

ALFANATIC



Next Event

The Heinrichs' Sportscar Solstice

Howl at the Moon Garage Party and Happening

Wednesday, June 26, 2019

Lift Incorporated World Headquarters

2737 West Mill Road
Glendale, WI 53209
6:00 PM

Questions?

Call Tom Heinrich,
414-353-5353/office
612-805-1179/cell
tom@liftinc.com

Skip the opening night of Summerfest (or maybe warm up for it) and join us for an evening of cars and conversation. Tom and Pam will provide the venue, hospitality, and grills. You provide something to cook for yourself and something to share. All are welcome!




In This Issue

- Events Calendar
- F1 and Alfa News
- Campagnolo Wheels
- Classifieds

Racing, Track Days, and Socials...

That's what on the schedule for June. If you're in the Milwaukee area, don't miss the Heinrichs' Garage Party on Wednesday, June 26. This do-it-yourself cookout and social draws Alfisti and other car guys for a relaxed evening of conversation.

If you're in the mood for something more active, don't miss the CAROC Blackhawk Farms track days the following weekend. The Chicago club teams with the local Audi club for two days of lapping. Information and registration can be found at the CAROC website. See the link below.

If you like to watch racing, either professional or amateur, Road America has it for you, starting with the venerable June Sprints, June 14-16, immediately followed by INDYCAR, June 20-23. 

Not Too Late to Sign Up for the National Convention in Pittsburgh


Pittsburgh is an easy drive from here and will be sportscar central July 16-21 when the Alfa Romeo Owners Club National Convention meshes with the Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix. This year's events will be coordinated with PVGP events. Some will be

exclusive for Alfa owners and others will be held in conjunction with other area car events, of which there are plenty. Come for some or all days and join in the fun. Register through the event's website: <https://www.threeriversalfisti.org/cortile-della-corsa.html>



The Art of Racing in the Rain

The popular book by Garth Stein has finally made it to the screen 11 years after it was published. This NY Times best-seller is a must-read for dog-loving car guys. The story of an aspiring race driver told by his dog Enzo is a bit of a tear jerker—a racing fantasy woven into a true-to-life series of issues that must be overcome. It makes a really good read and it will be interesting to see how well the story translates to screen.

Look for it in theaters August 9 and view the trailer [here](#). Better yet, if you haven't read the book already, grab a copy now. 

Links to Like

Like engines? Like early racing cars? Here are some great clips of some of the great straight-eights in action—Alfas included, of course. Thanks to David Ziglin for the link.

<https://youtu.be/rGrut8IhEu0>

2019 Local, Regional, and International Events Calendar

Anything missing? Send dates for events we've missed and we'll include them in the next calendar. email: rabhalter@att.net

June 14-16	WeatherTech® Chicago Region SCCA June Sprints® , Road America
June 20-23	Road America INDYCAR Series, Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin
June 26	Tom Heinrich's Summer Solstice Howl at The Moon Garage Party
June 29-30	CAROC Blackhawk Farms Track Days, Caroc.com
July 13-15	AROC Pre-Convention Tours, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
July 16-21	AROC National Convention, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
July 18-21	WeatherTech® International Challenge with Brian Redman presented by HAWK
July 20	Lagos Machina Italiana - Italian Car Show at Festa Italiana, Maier Festival Park
July 26-28	Road America Vintage MotoFest and AHRMA Vintage Motorcycle Classic
August 1-4	IMSA WeatherTech® SportsCar Championship and IMSA Michelin Pilot Challenge
August 3-4	Milwaukee Concours d'Elegance , Veterans Park, Milwaukee
August 11	AROC-WI 22nd Annual Italian Car and Motorcycle Show
August 18	Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance , Carmel, California
August 22-24	NASCAR XFINITY Series, Super Trucks, SCCA Pro TransAm , Road America
August 25	Geneva Concours d'Elegance , Geneva, Illinois
September 13-15	Ariens Art on Wheels Weekend featuring VSCDA Elkhart Lake Vintage Festival
September 20-22	Pirelli World Challenge , Road America
Oct 31-Nov 4	AROC Goes to the U.S. Grand Prix, COTA, Austin, Texas
March 5-8, 2020	Amelia Island Concours D'Elegance
May 1-2, 2020	AROC-WI New Glarus Hill Climb
July 20-26, 2020	AROC National Convention, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Briefs

Now You Can Listen to *The Last Open Road*

Our favorite automotive fiction writer Burt Levy has another treat in store for fans of his series—an audiobook version of *The Last Open Road*.

Twenty-five years ago when he was looking for a publisher for his book of automotive fiction, one young exec told him: “It’s a wonderful story, but *those* people don’t read.” So now Burt has come up with an edition for the people who don’t read—an audiobook.

But Levy has taken the audiobook format a step further, turning his novel into a 1950s’ radio play format with professional voice actors, accurate car sounds, and celebrity guest voices from the world of racing and automotive enthusiasm.

I heard a sample of the story a few months ago and it left me wanting to hear more. It would be a perfect companion for those boring business flights or long solo road trips.

Burt will roll out his latest creation at the Weather-Tech International Challenge, July 18-21, at Road America. Pick a copy up at the races or visit <http://www.lastopenroad.com/> for the details on this and his other publications.

Alfa Sales Level Off

Alfa Romeo’s May sales results were roughly 2/3 of last May’s sales and year-to-date sales are down 26% from 2018. This appears to be the new normal, at least until Alfa releases a new model or two. Until then, continue to enjoy your Giulia, Stelvio, or 4C and tell everyone you know how great it is to drive.

In the broader FCA world, sales month over month were up 2%, with the Ram line leading the pack.

Alfa Romeo Monthly Sales Results

	April	YTD	YTD vs 2018
Giulia	797	3,578	-34%
Stelvio	761	3,782	-17%
4C	14	82	-14%
Total	1,572	7,442	-26%

Alfa Romeo Racing Advances Toward the Bottom

It is now six races into the 2019 season and Alfa Romeo Racing has dropped to 9th in the constructor standings. Fortunately they won’t drop lower any time soon as Williams has a lock on last place, having scored no points yet this year.

At the sharp end of the pack the only excitement is the battle between the Mercedes teammates, as Ferrari doesn’t seem to be capable of challenging them. Neither Vettel nor Leclerc are having any luck, whether it be through their own mistakes, issues with the car’s performance, or errors in team strategy. Meanwhile, Max Verstappen seems to be able to run with the Ferraris fairly consistently. Good for him.

Alfa Romeo Racing F1 Box Score

Race / Place	RAI	Pts	GIO	Pts
Spain	14	0	16	0
Monaco	17	0	19	0
Season Driver Pts		13		0
Constructor Points	13	Rank	9	

Alfa Wins Mille Miglia 2019

A 1928 6C1500 SS from the FCA Heritage Collection and piloted by Giovanni Mocerì and Daniele Bonetti won the 2019 running of the Mille Miglia Storica, run from May 15-18. A 1929 6C 1750 SS Zagato driven by Andrea Vesco and Andrea Guerini placed second of the 430 vehicles entered. This was the 37th running of the recreation. The original Mille Miglia, one of the world’s greatest road races, ran from 1927 to 1957.



FCA Proposes Merger with Renault SA

Late in May, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles proposed a merger with Renault SA, a move which, if executed, would produce the world's third-largest automaker by volume (after Toyota and Volkswagen), producing 9 million passenger cars per year, according to the *Wall Street Journal*.

As in any merger of this size, there are many hurdles to jump before the deal is consummated.

The French government, 15% stakeholder in Renault, is reportedly favorably inclined toward the deal. The proposal is for a 50-50 merger that would dilute the government's holdings to 7.5% of the new company. It was reported that French finance officials are pressing for an agreement that no French jobs or factories would be lost as a result of the merger. This could be a touchy issue as FCA and Renault factories are among the least profitable in Europe, with substantial excess capacity, according to a [WSJ.com article](#).

Could the Alfa Romeo F1 Team Be a Merger Casualty?

If the merger between FCA and Renault is finalized, the new company would have two Formula One teams to support. Some observers feel that one would have to go, and that Alfa's team is the most likely to be retired.

The [Alfaclub.it](#) article cites Italian journalist Leo Tanner on the likely fates of the two teams and the possible future F1 relationship of Ferrari and Renault. While Ferrari is independent of the proposed merger, Tanner suggests that the two teams might cooperate more closely with each other in matters of F1 politics.

He also stated that he feels the Alfa Romeo Racing project sponsored by the late Sergio Marchionne may be found to be inconsistent with the new corporation's direction.



Arrival Date for Hybrid Tonale Unclear

While plans progress for a 2020 introduction of the compact plug-in hybrid Jeep SUV, the date for the road-going version of the Alfa Tonale concept, introduced this year in Geneva, is uncertain. The Tonale is said to be built on the same platform as the Jeep, but the introduction in Europe will be in mid to late 2020, at best, meaning that it probably won't reach the States until sometime in 2021.

Hybrid Giulia and Stelvio Coming, But Not Soon

FCA is embracing electrification with a vengeance and Alfa won't be left out, although the timetable for the introduction is still unclear. According to [Clubalfa.it](#), the new models may not be released until 2021, due to a delay in the work needed to retool the Casio plant to produce the new models.

Two different drivetrains are planned, although it is unclear whether both would be offered in the U.S. The base unit will have a 1.3 liter turbo engine producing 180 hp combined with a 60 hp electric motor. The more powerful option would combine the existing 280 hp turbo power plant with a 60 hp motor, giving a combined output of 340 hp. The cars would have a battery-only range of about 30 miles. 🍀



Illustration by Dave Hammond

Great Wheels: Campagnolo, Masters of Magnesium

From *Bringatrailer.com* 3/20/18

It'd be very difficult to compile a list of our favorite wheel designs without Campagnolo's name appearing at least a few times, a company that's always adhered to the very Italian philosophy of making products as beautiful as they are functional. In addition to pioneering the process of low-pressure magnesium alloy casting to produce exceptionally light and intricately designed automotive wheels, the firm also possesses a wide-ranging portfolio including aerospace, military, biomedical, and perhaps most notably, cycling applications.



The Vicenza-based company's automotive history has its roots planted in 1930, when 29-year-old Tullio Campagnolo patented the first quick-release bicycle hub—an idea conceived after a difficult gearing change led to him losing a mountainous race. Building on that initial idea, the company saw much success in cycling over the following decades, and sought to expand their footprint in 1961 by constructing a second factory in Bologna to handle production



of automobile and motorcycle wheels. The same facility also turned out various products for military and aerospace applications—the most notable of which

was structural equipment supplied to NASA for their [OSO-6 satellite](#) launched in 1969.

Campagnolo worked with a magnesium alloy known as Elektron, and perfected low-pressure cast molding—a technique that enabled a given wheel to be 20-30% lighter than one cast of aluminum, with improved damping characteristics and a superior strength-to-weight ratio. Conversely, the cost-per-wheel was nearly double that of aluminum, meaning that Campagnolos were typically seen on more exotic cars. After establishing themselves as the wheel manufacturer of choice for a number of Italian marques, Campagnolo even became Ferrari's Formula One supplier for a period in the 1970s.



The preceding photos highlight OEM Campagnolo wheels found on the Dino 246, BMW M1, and De Tomaso Pantera, while the 40802 series items seen on the green 911 are among the coolest period aftermarket choices out there.

Supplementing the Stratos' "coffin spokes" and *Colani* items found on the Miura, Espada, and Jarama, Campy's *Bravo* model, (below) commonly known as phone dials, fitted to later Countach and Jalpa variants are some of their most recognizable.



Four-bolt 40808 series wheels found on the Maserati Merak are among the more elaborate designs to come out of the Bologna factory.



Turbina wheels were frequently seen on Alfa coupes and [Spiders](#), and many others were specced as factory equipment for Fiat, Abarth, Ferrari, Iso Rivolta, Ducati, and Laverda. The 15-spokers fitted to [Periscopio](#) LP400's are some of the simplest looking Campys, and suit the early Countach's uncluttered lines to a tee.



The company withdrew from the automotive business in the late 1970's, refocusing exclusively on manufacturing some of the finest bicycle parts and groupsets on the market. Campagnolo's quality and historical influence is held in high regard throughout the cycling world even today, and many of their components can still be found throughout the sport's highest levels.



For a good dose of nostalgia, check out this period photo of a first-generation Dodge Tradesman factory race support vehicle. By keeping it corporate with a set of 40608 series wheels and team livery, this could be one of the coolest vans ever, even without the Plexiglas dome and road bikes.



In the time since their automotive mag heyday, Campagnolo has branched out into the use of aluminum, titanium, and carbon fiber, and if you happen to be in the market for an over-engineered corkscrew they've [got you covered](#) there as well. 🍀



Classifieds

Alfanatic will post brief non-commercial classifieds for members and friends at no charge. Email the [editors](#) to make a submission.

Wanted

Your free classified ads! Let us know.

For Sale

Gary Tree is trying to clean out his garage. He is parting a **1980 Spider** and has many other parts to sell, too numerous to list. An S2 Windshield, fiberglass bumpers, engine, transmission, door latches, etc. Just ask! Contact Gary at 608-209-2352, or gjtree-house@gmail.com

Ray Petry writes: I have a huge pile of **Alfa Romeo literature** that I move from house to house and I think it is time I shared it with another enthusiast. It includes a metal dealer sign (reproduction), an Indy car poster from the Alfa power plant years, many copies of the *Alfa Owner* from the 1990s, some copies of *Quadrifoglio*, some parts catalogs, a SPICA fuel injection manual, some Alfa books, and the special 60th anniversary Pininfarina book. I was hoping to sell them as a single lot but may consider breaking it up.

See the photos, below. There are more items available. Please inquire.

Prices negotiable, especially for the entire lot. Local pickup preferred but can ship if necessary. Alternately can meet in Milwaukee, Racine, Kenosha area.

Contact Ray at flhwelder@gmail.com



*Alfa Owner, 24 issues, 1991-1993
\$5/copy, \$120/lot*

Express Yourself

Italian Style



Ferrari 360 Spider



Milwaukee's Exclusive Dealer



Milwaukee

REINA INTERNATIONAL AUTO INC.
Sports & Luxury Car Center

12730 W. Capitol Dr., Brookfield, WI 53005

262-781-3336

www.reinaintlauto.com

COME AND CHECK OUT OUR NEW

DOWNTOWN MILWAUKEE VESPA BOUTIQUE

715 N. Milwaukee St. • 414-271-3336

GT motorsports

Al Pinkowsky

520 Capitol Drive • Pewaukee, WI 53072
ph: (262) 695-4238

Import Service • Performance Upgrades
European Specialists

Cars Wanted 1930s-1960s

Jaguar XK, XKE, MGA, MG T-series,
Austin Healey, Mercedes SLs, Porsche
356, 911,

Triumph TR-3, -4, -250, Alfa Romeo,
Morgan

Other European classics and exotic cars.

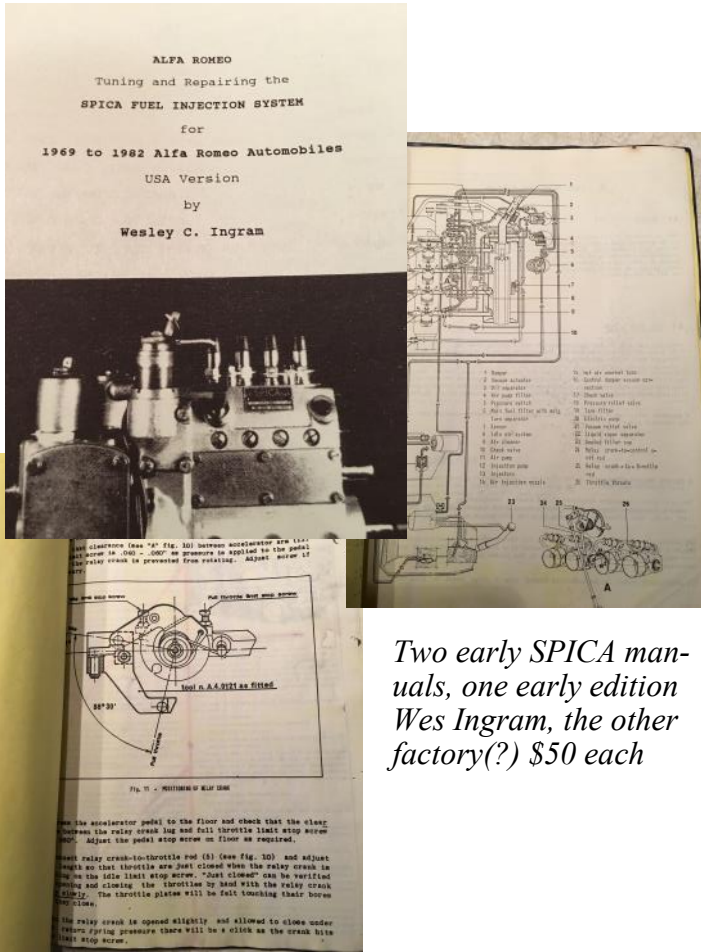
Any condition, any location.

Serious Buyer, will pay the most.

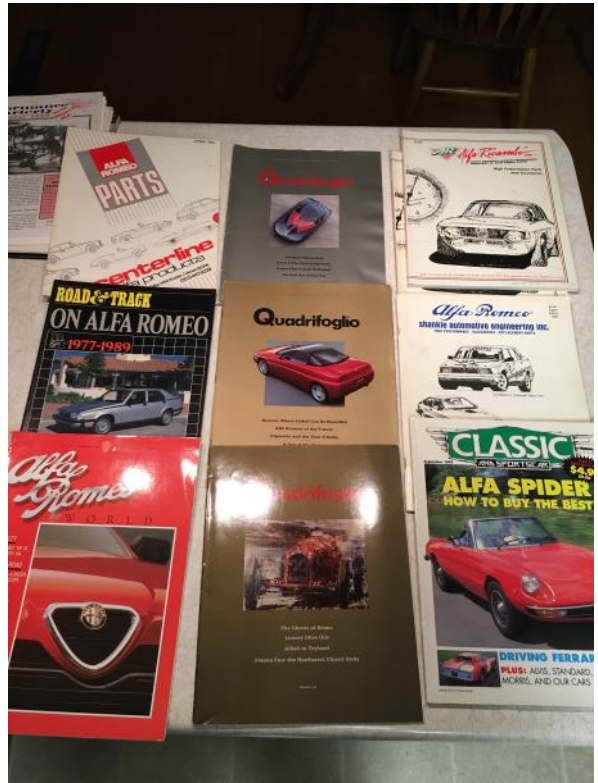
Steve's British Connection

630-553-9023

sbcinc@aol.com



Two early SPICA manuals, one early edition Wes Ingram, the other factory(?) \$50 each



Three copies of the Quadrifoglio, Alfa's U.S. house organ, \$30 for the lot



Several copies of the Performance Quarterly, published by Alfa Ricambi. Offers accepted.



Alfa Indy Car race poster in great condition but with junk frame, \$25.00



Reproduction of an Alfa parts and service sign, 24"x24", \$50.00

Four Used Cromodora Wheels

for 72-74 Alfa Spider. Surface and finish would benefit from some reconditioning but otherwise ready for that rally! If desired, and strictly at my cost—no adder—I would be willing to get them E-Coated ready for paint refinishing. Make me an offer!

Also, **Rear Bumper** for 1972-74 Spider. Make an offer.

James Huff, 514 Simon Drive,
Hartford, WI 53027,
jphuff4@gmail.com



Automotive Fine Art

Jill Reger of Scottsdale, Arizona, is a photographer specializing in classic autos including, but certainly not limited to, Alfa Romeos. Check out her work at www.jillreger.com



This collage includes many of the Alfa photos Jill has in her collection. All are available as single prints. The collage is also available.

CONTACTS

PRESIDENT / WEBMASTER

Steve Wirtz (swirtz@charter.net)
1947 Wallace Lake Rd
West Bend, WI 53090
(262) 306-8238
www.aroc-wisconsin.org

TREASURER

Randy Swanson (RSwanson4@wi.rr.com)
N66 W6684 Cleveland, Cedarburg, WI 53012
262.377.7144, 781.5568 (w)

V.P., EVENT COORDINATOR

Bob Ludwigson (rludwigson@aol.com)
N88W22526 N. Lisbon Rd, Sussex, WI 53089
262-255-1676

PAST PRESIDENT, EVENTS, MEMBERSHIP

Gary Schommer (alfaman@wi.rr.com)
W141N6672 Memory Rd, Menomonee Falls, WI
53051-5119
262.252.3750

EDITORS

Bob and Chrystal Abhalter
(rabhalter@att.net)
5406 2nd Ave, Unit 2B
Kenosha, WI 53140
262-577-5212

TECH. ADVISOR

Al Pinkowsky (al@gt-motorsports.net)
520 Capitol Dr.
Pewaukee, WI 53072
262.695.4238 414.774.8938

SUBMISSIONS

Do you have a story you'd like to share? Have a restoration in progress or finished? Taken a memorable road trip or have a funny car story? Pictures, lessons learned, maintenance tips? Whatever. The *Alfanatic* is always looking for material to publish. Email your submissions to the editor at rabhalter@att.net and share with your fellow Alfisti.

DISTRIBUTION: The *Alfanatic* is distributed exclusively by email. To update your preferred email address reply to rabhalter@att.net. If you know a non-member Alfisti who would benefit from receiving the *Alfanatic*, send their email to me and I'll add it to the distribution list.

DISCLAIMER: Views expressed in the *Alfanatic* are solely those of the author and are in no way endorsed by this organization or publication.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP is \$68 per year and includes both national and local memberships. Renewals or new memberships may be sent directly to the National Office or visit <http://www.aroc-usa.org/membership/>.



CORTILE
della corsa