# THE CHICAGO ALFA ROMEO OWNER'S CLUB NEWSLETTER MARCH/APRIL 2014





THIS EVENT IS SCHEDULED IN LIEU OF OUR APRIL MONTHLY CLUB MEETING.

Date/Time: 4/17/2014 6:30 PM Melrose Park Grand Prix 2225 North Avenue Melrose Park, IL 60160 Price: \$30

We need a headcount 2 weeks in advance so they can provide a club event code for those that want to preregister. RSVP to <u>Wavne Seely</u>. alfarace@visualhorizonsinc.com

CAROC is planning an evening of indoor karting. This is an ideal opportunity to meet other drivers, have a fun, competitive day and tune up your driving skills for the summer season. Bring the whole family! We want more women in racing. Start the kids early - minimum age to drive is 13 and they must be 54 inches tall.

We would recommend you arrive 20 minutes early (if possible) for registration and orientation. Make sure you are wearing closed toed shoes as you will not be allowed to race with sandals, high heels, flip flops, crocs or other any other incorrect footwear. Also make sure your guests are aware of any age, height, or weight restrictions as they may apply to your event. Please call 708-343-RACE (7223) with any questions prior to your arrival. Track managements decision in this regard is final.

A valid form of ID with picture may be required to race. You can contact the track directly with any concerns at 708-343-RACE (7223) or visit www.mpgrandprix.com for additional information.

During the summer & winter months and in an effort to keep our pricing aggressive, the track area may not be climate controlled, so please prepare accordingly.

Note that your reservations and time slots are subject to cancellation should the entire group not be present to race up to 20 minutes after your scheduled event time. Make sure you and the group are prompt.

Please be aware that we reserve the right to make adjustments on the number of racers per group, the frequency of your racing or any other event related activities based on the volume of business that day. Track managements decision in this regard is final.

Remember that all minors MUST have a Melrose Park Indoor Grand Prix waiver signed by a Parent or Legal Guardian to race.

We look forward to seeing you ON TRACK!

#### Hello, 2014!

It was a dark and stormy Feb night, but almost 50 club members and friends gathered for the annual banquet, honoring Tony Cavaliere as Alfisti of the Year, Chip Van Sant as Tazio Nuvolari award recipient, and turning the tables on Mike Besic by awarding him the Go-For-Broke award for 2013.

The Black Cow provided first rate fare, and everyone had a good time. A new Board of Directors was elected, and the new Prez introduces himself in this issue.

The new BoD met in March, and put together a great calendar of events for this year, starting with karting in April. Each month or so we'll remind you of what's happening through the Sotto Veloce and email blasts, so make sure that your email address is current with us. If you want to be sure, send your current email to alfauno@gmx.com and we'll confirm it. The full calendar can be found at caroc.com

See you at the next event!

Roberto

### The Pres Sez-

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Dennis Sbertoli and I am your new president. I am married (Patti), live in La Grange Park, have two adult kids, (Lynn & Dennis) and three Spiders (84, 89 & 91). Not to omit, one Husky (Cody) and one Golden Retriever (Bailey). I've been a club member since about 1996 and have served in various capacities over the years.

I have always been something of a gearhead but developed an interest in ALFA Romeo in early 1984. I bought my first Spider in June 1984 and say, proudly, that I still own and drive it, some 176,000 miles later. In shopping for a sports car back then I considered the logical alternatives. I naturally considered Corvette, Porsche 944 and what was then the Nissan 280 Z. I'm not sure if it was Datsun or Nissan then, but who cares now. Part of my decision focused on the fact that there were Vettes, Porsches and Nissans everywhere. I have no certainly no disdain for the other three but I wanted something that would stand out. Something not everybody would recognize. Now, going on 30 years later, I remain pleased with my decision.

The cars still draw attention and get the "what is that" "how old is that" "is that Italian" comments at stop lights. I'm always happy to oblige and extend the car's life story.

For the most part, I am "hands on" and like to get my hands dirty. There is no better feeling that completing that major job, turning the key and having the car ACTUALLY START. I will admit however, that there have been those occasions where I needed to resort to the superior knowledge and skill of Mike Besic.

One of my objectives, as president, will be to get more members up and involved in our activities. We do some enjoyable stuff and have a good group of people involved. Our picnic in August and banquet in winter have always been standout events and attract the most members. Our track event at Blackhawk has always been great as well as some of the car shows in which we participate. These have always been spectacular days to just hang out and talk car stuff or any other stuff, for that matter. I encourage everybody to check our calendar and, come out and hang out for a day.

Special events do come up on the calendar as well, such as Go Kart Night, Outdoor Movie night. If you've never come out, now's the time. Please come out and join the party. If you have a thought for an outing drop me a note.

Dennis



For sale: 1960 Giulietta Sprint by member Joe Mora 847-639-6457, Cary. Also for sale: 1977 Spider. Runs good, needs top and clutch. New tires, 61k miles Dale 847-877-4983, Algonquin.

# Coming up.....

April 17th - In lieu of regular mtg

Indoor Karting in Melrose Park.

**May 10th** - Mother-May-I Spring Tour of SE Wisc - see below

May 15th - Club meeting at

Avanti Cafe

1900 S. Elmhurst Rd

Mt. Prospect IL

Come out and join us for food and conversation in a casual setting!

June 19th - Club meeting

Model Car Night- details to come

Augustino's

West Chicago

For the full calendar, a list of club officers, disclaimers, membership info, as well as tech info and photos, go to **caroc.com** 

## Mother-May-I Spring Tour Saturday, May 10th

A day of driving starting in Kenosha and ending up in Cedarburg for dinner, with points of interest along the way. An all makes event - no charge except for your dinner. Conducted by John Ehle. Details at CAROC.com calendar. Contact John at johnehle@comcast.net with questions or to RSVP.

#### Sotto Veloce - Paper or Vapor?

To save time and money, we could email the Sotto Veloce to you instead of sending a paper copy by postal service. Is that something you would like or dislike? We would be able to easily add pages if we don't have to print them, expanding the content. We'd like to mail just to anyone who does not have email, or prefers a paper copy, and save a couple of hundred dollars a month. Let us know! Robert Clauss alfauno@gmx.com 847-712-1040