

ALFANATIC

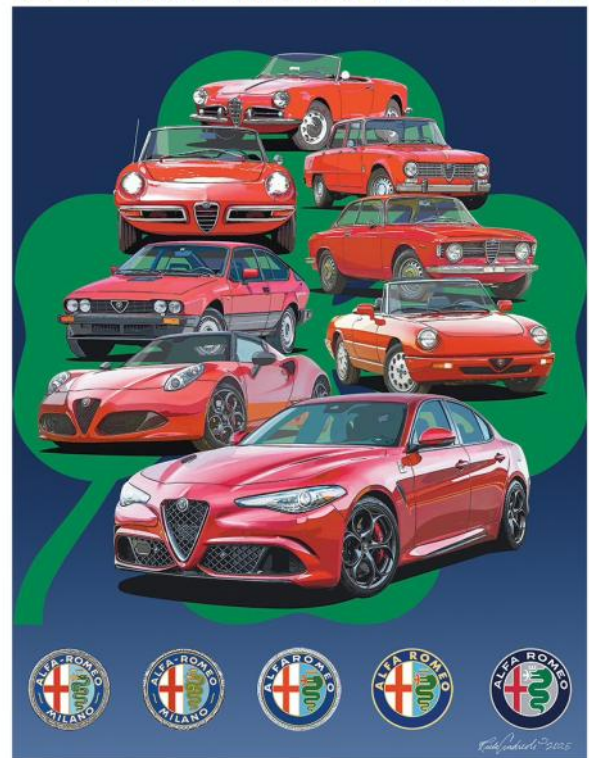


Next Event!

In the event you missed the multiple announcements, this is a reminder that the 2025 AROC-USA National Convention will be in Crystal Lake, Illinois, next month. For many of us this is a short drive, so no excuses! You really should attend.

Go [here](#) for the details.

CHICAGO
ALFA ROMEO
2025 CONVENTION
SEPTEMBER 17 - 21, 2025 / CRYSTAL LAKE, IL



In This Issue

- Fall Color Tour!
- Events Calendar
- Giulietta SZ
- RIP Ercole Spada
- Classifieds

AROC-WI Fall Color Tour Scheduled

By Bob Ludwigson

I am happy to announce that our annual fall color tour is scheduled for Saturday, October 25. We will gather at the Holy Hill lower parking lot, 1525 Carmel Rd., Hubertus WI, and finish with lunch at a West Bend restaurant

We will follow a route through the beautiful Southern Kettle Moraine Forest. Plan on a relaxing drive, with plenty of opportunities to stop and enjoy the scenery.

After lunch, visit the Museum of Wisconsin Art in West Bend to view its permanent collection or the scheduled Frank Lloyd Wright Modern Chair Design exhibition.

Plan to arrive at 9:00 a.m. for Alfa talk. We'll have a drivers meeting at 9:40 a.m. and the first car will leave shortly after.

If you plan to attend, please contact Gary Schommer at Alfaman@wi.rr.com or text him at (414) 418-0879 so we can plan for sufficient route instructions and restaurant space. 🍀

Local, Regional, and International Events Calendar, 2025 - 2026

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

2025

August 15-17	GT World Challenge America, Road America
August 17	Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance
August 24	Geneva Concours d'Elegance , Geneva, Illinois
August 30	Kenosha Classic Cruise-In, Kenosha, WI
September 12-14	Ariens Art on Wheels Vintage Weekend with VSCDA, Road America
Sept 15-21	AROC National Convention, Crystal Lake, Illinois
Sept 19	CAROC Blackhawk Farms Driver's Ed. and Lapping Day
October 3-5	SCCA National Championship Runoffs, Road America
October 25	AROC-WI Fall Color Tour , Holy Hill, Lower Parking Lot

2026

Feb 28-Mar 1	Moda Miami. Biltmore Hotel, Coral Gables, Florida
Mar 5-8	The Amelia , Amelia Island, Florida
May 1-2	AROC-WI Das Kurze Klausenrennen, New Glarus, Wisconsin

AROC-Wisconsin Holds ICAMS - The Italian Car and Motorcycle Show

By Bob Ludwigson



AROC-Wisconsin held its annual Italian Car Show July 27 at the Sussex Village Park. A total of 14 cars were entered. A very nice selection

of Alfas and Fiats were on hand for the attendees to enjoy. +

Although the day was sunny and bright, entries were smaller than anticipated. Perhaps the muggy weather (or the hot rod and muscle car show in a neighboring town) caused the low attendance. We'll be trying harder next year!

We'd like to thank both Centerline International and Reina International Auto for their gracious donation of door prizes. 🍀

Peer voting results:

Favorite Alfa: Tie

Gary Schommer - 1971 GTV



Bob Ludwigson - 1962 Giulietta Spider



Favorite Fiat:

Guy Bretl - '72 124 Spider



Best Example of Italian Design:

Frank Skof - 2023 Alfa Giulia QV



Bennett Welch, the recently appointed sales manager at International Alfa, brought an Alfa Romeo Stelvio QV for us to enjoy.



Austin Schmitt brought his race modified Spider, a surprise entry.



Returning this year was the La Cabana Cortez food truck, which provided us with delicious Mexican specialties.



We once again chose the Alzheimer's Association as our designated charity. We donated \$650.00 to the organization.

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
COME AND CHECK OUT OUR NEW
DOWNTOWN MILWAUKEE VESPA BOUTIQUE
715 N. Milwaukee St. • 414-271-3336

Alfa Romeo Giulietta SZ: Coda Tronca and 200 kph

By Alberto Amedeo Isidoro
From Veloce.it, Edited and Translated

A 1961 Alfa Romeo Giulietta SZ Coda Tronca will be auctioned in Monterey by RM Sotheby's August 15. It's estimated to sell between \$400,000 and \$500,000. The SZ is part of the Quadrifoglio Collection which includes other racing jewels, such as the only TZ1 built with a double hump roof and a T33/2 with a past in endurance racing between Europe and the United States.



That sales estimate is in supercar category (a brand new Ferrari 12 Cylinder will set you back “only” \$460,000), but this is a small coupé that has a 1.3 liter four-cylinder engine with a hundred horsepower under the hood. However, that comparison doesn't tell the whole story. This SZ is an excellent example: one of just 216 Giulietta SZs produced by Zagato. Only the last 41 had a truncated tail.

The aesthetic result can be debated. There are those who prefer the more tapered B-side of the Coda Tonda and those who prefer the Kamm Tail of the end-of-production models, but there is no doubt that designer Ercole Spada and Elio Zagato had a winning concept. With the truncated tail, the top speed of the car rose from just under 118 to over 124 mph.



Giulietta SZ comparison: Coda Tronca (l) and Coda Tonda (r)

Under the aluminum skin of the SZ was the platform of the Giulietta Spider and Sprint Speciale coupé, with a shortened wheelbase to improve handling. As for the modification of the tail, it was discussed as early as 1960, when it was clear to Alfa Romeo that, however gritty, the four-cylinder twin-cam alone did not make the car competitive enough against the very fast Lotus Elite, which weighed just over 1,100 pounds empty, compared to over 1,874 for the Giulietta.

The truncated tail avoided harmful turbulence when the air flow split from the bodywork, making the car much faster; legend has it that, timed by Spada, Elio Zagato even touched 141 mph in a test. At its debut, in June 1961 the Milanese designer-driver won pole position and victory in the Sant'Ambroeus Cup. Other successes followed. In '62 the twin car of this car, with Charlie Kolb at the wheel, triumphed in the 1.3 class at the 3 Hours of Daytona. Just a year later, the Giulia T.I. Super and the Giulia TZ made their debut, and with the birth of Autodelta, for the house of the Biscione, a long and exciting season of successes began that still makes the hearts of enthusiasts beat faster. 🍀

The made-to-order Zagato-bodied SVZ cars inspired Alfa to put the Giulietta SZ into production.



The Kamm Tail concept was continued in the design of the Giulia TZ. (TZ2 shown here)

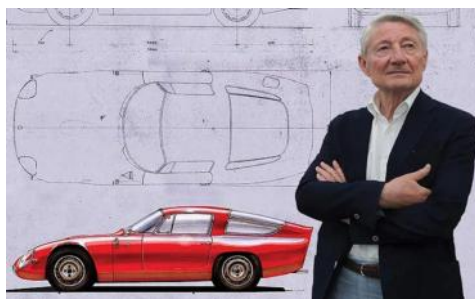
An advertisement for GT Motorsports. The background is a black and white checkered flag. The text "GT Motorsports" is prominently displayed in a stylized font. Below it, the name "Al Pinkowsky" is written. Further down, the address "526 Capitol Drive • Pewaukee, WI 53072" and phone number "ph: (262) 695-4238" are listed. At the bottom, it says "Import Service • Performance Upgrades European Specialists". There are also three small circular logos at the top right.

Ercole Spada

July 26, 1937 - August 3, 2025

Car designer for Alfa Romeo and others who combined elegance with modern aerodynamic ideas.

From *The Daily Telegraph* - Saturday 9 Aug 2025, edited



ERCOLE SPADA, who has died aged 88, was one of the key Italian architects of automotive design. He could claim to be the first designer to apply the early-20th-century aerodynamic

theories of Wunibald Kamm and Reinhard von Koenig-Fachsenfeld to production cars, by slicing or chopping the tail off rounded car body shapes, and styling a higher rear “deck” or fast-backed profile; such design techniques became Spada’s hallmark.

Known as the “maestro silenzioso,” or the silent master, the contemplative Spada was an artist with the temperament and training of an engineer, devoid of the flamboyance which marked some of the more famous exponents of 20th-century “carrozzeria,” the Italian art of coach-building.

His relatively low profile, however, belied his profound influence on European automotive design. He shaped cars for Alfa Romeo, Aston Martin, Bristol, BMW, Fiat, Lancia, and other manufacturers. He also designed futuristic design-concept cars for Ferrari, Lamborghini, and Rover; his hand latterly extended to Nissan and Mazda. The former Volkswagen design chief and Alfa Romeo lead designer Walter de Silva described him as “one of the greatest designers of a generation.”

Spada first came to prominence through his work for the Italian design house of Zagato in the 1960s. “Zagato-bodied” became a hallmark of something special in car design, and Spada’s bodies in particular.



His first Zagato design was a special body for the Aston Martin DB4 GT Z (Z for Zagato) in 1960. This innovative interpretation, with lightly domed roof, swoopy front and rear haunches, was Spada’s entry pass into car design’s hall of fame.

From the late 1970s, Spada became the “invisible” designer behind the BMW E32 Seven Series, and with Claus Luthe created BMW’s defining second-generation E34 Five Series. But it was through the Alfa Romeo marque that Spada best displayed his hand-drawn combination of aerodynamics and exquisitely sculpted design.

Low lines, domed roofs, a sharply truncated fast-back known as the coda tronca and beautiful proportions were Spada’s signature themes at Alfa Romeo, with the 1966 Guila TZ Coupé and the

later 1970 Junior Z Coupé among the highlights. He latterly shaped the Alfa 155, and his Lancia Fulvia Z Coupé is also revered by car enthusiasts.



Ercole Spada (whose name translates as Hercules Sword) was born into an old Lombard family at Busto Arsizio, north-west of Milan, on July 26, 1937. His brother Augusto became a noted architect.

Inspired by his toy car of the 1930s Auto Union racer, the young Ercole became fascinated by automotive design, art, and architecture. Leaving the Istituto Tecnico Feltrinelli in Milan in 1956, he qualified as an engineer and at age 23 joined Carrozzeria Zagato in Turin in 1960, having reassured his interviewers that he could design and draw at 1:1 scale, when in fact he never had.

Spada quickly became Zagato’s top designer. Despite a good relationship with Elio Zagato he left the company in 1969; after a brief period with Ghia-Ford, then a short, unhappy time at Audi, he alighted at BMW’s Munich design studio as chief stylist in 1976. He shaped those two world-leading BMW models and liked life in Bavaria.



After the illness and death of his elder son Andrea, aged 14, Spada and his wife, Antonia reluctantly left BMW in 1983 to find comfort with family in Italy. There he joined the major design studio the IDEA Institute, where he styled numerous Fiat and Lancia cars.

In 1992, as a consultant for Zagato, he created the Ferrari FZ93 concept car which would clearly influence the design of Ferrari’s Enzo production car a decade later. With his surviving son, the designer Paolo Spada, he latterly set up Spadaconcept, an industrial design company.



Ercole Spada was awarded the Mattia d’Oro design award in 2012, the Enrico Dell’Acqua export medal in 2021, and the Dante Giacosa Award in 2023. He collaborated on a 2014 account of his design story with Bart Le-naerts.

In retirement he enjoyed driving his Zanzara (“mosquito”), a modified Fiat 500 two-seater buggy, in the hills around his home in the Italian Alps. He is survived by his wife, Antonia and their younger son, Paolo. 🍀

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

1991 Alfa Romeo Spider Veloce



60K miles, new tires. Needs new top and seat covers. Garaged in Eagle River, WI, Asking \$6,500. I only drive it about 20 miles a year in the summer. It's a good easy resto project for someone.

Bill Marshall, bmarsh68@gmail.com
713.252.0423

Three 164s For Sale

I have three 1991 164s I'm looking to dispose of.

1. 1991 164L which was a daily driver until the front head gasket blew externally (no coolant in the oil or chambers) just shy of 200k miles.
2. 1991 164 Base parts car missing injectors, HVAC units and hood (it's on the L)
3. 1991 164 Sport with manual transmission It was driven here and left. The owner was murdered. I'm told the rear suspension was rusted out. General condition "rough."

All three have tires. The first two hold air, I'm not sure about the Sport.

No offer will be refused. They're worth very little as scrap and I'd rather see them go to someone who cares. Especially the L

The L and Sport are at my shop at:

501A S Nine Mound Rd, Verona, WI 53593

The Base is at my home at W6008 Pioneer Rd.,
New Glarus, WI 53574

Pat Slattery martski43@gmail.com 608 347-5741

1969 Alfa Romeo 1750 GT Veloce

USA specification. Very original and complete. Most documentation from new. An unrestored gem, that presents, runs, and drives well. \$46,800. Located in West Michigan. Contact: gerryalbers@yahoo.com

1958 Alfa Romeo Giulietta Spider Veloce 750F



Fully restored both mechanically and cosmetically with attention to details. These include the original livery as documented by the Alfa Romeo Certificato Di Origine. More importantly the Certificato validates the present chassis and engine numbers are those the Giulietta left the factory with in 1958. A touchstone piece incorporating Alfa Romeo World Championship winning technology wrapped in timeless Pininfarina coachwork. Selling price \$135,000. Ring or text Kevin Caulfield 612 702 8520.

Garage Cleanout

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. A Series 2 Windshield, fiberglass bumpers, engine, transmission, door latches, etc. Just ask! Contact Gary at 608-209-2352, or gjtreehouse@gmail.com

CONTACTS

PRESIDENT/TREASURER

Randy Swanson (13swanson@gmail.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
262-527-2396

EVENTS, MEMBERSHIP

Gary Schommer (alfaman@wi.rr.com)
W141N6672 Memory Rd, Menomonee Falls, WI
53051-5119
414 418 0879

WEBMASTER

Position Open - Volunteer Needed
www.aroc-wisconsin.org

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

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

TECHNICAL 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.

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.

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 authors 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 aroc-usa.clubexpress.com/.

