

ALFANATIC



Spring Arrives in Time for Hill Climb

After a month or more of seemingly constant and gloomy “April showers,” spring finally broke through just in time for the 33rd running of *das Kurze Klausenrennen*, a.k.a. the New Glarus Hillclimb. Although Friday’s drive to the venue was wet for some, Saturday dawned sunny, warm, and balmy—a perfect day for a run or two up the Kubly Road course. Forty three registrants fielded 17 different marques, among them 10 Alfas.

Event organizer Kevin Caulfield once again mustered his team of eager and able volunteers to produce another great event, while the Vintage Sportscar Club provided the usual spicy mix of vintage iron to complement the relatively small field of Alfas from the AROC-WI “home team.” “There were plenty of special cars and each was a delight to see,” said Kevin.

During Saturday evening’s dinner, Gary Schommer announced a donation of \$1,700 to the New Glarus youth summer sports programs. See below and the following pages for some pictures of the event.



Gary Schommer conducts the traditional obligatory drivers meeting. Several first-timers were present.




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An Invitation from AROC-Minnesota


*“Our Minnesota Club extends a warm invitation to join us at the 29th Annual **InterMarque Spring Kick-off** to be held **May 21, 2022** in Osseo, MN. Alfa Romeo will be the featured marque! I’ve attached a poster here, but you can get more information as well on the [InterMarque.org website](https://www.intermarque.org). The show will be held rain or shine from 10 a.m. until 3:00. Osseo is a suburb of the Twin Cities. We would love to have your members come across for a visit! Could you please pass the word to your group?*

- Marcia Morris


See the poster elsewhere in this issue for more information on the event. 

Chicago Fiat Club Heads North Car Show Planned, June 25

Club representative Tim North has extended an invitation from The Fiat Club of America—Chicagoland Chapter, (nee FLU Chicagoland), to join them for an

informal European car show Saturday afternoon, June 25, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., at the Ingleside Hotel, 2810 Golf Road, Pewaukee. All European cars, new or “classic,” are welcome for this casual “meet and greet” event. The show is a part of the *Fiats Up North* (FUN) event the club is holding June 24-26 at the hotel. Those interested in knowing more about the event should contact the club. They have an [events page](#) set up on Facebook. 

Howl at the Moon, Wednesday June 29

The Heinrichs will once again host their popular Sportscar Solstice Howl at the Moon Garage Party and Happening, Wednesday, June 29, at Lift Incorporated, 2737 West Mill Road, Glendale, WI. All are invited. Guests are welcome to show up around 6:00 p.m. Tom and Pam will provide a grill. Attendees can provide their food of choice and desired beverages. You’re welcome to bring something to share. You can count on seeing some interesting cars, as well as new and old friends. 

Local, Regional, and International Events Calendar

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

May 20-22	SVRA Vintage Festival Weekend, Road America
May 21	29th Annual InterMarque Spring Kick-off, Osseo MN (see flyer, this issue)
June 4	CAROC and Lotus Corps Track Day, Blackhawk Farms Raceway
June 6-16	AROC Goes to Italy Tour #4
June 9-12	NTT IndyCar Series, Road America
June 11-12	24 Hours of Le Mans
June 13-19	AROC-USA National Convention, Coronado, California
June 17-19	WeatherTech Chicago Region SCCA June Sprints, Road America
June 25	European Car Soirée, Ingleside Hotel, Pewaukee, 2 to 4 p.m. (see flyer)
June 29	The Heinrich’s Howl at the Moon Party
June 30-July 3	NASCAR Cup and Xfinity Series races, Road America
July 14-17	WeatherTech International Challenge with Brian Redman, Road America
July 24	Italian Happening (popular Italian car and bike show) Rochester, MI
August 3-7	Iowa Auto Italiano 2022, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Driving Tours
August 4-7	IMSA Sportscar Weekend, Road America
August 7	ICAMS, AROC-WI, Sussex Village Park, Sussex, Wisconsin
August 19-21	GT World Challenge America, Road America
August 20	Concorso Italiano, Seaside, California
August 21	Pebble Beach Concours d’Elegance, Pebble Beach, California
August 28	Geneva Concours d’Elegance, Geneva, Illinois
September 16-18	Ariens Art on Wheels Vintage Weekend w/VSCDA, Road America
September 16-18	Detroit Concours (nee Concours of America) Detroit MI
Sept 30-Oct 12	AROC Goes To Italy Tour #5
October 20-24	AROC Goes to the F1 USGP, Circuit of the Americas, Austin, TX

2023

March 3-5 [The Amelia](#) (Concours), Amelia Island, Florida

Iowa Goes Italian

AROC member and tour organizer extraordinaire John Swanson has announced ***Iowa Auto Italiano 2022***, August 3-7. Headquartered in Cedar Rapids, the tour is open to Italian vehicles of all ages and conditions, the only proviso being that they are road-insured. (I suspect that being in running order would also be important.)

The full details and a downloadable entry form are on John's website [Over-the-Top-Tours.com](https://over-the-top-tours.com). The tours will follow a "hub and spoke" format, originating and ending at the same Cedar Rapids hotel daily. Destinations include Clear Lake, the site of Buddy Holly's last performance, and Mason City where three Frank Lloyd Wright designed buildings are found. Grant Wood, the *Field of Dreams* ballfield, the Lincoln Highway, and the Amana colonies also figure in the sights to be visited.

A Saturday concours is planned along with an autocross—subject to sufficient interest. The headquarters *Hotel at Kirkwood Center* is the teaching hotel for the Kirkwood community college and was voted the 2021 Iowa hotel of the year.

John is no stranger to tour organization, with years of experience, and he's a loyal Alfista, to boot. Attendees are guaranteed a good time. 🍀

Should You Use E-15 Fuel?

According to Kyle Smith, writing for [Hagerty.com](https://hagerty.com), it depends. You may know that President Biden recently temporarily authorized the sale of E-15 during the summer months in a (likely futile) attempt to address rising gas prices. Under current regs, E-15 fuel isn't sold during the warm months because of its potential to add to smog problems. The temporary authorization will expire this fall.

Bottom line: if your car was built after 2001, it can handle E-15 without issue, although you can expect a drop in fuel economy due to the lesser energy content of the mix.

Drivers of earlier cars should avoid the use of E-15 if possible, due to the greater risk of corrosion and contamination caused by rubber degradation compared to fuels with a lower (or no) alcohol content.

Speaking of ethanol-free gas, where can one buy it? If you live in the Milwaukee metropolitan area, you are mostly out of luck. The EPA says no, although by

checking the pure-gas.org website, it looks like the closest available outlet is the Fleet Farm in Germantown. Travelers outside of Milwaukee should have no problem finding Alcohol-free blends. Visitors to New Glarus might want to fill up at the BP station in town. If you want to know where else to find some, there's an app for that. Look for *Pure Gas* in your App store. 🍀

Tech Tip from Brian Davis

Milano owner Brian Davis sent this DIY tech tip for replacing hood insulation.

Hi Bob. Thanks again for this and all the monthly newsletters. I thought I would share what little bit of Alfa news I have. Perhaps it offers a tidbit of technical interest to someone.

You see, I seem to be busy with so many other things that the Milano got little hands-on attention this winter. The rear main seal is still on the back burner, in part because I am intimidated. I've never dug that deep into the flywheel. The new seal, as well as a new starter unit (another project), is in hand and ready for install. Meanwhile, the car still drives like new. So I have reason to procrastinate 'til next winter?

Anyway, I was proud to have rediscovered enough focus and priority recently to at least accomplish a little something for the car.

For background, occasionally needing to park outside in a woodland comes with more than a share of critters who crawl into the warm engine bay. And over the years I would find mice nests, usually behind the coolant reservoir. Occasionally the hickory nuts would appear in unusual places around the engine compartment. Seems the mice were attracted to repurposing the hood insulation into nesting material. And every year, the insulation was deteriorating more and



Hood liner before

more. It slowly turned from a small spot into a substantial hole.

With this damage I became embarrassed to open the hood, even in the privacy of my own garage. So I investigated different solutions to replacing my hood insulation. From all that I read, the insulation is primarily for sound proofing. Secondly it offers some temperature control/hood protection. Some say it helps suppress a flame in the event of an engine fire. And some controversy here over what most people never think about. I know many who tear it out completely. When I told my brother of this repair, his response was “I can’t remember the last car I drove that had hood insulation.”

Despite the feeling that no one in the entire world might really care about this repair, I proceeded, thinking that if Alfa installed it at the factory, then I am going to use it.

To make a long, boring story short, I decided the engine was worth some insulation. But I could not convince myself that it was worth the \$300 spend for the self adhesive, show quality, modern technology from Australia. I decided fiberglass was better than the original stuff which seemed to be a cloth-like fiber material that seemed to support a healthy mice diet. Where to find a solid piece of fiberglass hood insulation that wasn’t already covered in oil, scratched up, or falling to pieces and in the right size?



Hood liner after

So remembering to make this story shorter, the solution came after a two hour hike through a muddy junk yard in March: a contribution from a salvaged Ford sedan. Seems few cars in the salvage yard these days have hoods as long as a Milano. The Ford’s was just

barely long enough and wider. I managed to trace a pattern from what was left of the old liner and use it to cut this \$15 piece of salvage material. The contour & profile is not exact, but I’ll take my \$300 and buy (hopefully at least a couple) extra tanks of gas for the next road trip this summer. After all, this particular model is best enjoyed with the hood closed and driver settled in. No doubt the Alfa gods will find this distasteful. I will encourage them to look down into the engine bay where they should be rejoicing. 🍀

Tonale Shown at Miami Grand Prix

Alfa Romeo capitalized on the Miami F1 Grand Prix with at least two promotional events: a pre-race beach party in Ft. Lauderdale, and another event at the track during the race weekend. The former was captured on video by a YouTube blogger, and the latter by an Alfista posting to Facebook. The track event featured a surprise appearance by drivers Valtteri Bottas and Zhou Guanyu. The star of the shows was the euro spec green Tonale *Edizione Speciale* first shown at the New York Auto Show in April. More appearances are planned prior to the scheduled arrival of the production models in the first quarter of 2023.



The race itself looked to be a roaring success. Bottas finished seventh after running a solid fifth for most of the race. A missed braking point after the safety car period bunched the field allowed Russell and Hamilton to get by. Zhou unfortunately was forced to retire early in the race. Up front, Verstappen passed, then held off Leclerc to win the race, with Sainz finishing third and Perez fourth. Verstappen is now just 19 points adrift of Leclerc in the driver’s championship, while Red Bull has pulled to within 6 points of Ferrari in the constructor’s championship. Alfa Romeo is 5th. Bottas is 8th among the drivers, while Zhou has a single point. 🍀

**More
New Glarus
Photos**



Kevin Caulfield confers with Gary Schommer (r), and Tom Valicenti (back to camera).



Typical Saturday morning discussions

A little too new for the hill-climb, but still appreciated—Frank Fortuna's Stelvio Quad



Hugh Ruthven's Drogo-bodied 250GT launches from the starting line.

→
Raise your hand if you've never seen a Wolsely Hornet Special. Marv Primack brought his.



Porsche vs Ferrari: John Dohmen's blue 356 and Brad Tank's Giallo Fly Dino 246GT on course

More from New Glarus



Diversity is our thing. Mark Schaefer's Spider Junior leads off in front of Rob Ritholtz's Rolls Royce.



Colin Comer's "optimized" Jag XK120, with son Briggs napping in the passenger seat as Dad chats with John Saccameno (Healy 100-4)



The president's reception, with traditional Swiss entertainment, then dinner. The perfect end to a perfect day.



Waiting for the USPS truck to pass



Doug Clark (MG TF) came dressed as Tazio Nuvolari



Some spicy meatball: Abarth GT1300 Periscopio, Curtis Leaverton



DOWNTOWN
OSSEO, MN
10AM-3PM
RAIN OR SHINE



MAY 21
2022

29TH ANNUAL SPRING KICK-OFF

VINTAGE FOREIGN
CAR SHOW



FEATURED MARQUE
ALFA ROMEO

2022 VINTAGE FOREIGN CLUB SPONSORS

Alfa Romeo Owners Club, Stella del Nord Chapter • Citroën Club of MN • MN Austin-Healey Club
Jaguar Club of MN • Lotus Owners Of the North (LOON) • North Coast Borgward Club
Mercedes-Benz Club of America: Twin Cities Section • MN Triumphs • MN MG Group
Metropolitans from MN • MN SAAB Club • MN United Minis (MUM)
MN MG T Register • Vintage Sports Car Racing (VSCR)

This is a **FREE*** event open to 2002 OR OLDER, FOREIGN motorcars, motorcycles, scooters, and racers. **FIRST COME FIRST PARKED.** Placement starts at 9 am. Parking staff will be on hand to direct arrivals. Groups wishing to park together **MUST ARRIVE EN-MASSE.** **Visit InterMarque.org for a map + updates.**

***Donations to CROSS FOOD SHELF** in the form of cash/check, hygienic items, or non-perishable food will be collected as you enter the show.

**CRAFT
SHOW**
**IN BOERBOOM
VETERANS PARK**



SPECIAL THANKS TO THE CITY OF OSSEO!

CROSS FOOD
SHELF will be
handling all of the
food donations.



Girl Scouts Traveling Europe
(GSTE) will be handling the
voting to help raise funds for
their trip to Europe.

EUROPEAN CAR SORIÉE !

June 25th
2pm 'til 4pm



Show off your classic or modern European car!

West side parking lot of the Ingleside Hotel, 2810 Golf Rd., Pewaukee, WI
This is a casual "meet and greet" event. No Fees, No Judging, No Prizes, just **FUN!**

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

Moving Sale LAST CHANCE!

**Miscellaneous Alfa Parts for Sale
Any Offers Accepted!**

Parts Not Sold by May Will Be Scrapped!

- 2 ea. V6 lower sumps
- 1 ea. V6 rear bell housing
- 1 ea. V6 Oil pan complete
- 1 ea. Spider Oil pan complete
- 1 ea. 4 cyl valve cover
- 4 ea. Bosch intake vanes
- 2 ea. Spider Idler assemblies
- 2 ea. Spider driveshaft
- 2 ea. Bins of 74 spider parts (door handles, door pulls, console cover)
- 1 ea. Spider Clutch disk New Valeo
- 2 ea. Spider Transmission
- 1 ea. Spider transmission without Bell housing
- 2 ea. 74 spider doors (Left and Right)
- 1 ea. Left rear quarter panel new for 70's spider
- 1 ea. lower nose panel 70's spider New
- 2 ea. Spider 2.0 Crankshafts
- 1 ea. European 4 cyl cast exhaust manifold set

For more information, email Steve Wirtz
(swirtz@charter.net)

Gary Tree is still 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



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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.

SCAM WARNING

No one legitimately representing AROC-WI will ever contact you to request you purchase gift cards or otherwise loan money on behalf of the club or its officers. Any such request should be presumed to be fraudulent.

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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 aroc-usa.clubexpress.com/.

