



Alfa Notizia February 2014

Editorial Comments: This is the first news letter from a new editor for the FAC, and it is a work in progress. We hope to provide more informative content and details that will hopefully benefit all of our members as well as encourage members to participate with their own content and contributions. It is after all "Our" Newsletter.

In case you missed it the show "Top Gear" on the Velocity Channel Monday nights reviewed the Alfa 4C driving around the shores of beautiful Lake Como and the surrounding villages. Their humorous stunts aside, the car looked magnificent. They commented that it was much wider than expected which posed some difficulties negotiating some of the narrow Italian village roads. They further commented that it was very fast due to its light weight construction and still managed to get 40 mpg doing it, amazing. Latter in the show they drove the new McLaren P1 Hybrid at 3 X the HP at 30 X the price. You decide!

Alfa Romeo Selection of the Month for February 2014.

The Disco Volante Touring:



Recent Events

DuPont Registry Concourse for the Museum in St. Petersburg Sunday February 9th

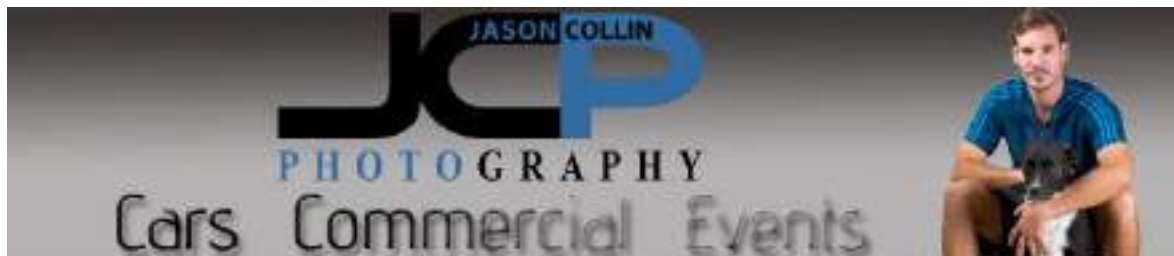
Although somewhat hastily organized, the DuPont Registry hosted a select number of cars for a Concourse in Straub Park adjacent to the Museum in down town St Petersburg Sunday February 9th. Limited to only 60 cars, they were an eclectic mix of Exotics as we have come to expect from DuPont as well as period sports cars, collectables and rare vintage examples dating back as far as 100 years.

Gracing the field were Delmas Greene's immaculate White Giulia Spider and Mike Villani's Grey/Red 2600 pictured here.



These photos were taken by Jason Collin Photography who specializes in creating Car Portfolios at a reasonable price. The quality of his work is evident in the photos above. You can see more shots of the DuPont Event by going to this link.

<http://jasoncollinphotography.com/blog/2014/2/10/duPont-concours-delegance-st-petersburg-florida-2014-car-eve.html>



If you have an interest in professionally photographing your car to sell it, for restoration progress, or just a nicely done portfolio of your hard work Jason can be contacted at the following.

Jason Collin Photography - PH: 812-240-5357 - <http://jasoncollinphotography.com>

More Recent Events

Sarasota Polo Match

On Sunday January 12th FAC members from the Tampa and Sarasota areas and South West Florida AROC (SWFLs) converged on the Polo Fields in Sarasota to enjoy a thrilling Polo Match as well as giving us a chance to drive many of our cars to the event. I also learned first-hand that Alfa Spider owners have adapted the trunk of their sports cars as a grand picnic platform for a variety of delicious foods and drink. That's real "tail gating". There were several Alfa Spiders decked out with checkered table cloths across the trunk of their various colored cars with equally varied gastronomical treats along-side champagne buckets cooling various wines.

Half way through the Polo Match, we sent our cars on Parade around the Polo Field to the cheers of an enthusiastic crowd, while I, newly drafted for this event, gave a description of each car as they passed the podium. I have no expectations of a new career in broadcasting!

The weather was perfect with sunshine all day as we settle down to watch the Polo Match, occasionally stopping to grab some more food or fill a glass, or sample some of Polly Greene's home-made Blackberry aperitif. With the exception of a couple of equine mishaps during the match, one right in front of us, a great time was enjoyed by all.

There is some discussion about including some other clubs next year to share the experience. Many of us are members of other car clubs, so we will try to get next year's Polo Match Flyer out early so you can pass it around.

Here are some photos of some of the cars attending the Polo Match this year. These were taken by professional photographer, Mary Nessel. She and her husband, John, are owners of the exquisite, red, 1991 spider in the photos.



More Recent Events

The Collier Museum in Naples Florida

On Saturday January 25th fifteen FAC members attended a private tour of the Collier Car Museum in Naples, Florida. (Collier County was founded by Barron Collier who's sons founded the Sports Car Club of America and Watkins Glen F1 track.) We were joined by members from three other Alfa Romeo Clubs, South West Florida, South Florida and Mid-Florida for a total of around 75 people. Several members arrived early Saturday and had dinner together before the museum visit at a local Italian Restaurant. After the tour the whole montage caravanned up to Bonita Springs for a bellissimo lunch at quaint Enrico's bistro.

If you have never seen this collection of outstanding cars it is well worth the trip to Naples to see. You do need a group invitation since it is not open to the public at large. Heavily oriented towards racing cars, many of which Briggs Cunningham designed and or raced himself, the collection also has representative examples of many other which were historic in their own right. There were several vintage Alfas on display and a whole room of Porsches, many of which are extremely rare or one of a kinds.

Once inside the large group was divided into smaller groups of around 8 people, ours was only four, and each group was assigned a docent, expert guide, to take us around and describe each car in detail for us. While they try to keep the tour at two hours, our guide was a rather talkative gentleman and happy to discuss every car at length. This explains why our group was last to exist the Museum fifteen minutes after everyone else and also why we are absent in the group photo below. One of the finer docents was Ray LaBosse who is a member of the SWFL AROC

Many thanks to Bob Lombardo, President of the SWFAC, for organizing this event and making the lunch arrangements for us.

Here is a group photo outside the Collier as well as a group at dinner the night before.

From left to right: John & Cheryl Picot, Jim Ferguson, John Rady, Joost Gomples, Delmas & Polly Greene, Jo Heed, Gary & Candice Jones and Harmon Heed.



From left to right: Delmas Greene, Buddy & Marilyn Guynn, Polly Greene and Peggy & Frank Mann.

Up Coming Events

February Events

DuPont Cars and Coffee on Feb. 15th, 7-9 AM

Sarasota Exotic Car Fest on Saturday, Feb. 22 – Contact Gary Jones

March Events

Suncoast Cars and Coffee in Sarasota March 1, 8 - 10 AM.

Amelia Island on March 6-9 – Contact Polly Greene

Club Business Mtg. on March 13th

DuPont Cars and Coffee in St Pete on March 15, 7-9 AM

April Events

Suncoast Cars & Coffee in Sarasota April 5th, 8 - 10 AM.

Festival of Speed (St Petersburg), Sunday, April 6 – Contact Barry Address

Club Business Mtg. on April 10th

DuPont Cars and Coffee on April 19th, 7-9 AM

Pizza and Simulator Car Racing Event at the Santillis, Saturday, April 19, 11:00 – 2:00 – Ruggero

May Events

Parts Swap, Saturday, May 3, at the ARI headquarters in Orlando – Contact Delmas Greene

Club Business Mtg. on May 8

DuPont Cars and Coffee on May 17, 7-9 AM

June Events

Suncoast Cars & Coffee in Sarasota June 7th, 8 - 10 AM

Club Business Mtg. on June 12

Tour of Capital Theater, June 14 – Contact Dennis Magee

DuPont Cars and Coffee on June 21, 7-9 AM

September through December Events

Museum of Flight September 13, Cost \$21.95 per person

Cars for Sale:

Delson Correa – 1986 Spider for sale. Phone Number: 727-422-8769 No Photo available

Note from the Editor: This is an area of the newsletter we would like to expand to include detailed vehicle descriptions and High Quality photos of member's cars for sale within our region or beyond. From time to time we will also include Alfas for sale that were spotted that we feel would be of interest to our members either to purchase or simply comment on. Coming soon will also be a Focus area dedicated to our Members personal cars either fully restored or still in restoration. Send us your photos!

Here is one we thought was interesting found on eBay. It is a 1984 Spider Veloce in Aqua Metallic paint with 74K miles,

http://www.ebay.com/itm/Alfa-Romeo-Spider-SPIDER-2-0-ALFA-ROMEO-SPIDER-VOLOCE-/321323190211?forcerrpr=true&hash=item4ad05ac7c3&item=321323190211&pt=US_Cars_Trucks



Shops of Interests to Vintage Car Owners in the Area

This month's Focus:

Tom Argue Designs is a state of the art Paint and Body shop located in St Petersburg, Florida. While his past focus has been on Muscle cars, several of which have been featured at the SEMA in Las Vegas, he does work on European cars as well as the photo of the Mercedes Gullwing below exhibits. He also performed a ground up restoration on a 1959 Mercedes 190 SL which recently sold at Mecum's Auction in Kissimmee, Florida for well over \$100K. This is not a collision shop that we have all dealt with in the past but a true fabrication and restoration shop of the highest quality.

If you are like me and need some high Quality Paint work on your car or full frame off restoration and or fabrication done, I highly recommend Tom Argue Designs. They can be reached at 727-526-2336 or at www.tomarguedesign.com . His shop is presently located at 2894 47th Ave. in St Petersburg, but in April he moves into a new much larger facility further north off of Hwy 19. This new facility will also offer specialty car storage on site as well.



If you have a favorite shop that you would like to feature here or if you want to sell your car and have a description and photos that you would like to include in the newsletter contact the editor at the following.

Frank Mann

PH: 727-254-9723

fmann1@tampabay.rr.com