

ALFANATIC

AROC-WI ANNUAL BANQUET & BUSINESS MEETING

Saturday March 21, 2015

ITALIAN COMMUNITY CENTER of MILWAUKEE

<http://www.iccmilwaukee.com/main.html>

631 E. Chicago Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202-5916
414-223-2180

Please join us for an evening of fun and relaxation at a great venue. Relive the events of last year and enjoy great conversation with fellow Alfaniacs. Located inside the Italian Community Center, *Cafe La Scala* offers an array of delicious, fresh and seasonal Italian foods.

With an inviting atmosphere, moderate prices on great food, and door prizes, why would you not want to join us? I hope to see all of you there!

5:30 – 6:00 PM: Cocktails at the bar (cash bar). Enter thru the lobby off the parking lot and go left down the hallway. Bar and restaurant are on the right.

6:00 – 7:45 PM: Dinner for our group is in the MEMBERS ROOM (across the hall from the restaurant).

7:45 – 8:15 PM: Very short business meeting w/election of officers followed by door prizes.

8:15 & beyond: Continued socializing.

Meal choices will be from the menu: <http://www.lascalamilwaukee.com/pranzo-cena-lunch-dinner-.html>
They have kindly agreed to provide individual/couple billing for your convenience.

IMPORTANT:

The restaurant wishes to know how many are coming.

Please contact Gary Schommer at alfaman@wi.rr.com or 262-252-3750 by **Wednesday, March 18**

Questions or last minute changes: Contact Gary Schommer.



In This Issue

- The Events Calendar
- “Mother May I?” Tour
- Ephraim Hill Climb and Concours Details
- New Glarus Teaser
- Alfetta for Sale
- Alfa at the Chicago Auto Show
- Want Ads

SAVE THE DATE — "Mother, May I?" Spring Tour, May 9

Club member John Ehle has organized his third annual spring tour. All club members and friends are welcome. John's email is below.

The third "Mother, May I?" spring tour is scheduled for Saturday, May 9. Mind you, that's the day before Mother's Day (thus the name), so be sure to weigh the responsibilities you may have to the mothers in your lives. For those who are new to this tour, it's a casual one-day tour in southern Wisconsin - get your car fix on Saturday, celebrate Mother's day on Sunday! Departing from the Lake Geneva area at 9 am, we'll drive northwest, looping around Madison to the north, making a couple of interesting stops along the way, and wrap up with dinner in Janesville at 6 pm. It's an all-makes event, so participants can bring any car they want, although there's a preference for sports cars, and an even stronger preference for vintage (pre-1980) sports cars. There is no charge for entry, with participants paying for their own meals, admissions and entertainment. Just a fun day of driving and socializing.

Another email will follow this one in about a month with all the details. I look forward to seeing everyone in May!

Please pass this email along to anyone you know who may be interested in joining the trip, and have them email me with their interest so I can include them on the distribution list.

John's email is: johnehle@comcast.net 

2015 Local, Regional, and International Events Calendar

March 5-15	85th Annual International Motor Show, Geneva, Switzerland
March 13-15	Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance , Amelia Island, FL
March 21	AROC-Wisconsin Annual Banquet and Business Meeting , Italian Community Center of Milwaukee.
May 2	AROC-Wisconsin, Das Kurze Klausenrennen , 27th Hillclimb and Tour, New Glarus, WI
May 2-3	SCCA Majors Tour, Blackhawk Farms Raceway, S. Beloit, IL
May 9	John Ehle's Third Annual "Mother, May I?" Tour. Email: johnehle@comcast.net
May 15	SVRA Spring Vintage Weekend, Road America
June 11-14	SVRA Brickyard Vintage Racing International, Indianapolis, IN
June 11-14	WeatherTech Chicago Region SCCA June Sprints, Road America
June 13-14	The 24 Hours of LeMans
June 24	AROC-Wisconsin, Tom Heinrich's 2nd Annual BBQ and Car Show , Lift, Inc. HQ
June 24	105th Anniversary of the founding of A.L.F.A.
June 24-28	Alfamiglia Nordest, Alfa Romeo Owners Club National Convention, Rhode Island
June 25	Goodwood Festival of Speed
June 26-28	Pirelli World Challenge, Road America
July 10-11	21st Annual Millers at Milwaukee, Milwaukee Mile, West Allis, WI
July 12	Indycar ABC Supply Wisconsin 250, Milwaukee Mile, West Allis, WI
July 16-19	The Hawk with Brian Redman, Vintage Racing, Road America
July 24-26	SVRA U.S. Vintage Grand Prix (& Alfas at the Glen), Watkins Glen, NY
August 2(t)	AROC-Wisconsin, Italian Car and Motorcycle Show , Milwaukee, WI
August 6-9	Continental Tire Road Race Showcase, Road America
August 8	Alfa Demo Day at Simeone Foundation Automotive Museum , Philadelphia, PA
August 16	Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, Monterey, CA
August 16-20	Ferrari Club of America International Meet, Monterey, CA
August 27-29	NASCAR XFINITY Series, SCCA Pro TransAm, Road America
August 22-23	Milwaukee Masterpiece , Veterans Park, Milwaukee
September 11-13	VSC Ephraim Hillclimb and Concours, Ephraim, Wisconsin
September 11	Goodwood Revival
September 18-20	VSCDA Elkhart Lake Vintage Festival, Road America

Inaugural Ephraim Hill Climb and Concours d'Elegance Scheduled

John Baker Welch writes:

The Vintage Sportscar Club is pleased to announce The Ephraim Hill Climb and Concours d'Elegance, featuring rare pre-war European and American grand classics, and significant post-war sports cars through 1964, on September 11, 12, & 13, 2015. The Event is sponsored by VSC, with participation by many other organizations. This event is unique among other North American classic automobile concours, because it includes the Kort Backe Klättra, a challenging Hill Climb staged over the village's streets, traversing the steep escarpment left by the glaciers. Also unique is the admission price, which is free to all spectators.

The historic and beautiful Village of Ephraim is located in picturesque Door County, Wisconsin, one hour north of Green Bay on Highway 42. Ephraim is situated perfectly along Eagle Harbor Bay. The events will be held in the heart of Ephraim's Historic District, home to charming shops, boutiques, restaurants, and a wide variety of elegant and charismatic hotels and B & B's, most within walking distance to all weekend events.

No weekend-long affair is complete without suitable celebrations and unique complementary events. A welcoming party with wine tasting is planned for Friday Registration and Technical Inspection held at the old Village Hall. The Great Hall will serve as event headquarters throughout the weekend. Scenic boat rides and horse-drawn carriage rides will be available all weekend within walking distance from the Great Hall. Saturday morning breaks early with an old-fashioned Pancake breakfast.

Saturday's Kort Backe Klättra, (Swedish for short hill climb) will be staged over the village's streets, traversing the steep escarpment. Technical Inspection will be conducted at the Great Hall Friday afternoon and Saturday morning until about 11:00 am for all competing automobiles. Drivers will be required to walk the course to familiarize themselves with the sharp and blind corners. Runs will begin about 11:00 am and finish about 3:00 pm.

For those not participating in the runs, Door County Trollies will be leaving the Great Hall Saturday morning, offering three options: One group is scheduled to visit multiple art galleries and stop for lunch at a bayside café. The second will visit unique Door County Boutiques and end at a delightful spa. The third group will take their participants to a world-renowned French cooking school for a day of everything French. All participants will be escorted back to their Ephraim Hotels and B & B's in time to dress for the Saturday Evening Diner Dance.

The Ephraim Hill Climb and Concours Dinner Dance will commence at 6:30 pm. Cocktail attire is required and 1940s' attire is encouraged. Ephraim is the only dry town in Wisconsin, so no alcohol can be sold, however participants can bring in their favorite libation, and we will be nicely compliant and within the law. The evening begins with hors d'oeuvres in the historic 1926 Ephraim Village Hall overlooking the magnificent Eagle Harbor Bay and viewing of silent auction items donated to raise funds for the Ephraim Historical Foundation and The Aaron R Moore Scholarships. Dinner is then served in the Great Hall with live entertainment. Dinner winds down with desserts and after-dinner dancing with music delivered on stage by a 14-piece dance band.

The Elegance at Ephraim Sunday Concours d'Elegance will find the grand classics positioned along the stunning Eagle Harbor Bay. The Concours d'Elegance finds its heritage in seventeenth-century France, when the aristocracy would parade their horse-drawn carriages through the parks of Paris. With the advent of the automobile, Concours d'Elegance events evolved into competitions between automobile manufacturers and custom coachbuilders whose vehicles were judged on the beauty of their design, and the extraordinary fit and finish of the coachwork. The Concours d'Elegance at Ephraim continues this tradition of exhibiting prestigious Grand Classics and also offers an automotive art exhibition, Afternoon High Tea in the Grand Hall, and many other social events for all participants and spectators.

Please mark your calendars for September 11, 12, & 13 to partake in this special event. Additional information will be forthcoming in the very near future.

Contact John Baker Welch with any questions at: JBWelch@williamblair.com 

New Glarus Event Not Far Away

Alfetta for Sale

Really! Even though the view out my window doesn't look like it, it's not that long until the first weekend of May and our club's *Das Kurze Klausenrennen*. New AROC-WI member and friend of George Meikrantz, Allan Thom, is eager to show off his beautiful, new-to-him, 1960 Giulietta Sprint.



Allan recently purchased the car from a U.K.-based Alfa specialist and is having it shipped over. In fact, it may already be in the U.S. by now. A British car from its initial delivery, it is apparently very well known among Alfa enthusiasts in the U.K.



The vendor provides an extensive and typically British ownership history which you can [read here](#). Thanks to George for the link and welcome to the club, Allan. We'll look for you at New Glarus. You shouldn't be hard to find. 🍀

President Gary Schommer got the note below recently.

Gary,

Some 36 years ago I moved to the US from England. In the UK my company car had been a Fiat 164. Once here, I discovered a Lancia Beta in Chicago, which was replaced a few years later (after I couldn't keep up with the rust) with a Fiat Strada.

Eventually, I moved to Indiana, where I found a '79 Alfetta Sprint Veloce. This has been my summer car for at least 26 years (who's counting?) For all of that time she has always been garaged and a true "fine-weather" car. Unfortunately, we have both got that much older, so I have come to a very hard decision -- I need to move the baby along to someone who can appreciate her as much as I have. I have to tell you that this decision is truly a heart-breaker for me.

The Alfetta still runs well. I have done most the work to keep it running -- it's not easy (read impossible) to find anyone that knows anything about Italian cars of this vintage in the Quad Cities. Luckily I do have a friend here in town who used to be a Fiat mechanic, so he has been able to at least give me some encouragement, if nothing else.

So, to get to the nitty-gritty of this message. Is there anyone in the Wisconsin Chapter who would be interested in the car?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,
Roger Meachem
Princeton, IA
563.289.2791
[<alfaman1@windstream.net>](mailto:alfaman1@windstream.net)

I've asked Roger for a picture and will post it if received. Ed. 🍀

Alfa at the Chicago Auto Show

By Bob Abhalter

In mid-February I made my annual pilgrimage to the Chicago Auto Show. I've been attending since before I could drive, I think. I've not been there every year, but every year I was in the area I tried to make it. While it may not be the most prestigious show in terms of introductions or exotic offerings, one thing it is, is *big*. It bills itself as the U.S.'s largest *consumer* auto show. Although no cars are actually sold in the cavernous McCormick Place halls, plenty of opinions are formed and plenty of cars *get* sold in the following months as a result of the look-sees afforded at the show.



I can well remember the 1969 show and my drooling over the blood red GTV with black Alfatex upholstery anchoring the Alfa stand. I wanted it badly but, months from my college graduation, couldn't come close to affording it. The rusted hulk of a parts car now moldering in the back of my shop offers only a faint shadow of that show car. But maybe some day...

Sadly, Alfas have been missing from the Chicago Auto Show scene for all too long—until this year. In January, FCA introduced the 4C Spider in Detroit, shown alongside a priceless collection of earlier Alfas to establish the idea of its heritage. When the show in Detroit was over, FCA packed the whole display up and shipped it to Chicago. That way they got their money's worth for the ocean freight and insurance they paid to get the museum cars into Detroit.

Alfa had its very own display, adjacent to the Maserati stand and quite separate from the Fiat offerings which were shown in the other hall, along with the Dodge, Chrysler, Ram, and Jeep products.



Front and center, the stars of the show were a Fly Yellow 4C Spider and Alfa Red 4C Launch Edition. Behind them were arrayed a luscious red Tipo 33 Stradale, a 1932 P3 Tipo B, and a Tipo 159 Alfetta Grand Prix car. One hardly knew where to look.

The stand was manned by an attractive and seemingly knowledgeable spokesmodel and two rather stern looking gentlemen who avoided public contact for the most part. Presumably they were the muscle, there to secure the valuable inventory.

The spokesmodel was more than willing to dispense the one deliverable, a twenty page full color brochure, but only if asked. Of course the cars were all look, no touch, but when you've only got at most 1,000 to sell for the whole U.S. what's to be gained?

As for the Spider, what can I say? It's beautiful and there are very few changes from the coupe, except for the obvious.



Will we see another new Alfa at next year's show? Only time will tell. 🍀

Auto Avio Costruzioni 815, the First Ferrari

In the years before WWII, Alberto Ascari and Mangoni Machiavelli approached Enzo Ferrari with a request to build a car to compete in the 1940 Mille Miglia. Ferrari had just returned to Modena after being ousted from Portello and the directorship of Alfa Corse due to disagreements with engineer Wilfredo Ricart.

While Ferrari was eager to take the commission, he was constrained by his separation agreement from using the Ferrari name for any automobile business for four years.

The resulting car, based on a Fiat chassis and mechanicals with bodywork



by Touring, and sporting a Ferrari-developed eight cylinder 1.5 liter engine, was named after the company he founded in 1939 to develop small aircraft engines.

Two cars were entered in the 1940 race and while neither finished, they were successful enough to provide the impetus for future Ferrari ventures.

Adapted from autoelusso.haly.it 🍀

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 PARTS

America's Largest Distributor
INTERNATIONAL
auto parts

- Over 90,000 Parts In Stock • 30 Years Experience
- Same Day Shipping • Satisfaction Guarantee

FREE CATALOG
1-800-788-4435
www.international-auto.com

sc201015

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

Classifieds

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

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



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

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

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



CONTACTS

PRESIDENT / MEMBERSHIP

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

TREASURER

Randy Swanson (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)
N88W22526 N. Lisbon Rd, Sussex WI 53089
262-255-1676

EDITORS

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

WEBMASTER

Steve Wirtz (swirtz@charter.net)
1947 Wallace Lake Rd
West Bend WI 53090
(262) 306-8238
www.aroc-wisconsin.org

TECH. ADVISOR

Al Pinkowsky (apinkowsky@wi.rr.com)
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.

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 author and are in no way endorsed by this organization or publication.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP is \$60 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/application.php>



June 24-28, 2015