

# ALFANATIC

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## Summer Dining at Seven Seas Restaurant Friday, August 15

Join us for a relaxing summer evening meal. In addition to exquisitely prepared food, excellent service, and wonderful wines, Seven Seas has the best sunsets in all of Waukesha County. Relax overlooking the rippling waters of Lake Nagawicka with the sky all aglow.

- 6:30 pm—Cocktails in the bar
- 7:00 pm—Dinner, Lakeside Terrace
- Menu—Bountiful chicken and fish buffet
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- Cost: \$19.50 (includes tax and gratuity)

RSVP to Gary Schommer no later than Wednesday, August 13


Email [alfaman@wi.rr.com](mailto:alfaman@wi.rr.com) or phone (262) 252-3750

[Weissgerber's Seven Seas Restaurant](#) is located on the east shore of Lake Nagawicka at 1807 Nagawicka Road, Hartland, WI, 53029, phone 262-367-3903.

## Other August Events

**Concours on the Green, Connors Park, Lake Mills, WI— Sunday, August 17.** If the turnout is anything like the cars shown at their summer cars and coffee events, this concours should be worth the trip.

**Milwaukee Masterpiece, Veterans Park, Milwaukee, WI—Saturday and Sunday, August 23-24.** Saturday is club day and Sunday is the Concours. Both events have a lot to recommend them. Attend both days.

**Milwaukee Indyfest, Milwaukee Mile, West Allis, WI, Saturday and Sunday, August 16-17.** If you prefer watching cars in motion, this could be for you. Indy cars take on the venerable Milwaukee Mile. 

## Convention Update Alfamiglia Nordest 2015

June 24-28, 2015

The Detroit Convention is in the books (see report elsewhere) so now it's time to count down to the 2015 national meet, sponsored by the New York and Connecticut chapters and headquartered in Rhode Island. Confused yet? Don't be. It makes sense when you look at a map. In contrast to this year's more laid back gathering, Alfamiglia Nordest promises to be a full-service convention. The plans are ambitious. Stay tuned.

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**President’s Column**

**17th Annual ICAMS a Success**

By Bob Ludwigson

A special “thank you” goes out to the Reinas for their continued generous support of the Italian Car and Motorcycle Show. I cannot say enough to thank them for the use of their facility, the work they go through to move cars out of the showroom and off the sales lot, prepare the service area, the donation and preparation of delicious food, soft drinks, and gelato, numerous door prizes, the hiring of musical entertainment, and their warm and welcoming demeanor. When the party is over, they are faced with the cleanup and putting everything back to “business condition” for Monday morning. Grazie mille! A first time attendee from Illinois said it so aptly. *“I came expecting a nice Italian Car and Motorcycle Show, but I left feeling so much more—that I was part of a family celebration. Everyone was so friendly.”*

Thanks also to the generous participants, attendees, and unnamed volunteers who helped make this another successful event. At the end of the day, the total donations to the American Cancer Society came to over \$1,350. The money raised helps the American Cancer Society to provide patient services, research, advocacy, and education to both schools and adults regarding healthy lifestyles and early detection.

Last but not least, thanks also to Bob Ludwigson who helped to plan, promote, and co-chair the event.

Hope to see you all at our next event.

Ciao,

Gary Schommer 🍀

The sun shone brightly as the seventeenth annual ICAMS show began, and exhibitor’s cars started to stream onto Reina’s parking area. Cars included Alfas from the ‘60s, ‘70s, ‘80s, and ‘90s. Other makes represented included Ferrari, Fiat, Lamborghini, Lancia, Maserati, and a De Tomaso Pantera. A rarely seen and fully rally-equipped Lancia Delta Integrale drew a lot of attention. In all, over 35 cars were registered.

As the crowds gathered to view the cars, Italian music played and the Reina family and staff served their delicious hamburgers, hotdogs, and Italian sausages with peppers. The authentic Italian Gelato was a big crowd-pleaser. *(continued, next page)*



**2014–2015 Local and Regional Events Calendar**

- August 7–10 Tudor United SportCar Championship, [Road America](#)
- August 15 **AROC–Wisconsin, Summer Dining Event**, Seven Seas Restaurant, Lake Nagawicka, Hartland
- August 17 Concours on the Green, Commons Park, Lake Mills, WI
- August 23–24 [Milwaukee Masterpiece](#), Club Day and Concours
- September 7 [Wheels of Italy](#) and Festa Italiana, Minneapolis, MN
- September 12–14 VSCDA Elkhart Lake Vintage Festival, [Road America](#)
- October 18–19 LeMons “[Where the Elite Meet to Cheat](#),” Gingerman Raceway, South Haven, MI
- May 2, 2015** **AROC–Wisconsin, Das Kurze Klausenrennen**, twenty-seventh hillclimb and tour, New Glarus, WI
- June 24-28, 2015 Alfamilgia Nordest, Alfa Romeo Owners Club National Convention, Rhode Island
- August 2, 2015 (t)** **AROC\_Wisconsin, Italian Car and Motorcycle Show**, Milwaukee, WI



During the afternoon, exhibitors began judging the cars and marking down their favorites. When the votes were tallied, the winners were announced:

Favorite Alfa Romeo:

1. Bob Ludwigson, 1962 Giulietta Spider
2. Gary Schommer, 1971 GTV
3. Randy Swanson, 1972 Turbo Berlina

Favorite Ferrari:

1. Dan Arguel, 1965 330GT 2+2
2. Rick Mathieu, 1977 308 GTB
3. Don Droegkamp, 1985 308

Favorite Fiat:

1. Tom Grosser, 1974 124 Spider
2. Steve Krueger, 1977 X1/9
3. Fred Ellner, 1976 124 Spider

Favorite Other Italian car:

1. Lynn Hanke, 1959 Lancia Flaminia Zagato
2. Mike Smith, 1987 Lancia Delta HF
3. Scott Paton, 1972 DeTomaso Pantera

Vehicle that Best Represents Italian Design:

Lynn Hanke, 1959 Lancia Flaminia Zagato

The best part of our show was fund raising for charity. This year our charity was the American Cancer Society. Visitors were urged to donate cash as well as bidding on items in a silent auction. In addition, the AROC-Wisconsin club donated its net proceeds. In all we raised over \$1350.00 for the Cancer Society.

As the show closed, storm clouds began forming in the west. Not more than 15 minutes after I pulled my Alfa into the garage the heavens opened up and rain poured down. I'd call that perfect timing! 🍀





**More Pictures from ICAMS**



*Alfas in a row*



*Winning Ferrari 330 GT*



*Rally-prepped Lancia Delta HF*



*Singer in fedora provided Italian entertainment*

**4C Makes Appearance at Great Lakes Alfa**



Attendees to the national convention in Detroit found it hard to miss seeing an Alfa 4C. They were everywhere, starting with the welcome reception at the Walter P. Chrysler Museum where two, one a launch edition, were displayed, and ending at Sunday's Concours d'Elegance in Plymouth. Representatives were on hand to demonstrate the finer points, such as the boy-racer exhaust note, the well-appointed interiors, and the limited cargo space. Many of us tried one on for size and a few lucky people actually got to drive one for a short distance.



*Yours truly tries one on for size.*

My opinion? Great car! Sharp looking, nasty sounding, very much an attention-getter and conversation starter. Has my deposit been placed? Well, no. Maybe if I was younger... I already have a couple of weekend cars and at this stage of life I'm looking for a little more practicality at this price point. So wake me when the new Giulia sports sedan is introduced. 🍀



### Great Lakes Alfa a Crowd-Pleaser

Great Lakes Alfa, the “un-convention,” is in the books and it was a success in most every respect.

You’ll recall that last year I reported that the club’s board of directors was faced with the situation of not having a sponsoring chapter for the 2014 national convention. National President David Hammond bravely “volunteered” Detroit, his home chapter, to assume the role. Dave promised a somewhat smaller, lower-key convention, partly because the chapter lacked the time required to organize a full-blown convention and partly as a proof-of-concept to show the way for smaller chapters who may have desired to put on a convention but feared financial ruin if things didn’t go well. While I can’t say how the financial part worked out, I think I can say that the majority of attendees had a great time.



*A “low-nose” Giulietta Sprint Speciale graced the lobby of the Marriott.*

Great Lakes Alfa had all the essential elements required for a convention, just at a somewhat reduced competitive level. The pre-tour, aptly named “A Superior Tour,” pleased all attendees. There was a track day, but all laps were self-timed. The autocross was a one-on-one contest with a double-elimination format. The gimmick rally was self-scored. The concorso morphed into a car show—Detroit’s annual Italian Happening—and was a people’s choice event. All this resulted in a lot of fun but fewer awards to present, thus shorter

and (only slightly) less tedious banquet and awards brunch programs.

The weather cooperated right up through Sunday’s finale and the Auburn Hills Marriott at Centerpoint provided a comfortable setting with ample room for parking and events. The other venues, spread out over suburban Detroit, were up to the task as well. As the convention ended, the Concours d’Elegance of America at St. John’s opened down in Plymouth. This show, one of the three best in the U.S., was the perfect cap to the week.

And did I forget to mention the presence of Alfa Romeo which provided several 4Cs to drool over and try on? FCA representatives were there in force to present their new *bolide* to us and to document our activities and opinions for use as a dealer training aid. Maybe next year in Rhode Island we’ll see some 4Cs in private hands and the Alfa reps will be teasing us with a new Giulia sports sedan. One can only hope.



*GTA lineup at the Italian Happening*



*The Wisconsin contingent gets ready to enjoy the banquet.*



More Convention Pics



*Alfa rep Tony DiMuro greets us at the reception.*



*4C inspection didn't end at sundown.*



*The parking lot drew crowds, as usual.*



*Who was the idiot that decided these wouldn't sell in the U.S.?*



## 2015 Convention Heads East

While this year’s convention was billed from the beginning as “convention lite,” the organizers of Alfamilia Nordest are most definitely promising to stage a “full service” convention in 2015. The event, scheduled for 24-28 June and preceded by the usual pre-convention tour beginning the prior weekend, promises everything that the dedicated Alfisti could ask for, from events at the legendary Thompson Raceway to tours of much of upstate New York and New England. Staged by the New York and Connecticut chapters and headquartered in West Warwick, Rhode Island, could be the centerpiece for a longer tour of the east coast, if you’re so inclined. The organizers have a website up and running at [alfa2015.com](http://alfa2015.com), and I’m sure more information will be forthcoming soon, with registration to open after the first of next year. 🍀

## New National Officers

The AROC board of directors elected Cindy Banzer club president for the coming two years. Other posts were named as well, but your sometimes-unreliable correspondent forgot to record them so you’ll have to wait for the next issue of the *Alfa Owner* to see who’s who. Sorry. I knew you were just dying to know. 🍀



*Joe Benson’s SSZ at the parts swap and sale*



*A sea of Alfas at the Italian Happening*



*Tom Zat brought his 2600 limousine, a Giulietta Sprint Speciale, and an Alfasud Sprint.*



*A One-off 6C2500, ripe for restoration. One of seven cars presented by GTA guru Roman Tucker.*



## Alfas at Auction—July Report

There was a lot of Alfa auction action in July—space doesn't permit a complete accounting, but I'll do my best to hit the highlights.

The results from the June 19-21 Russo and Steele Newport Beach, CA, auction weren't posted at our last publication date so they're included in this month's report. There were four Alfas on offer in this sale, but only two sold.



A **1972 Montreal**, a two-owner car in white with blue upholstery was a recent Italian import. It sold for \$73,700. The other sale was a **1990 Spider** with a somewhat customized look. It was black with gold wheels and some LED light add-ons in the front fascia that wouldn't be to everyone's taste. It sold for \$5,775.



The two no-sales were a **1973 GTV** and a **1974 GTV**. In red with ivory upholstery, the 1974 had Panasport-style wheels and was misidentified as an Alfetta. More interesting was the red 1973 GTV that had been extensively modified—perhaps as the result of an earlier accident. It had many performance tweaks administered by a reputable west coast tuner and bore the nose and seats of a '69 GTV.



The Artcurial LeMans Classic Auction was held July 5 and offered Alfa eight lots. The most interesting were a group of four racers from the collection of the Museo delle Comunicazione de Cormano in Milan. Three were variations of GTAs raced in Italy in the '60s and the last was a **1956 Giulietta Veloce "Sebring,"** one of 20 examples commissioned by

U.S. importer Max Hoffman. They were race prepped and converted to monoposto configuration by the addition of a driver's windscreen to replace the windshield and a cover over the passenger's seat. This one stayed in Europe and was campaigned in the 1956 Tour of Sicily before being entered at LeMans for



driver Consalvo Sanesi. A gearbox lock-up on the resulting roll-over accident resulted in a dnf. The damaged car was returned to Alfa who ordered it destroyed, but instead it was slipped out the back door to a "friend" who kept it intact. It was rediscovered and restored in the '80s by collector and museum owner Ing. Francesco Tavoletti. It sold for the Euro equivalent of \$313,084.

Back in the U.S, Silver, Auctions America, and Mecum all offered cars closer to the ones in many of our garages.

Silver Auctions held sales in Jackson Hole, WY (7/5-6) and Spokane (7/12), with results instructive to '77 Spider owners. In Jackson, a white Spider with red upholstery, recently liberated from a museum was a no-sale on Saturday at \$6,400. The owners reran the car on Sunday where it was a no-sale at \$5,800. The pictures show a fairly good looking car with somewhat dingy looking upholstery. The rub strips bordering both the top and bottom style lines were a turnoff for me. The owners should have taken the Saturday bid and been done with it.



In contrast, the Spokane sale offered a shiny looking blue Spider with some recent mechanical work which



sold for a very reasonable \$4,000—probably a bargain.

The Auctions America sale in Burbank, July 31 - Aug 2, sported two Alfa no-sales worth mentioning.



The first was an immaculate-looking **1971 Montreal**, done up in red, with much recent service work performed. It was a no sale at \$110,000. The second was a low-mileage Pagoda Yellow **1973 2000 Spider**. It



was well maintained and original, save for a repaint in the original color. The consignor turned down a high bid of \$18,000. It must have been a very good car, indeed, as this seems a lot of money for a 1973 Spider.

Finally, the July 24-26 Mecum Sale in Harrisburg, PA, produced a few more **Spider** price points to consider. Three were offered—a red '76, a red '89 **Spider Graduate**, and a '69 **1750 Spider**. The '76 car was tidy, had burgundy upholstery, Turbinas, and euro bumpers. I'm guessing this was a repaint as I don't think the red paint and burgundy upholstery were offered together originally. It sold for \$13,000.

The '89 Spider was equipped with alloys and tan upholstery. This one-owner car sold for \$14,500.



The '69 Spider was a 50,000 mile car that looked to be in good order, except for a later radio requiring the dash panel to be cut, added carpeting, upgraded upholstery, and a conversion from dual to single brake servos. No longer an "original condition" car, it looked like a good driver and sold at a high bid of \$23,500.



We'll be back next month with more results, but your author believes he may have created a monster. It was never my intention to start a new *Alfa Market Letter* but that's what seems to be happening. 🍀



## Classifieds

*Alfanatic* will post brief non-commercial classifieds for members and friends at no charge. Email the [editors](#) to make a submission.

### Wanted

Looking for leads on a Giulia Sprint.

[Davidz@wi.rr.com](mailto:Davidz@wi.rr.com)

### For Sale

#### 1974 Alfa Romeo Spider



Sadly I must sell my everyday Summer car. Runs super and looks great inside and out. Some work needed on lower panels. Personally owned 2 years. Previous owner also used daily in the summer for many years. 89,000 miles. Asking \$6,200.

Contact: Kristine Fauerbach, 1-608-877-0562, or [kristine.fauerbach@gmail.com](mailto:kristine.fauerbach@gmail.com)

#### 1985 Corvette

Red/Red, 4+3, removable hard top. 51k miles and stored inside since new. All original. Body and interior in great shape. This car is move-in ready and is a nice ride. Blue Book value \$12,000.

Contact: Jim, 262-642-5068 or [jzyla@wi.rr.com](mailto:jzyla@wi.rr.com)

#### Two Engines

1987 2.5l from a rusted out Milano. Approximately 90k. Make Offer.

1991 3.0l S motor. Approximately 200k. Make Offer.

Steve Wirtz, West Bend, WI

262.306.8238 Home [swirtz@charter.net](mailto:swirtz@charter.net)

#### Parts - Make offer

Several Milano parts—Engine parts, Oil pans, valve covers, heads, small interior parts, hood, and sunroof. Don't have a Milano so I don't need the parts.

1974 Spider Hood, Cowl, Doors, Transmission and interior parts. New Left rear quarter panel and lower nose pan.

Steve Wirtz, West Bend, WI

262.306.8238 Home [swirtz@charter.net](mailto:swirtz@charter.net)

### Webmaster Wanted

Jim Zyla, our faithful and long-serving webmaster, would like to pass his duties on to another willing chapter member. If you have the skills, interest, and time to maintain our chapter website, making periodic updates promoting our events and activities, please contact me at [rabhalter@att.net](mailto:rabhalter@att.net) or Jim at [jzyla@wi.rr.com](mailto:jzyla@wi.rr.com).



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**2016 National Convention to Nashville**

The Tennessee Chapter will host the 2016 convention in Nashville. The organizers promise that the chapter won't implode and disappear immediately following the convention as happened in 2001, the last time they hosted the event. In 2017 we're planning to go international again with a joint convention in Montreal. Certainly by then we'll all be driving new Alfas, right?

**So, what didn't work well at this year's convention?**

Not too much, really. It amounts to picking nits and is probably unfair to David's hard working bunch of volunteers, but there were a couple of misfires, one being the Alfa Movie. I think three teams were registered and two dropped out when they discovered they were expected to *make* a movie and not *watch* one. The third team should have dropped out as their effort wasn't ready for prime time, or any other time either. Nice idea, but we had too many engineers and not enough artists to make this work.

The Italian Happening was a victim of its own success. There were so many cars that any sense of order was lost. More space was desperately needed.

Of course the banquet presentations were still on the dull side and we had two page nines and no page ten in our rally instructions, but stuff like that happens every year, so good job Detroit. New York and Connecticut—let's see what you've got! 🍀

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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](mailto:rabhalter@att.net) and share with your fellow Alfisti.

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June 24-28, 2015