



ARCC UPDATE

March 2020

President's Letter

by Alex Csank, Vankleek Hill

Alfisti,

Well, **this** sure is an unusual month! There is plenty of scary stuff on the news, and the stock markets aren't looking very good. Hopefully, you folks are taking good care of yourselves and following the advice of your healthcare professionals. I am sure that we will all be thankful when Covid-19 runs its course, so that our lives can get back to normal.

Soon, the roads will be free of salt, sand, gravel, ice and snow (but probably not all the potholes). Our local clubs have been planning another terrific annual calendar of events. ARCC (and your local clubs) wouldn't be able to function without the hard work and dedication of the few, but much appreciated volunteers who plan and run all the local and regional activities. On **all** of our behalf, I extend a big "Thank You!" to the leaders, planners and others who give so generously of their time, effort and resources to make your club membership experience worthwhile.

Annual General Meetings

CARM held their Annual General Meeting (AGM) in early February. And in Ottawa and Toronto, plans are set to hold their AGMs in April. Please do try and attend your local club's AGM. And if you have any suggestions, feedback, or ideas for events please contact your club's leaders. We can't do it without your help.

Raduno Estivo 2020

Regionally, I'm busy with other Italian Car club leaders from Montréal, Ottawa and Toronto putting together plans for this summer's annual *Raduno Estivo* weekend gathering. It will be held from the 21st through the 23rd of August and be based in Cornwall, Ontario (so long as Covid-19 is in the rear view mirror by then!). The final lunch stop will be held in Brockville on Sunday, so that

it will be closer for those heading home to the GTA. This event is limited to just 80 attendees (about 40 cars) from many of the Italian Car clubs from the Montréal, Ottawa and Toronto areas, so if you would like to attend, please let your club leadership know as soon as you can. It will be a '1st come, 1st served' type of registration this year, and we will be accepting registrations in April.

In about a month, we'll be able to get back on the roads in our favourite cars, flexing springs, shocks and bushings, and 'getting our Alfa on!' Please remember that it's a great idea to invite friends along as guests. They will be very welcome at our events and you just never know when one of them might catch the Alfa virus!

Diane and I wish you all the best and hope to see you at one of the many activities we are planning to attend this year. Please keep sending us your feedback, photos, articles and ideas for the newsletter. George Beston is always looking for your input for upcoming editions.

COVID-19

Editor's note: I am late working on this issue due to a bucket-list vacation. As I was completing this issue the following note came in from Alex.

Version française ci-dessous:

The rapidly-developing Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation is having a significant impact on just about every aspect of our lives, limiting our activities, employment, travel, business, and our social interactions. The closures and imposed limits placed on both private and public places are increasing, as governments and health care professionals react to this growing pandemic. ARCC, like most clubs and social groups are postponing or cancelling events and gatherings in the interest of the safety of our members, loved ones and the public. Stay tuned for more information about calendar changes from your local club leaders. Although unfortunate, these steps are necessary to keep us all healthy. And

given our age demographic, many of our members are more at risk to complications from this virus.

I have always adhered to the old adage: "Hope for the best, but plan for the worst." Please do your best to stay healthy and safe.

La situation en évolution rapide du coronavirus (COVID-19) a un impact significatif sur presque tous les aspects de notre vie, limitant nos activités, notre emploi, nos voyages, nos affaires et nos interactions sociales. Les fermetures et les limites imposées à la fois sur les lieux privés et publics augmentent, car les gouvernements et les professionnels de la santé réagissent à cette pandémie croissante. ARCC, comme la plupart des clubs et groupes sociaux reportent ou annulent des événements et des rassemblements dans l'intérêt de la sécurité de nos membres, de nos proches et du public. Restez à l'écoute pour plus d'informations sur les changements de calendrier de vos dirigeants de club locaux. Bien que regrettables, ces étapes sont nécessaires pour nous maintenir en bonne santé. Et compte tenu de notre âge démographique, beaucoup de nos membres sont plus «à risque» de complications de ce virus.

J'ai toujours adhéré au vieil adage: "Espérez pour le mieux, mais prévoyez pour le pire." Veuillez faire de votre mieux pour rester en bonne santé et en sécurité.

Gardez les révolutions élevées!

Rev high!

Alex: (514) 771-9513

alfaromeodriveralex@gmail.com

Three Italian Experiences

By Ian White, Toronto

My wife Patrizia and I try to get away each year for a summer vacation and 2018 was no different. We had friends staying in Paris for an extended period of time and we planned to visit them for a week. We thought, "Where do we go after the week is over?" We decided to carry on to Italy.

Our car experience started at the Milano airport rental car agency. At first we booked an economy car, but while at the counter Patrizia jokingly asked the sales rep if a Giulia was available. The friendly and accommodating, Filippo, gladly took a look and, not surprisingly, said yes. It was, of course, much more vehicle to try to find parking for than our booked econo-car, but, in the end, we realised what better way to drive through Milano and to the Alfa Museum than in a Giulia!

What a fantastic car! It drove so smoothly and had great acceleration. We were lucky not to get a speeding ticket. A few maneuvers were needed to get into the tight pensione entrance way. In the end, we did not regret our decision in renting the car.



Ian and rented Giulia. Photo by Patrizia Varrasso.

After a day of sightseeing in Milan and an evening at La Scala opera house, we drove out to Arese the next day to the Alfa Museum. Patrizia and I had visited this site many years earlier in 2007 before the new renovation. The old museum seemed gloomy; the cars were amazing, but the building neglected, almost a forgotten place. Today, the new museum is bright and airy and well-designed. As well as using interactive displays, it is much larger than its predecessor.



Pre-war racing Alfas. Photos by Ian White.



Post-war racing cars. Photo by Ian White.



Part of the Giulia section of the museum. Photo by Ian White.

We completed our visit by enjoying a panino lunch on the café patio of the museum before continuing our journey to Lake Como to check out *Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este*, our next exciting car adventure.

No, we did not see George Clooney in Como, but we did see an array of amazing cars. The *Concorso* is open to the public on Sunday at Villa Erba. We arrived at the Villa early, especially because we had learned that convenient parking would be an issue. Arriving early also gave us the opportunity to watch some the show cars drive in through the main gates.

Once we watched the majority of show cars go into the Villa, we lined up to wait until the gates were opened to visitors. A mass of people made their way onto the grounds. The setting is absolutely stunning with manicured lawns with magnificent homes overlooking Lake Como. The theme that year was "Hollywood on the Lake". There was a range of celebrity and film cars from Elvis Presley's BMW 507 to the James Bond Aston Martin DB5. Patrizia and I walked around

taking in the views of the stunning vehicles and the beautiful scenery, where we saw everything from concept cars to motorcycles, both new and old.

The classes and vehicles listed were:

Class A – The Titans: Dirt, Dust and Danger (1900 – 1939)

Class B – From Manhattan to Mayfair: The Golden Age of Motoring Opulence (1918 – 1939)

Class C – Shaped by the Wind: Grandes Routières of the Art Deco Era (1925 – 1940)

Class D – New World, New Ideas: The Story of the GT (1945 – 1965)

Class E – Speed Meets Style: The Flowering of the Sports and the Racing Car (1950 – 1970)

Class F – When Sex Was Safe and Racing Was Dangerous: Formula One! (1950 – 1988)

Class G – Hollywood On The Lake: Stars of the Silver Screen (1920's to 1930's)

Class H – Perfectly Preserved: Automotive Archaeology (1900 – 1980)



Above and below: notable Alfas at the Concorso. Photos by Ian White.



Alfas at the event:

Class A - 1930 6C 1750 Grand Sport

Class A - 1933 8C 2300 Monza

Class D - 1968 33/2 Stradale

Class H - 1982 182 F1

The Best of Show was decided by public vote. The prize was awarded to the 1968 Alfa Romeo 33/2 Stradale owned by Albert Speiss of Switzerland. Make sure this event is on your bucket list of things to do. It is a must.

Then, onto to Rome for the final leg of our trip. Patrizia has family there and in between visiting family members we made it to the police car museum, Museo delle AUTO della Polizia di Stato. (www.poliziadistato.it). We had a fun time there. We were the only people visiting the museum and had the whole place to ourselves. We had a guided tour with a police officer showing us the different makes and models; he even let us sit in the vehicles. There was a range of Fiats, Alfas and a Lamborghini but unfortunately the famous black 1964 Ferrari – 250 GT 2+2 was out on loan to another museum.



Alfas in the police car museum. Photos by Ian White.

New Giulia GTA and GTAm

by Brian Silvestro, Road & Track.com

Alfa Romeo brings back a legendary nameplate for a truly wild pair of sport sedans



Photo from roadandtrack.com.

Alfa Romeo has revealed hard core track-ready versions of its Giulia Quadrifoglio sedan, the GTA and GTAm. With less weight, more power, and a handful of aerodynamic upgrades, it's the most extreme modern Alfa yet.

The Giulia GTA was made to celebrate Alfa Romeo's 110th anniversary. GTA stands for Gran Turismo Allegerita. The name was first used on the Giulia in 1965, where it saw immense motorsport success throughout Europe. Now the storied name is back. The Giulia GTA gets carbon fiber upgrades inside and out to save weight. There's a carbon fiber roof, hood, front bumper, wheel arches, diffuser, driveshaft, and interior trim. Other light weighting upgrades include Lexan for the rear door windows and rear windscreen, and lightweight aluminum used in the engine, doors and suspension components. Weight is a claimed 3350 pounds—a weight-savings of 220 pounds compared to the standard Giulia Quadrifoglio.



Photo from roadandtrack.com.

Go for the even more extreme GTAm, and the rear seats are deleted and replaced with mounts for helmets and a fire extinguisher. The package also adds a roll bar, carbon fiber bucket seats, six-point harnesses, door pulls in place of handles, a

carbon splitter, and a massive carbon wing (shown in the gallery above).

The GTA and GTAm get the same 2.9-liter twin-turbo V-6 from the normal Giulia, tuned to 540 horsepower (up from 510). Standard launch control allows the car to sprint from 0-62 mph in just 3.6 seconds.



Photo from roadandtrack.com.

Alfa Romeo is building just 500 units of the GTA and GTAm globally. In addition to the car, buyers will also receive a Bell helmet, a racing suit, gloves, shoes, a car cover, and a specific Alfa Romeo Driving Academy course along with their purchase. Alfa says most of the cars will be sold in Europe, it's "evaluating opportunities to introduce the GTA in other key markets around the world, including the U.S." Hopefully it'll make it to our shores.

Alfaholics is still at it!

by **George Beston, Cobourg**

Those Banks brothers just don't know the meaning of the word "quit". I thought they had gone about as far as they could go, but that's not the case. Their latest achievement is to offer well heeled enthusiasts the possibility of buying a step-nose GTV with its body built entirely of carbon fibre.



This body reportedly saves 70 kg over a steel-bodied version and 38 kg over a GTV body fitted with carbon fibre hood, trunk lid and doors.

Alfaholics can now boast a power to weight ratio of 300 brake horse power per metric ton. Other lightweight components, specifically their "Ultraleggera" billet titanium suspension package can result in further weight savings of 34.5 kg. Sign me up!



Images from alfaholics.com.

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
April 18	Pizza Lunch, Resto Giuletta
May 2	Fun Rally
May 16	Auto-Slalom, Sanair
May 24	Lunch, Orange Julep
June 13	Balade Trois Rivières et La Tuque
June 20	Ottawa Italian Car Parade
July 5	FIAT Breakout, Montréal
July 11	Sommet des Légendes, Mont Tremblant
July 22-26	AROC Convention , Colorado Springs
August 21-23	Raduno Estivo, from Montréal thru Ottawa to Toronto
September 10-13	Alfas at the Glen, Watkins Glen NY
September 19	Amici Perth Raduno, Perth
October 17	Fall Colours Tour
November 21	Christmas Dinner

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

Calgary Alfa Marque Society

Date	Event
July 22-26	AROC Convention , Colorado Springs

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	cyyztacchi@gmail.com
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	cwells@cruzinternet.com
Frank Scalisi	Toronto	(416) 723-1419	fsc1269@gmail.com
Marc Faubert	Ottawa	(819) 775-0632	shiraz1965@gmail.com
Jean-Michel Reyssset	Montréal	(514) 219-5358	jmreyssset@hotmail.com

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.

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)