



ARCC UPDATE

February 2020

President's Letter

by Alex Csank, Vankleek Hill

Alfisti,

The daylight hours are longer now, and by the time you are reading this *ARCC Update*, the end of February will be near and I am sure that I will almost taste the tree sap beginning to flow with the end of winter in sight!

Hopefully, your local Alfa Romeo club leaders will be putting together another terrific year full of fun events and activities. Please make suggestions to them and help create the events and the club you want to see. Stay tuned to your local club's emails and keep checking the back page of this monthly newsletter, our websites (you can find links at alfaclub.ca), and the ARCC Facebook page for calendar updates.

This is the time of year when I put my energies into planning for the coming driving, riding and boating season. So far, I've had a couple of meetings and have been doing research for this summer's *Raduno Estivo 2020*, which will be held on the weekend of 21-23 August. To change things up this year, I am planning to begin our weekend with a dinner west of the island of Montréal and spend our Friday overnight stay in a nearby hotel. On Saturday morning, we'll make our way southwest, with a visit to historic Upper Canada Village and a lunch before continuing further westward through the beautiful countryside, ending our day with supper and an overnight in the Ottawa Valley. On Sunday following breakfast, we will make our way south along the Rideau Canal for a while, ending our weekend with a lunch in Belleville. It's still early in the planning, so I am open to suggestions for the route places to stop for visits, food and accommodations. If this sounds like fun, please let your local club leaders know that you wish to register. As always, the event is limited to just 80 people (about 40 couples and 40 cars), and those numbers are distributed to all the Montréal, Ottawa and Toronto Alfa, Fiat, Ferrari and other

Italian Car clubs, so space is VERY limited and could be sold out quickly. More details and a registration form will be available in April.

Raduno Estivo details

When: Friday, 21 August through Sunday, 23 August

Where: Rigaud QC to Belleville ON via country roads, with rest stops, meal stops, visits and hotels (2 nights in hotels, 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners)

Registration: Early registration will be \$25 per person (\$50 per couple) to cover event and organizational costs, until 1 July 2020. Registrations after 1 July will be \$35 per person (\$70 per couple).

Hotels: All hotel fees will be paid individually by participants. Reservations must be made through the hotels. Hotel prices will be published as soon as available.

Meals: Most meal costs will be paid individually to the restaurant by participants at the end of each meal. However, some meals may require pre-payment. Details will be coming soon.

Participants had loads of fun at our previous events, and this year should be lots of fun. Please plan on joining us if you can.

As always, please keep sending your feedback, your photos, your articles, ideas and opinions for the newsletter. George Beston is always looking for input for upcoming editions.

Rev high!

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Cobble Beach Concours

By Ian White, Toronto

I have always wanted to go to this car event but have just never found the time. This year I made a point of checking it out. It is held at the Cobble Beach Golf Resort in Owen Sound, Ontario. The date of the event was the 14th and 15th of September and has been going on for 7 years now. The featured marque this year was Porsche. I believe Saturday the 14th was for the participants and Sunday for the Concours, which is open to the public.

A friend and I started off early Sunday morning under grey skies and it started raining soon after, at times quite heavy. We checked the weather map and it showed it would clear up by 10:00 AM. We hesitated a bit but decided to carry on and hoped the weather map was right.

As luck would have it, the worst of the rain stopped as we pulled into the parking lot. At this event there is an off-site parking lot in a large field and then you are shuttled by bus to the event. By now the rain had stopped but there were still dark overcast skies. The shuttle was very well organized so we did not have to wait long. A greeter on the bus gave a bit of history of the event and explained where to go for tickets and amenities. Within a few minutes, we were there.

At the ticket area we were given a wristband and a program of the event. The admission fee of \$55.00 went towards the Sunnybrook and Owen Sound Regional Hospital Foundations.

As we entered, there was a section in the parking lot where car club members have a bit of a show and shine, just outside the main event.



Featured marque. Photo by Ian White.

I have to say that the Cobble Beach Golf Resort is quite beautiful. The views of Georgian Bay are very striking. As we entered the main area there

was a stand for the featured marque – Porsche. There was a range of modern and vintage cars.

Once we crossed over a small bridge onto the 18th fairway, on both sides of the fairway there was an amazing array of vehicles.

The categories present were:

- Horseless Carriage pre 1916
- North American Production pre-war
- American Classics 1915 to 1948
- European Classics 1915 to 1948
- European Sports Cars to 1973
- Corvettes (C1 & C2)
- American Muscle Car to 1973
- Porsche Classic
- Porsche Supercars
- Exotics
- North American Production 1945 to 1973
- Baby Birds (Thunderbirds 1st Gen.)
- Vintage Motorcycles - Japanese pre-1984
- Microcars
- Customs (pre-1959)
- Boats - Exhibition Only

There was also a tented area featuring several automotive artists showing their original artwork and prints for purchase. Great stuff.

My friend and I walked up and down the fairway checking out the wide range of vehicles. We talked with a few owners and everyone was very pleasant and answered questions. We even met an astronaut. Chris Hadfield was there, showing his 1955 Ford Thunderbird. Story has it he bought the car, which was located in London, Ontario over the phone when he was working in Russia for NASA. The car's nickname is "Snowshoe".



Chris Hadfield's T-Bird. Photo by Ian White.

There was only one Alfa Romeo at the show. It was a 1931 6C 1750 Grand Sport Zagato owned by Michael Bigioni of Uxbridge Ontario. I had a great conversation with him about his car and

how he and his father participated in the Mille Miglia but did not finish due to mechanical issues.



Above and below – the Bigioni 6C 1750. Photos by Ian White.



There was a 1964 Pinninfarina FIAT 1500 Cabriolet owned by Miki Velemirovich of Toronto. Unfortunately, I did not get chance to talk with him.



FIAT 1500 Cabriolet. Photo by Ian White.

Overall my friend and I had a fantastic time at the event and would recommend it to anyone. You can check out their website at www.cobblebeachconcours.com/

Alfa Montreal at Auction

by George Beston, Cobourg

Gooding & Company 2019 Scottsdale Auction Result



Photo from Gooding & Company.

This orange Montreal appeared at the Gooding & Company Scottsdale auction in January. Despite some good pre-auction publicity and a selling price estimate of \$70,000 to \$90,000, it was auctioned without reserve and sold for a mere \$51,250.

This example was manufactured in 1973 and purchased in the Netherlands. It was sold on by its first owner in 1989. The second owner initiated a refurbishment and painted the car aubergine, but it languished incomplete for many years.

A subsequent owner purchased the Montreal in 2017 and sent it to a shop in Spain for cosmetic work where it was returned to its original colour. Finally it was sent to a specialist in the Netherlands for engine maintenance including a water pump bearing upgrade.

With only 92,600 km on it since new, the sale price must have been as crushing to the seller as it was rewarding to the buyer. The Montreal does live in a niche market, so any auction without reserve leaves the seller exposed to a bad day.

Without seeing the car in the flesh and going through it with the eyes of an expert it's impossible to be sure that the buyer landed a really good Montreal at about the same price as an excellent GTV, but that's what it looks like from here!

More photos at

<https://www.goodingco.com/vehicle/1973-alfa-romeo-montreal-2/>

Upcoming ARCC Events

Regional representatives are requested to send your 2020 events calendars to the secretary or the editor for inclusion in the next issue.

Club Alfa Romeo de Montréal

| Date | Event |
|--------------|---|
| July 5 | FIAT Breakout, Montréal |
| July 22-26 | AROC Convention , Colorado Springs |
| August 21-23 | Raduno Estivo, from Montréal thru Ottawa to Toronto |
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Alfa Romeo Club - Ottawa

| Date | Event |
|--------------|---|
| June 20 | Ottawa Italian Car Parade |
| July 22-26 | AROC Convention , Colorado Springs |
| August 21-23 | Raduno Estivo, from Montréal thru Ottawa to Toronto |
| September 20 | Amici Raduno, Perth |
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Calgary Alfa Marque Society

| Date | Event |
|------------|--|
| July 22-26 | AROC Convention , Colorado Springs |
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Alfa Romeo Club of Edmonton

| Date | Event |
|------------|--|
| July 22-26 | AROC Convention , Colorado Springs |
| | |

Toronto Chapter

| Date | Event |
|-----------------|---|
| April 2 | AGM, Scuderia Ferrari Club |
| April 26 | ICD Go Karting, Downsview Park |
| May 7 | Cruise Night, La Paloma, Woodbridge |
| May 18 | Victoria Day Pancake Run, Cookstown |
| May 23 | Swap Meet, Pinarello Motori, Woodbridge |
| June 4 | Cruise Night, La Paloma, Woodbridge |
| June 7 | Rattlesnake Run, Halton Hills |
| June 19-21 | Ottawa Italian Car Parade |
| June 21 | Vintage Festival, Cdn Tire Motorsport Park |
| June 28 | Keswick Drive, Keswick |
| July 2 | Cruise Night, La Paloma, Woodbridge |
| July 12 | Sun Collision Drive and BBQ, St Catharines |
| July 22-26 | AROC Convention , Colorado Springs |
| July 25 | Niagara Drive & Wine Tour |
| August 6 | Cruise Night, La Paloma, Woodbridge |
| August 9 | Italian Car Day, Woodbridge |
| August 21-23 | Raduno Estivo, from Montréal thru Ottawa to Toronto |
| September 3 | Cruise Night, La Paloma, Woodbridge |
| September 10-13 | Alfas at the Glen, Watkins Glen NY |
| September 19 | Amici Perth Raduno, Perth |
| September 27 | Alfas and Fiats at the Forke |
| October 1 | Cruise Night, La Paloma, Woodbridge |
| October 18 | Fall Colours Drive, Singhampton |
| November 21 | Holiday Dinner Party, Woodbridge |

Unofficial Cruise Nights are held every Thursday evening from May to October at La Paloma in Woodbridge.

Alfa Romeo Club of Canada

National Executive

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