



ARCC UPDATE

August 2020

President's Letter

by Alex Csank, Vankleek Hill

Hi folks,

Over the past few weeks, I have had the pleasure of assisting a couple of our members with the “exchange” of a very beautiful and special Bertone GTV. One of our very long-time members from Oakville has owned GTVs for longer than many of us have been out of high school. He has raced them and driven them to and from work and on vacation, and for lots of group drives, rallies and to and from plenty of events. Alas, his health hasn't allowed him to really enjoy the type of ride provided by a small Italian machine over the past several years, and he decided that it was time to sell his well-loved ride. By chance, one of our newer members from the Ottawa area recently contacted me to see if I knew of a nice GTV that might be available for purchase (adoption). Knowing and liking my two friends, I put them in touch with each other and the result was that the car traded hands just about a week or so ago. I'm sure that you'll be hearing more about this little beauty and that those of you located near Ottawa will get to see this new-to-the-NCR GTV and meet its owner very soon. It's nice to see great cars being traded within our little Canadian Alfisti community.

This unusual year continues to dish out many difficult challenges for Canadians and others around the world. Although we have been doing well in comparison to our neighbours to our immediate south, we still have a long way to go before we can return to anything near what we would consider “normal”. Just today, I made the final decision to cancel yet another event; the *AMICI Raduno Perth*, which was to have replaced the highly popular annual event known as the *Raduno Montebello* car show. While unfortunate, there was just no way to assure the safety of our participants from the many clubs in Montréal, Ottawa, the GTA and elsewhere, or the visiting public when gathered in such a large group.

Hopefully, by next season, we will have better Covid-19 treatments and a vaccine to help us move to a more open social environment safely.

But, on a more positive note, there have been some successful smaller scale Alfa (and other Italian Car) club activities over the past month. CARM hosted and participated in three countryside drives in July. ARCO enjoyed a well-attended first drive of the year on the 25th of July and have a Tech Session and BBQ planned for the 9th of August. The Toronto club restarted the tradition of hosting their Alfa Romeo Club Cruise Nights (Cars & Coffee) in company with the Ontario Fiat Club and held their first event on the 2nd of July. Reports for these local clubs are included in this newsletter. Please read them and figure out where you can join in.

As always, please send your feedback and suggestions anytime.

Rev high!

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Club Report - Toronto

by Frank Scalisi, Woodbridge

The Alfa Romeo Club of Canada – Toronto Chapter hosts its official cruise nights (Cars & Coffee) at the same location as last year on the first Thursday of each month. Join us at La Paloma Ice Cream and Café, 200 Windflower Gate, Woodbridge, Ontario. That's the northwest corner of Highway 7 and Weston Road, adjacent to the Canadian Tire. Upcoming dates are August 6th, September 3rd and October 1st. After that dates will need to be confirmed depending on government guidelines or further restrictions on public gatherings are put into place.

All enthusiasts and other Italian marques are welcome. On any given Thursday night in the summer at La Paloma, you will find a group of Italian car enthusiasts and club members from Alfa Romeo Toronto, Ontario Fiat, Italian Car

Day, Ferrari Canada East and Uptown Toronto Lamborghini. So please do not limit yourself to the above dates. Feel free to contact us at alfaromeoclubtoronto@gmail.com.



Photo by Maurizio Tacchi.

Also, The Scuderia Ferrari Club has graciously invited members of our Alfa Romeo Club to visit their Ferrari Clubhouse on any Wednesday evening starting at 6 pm. Enjoy a complimentary espresso or beverage, while spending some time with other car and race enthusiasts. Ferraris and other Italian cars will be attending also.

Scuderia Ferrari Club Toronto, located in Woodbridge at 551 Jevlan Drive, off Silmar Drive, south of Langstaff Road (just west of Hwy 400). The clubhouse entrance is located at the rear, on the southeast side behind Shoeless Joe's head office. Parking is available at the rear of the building.

We ask that all club members adhere to government social distancing guidelines. Please bring your own PPE (mask and hand sanitizer). The Alfa Romeo Club will not be responsible or guarantee your safety, Members that plan to attend this gathering will do so at their own risk and must social distance at all times.

Hope to see you there.

Ciao,
Frank Scalisi

Club Report – Ottawa

by Marc Faubert, Val-des-Monts

We had our first drive of the season on July 26th. It was great fun and very well attended. Yesterday was a real test and it worked beautifully. Everyone had masks on when talking to each other and had a picnic lunch in a large park instead of a restaurant.

One of the stupidest moves I have made in the past couple of years is acquiring a black car when living on a dirt road. Even if the road itself is very short, it can get a little dusty on very dry days.

I have decided to treat the black Spider with a good polish. A few of you have referred me to Gaëtan, a local fellow with an excellent track record. He is the one who does all the detailing work at Robson Racing and has already done a few of our cars.

He will be coming to our place in Val-des-Monts to polish the car on the 9th of August. He has generously offered to give us a little tech session on the do's and don'ts when polishing your car and give us pointers to keep our cars looking their best. He will likely suggest that Eliza and I move back to the city ;-).

For the non car talk people, Eliza will be leading you in painting whimsical Secret Gardens. Zero art experience is necessary, just a desire to play. All supplies provided.

The event will take place *chez nous* with of course the mandatory BBQ. In this case however to respect COVID-19 guidelines, I will not be cooking for you nor will we be supplying any food. I will however have a couple of BBQs available for you to cook your own food. The event will take place outside; bathrooms can be used restricting the flow of traffic inside the house to one person at a time.

A scenic late afternoon drive along Lake MacGregor and beyond is very likely.



Sunday drive, July 26. Photo by Marc Faubert.

Cheers,
Marc & Eliza

Club Report – Montréal

by Patrick Secco, Ste-Anne-De-Bellevue

Finalemment, la journée de dimanche fut très chaude, humide mais très agréable du point de vue social. Elle commença par une solide averse qui se termina au moment de notre départ.

Je tiens à remercier Éric Corso, d'Excellence Chrysler à Vaudreuil, pour son hospitalité et le déjeuner qu'il nous a offert. Ainsi qu'Henry, qui a pris la peine d'apporter sa machine expresso, et

de nous avoir guidé jusqu'au parc municipal de Noyan, un endroit paisible pour un pique-nique de groupe.

Vous pouvez consulter les photos sur notre site web: clubalfaromeodemontreal.godaddysites.com.

Le comité exécutif s'est réuni dernièrement, et a planifié les activités qui seront faites pour le reste de l'année 2020. La liste qui suit n'est pas finale et peut être adaptée selon les besoins. Nous avons identifié les circuits suivants pour les randonnées planifiées :

- Lac Simon, nord de Montebello.
- Région de Magog.
- Région de Lanaudière.
- Chemin du Roy

Les dates des activités sont les suivantes :

- 8 août, randonnée. Trajet à déterminer.
- 29 août, randonnée. Trajet à déterminer.
- 12 septembre, randonnée. Trajet à déterminer.
- 26 septembre, randonnée. Trajet à déterminer.
- 17 Octobre Rallye amusant, dans une région aux couleurs automnales.
- Orange Julep Night Cruise, date à déterminer.
- Dîner ou souper sur la terrasse du resto Giulietta, marché central. Nous aurons probablement la permission de stationner les voitures devant le resto. Date à déterminer.

Si vous avez des suggestions ou commentaires, ne vous gênez pas, elles seront très appréciées.

Finally, Sunday was very hot, humid but very pleasant from a social point of view. It began with a heavy downpour which ended when we left.

I would like to thank Eric Corso, of Excellence Chrysler in Vaudreuil, for his hospitality and the breakfast he offered us. Not forgetting Henry, who took the trouble to bring his espresso machine, and guided us to Noyan municipal park, a peaceful place for a group picnic.

You can view the photos on our website: clubalfaromeodemontreal.godaddysites.com.

The executive committee met recently and planned the activities that will be done for the remainder of 2020. The following list is not final and may be adapted as needed. We have identified the following circuits for the car rides we planned:

- Lac Simon, north of Montebello.
- Magog region.
- Lanaudière region.
- Chemin du Roy

The dates of the activities are as follows:

- August 8, ride. Route to be determined.
- August 29, ride. Route to be determined.
- September 12, ride. Route to be determined.
- September 26, ride. Route to be determined.
- October 17, Gimmick rally, in a region with autumn colors.
- Orange Julep Night Cruise, date to be determined.
- Lunch or dinner on the terrace of the Giulietta restaurant, central market. We will probably have permission to park cars in front of the restaurant. Date to be determined.

If you have any suggestions or comments, don't be shy, they will be greatly appreciated.

Patrick Secco

Stelvio Review

from Autoline Daily, by Sean McElroy

We just had an Alfa Romeo Stelvio in the Autoline Daily garage and it brightened up our week considerably. Better still it was the Quadrifoglio all wheel drive version which represents the performance pinnacle of this model.



Photo from Autoline Daily.

If this was the world of fashion the Stelvio would be considered a supermodel. You can spot one a mile away and you just can't seem to take your eyes off of it. The Stelvio is just one of the most handsomely styled crossovers in the market. The overall shape is compact, almost pudgy, but beautifully flowing lines work well with mechanical details like the big bright red brake callipers that instantly catch your eye and hold it.

Inside, the Quadrifoglio is another visual treat. Sliding into the well bolstered driver's seat is like putting on a tightly tailored Italian suit. The materials were exquisitely selected and the stitching conveys a feeling of hand craftsmanship. The instrumentation binnacle and centre console look precise and purposeful. There's a colourful contrast between the black upper instrument

panel and the bright red lower half, and it's all accented with glossy carbon fibre pieces.



Photo from Autoline Daily.

But the Quadrifoglio is much more than a pretty face. Under the hood there's a 2.8 L Twin Turbo V6 that cranks out an impressive 505 hp. Motor Trend says it will go from 0 to 60 in only 3.3 seconds. While we didn't measure these runs, we sure believe it. Even more impressive is the stopping power. The Brembo front callipers have six pistons, the brake rotors are giant 15.4 inch in the front and 14.2 inch in the rear and the rotors are carbon ceramic. If you've never experienced carbon ceramic rotors, get the chance to do it. They're unlike anything you've experienced before. OK, now the damage though. our Quadrifoglio was priced at almost \$94,400, almost 14 grand above the base price and the ceramic rotors alone added eight grand to the price list. So here's our bottom line. The Stelvio Quadrifoglio is a beautiful machine with blinding performance but the sales never matched up to the promise it offers. Fewer than 10,000 were sold in the US market last year and that means so far Alfa Romeo has failed to crack the code on how to get high-end customers to put it on their shopping list.

Resto-Mod Spider on BaT

by George Beston, Cobourg

My fascination with Bring a Trailer is ongoing. For years, I've had the feeling of being in the dark on the marketplace for Alfa Romeos. That's probably still at least partially true, but it's great to have a site where all manner of Alfas show up for auction, and I can learn from the discussions and also see actual selling prices or the high bid in the case of a reserve not being met.

One recent listing was of particular interest to me. It was billed as a resto-mod which indicates a lot of customization has been done on the car.



Photo from Fantasy Junction.

It was a round tail spider, US version. I think they look wonderful in gloss black, and those GTA style wheels are really appealing to me.

Custom touches included eliminating the marker lights and shaving the door handles, deck lid insignia and windshield wipers. I suppose you could lump the complete absence of a top in this category. From an appearance perspective I'm not arguing against these changes but they emphatically make this Spider purely a roadster and "fair weather friend".

The interior was upgraded with the addition of Zagato-style aftermarket seats and I note the removal of the console, simplifying the interior in the fashion of a Spider Jr.



Photo from Fantasy Junction.

The restoration included performance upgrades such as an exhaust system and fast road suspension kit from Alfaholics, a chassis stiffener, and a fresh two litre SPICA injected engine from a later Alfa. This car is really worth looking up on BaT to see the full list of modifications and upgrades.

The BaT listing is still available for viewing and also provides the invoices for all the work done, and summarizes costs. The donor car was purchased for \$17,000 and the cost of all restoration, modifications and upgrades added roughly \$100,000 to the total expenses on this Spider.

The auction resulted in a sale for \$57,000. That's a lot of money for a round tail Spider, but also a huge loss for the previous owner.

There is no rationale to explain this situation from an economic perspective. There is a lesson here about what happens when enthusiasts get the bit in their teeth on a project but somehow have to sell the result before getting much benefit from the exercise.



Photo from Fantasy Junction.

Alfa Inspired Cocktails

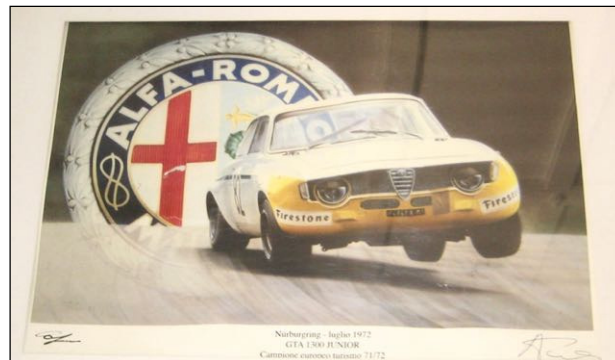
by Ian White, Toronto

I was on vacation last year in Portugal in the city of Lisbon enjoying the sites and sounds. It was a very hot day, and my travel buddies and I needed to find a shady spot to have a cool drink. We ended up at a restaurant in our neighbourhood, Bario Alto, called Atalho Real. Next to the restaurant overlooking the city was a large, rolling lawn that served as the outdoor lounge/bar area. It was easy to decide that this was the place to stop at. We sat down under a tree, opened the drink menu and were surprised to see the house cocktails were all Alfa Romeo related.

HOUSE COCKTAILS 	
ZAGATO 8,00€	Rum, Martini Rosso, pineapple, passion fruit, gooseberry and lime
ROMEO 8,00€	Vodka, Angostura, rosemary syrup and grapefruit juice
MONTREAL 8,50€	Gin, Cointreau, egg white, grapefruit, lime, lemon and strawberry
GIULIETTA SPIDER 9,00€	Gin, Monin Granny Smith Apple, egg white, apple and grape
GIULIA SUPER 9,00€	Rum Havana Club, mezcal, cardamom syrup, lychee and lemon
ALFASUD 9,50€	Mezcal, Cointreau, agave syrup, pineapple juice, passion fruit, orange juice, basil and ginger

Talking with the server, it turns out the owner is a big Alfa Romeo fan. Unfortunately, he was not around to talk to; it would have been interesting

to hear his story. In the entranceway to the restaurant, I spotted a framed signed poster and although I couldn't make out the signatures, the title was clear "Nurburgring – Iuglio 1972, GTA 1300 JUNIOR, Campione europeo turismo 71/72".



Photos by Ian White.

By the way, I had the "Romeo" cocktail, which was refreshing and quite enjoyable. I'm not sure how the names of the cars fit with the ingredients but they all seemed very tasty. Had we stayed longer, I might have returned to make sure I taste-tested each one in the list, and of course, to get to know a little more about the owner who clearly had great taste in automobiles.

If you are looking for a new cocktail to enjoy for the rest of the summer, experimenting with the proportions might make for a different kind of Alfa project. Give one – or all of them – a try.

Better yet, here is a link to the restaurant: www.grupoatalho.pt/en/atalho-real

Who knows, when it is safe to travel again, you might end up there to try them out for yourself.

Here are the menu items re-printed so they are readable:

ZAGATO: Rum, Martini Rosso, pineapple, passion fruit, gooseberry and lime

ROMEO: Vodka, Angostura, rosemary syrup and grapefruit juice

MONTREAL: Gin, Cointreau, egg white, grapefruit, lime, lemon and strawberry

GIULIETTA SPIDER: Gin, Monin granny smith apple, egg white, apple and grape

GIULIA SUPER: Rum Havana Club, mezcal, cardamom syrup, lychee and lemon

ALFASUD: Mezcal, Cointreau, agave syrup, pineapple juice, passion fruit, orange juice, basil and ginger

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

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