



February 2020

Volume 7 Issue 2

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



Alfa Romeo Selection of the

Month: February 2020

Car Name: No, it's not a BMW E30 M3 but rather a 93 Alfa 155 GTA Stradale – box fenders and all!



Recent Event: Technical Training Session and Parts Swap

Tecsocess

Technically It was planned to be a tech session, guys and cars. But so many socialite wives showed up it became a social session. And it was an absolute success! Call it a tecsocess. Use that word enough times and it will soon be accepted into the distinguished Oxford English Dictionary as an official word and credited etymologically to the Florida Alfa Club!

Barry Andress' 1965 Giulia spider and Bruce Brock's Stelvio Quad



The tecsocess was held at Polly & Delmas Greene's home in Clearwater on February 15. Every one of the twenty Alfa was posed on the lawn in front of the club banner when it arrived and photographed by Christie Greene. In front of the garage was a large table laden with a cornucopia of hors d'oeuvres. Beside it was a cooler of cold drinks. In the garage were tables and chairs set for lunch by Polly. Across the driveway were two trailers and four tables of parts to swap.

Recent Event: Technical Training Session and Parts Swap continued:

Delmas had a syllabus of four topics: tire wear, clay barring, compression testing and valve adjustment. He methodically checks the tread wear on all of his Alfas with a depth gauge. On his last check there was plenty of tread left on the tires on their Giulia Ti but unfortunately, when the tires were rotated, the cord could be seen in the inside edge of what were the rear tires. Two other members reported the same deficiency. Apparently, the camber on the rear end alignment had been improperly set at the factory. One member was comped a new set of tires by his dealer.

Delmas demonstrating the proper way to polish a car to Johan – on his car of course.



Under a small tent clay barring was explained and demonstrated by Delmas and his assistant, Johan Vasser. The act of clay barring is like hand waxing; the car gets rubbed down with a piece of play dough like clay that removes the surface grit that accumulates on the surface. A clay bar kit can be purchased at any auto parts store. If your hood, top and trunk aren't as smooth as a baby's butt your car needs clay barring. If you think your car's surface is as smooth as that do a little clay barring and you will find a new definition of smooth. After clay barring the car should be polished to remove any old wax or swirls in the remaining wax.

Recent Event: Technical Training Session and Parts Swap continued:

It must then be protected with new wax. Delmas uses liquid wax, this writer uses paste wax; both of us use wax with carnauba in it for smoother application and better bonding. Many detailers are now using polymer-based coatings that are easily applied and provide a liquid like sheen. Boat detailers have been using these products for a few years because boats are big and gelcoat isn't as smooth as paint. Now, boat owners are finding the polymer build up is extremely difficult (expensive) to remove. Ceramic coatings are the newest rage and also the most expensive; they can be applied DIY but plan on spending about 10 hours in preparation. The consensus of the group was that ceramic coatings need the prudent test of time.

Bruce Brock uses a Clay Bar



Recent Event: Technical Training Session and Parts Swap continued:

During this time the women were socializing in the garage and preparing the lunch layout. At noon Polly came out and herded the men in and the business meeting was conducted by co-presidents Paul Ziegler and Milt Watt: treasurer's report, old business, new business and time to eat. The Greene's generously manna'd honey baked ham and two platters of chicken wings, with and without spices, and more cold drinks. The members brought side dishes, more sides than on a round house. The most delectable was Violet Montopoli's "uova all'uovo di zucchini Italiani." Molto delizioso! The members also brought deserts, enough to satisfy the munchie craving of pot smoking Colorado. The delicacy was the panna cotta Chip Denyko made. He brought 40 individual servings, each topped with strawberries, balsamic dressing, lemon zest and a dash of pepper. The most artistic was Bruce Brock's chocolate cake with the Alfa Romeo emblem beautifully patissiered on top. The finales gave the entire group a high! When everyone was filled Polly begged everyone to take some home because her fridge and freezer couldn't hold the leftovers.

Ex Alfa Racer Ron Evans talks to the Montopolis'



The third session was doing compression tests on Phil Rosile's 1750 round tail, "Cara Mia." Delmas and Phil used two testers, one an older "push in" type with a rubber spark plug hole connector and the other a newer connector that screws into the spark plug hole. A compression test doesn't test the compression ratio; most Series 1-4 Alfas were built with a ratio of 9:1 or 10:10. Instead it shows the psi a cylinder can hold, a test of the efficacy of the piston rings and valves. Series 1-4 Alfas should hold approximately 160 psi or 180 psi depending on their build and use. Surprisingly the readings using the older style tester gave higher readings than the new style. All of Phil's cylinders registered within five lbs of 160 psi. That's very good. To properly test, remove *all* plugs and, when the tester is plugged into the spark plug hole, turn the engine over three to four times, no more. When replacing the spark plugs be sure to dab a bit of anti-seize grease on the plug threads and torque the plugs down to only 15-18 lbs.

Recent Event: Technical Training Session and Parts Swap continued:

The last session got really technical: adjusting the valves on 6 cylinder heads and being able to convert the info to 4 cylinder heads. Feeler gauges, micrometers and many mini shims, too complex to explain here. But a good tip came out of it. An aluminum block + steel liners and water pump impeller + "tap water" = electrolysis. Use only coolant and distilled water in your cooling systems.

Full minded, full bellied and full friendlied we went home. It was definitely a tecsocess.

Phil Rosile Compression Testing his Boat Tail Spider

Searching for a good buy!



Bruce Brock's Alfa Cake

Ole Friends Brad Warner and Mack Barnett



Recent Event: Technical Training Session and Parts Swap continued:

Here's a list of the 35 etymologically minded people and 20 Alfas who were fortunate enough to participate.

Barry Andress, Giulia spider.

Bruce Brock, Stelvio QF.

Chip Denyko, S4 spider.

Ron Evans, ex-Alfa racer.

Wayne Girardet, Giulia Ti Sport.

Delmas, Polly & Christie Greene, Giulia Ti Sport, Montreal, GTV, Vignale, Giulietta, spider.

Jo & Harmon Heed, Giulia spider.

Frank Mann, BMW Alpina B10 BiTurbo.

James McAuliffe, Giulia Ti Sport Q4.

Nino & Violet Montopoli.

John & Cheryl Picot, GTV 2000.

Tony & Mary Kathryn Paolini.

John & Linda Rady, Stelvio.

Tim Rogers, Giulia QF.

Phil & Delia Rosile, 1750 round tail.

Mike Rutz.

Bob & Carolyn Scott, S3 spider.

Brad Warner, Giulia QF.

Milt Watts

Dr. Dave Wolfe, S4 spider.

Paul Ziegler, new S3 spider

Jim & Gabie Zitnick, S4 spider.

And special guests, Mack & Nancy Barnett down from Tennessee and Johan Vasser down from Boone, NC.

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.

Several of our members are driving down on Saturday before the show staying at the Dolphin Resort that night. There is an organized Dinner at a local Italian restaurant (of course) for all who wish to attend.

This year it is the Alfa Clubs turn t sponsor the show so there should be a good turn out of interesting cars as always. See you there.

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
Saturday March 7th
Concours de Elegance Weekend
Friday Through Sunday
March 6th - 8th**

Upcoming Events: Sarasota Polo Club Match and City Visit Invitation



Join Friends on a Visit to Sarasota, Florida

On April 4th & 5th, come join fellow Italian Car Owner's for a visit to beautiful Sarasota, Florida. Enjoy dinners, sunsets and camaraderie while visiting Sarasota's fashionable downtown and it's Classic Car Museum. The main event will be centered around the Sarasota Polo Club match on Sunday, April 5th. For those coming from out-of-town, accommodations have been made at the wonderful Art Ovation Hotel perfectly located in the walkable downtown district. The event may also be enhanced by new Maserati and Alfa models on display.

About Sarasota, FL

Sarasota is a city by the Gulf of Mexico with arts, dining, nightlife and more. The downtown is a scene of eateries, theaters, shopping boutiques and artist enclaves. Running through the heart of downtown is Main Street, and branching off this main drag are colorfully named streets such as Pineapple, Orange, Lemon and Palm. More shops and colorful bungalows turned into bakeries, galleries, salons and yoga studios surround central downtown. Near by are also the areas of Lido Beach, St. Armands as well as the Ringling Circus Museum.

Upcoming Events: Sarasota Polo Club Match and City Visit Invitation continued:

Hotel: The Art Ovation Hotel, Autograph Collection in the center of downtown Sarasota



With art-centric environments, and onsite fine dining, the Art Ovation Hotel sets the stage for inspiring experiences on Florida's Gulf Coast. It is conveniently located in the center of the fashionable downtown district, and will serve as a perfect launch-pad for your visit.

Polo Club Match and Picnic

Since 1991, the Sarasota Polo Club at Lakewood Ranch has been providing exhilarating polo matches at one of the most beautiful settings in Sarasota, Florida. Every Sunday afternoon during season, the public is invited to bring out their picnic baskets and enjoy the thrill of the “fastest game on four feet”. With pony and Clydesdale wagon rides, exciting action, tailgating, half-time entertainment, divot stomping and plenty of fresh air, Sunday polo is the perfect place for a family outing; dogs are even welcome on a leash. We will be attending the match as a group with our own tent next to the field, close to the action.



Upcoming Events: Sarasota Polo Club Match and City Visit Invitation continued:



The Sarasota Classic Car Museum

Is recognized as the second oldest continuously operating antique car museum in the Nation! As you stroll through the museum, travel back in time and into the future of man's greatest invention, the automobile! Antique, exotic, European and one-of-a-kind classics are featured in our rotating exhibits throughout the museum, seven days a week.

During our visit, is having a special exhibit on The Art of Ferdinand Porsche and Enzo Ferrari - featuring classic automobiles that document the history of both brands as well as the two creative engineers and car designers who forged the company's legacies.

Don't want to come for the weekend? No problem.

For those with less time, feel free to join only for the Polo Match!

Overview of the Weekend's Activities:

- Sarasota Polo Club Match –
- Art Ovation Hotel Stay in Downtown Sarasota
- Sarasota Classic Car Museum Tour -Saturday Evening Dinner
- Optional Friday Night Stay in Sarasota

Upcoming Events: Sarasota Polo Club Match and City Visit Invitation continued:

Agenda:

FRIDAY, April 3rd Optional overnight stay in fabulous downtown Sarasota

6:00pm Dinner in Downtown Sarasota

7:00pm Rooftop Bar Sunset Viewing (Sunset at 7:50pm)

SATURDAY, April 4th

Noon-1:30 Meetup at the Hotel (*official check in time is 4:00pm, but planning on leeway*)

Art Ovation Hotel: 1255 N Palm Ave, Sarasota, FL 34236

1:30pm drive to the Sarasota Classic Car Museum

2:00-4:00pm Sarasota Car Museum Visit

Address: 5500 N Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34243

4:00pm drive back to Hotel 6:30pm Dinner at a Downtown Restaurant (walking distance)

8:00pm Rooftop Bar Gathering

SUNDAY, April 5th

11:00am Meet and a Park at Sarasota Club Polo Field

Address: 8201 Polo Club Lane, Sarasota, FL 34240

11:00-1:00pm Casual Picnic Lunch at the Polo Field

A group tent will be provided by the Polo Club. Bring your lawn chairs, drinks and appetizer.

1:00-4:00pm Polo Match

[End of Event]

Prices: Art Ovation Hotel group fee for an overnight stay \$229.00 plus tax + \$28.00 per night destination fee. Friday night stay is a \$20 higher fee. Reservations are to be made directly with the hotel by calling 1-888-236-2427. *Please mention the group name "The Maserati Group of Florida" to receive the discounted rate.*

Polo Match Entry Fee \$20.00

Sarasota Car Museum Group Entry Fee is \$10.50.

We are looking forward to a great visit, and to meeting new friends and hope you can join us in April

Contact:

Matt Wolken

matthewwolken@yahoo.com

Mobile: 512-573-5526

Calendar of Events

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 Polo Club Match and City Visit April 3rd – 5th Sponsored by the Maserati Club

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

May 2020 Events

Tampa Bay Café Racers Lunch – Café Ponte Clearwater May 13th & 27th 11:30AM

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsports, May 2nd 8-10:00AM

FAC Business Meeting Saturday May 16th Luncheon Motorworks Brewery Bradenton

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

SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Southgate Community Center – May 30th 8:00-10:00AM

Calendar of Events continued:

June 2020 Events

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

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsports, June 6nd 8-10:00AM

FAC meeting – SIM Racing & Pizza Party Saturday June 13th The Santilli's House 10AM till 2PM

DuPont Cars & Coffee, St. Pete, June 20th 7:00-9:00AM

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

July 2020 Events

Tampa Bay Café Racers Lunch – Café Ponte Clearwater July 8th & 22th 11:30AM

Sarasota Cars & Coffee, Sunset Motorsports, July 4nd 8-10:00AM

Bar B Que at Phil Rosile' House Thursday July 9th

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

AROC National Convention July 22nd – 26th – Colorado Springs, CO.

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

August 2020 Events

Tampa Bay Café Racers Lunch – Café Ponte Clearwater Aug. 5th & 19th 11:30AM

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

Social at Tim Rogers Thursday Aug. 13th

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

SRQ Caffeine & Gasoline Southgate Community Center – Aug. 29th 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.

Sorry his white Giulia sold but I love the photo of the N-Ring Quad so we can look one more time. By the way after selling his white Giulia he went and bought two more Alfas, a spider and a GTV. Can you say he has jumped neck deep into the Alfa World in a big way, and oh by the way, he is our Co-President of the Florida Alfa Club this year as well along with Milton Watts. Use the email above and give him a shout out of support.



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

Shops of Interest to Alfa Owners: Exotic Auto in Milpitas, California

"Harmon Heed recently had the gauges on his '64 Giulia spider restored by Tom Sahines at Exotic Auto in Milpitas, CA. Tom is a well-known 750/101 guru and is reputedly now doing the restos for those period Veglias for long established Palo Alto Speedometer just across San Francisco Bay. The restoration was perfect, including the color of the backing, clarity of the numbers, including the color of the numbers and rev markers on the plastic discs and needles. Price average is between \$500-\$750 per gauge (tri-gauge, tach and speedo) depending on what you want done. Tom is readily available via phone/text &/or email. Exotic Auto, (408) 859-8133, tsahines@gmail.com.

Harmon also had some gauge work done by affable Joey Lobo at Mo-Ma Manufacturing in Albuquerque, NM. Joey's cost is certainly lower than Tom's. Harmon is very satisfied with his work but did not have him do any restoration so he cannot comment on that. Joey is also readily available at phone/text or email: (505) 766-6661, jlobo@momamanufacturing.com."

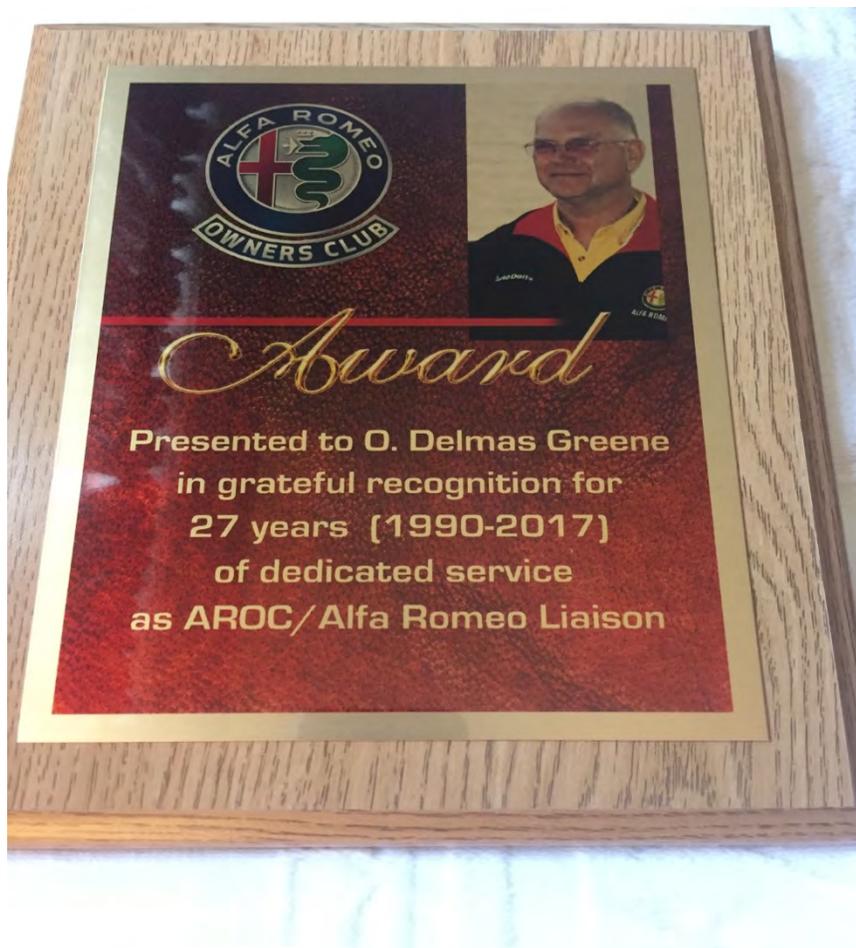
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Note from the Editor: This is your newsletter so please give us feedback both as to how we are doing and areas where we can improve. It is free to list and sell you Alfa in the Notizia if you are an active member. Also remember if you are restoring 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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