

ALFANATIC



Next Event

AROC-WI Annual Banquet and Business Meeting

Saturday, March 23, 2024

Maggiano's Little Italy
at Mayfair Mall
2500 N Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa

5:00 p.m. Cash Bar

6:00 p.m. Dinner
Meeting to Follow

Door Prizes

\$70.00 per person

Details and Sign-up Inside

Registration Deadline, March 16



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Winter Banquet Scheduled

By Bob Ludwigson



On March 23, 2024, we will be holding our annual Banquet and Business Meeting. It will be held at a new location, Maggiano's Little Italy. Maggiano's is located at 2500 N

Mayfair Rd. in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, at the Mayfair Mall. Mayfair is conveniently located near highway US 45/I-41.

As in the past, we will have a private room with its own bar.

After the meal, there will be a short business meeting with elections for club officers.

There also will be door prizes featuring Alfa related items.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at Rludwigson@aol.com.

I hope you can make it. It should be a fun evening!

Menu

Starters (served family style)

- Stuffed Mushrooms filled with spinach and Italian cheese
- Bruschetta
- Calamari Fritte—Crispy calamari served with marinara sauce

Salad

- Caesar Salad (individually plated), served with Ciabatta rolls

Entrée Choices (individually plated)

- Filet Mignon served with garlic jus
- Chicken Francese, served with lemon butter
- Atlantic Grilled Salmon, served with butter sauce
- Eggplant Parmesan

Accompaniments for the Table

- Truffle Mac & Cheese
- Mashed Potatoes
- Roasted Broccoli

Dessert

- New York Style Cheesecake
- Vera's Lemon Cookies

See Sign-up, next page.

Local, Regional, and International Events Calendar, 2024

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

2024

Feb 29—March 3	Moda Miami 2-day Concours event
March 3	AROC-USA at The Amelia Concours d'Elegance , Amelia Island, Florida
March 23	AROC-WI Annual Banquet, Maggiano's, Mayfair
May 3-5	AROC-WI, Das Kurze Klausenrennen, New Glarus, WI
May 17-19	SVRA Vintage Festival Weekend, Road America
May 18	Festa Italiana, The Automobile Gallery, Green Bay, Wisconsin
May 29-June 2	AROC-USA, Alfas by the Lake 2024, Petoskey, Michigan Sold Out
June 5-15	AROC Goes to Italy Tour (See AROC-USA Website)
June 6-9	NTT Indycar Series, Road America
June 14	Viva Italia Concorso , Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
June 15-16	Le Mans 24 Hour Race
June 21-23	WeatherTech Chicago Region SCCA June Sprints, Road America
June 28-30	Trans Am SpeedTour, Road America
July 11-14	WeatherTech International Challenge with Brian Redman, Road America
August 2-4	IMSA SportsCar Weekend, Road America
August 16-18	Fanatec GT World Challenge
August 18	Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance
August 25	Geneva Concours d'Elegance , Geneva IL
Sept 13-15	Ariens Art on Wheels Vintage Weekend Featuring VSCDA

Annual Banquet Registration

Yes! Sign me up.

Names _____

Contact Information (phone or e-mail) _____

Choice of Entrée

Please indicate quantity

- _____ Filet Mignon, served with roasted garlic jus
- _____ Chicken Francese served with lemon butter
- _____ Atlantic grilled Salmon served with butter sauce
- _____ Eggplant Parmesan

Payment

Total Cost of Dinner-\$70.00

_____ @\$70.00= _____

Make checks payable to:

Alfa Romeo Owners club

Mail to:

Randy Swanson

N66W6684 Cleveland St.

Cedarburg WI 53012

Get Ready for the Chicago Formula 1 Grand Prix

On January 28, [Autoweek.com](https://www.autoweek.com) reported that the name “Formula 1 Chicago Grand Prix” and other similar names were registered with the U.S Patent and Trade-mark Office by F1’s licensing arm. Whether this is wishful thinking, speculative, or real, is not known. It may or may not develop into something, but it’s a little too early to be buying tickets to the NASCAR/F1 Grant Park Street Course Double-header Weekend. Stay tuned. 🍀

Stellantis’ New STLA Large Platform Will Underpin Next Generation Giulia, Stelvio



In mid-January, Stellantis introduced the new STLA large platform, which will be the platform for 8 new model offerings including those from Alfa Romeo, Dodge, Chrysler, Jeep, and Maserati. The platform is designed primarily for electrified models but can also accommodate hybrid and ICE engines. Both 400 and 800 volt BEV architectures will be used, with a target range of 500 miles per charge. Stellantis intends to be 100% electrified in Europe by 2030, while the U.S. target is 50% for its cars and light trucks. The company has targeted an investment of \$54 billion to accomplish its goal.

According to [Automotive News Europe](https://www.automotive-news-europe.com), The U.S. will see Dodge and Jeep models built on the platform before the Alfas, Chrysler, and Maserati variants are released. 🍀



This 2025 Dodge Charger pre-production model posted on social media could be one of the first we will see employing the STLA Large platform.

News Flash: Racetracks Can Be Noisy

[Hemmings.com](https://www.hemmings.com) and other outlets reported recently on a suit brought by homeowners near Laguna Seca accusing the 67-year old raceway of creating a nuisance due to noise and increased congestion—this despite the racetrack having been there well before there was any residential development in the area.

The complainant, the Highway 68 Coalition, was formed in 1974 to combat a highway development program and last year was revived when the local residents woke up to the fact that they live near a major sports venue. The 2.238 mile 11-turn road course was carved out of a remote corner of Fort Ord in 1957, after the Pebble Beach road races were discontinued over safety concerns. It was deeded over to Monterey County in 1974 as the Fort began to wind down its operations. Laguna Seca is now owned by Monterey County parks system, a part of the Laguna Seca Recreation Area. It operates as WeatherTech Raceway Laguna Seca.

In fairness, the group may have a point as activity at the track has increased over the years since its construction. They claim the circuit is now used 340 days per year. The county says the course was rented 131 time last year, so the 340-day figure makes sense.

According to the Highway 68 Coalition’s suit: “These increases include but are not limited to more racetrack event days, higher permitted noise levels, additional track rental days with intensified noise in excess of 100 dB, increased traffic, inadequate water supply and water quality, inadequate sewage disposal and expansion of the camping grounds.”

Friends of Laguna Seca (FLS), president Ross Merrill stated, “We live here too and share the same concerns as our neighbors about noise and traffic. Our team of experienced business and community leaders are eager to move forward to revive this staple in our community for decades of future success and revenue generation for Monterey County.”

FLS also notes that it is “bound in the concession agreement to the historical usage of the Laguna Seca Recreational Area and the existing policies limiting attendance and sound at the Park” and therefore is “required under the contract to invest in the facilities and infrastructure including a sound study and noise mitigation.” 🍀

Stolen \$23m Alfa Romeo 8C Recovered

REWARD

\$50,000 Reward for information leading to the recovery of:



2-Door 1938 Alfa Romeo 8C 2900 B Lungo Spider, Black Exterior, Tan Interior

Last seen on July 25, 2022 at the Holiday Inn Express of I-95 at 2513 Cattle Farm Road in Latta, SC, 29565. Items from the vehicle were found in Lumberton, NC.

The vehicle was being transported by:

Truck: 2002 Ford F-350
White Dually
License Plate: IL 344949

Trailer: 2009 Haulmark
White tri-axle enclosed trailer
License Plate: IL 104510TE

CONTACT: Detective Sara Albarri - 843-774-1432

containing the car was gone, along with their Ford F-350 tow vehicle. The local sheriff's office noted that the hotel's parking lot had been the scene of previous auto thefts.

According to SCM, "The car was located in a warehouse in North Carolina along with about 15 other stolen vehicles..." SCM was told that two men have been arrested, although their roles in the operation have not been identified."

AIG Insurance paid the \$23 million claim shortly after the theft. AIG now owns rights to the car, but the former owner has the option to buy the 8C back. It's unknown whether that option will be exercised. 🍀

Bill Hall Writes - Russ, Mark, and Tom Hi Bob,

At the risk of you becoming a net judge in my correspondence volley with Russ Whitford, I just want to commend Russ for some excellent firsthand information on David Uihlein Sr. and his cars, including the Don Lee Special Alfa P3. It was great to hear about DVU and Russ's role in reassembling that car. Russ, please keep writing those DVU memories down for us during leeward moments, and I'd love to hear some missives about your great adventure aboard S/V Tumultuous Uproar.

One of the things that always attracted me to Alfa Romeos was that they're owned by interesting people—folks that have great passions in their lives, and would often put much more into a car restoration or club than they would ever withdraw. DVU and Russ are great examples, but for some time now I've wanted to publicly acknowledge a couple more.

Two guys that I believe deserve a shoutout are Tom Schmock and (posthumously) Mark Thompson, for their longtime dedication in manning the New Glarus Hillclimb. In the early days of the event, timing was conducted by telephone line run up the hill in a laborious process that persisted well after cell phones made it obsolete.

Poor Mark, who had worked for the phone company only briefly as a young man, had just enough experience in the matter to conscript him indefinitely. Come to think of it, in all the years of attending the Hillclimb, I don't think I ever saw him take a car up the hill. We lost Mark way too early, but I will always remember him as a giving guy and a friendly face under that trademark Aussie slouch hat. I never heard him complain about the many hours setting up and tearing down the Hillclimb while the rest of the club had retired to Puempel's Tavern. He was emblematic of the charitable energy that makes the local Alfa Club so special.

That same spirit is carried by Tom Schmock, who for many years has taken time from his two Madison restaurants and caregiving of his mom to work alongside Mark in stringing the phone lines, manning the course and coordinating with New Glarus officials to make the Hillclimb happen. Tom is also involved in the local motorcycle scene, and the Slimey Crud Run is traditionally held the same weekend as the Hillclimb, which in years past meant Tom missed the Hillclimb banquet to run back to Madison to help run the SC Film Festival and the Run the following day. In between, he acts as unofficial photographer for both events. Additionally, Tom hosts weekly Crud meetings and Formula One breakfast meets at his Blue Moon tavern, which are decidedly non-profit activities.

I hope I don't embarrass Tom, who has never sought any sort of recognition for all his volunteerism. I'd heard he may be finally letting himself off the hook for the Hillclimb this year, and I did not want his contributions to go unrecognized, as I regrettably did for Mark. I'm now at the age where I'm increasingly feeling the time/energy pinch, which makes me appreciate their years of contributions all that much more.

There are certainly others in AROC-WI that deserve these same thanks. I just couldn't let another Hillclimb come and go without honoring these two dedicated club members.

Best,
Bill Hall

Alfas Wanted in Green Bay

I heard from Dennis Sbertoli, CA-ROC president, of a new Italian car festival in Green Bay. This year's event, the second annual Festa Italiana, will be Saturday, May 18.

The organizer, Darrel Burnett, Executive Director of The Automobile Gallery in downtown Green Bay, is reportedly eager to have participation from the local Alfa Romeo community. I've added it to our calendar. If and when more information comes available, we'll report it 🍀 here.

New Alfa-Branded Footwear

Alfa is teaming with luxury sneaker maker GREATS, to produce an exclusive new Alfa-branded sneaker, released in conjunction with its Super Bowl marketing activities, according to a February 7 press release. The release refers to "the big game," so apparently one has to spend big money to use the words "Super Bowl" in conjunction with a promotion, and Alfa didn't.

The all-white leather sneaker is made in Italy and will have the distinctive Alfa script on the flanks and badge on the heel.

Apparently, in order to score a pair you'll need to be in Las Vegas over the weekend, where Alfa will be providing rides for "high-end influencers and celebrities" between events. Each rider will receive a pair of GREATS.

In addition, Alfa will hand out pairs to random pedestrians and donate 75 pairs to a local homeless shelter.

I'm having a hard time making sense of the various elements of this promotion, but then I'm not a marketing guy or "high-end influencer." Will they have a range of sizes on hand? How will this all work?

As to where you and I can get a pair of these pretty handsome kicks, the release is mute, and a search of the relevant websites doesn't offer a clue. I wear an 11-1/2 or a euro size 45 if you want to send me a pair. 🍀



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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

1965 Giulia Spider Veloce, chassis AR390787. I am the original owner and received delivery on 10/08/1965 at Alfa Romeo Milano, Italy. I have the Delivery Certificate, Italian License plates, delivery instruction book and the original Pirelli tires (not on car). The Alfa has original paint, black interior seats, red carpet and floor mats. Many other extras collected over the years. In August 2023 a valve job was performed, head gasket replaced, drive shaft flex coupling, transmission mount, tie rod boots, tune and sync carbs and a complete mechanical inspection. Alfa is located in Texas and current mileage is 40,629. Price \$97,000. Contact Frank Klune at franklune@sbcglobal.net or 972-216-5396, please leave a message if no answer, I will return the call.



Minnesotan **Tim Parker** is selling an engine and block. The engine is “a pretty clean 2-liter **Alfetta engine/bell housing** with some ancillaries.” The block is a “clean, washed 2-liter **Alfetta GTV block**.” Both are ready for pickup at the Anoka, MN, airport and can be easily lifted into a pickup. Tim will provide photos and serial numbers and can be reached at 651-235-2776. When you call, tell him Tom Heinrich referred you.

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
www.aroc-wisconsin.org

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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/.

