

The Alfanatic
Wishes All Alfisti and Their Families a
Very Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year



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#### Milwaukee Concours Takes a Break



The Milwaukee Concours d'Elegance last month announced that there will be no 2020 show in Veterans Park. Citing personnel changes and failure to meet financial goals, the board of directors decided to take a year off to regroup. A driving and social event is being planned as a partial replacement. The board stated that they hope to be back in 2021 with expanded activities aimed at better meeting the organization's goals.

The Milwaukee Concours d'Elegance has so far had a 15-year run. Originally dubbed the Milwaukee Masterpiece, the show's title was changed in 2016 to better reflect the aspirations of the event. There have been year to year improvements in the show and the quality of the entries, but according to the news release the show hasn't met its financial targets for some years. It is difficult to run a show like this. Many other enthusiast events compete for car lovers' time in August. Hopefully the organizers can find a way forward, but discontinuities such as this can often prove fatal. We wish them well and hope they don't decide to permanently fold the tent.

#### **Snowbird Activities for Alfisti**

Most likely your precious vintage Alfas are now stored away, but that doesn't mean there are no AROC events available to you. Locally, our club is working on plans for the annual banquet, most likely in March. The date and location will be announced as soon as the details are finalized.

If you'd like your events in a warmer climate, head to Arizona or California in January.

The Phoenix/Scottsdale Auction Week, January 12-19, provides plenty of opportunity for car watching. Bring your checkbook or letter of credit and pick up something new for your garage. The cooling collector car market may provide some Alfa bargains.

The AROC Winter Retreat in the Palm Springs, California, area has become something of an off-season mini convention. Established a few years back as a planning session for the board of directors, the agenda has expanded with the addition of social events and road trips. This winter's event is scheduled for January 17-19, 2020. All AROC members are welcome.

AROC plans an expanded presence at next year's Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance, March 6-8. This Florida Concours is definitely worth the trip. The club has a block of rooms reserved for both the Concours and the Winter Retreat. See the <u>AROC website</u> for details.

## 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

January 12-19 Scottsdale Auction Week

February 8-17 Chicago Auto Show, McCormick Place, Chicago

February 22-March 1 Milwaukee Auto Show, Wisconsin Center, Milwaukee, WI

March 5-8 Amelia Island Concours D'Elegance

May 1-2 AROC-WI New Glarus Hill Climb

May 10-20 AROC Goes to Italy Tour

May 17-19 SVRA Spring Vintage Festival, Road America

June 12-14 Weathertech Chicago Region SCCA June Sprints, Road America

June 13-14 Le Mans 24 Hour Race

June 18-21 NTT Indycar Series Weekend, Road America

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

July 23-26 Weathertech International Challenge, Road America

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

July 24-26 Concours d'Elegance of America, Plymouth, Michigan

August 6-8 NASCAR Xfinity Series Henry 180, Trans Am, Stadium Trucks, Road America

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

August 16 Pebble Beach Concours D'Elegance, Pebble Beach, California

August 23 Geneva Concours D'Elegance, Geneva, Illinois

August 20-30 World Challenge Sportscar Weekend, Road America

September 10-13 U.S. Vintage Grand Prix, with Alfas at the Glen, Watkins Glen, NY

## F1 Report

The last two races of the 2019 F1 season were a study in contrast for the Alfa Romeo Racing team. Brazil was arguably the high point of its season, while Abu Dhabi was just another day at the office.

Race to race, it's easy to see that some cars are better suited for certain tracks than others. Mercedes seems to have the best overall configuration and Williams the worst, while other teams shine brighter under specific conditions. For Alfa Romeo, the Interlagos circuit was a place to shine. Raikkonen placed 4th, with Giovinazzi 5th, the team's best performance of the year. In Abu Dhabi the team was back to its usual form, finishing near the back of the pack.

The 2020 season begins in March. Kimi and Antonio will be back at the wheel. Hopefully the team will find the improved speed and handling which will lift them out of their 8th place in the constructor's rankings.

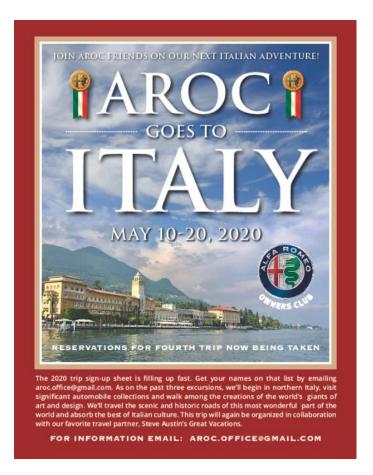
The race in Brazil was exciting and eventful. Abu Dhabi was less so. In Brazil, hot shoe Max Verstappen posted his first pole and third win of the season. There was plenty of bizarre action toward the end of the race, with the two Ferraris taking each other out (most thought it was Vettel's fault,) and Hamilton flipping Alex Albon out of what would have been his first podium appearance. Lewis got an after-race penalty that dropped him from third to sixth, ironically promoting Toro Rosso's Pierre Gasly, the driver Albon replaced at Red Bull, to third.

In Abu Dhabi, Lewis Hamilton led the entire race, and Leclerc had nothing for second place Verstappen. Vettel could do no better than 5th, partly the result of a bad pit stop and partly because his Ferrari just didn't have the pace. Aside from some late lap midfield jockeying, that was the race at the sterile, modern Yas Marina circuit.

## Alfa Romeo Racing F1 Box Score

Race / Place	RAI	Pts	GIO	Pts
Brazil	4	12	5	10
Abu Dhabi	13	0	16	0
Season Driver Rank/ Pts	12	43	17	14
Constructor Points	57	Rank	8	

## **Italy Anyone?**



The fourth edition of AROC's popular "AROC Goes to Italy" tour is on for 2020. The May 10-20 expedition, once again organized by Steve Austin's Great Vacations exclusively for the AROC, promises to deliver a unique Italian-flavored and Alfa-biased car guy experience. Participants on previous trips had nothing but praise for the experience. Some couples liked it so well they went two years in a row.

As of Thanksgiving, there were ten spaces still available for the 2020 event. See the <u>AROC website</u> for details and contact information.

#### **Rocky Mountain High**

Consider a Colorado vacation this summer. The AROC National Convention, sponsored by the Alfa Club of the Rockies and dubbed "20/20 Looking Back / Moving Forward," is scheduled for July 22-26 in Colorado Springs. The pre-convention tour starts July 20. Just remember that smoking weed and driving don't mix. Expect more information to be released soon.

#### **Shorts**

### **Tonale Makes Apperance at LA Show**

In addition to the updated 2020 Giulia and Stelvio, Alfa showed the Tonale compact SUV at the recent Los Angeles Auto Show. The competitor to the BMX X1 and X2, Audi Q3, and Volvo XC40 was shown without much fanfare or supporting information, but its appearance in LA suggests that it will come to the U.S. sometime in late 2020.



This smaller sibling of the Stelvio is projected to be built on the Jeep Renegade platform, as is the Fiat 5000X. That means it will have front wheel drive. The expected hybrid version will add a motor powering the rear axle. If Alfa's dreams come true, a late 2020 introduction would mean availability in the 2021 model year. Stay tuned.

# 2020 Giulia and Stelvio to Get Tech, Interior Upgrades

The more immediate news from the LA Auto Show was the introduction of the 2020 models of the Giulia and Stelvio. Both vehicles will get upgraded interiors and infotainment systems, addressing the two most often mentioned criticisms of the original design. The center console has been redesigned, with the rotary dial and other controls repositioned for better ergonomics and feel. You can now wirelessly charge your cellphone in a newly provided stowage area.

Other tweaks include a new steering wheel design, a leather-wrapped shifter, and heavier laminated front glass "for improved ambiance."

Both cars get new 8.8 inch touchscreens that are said to be configurable and have faster processors. Sirius XM radio capability will be standard.



Also new will be ADAS (Advanced Driver Assistance System) with a full suite of level II autonomous driving system capabilities, like blind spot assistance, drowsy driver detection, and traffic jam assist, etc., etc.

Of course there will be new metallic colors so your neighbors can tell you've bought a new one, and the Stelvio will get some additional cladding and exterior trim.

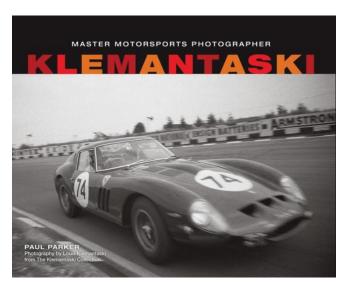
Look for the 2020s at your local dealer before the end of the year. (Bargain hunters may want to take advantage of the discounts and lease deals being offered on the remaining 2019 models.)



### **Centerline International Offering NOS Trove**

Amid the ton of Black Friday and Cyber Monday offers in my inbox last week was a notice from Centerline International announcing the availability of some hard to find NOS (new old stock, for the uninitiated) parts. The notice says hundreds of parts have been listed with thousands to come. Check them out here.

#### Klemantaski Book Deal



Just in time for Christmas, the Klemantaski Collection is making available the last 50 copies of the publisher's stock of *KLEMANTASKI – Master Motosports Photographer*, a stunning chronicle of motorsports by an artist known as the greatest motorsports photographer of all time. This chronicle of over 30 years of racing from 1935 to 1967, with explanatory text by Paul Parker, covers 272 well-printed pages and offers delight after visual delight.

The book, published in 2014, commonly sells for \$60 -\$65 but you can have your copy for only \$29.95, plus shipping (about \$10.00.) But you may have to act quickly as the offer was announced on November 12 and quantities are limited. To order your copy, Email: info@klemcoll.com or call (203) 461-9804 for information on availability and payment. The Collection accepts credit cards or Paypal.

Thanks to long-time AROC-WI member David Ziglin for this tip.

#### Giulia Quadrifoglio in Neon Green?

This neon green Giulia Quad, (above, next column), shown at the LA Auto show, is featured in the upcoming Michael Bay action film 6 *Underground*, due to premier on Netflix, December 13. The actionadventure film stars Ryan Reynolds as leader of a vigilante group. Apparently they answer to no one and go around the world righting wrongs and generally shooting up the place. The trailers show lots of explosions, machine guns, and flying bodies—a real Christmas feel-good sort of movie. If you like this sort of thing, then the appearance of the Giulia should just sweeten the pot for you.



No plans have been announced to make this color available from your dealer, but I bet your local provider of custom wraps would be happy to make one just for you.

#### **Presumed Production Version of Tonale Exposed**

ClubAlfa.it, in October, published these photos of the presumed production version of the Tonale. It varies in some respects from the concept version shown at the LA Show (see page 4.) This model was likely produced for consumer forums and may not be in the final form, but it is probably very close.



## 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.

#### 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

#### For Sale

**1991 Alfa Romeo Spider** with a ZF auto trans,\$8,000. I bought it 3 years ago and put \$12,000 into it as a keeper but health and flexibility prevent me getting in and out. Mechanically good but paint not the best. Located in Green Bay. Call (920) 362-7663 Romeo Raabe.





#### **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

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 <a href="mailto:gjtree-house@gmail.com">gjtree-house@gmail.com</a>

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) (sold), 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 SPI-CA 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 <a href="mailto:flhwelder@gmail.com">flhwelder@gmail.com</a>



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



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

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



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



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

#### **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 <a href="https://www.jillreger.com">www.jillreger.com</a>



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 <a href="mailto:rabhalter@att.net">rabhalter@att.net</a> and share with your fellow Alfisti.

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