

# ALFANATIC



## Coming Next Month

**Save the Date!**

**AROC - Wisconsin Annual Banquet and**

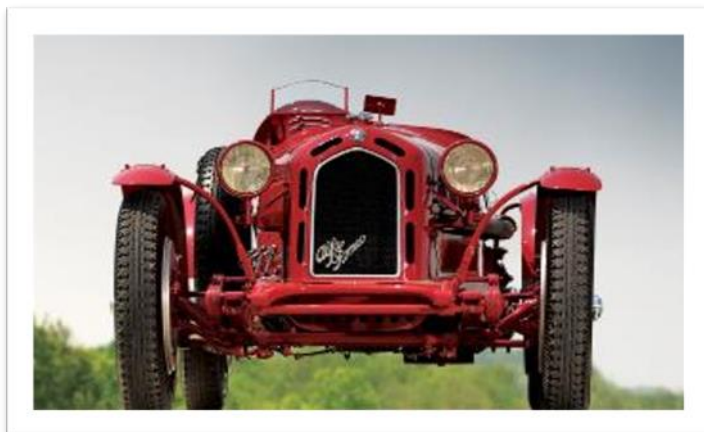
**Business Meeting**

**March 23, 2019**

**Fox & Hounds Restaurant and Tavern**

**Hubertus, Wisconsin**

Watch this space for details and sign-up information



### In This Issue

- Events Calendar
- News Briefs
- Auto Show Report
- Classifieds

## What's in Your Basement?

*Turin basement find comes with life lessons.*



Recently the [Alfa Romeo Giulia and 105-series](#) Facebook page reported on the extraction last November of a 1962 Giulietta Sprint Zagato from a basement in Turin where it had rested for over 30 years. It was abandoned by the owner, a mechanic, who left it stored away in the basement after his lift failed.

The mechanic passed away last year, leaving neither a will nor any surviving family. Enter the Italian government who assumed possession of the car and auctioned it January 31 for a cool €537,000 (\$606,810), a healthy premium over the current market value for these cars.

The car was dusty, the trim pitted, and the interior worn, but the car appeared to be otherwise complete and unmolested—a rare find.

The lessons?

- Mechanics should always keep their equipment in good condition. A broken lift kept this car from being enjoyed,
- Don't be a hermit. If you don't have a family, at least be sure you have a friend or two to confide in. This poor guy evidently didn't or the SZ would have been claimed before this.
- Most importantly, keep your will up to date. Although the laws in the U.S. differ from Italy's, it's still possible for a person's estate to revert to the state if no one is around to claim it. 🍀

## 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](mailto:rabhalter@att.net)

- February 9-18 [Chicago Auto Show](#), McCormick Place, Chicago
- March 8-10 [Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance](#), Amelia Island, Florida
- March 23 **AROC-WI Annual Banquet and Business Meeting**, Fox & Hounds, Hubertus
- May 3-4 **AROC-WI Das Kurze Klausenrennen, New Glarus, Wisconsin**
- May 12-22 [3rd Annual AROC Goes to Italy Tour](#) (reportedly sold out, but there is a wait list)
- May 17-19 [SVRA Spring Vintage Weekend](#), Road America, Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin
- May 31-June 2 [MotoAmerica Dunlop Championship](#), Road America
- June 14-16 [WeatherTech® Chicago Region SCCA June Sprints®](#), Road America
- June 20-23 [Road America INDYCAR Series, Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin](#)
- 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 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(T) 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
- July 20-26, 2020 AROC National Convention, Colorado Springs, Colorado**

**Briefs**

**Sauber Becomes Alfa Romeo Racing**

In late January the Sauber - Alfa Formula One team formally announced that it has entered the 2019 formula one season as Alfa Romeo Racing.



*The 2018 Sauber C37 Alfa-Sponsored F1 car as seen at the Chicago Auto Show*

While the management and team principals will remain in place, Alfa will provide increased technical and financial support for the team. It is rumored that Fiat has an option to buy the team outright. This will be the first year since 1993 that the Sauber name will be absent from the grid.

The new Alfa F1 car will be introduced February 18 in Barcelona and the season begins March 17 with the Australian Grand Prix.

**1939 8C2900B Sells for \$19million**

An American collector purchased a largely original 8C2900B at the Artcurial Retromobile auction in Paris, February 8. The Touring-bodied Berlinetta, one of only five in the series, was hammered sold at €14,600,000. With buyers premium added that comes to \$18,977,200.

After passing through the hands of a few British owners, the car came into the long-term ownership of a Dutch collector family. The consigning owner was present when his father purchased the car for €11,000 43 years ago. The car has never been comprehensively restored, although it has been repainted and slightly modified over the years. It was used as a daily driver for a period of time and has enjoyed continual maintenance and use. The car joins the three other Touring Berlinettas in the U.S., two of which have won the top award at Pebble Beach.



*8C2900B Lungo Touring Berlinetta at Artcurial*

**Alfa’s January U.S. Sales Hit a Speed Bump**

After setting sales records last year, Alfa’s January deliveries were down 30% year-over-year. Least affected were Stelvio sales which were down by only 11%. Giulia sales were down by a healthy 44%. (See table, below.) It is worth noting that all FCA product lines except the Ram truck brand posted sales losses in January. Industry sales of light vehicles are projected to be down 2.4% for the month.

In Europe, Alfa’s sales were down in most countries except for Spain and the U.K, both of which posted gains over last year, according to [clubalfa.it](http://clubalfa.it).

**Alfa to Race in the U.S.**

Florida-based KMW Motorsports has fielded a team of two Alfa Romeo Giuliettas which will compete in the IMSA Michelin Pilot Touring Car Series.

The team competes in the TCR class of the two-class series of races. TCR cars are four- or five-door touring production vehicles powered by 2.0 liter engines. The first race of the season was held in support of the Daytona 24 Hour event on January 25. They will appear at Road America August 3 as a part of the IMSA WeatherTech Sports Car Championship.

**Alfa Monthly Sales Results**

	January	YTD	vs 2018
Giulia	531	531	-44%
Stelvio	612	612	-11%
4C	7	7	-42%
Total	1,150	1,150	-30%

## ***Alfanatic at the Chicago Auto Show***

*By Bob Abhalter*

The Chicago Auto Show bills itself as the largest consumer-oriented auto show in the U.S. It's running now, from February 9 to 18 at McCormick Place in Chicago. I attended the press preview Thursday, February 7.

### **Alfa Romeo**

As you might expect, my first and last stop was the Alfa Romeo stand in the south hall. They occupy the same space they have for the last three years, near the front of the North Hall and back to back with Maserati.

In past years, Alfa emphasized its heritage, displaying a Tipo 33 Stradale, and inviting styling comparisons with the 4C Coupe. This year the marque displayed last year's Sauber-Alfa Formula 1 car, but it was sited toward the back of the booth, out of the way from the bread-and-butter Stelvios and Giulias. The space was all about selling these cars.



*The 4C Italia as shown at Geneva in 2018. I somehow managed to miss shooting a picture of it in Chicago.*

This year's big reveal was the 4C Spider Italia Version. Alfa has dressed 15 units of its 4C Spider in Misano Blue Metallic paint with special exterior and interior trim, including distinctive labeling. The fully-equipped *Italia* will sticker for \$5,000 over the base Spider. The 15 should sell quickly and will be supplied to dealers based on customer interest. The 15 units destined for the U.S are presumably included in the 108 units of the model intended for international distribution.

### **Maserati**

In the quest for improved volume, Maserati has taken a page from Alfa and introduced Sport and Lusso option packages for its Ghibli sedan. The packages in-

clude distinctive front and rear treatments and specific option packages intended to satisfy a broad range of customers interested in buying a car "off the lot."



*Ghibli Sport edition has distinctive air dams and rear spoiler, blackout wheels, fewer "driver aids" than the Lusso edition which has more chrome*

### **Cadillac**

The prize for the most impressive centerpiece goes to Cadillac. It displayed a glowing 1959 Eldorado Biarritz Convertible in all its fully-finned 20 foot glory. They don't make 'em like that anymore, for sure. The car comes from GM's own collection. They've owned it since new. It was backed by copies of the current CTS-V and the ATS-V performance sedans.



*Fins anyone? The Biarritz had them in spades.*

### **Super Cars**

The exotics of the show were sequestered in a gated "Super Car Gallery" opposite the Alfa Romeo Stand. One could find a McLaren or two, a Bugatti, Lamborghinis, Ferraris, and a 4-door Karma Revero hybrid—the continuation model of the Fisker Karma. Fisker went out of business in 2012 but the Revero still looks contemporary.

Elsewhere on the floor, Acura commemorated the 30th anniversary of the NSX, Ford displayed its GT alongside the 2020 Shelby GT500, and Audi showed the latest version of the R8.



*Audi R8 V10 Spyder*



*Good Karma? They hope so. The Karma Revero hybrid is an updated Fisker Karma.*

**FIAT**

Fiat was lodged in the FCA space, wedged in between the Dodge boys and Jeep. There are some facelifts in the line and 500s now come equipped with a 1.3 liter turbo engine making more horsepower than either of the previous options. Nothing else going on there.



*I thought this paint treatment made the 500L look less ozzie, but that was offset by the new snout.*

**Where Are the Germans?**

Porsche, Audi, and VW were the only German manufacturers at the show. Mercedes and BMW were conspicuous by their absence. Porsche displayed three different performance levels of Panamera—hot, hotter, and hottest. While on the stand, I poked my nose into the Macan on display and was reminded of the criticism Alfa received about the switchgear on its early 164 dashboards. The Macan’s console has more switches than the stops on the average theater organ. Drivers must take a bit of time to acclimate.



*These Panameras seemed much better looking than the first generation.*

**Elsewhere**

If you want a Buick sedan, you will be buying a Regal in one of a number of configurations. There are no others being produced. Of course Buick SUVs are plentiful, or you could buy the Chevrolet, GMC, or Cadillac versions. Most of the platforms are the same.



*My favorite Buick. The Regal TourX might be a bargain version of the BMW Sportwagen.*

SUVs and trucks were everywhere and held pride of place in most manufacturers' spaces. Perhaps the most unique pickup displayed was a full sized model of the Chevrolet Silverado constructed entirely of Legos.



*Chevy's Lego Silverado—how do they do it?*

Jaguar - Land Rover made a big splash with the premier of the redesigned 2020 Land Rover Evoque compact SUV, while its Jaguar I-Pace electric SUV was named *Motorweek* Best of the Year. With distinctive styling, a 238-mile range and front and rear motors that can propel the sport-ute to 60 mph in 4.2 seconds, the I-pace will certainly make its mark. 🍀



*The Land Rover Evoque reveal was a big deal, complete with snacks, entertainment, and industry big-wigs.*



*Thirty years after the first NSX reveal, Acura commemorated it with a champagne toast and, of course, the new NSX.*



*Ford's latest Shelby GT500. Look but don't touch, for now.*



*Toyota showed its new Supra, the only BMW at the show. (It shares an awful lot with the Z4.)*

## 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 me know.

### For Sale

#### 1985 Alfa Romeo Spider \$4,000

Maintenance and repair records going back to the early 90's. 203,800 miles, top doesn't leak, stored indoors in the winter, and has a clean title. The little Alfa does need some TLC, but it has been a fun and reliable car for me. Any questions, please feel free to call Rick at 414-477-8903.



**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](mailto:gjtree-house@gmail.com)

# Express Yourself

*Italian Style*



Ferrari 360 Spider



Milwaukee's Exclusive Dealer



**REINA INTERNATIONAL AUTO INC.**  
Sports & Luxury Car Center

12730 W. Capitol Dr., Brookfield, WI 53005

262-781-3336

[www.reinaintlauto.com](http://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.

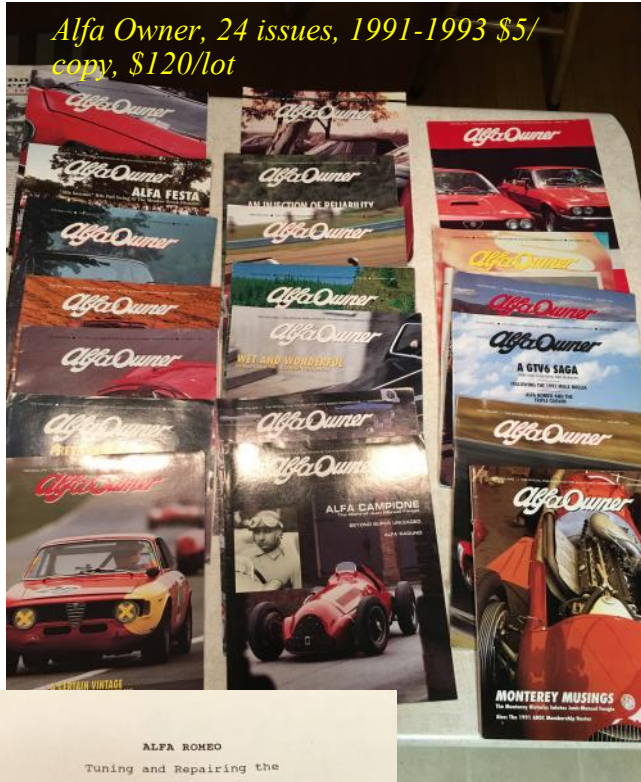
Serious Buyer, will pay the most.

**Steve's British Connection**

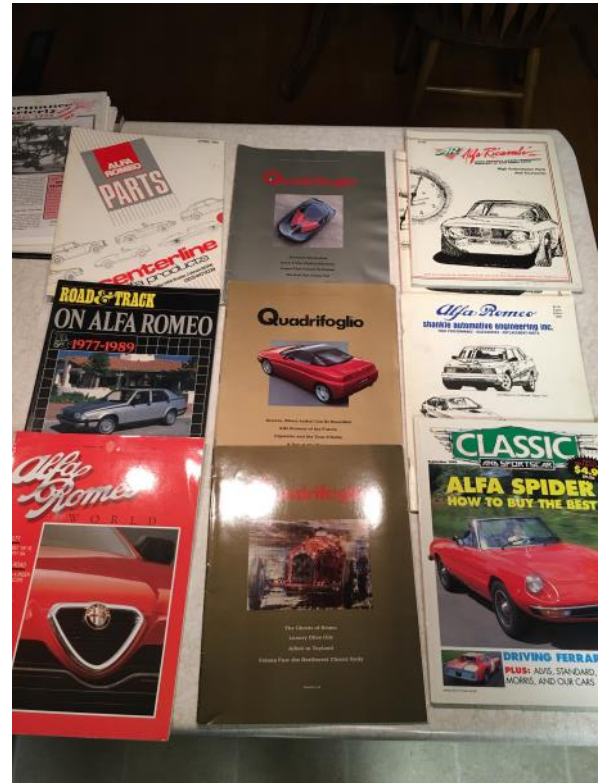
630-553-9023

[sbcinc@aol.com](mailto:sbcinc@aol.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 in-



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



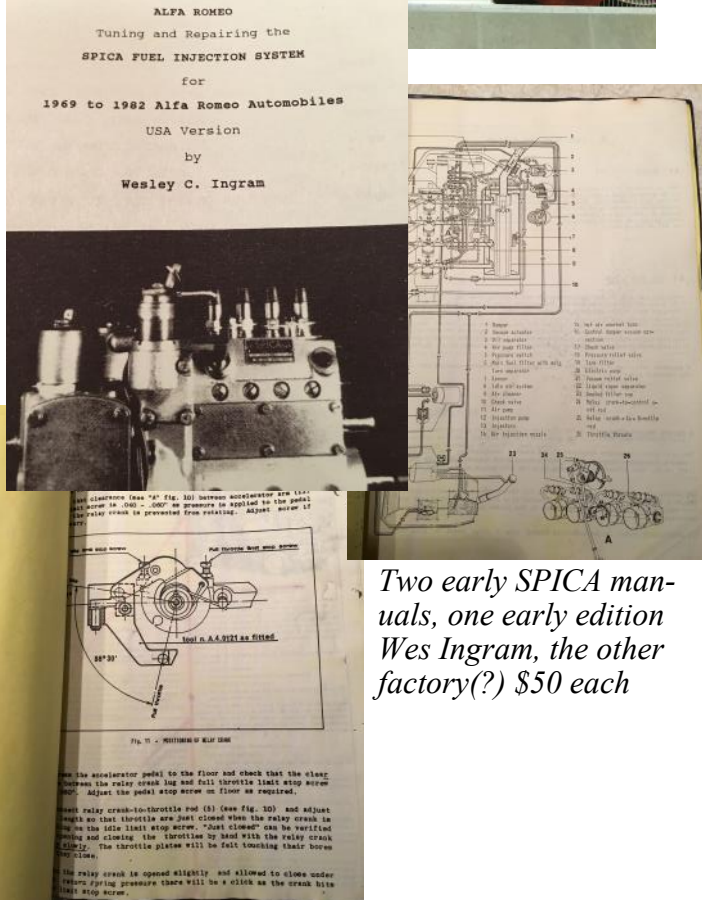
*Three copies of the Quadrifoglio, Alfa's U.S. house organ, \$30 for the lot*

jection 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. 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](mailto:flhwelder@gmail.com)



*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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:swirtz@charter.net))  
1947 Wallace Lake Rd  
West Bend, WI 53090  
(262) 306-8238  
[www.aroc-wisconsin.org](http://www.aroc-wisconsin.org)

### **TREASURER**

Randy Swanson ([RSwanson4@wi.rr.com](mailto: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](mailto:rludwigson@aol.com))  
N88W22526 N. Lisbon Rd, Sussex, WI 53089  
262-255-1676

### **PAST PRESIDENT, EVENTS, MEMBERSHIP**

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

### **EDITORS**

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

### **TECH. ADVISOR**

Al Pinkowsky ([al@gt-motorsports.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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/>.

