

ALFANATIC



Next Event

2019 AROC-WI Fall Color Tour

October (Date to be Determined)

Join us for a pleasant drive through rural Wisconsin. Enjoy Alfa roads and some magnificent Wisconsin fall foliage. Plans are still being developed. The date will be announced when the details are finalized.



In This Issue

- Events Calendar
- Event Reports
- RIP Mark Thompson
- Briefs
- New Classifieds

Records Broken at ICAMS Car Show

By Bob Ludwigson



The ICAMS team, (l-r) Bob Ludwigson; Judy Minden, ABCD; Debbie Hayes, ABCD; Gary Schommer, Mike Besch, Steve Wirtz


The 22nd annual Italian Car and Motorcycle Show was held at Reina International Autos August 11. With the help of Steve and Susan Wirtz and Gary Schommer we set up the show headquarters and were ready to welcome car registrants. Reina, as usual, provided the exhibit

space, helped organize the show field, and provided a delicious lunch and snacks. Steve and Susan handled registration and collected fees for the 41 cars registered.

This year our charity was the ABCD breast cancer support group. ABCD stands for After Breast Cancer Diagnosis. This group provides one-to-one mentoring for breast cancer patients and helps them with emotional and informational issues associated with breast cancer. Research has shown that patients who take advantage of this service have improved survival rates and are at reduced risk of recurrence. Representative Judy Minden from ABCD was on hand to help out and answer questions about the charity. Our car exhibitors and other show attendees were excep-

tionally generous in their donations. A total of \$3,300 was collected which greatly exceeded collections from previous ICAMS shows.

Registrants were given ballots to vote on their favorite cars. Categories included all the cars present, and the winners are listed below.

As we gain experience in running a charity car show, I am glad we are able to increase the amount collected. Let's do even better next year! 

Favorite Alfa Romeo:

1. Mark Leitshuh '60 Giulietta Spider
2. Gary Tree '74 Spider
3. Gary Schommer '71 GTV

Favorite Ferrari:

1. Jim Fuchs 2019 488 Pista
2. Donn Droegkamp 1985 308GTS QV
3. Ken Blum 2019 812

Favorite Fiat:

1. Robert Grosser '74 124 Spider
2. Blaze Catanese '77 124 Spider
3. Doug Schellinger '80 124 Spider

Favorite Other Italian Car:

1. Glen Hanke '57 Lancia Flaminia Zagato
2. John Ling '77 Lancia Scorpion
3. Neil Patton '72 DeTomaso Pantera

Car Best Expressing Italian Design:

Glen Hanke '57 Lancia Flaminia Zagato

No motorcycle awards were given.

2019 - 2020 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

September 13-15 [Ariens Art on Wheels Weekend featuring VSCDA Elkhart Lake Vintage Festival](#)

September 20-22 [Pirelli World Challenge](#), Road America

Oct-date TBA **AROC-WI Color Tour**

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

May 17-19, 2020 SVRA Spring Vintage Festival, Road America

June 14-16, 2020 Weathertech Chicago Region SCCA June Sprints, Road America

June 18-21, 2020 NTT Indycar Series Weekend, Road America

July 18-21, 2020 Weathertech International Challenge, Road America

July 20-26, 2020 AROC National Convention, Colorado Springs, Colorado

July 30 - August 2, 2020 IMSA Road Race Showcase, Road America

August 2, 2020 (T) Milwaukee Concours D'Elegance, Veterans Park, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

August 9, 2020 (T) AROC-WI 23d Annual ICAMS Show, Reina Intl. Auto. Brookfield, WI

August 16, 2020 [Pebble Beach Concours D'Elegance](#), Pebble Beach, California

August 23, 2020 Geneva Concours D'Elegance, Geneva, Illinois

More ICAMS Photos



Attendees enjoy lunch, courtesy Reina International Autos.



Steve Wirtz and Filippo Reina present the check to ABCD representative Judy Minden.



The Alfa lineup at ICAMS



ICAM Alfas, bikes, and Ferraris on the Reina lot

R.I.P. Mark Thompson

From Bradley Trick

Dear Alfa Romeo Owners Club Members,



Mark Thompson

when I called him he invited me to a club meeting. I remember how excited and nervous I was that I might not fit in with this club but Mark was so friendly and he just made me feel so welcomed at the event which led to me becoming a member and remaining one to this day.

Over the years Mark and I attended auto races together, and he even insisted in 2007 that I join him to go to Indianapolis for the last Formula 1 race held there. He picked me up at my home and he drove to Indy and back to my doorstep. Mark was a great friend, and as you know he took the timing of the hill climb very seriously. He helped maintain the timing equipment for that over the years.

You may recall his Milano with all the white decals on it. He also once owned a GTV that in his words was “sort of a mess.” I recall the late George Meikrantz writing the newsletter and the classifieds years ago. When that car came up for sale he referenced it as the car that Mark Thompson once owned. I sort of teased Mark that it was probably worth more because of his celebrity status knowing he once owned it. Mark did not appreciate the teasing but it was all in good fun.

Anyway I will miss Mark. He would get frustrated with his cars and I would get to hear how he had to get out to Al’s and get things sorted out on the Milano which I understand he just did recently. I just saw Mark at the IMSA race held August 4th at Road America. You could always spot Mark as he wore a hat that looked like he was about to embark on a sava-

ri. I already know I will be looking at Turn 5 at Road America for that guy with that hat. But Mark will not be there. A truly nice man and good friend that I will truly miss.

I have enjoyed the many friendships that the Alfa Romeo Owners Club has provided me over the years. Funny thing that as our cars get old and fail I never really think about how we do too.

Mark Thompson – Gone But Not Forgotten

I was shocked to learn of Mark’s sudden passing. He will be missed as a friend, a fellow Alfanatic, and for his long-term dedicated technical support of the New Glarus Hill Climb.

Mark was the technical wizard who took responsibility for setting up and maintaining our fragile communication/timing system. The system was designed by Alfanatic Gary Wirth over 30 years ago. Several years ago when Gary passed, Mark took ownership for the equipment. Annually, on the day before the hill climb, the team pulled the necessary mile of fine gage multi-conductor copper conductor wire, connected the phones, power supply, and start/stop switch, etc., only to discover either that we had no phone communication or the timing function was lacking. Through sheer determination Mark always got it working. Usually it was a crossed-connected or unconnected wire, a break in one of the conductors, or a misaligned timing light beam. Mark always stuck with it until it worked no matter how long this took. Mark, I salute you for your dedication!

Mark was also the proud owner of a 1989 Milano Verde that is believed to have participated in the Brock Yates “One Lap of America” event. See item 10 in the following hyperlink for further info:

<https://www.onelapofamerica.com/event/EntrantsList.do?eventId=6> It had been a while since I’d seen Mark with the Milano, but I understand that he had some repair work done recently and got to drive it a few days before he passed. I’m glad that he had the opportunity.

Ciao,
Gary Schommer



Mark at a 1998 autocross, checking Colin Comer’s ride.



Mark Thompson Celebration

At press time there is no date set for Mark Thompson's celebration of life. Mark's sister Fran plans to host an event in October. When the arrangements firm up, we'll be sure to notify the membership.

Shorts

Hagerty Names 69-74 GTV Hot Collector Vehicle

Collector car insurer Hagerty keeps a close watch on the classic car marketplace. Their market coverage includes a listing of the [25 "hottest" collector vehicles](#), based on insurance written, recorded sales, and other factors. The number 2 vehicle in their fall update is the 1969 -1974 GTV, only one point behind the 1963-1983 Jeep Wagoneer. Since the Wagoneer is really a proto-SUV, you can justifiably claim that your GTV is the hottest collector *car* in the marketplace right now.

This should come as no surprise to visitors to the online auction site BringaTrailer.com. A week never passes without the sale of at least one GTV. From projects to freshly restored cars, they are a hot commodity. Hagerty values #3 driver-quality coupes at a median price of \$46,486, a value bump of approximately 20% since the beginning of the year. BaTcom sale prices support this valuation.



Gary with his 1971 GTV.

If you are the long-term owner of a GTV, it may be time to review your insurance policy. AROC-WI past-president Gary Schommer did just that recently. He writes:

"Two months ago had my '71 GTV appraised to make sure that I had adequate insurance coverage. I don't recall when I'd last had it appraised but knew that it was well overdue. The appraisal came in at

more than 2.6 times the previous appraisal. As my coverage is based on appraised value, I was underinsured by this same factor. I was quite surprised (and pleased) how much the value had increased. I now have insurance coverage commensurate with the car's value. The premium increase was reasonable at about \$50/year." Gary stated that his appraisal was in line with the values quoted in the Hagerty article.

The more general lesson here is that if you're the owner of a collector car, you should carry declared-value insurance and verify that your insurance covers the current value of your car.

F1 Recap

Alfa Romeo Racing F1 Box Score

Race / Place	RAI	Pts	GIO	Pts
Britain	8	4	DNF	0
Germany	12	0	13	0
Hungary	7	6	18	0
Belgium	16	0	18	0
Season Driver Pts		31		1
Constructor Points	32	Rank	8	

Formula 1 has seen some reasonably good racing both before and after the summer break.

It appears that Hamilton has reestablished his primacy over teammate Bottas and that LeClerc is now the de facto leader of the Ferrari team. Verstappen, with two victories and a second place, is established as a front runner. He now has Albon as a teammate after the demotion of Gasly. If only there was a similarly easy answer for the Giovinazzi "problem."

Kimi has been reliably scoring mid-pack points and would have finished better at the Spa had Verstappen not wounded his car in the first lap collision that took Max out of the action.

Ferrari showed great speed at Spa and promises more of the same for Monza. Let's hope both teammates can keep their cars ahead of the Silver Arrows.

Fiat 500 Sedan to Disappear from U.S. Showrooms

FCA recently announced that the Fiat 500 sedan will no longer be sold in the U.S. The 2019 model of the 500 sedan, convertible, and Abarth will continue on sale into 2020 at which point sales will end. Dealers will still have the 500L, 500X, and 124 Spider to offer going forward. No replacement is on the radar for the sedan, which was the top-selling model in the U.S. market.

Alfa Romeo Tonale a Go for Production



Alfa Romeo this week confirmed plans to produce the Tonale SUV in the Pomigliano d'Arco plant near Naples. It will be assembled alongside the new Fiat Panda hybrid. The plant has been the beneficiary of a billion-Euro update, scheduled to be finished next year.

Although no firm schedule has been announced, it appears that the Panda will be introduced first, with the Tonale to follow, most likely in 2021.

Alfa Wins Gran Turismo Trophy at Pebble Beach



A 1931 8C 2300 Spider Zagato took this year's Gran Turismo Trophy at the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance. The trophy, presented by the producer of the popular video game, recognizes the unique combination of style and performance. The car is the 7th 8C2300 built and won the Targa Florio in the hands

of Tazio Nuvolari. It was later piloted by Enzo Ferrari during its successful racing career. The car passed through the collections of prominent collectors, including Pink Floyd drummer Nick Mason, and was presented at Pebble Beach by its current owners, Jonathan Feiber and Heather Buhr.

The 1750 Turns Fifty

Time flies. It seems only years ago (2012, actually) we commemorated the 50th anniversary of the introduction of the Giulia range of automobiles. Well, it's 2019 now and fifty years ago the 1750 range—Berlina, Spider, and GTV—was introduced.



The successor to the 105-series, the 115-series chassis was an update of the earlier design. The pedals were moved from the floor to the bulkhead, a rear anti-sway bar was added, along with other detail changes.

The first model to carry all the upgrades was the Berlina, a square-rigged restyle of the Giulia Berlina. The 1969 GTV was restyled and got the bigger engine but did not get all the chassis updates until 1970. Ditto the Spider. Although 1750-engined Duetto Spiders were available from 1967 on, the restyled Spider with the squared-off rear end didn't make it into production until 1970 and didn't appear in the U.S. until 1971.

Giovinazzi on Thin Ice?

Antonio Giovinazzi's days with Alfa Romeo Racing may be growing short, according to flworld.it. The Italian driver has been struggling this year and he drew the wrong kind of attention by sliding off the track in the closing laps in Belgium.

The likely replacement is reserve driver Marcus Ericsson, scheduled to drive in F1 at Singapore. However Nico Hulkenberg, recently released by Renault, could be in the running if Ericsson doesn't pan out.



Classifieds

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

Free!

Alfa Owner Collection Michael Besch is cleaning house on a 50-plus year collection of auto magazines and literature. He has a nearly complete collection of the *Alfa Owner* dating from January 1992 to the present. (missing only May '93, Dec. '95, Jan. '96, and Dec '02) If you want them, just come and take them away. *However, you must take them all. No picking and choosing.* Contact Michael at 262-786-8896 or mbesch49@gmail.com

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.



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

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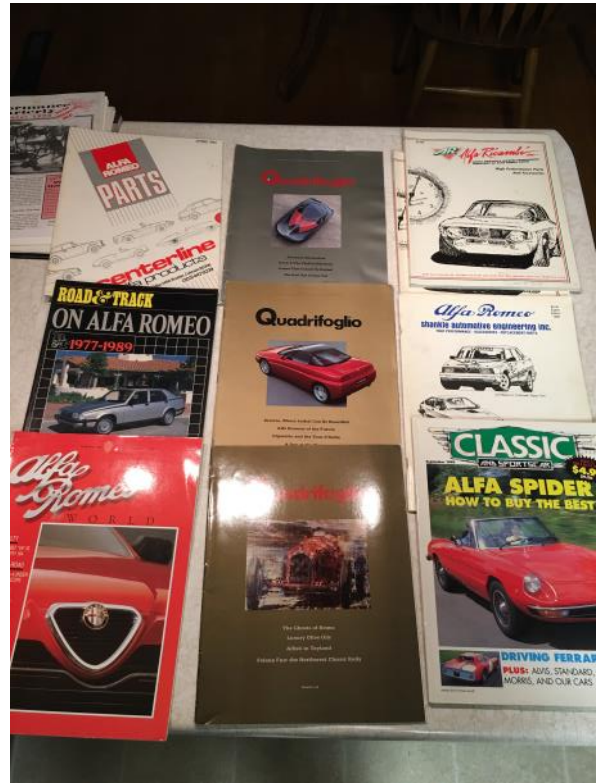
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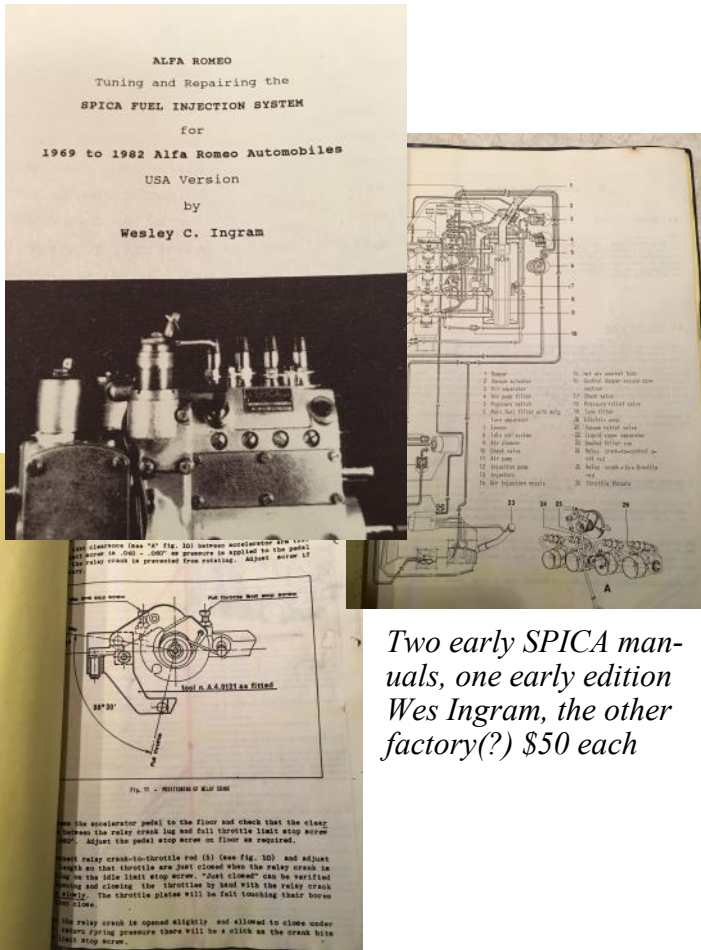
See the photos, below. There are more items available. Please inquire.

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



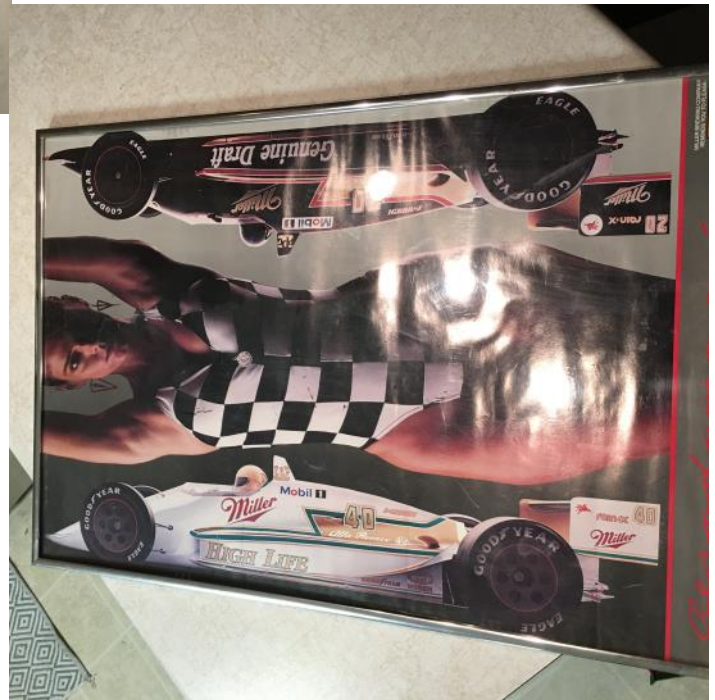
Three copies of the *Quadrifoglio*, Alfa's U.S. house organ, \$30 for the lot



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



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.

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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.

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