

ALFANATIC

Things To Do on June 24

- Attend the opening reception of the AROC National Convention in Providence, R.I.
- Surf the Web for news from Milan on today's reveal of the new Alfa Romeo sports sedan
- Join your fellow Alfisti and other all-around car guys at:

Tom Heinrich's 2nd Annual Summer Solstice *Dining with the Cars*

Casual Dining and Social Event Wednesday Evening, June 24
Lift Inc., 2737 W. Mill Road, Glendale
6 p.m. until ??

Enjoy an evening of cars, food, and conversation.

Yes, we know that we're a few days late for the actual Solstice and that the date conflicts with the AROC National Convention but Tom Heinrich is once again hosting a casual grill-out social event at his headquarters in Glendale, so who are we to say no? Last year's event attracted an eclectic group of interesting and exotic cars, along with their equally interesting and exotic drivers. Tom and Pam were engaging hosts and a good time was had by all. If you'll be in town on Wednesday, don't miss it. Tom will provide a grill for cooking, you bring the rest. Bring your favorite food and drink and perhaps some snacks or sweets to share. Pack it, along with some folding chairs, into your favorite car and drive out to Glendale. There is a large fenced gravel lot in back for parking.

2737 W. Mill Road is on the north side of Milwaukee, West of Green Bay Road and East of Teutonia. Google Maps will pin-point the location. Note that Mill Road is regularly patrolled by the Glendale polizia. They are most happy and willing to enhance the city revenue stream. For directions and questions, Tom can be reached at 414-353-5353 during office hours and 612-805-1179 at any other time.

Join us for a fun and low-key event.



In This Issue

- The Events Calendar
- Alfa News
- Auto Industry Consolidation
- Updated Emblem
- 65th Anniversary of Modern F1 Racing
- Want Ads

ICAMS Planning Underway

By Bob Ludwigson

Planning has begun for the 2015 Italian Car and Motorcycle Show (ICAMS.) The event will be held on August 2, at Reina's, as usual. After discussions with Gary Schommer, we have decided to make the American Heart Association our supported charity. I met with Megan Wirz, corporate events director at the heart association, and after explaining who we are (I am getting good at telling people what the Alfa Romeo car is and about our club events!) she exclaimed that they would be excited to support us. They will definitely have people at our show and may even bring a heart condition survivor.

I also have been thinking that it would be great to have a new 2015 Alfa 4C on display. Does anyone have any contacts with Bergstrom (or any one else) ? I am willing to do the legwork. Just let me know.

From the editor: I know that there is at least one privately owned 4C in S.E. Wisconsin. Anyone know who it is? Are you reading this? Love to see you at ICAMS. 🍀

Palmen Motors in Kenosha Awarded Alfa Romeo Franchise

On Wednesday, June 3, the *Kenosha News* carried an article announcing that Palmen Motors had been announced as a new Alfa Romeo dealer. The new franchise will be called Palmen Alfa Romeo/Fiat and will occupy a portion of the existing Fiat studio at their dealership on 75th Street in Kenosha which will receive a new interior décor and signage and eventually be expanded.

Palmen is a force among Kenosha and Racine auto dealers, selling Chrysler and GM products from multiple dealerships. Kenosha is, however, a “premium car desert,” lacking higher-end dealerships other than Cadillac. Palmen is betting that Alfa Romeo will meet a market need for sporty luxury cars that Kenosha buyers would otherwise have to travel to Milwaukee or Lake Forest to purchase and service. 🍀

2015 Local, Regional, and International Events Calendar

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 21	34th Annual British Car Field Day , Sussex, WI, jstockinger4@wi.rr.com
June 24	AROC–Wisconsin, Tom Heinrich’s 2nd Annual Sports Car Solstice , 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 2	CAROC Lapping Event, Blackhawk Farms, Info Here
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
June 3-5, 2016	Concours d’Elegance of Chicago , Northerly Island, Chicago, IL

First Pre-Production Units of New Alfa Sedan Roll Off Line at Cassino Plant

IlSole24ore.com reported May 20 that assembly of the first of eight pre-production models of the new “Giulia” had been completed the previous Friday. The color? Red, of course. The eight (some sources have reported that there will be as many as 20 display models produced) will be sent to Arese for the grand introduction June 24 and following that will be on display at Expo Milano 2015.



Fiat's Cassino assembly plant

Full production at the plant in the Lazio region, which also assembles the Giulietta, is slated for September, after the new hires are trained and the new lines are in place. All the union issues regarding layoffs and work rules have been settled and the contracts have been signed. In Italy, this is a big deal, as Fiat's dealings with the unions have often been difficult.

Remarkably, no pictures of the new sports sedan have been leaked and no one outside of FCA knows what it will look like, unless one wants to believe one of the dozens of artist's concepts that have been floating around for the past months is the real deal.

And we still don't know what the new car will be called. Earlier it was suggested that while “Giulia” would be just fine for Europeans, it wouldn't resonate with North Americans who are largely ignorant of Alfa's heritage. The names “100,” as well as “6C” have also been suggested. But according to it.blastingnews.com, on June 4 CEO Sergio Marchionne said in an interview that he liked the Giulia name just fine. Whether that will carry any weight with the brand managers remains to be seen.

If things go according to plan, the new Alfa SUV will be next to join the sedan. Also slated for assembly at the Cassino plant, it is expected to be on the market in 2017. 🍀

New Museum and Showroom Complex in Arese Ready for June 24 Intro



Photo: Facebook—Alfa Romeo Project 952

The rendering above shows the new display area built around the Alfa Romeo museum in Arese. It will be the site of the unveiling of the new “Giulia” on June 24. In addition to the museum, there is a display area for Alfa Romeo products and an adjacent track, a recreation of the original factory test track. The track itself recently hosted its inaugural event and will be the site of several other vintage auto events scheduled through the summer. The buildings themselves are said to be ready for their opening. Some day, you may be able to take delivery of your new Alfa from this facility. 🍀

Fiat Chrysler Boss Sure of a New Auto Merger by 2018

Agence France Presse at IndustryWeek.com May 28, 2015

ROME — Fiat Chrysler chief Sergio Marchionne said Thursday he expects a new merger in the auto industry by 2018, without confirming reports he proposed a tie-up with General Motors.

“It is a personal opinion, certainly, but I am sure that there will be a merger between now and 2018 in the auto industry,” Marchionne was quoted as saying by Italian news agencies during a visit to Fiat Chrysler Automobiles' (FCA) Melfi factory in southern Italy.

He did not mention which carmakers he saw as tying the knot.

And when asked about reports he sent an email to the head of General Motors to suggest a merger, Marchionne declined to confirm he made the offer.

“Emails, I receive and I send many, one doesn't speak

about such things like that,” he said. “When there is something to announce, we’ll do so.”

Fiat and GM have a bit of a history, with the largest U.S. carmaker taking a 20% stake in Fiat and the Italian company a 5% stake in GM as they launched a number of joint ventures in 2000.

But their relationship soured, and in 2005 their alliance ended.

Marchionne, who took over Fiat in 2004, tried to snap up GM’s European unit Opel in 2009 when the U.S. company was on the ropes and filed for bankruptcy protection.

Marchionne was the architect of the merger between Fiat and U.S. carmaker Chrysler, which was finalized in 2014.

Marchionne and Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi visited the Melfi factory, which has added 1,550 jobs this year as it has begun to turn out new Jeep Renegades, a small 4x4 SUV.

The factory, which now employs 7,500 workers, is expected to turn out a record 400,000 vehicles this year.

FCA returned to the black in the first quarter of this year with a profit of 92 million euros (\$101 million) thanks in large part to rising U.S. sales. 🍀

FCA to Delay Some New Models

[Reuters](#) on June 2 reported that over the past year Fiat Chrysler Automobiles has delayed several major new model development plans, potentially deferring billions of dollars of investment while searching for a merger partner. Affected are some high margin U.S. models, including the Ram 1500 pickup and the Jeep Wrangler utility vehicle. In total, 12 future vehicle programs have been delayed since the five-year development plan was released in May of 2014.

Not included in these delays are the plans for **Alfa Romeo** products which apparently are proceeding according to plan. 🍀

Updated Alfa Logo to Debut with New Sedan



Over the years since its introduction in 1910, the Alfa Romeo logo has retained the same elements but the graphics have continually evolved. Thus it is fitting that, along with Alfa’s impending re-launch, we get an updated version of the venerable *scudetto*. In this version, we lose the vertical separation between the cross and the serpent, which now fill the inner circle which is now all white, rather than white and blue. 🍀

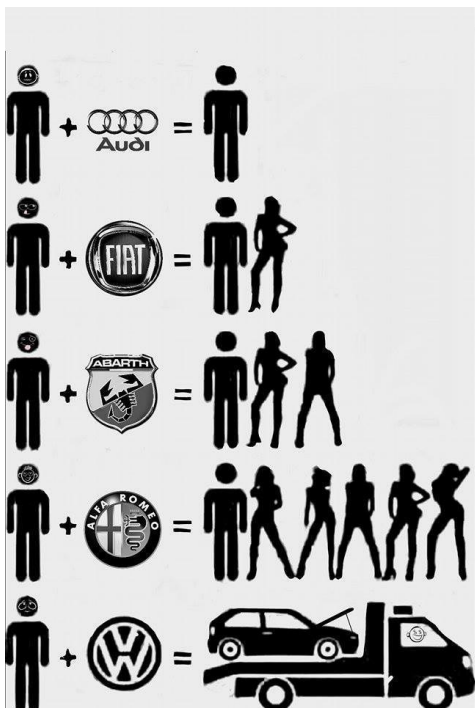


Alfa SUV Spotted Testing

Well, it doesn't look like much, but the image below is reported to be the development mule for the new Alfa SUV, scheduled for release in 2017.



Based on the same "Giorgio" platform as the new sedan, the elements are covered by a much-cobbled and lengthened version of the new Fiat 500X. What the 'Ute will look like in real life is anyone's guess but I'm sure that Europe's would-be Alfa designers will start cranking out renderings soon. From the photos available on Motorionline.com and elsewhere, the independent rear suspension is very obvious but not much more has been revealed, except the sense of humor of the techies who created the camouflage package for this mule. Opera windows? Wow. 🍀



A little Eurocar humor. I forget where I found this.

65th Anniversary of Modern F1 Grand Prix Driver's Championship

On May 13, 1950, the first race of the modern, post



WWII, Formula 1 Grand Prix Championship Series was held at Silverstone. The winner? The Alfa Romeo Tipo 158 "Alfetta" piloted by Giuseppe "Nino" Farina, who also qualified first and set fastest lap, for a racing "hat trick."

Alfa entered four cars for the race, to be driven by three "factory" drivers; Farina, Fagioli, and Fangio, and one "local," Reg Parnell. They swept the podium finishes, with Fagioli coming second and Parnell third. Fangio retired with an oil leak.

The Alfettas were first designed and raced in 1937/38 in the 1.5 liter *voiturette* class, junior to the Grand Prix cars of the era which were allowed 3 liters displacement. During the war, Alfa Romeo engineers preserved the Alfettas, first in Bologna then—to avoid the Germans—in pieces inside a cheese factory in Melzo. The cars reappeared and were campaigned again starting in 1946.

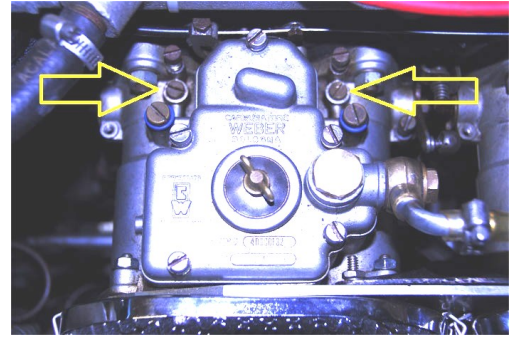
In 1947 a new championship formula was announced for 1950 for open wheel cars with 1.5 supercharged or 4.5 liter normally aspirated engines. This suited Alfa just fine. By adding a two-stage supercharger they obtained around 350 hp in 1950's configuration and were able to best their competitors due to the extensive pre-war development that had been put into the cars.

Of the seven races comprising the 1950 drivers championship, Alfa won six with either Fangio or Farina placing first. (Alfa didn't compete in the seventh race, the Indianapolis 500, which was run under different rules.) Farina edged Fangio for the 1950 championship, while Juan Miguel Fangio piloted the updated tipo 159 to the 1951 championship. 🍀

Tech Tip: Balancing Weber Carbs

From Tom Sahines, AROC tech advisor, found on the Alfa Mailing List, edited for (I hope) greater clarity

The best way to set the balance is to remove the cover screws for the progression holes. Carefully look through the center progression hole and adjust the IDLE screw so that you can see the edge of the butterfly centered in the center progression holes (of the left carburetor). Then carefully adjust the central balance screw until both carb's butterflies are in exactly the same position. All four ports should align the same, if not, then the throttle shafts are twisted or the progression holes were drilled wrong. Reinstall the progression hole covers and start the motor. Now adjust the IDLE stop screw to get the idle correct and you should be good to go. (You can then proceed to adjust the idle air mixture.) Don't forget to check to be sure that you are getting full throttle when the gas pedal is depressed to the floor. I find many cars get only partial throttle because of excessive carpet padding. 🍀



The cover screws

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

164 Parts Available at LKQ U-Pull It



Member Brad Trick spotted this 1991 164L in the yard and though it might be of interest to the membership. It looks to be in fairly decent shape and could yield some needed parts for your projects. Adam, the manager of the lot located near Mitchell Field, is eager to get the word out. The car is available at:

LKQ Self Service

6102 South 13th Street

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53221

(800)962-2277

Hours:

9am-5pm Monday-Sunday



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