



Alfa Notizia March 2013

Business Meeting at Jason's in the Cypress Point Center on US Hwy 19 in Clearwater this Thursday. Park your Alfas in the law office parking lot just to the right (south) of Jason's. If you want to order apparel with the Florida Alfa Club logo on it, now's the time !

Another elegant show at the Sarasota Exotic Car Fest on St Armands Circle and another elegant showing by the Florida Alfa Club on Feb 23rd. We had nine cars on the grass: the Greene's 1960 Vignale 2000, the Heed's 1964 Giulia spider, the Gratta's 1967 Duetto, the Picot's 1972 Montreal, the Rady's 1984 GTV6 Maratona, the Siscos's 1978 Fiat 124 spider, the Lombardos 1992 Spider and the Guynn's 1994 164LS. Of the four that were entered for judging, three trophied.



John & Linda Lombardo awarded a Silver for his 1992 spider Veloce.



We sat twenty at the table for

lunch at the club's favorite, Café L'Europe, two others dined at their favorite Columbia and two remained in the circle and

picnicked on the grass.

Left: Excellent cuisine & service at the elegant Café L'Europe.

Right: Lovely ladies all, Barbara Stratton, Theresa Lombardo, Linda Rady and Polly Greene.



Last weekend, March 8-10, was the Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance at the Ritz Carlton. The marque this year, being the 50th Anniversary of James Bond, was Aston Martin. Some Club members went up for the Gooding Auction, held on Friday; a Giulietta spider Normale went for \$123,000. Many others went up on Saturday for two events. First, the "Festivals of Speed" at the Plantation where there were over 100 cars including over a dozen Aston Martins, another dozen Ferraris, even more Porsches, hot rods and muscle cars but no Alfas. FAC members Norm & Penny Sippel had their Maserati GranTurismo and Mid Florida member, Ted Stratton, had his Aston Martin V-12 Vantage there. Second, back at the Ritz, the du Pont Registry held a "Cars & Coffee" that got 200 cars on the 17th fairway. Unlike the "Festivals," there was no entry fee for the displayers. It was almost an unjudged concours in itself, especially for the caravans of Corvettes who were there for the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the split window Stingray. There was a nice, red contemporary Alfa spider there.



1959 Stingray concept

The RM Auction was also held on Saturday. For those not bidding there was a big TV screen outside to follow the bidding. It's a kick watching the bids rise in increments of \$100,000 and then slow to \$10,000 or even \$5,000 as they get closer to the hammer down.

The main event was Sunday, the Concours d'Elegance, 300 impeccably presented automobiles arranged by class on the manicured fairways. This time there were Alfas. First and foremost, FAC members Dr. Ruggero & Carla Santilli's new TZ3 Zagato Stradale that arrived just in time to get it on the grass. This car is #9 and the last of the TZ3s, Zagato bodies wrapped around a SRT (Viper) chassis and V-10 engine. A true amalgamation of Italian beauty and American horsepower. This car was too late an entry to be judged.



Straight from Italy, the Santilli's New TZ3 Zagato Stradale #9.



Great hindsight is provided by the See through cortina. FL license "TZ3."



This is a true wrap around rear window !

Carla picked the color when, they decided to have the car built, she looked up and said, "I want it to be the color of the sky !" And it is, "Azzurro !"



The Santilli's also had another car on the grass, their 1957 Sprint Veloce Zagato. Although the car was before their time, two of its judges were the CEO of Zagato Atelier, Andrea Zagato, and his wife Marella Rivolta Zagato. Many FAC members met Marella's father, Piero, at the polo match in Sarasota in January.

There were two 6C 1750s there, one a 1931 with a Zagato body. The other was a repicar, a 6C 1750 "Aprile" recently made in Argentina. Its age and authenticity could fool almost anyone except the master craftsmen who built it and the guy who paid \$1,000,000 to have it made. There was also an exquisite Sprint Speciale. A car has to be exquisite to be invited to the Amelia Island Concours.



Our next event is on Saturday, May 12th. Jeff Hanson will lead us from I-275, just south of the Sunshine Skyway Bridge, out through East Manatee County country to the Fiorelli Winery for a tour and wine tasting at 11:00 and lunch at 12:00. We'll meet at Uppy's BP Station just off of I-275 in Palmetto at 10:00 AM. By 2:00 we'll be on our ways home on whatever ending roads we choose. Cost is \$20 per person. Please RSVP Jeff at (941)-371-3337 or jshvt@yahoo.com. A flyer will be going out to you soon. For winery details and great photos of it go to www.fiorelliwinery.com



On May 4th, Saturday, the 2nd Annual Alfa Romeo Florida Swap Meet will be held at the Alfa Romeo, Inc. Headquarters in Orlando. This event did exceptionally well for a first time event last year. You may remember reading about it in last November's issue of Alfa Owner. Tony DiMuro, ARI, has invited us back to the 500,000 square foot Chrysler warehouse. AROC ARI Liaison, Delmas Greene, and Howard Bernstein of the Mid-Florida club are putting it together. So start organizing those parts you have been saving for too long and start making a list of the parts you will hope to find. They don't have to be car parts, there will be books, tapes, brochures, clothing, art, memorabilia, desk items and Alfa items you never knew existed. One man's junk is another man's treasure. There will be plenty of room and tables to spread your wares out on and plenty of time to haggle. ARI will provide coffee and pastries and the Florida Alfa Club will provide sandwiches and drinks for lunch. RSVP to Gladys Bernstein at glad1bee@cfl.rr.com or (407) 774-7947 or Delmas Greene at alfagreene@earthlink.net or (727) 799-1486.

After lunch Tony will give a tour of the warehouse and hopefully provide another surprise. Last year he brought out the only legal Breda spider in the United States and gave us the keys to romp around on the deserted, wide industrial roads ! Pray for a 4C !!

The club has a few cars in repair/restore mode right now. Bill Kelly continues the long, arduous restoration of his 54 1900 Sprint restoration.

Frank Mann has the engine and everything else rebuilt and restored of his 73 GTV and is waiting for the stripping and painting of the body in Orlando.

Barry Andress finally got his 72 GTV painted and back home to put back together. After a year in two other shops he finally got it to Ray Maxwell at R&B and says they know what restoration work is and he's pleased with their work. \$450 a gallon for clear coat.



Delmas chains down Barry's shiney GTV for the ride home.



John Picot makes final checks before the trailering begins.



Delmas' beautifully restored 1300 cc Giulietta.

Delmas Greene is coming close to the completion of the bolts up restoration of his 56 Giulietta spider. He has the engine rebuilt, every bolt cadmium plated, the body blasted, faired and painted, everything is back together and he is now having new upholstery made. He is offering his old interior, which is still in very good shape, for sale.

Tom Hill had Franco, in Largo, pull his 1960 Giulietta spider engine for rebuild. Franco also has the engine and tranny out of Harmon Heed's Giulia spider for rebuild and will ready the car for the drive to the convention in California.

For Sale

For a 1987 Quadrafolio spider: Contact Carlton at bobcy4727@aol.com.
New Koni Red shocks for the rear, \$75. Shop manual (IAP), \$35. New Fram air horns, \$25.
New Trans Powerflex, \$20. Used exhaust center and rear, \$35. And other odds & ends.

Used but complete and in very good condition, red interior for Giulietta spider. Contact Delmas Greene at alfagreene@me.com or (727) 439-2019.

For Rent

Amelia Island Condo next to the Ritz Carlton for next year's Concours d'Elegance weekend. On the beach, two bedroom, two bath, \$173.50 per night for each of three nights. For photos and details contact Norm Sippel at nsippel@mindspring.com.

2013

March 14th, 7:30-8:30 PM, Business Meeting at Jason's Deli, Cypress Point Center, Clearwater. Place your orders for apparel with the Florida Alfa Club on it. If you can't make the meeting, order through Polly at

March 16th, 7:30-10:00 AM, Cars & Coffee at duPont Registry, St. Pete.

April 6th, 8:00-10:00 AM, Cars & Coffee at Suncoast Porsche, Sarasota.

April 11th, 7:30-8:30 PM, Business meeting at delicious Jason's Deli, Clearwater.

April 13th, Saturday, 9:45 AM-3:00 PM, road trip and wine tasting at Fiorelli Winery just south of Lake Manatee in east Manatee Co. The Sonoma of Florida.

April 19th, Friday, 6:30 PM, 50's Theme Car Show at Brighthouse Field.

April 20th, 7:30-10:00 AM, Cars & Coffee at duPont Registry, St. Pete.

May 4th, Saturday, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM, 2nd Annual Florida Swap Meet at Alfa Romeo, Inc. HQ in Orlando. Sell your junk and buy treasures cheap or visa versa.

May 9th, 7:30-8:30, BS meeting at Jason's Deli. Come early and eat heartily.

May 11th, 8:00-10:00 AM, Cars & Coffee at Ferrari of Tampa, Palm Harbor.

May 18th, 7:30-10:00 AM, Cars & Coffee at duPont Registry, St. Pete.

June 1st, 8:00-10:00 AM, Cars & Coffee, Suncoast Porsche, Sarasota.

June 8th, 8:00-10:00 AM, Cars & Coffee at Ferrari of Tampa, Palm Harbor.

June 13th, 7:30-8:30 PM, Business meeting. We start and end on time !

June 15th, Cars & Coffee at duPont Registry, St. Pete.

July 8-12th, National Convention, Sonoma, CA. Go to alfacalifornia.com.

Geneva Notebook: ‘How Much Is That Alfa in the Window?’ Edition

By [JERRY GARRETT](#)



Jerry Garrett Alfa Romeo 4C sports

coupe.

GENEVA — The Alfa Romeo stand at the Geneva auto show is usually a good place to hang out because usually, nobody is there.

This year was different.

“It’s been a long time since we’ve seen crowds like this here,” said Richard Gadeselli, an executive at the Fiat Group with a long background in watching Alfa trying to reinvent itself and get its mojo back.

The 4C sports coupe – something Alfa Romeo calls the “compact supercar” – seems to have done the trick. The stand was mobbed.

A gorgeous example of voluptuous Italian design, the 4C looks like a hit in the making.

“We start taking orders next month here in Europe,” Mr. Gadeselli said on Tuesday after the official unveiling of the production version. “I can’t imagine what the response will be.” He meant that in a sort of incredulous way.

The big question is what the response will be when Alfa starts taking orders later this year for the version of the 4C that will make its way to the United States, reintroducing the brand in America for the first time in nearly 20 years.

The 4C is certainly an appealing package: its 1.75-liter, turbocharged, direct-injection gasoline engine delivers (this is not a misprint) 240 horsepower and is mated to a 6-speed dual-clutch transmission. The 4C will vault from zero to 60 m.p.h. in about 4.5 seconds and top out at 155 m.p.h.

And did I mention the thing is just gorgeous?

The big question is price. Auto writers have raised the hackles of Mr. Gadeselli and others at the company by extrapolating that its European price of about \$78,500 can merely be converted into dollars to arrive at an American sticker. This ignores the realities of such things as luxury taxes and other add-ons (do they have “dealer prep” and “weatherproofing” or “clear coat paint protection” in Europe?) that can detach European prices from American realities.

It's a safe bet that the 4C won't cost \$80,000 in American showrooms. But it probably won't cost less than a \$50,000-ish [Porsche Cayman](#), either.

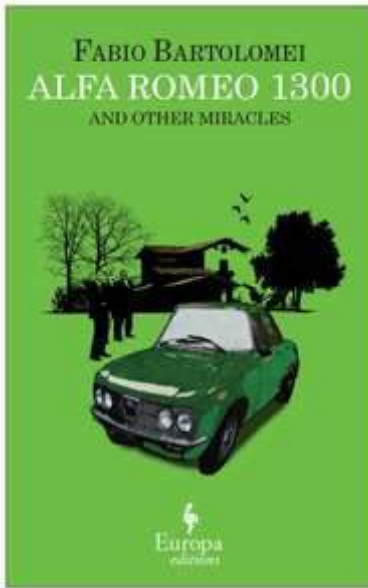
About 3,500 4Cs will be produced at Maserati's factory in Modena, Italy. In addition to the Maserati connection, the 4C will also benefit (like the vaunted 8C supercar of a few years ago) from a healthy dose of Ferrari DNA and technical know-how.

A total of 1,500 are earmarked for Europe, 1,200 for North America and 800 for elsewhere in the world.

Somehow, that doesn't seem like enough.

A Literary Turn for an Alfa Romeo

By [NICK CZAP](#)



Europa Editions “Alfa Romeo 1300 and Other Miracles” has been translated into English and is available in the United States.

Following a recent *Automobiles* article about a vintage Alfa Romeo that I brought back from Italy, I got a fair bit of e-mail from readers. A few were looking for mechanical advice, others for help with the ins and outs of importation, but most wanted to share Alfa stories of their own, about a car that had once belonged to their parents, or to a paramour or of a long-ago drive in a 1964 Giulietta Spider.

The most intriguing letter, though, was from a reader who asked if I had come across the novel “Alfa Romeo 1300 and Other Miracles,” by Fabio Bartolomei. I hadn’t, but did a little research and learned that it was first published in Italian in January 2012 and had recently been translated into English by Europa Editions, a publishing house specializing in contemporary international literature. This was the first novel by Mr. Bartolomei, who, according to the bio on Europa Editions’ Web site, “works in advertising and lives in Rome.” I made a mental note to order the book and promptly lost the note. A few days later, on walking into a neighborhood bookstore, I spied its bright green jacket sitting on a shelf.

The scenario is roughly as follows. Three men, disaffected 40-something Romans, team up to open an agriturismo — a rural bed and breakfast — in Campania, the region around Naples. A representative of the local mafia drops by to greet the newcomers. Mayhem ensues, and the Alfa Romeo of the title, a Giulia 1300, comes into play as a sort of *Deus ex Machina*. I sent an inquiry to Europa Editions, and with some translation help from their editor in chief, Michael Reynolds, interviewed Mr. Bartolomei via e-mail.