

ALFANATIC



Coming in March!

AROC-Wisconsin

ANNUAL BANQUET AND BUSINESS MEETING

Saturday, March 25

Bravo! Italian Kitchen

Brookfield Square

95 N. Moreland Road, Brookfield WI

The Schedule:

- 5:30-6:00 Cocktails (cash bar)
- 6:00-8:00 Dinner in the Sunshine Room
- 8:00-9:00 Short business meeting, door prizes, and continued socializing

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AROC-WI Member Profiled in *Alfa Owner* Drive a Vintage Alfa in Italy



This month the *Alfa Owner* chose AROC-WI member Grant Stanfield as the subject of its “Member Profile,” a popular re-occurring feature. Kudos to Grant for plugging our New Glarus event in his write-up. He was a participant in last fall’s AROC Goes to Italy tour and stated, “The entire journey was incredible.., and I got to meet so many

like-minded car enthusiasts from around our country and in Italy and Monaco... what great fun!!”

He believes he was chosen for the profile because of friendships formed on the trip. One good thing leads to another and we’ll see an article from him in an upcoming *Alfa Owner* issue. Perhaps we can also encourage him to contribute a trip report for the

Alfanatic. 🍀

In the following pages you’ll find the report of a CA-ROC member’s experience with European rallying. His travels in Greece make interesting reading. The company he recommends, [Triskelion](#), organizes several events in Europe, including one focused on Rome and Tuscany. Our correspondent was successful in getting a “loaner” car from them for his adventure, although most participants drive their own.

Coincidentally, another European driving opportunity appeared in my inbox recently. A German company called [Nostalgic Driving Experience](#) offers a number of adventures in Italy, Germany, and Great Britain driving vintage Alfa, German, and British cars supplied from their garage. The tours vary in length and location and could perhaps be scheduled as a part of a longer vacation. The company has posted a number of [YouTube videos](#) and testimonials. Additional details can be found on the website (link above). 🍀

Local, Regional, and International Events Calendar, 2023

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

February 18	FuelFed Classic European Swap Meet , The Last Detail, N. Chicago I
March 3-5	The Amelia (Concours), Amelia Island, Florida
March 11	CAROC K-1 Speed Karting Event , Buffalo Grove, IL
March 18	12 Hours of Sebring, Sebring, Florida
March 25	AROC-WI Annual Banquet and Business Meeting
March 26	British Car Swap Meet and Autojumble , Wheaton IL
May 5-6	Das Kurze Klausenrennen, New Glarus, WI
May 19-21	SVRA Vintage Weekend, Road America
June 2-4	MotoAmerica Superbikes, Road America
June 5-15	AROC Goes to Italy, 6th Annual Tour www.aroc-use.org
June 10-11	24 Hours of Le Mans Centenary Race
June 15-18	NTT IndyCar Series, Road America
June 17-20	AROC-USA Pre-Convention Tour, Asheville, NC
June 21-25	Alfa del Piemonte, AROC National Convention, Concord, NC
June 23-25	SCCA Chicago Region June Sprints, Road America
June 24	CAROC/Lotus Corps Annual Lapping Day , Blackhawk Farms Raceway
June 28	Tom Heinrich’s Howl at the Moon Summer Solstice Party
July 7-8	Millers at Milwaukee, State Fair Park, West Allis WI
July 7-9	TransAm Speed Tour, Road America
July 13-16	WeatherTech International Challenge, Road America
July 23	AROC-WI Italian Car and Motorcycle Show, Sussex Village Park
July 27-29	NASCAR Xfinity Series, Road America
Aug 3-6	IMSA Sportscar Weekend, Road America
Aug 18-20	Fanatec GT World Challenge, Road America
Aug 20	Pebble Beach Concours d’Elegance
Aug 27	Geneva Concours d’Elegance , Geneva, Illinois
Sept 10	2023 Des Moines Concours d’Elegance
Sept 15-17	Ariens Art on Wheels (VSCDA), Road America
Oct 19-23	AROC Goes to the USGP 2023, Austin TX (sold out, wait list possible)

35,000 Pre-Orders for Tonale in U.S.



Alfa is ramping up production at the Pomigliano factory to 400 per day in response to the demand in the U.S. and Eu-

rope. According to the Italian press, U.S. pre-orders for the Tonale stand at 35,000 units. Pre-orders for the Dodge Hornet, produced on the same line, amount to 14,000. Tonale deliveries are now projected to begin in May. 🍀

What's Next in the Pipeline?

The frequently-interviewed Alfa Romeo CEO, Jean-Phillipe Imparato, in his latest session with *L'Argus* magazine at the Paris Retromobile show, discussed the marque's plans for introducing one new model per year through 2030. A new and as yet unnamed B-segment SUV will be announced this September. The vehicle, to be produced in Tychy, Poland, is slated for 2024 introduction. The new vehicle will share a platform with Jeep and Fiat products and won't be imported, as it is thought to be too small to be successful in the U.S.

The next generation Giulia, slated for introduction in 2025, will be an exclusively battery-electric model. According to U.S. Alfa honcho Larry Dominique, the new electric-only Giulia will have a 400-mile range and be capable of recharging in 18 minutes. Power options will range from 350 to 800 hp.

The new Giulia will be followed by the updated electric Stelvio in 2026, using the same STLA Large platform as the Giulia. Next up, in 2027, a larger flagship model is projected. Some say the model could be named GTV and be a sedan, intended to compete with the Porsche Taycan. Other sources say it will be an SUV aimed at the BMW X5 buyer.

Dominique also stated that Alfa will have another offering in the C-segment, alongside the Tonale, in the U.S. There is speculation that it will be the successor to the recently discontinued Giulietta sedan which was never sold here.

In the more immediate future, the limited production sportscar scheduled for a spring reveal will get a go/

no-go decision in April, and in June an announcement will be made concerning Alfa's participation in motorsports. The brand's dedication to the sport is not in question, only the venue. It may choose to remain in Formula 1 or perhaps participate in prototype racing. 🍀

Ex Horst Kwech 1971 Trans-Am GTV Fails to Sell on Bring a Trailer



The high bid for this piece of Alfa Romeo's U.S. racing history was \$350,000, not enough for the present owner to let it go. This was the very car, driven by Horst Kwech, that won the final SCCA Trans-Am Two Five Challenge race of the 1971 season at Laguna Seca and was disqualified post-race on a technicality, handing the series win to John Morton's Datsun 510. With impeccable provenance and a detailed restoration by GTA guru Roman Tucker, this was the car to have if you are a (well-off) fan of the Trans-Am series. The comments section of the auction ([here](#)) brought forth some knowledgeable comments and a wealth of historical information on the car and the series. 🍀

Las Vegas F1 Race Locked Through 2032

First it was Austin, then Miami, now Las Vegas—three U.S. races on the new-age F1 calendar—certainly a boon for new U.S. Formula 1 fans. This isn't the first time the series has been in Las Vegas. In 1981 and '82, the series ran on a track laid out in the Caesars Palace parking lot. They were not exciting races. This year promises more, much more, with cars hitting over 200 mph down Las Vegas Boulevard, past all the high end casinos. According to Autoweek.com, the city fathers project that the November 18 inaugural event will generate \$1.2 billion for the region, so why shouldn't they extend the contract through 2032? 🍀

The Tour du Peloponnese Vintage Auto Rally

By Wayne Toberman, CAROC Member



“The Last Wild Auto Rally In Europe.” This from the senior representative of the Milan-area Historic Club Castrovillari, who was in attendance during a midnight TdP 2022 planning meeting at a trendy bistro on September 24, 2022, just 90 minutes after I deplaned in Athens from Crete.

As someone very involved with FIA’s European auto events accreditation, his words, relating to the running of the 9th consecutive Tour du Peloponnese (TdP), were meant to be taken as absolute fact rather than as a casual late-night observation.

At a time when sanctioned auto rallies across Europe have been over-regulated by accreditation agencies and host countries, too often reduced to little more than Point A to Point B to Point C events, the TdP, given Greece’s unique, often guardrail-free road networks, and lack of national travel restrictions governing such events, is unique. This same opinion was echoed continuously by journalists, media personalities, and auto rally aficionados across Europe.

Whenever something appears too good to be true when proposed, one or all past experiences often win out and whatever “it” is, often is! And so this opportunity was received with skepticism by most except our CAROC president Dennis Sbertolli, who supported my follow-on contacts after I first surfaced the opportunity to partake in this event to him and our members.

At the time, given the far-flung distance to travel, expenses—perceived and actual—involved, the highly restrictive and ever changing COVID situation, and other unknowns, as the registration deadline for TdP 2021 neared, CAROC member participation plans simply bogged down. Then finally, during a Thursday night Avanti Café meeting, very good-natured banter turned into a statement by one or more saying if it was such a good deal, “to put my money where my mouth was!”

Which I did!

Two year ago, while serving as a CAROC Board Member, I was contacted by John Papanikolaou, CEO of the Triskelion Group, the TdP organizing agency. I have remained in close coordination ever since, culminating in my participation as driver, with another Alfisiti, Frank Tabor of Chicago, as our navigator, in the TdP 2022. We were the only purely American team in a field of 70 registered International Teams.

This turned out to be an opportunity of a lifetime! John took care of us, and true to his word, made available, free of charge, for our use as CAROC members (Frank had applied previously years ago), our choice of 6 vintage rally cars maintained by the Group for select international participants. In our case, we chose the 1978 Datsun B180 rally car with 122,000 kms of experience under its bonnet. A wise choice, because after six grueling days and a night, and over 1,000 kilometers of adrenaline stoked competition, we ended up placing third in our class—a nearly unknown occurrence for first time participants!

The author with his trusty Datsun



Rallyists yield to the local fauna

We experienced road closing rock-slides, detours onto nearly impassible dirt or gravel cow or goat paths spiraling down from 3,000 foot-plus elevations, constant blind curves every few minutes of every 6-8

hour day, glorious ever changing scenery from valleys to mountain tops to sea views, visiting places we only heard or read about in the history books of our youth including Sparta, Olympia, Argos, and more!

The participants stayed in 5-star spa resorts, fortresses, or castles nightly, with everyone, almost 200 in total, dining together nightly in near medieval settings all the while bonding and sharing experiences in over

a dozen languages and sets of international gestures.



Mealtime

belonging to the King of Belgium's private collection!

Alfas amounted to about 30% of the field, followed by vintage Jags, Porsches, Mercedes, Citroens, Audis, and even a 1929 Canary Yellow Ford Model A with 29,000 original miles, in original showroom condition, formerly



It was once told to me during travels to Cappadocia, Turkey, that "you arrived here at our boutique hotel a stranger, but you leave family!" The same is true of the TdP rally participants.

Over 60% are repeats, hailing from as far away as Australia. Conversations at the first pre-rally evening's mixer ranged from catching up on family gossip, to news from home, to which business takeover was in the works, to whose castle was getting a new tennis court out of some state-of-the-art material. The latest rally computers or android apps, and who bought whose car from the previous year were covered. By the end of the 7th day, everyone was heard making plans with each other for meeting up for next year's event.



Registration for the TdP 2023, beginning October 1, is now open. CAROC/AROC members once again have their choice of 6 free rally cars from the Triskelion Group garage for pickup in Athens.

Car pickup requires a pre-confirmation of your team's reserved car and an International Drivers Li-

cense, available from your local AAA office. You must claim your car two days before the start of the rally.

Plan to arrive in Athens at least 3 days prior to the start date. Pre-rally lodging is your responsibility. For those with a World of Hyatt membership, the Hyatt Theoxenia Palace & House Suites on the far north side of the city (nearby the pickup point for your rally car) is the absolute best deal in town, whether using points or dollars!

Tour costs are as follows: A €3,700 (~\$3,972) per crew registration fee, air fare to Greece (British Air from Chicago to Athens is currently the best option), and fuel and oil expenses for the rally. The fee for the 7-day event includes double occupancy 5-star resort accommodations, lunch, and dinner (alcohol and wine excluded), and enroute maintenance support from rally contact maintenance teams, plus coordination support pre-, during-, and post-rally. A single supplement is available. Other optional costs are listed on the entry form.

The best thing to do if interested, is to view the Official 19-minute "[Tour du Peloponnese 2022](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)" video on YouTube to get a very clear picture of what's involved and what to expect—or not. The routes are changed every year. Next, go to these sites for additional information and sign-up forms:

Entry Form

<https://www.triskelion.gr/entry-form-dilosisymmetohis>

Itinerary

<https://www.triskelion.gr/itinerary-programma>

Maps

<https://www.triskelion.gr/maps-hartes>

And yes, once again I'm putting my money where my mouth is! This spring I plan to ship my 1986 Alfa Romeo Spider Veloce via Rotterdam to partake in the Tour du Peloponnese, 2023!

Hope to see you there!

Wayne Toberman, CAROC Member



Help when needed

Alfa Romeo C43 F1 Car Revealed

On Tuesday, February 7, Alfa Romeo Racing revealed their entry in the 2023 F1 series. The car's profile has been reconfigured to promote better air-flow for improved aerodynamics and cooling. Sauber technical director Jan Monchaux is said to have drawn on the 2022 championship-winning Red Bull RB18 for inspiration on the new design. Last season, cooling system problems contributed to half of Alfa's ten retirements, so fixes in that area were an area of particular focus. Cooling surfaces were positioned more toward the rear of the car, requiring significant changes to the rear suspension, the area that underwent the most mechanical revision.



Sponsorship has changed. Orlen has moved on and gambling site Stake is now the named sponsor. Livery has changed from red and white to black and white. Former driver and F1 commentator Martin Brundle thinks the new livery will be hard to see on TV and in low visibility situations.

Sauber/Alfa Romeo will be auctioning the launch chassis built for the model reveal by F1 Authentics. The auction valuation is projected to be in excess of \$480,000. Bid early, bid often. 🍀

Another Year, Another Centennial

Plus a diamond anniversary and more supercar speculation



the event, and the museum will be presenting a spe-

cial exhibit as well.



This is also the 60th, i.e. diamond, anniversary of the founding of Autodelta by Carlo Chitti and the Chizzola brothers, March 5, 1963. In 1965, it took on the racing development of

the Giulia TZ and effectively became Alfa's racing arm, developing the GTA, Tipo 33, and shepherding the return to Formula 1 racing, until its absorption and renaming as Alfa Corse in 1983. Alfa Centro Style also created an anniversary emblem for them (above),

The Italian auto magazine *Quattroruote* is convinced that one or both of these emblems will appear on the much-anticipated supercar which, they say, will be named the 33 Stradale, in homage to the original Tipo 33 Stradale. This would be fitting and largely appropriate, although the 33 name was also used for the final rendition of the Alfasud platform. It sold close to a million units in its 11-year run (1983-1995). The question is whether European Alfisti will think of the original 33 Stradale, a candidate for the most beautiful car produced, or the model 33, a capable, but definitely non-supercar offering. 🍀

Chicago Auto Show Expands Footprint

More floorspace, fewer automakers



The 115th edition of the Chicago Auto Show is now underway, running through February 20. The venerable show, billed as the largest auto show in North America, has had a rough couple of years. After a successful 2020 show, completed before Covid shut the world down, the 2021 show was first postponed, then finally moved to July, with a reduced, one

week run. Last year, the show returned to its traditional February dates, but with a much-reduced footprint.

This year, floorspace has expanded to both halls in the north and south buildings of McCormick Place, but many brands failed to return after their Covid hiatus. Instead, the added floor space has been given over to test tracks and auto-related vendor space. All the major brands have a ride-along track while Ford

and Stellantis have two. Commonwealth Edison has one (Chicago Drives Electric) exclusively to show off battery electric vehicles (BEVs). Missing are many of the high-end brands. You can ride in a Lyriq but that is the only Cadillac being shown. Although BMW has a small space, there is no Mercedes presence. Likewise nothing from Volvo, Mini, Porsche, Jaguar, Land Rover, Infiniti, Lincoln, Maserati, and others. It remains to be seen whether some of these marques will return in future years. It could be that the expense of mounting a display no longer provides an adequate return on investment.

The Stellantis group occupies a large area in the south hall, with all brands sharing a common space. Ram and Jeep take up the most space with their separate demo tracks and the largest variety of models on display. Alfa is showing a single green Tonale, with little fanfare. (The sister Dodge Hornet has a larger sign.) The Tonale is sandwiched between one each Giulia and Stelvio Quadrifoglio models. Gone are the days when Alfa had its own fancy stand. I couldn't even find an Alfa rep to discuss the delivery schedule. Next door to the Alfas are a sprinkling of Fiat 500X models, the last of the U.S. line for now. Around the corner are two Dodge Hornets, one a cooking model in an unappealing shade of blue-gray, and the other, a tricked out GLH concept in black. There are a couple of Dodge Charger concepts. The company hasn't brought a Chrysler 300 that I noticed, but the BEV Chrysler Airflow concept car is striking and not coincidentally shows a family resemblance to the Tonale/Hornet.

So, in my opinion, this year's Chicago Auto Show, while improved over last year's offering, has a long way to go to regain its past glory. Let's hope it does, rather than succumbing to the virtual world. 🍀

Tonale, and 2/3 of the Alfa display, all in green. Red Stelvio in the background.



Dodge must have a bigger show budget. GLH concept has some zoomy add-ons parts from the catalog.

(Below) Chrysler Airflow concept



*Left, above: New Prius is a huge improvement, looks-wise
Left, below: Honda business jet missed the runway at Midway?
Center: Two Toyota concepts Right: Charger Daytona SRT Concept*

Banquet Details

Available Menu Items

Choice of Soup or Salad

- Italian Wedding Soup
- Insalata Della Casa

Entrée Choices

- Chicken Parmesan with Herb Linguini
- Grilled Salmon with seasonal vegetables
- Chicken Marsala with mashed potatoes & seasonal vegetables
- Filet Mignon with mashed potatoes and grilled asparagus (**extra charge applies**)



Pricing

\$43.00 per person (\$50.00 per person for Filet Mignon dinner)

The price includes taxes and a service charge

Drinks and dessert are also available. The club will pay for the cost of dessert. Drinks will be the responsibility of the purchaser. Please submit the registration form (below) with your payment to the club treasurer no later than March 15.

Questions?: Contact Bob Ludwigson 262-527-2396 or Rludwigson@aol.com

Annual Banquet Registration

Yes! Sign me up.

Names: _____

Contact Information: (Phone or email) _____

Menu Choices:

Please indicate quantity

Starters

_____ Italian Wedding soup

_____ Insalata Della Casa

Entrée

Price is \$43.00 per dinner.

_____ Chicken Parmesan with Herb Linguine

_____ Grilled Salmon with Seasonal Vegetables

_____ Chicken Marsala with Mashed potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables

Extra Cost Option

_____ Filet Mignon - \$50.00

Payment:

_____ @ \$43.00 = _____

_____ @ \$50.00 = _____

Total _____

Please register before March 15

Make checks payable to: Alfa Romeo Club of Wisconsin

Mail to:

Randy Swanson

N66W6684 Cleveland St.

Cedarburg WI 53012

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

Jim Thiel is looking for a new home for his red **1982 Spider**. He's had it since 1989 and is the third owner. The car has traveled a little more than 67,000 miles and has always been garaged during Jim's ownership. The paint is original and the top in good condition, with a clear back window. According to Jim, the tires are in good shape. He says the leather seats and the dash have no cracks. If you're interested, you can contact Jim by email at jthiel28@wi.rr.com

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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WEBMASTER

Position Open - Volunteer Needed
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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/.

