



January 2020

Volume 7 Issue 1

Editorial Comments: There are still plenty of things to do on the Calendar!



Alfa Romeo Selection of the

Month: January 2020

Car Name: No, it's not a Ferrari but rather Mohamed Ali's 1976 Alfa Romeo Spider – Really!



Recent Event: Port Charolette to Lake Wales Rally

2020 Road Kill Rally

By Harmon Heed

Remember the theme song to the 1980s TV show, Dukes of Hazzard ? “Straightenin the curves, flattenin the hills/someday the mountain might get em’ but the law never will.” Thar ain’t no hills in central Florida but there’s many a curve and long straight away!

When Dr. Scott Crater laid out the Port Charlotte to Lake Wales Rally four years ago he slyly said, “We’re going where there isn’t anyone.” Including Boss Hogg or Sheriff Rosco Coltrane. This year’s run on January 11th recollected that. Central Florida is mostly agriculture land, cattle ranches, truck and hay farms and citrus groves. Long, straight county roads that suddenly whip around a stand of giant oaks, an offset intersection, a winding stream or across a very narrow bridge. Most of the tiny dot towns on the map aren’t there, they’re just an intersection. The larger towns may have a stop light and even a speed limit sign



Scott divides the entrants into two groups. The first is the 4Cs and other car & drivers who think they can keep up. The second group are the traditional 4-cylinder, twin overhead cam 750 to Series four, mostly spiders. The new Giulias usually split between the two. Scott drives a 1970 Jr. Zagato. The stage in is at a 7/11 near I-75 with lots of coffee and the start is at 8:00 AM. The first half of the run is most twisting, between high hedgerows of palmetto, pine and scrub oak or under moss laden grand oaks and across very narrow bridges.

Recent Event: Port Charolette to Lake Wales Rally continued:

At the midway point there is a pit stop where the drivers can relax their knuckles and finally get rid of all that coffee they promised last year not to drink this year. The stop is in a town big enough to have a traffic light and gas station. The connected laundromat has two single toilets. Behind the laundromat is a large oak tree that frees up the men's room for the ladies.



The second half of the run is through the wide open, cattle ranches, truck and hay farms and citrus groves, where drivers can see for miles and open up their engines in higher gears. The cattle lazily look up, the farm hands smile and wave and the pick'n up trucks and produce haulers move over and wave the cars by. Bo and Luke must have driven The General there before. Going into the lake country the roads get curvy again, there is some slight elevation changes and the population increases. In Lake Wales, at noon, the cars make a U-turn and slide into L'Intontro, a very nice Italian bistro for lunch. Daisy isn't waiting on tables and they don't serve grits or road kill.

Recent Event: Port Charolette to Lake Wales Rally continued:



This year's entrants were: Tom & Carol Rossi, Byron Owens, John Pokorny and Tim Rogers in 4Cs; Wayne & Cyndy Girardet and Kelly & Tom Chesnutt in new Giulias; Todd Bernstein and Cathy Lawshe in a Stelvio; Ray & Gail Labrosse and Joe Hayward in Series 4 spiders; Dr. Dave Eichenbaum in a Ferrari 308GTB and Matt Wolken in a Mini Cooper. None of the cars were orange with a 1 painted on the side.

Recent Events: Festival of Speed – St Petersburg – Jan 12th, 2020



It Doesn't Get Any Better

By: Harmon Heed

The Florida winter wonderland, 85 degrees, bright blue sky with little angel clouds drifting by, a grassy park next to a bay with a soft breeze blowing sailboats along with the clouds and under a crescent of majestic oaks are parked fifteen Alfa Romeos. There are no concrete or tile cracks for Jack or anyone else to step on.



It was the Festivals of Speed, held by the venerable Vinoy Hotel & Resort in St. Pete. 350 cars, almost all foreign and exotic, most of them in the sun, and in the center, in the cool shade of the five Spanish moss laden oaks was the Florida Alfa Club. Its cars, ranging from Delmas & Polly Greene's 1956 Giulietta spider and Paul Ziegler's 2019 Giulia QF NRING were parked in a line, four red cars here, three silver spiders there, an amaranto, a giallo, a blond . . . Each car had a club placard at its front bumper to define it to the inquisitive of the 18,000 spectators. Behind the cars the owners sat in groups chatting, snacking and at the ready to answer questions &/or take photos often requested by the pretty women or parents with children.

Recent Events: Festival of Speed – St Petersburg – continued:

In the crescent: Chip Denyko's black 1995 164 and giallo 1993 spider; John & Cheryl Picot's amaranto, 1973 GTV 2000; the Greene's white, Giulietta spider; Harmon & Jo Heed's bianda and Ruggero y Carla Santillis' rossa Giulia spider Veloces; Sergio Mouradian's red 1975 Alfetta GT; Barry Andress' red, 1983 spider; Phil Rosile's red, 1969 roundtail spider; Jim & Gabie Zitnick's silver, 1991 spider; Tim Rogers 1987 silver, spider Quadrifoglio; Alan Flores' silver w/ black cowhide top, 1975 spider; Dr. Dave Wolfe's white, 1991 spider; Tony & Mary Kathryn Paolini's Goodwood Green 1963 Corvette Stingray; John & Linda Rady's blue 2018 Stelvio and Paul Ziegler's stealth bomber grey, 2019 Giulia QF NRING. There could have been more cars but four FAC members were well worn from running the SWFL AROC high speed "Road Kill Rallye" the day before.

Chip Denyko and his 1995 164



John & Linda Rady's 2018 Stelvio



"How do you guys rate, having shade?" a squinting Ferrari owner asked. About ten years ago, when the "move in" was congested, the club parked beneath the oaks before anyone else got there. Ever since then, Joe Sabatini, the Festival organizer, has devoted that area to the Florida Alfa Club and we have filled it. Joe has usually provided two or three Alfa class trophies and the club's cars are eligible for show trophies. This year the judges awarded Ruggero y Carla Santilli's 1964 Giulia spider Veloce the show's "Royalty of the Rivera" trophy. Unfortunately, not enough cars registered early enough for Alfa Class trophies to be planned for.

Recent Events: Festival of Speed – St Petersburg – continued:

Joe began organizing the Festivals of Speed in 2004. It grew till now he annually puts together five or six Festivals of Speed in Florida and one in Atlanta. They are all held at exclusive venues: The Vinoy in St. Pete; Ritz-Carlton in Orlando, Mission Inn in Howie-in-The-Hills; Omni Amelia Island Plantation; Diplomat Golf & Tennis Club in Hallandale (Ft Lauderdale), Maurice A. Ferre' Park in Miami and Avalon in Alphetta (Atlanta). So, there is an event at a venue close to every Florida AROC! Joe gives the displaying Florida Alfa Club members 50% off because the club always enters at least ten cars.

Pay your discounted registration, Joe and his crew do all the work, you just show up and have fun at a very fine place and a portion the fees go to charity. It doesn't get any better than that!

Alan Florez 1975 Spider



Phil Rosiles 1969 Spider Bambino



Sergio's 1975 Alfetta GT



Delmas Greene talking to spectators



Recent Events: Festival of Speed – St Petersburg – continued:

Sergio Maudian & Dr Dave Wolfe



Tim Rogers and Jim & Gabie Zitnick



Ruggiero & Carla Santilli with their Royalty on the Riviera Award



Upcoming Events: The Eighth Annual B.I.G. European Car Show



This year's B.I.G. Show (British Italian & German) will be held on Sunday March 1st 2020 at the **Jaycee Park**, 4215 SE 20 Place, Cape Coral, FL 33904 Rain or Shine. More details about the show and registrations forms are provided below.



B.I.G. Show Flyer
2020.pdf



B.I.G. Show
Registration Informati



BIG Show Classes
2020.pdf



B.I.G. Show Fillable
Registration Form 20

Upcoming Events: Amelia Island Concours d' Elegance plus Cars & Coffee

[Event Information](#) [Visitors Guide](#) [Charity](#) [Sponsors](#) [News and Media Gallery](#)



The Amelia Announces Cars & Coffee at the Concours 2020



Upcoming Events: Amelia Island Concours d' Elegance plus Cars & Coffee

AROC-USA has reserved a block of rooms at the nearby Hampton Inn in Fernandina - Beach with a four-night minimum for about \$1,500. Sorry, the more expensive host hotel, the Ritz is full. Florida Alfa Club has reserved a block of rooms at the Hyatt Place Jacksonville Airport, about 30 minutes away, for \$109 a night, Thursday thru Sunday with no minimum. Call the hotel direct at (888) 492-8847; the group code is G-ALFA.

Friday night the North East Florida AROC is hosting an AROC member's buffet dinner at the Woman's Club of Fernandina Beach where you can meet Alfisti from all over the US. \$50 per plate with a no host bar catered, as last year, by Cucina South Italian Bistro. There is a 125-person maximum so get your reservations in ASAP to NEFLAROC president, Jerry Kelly, igkelley7flusa@comcast.net.

Saturday morning, Cars & Coffee on the same 10th & 18th greens Sunday's concours will be held! Jerry negotiated with Amelia Concours for an area to display "25 Alfas for 25 Years of Amelia." FAC member, Harmon Heed, recruited 25 resplendent, some quite rare, Alfas from seven chapters and five states. At this writing time it is uncertain if other Alfas will be allowed on the field &/or if they will be able to park next to the recruited Alfas. For spectators entrance is free, parking is \$10-\$20 and the shuttle is free.

Calendar of Events

January 2020 Events

Tampa Bay Café Racers Lunch – Café Ponte Clearwater Jan 1st, 15th & 29th 11:30AM

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsports, Jan 4th 8-10:00AM

FAC Business Meeting Jan 9th Location Bellissimo's on corner of Ulmerton & Belcher

Festival of Speed St. Pete Jan 12th - Barry

DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, Jan 18th 7:00-9:00AM

SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Southgate Community Center – Jan 25th 8:00-10:00AM

February 2020 Events

Tampa Bay Café Racers Lunch – Café Ponte Clearwater Feb 12th & 26th 11:30AM

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsports, Feb 1st 8-10:00AM

Technical Training Session & Parts Swap – Delmas/Polly Greene's House – Saturday Feb. 15th at 10AM

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

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

March 2020 Events

Tampa Bay Café Racers Lunch – Café Ponte Clearwater March 11th & 25th 11:30AM

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsports, March 7th 8-10:00AM

Amelia Island Concours d' Elegance March 6th – 8th Harmon

FAC Business Meeting March 12th location Woody's River Roo – Ellington 6PM

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

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

April 2020 Events

Tampa Bay Café Racers Lunch – Café Ponte Clearwater April 1st 15th & 29th 11:30AM

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsports, April 4th 8-10:00AM

FAC Business Meeting Saturday April 11th 10AM Down Town Safety Harbor - More to follow

DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, April 18th 7:00-9:00AM

SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Southgate Community Center – April 25th 8:00-10:00AM

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!

For Sale- 1986 Spider Veloce \$9,500

Low mileage, 48,000 miles, excellent Car Fax. Georgia car. Car kept garaged, no rust or dents. Paint is full but showing age. Interior is all intact including period AM/FM cassette and COLD AC. Cleaning and protectorate will bring it back to very nice condition. Same with top. Records available. Contact Elizabeth at (706) 344-2185.



Cars for Sale continued:



Cars for Sale continued:

This is Paul Ziegler's new Nuremburg Ring version of a brand new Quad limited edition that he just got. No, it's not for sale but his other low mileage white over red Giulia might be. Contact him for details ppziegler@yahoo.com I have heard he is asking very little for his other Giulia with ridiculously low miles.



Shops of Interest to Alfa Owners: Eibell Performance

Eibell Performance – a long time shop famous for repairing and working on various vintage and modern sports cars especially Porsche and the BMW 2002, closed briefly after the owners passing. However, it is now open again under new management. Kurt Grashel, who formally worked at Ferrari in Palm Harbor moved with Gabe Morales when he formed European Exotic Cars.

Interesting enough, I introduce Gabe Morales to Tom Argue – my favorite body and paint shop in Clearwater – who coincidentally happens to be located right next door to Eibell performance – Tom that is. Their association worked so well they considered buying the Eibell facility and locating right next door to Tom Argue's SEMA Award winning restoration shop, but alas the Eibell shop was not large enough for Gabe's growing exotic car business, but Kurt and his brother Thaddeus jumped at the opportunity and took over the Eibell Performance shop.

During recent visits to Eibell Performance I have spotted a Fly Yellow Ferrari Testarossa, a black Alfa 164, a 90's yellow Alfa spider and several other Alfa Romeos in for service. Kurt wanted me to let everyone in the club know that you now have a place to take your vintage Alfa for service. As I like to say Eibell and Kurt know Carburetors and welcome your vintage Alfas of all types. You may remember them from the last SIM and Pizza Party at the Santilli's place.

Here is how to reach them below. For those of you who know Tom Argue's place, finding Eibell performance will be simple – they are immediately to the left of Tom's shop on 110th Street between Hwy 19 and 49th Street.

(727) 573-0911

5000 - 110th Avenue North Clearwater, Florida 33760

eibellperformance@gmail.com

Here is a fun Alfa Video – I hope you speak Italian.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gh0wQFurXiM&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR30cn3UEg9hiJ2JQe3jT2N9vYLJPpKv1GJFZcK5sqwiwAghMGbpEJdyoyk>

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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