



February 2019

Volume 6 Issue 2

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



Alfa Romeo Selection of the

Month: February 2019.

Car Name: Now you have to worry about the Alfa Giulia for sure.



## NEWS:

AROO Members,

The [February 2019](#) edition of the AlfaBits has been published (click on the link).

It is available on the 2019 Newsletters webpage at [www.alfaclub.org/Newsletters.html](http://www.alfaclub.org/Newsletters.html) of the AROO Website at [www.alfaclub.org](http://www.alfaclub.org).

AlfaBits are also available on the Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon webpage on the national AROC-USA website, along with the 2019 AROO Activity Calendar and Chapter Event listings for all AROO scheduled events -- we've been busy programming!

Simply visit our nationally-hosted webpage at [www.aroc-usa.org/or-18-aroo/](http://www.aroc-usa.org/or-18-aroo/) or go to the national AROC-USA website at [www.aroc-usa.org](http://www.aroc-usa.org), click on "The Club" menu button, then click on "Local Chapter Events" on the drop-down menu. Scroll down and select "OR (Chapter 18) AROO" on the left-hand menu and then click on the "HOME" button center top of the page. This takes you to the beginnings of AROO's newest web presence, compliments of AROC-USA.

Here you can find chapter contact information for AROO, as well as contact information for our officers, directors and VIPs. You will also be able to find the current edition of the AlfaBits, recent past issues, and ultimately really past issues too!

Thank you!

George Kraus

AlfaBits Editor

Doug Z.

AROO Webmaster

## Recent Event: Winter Tour of Southwest Florida

Written by: Harmon Heed

### ***SWFL-AROC "Spritely" 2019 Winter Tour***



Some things stay the same and some things evolve. Both happened on this 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Tour sponsored by the Southwest Florida AROC and therefore I think it will be run for years.

The route through open farmlands, cattle ranches and citrus groves hasn't changed, well, not intentionally. Organizer Scott Crater mapped it out right the first time in 2016. The start was still coffee at the 7/11 at I-75 Exit 170 in Port Charlotte. The pit stop was still at the only gas station in Bowling Green (that also serves at least four other tinier dots on the map) and it still has the big oak behind it for many men whose coffee filled bellies just sloshed around on curvy rural roads for 90 miles. And the finish was still the epicurean L'Incontro Italian Restaurant in lovely Lake Wales near the center of the state.



## Recent Event: Winter Tour of Southwest Florida Continued:

The first half of the “tour” was chicanery as we wound from one county road to another around slow rivers and creeks and through wide wetlands often under the canopy of majestic Spanish moss laden oaks. Thank goodness the weather was dry. The unintentional route change was caused by an unpublished and poorly signed sudden detour. Whoa, we left some skid marks there! Half the cars went one way and half the cars went the other way and half the detour was on a road that looked like Cool Hand Luke had just resurfaced. Lucille wasn’t seen.



The number of entrants stayed the same, 18, but the cars’ age changed. The new generation of Alfas comprised 37% of the entrants; four 4Cs driven by John Pokorny, Tom & Carol Rossi, Steve Pardue and Byron Owen; two Giulia Quadrifolios driven by Tim Rogers and Marcos Figueroa; and one Ti driven by Kelley & Tom Chesnutt (Kelly was the only female driver). Those cars + two 1991 spiders driven by Bob Lombardo and Jeff Schuyler formed Group 1. They left the start 10 minutes prior to Group 2 and turned left at the detour.



## Recent Event: Winter Tour of Southwest Florida Continued:



Group 2 was ten more mature Alfas and three Brits: Bob Meier in his 1986 spider, Mike Cogswell in his 1982 spider, William Drumm in his 1978 spider, Sergio & Arman Mouradian in his 1975 Alfetta GT, Scott Crater in his 1970 Jr. Zagato, Harmon & Jo Heed in his 1964 spider and Len Gasparro in his 1952 Jaguar XK120. In two other British cars were Dennis McKinley in his 1981 TR7 and Ed Major in his 1968 TR250. Group 2 turned right at the detour and arrived at the pit stop first.

Group 2 left the pit stop first. The second half of the tour was much faster, long Mulsannes separating vast row crop and hay farms from citrus groves from cattle ranches. Florida is known for its citrus but not many outside the state realize it is also a significant cattle raising state. Old time Floridians are referred to as “crackers” from the sound their cattle whips made. Along these vast flatlands we got the speed up with the Giulia Quad and 4C drivers reporting “exhilarating” speeds and some of the Series 2-4 spider drivers going faster than they thought their cars would go. Thank goodness the winter weather was warm, mid 70s.

## Recent Event: Winter Tour of Southwest Florida Continued:



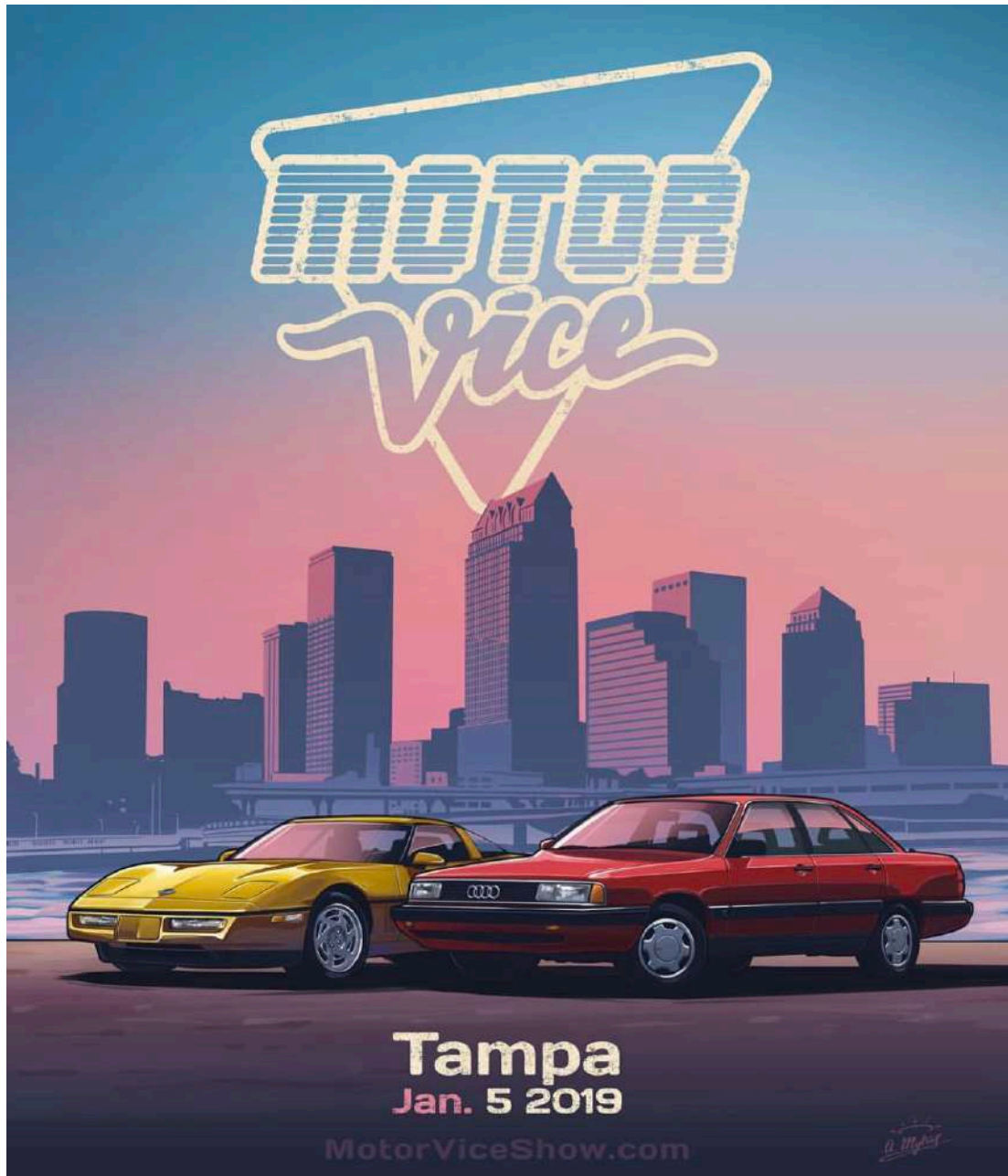
All the cars made it to the finish at L'Incontro and at about the same time. There an evolutionary change was discussed. The original tour was called "Pt Charlotte to Lake Wales Rally." This year's tour was called "'Spritely' Tour of SW Florida." The consensus of many tables was, even over plates of classic, Italian cuisine, that next year it should be called "The Roadkill Rally." Scott agreed.

After lunch most of the drivers took their own routes home continuing on back county roads. Sergio Mauradian's Alfetta GT was trucked home because he shifted into 3<sup>rd</sup> gear instead of 5<sup>th</sup> at 6500 rpm "while passing a 4C." He's replaced his transaxle, again. Dennis McKinley's TR7 also went home on a flat bed. Byron Owen and Jeff Schuyler had a long, four hour drive back to Miami. Bob Lombardo and navigator Tony Scire had a 3 hour + drive back to Bonita Springs.

Jo & I had just a two-hour drive home to Sarasota so that gave us time to drive up to nearby Bok Tower. It's a 205' gorgeous, Gothic and art deco tower, lace sculpted of stone that houses a 60-bell carillon. The grounds and garden were landscaped by Fredrick Law Olmstead Jr. who also did the Biltmore House, White House and National mall. It was gifted by Dutch immigrant Edward Bok and dedicated by President Coolidge in 1929. The top of the tower might be the highest point in Florida because it sits atop 295' Iron Mountain, in the spine of the Florida peninsula. At 500' some Floridians get nosebleed or oxygen masks.

But we sure enjoy driving our Alfas in our "winter wonderland"! Thank you, Scott Crater for organizing the romp through rural South West Florida!!

## Recent Events: Motor-Vice Car Show Tampa Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>



This was a new show to Tampa featuring cars from the 1980's and 1990, so a lot of different brands showed up. Jurgen Otto was there with his BM M1, Z1, and Z4 as were some of the Ferrari club members as well.

My 1990 Alpina B10 BiTurbo won Judges Choice receiving a trophy made of two audio cassettes glued together with a Video cassette mounted on top – fitting for the times I guess. All in all it was a sunny day and a good day to be out with a car.



## Recent Events: Pollo Match & Car Show



Written By: Harmon Heed

## A Winter Wind in Florida

In possibly his first play, which began in Italy in 220 BC, Shakespeare wrote, "There is something in the wind." Almost 2,240 years later it was the Florida Alfa Club. On a windblown day in January they and their guests gathered at the Sarasota Polo Club. Event chair, Bob Scott, sold 70 tickets, more than ever before. Unfortunately, the blustery, grey sky and 25 mph winds, gusting to 40 mph, kept more than the hardiest at home.

The west coast of Florida seldom gets such brisk breezes during the "snow bird" season. It is the "other" six-month season that brings the strongest winds and the strongest of those get names like Charley, Wilma, Irma, Maria, etc.

"You have shorts on, aren't you cold?" asked a snowbird from Detroit.

"You're in Florida, it doesn't get c, c, cold here," I replied.

"It took us an hour to find this, this uh, uh . . .," my wife, Jo, said.

"It's called a jacket," said a snow bird from Chicago.



## Recent Events: Pollo Match & Car Show continued:



A polo game is a perfect venue for tailgating and Series 2-4 spiders, with their flat, wide trunks are perfect cars to do it on. So, Bob lined up four spiders with their trunks backed to the big tent and out came the food. Ray & Gail LaBrosse set out aperitifs and a wine cooler on the deck of their white 1991. Joe Stigliani laid out a 3' sub sandwich with sauces imported from Canada on his red 1978. Bob & Theresa Lombardo presented a repast of gourmet Italian delights, including wine, under a sterling candelabrum on the table of their red 1992. Bob & Carolyn Scott followed with desserts on their red 1987 Quadrifoglio. To prevent the candelabra from becoming a windmill Theresa soon moved it and their cuisine into the space behind the seats saying, "I knew that space would be put to good use some day!"

Under the tent was a large table which, in former years, has been laden with an abundance of picnic fare. This year, to take the wind out of their sails, many of the attendees ate in the warmth of their cars and there were warm ones there: two 2018 Stelvios, John & Linda Rady in their Monte Carlo blue and Todd Bernstein and Cathy in his new Stromboli Gray Q4 (Cathy drives a new Giulia); two 2017 Giulia Tis, Kelley & Tom Chesnutt in their Rosso Competizione and Paul Ziegler in his white with a lovely sounding exhaust system; Tom & Carol Rossi in their Madreperia 2015 Launch 4C spider and Gary & Amy Jean in his Rosso Competizione 2018; and Dave Tartaglia in his new metallic grey Fiat Cinquecento zip top. The windjammers with their top down spiders were Harmon & Jo Heed in their blond 1964, Kathy & Tony LaPorta in their ivorio 1974 and Chip Denyko and Tommy in Chip's Gailo Bilbao 1993.

## Recent Events: Pollo Match & Car Show Continued:



In "King Richard III" Shakespeare had the winded king crying out, "A horse, a horse. My kingdom for a horse." Perhaps because only kings could afford to have a polo team. Polo is, after all, called "The Sport of Kings." A team consists of four players, each with six ponies, one for each chukker or 7 ½ minute period. That's 24 thoroughbreds per team. Times two teams. Plus the two referees with two thoroughbreds each equals 50 thoroughbreds per game. How much does a thoroughbred cost? More than a new Quadrifolio. Plus stabling at \$1,500 a month each. Plus a big truck for each player to pull bigger trailers to different season venues.

After lunch the bundled Alfa owners and guests gathered at the sideline of the field to watch the game. It was worth weathering the windswept turf to watch the exquisite equines gallop, race along, suddenly stop or turn or twist while its rider swung at a 3" ball with a 4 1/2' mallet. Over twenty five tons of muscle and stretching sinew atop 40 thundering hooves with eight mallets swinging, singing in the wind. It was majestic.



## Recent Events: Pollo Match & Car Show continued:



At half time some spectators went out onto the field and stomp divots back into the ground. (Never stomp on a steaming divot.) A big, red Budweiser wagon pulled by a team- of-two came out and gave the kids a ride around the field. Some people thought that this year the Clydesdales should have been pulling a sleigh. Next January, if you're on the west coast of Florida during the weekend between the NFL playoffs and Super Bowl, join the Florida Alfa Club for a regal event at the Sarasota Polo Club. As Prince Henry said in King Henry IV, Part 1, "The southern wind Doth play the trumpet!"



**Recent Events: Pollo Match & Car Show continued:**



## Up Coming Events: Wesley Chapel Alfa Tech Session Saturday February 16<sup>th</sup>



This years Alfa Tech session was a huge success with over 30 people in attendance. The Wesley Chapel Alfa dealership hosted the tech session this and pulled out all the stops for us. They provided food and drinks for everyone in attendance. As you can see we had a large grouping of vintage Alfa's on hand in front of the facility as well including Ruggero Santilli's 1959 Sprint Zagato Allow Bodied – double bubble race car that they drove to the event.





## Up Coming Events: Wesley Chapel Alfa Tech Continued:





## Up Coming Events: Wesley Chapel Alfa Tech Continued:

The dealer also provided free test drives of their Giulia and Giulia Quad, and great new SUV the Stelvio. In the back they had a Giulia Quad up on the racks with all the panels pulled off as well as the front bumper laying bear all the great Alfa technology for all to see. Their technician answered all out questions regardless of level of curiosity. Next to the Quad one of our members brought his 4C in for service and allowed us to al see underneath the car as it was serviced in real time.



## Up Coming Events: Wesley Chapel Alfa Tech Continued:



## Up Coming Events: Lakewood Ranch Exotic Car Festival Sat. Feb 23rd



***The rumors are incorrect that this year's Lakewood Ranch Exotic Car Festival will be limited to "Exotics" only. I have it from the horse's mouth that the web site is now working and they are accepting applications to show your car to anyone who applies. So, sign up today.***

Applications are being taken for the fast-growing Lakewood Ranch Exotic Car Festival for 2019. The entry fee is discounted if you sign up before January 31<sup>st</sup>.

100% of the benefits go to "Flight to the North Pole" a local charity for terminally ill children.

Sign up at:

[www.exoticcarfestival.com](http://www.exoticcarfestival.com)

[Note: the show is closed out!](#)



## Up Coming Events: B.I.G Car Show in Cape Coral



### **The Seventh Annual B.I.G. European Sports and Collector Car Show**

(British, Italian & German)

**Sunday, March 3, 2019**

**Jaycee Park, 4215 SE 20 Place, Cape Coral, FL 33904**

**(Rain or Shine)**

Sponsored by

**Triumphs of Southwest Florida, (TSWFL)**

We have another opportunity this year for various clubs to have their members share with fellow enthusiasts and the public their enjoyment and experiences of owning a **B.I.G.** European sports or collector car.

This years B.I.G Car show will be held at the same Park location in Cape Coral Sunday March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Use the provided links below to access the details of the show, various classes and the registrations forms



2019 B.I.G. Show  
Flyer 12.08.18.pdf



2019 B.I.G. Show  
Registration Informati



2019 B.I.G. Show  
Original Classes 12.08



2019 B.I.G. Show  
Registration Form.pdf

This has always been a very successful car show for the Florida Alfa Club with several members winning trophies and a lot of fun. The B.I.G Show stands for British – Italian – German car marks. There are awards for each class within each country mark.

This year they have expanded the number of car categories so everyone has a chance to win regardless if you have a prewar car of a brand-new vehicle.

If you are planning on going and want to share a room let us know – we will hook you up.

Up Coming Events: Amelia Island Concours de' Elegance March 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>



## AMELIA ISLAND 2019 CONCOURS d'ELEGANCE



Let us know if you plan to attend.



## Up Coming Events: Weekend Driving Tour and Museum Sunday/Monday March 17-18<sup>th</sup>

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





Up Coming Event: Festival of Speed <http://festivalofspeed.com/> at the Vinoy



**Sunday April 7<sup>th</sup> at the Vinoy in St Petersburg.**

<http://festivalofspeed.com/>

Let Barry Andress Know if you are coming

[Alfabarry3@gmail.com](mailto:Alfabarry3@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Event: Gasparilla Concours d' Elegance



There is a new car show in Tampa set for Friday and Saturday April 12 – 13<sup>th</sup> with a dinner on Friday and the show on Saturday. It is located in the new Curtis Hixon Park right on the Hillsboro River.

If you are interested in attending click on this link to go to the web site and register your vehicle. Proceeds are donated to the Shriners Hospital for Children.

[www.gasparillaconcours.com](http://www.gasparillaconcours.com)





## Up Coming Events: Annual FAC Pizza & SIM Racing Event Sat. May 11<sup>st</sup>



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 May 11<sup>st</sup> from 10:30 AM until the food is gone and tires are too.

Please RSVP to Polly Greene at [pollyhgreene@yahoo.com](mailto:pollyhgreene@yahoo.com) as it is limited to the first 20 people. You must RSVP by email to make it on the list.

## **Calendar of Events:**

### **February 2019 Events**

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsport, Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-10:00AM

Tampa Bay Café Racers Lunch – Café Ponte Clearwater Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> 11:30 AM

**FAC Business Meeting – Will be held in Conjunction with the Wesley Chapel Tech Session.**

**Wesley Chapel Alfa Tech session - Saturday, February 16th, ((10:00-2:00 PM) (Delmas – Polly)**

DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> 7:00-9:00 AM

Lakewood Ranch Exotic Car Festival – Lakewood Ranch – Sat. Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>

SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Southgate Community Center – Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 8:00-10:00 AM

### **March 2019 Events**

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsport, March 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-10:00AM

B.I.G. Car Show – Cape Coral – Sunday March 3<sup>rd</sup>

Tampa Bay Café Racers Lunch – Café Ponte Clearwater Mar. 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> 11:30 AM

Amelia Island Concourse de" Elegance March 7<sup>th</sup> thru 10<sup>th</sup>

**FAC Business Meeting – Carrabba's Italian Grill Clearwater – March 14<sup>th</sup> 6:30PM**

**Annual FAC Road Tour Saturday March 16<sup>th</sup> – (Milton Watts)**

DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, March 16<sup>th</sup> 7:00-9:00 AM

SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Southgate Community Center – March 30<sup>th</sup>, 8:00-10:00 AM

### **April 2019 Events**

Tampa Bay Café Racers Lunch – Café Ponte Clearwater April 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 AM

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsport, April 6<sup>th</sup> 8-10:00AM

Festival of Speed St Pete at the Vinoy Hotel Sunday April 7th

**FAC Business Meeting – Carrabba's Italian Grill Clearwater – Thursday April 11<sup>th</sup> 6:30PM**

Gasparilla Concourse d' Elegance – Curtis Hixon Park – Tampa April 13th

DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, April 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00-9:00 AM

SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Southgate Community Center – April 27<sup>th</sup>, 8:00-10:00 AM



## **Calendar of Events: Continued**

### **May 2019 Events**

Tampa Bay Café Racers Lunch – Café Ponte Clearwater May 1<sup>st</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> 11:30 AM

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsport, May 4<sup>th</sup> 8-10:00AM

Car Show for Charity – Safety Harbo – May 5<sup>th</sup> (Barry Address)

**FAC Business Meeting – Carrabba's Italian Grill Clearwater – May 9<sup>th</sup> 6:30PM**

**Annual Pizza and SIM Racing Party Sat. May 11<sup>th</sup> – Ruggero/Carla Santilli's House, 11:00-2:00 PM**

DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, May 18<sup>th</sup> 7:00-9:00 AM

SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Southgate Community Center – May 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:00-10:00 AM

### **June 2019 Events**

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsport, June 1<sup>st</sup> 8-10:00AM

Tampa Bay Café Racers Lunch – Café Ponte Clearwater June 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> 11:30 AM

**FAC Business Meeting – TBD – June 13<sup>th</sup> 6:30PM**

DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, June 15<sup>th</sup> 7:00-9:00 AM

SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Southgate Community Center – June 29<sup>th</sup>, 8:00-10:00 AM

### **July 2019 Events**

**NO FAC Meeting this month**

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsport, July 6<sup>th</sup> 8-10:00AM

Tampa Bay Café Racers Lunch – Café Ponte Clearwater July 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>th</sup> 11:30 AM

DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, July 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00-9:00 AM

SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Southgate Community Center – July 27<sup>th</sup>, 8:00-10:00 AM

### **August 2019 Events**

**NO FAC Meeting this month**

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsport, Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup> 8-10:00AM

Tampa Bay Café Racers Lunch – Café Ponte Clearwater Aug. 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> 11:30 AM

DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> 7:00-9:00 AM

SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Southgate Community Center – Aug. 31<sup>st</sup> 8:00-10:00 AM

## **Calendar of Events: Continued**

### **September 2019 Events**

**Coming Soon.**

### **October 2019 Events**

**Coming Soon.**

### **November 2019 Events**

**Coming Soon.**

### **December 2019 Events**

**Coming Soon.**



## **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:**

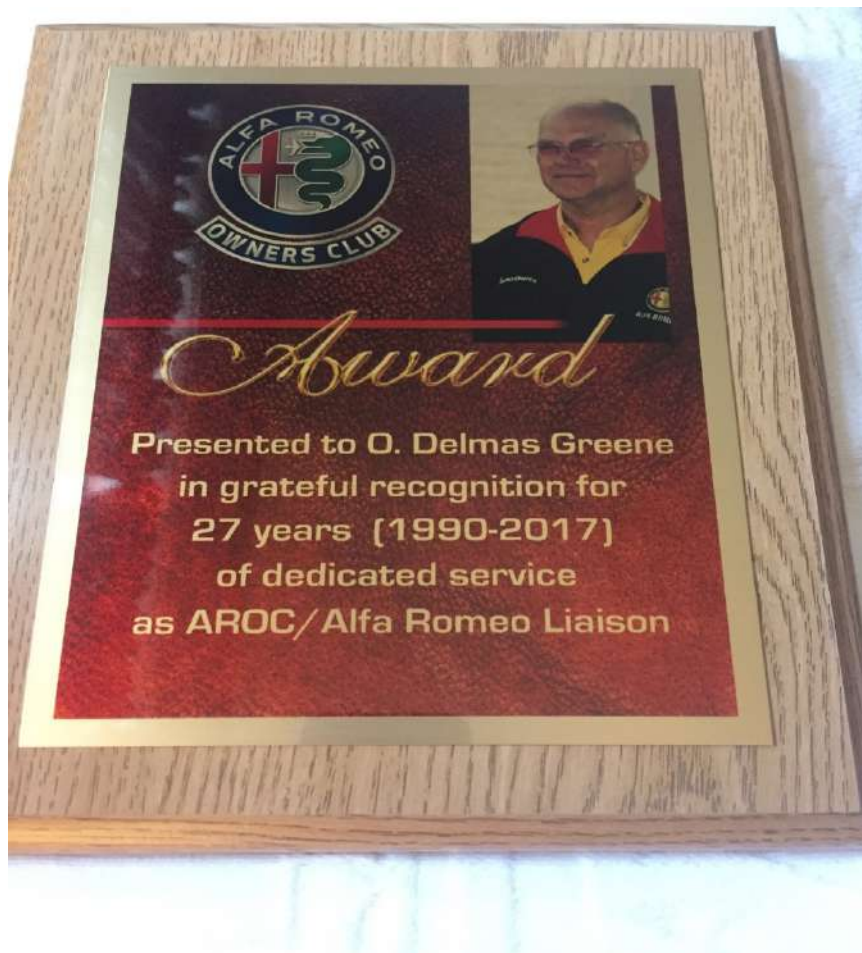


**Note:** Sell your vintage Alfa here. Its free to FAC members. Just send us photos and a brief description of your car, what you want for it, and how to reach you. There is another Alfisti looking for your car now!

**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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