took the Essonville Line to 118 past Loon Lake and back to the hotel. Once

again a delightful evening of car conversation and discussion of the drive. Only 2 stoplights on the route and both were in Haliburton.



Taking a break along Elephant Lake. Photo by Lucie Collins.

Our final day saw us heading west on 118 towards 35 and north. We did have a breakdown here when Frank's '74 Spider had an oil seal failure so we waited on the roadside north of Carnarvon for a tow truck to come to the rescue. Luckily we had one car with us with an adequate back seat so he and Maria were able to continue with the group even though his car went home. North towards Dorset on beautiful roads past rocks, lakes & trees where we turned onto the 117 heading towards Bracebridge. Still no traffic. A brief stop on a private road before our lunch break allowed for a great final group shot.



Wagonmaster Gord at left of gang. Photo by Lucie Collins.



Alfas lined up in front of Rende Italian Eatery in Bracebridge. Photo by Lucie Collins.

Rende Eatery in Bracebridge, a small Italian restaurant, was our final destination where the

owner had kept space on the street for the Alfas to park. He was quite excited about our arrival, as was his son, and couldn't take enough pictures.

After lunch the tour dispersed as cars headed to Highway 11 – car traffic shock – and then home. All in all, a successful weekend with great people, great cars, great pictures, great memories and the opportunity to see a beautiful part of our great Province. "Ontario – Yours to Discover" as it says on the licence plates. Hope this can be repeated next year with as much fun.

Thanks to Frank & Maria Scalisi (1974 Spider), Maurizio & Nancy Tacchi (1974 Spider), Pat & Monica Iamundi (1997 GTV), Ian & Pat White (GTV Jr), George & Alma Beston (1970 Spider Jr), Oliver & Lucie Collins (1954 1900), Steve & Amanda Polley (1991 Spider), Eugenio & Angela Bortoluzzi (1988 Spider), Eric & Linda Edwards (Hyundai chase car, their 1991 Spider didn't make it) for coming on this adventure.

Rock Auto Bloopers

from the August Rock Auto newsletter

Back in the '90s, I was a lead tech in an Alfa Romeo/Saab dealership. A customer brought in an '88 Alfa Spider with a complaint that the car lost power when making left turns. After driving the car several times while taking note of the concern, I formulated a diagnostic plan. I went back to the shop and installed a fuel pressure gauge and my digital multi-meter to monitor supply voltage to the ECM.

We had a service drive entrance at the back of the shop that had a left-hand turn in it. I found this to be the perfect place to perform my test drives to replicate the problem. I would repeatedly drive the same route changing test points with my multi-meter to try to isolate the problem. The final time I rounded the turn, I looked down to watch the meter, and when I looked up ... a co-worker was driving into the shop from the opposite direction. By the time I buried the brake pedal to the floor, I had also managed to bury the nose of the Spider into the Chrysler K-car she was driving.

Despite the considerable damage caused by the impact to the car (and my ego), that accident helped solve the drivability problem! The impact caused the battery to break free from its mounting and sever the poor ground causing the fault. Over my years as a technician, I have grown fond of the taste of humble pie!

David in Idaho

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

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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

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