



# ARCC UPDATE

November 2018

## *President's Letter*

by Alex Csank, Vankleek Hill

Alfisti,

Here we are at the beginning of another season for winter tires, shovels, snow blowers and cold weather. The beautiful flame coloured leaves have gradually made their way to the ground, we have crossed over into Standard Time (well, most of us anyway) and the daylight hours are getting shorter every day. Some of you, with new Giulias and Stelvios (with the benefits of AWD) will probably be driving your cars in the snow, while the bulk of us with 4Cs and older Alfas will just have to drive other vehicles until spring arrives. I would love to hear your stories about driving the new Giulia or Stelvio in the snow and ice! If you are doing that this winter, please write us about your experience!

A few days ago Diane and I made room at the back of the garage for Sofia, our '91 Spider, and parked her as close as I could to the far wall and to the right to allow for us to have more room to move. I'll be doing a few things to keep the rodents away, fill up the tank, clean out the trunk, and hook up the trickle charger, and then Sofia will be put to bed for the duration.

### *AMICI Meeting*

On a sunny Sunday, the 4th of November, the AMICI association (*Associazione Motori Italiani Canada Insieme*), comprised of most of the Italian Car clubs from Montréal, Ottawa and Toronto areas met for our annual planning meeting to recap our club events from 2018, and to discuss and coordinate our calendars for 2019. We hold these annual meetings in Kingston, as it is a convenient location to have a meeting with representatives from each of the three major metropolitan areas in the region. To quickly summarize the meeting results, what follows are the main points.

This was a successful year for our member clubs. The shared AMICI events were very well

attended. But it was a challenge to avoid all date conflicts as some events planned by member organizations took place on the same dates. There are only so many summer weekends! We will work at better calendar planning for 2019 and beyond.



*At least some of us knew how to arrive in style!  
Photo by Diane Taylor.*

For the first time, the annual *ARCC Raduno Estivo* was opened up to other AMICI clubs. The event was a success, and it was agreed that we would continue in the same way for 2019.



*Alex presents cheque to Project Trauma Support.  
Photo by Diane Taylor.*

We even had some funds left over after all the *Raduno Estivo* bills were paid. As a result, AMICI made a donation of \$1,000 to Project Trauma Support in Perth. This program benefits veterans, military members, first responders and corrections officers who suffer from PTSD. Diane and I were able to visit Dr. Manuela Joannou, the

creator of this program, and hand over a cheque on our way home from the AMICI meeting.

Next year, the *Raduno* will be held in new locations and the activities will be changed so that even returning participants will have new experiences. Stay tuned for more details!

This is the provisional AMICI calendar 2019 (all events are subject to change):

**14-16 June** – 37th Annual Ottawa Italian Festival, Italian Car Parade and Ferrari Festival, Preston Street, Ottawa. The Italian Car Parade takes place on Saturday, 15 June.

**14 July** – FIAT Breakout (Hosted by the Fiat Club of Montréal). Little Italy (Dante street), Montreal.

**26-28 July** – 6th Annual *Raduno Estivo*. Kingston area. Details will be published in upcoming ARCC Updates.

**11 August** – 9th Annual Italian Car Day (in support of Safehaven), Boyd Conversation Area, Woodbridge.

**29 September** – Raduno Montebello. Chateau Montebello, Montebello Québec. (Car show and Brunch)

Soon, most of us will be getting ready for the busy holiday season. Remember that although for most of us this is a season filled with parties and meals with friends and family, that isn't the case for everyone. If you can, I encourage you to help those who are less fortunate.

As always, 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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## ***Toronto Fall Colour Tour***

**by Maurizio Tacchi, Mississauga**

October 14 saw the Alfa Romeo Club of Toronto enjoy the last event of the 2018 season with a drive to enjoy the changing colours of the season.

Joining us on the drive were members of the Ontario Fiat Club. The participants met in downtown Bolton and all together we had a total of twenty-seven cars. Temperature was in the low teens but the day was sunny so a few of us hardy souls had our convertible tops open for the final outing.



*At the start in Bolton. Photo by Maurizio Tacchi.*

The drive took us through the Caledon Hills to Hockley Valley, winding our way north towards Creemore and finally to Singhampton where the group enjoyed lunch at Mylar & Loreta's restaurant. A great way to end the 2018 season.



*Ian White working on his GT Jr's brake light switch. We've all been there! Photo by Maurizio Tacchi.*

## ***Montréal Area Autumn Leaves Tour***

**by Alex Csank, Vankleek Hill**

Club Alfa Romeo de Montréal (CARM) once again hosted the combined Montréal area Italian Car Clubs' Autumn Leaves Tour through the scenic countryside to the south of Montréal. Our drive took us from the town of Vaudreuil-Dorion, just west of Montréal island, along a waterside road to the Saint Lawrence River at Les Cascades, and on into Valleyfield, where we had to wait for over 30 minutes as a freighter passed under the old lift bridge along the Seaway.

Turning West in picturesque Ormstown, we followed old country roads along the south side of the Chateauguay River to drive through the oldest covered bridge in Québec at Powerscourt (Percy), and take a few photos.



*Italian cars and coloured leaves. Photo by Alex Csank.*

We then proceeded eastward to visit the Stevenson Orchard for some freshly-picked Honeycrisp, Courtland and other apples, some of their freshly-made apple juice, and a necessary bathroom break. Our next stop was at the nearby and very popular Blair Orchard to browse their selection of home-made pies, jams, honey, breads, delicious donuts and other goods. After stopping for a top up of fuel, we climbed ever closer to the U.S. Border and the top of Covey Hill, where we enjoyed the bright flame-like colours so clearly displayed by the spectacular panoramic views of the Saint Lawrence River valley afforded by the elevation.

Eventually, after straightening out a few more twisty roads through the surrounding country on our descent, we ended the ride at 'Taverne de la Ferme' in Ormstown, for a tasty late lunch.

As usual, we had a great turnout for this annual 150km driving tour. We had a total of 22 cars and 40 people, comprised of club members from CARM, the Montréal Fiat Club, the Ferrari Club of America - Québec chapter, FARQ, Club Fiat X1/9 and the VEA. Thanks to all who joined us. It was truly a terrific final driving event for our busy 2018 season.

### ***Alfa Romeo GT Junior*** by Steve Archer of Smart Automotive From MotorSport, November 2018

We just completed a really nice restoration and upgrade of an Alfa GT Junior. It was an emotional one for the owner Andrew Lawley because he's had the car since he was 14 or 15. Now, all these years on, he's just been on a touring holiday in Europe with his own son in the completed car.

The initial plan for the Alfa, a 1969 step-front car that wasn't registered until 1971 was to just give it a tidy up. It came to us as a runner and the idea wasn't to go mad on the restoration. But the car

didn't reveal its true horrors until we took it apart. After we'd stripped the interior and taken the glass out we realized that the shell was not what we'd call secure.

Andrew came in and looked at the car and we discussed the options. covering up the horrors wasn't an option for us or him. He wanted the car to be right and because it was going to need so much work he realized that he had the chance to create something special he could use for touring. He spent more than he initially planned to, but he's now got a car that won't go wrong in five or six years.

We've ended up with a car for which the bottom 12 inches of the chassis are pretty much new. The floor and sills have been replaced, as have the wings and quarter panels. We've had to repair the bottom of the front bulkhead where it meets the floor and the same at the back under the rear seats.



*Photo by Steve Archer.*

We specced it up with some really nice bits from Alfaholics, the suspension and the diff, and an engine from Brunswick racing, a hot two-litre job. It's now on larger wheels shod with modern tires. We have retained all the original parts we've taken off, including the engine, so we could return it to an original 1300 GT Junior. Andrew wanted to keep the car in the original blue because otherwise it wouldn't have been his car. The interior is now tan. When he got the car it came with a black dash but it had actually been recovered. We checked the build sheets and found out that it was definitely tan when it came out of the factory. Andrew has now got a really nice car, a car that's going to last. And it's the same GT Junior in which he learned to drive, took to university and has owned for all these years.

## 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	<a href="#">Sempreverde 2018</a> , 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	<a href="#">Sempreverde 2018</a> , 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	<a href="#">Sempreverde 2018</a> , AROC Convention, Olympia WA

## Calgary Alfa Marque Society

Date	Event
August 8-12	<a href="#">Sempreverde 2018</a> , 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	<a href="#">Sempreverde 2018</a> , AROC Convention, Olympia WA
August 12	<a href="#">Italian Car Day</a> , 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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