

ALFANATIC



New Glarus Season Opener Pleases

Saturday, May 1, dawned bright and crisp in New Glarus for the 32nd running of *Das Kurze Klausenrenn*, a.k.a. the New Glarus Hill Climb. The chapter's traditional spring event attracted 41 entrants representing 18 different marques. The variety was enhanced by members of our event partner, the Vintage Sportscar Club of Chicago.

Entrants started arriving in earnest Friday afternoon. The parking lot at the Chalet Landhaus was soon filled with cars and their owners, greeting each other after the Covid-enforced hiatus which caused last year's event to be cancelled. After an evening of reunions and bench racing over dinner and drinks, the field assembled early Saturday morning in the parking lot for tech inspections and the obligatory driver's meeting, once again ably handled by Gary Schommer. After the usual cautions, the drivers crossed the highway and were off on their orientation runs up Kubly road. A short delay for communications checks and course marshalling preceded timed runs on the 0.7 mile course. Most everyone had their fill of runs by 1:00 p.m.

An afternoon break for lunch, and touring or browsing the New Glarus shops preceded the president's reception. The traditional Swiss Alpenhorn entertainment established that the theme to Beethoven's Ode to Joy can be played on a valveless horn. It was then off to the Chalet Landhaus restaurant for the annual banquet, where it was announced that the participant's donations had provided a record \$2,000 for the New Glarus Boys Baseball program.

Sunday morning dawned bright and warm. Some entrants hit the road early while others lingered over breakfast, but all left pleased with the weekend. (more...)



In This Issue

- Hill Climb Report
- Events Calendar and Updates
- F1 News
- Giulia, Stelvio Awards
- Montreal For Sale



The Chalet Landhaus parking lot filled up quickly. (Bill Siegfriedt photos.)

Although Alfas, predominated with roughly a quarter of the entries, the field included an honor roll of British, German, French, Italian, and U.S. marques. Pre-war cars entered included John Ulrich’s 1924 Darracq; a 1926 Sunbeam 3-Liter Super Sports entered by Bob and Herb Lederer; Tedd Zamjahn’s 1926 Bugatti Type 37; and a 1934 British Salmson S4C boat-tail special, entered by David Phillips.

Colin and Cana Comer made it a family affair, with Remy and Briggs riding shotgun as their mom and dad tried the hill in their all-original 1964 289 Cobra. The earliest Alfas present were the 1967 Duettos of Peter Van Nortwick and Randy Hughes, who drove

the Celeste Blue Spider formerly owned by hill climb founder Tom Caulfield.

Mark and Lorrie-Ann Fisher brought their “Lotus 15,” Mark’s custom engineered, Cosworth engined, 10-year project, based on the iconic sports racer but with stretched wheelbase and widened track to suit his 6’5” frame.




Happy event chief Kevin Caulfield (Bill S. photo)

2021 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

May 14-16	SVRA Vintage Festival Weekend, Road America
May 22-23	Amelia Island Concours d’Elegance , Amelia Island, FL
May 31	Detroit Chapter AROC Drogato Pista Lapping Day, Grattan Raceway
June 4-6	WeatherTech Chicago Region SCCA June Sprints, Road America
June 12	CAROC Track Day, Blackhawk Farms Chicago Alfa Romeo Owners Club
June 17-20	Indy Car Series Rev Group Grand Prix presented by AMR, Road America
June 18-20	VSCDA Blackhawk Classic XXIX , Blackhawk Farms, South Beloit, IL
June 23	The Heinrichs’ Sportscar Solstice Howl at the Moon Garage Party
July 1-4	NASCAR Cup Series, Road America
July 9-10	Millers at Milwaukee , (vintage Indy Cars), State Fair Park
July 15-18	WeatherTech International Challenge with Brian Redman, Road America
July 15-19	Chicago Auto Show, McCormick Place
July 23-25	Concours d’Elegance of America , Plymouth, Michigan
August 1 (t)	AROC-WI 23d Annual ICAMS Show, Reina Intl. Auto, Brookfield, WI
August 5-8	IMSA Sportscar Weekend, Road America
August 13-15	VSCDA Vintage Grand Prix Au Grattan XXXIV, Grattan Raceway, Belding, MI
August 15	Pebble Beach Concours D’Elegance , Pebble Beach, California
August 21-22	Le Mans 24 Hour Race, Le Mans, France
August 22	Geneva Concours D’Elegance , Geneva, Illinois
August 27-29	World Challenge (Sportscars), Road America
September 7-12	AROC National Convention, Colorado Springs, Colorado
September 17-19	Ariens Art on Wheels Vintage Weekend, Road America
Sept 30-Oct 3	American Speed Festival , M1 Concourse, Pontiac, Michigan
October 1-13	AROC Goes to Italy Tour information at AROC-USA.ORG
October 21-25	AROC Goes to the U.S. Grand Prix Tour information at AROC-USA.ORG
2022	
January 14-17	AROC Winter Retreat, Palm Desert, California
May 6-7	AROC-WI Das Kurze Klausenrennen, New Glarus, Wisconsin
May 8-18	AROC Goes to Italy Tour

After several years in Jim Fuch’s capable hands, organization of the event passed to Kevin Caulfield in 2019. He did a masterful job in his second outing, after being forced to cancel last year’s climb. He once again had very able assistance from regulars Gary Schommer and Tom Schmock. Tom was responsible for developing the new wireless communications system used for the first time this weekend. No more dodgy phone lines!

Grant Stanfield graciously volunteered to man the “saddle” and took some fine videos of cars on the course. Aaron Anding’s son Aiden was eager to man the timing table with Ryan Frazier, and numerous other volunteers pitched in for tech inspection, flagging, etc. Kudos also to Dale Ketelboeter, organizer with New Glarus Boys Baseball, who recruited volunteers to man the walkie talkies and watch the course. Plans are already afoot for the 2022 edition, same place, same time—the first weekend in May. Join us.  Photos by Bob Abhalter unless otherwise credited.



Gary Schommer conducts the driver’s meeting. (B. Siegfriedt Photo)



The best of Britain, France, and Italy (B. Siegfriedt)



Cana Comer with co-driver Remy. (B. Siegfriedt photo)



Randy Hughes attacks the hill.



Mark Whipple takes the first turn.



Not too sporty, but fast and comfortable—John Koziol Jr’s “Roller.”



An Alpenhorn duet calling us to dinner?



John Ulrich brought this 1924 Darracq.

More New Glarus Photos



We're not sure who brought this nice TR4.



The Anding's Fiat 1500 is a perennial entrant.



Who doesn't love a 2CV? Robert and Marianne Anderson brought this one.



Saturday morning in the parking lot



Gary Schommer cautions the drivers.



Tedd Zamjahn's Type 37 was a reluctant starter.



Colin Comer takes son Briggs for a ride.

Thank You from New Glarus Boys Baseball

“Would like to thank you for donation towards New Glarus boys baseball team your very generous donation will go along way in helping cover costs for equipment, field rent, and paying umpires. This fundraiser allows us to continue to play summer baseball without a lot of out of pocket expense. I was unable to attend banquet this year to personally thank you so on behalf of the boys baseball team, thank you very much. Dale”

More New Glarus Photos

They can be found by following this link:

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmVx3Ps4>

Alfa Romeo Racing Shows Promise in Portugal, Comes Up Short Once More



The May 6 Portuguese F1 Grand Prix brought another win for Lewis Hamilton and Mercedes and another disappointment for Alfa Romeo. Both Raikkonen and Giovinazzi made it into Q2, with Kimi qualifying 15th and Giovinazzi 12th. Unfortunately for the team, in the race Raikkonen lasted only one lap, rear-ending his teammate’s car and spreading carbon fiber all over the main straight. This brought out an early safety car. Giovinazzi soldiered on to a 12th place—2 places short of the points. For the season to date, the team has no points, Raikkonen having lost his 9th place finish at Imola due to a penalty levied post-race. This leaves Alfa in the cellar with Haas and Williams. Next stop, Barcelona.

More Awards for Giulia, Stelvio

The German magazine *Auto Bild* named the Alfa Giulia the best-designed mid-class car, and the Stelvio the best-designed mid-class SUV. The Giulietta also won for design in its category. The magazine rates the vehicles based on feedback from 60,000 readers and scores cars for quality, design, price/performance, and

overall scores. While the Alfas scored highly in design, they were not ranked in the top ten for quality in either category. Audi took top marks for quality in both classes. Both the Giulia and Stelvio were rated 9th overall in their respective classes. The Cupra Formentor (Some name!) was first overall in mid-class SUVs and the Skoda Superb placed first in sport sedans. Cupra is the performance badge of the Spanish automaker SEAT, while Skoda is a venerable Czech marque. Neither can be found in the U.S. 🍀



The Cupra Formentor

Montreal Project For Sale—Some Work Required

Some things, once seen, are hard to unsee. A cruise on the internet brought me to an eBay listing by Los Angeles seller Porforato. The listing was for the RHD 1977 Montreal, pictured below. The accompanying text told the story of its U.K. owner who had imported the car to the U.S. The car was subsequently stolen, set afire, and recovered by the insurance company in 1983. Engine and transmission are apparently still intact. The Monti was listed with a very optimistic starting price of \$6,000 and not surprisingly got no takers. If you’re the type that likes a challenge, or perhaps would like a nice engine to drop into your GTV, perhaps you can do a deal. Or maybe you’d like a nice 356 Porsche. It looks like they have a bunch. 🍀



Classifieds

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

Wanted

Your classified ads! Posted free! Let us know.

For Sale

Vintage Alfa Romeo Dealer Sign



This sign is 5 feet in diameter and in very good shape. There are 2 small cracks that can be repaired and the color is excellent. We had this sign mounted in our shop (Steve's British Connection) on a large pole for years. It

currently is not lighting up but it should be an easy fix. Selling because we closed our shop. The sign is located in Lake Geneva. We prefer to sell the sign to someone who can come and see it in person and take it. We're trying not to have to ship it. I have more photos I can send direct. Asking \$3,500. Feel free to call 630-553-9023 or email sbcinc@aol.com Thank you.

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 gjtreehouse@gmail.com

Detroit AROC Lapping Day at Grattan

The Detroit chapter is once again presenting its Memorial Day Track event at the Grattan racecourse near Belding, Michigan. The 2-mile hilly club circuit is a fun ride and not all that far away for our southeast Wisconsin members. Find an application on the pages following.

CAROC Track Day at Blackhawk

For something a little closer to home, join CAROC at Blackhawk Farms, June 12. Sign up at the CAROC website: [Chicago Alfa Romeo Owners Club - HOME \(caroc.com\)](http://ChicagoAlfaRomeoOwnersClub-HOME(caroc.com))

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

NEWSLETTER 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/>.



The Drogato Pista at Grattan Raceway Memorial Day Monday May 31, 2021

This is an open event for ALL CARS and ALL SAFE drivers. We intend this to be a fun, enjoyable, educational day at the track where you can drive at your car's potential and improve your driving skills. In this non-competitive event, we will give the maximum track time possible, rain or shine. Cars will be grouped by performance potential and drivers' track experience. This is not a race.

Tentative Schedule:

7:00 - 8:00 am Tech Inspection & Registration
8:30 am Mandatory Drivers' Meeting
9:00 am First Drivers' Session Begins
12 noon Lunch and Touring Sessions
1:00 pm Restart Drivers' Sessions
6:00 pm Event Closes



Drivers' Sessions Requirements:

Long sleeved shirt, long pants, and gloves, cotton or nomex, other fire retardant mat'l - no exceptions.
ALL helmets must be SNELL rated **SA 2010** or later (eye shield or glasses for open cars). M rated helmets not recommended.
SNELL label must be visible. No exceptions will be allowed. AROC has a limited number of loaner helmets available.
We cannot accept Snell 2005 or older helmets at our events.
Roll bars for ALL open cars. Please call if you are planning to run a convertible or drop top.
Stock 3 point, 5 or 6 point harness (NO 2 point or 4 point - strictly enforced).

Remember, this is a non-competitive event - no wheel-to-wheel driving!! You may be warned or dismissed for spinning, leaving the track surface, wheel-to-wheel driving or otherwise endangering yourself or others. Any car-to-car contact is grounds for expulsion from the event. Any damage incurred to the track will be the responsibility of the driver(s) involved. We intend this to be a safe and fun event. This is not a race.

Touring Sessions:

During the lunch break, all drivers will be allowed slow touring laps of the track (no helmet or roll bars are required). Speeds will be limited by pace cars, no passing will be allowed, passengers will be allowed, and all drivers' session warnings will be enforced as well. "Touring Only" is available for \$20.

Early Registration Fee:

AROC members: \$140
Invited Club members*: \$195
Non-members: \$205

Touring Only, pay at track: \$20
Guardrails (don't hit them!): \$250

AROC Standard Membership (1 year): \$68 <http://www.aroc-usa.org/membership/>

There will be a **\$20 fee increase for all applications postmarked/submitted Tues May 25 or later.**
There is a **\$20 fee for registering at the track on event day** (\$40 total fee increase).

We will allow 55 drivers to register for the Drivers' Sessions. Entries accepted in order of receipt, AROC members given first priority, invited club members second, non-members third.

The track will charge a \$10.00 entry fee to each person entering the track. This is Grattan's policy, not the Alfa Club's.

Garages are available at the track for \$50 each through Grattan Raceway. Track phone number is (616) 691-7221.

Registration Options:

1. **By Mail:** Send the below form completed (online, email, or post) and payment to:
Please make checks payable to: **AROC Detroit**

Randy Velikan
1200 Wright Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
alfanut@arocdetroit.org

2. **By Email or MotorsportReg.com:**
PayPal.com payments can be made to the AROC
Detroit Treasury at: alfanut@arocdetroit.org

Sorry, applications received by mail cannot be
accepted after Saturday, May 29.
Please call if sending close to this date.

No refunds – credits given for future events.
For further information contact:

Randy Velikan Event Chair (734) 747-1130 alfanut@arocdetroit.org	Scott Whitford Co-Chair (586) 665-1154 scott.whitford6@gmail.com
--	--

Nearby hotels (ask for Grattan pricing):
Candlestone Golf & Resort, 616-794-1580
AmericInn in Greenville, 800-634-3444

Info can also be found on our web site - <http://www.arocdetroit.org>



NOTE: Our helmet requirements have changed. All helmets must have **Snell 2010** or newer certification.

Registration Form: (for mail or e-mail registrations) Please complete ALL Fields Below for Grattan, Monday, May 31, 2021

For this event, the track will be driven clockwise.

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Address: _____

City / State: _____ Zip: _____

Car Manufacturer, Model, and Year: _____

Note Modifications Made To Vehicle: _____

Tires(track or street): _____ Would you like an instructor? (recommended for drivers with less than 5 track days or new to Grattan): _____

Track Experience (your TOTAL number of track days, number of track days) GRATTAN _____ OTHER tracks _____ Total: _____

Please indicate the size and fragility of your ego for group assignment purposes (the secret's out now!):

Large & Sensitive Above Average & Easily Bruised Reasonable & Typical Small & Resilient

How would you prefer to be notified of our future events? (please indicate):

E-MAIL, Postal Mail, Cave Paintings, Smoke Signals, Personal Invite from the Queen

Preferred (email) address for future event mailings: _____

Are you currently on our e-mailing list with above email address? _____

THANK YOU!!!

* Invited Clubs: Lotus Club, Audi Club, MG Club, Cobra Club, PCA, BMW Club, Shelby Club, FME, Viper Club, Corvette Club, Mid West F Body Association, S2000 Club, S2Ki, NSX Club, Miata Club, Chin Motorsports, MSCCA, CGI, many others. Basically if you support a Detroit area car club, we support you with a discount.

This event is sponsored by the *Alfa Romeo Owners Club of Detroit*. Thank you in advance for your support!