



October 2018

Volume 5 Issue10

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



Alfa Romeo Selection of the

Month for October 2018.

Car Name: Alfa Romeo's Lineup of vehicles



News:



Normally the Notizia does not take the summer months off and continues to publish even though the club does not hold business meetings during these hot months, but this year was different.

As some of you know, I was given the news around March of this year that my nagging cough was actually throat cancer. From that moment my life and Peggy's were on the fast track with biopsy's, various scans, and second opinions. As a result, we spend April, May and part of June of this year in Jacksonville receiving daily radiation treatments at the University of Florida Proton Therapy Center.

Interestingly enough we were not alone, as Delmas and Polly Greene were there at the same time for prostate treatments. My treatments ended just in time to attend the annual Pizza and Sim racing party at the Santilli's house. I have been told by some that my skin color has now returned and is not the ghastly grey color it was in the first weeks of my return.

Most commented on how good I looked – maybe it was the 50 pounds I lost during the treatments even with the paled complexion. This issue of the Notizia is a new beginning both for me and the Florida Alfa Club as we enter another busy fall season. It is good to be back and I look forward to seeing you all soon at a club event soon.

Great news for Alfa Romeo. We certainly still enjoy our Giulia.

Can you guys make good use of this publicity??

<https://www.allpar.com/news/2018/09/quality-survey-alfa-beats-the-germans-42105>

Recent Event: Festival of Speed at ST. Petersburg



Written by: Harmon Heed

Beware The Rides of March !

Many Alfa Romeo rides were in St. Pete, FL on March 25th with 300 other fine cars and 20,000+ spectators. It was the annual Festivals of Speed held at the exclusive Vinoy Renaissance Resort & Golf Club adjacent to Tampa Bay. This is an annual event for the Florida Alfa Club. The organizer, Joe Sabatini waived the \$50 entrance fee thanks to efforts by our event chair, this year's president, Barry Andress.

Recent Event: Festival of Speed at ST. Petersburg continued:

Joe reserved our usual area under a crescent of magnificent, old, oaks that dropped pollen on our well polished cars. But the majestic giants also provided us shade beneath a bright blue sky and the breeze off the bay kept us cool sitting behind our cars. On the runway in front of our cars passed thousands of people, many who stopped to read the club placards placed in front of each car giving its specs or telling a story about it. Hundreds came behind the cars to ask questions the placards promulgated.

The cars and members were: Delmas & Polly Greene with their 1960 Vignale bodied 2000; Harmon Heed with his blond 1964 Giulia spider; Tony Paolini with his 1967 Corvette; Barry Andress with his 1972 carbureted GTV; John Picot with his 1973 injected GTV 2000; John Rady with his 1988 Milano Verde; Jim Ferguson with his 1989 spider Quadrifoglio; Jim & Gabie Zitnick with their 1991 spider Veloce; Bruce Brock with his 2015 4C Launch; and Paul Ziegler with his 2017 Giulia Ti Sport.



Recent Event: Festival of Speed at ST. Petersburg continued:

Joe gave us our own class which was won by John Picot for the “Best Vintage Alfa Romeo.” Harmon Heed won the “Best Blond” award. But the biggest and best award of the day went to the Greenes. There were over fifty Ferraris on display along with many other European exotics of various decades but Delmas was awarded the tall crystal for the Vignale being the “Best European Classic.”

We were joined by long time member Brad Warner who had been a long time without an Alfa. But he drove home in a brand-new white, 2018 Giulia Quadrifoglio he purchased from Chris Walker who was with the St. Pete Alfa Romeo dealership tent set up adjacent to our area. We also gained three new members: Bill & Gerri Lemen who recently purchased a red, 2018 Giulia Ti Sport and Michael Brown with his 2018 Fiat 124 Abarth. We had asked him to join our group under the oaks and he joined our club.

There was plenty of room to park more Alfas and this event was open to all club cars. In the past we have had 12 or 13 cars on display. We hear members say that they want to participate yet we seldom see them. Why is that? The list of annual events is published in the *Notizia* before a year’s season begins. Up-coming events are published in the *Notizia* monthly. Members have plenty of time to get details well ahead of time. Do the event chairs need to do more, earlier, to provide members with more information? Please let the board know, they and the event chairs want to improve participation to make the club more enjoyable to more members, all members! Et tu?

Recent Event: Road Tour – Ozello Trail

Written by: Harmon Heed



The Lizard of Oz

“We aren’t in Kansas anymore, Toto.” That was obvious to Florida Alfa Club members on April 12th because here on the Ozello Trail there aren’t any straight stretches of road and Toto would have been snatched away by an alligator as soon as he got out of the car.

The Ozello Trail is to Florida what the Tail of the Dragon in the North Carolina mountains is to east of the Mississippi: nine miles slithering of twists and turns. Except it’s flat here, almost sea level flat and The Trail snarls out into the Gulf of Mexico amidst the mangroves just a couple of feet above the Cedar River estuary. If global warming continues we’ll soon be doing this run on hydroplanes.

The Florida Alfa Club has made this an annual run, organized and routed by Milton Watts. He does it on his Suzuki Burgman 650cc motorcycle and that is the best way to find it on Google: type in Ozello Trail motorcycles. Milt’s rallies start in colorful Tarpon Springs, the sponge capital of the US, because it is on the northern edge of the Tampa Bay metropolis and very close to open country. It also has a great Panera Bread shop for coffee & croissants and a covered area to hold a driver’s meeting in.

Recent Event: Road Tour – Ozello Trail continued:

Although the start remains the same, Milt changes the pre-Trail part of the trek annually. This year we cruised north on the sweeping Suncoast Parkway for 40 miles of beautiful horse country scenery. Vast, open pastures and graceful equines grazing in lush grass surrounded by white, three board fences. For those of us with tops down, we were in shirt sleeves, 77 degrees with a clear blue sky above. Yep, we weren't in Kansas, Michigan, Ohio, Minnesota or New England where snow was still falling.

The Suncoast Parkway is a toll road so traffic, on Saturday morning, was almost nonexistent and we could enjoy the pastoral scenery. There were fourteen Alfas, a Corvette and two cars carrying more folks than we could fit in our duoposto Alfas. They could have ridden in the rear of the four new Giulias but that would have been a coordination hassle after the ride. The two Rossa Competizione Tis were driven by new members Tom & Kelley Chesnut and Bill & Gerri Leven; nice initiation drive for their first FAC event! The two white Giulias were driven by Polly & Delmas Greene in her Ti Lusso and Barry Andress & Cathie Foster in his 2017 Giulia.

Driving the only 4C with us this year was John Fox in his bat-mobile black 2016 spider. He should have been given the opportunity of the lead through The Trail. The screaming exhaust and apoplectic pop when the 4C gears shift would have scared all the gators, snakes and lizards off the narrow road. If that didn't, the roar of Tony & Mary Kathryn Paolini's 1967 Corvette would! The curves aren't banked and one must be careful not to drift off the road and narrow shoulders with the critters because you would end up in either water or swamp and become alligator food.

The herd of Alfas was divided into two groups which haphazardly mixed with anticipation at the start. The Greens led the first group because they know the area and are consensually adept at navigating. Barry & Cathie led the second group. Milt, riding with Chip Denyko in his 1993 spider Veloce, brought up the tail of the whip to round up any lost or late strays. The only Portello pony that suffered an injury was Phil Rosile's 1969 boat tail that burnt holes in the 1 & 2 pistons and quit on him after his second run. He won't have it shot, instead, after a rebuild, he'll keep a keen eye on the twin Weber's mixtures.

Just before arriving at The Trail, Milt scheduled a pit stop at a MacDonald's so we could stretch our legs. And also, to lose the morning's coffee there instead in the car seat on The Trail.

Recent Event: Road Tour – Ozello Trail continued:

In the last two years, due to the increasing popularity of The Trail, speed limit signs have been posted. Prior to that the signs were all yellow warning signs with “recommended” speeds and LED lights that blinked and showed your actual speed when you exceeded the “recommended” speed. I can’t say that any of us surpassed the posted speed limits, we were watching our tachometers instead of our speedometers but there did seem to be an annoying blinking going on in our peripheral vision. That occurred to the more powerful new Giulia sedan drivers as well as the smaller spider and GTV drivers.

There were a lot of the more mature cars. Jim Ferguson in his 1989 spider Quadrifolio; John Rady in his 1988 Milano Verde, Bob & Carolyn Scott in their 1987 spider Veloce, John & Cheryl Picot in their 1973 GTV 2000 and Harmon & Jo Heed in their 1964 spider Veloce abnormale. And Jim & Gabie Zitnick in their exquisitely retained 1991 spider Veloce; they didn’t have a Sun-Pass transponder and had to stop at the three toll booths but they had a ripping good time catching up! Another new member, Frank Ferris from Central Florida, joined us at the end of The Trail in his 1986 spider Quadrifolio.

At the end of the Ozello Trail you literally run out of land and slide to a stop in the coquina shell covered parking area of the Peck’s Old Port Cove & Seafood Restaurant & Blue Crab Farm. There is a sign over the entrance to the dock that extends out into the shallow estuary where blue crabs are plentiful. Milt made reservations for us for 11:30, just before the crowds arrive. And the crowds do arrive due to its location, good food and service. The staff arranged for all 28 of us to sit at one long table and be served in two segments instead of individually, eliminating the discomfiting, “Oh, go ahead and start, don’t wait till I am served.”

After the meal, since the attendees lived many miles apart, we left at separate times and went on our separate ways home. Fortunately, since most of The Trail traffic was still incoming and we were no longer in group mode some of us had one last chance to chase the lizard. Unfortunately, that’s when the flying, green monkeys got into Phil’s forward Weber and burned his pistons.

Next year, maybe Milt will route us to Ozello on a Yellow Brick Road. If any of y’all are in Southwest Florida in April, join the Florida Alfa Club on its annual run of The Trail. But don’t wear red shoes.

Recent Event: Road Tour – Ozello Trail continued:



Recent Event: Road Tour – Ozello Trail continued:



Recent Event: Tampa Bay Auto Museum Tour:

Written by: Harmon Heed

Florida Alfa Club Views the 1st Self Propelled Vehicle at the Tampa Bay Auto Museum



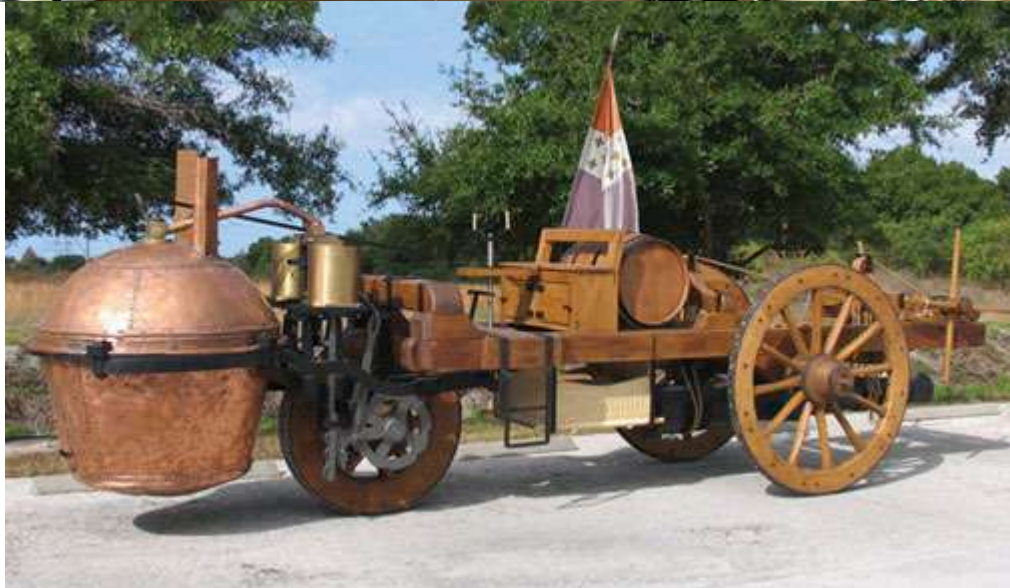
Benz claims to have built the first automobile in the 1880s. They built the first internal combustion engine powered auto but the French built the first self-propelled vehicle a century before that, the Fardier de Cugnot. On May 12th, twenty-eight members of the Florida Alfa Club viewed a faithful replication of that historic vehicle.

The Tampa Bay Auto Museum in St Pete, FL collects and restores “vehicles that demonstrate creativity and imagination in their history and engineering. They include pioneering front wheel drive and rear engine cars from the 1920-30.” Most of them are cars most of us have never heard of. From France: Tracta, Voison, Amilcar, Gregoire, Chenard, Claveau, Derby, Mathis and Salmson. From Germany: Adler Trumpf, Detra, DKW, Hanohag and Konnissbratt. From Czechoslovakia: Tatra and Areo. From the USA a Ralston. Any of those sound familiar?

They may if you attend the major concours in the US because many of the museum’s cars have been on the grass at Amelia Island and a few of them at more distant Meadowbrook and Pebble Beach.

But the most awesome in the collection is the replica of the massive Fardier de Cugnot steam powered vehicle built in France in 1770 to haul heavy artillery. The two-seater is almost 24’ long, over seven feet wide and six feet tall. The number of people in the photo attest to its size. That’s Roberto Bellini on the left, John Picot on top and Tom Rossi at the right. To get a better perspective watch a video of it at [Facebook.com/Tampa-Bay-Auto-Museum-191204887604678/](https://www.facebook.com/Tampa-Bay-Auto-Museum-191204887604678/) and read the article in *Classic & Sport Cars*, Sept 2017.

Recent Event: Tampa Bay Auto Museum Tour continued:



Recent Event: Annual Pizza Party and SIM Racing Event



Once again - this year the club was invited to the home of Ruggero and Carla Santilli for our annual Pizza and SIM racing party. It was well attended as usual and the Santilli's offered a warm welcome to everyone. We made it back from Jacksonville just in time to make this event although we had to leave a little early. It remains one of my favorite Alfa events.

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 anywhere.



Recent Event: AROC National Convention



The AROC national convention was held on the Olympic Peninsula in Washington State. This is a beautiful part of the country even with the higher rain fall. Apparently because of the west coast proximity or just really good luck some of the cars from upcoming Monterey were on display as seen here. Our own Delmas Green was a judge this year and had the honor to judge some famous Alfa owner's cars. The phot above shows him styling with a red fedora.



Here are some more photos of the event:

<https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipOJGvJnJYsKVCAnMmCrWyZlyh0LsFgRA5z0X6vAZ4COH2OCzjcG4AX8ggA49j3PPw/photo/AF1QipMNF1czmAl4-4sXCpajCwqwfWpohruJG-bMGr9b?key=VVFavzBOczd1SzITbGZmMGJyZWJUbwVMzkzbTV3>

Up Coming Events: Fort Desoto Picnic and Car Show



Umpteenth Annual

Ft DeSoto Annual Kickoff Beach Party



Sunday, October 14, 11:00 AM- 3:00 PM

Join us as we kick off the 2018/19 Florida Alfa Club season at one of America's perennial top-rated beaches. Renew old friendships and get to know new club members. Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy and share on the tables and benches in the shade of Shelter #2. The Club will have condiments and the barbecue pit fires going for you.

We line our Alfas and other Italian cars up in a cordoned area just in front of the shelter and this time *the ladies do the judging!*

Sunday, 10/14

11:00-3:00

**There is a \$5 per car
Park entrance fee.**

County Park



Please RSVP to

Jim & Gabie Zitnick at

(773) 612-6445)

jimzitnick@

[hotmail.com](mailto:jimzitnick@hotmail.com)

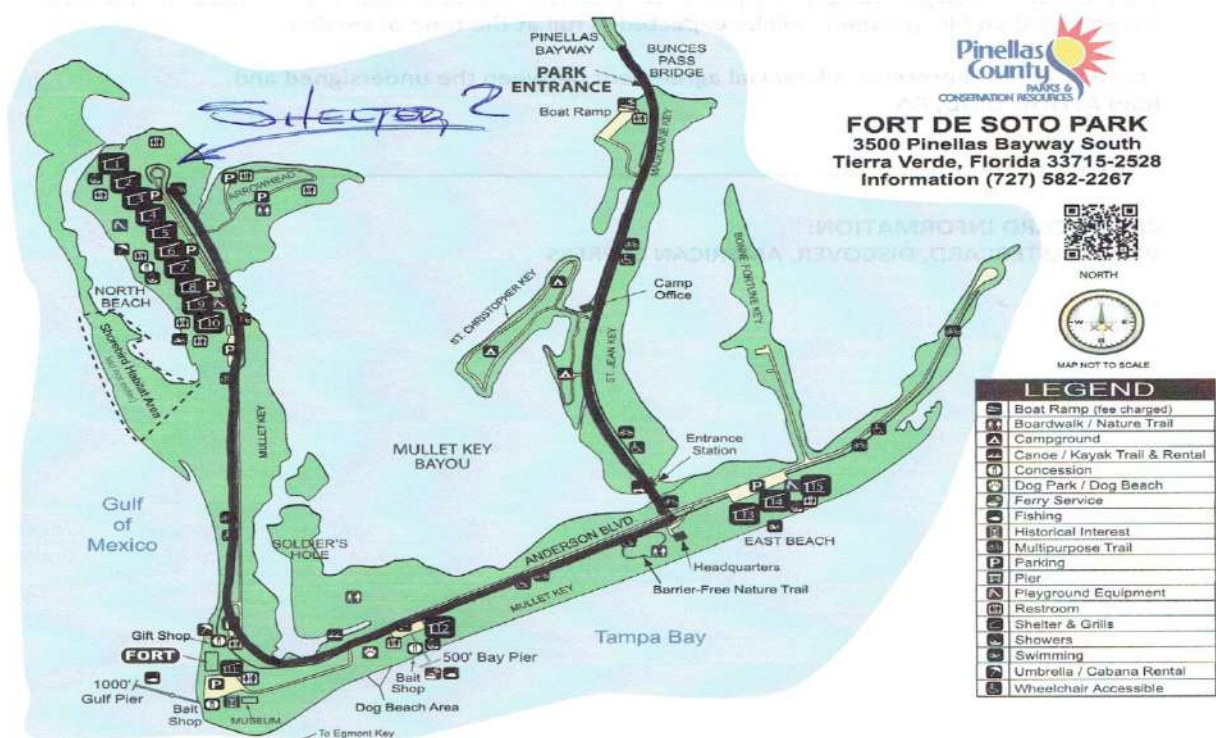
Shelter #2 Ft. DeSoto

Up Coming Events: Fort Desoto Picnic and Car Show continued:

Ft DeSoto Beach Map

To get directions to the park MapQuest the address: 3500 Pinellas Bayway South, Tierra Verde, FL 33715. Have some quarters ready, there are toll gates on Pinellas Bayway & Pinellas Bayway South. There is a \$5 park entrance fee. Once in the park follow the main road to the right all the way around. There will be Alfa signs to guide you and we will park you when you arrive.

Benches and tables are under the shelter or you can bring chairs. The barbecue pits will be fired up for you. Pets must be on leashes.



Please RSVP to Jim & Gabie Zitnick at (773) 612-6445
or jimzitnick@hotmail.com

Up Coming Event: Lake Mirror Classic



This is one of the best local car shows in Florida and becoming the warm up show for Amelia Island. Sign up early and we might get a club spot for only Alfas. It is held Saturday October 20th.

Let us know if this is something you would like to attend as a club and we can organize some events around the show. It is easy to drive to the day of the event or they have many reasonably priced hotels in the area is you want to spend the weekend or just do not feel like driving home after the show.

For more details or to register use this link to their web site.

<https://www.midfloridaautoshow.com/>

Unfortunately, they are limiting the number of cars in the show and the registration has already closed. It I still a great event to see and walk.

Up Coming Event: Viva Alfa at Celebration:



Mid-Florida Alfa Romeo Owners Club, Inc.

Dear Auto Enthusiast:

“Viva Alfa Romeo” 2018 is the Mid- Florida AROC’s annual Viva Alfa Romeo Car Show and Parade.

This gala event, scheduled for November 3, 2018, is strictly for Alfa Romeos and vintage Fiat automobiles of every year and model.

The purpose of this event is to strengthen the bonds of fellowship among all participating Alfistis and Fiatistis, to recognize those who have striven to maintain autos of rare design or condition, and to provide a venue where we may display the virtues of our cars to the general public.

The site we have again chosen is Market Street in the heart of downtown Celebration, Florida. The town has agreed to cordon off their main street for our show site. The Town of Celebration has been highly publicized as a “Disney Town,” and draws visitors from around the world. The location is ideal for attracting a large number of spectators during the entire time of the exhibition. Following the show period, our cars will be driven along a parade route through Celebration. We look forward to a great time together.

Those who participate by exhibiting their Alfa Romeos & Fiats during the show will receive a welcome bag of memorabilia, nice prize drawings, and will be eligible for awards based on the judging of their cars.

Directions to Celebration Show Site:

From the north: I-4 West to exit #64 to U.S. 192 East (Kissimmee/Celebration). Turn right on Celebration Avenue to Market Street.

From the east and south: I-95 to Beachline (Toll 528 West) exit onto S.R. 417 South. Take exit #2 toward U.S. 192 East. Take ramp to Celebration. Turn left on Celebration Avenue to Market Street.

From the west: I-4 East to exit #64. East to U.S.192 East (Celebration). Turn right on Celebration Avenue to Market Street.

From northwest: Florida Turnpike South to exit #289. Follow U.S. 27 South and merge onto U.S. 192 East. Turn right on Celebration Avenue to Market Street.

REGISTRATION PRICE: \$40.00

Up Coming Event: Viva Alfa at Celebration Continued:

Special discount of \$10.00 for those
registering **before October 15th Early**
Registration: \$30.00

Schedule of Events: Friday, November 2, 2018 -7:00 p.m.

Welcome Dinner in private room at Café
D'Antonio
691 Front Street
Celebration, Florida 34747

Saturday November 3, 2018

Viva Alfa Romeo Show 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. - Parking 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Display

1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. - Awards/Prizes
3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Parade through Celebration

4:30 p.m. - Farewell Dinner in private room at the
Olive Garden
5021 West Irlo Bronson Highway Kissimmee,
Florida 34746

Special Rate Hotel: Price: \$100.75 per day
Comfort Suites Maingate East
2775 Florida Plaza Boulevard
Kissimmee, Florida 34746 Phones:
(1-888) 784-8379 or
(407) 997-2439

VIVA ALFA CODE TO BE GIVEN:
“Mid-Florida Alfa Romeo Group” or “VIVA
ALFA”

for the special rate of \$100.75 (tax & service included) Link for booking
online:

[https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations
/groups/LO51X7](https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/LO51X7)

A block of rooms at this rate will be held **through Wednesday, October 17, 2018 ONLY,**
so book your reservations NOW!

A limited number of sponsor vendors will be
displaying their products and services.

For further information please contact:

Margo Miller
at (407) 542-3928 or
maggiesredheads@hotmail.com

Up Coming Event: Viva Alfa at Celebration Continued:



Viva Alfa Romeo
2018 Car Show
Celebration, Florida
Saturday, November 3, 2018
EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____ E-

MAIL _____

SIGNATURE _____

(Your signature confirms you are in agreement with the terms on the reverse side)

VEHICLE INFORMATION

1. YEAR _____ MODEL _____ COLOR _____

2. YEAR _____ MODEL _____ COLOR _____

3. YEAR _____ MODEL _____ COLOR _____

Up Coming Event: Viva Alfa at Celebration Continued:

CAR SHOW REGISTRATION

Special Discount of \$10.00 for those registering BEFORE October 15th, 2018 = \$30.00

(multiple vehicles of one owner may be entered at no additional charge)

Registration Price AFTER October 15th, 2018 = \$40.00



Reservations for Friday night dinner: Number attending____. Will not attend____.
Reservations for Saturday night dinner: Number attending____. Will not attend____.

FRIDAY NIGHT MENU SELECTIONS AT CAFÉ D’ANTONIO’S:

- 1. Chicken Parmigiana: _____
- 2. Grilled Salmon: _____
- 3. Lasagna (w/meat): _____
- 4. Stuffed Eggplant: _____

Dinner Prices will be \$40.00 per person (all inclusive)

TOTAL FOR MEALS: \$ _____

CAR REGISTRATION: \$ _____

TOTAL ON CHECK: \$ _____

Please make check or money order payable to **“Mid Florida AROC, Inc.”**

Please mail registration form with check to:

Margo Miller, Secretary
Mid-Florida Alfa Romeo Club

679 Silver Creek Drive

Winter Springs, Florida 32708-3142

Up Coming Event: St Pete Yacht Club Car Show:

11 Central Ave, St. Petersburg, Florida

Sunday, November 4, 2018

**On The Waterfront ~ Under
The Trees ~ On The Lawn
Pre 1980 Cars, Trucks,
Motorcycles & Boats**

Saint Petersburg Yacht Club Vintage Motor Classic

11 Central Ave, St. Petersburg, Florida
Sunday, November 4, 2018



**+ 17th
Year**

Up Coming Event: St Pete Yacht Club Car Show continued:

Arrive: 8:00 am – 10:30 am
Awards: 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm
RAIN OR SHINE



**SELL YOUR VINTAGE VEHICLE
IN OUR *CAR CORRAL***

REGISTRATION OPENS SEPTEMBER 28th

First 150 ONLINE registrations receive a commemorative t-shirt & dash plaque



www.spyc.org/classic

Up Coming Event: Annual FAC Christmas Holiday Luncheon – Alfano's



Join us for the FAC annual Christmas/Holiday Luncheon Saturday December 8th

The weather should be great as usual this time of year so be sure to bring your Alfis and park up front in the circle for photos.

More details to come as we get closer, but be sure to sign up early so Polly can set the total number of people coming.

This is always a fun event and great food prepared by Chef Frank and his staff.

Contact Polly Greene at alfagreene@earthlink.net or pollyhgreene@yahoo.com

1702 Clearwater Largo Rd N, Clearwater, FL 33756 from 11:30 till 2:00 Saturday Dec. 8th

Up Coming Events:

September 2018 Events:

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsport, Sept. 8th 8-10:00AM

FAC Business Meeting – McAlisters Deli followed by Tour of the Vault Sat Sept. 15th at 11:00AM

DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, September 22st 7:00-9:00 AM

SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Southgate Community Center – September 29th , 8:00-10:00 AM

October 2018 Events:

FAC Business Meeting – Carrabba’s Grill Clearwater – Oct 11th at 6:30pm

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsport, Oct. 13th 8-10:00AM

Fort DeSoto – Picnic and Car Show Sunday Oct. 14th 11:00 to 3:00

DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, Sept. 20st 7:00-9:00 AM

SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Southgate Community Center – Sept. 27th , 8:00-10:00 AM

November 2018 Events:

Viva Alfa at Celebration – Sat – Nov. 3rd

St. Pete car show @ Yacht Club grounds – Sunday Nov. 4th

FAC Business Meeting – Carrabba’s Grill Clearwater, November 8th 6:00 PM

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsport, Nov. 13th 8-10:00AM

DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, Nov. 17th 7:00-9:00 AM

SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Southgate Community Center – Nov. 24th, 8:00-10:00 AM

December 2018 Events:

Annual Alfa Club Christmas luncheon at Alfano's, 11:30 till 2:00 – Sat. Dec. 8th

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsport, Dec. 8th 8-10:00AM

DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, Dec. 15th 7:00-9:00 AM

SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Southgate Community Center – Dec. 29th, 8:00-10:00 AM

January 2019 Events

Polo Match and Car show – Sarasota Polo Fields - Sunday January 20th – Contact Bob Scott

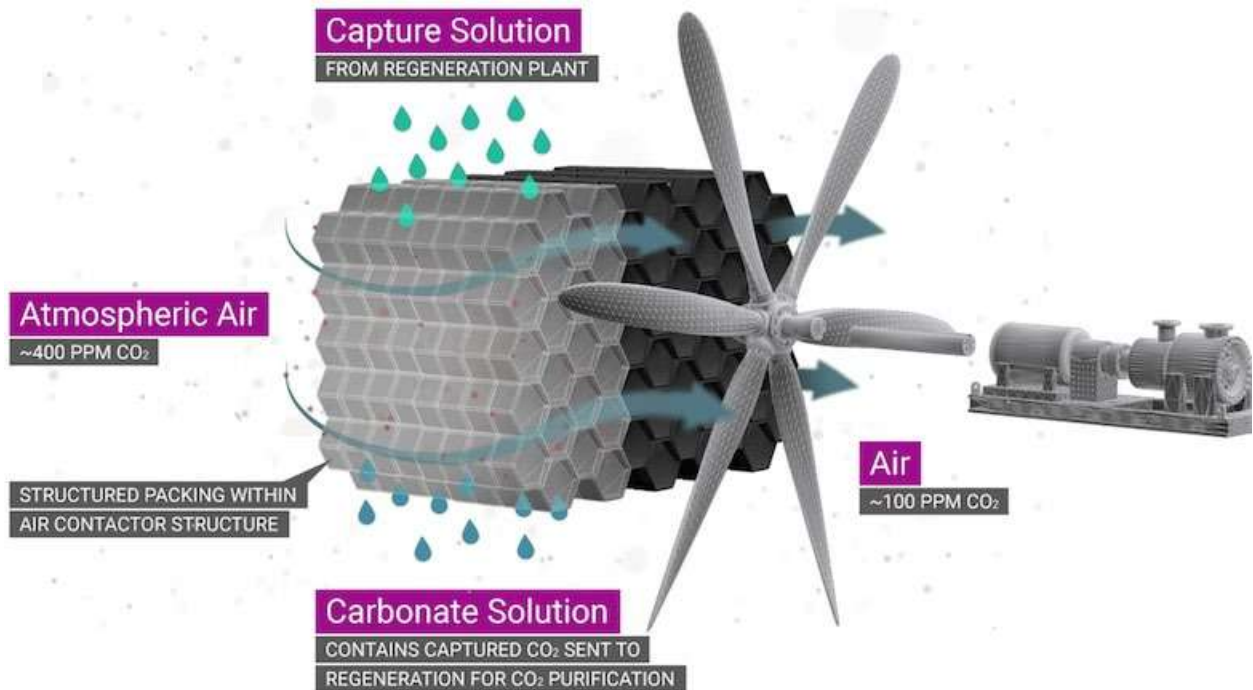
Interesting Developments that may well affect your Classic Car: Read This Now!

A reprint of article in Motortrend:

STACKED DAC: A DIRECT AIR CAPTURE CO₂-TO-GASOLINE SCHEME THAT WORKS? - TECHNOLOGUE

Why you should care about this refreshingly simple CO₂-to-fuel scheme

Twice now I've been dazzled by schemes for scrubbing CO₂ out of the atmosphere and turning it into fuel. In July 2008 it was NaOH scrubbers and exotic catalysts; in March 2012, it was ionic amine fluids and a formic-acid fuel cell. Both were tricky to describe, energy intense, and costly; years later, neither is yet ready for prime time. Then this June my newsfeed lit up with tales of a refreshingly simple new direct air capture (DAC) CO₂-to-fuel scheme that's already running in a pilot plant.



Interesting Developments that may well affect your Classic Car continued:

Canadian energy company Carbon Engineering—founded by Harvard professor David Keith with venture capital funding from Bill Gates—has been scrubbing CO₂ for three years now in Squamish, British Columbia, for conversion to liquid fuels. An obvious secret to CE's success is its reliance on existing industrial technology. The scrubbing operation is essentially a power-station cooling tower grafted onto a pulp/paper mill, augmented with tweaks from the water-treatment and gold-extraction industries. The fuel conversion involves universally understood Fischer-Tropsch gas-to-liquid tech.

Instead of condensing steam, air in this cooling tower flows past an alkaline solution of potassium hydroxide and water. Mildly acidic CO₂ gloms onto the basic potassium hydroxide, forming potassium carbonate. Calcium is then used to grab the carbon from the potassium in a pellet reactor borrowed from the water-treatment biz. Finally, pure CO₂ is liberated the way gold is separated from ore in a gold-ore roasting calciner. A paper mill's caustic recovery loop keeps the potassium and calcium in continual reuse.

The process above is expected to consume between 1.5 and 2.4 megawatt-hours of energy per metric ton of CO₂ depending on plant configuration, with the lion's share heating the roaster. Energy is a major driver of the operation's cost, which, when scaled up for larger commercial production, is estimated to cost \$232 per metric ton in the near term, falling to as low as \$94 per metric ton in five to 10 years—a significant savings relative to chief rival, Zurich-based Climeworks, which is currently converting CO₂ via solid-oxide fuel cell at a cost of \$600 per metric ton.

Interesting Developments that may well affect your Classic Car continued:

Carbon Engineering's cost projections, published in the energy journal *Joule*, are based on scaling up the Squamish plant from its current 1-metric-ton-per-day scrubbing rate. Oh, and if you're wondering why CE doesn't just tap the CO₂-rich stream from a coal or natural-gas smokestack, it's because that carbon originates underground—fuel produced from it wouldn't qualify with regulators as carbon neutral. That's bureaucracy for you.

□ One indication that CE's pricing is in the ballpark: It aligns nicely with the [\\$94 to \\$185 per metric ton](#) that companies are currently paying for offset credits to comply with the California Low Carbon Fuel Standard. That standard will likely assign a [carbon-intensity figure](#) of about 30 to CE's fuel—down from 53 for California corn ethanol and 100 for crude-based gasoline. Selling this fuel is what will eventually pay back Bill Gates' investment.

Of course, carbon harvested from the sky has no energy value until hydrogen atoms are attached via Fischer-Tropsch, and that hydrogen accounts for about 70 percent of the cost of the resulting fuel. Keith expects Carbon Engineering to generate hydrogen using electrolyzers that are similar to proton-exchange-membrane fuel cells, powered by solar or wind electricity. He projects that PEM costs will drop from \$1,000 per kilowatt to less than \$500 in five years when his commercial plant comes online. He's designing that plant for an annual scrub of at least 300,000 metric tons of CO₂—enough to produce 2,000 barrels of gasoline per day. His projected gasoline cost target is within 50 percent of today's crude-oil refined product.

Interesting Developments that may well affect your Classic Car continued:

Here's why we should all be rooting for projects like this to work: As liquid fuels approach carbon neutrality, we can burn them virtually guilt free. This will be a boon for difficult-to-electrify air and sea transportation, and it could allow us to continue driving our beloved combustion engine vehicles forever.

Editor's Comments: With recent events in Washington DC that have resulted in Trade Tariffs that are so generically written they may well make it very hard if not impossible to find and order parts for that classic car you have. The Tariffs are written such that they do not make any distinction between importing a new car or parts like a blanket also including the classic car market. Many classic car dealers say this might put them out of business and adversely effect the classic car market dramatically.

Why should you care about this new technology and be rooting for its success? If they succeed then it will provide a clean efficient source of fuel to run you classic car for years to come and potentially relieve some of the pressure to convert to all electric vehicles in an attempt to reduce carbon air pollution. If it works it would also reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

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!

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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