



ARCC UPDATE

June 2020

President's Letter

by Alex Csank, Vankleek Hill

Alfisti,

Here we are, well into the third month of this pandemic's major influence on our laws, our behaviours, our healthcare situations, and our economy. Additionally, we have been witnessing significant political and civil unrest in recent days. These factors have certainly impacted what we would have considered routine and normal not that long ago, and a return to the behaviours and circumstances of the very recent past doesn't seem likely for some time to come. Luckily, the weather has been helpful and springtime marches along unabated by our plight. The warming sun of May and now June has continued to help the plants blossom and grow, disregarding whatever changes we humans face.

Club activities sure aren't what they were last year! And besides our Alfa club calendars, all of us have been busy adjusting to the reduced ways we can travel and gather, as the activities we may have once taken for granted just aren't happening as they once did.

So, it probably isn't surprising that I don't have much in the way of club news this month. CARM held a small, but wonderful countryside drive through the Eastern Townships of Québec recently, and by all accounts it was a fun and safely run event.

Across the country, new (and older) Alfas are still being bought and sold and the new owners are enjoying their drives. I would love to hear your stories about what work you have done with your Alfas, or any other Alfa-related tales, whether recent or from long ago.

It's important to remember that communicating with other Alfisti is what makes the club work. Although ARCC, CARM, ARCO and Alfa Romeo Club Toronto all use Facebook pages and/or groups, some members are not on Facebook, so these monthly ARCC updates and your local club

emails are sometimes the only way many of your fellow members find out about our events and other club business. Please make sure to keep your email address current – and for club leaders – please keep your lists up to date and let your members know about any activities you have planned.

Looking forward to some great weather and fun drives!

As always, please send your feedback and suggestions anytime.

Rev high!

Alex: (514) 771-9513

alfaromeodriveralex@gmail.com

Alfa Romeo's 110th Anniversary!

by Sebastian Blanco, Ward's Auto



The Alfa Romeo Museum in Milan is sharing parts of the automaker's history, including a detailed e-book that looks back at the brand's century-plus story and how the brand logo changed during World War II.

COVID-19 has scuttled plans to honor Alfa Romeo's 110th brand anniversary with a grand celebration this summer at the Alfa Romeo Museum in Milan, Italy.

The pandemic isn't derailing the tribute, though, as museum curator Lorenzo Ardizio is sharing virtually parts of the automaker's history,

including a detailed e-book that looks back at Alfa Romeo's century-plus story.

Editor's note: This e-book can be found by browser search, or at the link below. Well worth a look!

<https://www.autoguide.com/auto-news/2020/05/alfa-romeo-launches-interactive-e-book-celebrating-110th-anniversary.html>

Inside, there are hints at previous struggles, like the way the company logo looked for the five years after World War II. During that time, unlike the rest of the company's history, the logo was red with just a few gold accents.

The reason, Ardizio explains: It was easier to produce this nearly monochrome logo in the war's aftermath than the multicolor version used before and since.

The Alfa Romeo Museum covers this detail and more, with 70 cars on display (with another 200 in storage) along with 400 engines and numerous historical documents. There's an employee sheet signed by Enzo Ferrari from the time when he worked at Alfa Romeo, for example.

The museum looks back at different parts of Alfa Romeo's timeline, including the prewar racing challenges, the first Formula 1 world championship win from 1950 and the design-focused 1960s that introduced the Giulietta, also known as Italy's sweetheart, and the models it inspired.

But Alfa Romeo isn't simply looking backwards this year. The brand relaunched in the U.S. in 2017 (Alfa cars were sold here earlier, but only in small numbers), and the head of Alfa Romeo communications, Ariel Gavilán, says parts of the e-book will be used in U.S.-based social media channels and on the official website as the company ramps up its promotional efforts before June 24, the official 110th anniversary.

Pandemic Pastimes

by George Beston, Cobourg

Making the best of it!

In these extremely unusual times, I've been searching for ways to fill the time that satisfy my enthusiasm for Alfa Romeo and yet remain socially responsible.

Going out for short drives is my first recommendation. If you don't interact with others at all, or perhaps only stop at a drive through for a snack or a coffee, it's hard to imagine that a short drive in the countryside stresses any social distancing guidelines. So, go ahead, indulge your

hobby and give your Alfa a good ten or twenty mile workout.

If you're like me and have an interest in swinging wrenches now and then, it's a good time to tackle some mechanical projects. Since restrictions have set in, I have done oil and filter changes on both my Alfetta and Spider Jr. In addition, my Spider now has a new clutch master cylinder and I've changed it from my home built throttle bodies to a new set from Jenvey in the UK. I have also spent time setting up a new (to me!) lap top computer dedicated to my Spider's MegaSquirt engine management system.

I have also discovered many opportunities for cleaning and detailing the family fleet including the Alfas, of course. I can't remember an occasion when both of my Alfas were in such good nick at the same moment in time!

When my energy runs low for these hands-on efforts I have increasingly turned to the Internet for Alfa Romeo related entertainment.

AROC USA

The Detroit chapter of AROC is doing a series of live on-line chats called "Saturday at 4". These have been recorded and are worth a look on the AROC USA web site. I particularly enjoyed the episode with Ralph Gilles talking about the history of his GTVs, specifically Sergio, the 1974 GTV that received a full restoration using every Alfaholics GTR part available plus a 16 valve engine, custom interior and custom Tipo 33 inspired wheels. Ralph also has some interesting anecdotes about his relationship with the Banks family who run Alfaholics, and participating in a road trip through Spain with them last year.

Home Built by Jeff

One of my local friends told me about a site that featured some work on an Alfa Romeo including an engine swap from an exotic car. The site was actually YouTube channel "Home Built by Jeff". It turns out that Jeff is an irrepressibly cheerful Australian with abundant skills, energy and enthusiasm. I started watching his segments on a 105 GT. Despite some cringe-worthy moments in the first episode, the series turns into a very educational experience regarding GTV bodywork and what it takes to do a proper restoration. The segments include a considerable effort to educate the audience on Alfa Romeo history. Jeff's charming partner gives a brief "Fun Facts with Mrs. Jeff" talk about some aspect of Alfa Romeo history at the end of each episode, followed by some amusing out-takes of her practice runs with the scripts.

A great Aussie spirit shines through these episodes so make sure to look this one up. Start at the beginning and see if you can avoid binge watching. It won't be easy!

For The Road

A third internet find I'll mention is the channel by Jethro Bronner, a young South African enthusiast with a strong passion for 105 series Alfas. The segments are about projects on a variety of 105 series cars. I particularly enjoy his segments on engine projects. I probably won't do another rebuild myself, but if I ever do I'll definitely try out many of his suggestions. Jethro also tells of many Alfa adventures including an epic drive from South Africa all the way to Ireland in his Giulia.

Bring a Trailer

I used BaT last fall in an effort to sell Tony Adams' beautiful round tail 1750 Spider, and ever since I have been getting their daily mailings on auctions that are closing that day. When an Alfa shows up, I follow the auction to see what the car sells for, or how high the bids go if there is no sale. It seems the demand is definitely there once the BaT audience becomes engaged. I've been told that there are more accurate measures of a vintage Alfa's value, but a sale is a sale, and the exposure to a wide enthusiast audience really helps. Cars show up from everywhere and are often submitted by dealers.

Noteworthy listings of late include a low mileage GTV from Bathurst, N.B. that was bid to sixty thousand US but not sold.



Unsold GTV in beautiful Bathurst-by-the-sea. Photo from Bring a Trailer.

This GTV has an interesting ownership history. The original owner was Carrera Panamericana racing driver Manfredo Lippmann who bought it in Texas to tour the US and then took it home to Guatemala. It was imported to Canada ten years ago and still has only 25,000 miles on it.

This beautifully refreshed orange Montreal sold for one hundred and five thousand dollars.



Photo from Bring a Trailer.

Considering its low mileage of just less than 60,000 km, and all the new bits on it, it was well bought.

It is also possible to follow BaT more closely and participate in the discussions around cars for sale if you are so inclined.

Long Lost Giulia Sprint GT

by Bill Keogh, Ontario

I am seeking any available information on the current ownership or ownership history of a particular 1967 Alfa Romeo Giulia Sprint GT Veloce. The name of the original owner is George Polecrone and the car was originally purchased at Robert Motors in 1967. It was subsequently sold as a used car by Sports Cars Unlimited in Clarkson in 1969. Here are the details:

Serial Number:	AR250770
Engine Number:	18197
Exterior Colour:	Red, colour code 304
Interior Colour:	Black

If you have any information regarding this Alfa, please contact me by phone at 905-871-2341 or email at wllmkeogh@yahoo.com.



Not the actual car, but one just like it! Photo from LBI Ltd.

In line with advice provided by provincial and federal government agencies, we have cancelled or postponed all events for the present time. Please watch for announcements from your local clubs for resumption of normal activities. Stay home and stay safe!

Upcoming ARCC Events

Club Alfa Romeo de Montréal

Date	Event
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 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

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	clwells@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

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)