

# Alfa Media Notizia



Newsletter of the **FLORIDA ALFA CLUB**  
Tampa Bay Area, Florida

## Monthly Meeting Thur. August 11th

Paradise Restaurant - 443 Main St. Safety Harbor, FL

### **Alfa Potlatch Events report...**

Event planners managed to schedule the best weather for the convention. Details and more photos inside. Linda and Joel Edinburg visit Mt. St. Helens - Joel threatens paperazi photographer! :)



### **Tech Session - August 14**

(Sunday) at Chip Denykos house. Most likely our usual chance to clean your fuel injection with BG products. Two tools and double bays - so plenty of room! Lot's of other potentials too - we'll talk about it at the meeting this week, and sign up for your disk to bring. Assuming good weather, pool party / picnic.

**Collier Museum Drive** - South Florida has scheduled a Collier Museum drive. Form enclosed, but you must act quick, limited to 100 participants, and deadline is September 1, 2005 for receipt of check to attend. Collier event form, and FAC updated event calendar are enclosed in center of this edition.

New Meeting Place - Paradise Restaurant - Safety Harbor

<http://www.FloridaAlfaClub.com>

Postage not sponsored :(

**FAC Meeting July 14, 2005**

In attendance Chip Denyko, John Rady, John Picot, Jeanie & JR Collins, Norm Sippel, Heidi & Graham Spencer, Delson Correa, Carla & Rugerrio Santilli.

Meeting called to order, 7:30 p.m. John Rady reported on the Dinner to a Palm Harbor restaurant. Dinner was great. We possibly will use this location for Christmas this year. Once the change is confirmed, an updated calendar will be available.

John Rady and John Picot attended the British Car Club picnic on July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Norm Sippel asked the club to be cogniscent of potential new advertisers for Alfa Owner. If you locate someone, please contact Norm.

We have been invited to attend Viva Alfa Romeo and the event is added to the calendar. The event is back at Celebration, Florida. This is November 5th, the Saturday before our November 13th Sunday picnic at Fort DeSoto park.

Tech session at Chip's was discussed, we will finalize at the August 11th meeting.

New events were discussed, meeting adjourned 8:35.



*What some people will do to find Alfa parts... :)  
Delmas Greene on farm in N.C.*



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Mount St. Helens puffs smoke from dome, just a few days before the dome collapses. Photo by Chip Denyko

**Meeting Thurs August 11th @  
7:30 - Paradise Restaurant  
443 Main St.  
Safety Harbor, FL  
727-725-0618**



**List of Officers / Board Members**

- President ..... Graham Spencer ..... (727) 784-3668
- President-Elect ..... Delson Correa ..... (727) 328-2185
- Secretary / Treasurer . Polly Greene ..... (727) 799-1486
- Recording Secretary . Volunteer Needed
- Director ..... John Picot ..... (727) 787-0249
- Director ..... David Rigall ..... (813) 234-1329
- Legal Aide ..... Delmas Greene ..... (727) 799-1486
- Newsletter Editor ..... Chip Denyko ..... (813) 886-6165
- Web Page ..... <http://www.FloridaAlfaClub.com>

**Monthly meetings are held the SECOND THURSDAY of each month at Varoius Locations. Check the web page for the most recet update, or call one of us listed above. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM, but you are always invited to meet there early for dinner or just to chat about your latest Alfa adventure!**

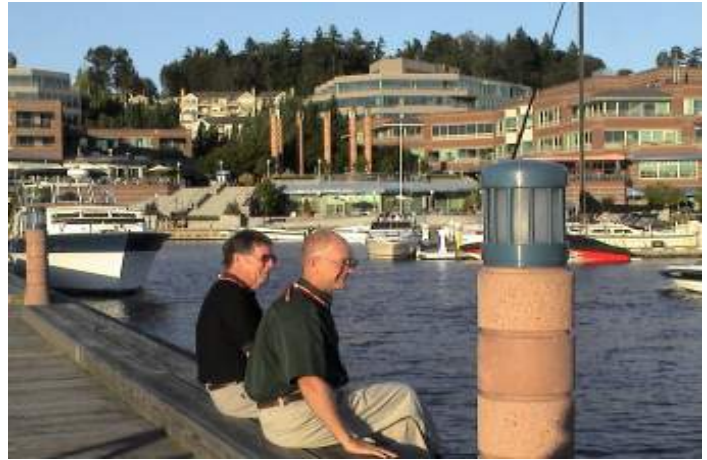


# **Alfa Potlatch**

## **AROC Convention report**

OK, so what is a Potlatch you ask? The native American tribes of the Northwest give a Potlatch to share their wealth, show status and give back to the community so to speak. The 2005 Alfa Potlatch convention was built around this theme, and home based in Bellview Washington, just outside of Seattle.

My first trip to Seattle itself, I was awed by the beauty of the lush green mountains, and for our trip extremely temperate weather. The mornings were low 60's, with days up to 90's. I wondered what was all this complaining about the weather in the Northwest all about. Appears just like the Portland 2000 convention, we hit the sweet spot of summer weather. I arrived on Tuesday Noon time and until Monday morning for my return trip, it was just gorgeous, and on the edge of hot. Monday morning as I flew out, the



gray rainy day was building, confirming impeccable timing on the part of the convention planners!

I took the opportunity to explore Seattle by myself on Tuesday, taking in the wharf area, Pike's fish market, having a wonderful lunch, locating a few souvenirs to ship home and finding what else, the Space Needle. I think I expected it to be bigger, but rode to the top for a full 360 degree view of the Seattle skyline.

Wednesday evening was to be the first welcoming event officially, so I drove South to meet Linda and Joel Edinburg and Glenna and Pat Garrett coming up from San Diego.



Once connected with the Edinburgs we drove south to go to Mount Saint Helens. They had been to the east side of the mountain in 1984, and wanted to see the west side, and possibly the east again. Since I'd seen none of this, I took the opportunity and was absolutely awed. Besides the great company, seeing the fierce power of a volcano and the visible aftermath some 25 years later put the event into perspective. Educational national park sites were extremely informative.

All set for Wednesday evening, Polly and Delmas Greene had arrived early morning, and in the typical Alfa fashion, suddenly there were 13 of us for dinner. Pat & Glenna recognized some Kiwi Alfisti, and they joined the party, and Mark Dubovik was already at the convention as well. The group located a restaurant on the Seattle waterfront and the company was just unbelievable. As I've experienced at every Alfa convention, new friendships were made.

Thursday's board meeting started on time, and was a record "On-Time" performance! At 4:05 PM,



A beautiful harbor in Seattle, Delmas Greene talks with Ausie AROC member while waiting for table at restaurant. Polly (on left) wonders what Delmas is getting her into now! Lower right, Linda Edinburg has some fun at State Park on tour to West Side of Mt. St. Helens park.

Photos by Chip Denyko



all business was concluded (with some required follow-ups after the convention of course). It was the earliest I ever remember a board meeting concluding. It was a small audience; there were some events, drives and other distractions to keep members occupied. No major issues to address except a continued tight budget, and the requirement to keep expenses in check. The board will look for additional ways to reduce our printing / mailing costs in an effort to match our income. Current membership hovers just above the 4000 mark at this time. Delmas reported on the Liaison

position, which is of course nothing confirmed on an Alfa return to the US. Rumor mills speculate a 2007 or 2008 return linked to the Mazzeratti dealer and service network already in place. Past experience seems to indicate a wait and see requirement.

Board member Mac Barnett and Doug Zaitz retired at the end of this meeting, and Char Sommers from Portland and Brewster Thackery from Capital Chapter were sworn in. The executive board remains as is, with Bill Gillham as President, Chip Denyko as Vice President,



John Justus as Secretary, and Ed Geller as Treasurer.

Following the meeting, a tech session at Group 2 Motorsports on V-6 transaxles was held. This proved to be an excellent tech event, with a group doing preference upgrades to chassis and braking systems. Once again the group dinner emerged, but this night a total of 21 members ended up at a very nice restaurant where we did experience a wait, but the scenery and company made it so worth while. The food happened to be great, but the waterfront

Top and Middle, Group 2 Motorsports, top Milano 2.7 Liter. Open session around performance upgrades. Lower - Steve Piantieri hangs out at Pacific Raceway during lunch. . Photos by Chip Denyko



view with yachts and other vessels was spectacular. I was told that during weather like this, many people take time off impromptu to enjoy the short window. As a consequence, just about everything is crowded.

Time Trials was Friday at Pacific Raceway. Due to poor timing on my part, I arrived while lunch was being served, and a power pole snapped - so the event was in holding pattern until the power company arrived to shore up the pole which happened to be right where the cars had to enter the track! Oy... I did manage to get a tour at the Boeing manufacturing plant - wow...

Friday evening was the Welcome party with Midnight Madness event later that evening. Polly Delmas and I found a fantastic market and picked up a picnic and wine. Locating a table, we unfolded our picnic and had folks dropping by to join us most of the evening. It was a great time, and we've pretty much decided to do this at future conventions.

Midnight Madness was NOT what I expected, cars were decorated with all sorts of themes, and Santa Claus judged the "Madd" event. His hair caught on fire at one point!

Saturday led into Autocross at Emerald Downs where I had expected to spectate and make my way to Wes Ingram's tech sessions, but with a fondness for Autocross I found myself helping out, and ended up timing and scoring for the full day! Eric and the Detroit guys certainly have their processes down here, and we missed seeing them. I had a great time, met some fantastic new friends and got to do my part to help. When all was over, I took my Subaru Outback rental around the course and did some very respectable times without chewing any cones... :)

The Wes Ingram tech session (which I missed) was said to be quite awesome. Wish I could have attended. The evening banquet was the usual buffet, with Salmon (what else) as a main



Top - lineup of rare cars at Pacific Raceway, Photo by Chip Denyko; All racecar photos courtesy of Steven Piantieri during time trial events at Pacific Raceway.



choice. While it looked spectacular, I was very happy with my chicken. Entertainment in the form of Native American dancing and tales were the Potlatch theme. The 76 Alfa Spider was won by a member at our table, and president of the new Deep South chapter. He was Mike Hemsley's son in law, and now has 2 Alfas! Sunday Concours was held at a nearby Community College with a great parking lot amid the trees. It was a beautiful setting. The cars were loosely grouped together, and some 30's and 40's Alfas were the highlight. Short a few judges, I volunteered here as well, judging Transaxle coupes (Alfetta and GTV6's). With a large number of cars the final results were not available at the awards ceremony, so look for them in the Owner October edition which will be dedicated to the convention. Thanks to Polly and Delmas for a great event, I really enjoyed hanging around with them, and also to the Edinburgs and Garrett's for the trip to St. Helens. It was a memorable convention - and as usual I've made new Alfa friends along this journey!

Chip





## FAC & Other Events

### FAC Tech Session - Chip Denyko's

The annual tech session at Chips house - Sunday August 14th, 11 AM until ?. Bring a dish to share - contact Chip at (813) 886-6165 or at the meeting. Expected is the usual BG Fuel Injection sessions, and we'll discuss other potential tech session items as well. If you have something you'd like to see, bring it to the meeting!

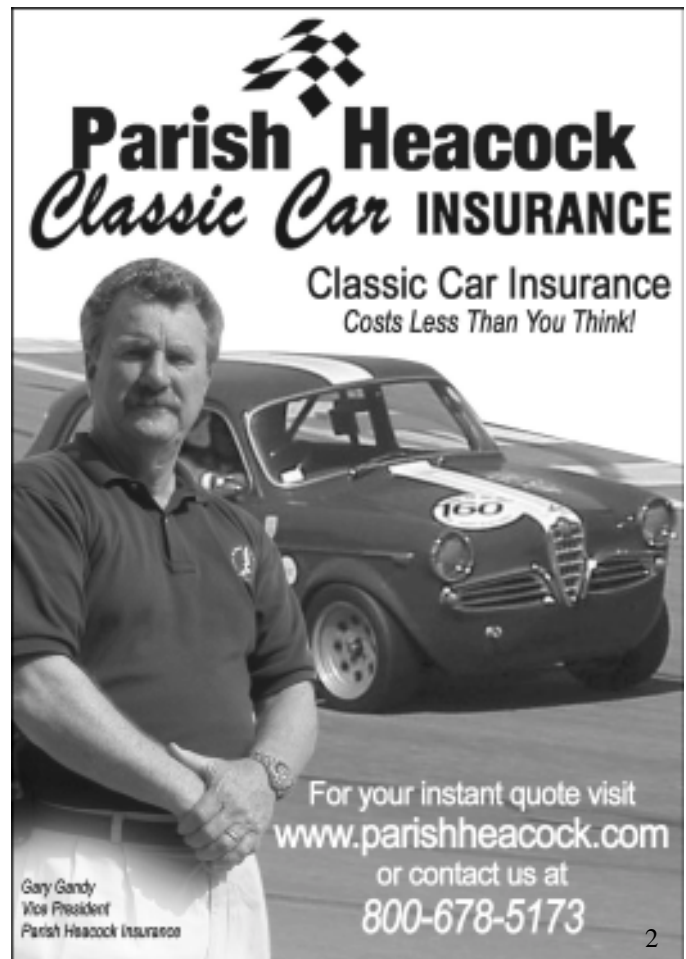
Usually about 4 PM, the food starts flowing and weather permitting fun in the pool. Need your fuel injection cleaned? We'll need to know so we have enough product on hand - \$40 per car includes the \$30 for product and \$10 tool rental for club. This service sells for \$150 to \$230 at dealerships!

### Collier Museum Drive

WHEN: Saturday September 17, 2005

WHERE: Drive from Tampa Bay area to Collier Museum near Naples. There is a limited number, so all participants must be signed up to attend. Cost \$10 or 25 depending on choice, Form is enclosed, but don't wait to sign up for the event. Numbers are limited.

Check the enclosed event calendar as it is known today for all other events on the reverse side of the Collier registration form.



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Top Right pg 7 - Gordy Hyde (left) with Craig Morningstar (right) at award luncheon. All remaining photos on page 6 & 7 from concours event at Bellview Community College campus. Photos on page 6 & 7 by Chip Denyko



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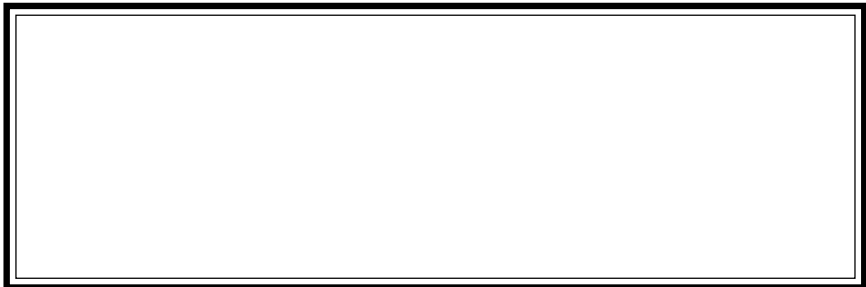
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- December - Postage - Polly & Delmas Greene
- Nov. - Postage - Chip Denyko & Gary Stevens
- October - Not Sponsored
- September - Not Sponsored

If you have received this edition of our newsletter and are not currently a member, we have sent you this to peak your interest. The Florida Alfa Club is a group of Alfa Romeo owners or wanna be's that share technical information, skills, experiences, events, fun and commeraderie of our prized possessions, our Alfas! If you would like to join us, or just visit for a meeting or two please feel free. If you have any questions, you can call anyone listed on page 2 for more information.

*Dinner & Meeting location*  
**Paradise Rest. - Safety Harbor, FL**



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