



March 2018

Volume 5 Issue 3

Editorial Comments: The spring season is here with lots of events to attend – sign up today.



Alfa Romeo Selection of the

Month for March 2018.

Car Name: Prime Real Estate or Alien Crop Circle – You decide!



News:



Recent Events: The B.I.G Show



Big Group of Cars at the Really BIG Show

By: Harmon Heed

Ed Sullivan wasn't there but it was a "really, really, big shew" for the **British Italian German** European Sports and Collector Car Show in Cape Coral on Sunday, March 4th. For the sixth year the "Triumphs of Southwest Florida" (TSWFL) organized a beautiful show in a beautiful setting. There were over 110 European sports cars spread around under the big oaks at Jaycee Park overlooking the Caloosahatchee River. The organization was meticulous: every nationality was assigned an area, every marque a sub-area and every auto a specific spot.



With that many cars there was a crowd of participants and, since the park is open to the public, many more spectators enjoyed the gorgeous day walking the park and admiring the cars. FAC members and Southwest Florida AROC members (SWFLs) shared Alfa news and views and we got to see some of our southern neighbor's cars for the first time. Buddy Guynn had his new to him 1967 Duetto 1750 detailed as well as Marilyn's newer than new 1995 164LS. Jerry and Eva Nappi brought their 1992 spider Veloce and 1982 Fiat 124 spider. They also brought Ace and Zeus, two huge Golden Retrievers who barely fit in the front seats of the spiders.

Recent Events: The B.I.G Show continued

SWFL Pres Bob Lombardo brought his immaculate 1992 spider Veloce; Joe Stigliano his 1978 spider "cuisine machine;" and Dan & Ruth Korolyshyn their spider Veloce that he bought new in Hawaii back in 1979. The only 4C was provided by Alfa Romeo of Ft Myers along with a new Stelvio.



In the FAC contingent were Harmon & Jo Heed in their blond, 1964 Giulia spider and Tom & Carol Rossi in their Rosso Trionfale, 2015 Maserati Granturismo. Tom & Carol have dual memberships in FAC and SWFL. Delmas & Polly Greene intended on showing their Blue Mediocre, 1973 Montreal and John & Cheryl Picot their Rosso Amaranto, 1973 GTV 2000 but a last minute decision put them all in Polly's Alfa white, 2017 Giulia Ti Lusso.

There was judging and it was done by all the participants. Each car was given a class and a number. Each driver was given a list of classes with a place to write in a car's number so every driver judged all classes and all cars. 1st place in the "Alfa Open Class" went to Harmon & Jo's Giulia spider; 2nd Place to Buddy Guynn's 1967 Duetto 1750. 1st Place in "Alfa Closed Class" went to Marilyn Guynn's 1995 164LS. 1st Place in "Other Italian" Class went to Eva Nappi's 1981 Fiat 124 spider. That made Ace and Zeus waggingly happy.



Recent Events: The B.I.G Show continued

Thanks go to the Triumph of Southwest Florida (TSWFL) who did all of the heavy work, reserving/permitting the park, organizing areas of cars, registration, judging, trophies, even the freshly grilled hamburgers, hotdogs and the sodas provided by the Boy Scouts. SWFLs, specifically Bob Lombardo and Buddy Guynn, who organized the Italian area and guided every car to its preselected show space. There was nothing left for the few FAC members to do but show up and enjoy the setting, cars and friends.



As good as the show was it could have been better for the Florida Alfa Club if it had been publicized more and more FACs attended. We have many members who want to participate in events like this and more would show up if they knew more about it. But that takes a little effort on someone's part, just a little volunteer time to get the word out. If just 10% of our members would volunteer to help out on one event a year each we would have a lot more active members actively enjoying our wonderful cars!

Recent Events: Amelia Island Concour de Elegance 2018

By: Harmon Heed

Megamounts of rare, collector cars at the Concours, gigamounts of extremely well displayed cars at the Cars & Coffee and decadamounts of money spent at the auctions. How many, how much?

Cars in Attendance

Cars & Coffee: 462 cars
Concours: 306 cars
Alfa Romeos: 8 cars
FAC cars: 3 cars

Dollars Spent at Auctions

RMSothebys: \$27,700,000
Gooding: \$35,937,250
Bonhams: \$13,500,000
Total: \$77,137,250

The Alfas this writer knew about that were showing were the 1942 6C 2500 SS from the B&H Collection in San Antonio, TX that won the Kelly Services Award for The Most Elegant Sports Car and seven displayed at Cars & Coffee: from the Florida Alfa Club were Delmas & Polly Greene's 1960 2000 Vignale prototype and Harmon & Jo Heed's 1964 spider abnormale; from the Mid Florida AROC were Erik & Jeanette Ekh's 2001 156 Berlina and Richard Reel's 1989 Graduate; from the 1st Coast AROC were Tom Turner's Murphy's 1967 Giulia Super daily and 1971 Giulia GTV 2000 racer. Other FAC members in attendance were: Bruce Brock in his 2015 4C Launch but he didn't show at Cars & Coffee because he was oogling the concours cars for the first time. Tony & Mary Kathryn Paolini drove up in their four-door sedan that was generously used for transportation around the island.



Recent Events: Amelia Island Concours de Elegance 2018

The contingency planning of this year's event was masterful. The Cars & Coffee was originally planned to take place on Saturday on the same fairways the Concours was to take place on Sunday. However, because of an imminent rain forecast for Sunday the decision was made Thursday to move the Concours up to Saturday and the Cars & Coffee moved to a different area. Every car owner, Concourse and Cars & Coffee was informed of the change via telephone and email. When we arrived on Saturday morning we were directed to our parking places by very polite volunteers as if it was the original plan. We were also informed that we had to leave NLT 1:30 or we would be locked in till 4:00 and the polite volunteers and local law enforcement facilitated our early leaving by making way in the unrelenting outside traffic minimizing traffic jamming.

In that outside traffic we saw a fair amount of new Giulias and Stelvios and waved at them. None of them waved back as if they were oblivious of our mutual, identifying triangle grill. Are the newer owners unaware of the marque's magnificent history and is Alfa Romeo, like BMW, becoming just another transportation vehicle and not an exhilarating car to drive?



Friday could be considered the best day at Amelia this year. In the morning the FAC group joined member Joost Gompels, down from Savannah, on nearby Fernandina Beach's picturesque Centre Street where many of the Concours cars paraded in and parked. While the owners brunched we viewed their cars up close in a lesser crowd than at the Concours. There were some bizarre American beauties there: a 195? Bosley and an early "space age" 1960 Plymouth XNR prototype. Among the spicy Italian cars were: a 1961 Cisitalia Abarth 850, a 1965 Giulia TZ2, a 1972 Ferrari 365 GTB/4 "shooting brake" designed by Luigi Chinetti (who stopped by at our February BS meeting) and an iconic 1966 Ferrari 275 GTB.

When the cars drove off we lunched at mmmmm, spicy, Pepper's Grill.

To top it off, Friday evening was very special. AROC-USA board and many other members flew in from all over the states to man the AROC booth at the Concourse. Delmas & Polly Greene hosted a reception at the Hyatt Place Jackson Airport; Polly provided delectable hors d'oeuvres complete with tableware, the hotel generously provided a room and no host bar and FAC members hung Alfa and FAC banners and flags. Among the forty three people in attendance (there were 10 cancellations) were AROC president Cindy Banzer, Secretary Mike Bange, Director Doug Zaitz, Rob Constand who Bruce Brock has known since 4th grade and George & Alma Beston down from Toronto, Canada.

Recent Events: Amelia Island Concours de Elegance 2018 continued



It was the anxiety about the weather and change in day and location for the Cars & Coffee that caused so many FAC cancellations but for those of us who waited for the call/email from the organizers it was a magnanimous event. We now know we can trust the Amelia Island Concours staff's contingency planning and hopefully we'll have a larger turnout next year. If you're there you will probably get your photo and name in the national *Alfa Owner!*



Recent Events: Amelia Island Concours de Elegance 2018 continued

A good way to see the cars for Sunday's Concours close up and without the crowds is to go to the parade on Friday around noon in down town Fernandina. After the tour each car parks downtown where their owners are supplied lunch and many are available for questions and discussion about their cars in a more intimate atmosphere than during the crowded show on Sunday.



Recent Events: Festival of Speed <http://festivalofspeed.com/> at the Vinoy

This year's festival of speed was well attended by club members and perfect weather. Here are a series of photos provided by Paul Ziegler.



Recent Events: Festival of Speed continued:



Recent Events: Festival of Speed continued:



Recent Events: Festival of Speed continued:



Up Coming Events: Road Tour & Lunch Ozella Trail – April 14th

Save the date on your calendar for the FAC annual Toad Rally/Tour and Lunch. More details to follow.



Upcoming Events: Annual Pizza Party and SIM Racing Event



Once again - this year we are holding Time Trials for the Florida Alfa Club's annual Pizza Party and SIM Racing Event held at the home of Ruggero & Carla Santilli. Test your skill around the Sebring Track in an exotic car for prizes and bragging rights not to mention Carla Santilli's spread of Italian delicacies, Pizza and Wine.

During practice laps – tours are available of Ruggero Santilli's paddock and garage. You never know what additions to his extensive car collection you will find.



Come ready for the competition and hungry for Food, Fun, and Laughter!

When: Saturday June 2nd or 9th – TBD - from 10:30 AM until the food is gone and tires are too.

Please RSVP to Barry at alfabarry3@gmail.com as it is limited to 20 people.

Up Coming Events:

March 2018 Events:

Festival of Speed – Vinoy Park St Petersburg – Sun March 25th

SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Southgate Community Center – March 31th; 8:00-10:00 AM

April 2018 Events:

Autos for Autism Show – Spring Hill – April 7th

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsport, April 14th 8-10:00AM

FAC Business Meeting – Carrabba’s Grill, April 12th 6:00 PM

Road Tour & Lunch Ozella Trail – April 14th

DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, April 21st 7:00-9:00 AM

Cruisin’ the Park – John Chastain Park April 21st

SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Southgate Community Center – April 28th ; 8:00-10:00 AM

May 2018 Events:

Drive Away Breast Cancer Car Show - Safety Harbor - May 6th

FAC Business Meeting – Carrabba’s Grill, May 10th 6:00 PM

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsport, May 12th 8-10:00AM

Tampa Bay Auto Museum & Lunch – Sat. May 12th at 10:00AM Delmas

DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, May 19th 7:00-9:00 AM

SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Southgate Community Center – May26th; 8:00-10:00 AM

June 2018 Events:

Annual Pizza Party & SIM Racing at the Santilli’s either Saturday June 2nd or 9th TBD - Barry

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsport, June 9th 8-10:00AM

DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, June 16th 7:00-9:00 AM

Restoration Projects:

Note: Do you have an Alfa under restoration – who doesn't right? Well send us your progress photos to share with the club whether just a paint job or a bare metal full on restoration.

Cars for Sale:



Note: Sell your vintage Alfa here. Its free to FAC members. Just send us photos and a brief description of your car, what you want for it, and how to reach you. There is another Alfisti looking for your car now!

Shops of Interests to Vintage Car Owners in the Area:

This month's Focus: ProFab Customs – Powder Coating Services



Their address is actually 12295 Automobile Blvd, Suite A2 When I recently got my Alfa GTV back from a full bare metal restoration and paint, I realized there was a few more things that needed to be done before I could start the reassembly in earnest. Although I had ordered many new custom and racing suspension parts from Alfaholics in the UK www.alfaholics.com www.profabcustoms.com , many of the original suspension parts would need to be reused and they were in sad shape with 40 years-worth of grease and grim. I started degreasing them and hours of scrapping and brushing later, I said there had to be a better way, so I contact my friend Tom Argue of Tom Argue designs www.tomarguedesigns.com and asked him to recommend a local shop for Powder Coating services. This is how I was introduced to ProFab guys Joe McDede and Gerry Miller. They took my dirty grimy suspension parts and degreased them, baked them, primed and powder coated them to perfection all at a very reasonable price. They are highly recommended.

For the best Paint, Full Restoration and Fab shop around visit Tom Argue Design. Where I go for the best.



Top 20 SEMA winner and featured on numerous Car Magazine Covers – Simply the best. Highly Recommended!

Tom Argue Design

5020 110.Ave. North

Clearwater, FL. 33760

info@tomarguedesign.com

www.tomarguedesign.com

PH: 727-573-2233

Shops of Interests to Vintage Car Owners in the Area

Exotic Motors South has had a name change to European Exotic Center. They are still located in the same shop and run by the same talented technicians with a much larger storage facility for storing their extensive exotic car collection. They are an Authorized Service Center for Ferrari, Maserati, Lamborghini, Alfa Romeo, BMW and Koenigsegg. They have extensive experience with vintage car mechanicals as well as the most modern of Exotic cars.

Now working in conjunction with Tom Argue Designs for paint and restorations work, the combination is a tour de force – one stop shop for service and restoration of new and vintage sports cars and exotics of all kinds. Don't let the numerous exotic cars there scare you away - their service work is competitively priced and their technical knowledge unsurpassed. Highly recommended.

European Exotic Center

13000 Automobile Blvd.

Clearwater, FL. 33762

PH: 727-254-9723

<http://exoticmotorsouth.com/>



A Visit is worth the trip just for the cars inside!

Shops of Interests to Vintage Car Owners in the Area

Woody's Custom Metal Polishing

One of our club members had some bright work done only to find out that the shop he had taken it to was actually farming the work out to a specialist shop and marking it up. Somehow he found the actual shop that did the work and would like to share that company with our members now.

I am embarrassed to say that Woody's Custom Metal Polishing was right under my nose too just blocks from where we live, and I did not know about it partly because he is located in a very small strip Mall right next to a Pawn shop, so when you drive by all you see if the sign for the Pawn Shop unless you look closely.

One of our club members – Barry Andress – took his bent and dirty Giulia bumper to Woody's and got it back in perfect shape and shiny as new. Barry highly recommends the place for all our bright work needs. Here is a list of items Woody's can polish. He also does Bike parts too.

Intakes
Valves Covers
Bell Housings
Aluminum Blocks
Aluminum Heads
Transmissions
Air Compressors
Alternators
Wheels
Timing Covers
Distributors
Radiators
All types of Stainless Steel and bright work

Here is where to find him and his contact information:

Woody's Custom Metal Polishing
Galen Lamb
1688 Clearwater Largo Road
Clearwater, FL. 33756
PH: 417-655-1242

He is located on the right side of Clearwater – Largo Road when headed south just before the red-light intersection of Ponce de Leon Blvd. If you see the Shell station at the red light you just past his place. Obviously if you are headed north on Clearwater – Largo Road he would be on the left just past the Shell Station at Ponce de Leon Blvd.

Check him out and let us know your experience and results! Several Alfa Club members have already had excellent results at a fair price.

More Recommended Shops of Interests to Vintage Car Owners in the Area

Import Automotive in Palm Harbor.

Did a great job with Wheel Alignment on my Alfa Spider. They provide a graphic as what the set up was before and after they did the adjustment. Their computer has all the factory specs so they know exactly while they are working on it as to needing to be plus or minus. They are located at 1502 alt. 19 Palm Harbor, Fl. 34683 727-784-1959

Dependable Driveshaft, Inc

12284 East Street N

Clearwater, FL. 33762 Phone number is 727-573-9107

Note from the Editor: This is your newsletter so please give us feedback both as to how we are doing and areas where we can improve. It is free to list and sell you Alfa in the Notizia if you are an active member. Also remember if you are restoring a vintage Alfa either yourself or at a professional shop, we want to know about it and feature your journey and progress here for everyone to see.

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