



# La Voce

June 2007

*newsletter of the delaware valley alfa romeo owners club*



## Tech and Tasty Treats

The DVAROC officially kicked off spring with the tech session at Nick Falcone Enterprises in Bala Cynwyd, in April. Once again, Vince and Ruth opened their shop to any wayward Alfisti who would drop in. The spring sun provided a beautiful excuse for those Spider owners to drive al-fresco. One by one, Alfas of every vintage and form pulled into the parking lot. Bill Conway added a few miles to his pristine GTV-6. David Burroughs brought his pretty white Spider, top-down, of course. Jack Stoll opted for a roof and took the GTV. Jon Goodman left the SZ at home, but arrived in his GTV. Greg Shpungin brought the only Duetto, in red, of course. Charlie Crothers got some tanning in as he drove his Giulia Spider. Frank Gil managed to get away from home for a while and gave his black Quad a little exercise. Perhaps the highlight of the parking lot was Dave West's new toy, a Giulia 1300...er, 2000 TI, although Fred Sack's Elise also attracted a crowd. Inside the shop, Ruth had fresh coffee and plenty of pastries to fuel some lively discussions.

This year, we eschewed the normally scripted topic in lieu of a stream of consciousness approach. Vince fielded questions ranging from routine maintenance to serious engine rebuilds with his usual aplomb. From what oil to use to how to prevent a broken crankshaft, Vince didn't miss a beat. As the topics transitioned from technical to events, we fired up the laptop and took a peak at some video footage. The first piece was a roll at Lime Rock (followed by an expletive or two), filmed from inside the vehicle. Ruth gave us some pointers on how to keep the shiny side up. After that, we watched in awe, some incredible driving on the edge at Nurburgring. Apparently it's not just vintage Alfa drivers who saw at the wheel. This particular P car seemed to have only intermittent contact between its front tires and the track.

As usual, when the sun moved into the center of the sky, the crowd moved outdoors to mill about and check out the toys in the parking lot. Some lucky kids even got a chance to sit in Fred Sack's Lotus.

Eventually, it was time to say goodbye. The twin cam engines sprang to life and carried their passengers to destinations in all directions. We thanked Vince and Ruth for another wonderful Saturday morning of tech talk, pastries good friends. We even had a chance to thank Nick Falcone, himself, for establishing such a significant enterprise. (see photos on Page 4)



### Mark Your Calendars!

- June 10 Italian Car Show –  
Headhouse Square, Phila.**
- June 19 Monthly Dinner Meeting –  
Lobster Trap, Pennsauken,  
NJ**
- June 24 Summer Drive and Lunch  
– Wineries of Chester  
County, PA**

## Bob's Babblings

**Thanks!** Well, a few months ago when I was feeling a bit overwhelmed, I asked for some help with setting up events and overall club business. I am happy to say that our new events committee: David Burroughs, Pat Carzo, Charlie Crothers and Jack Stoll have made a huge difference. Much of the organizing load has been taken off my back and our events calendar is better than ever. Next time you see any of these guys, make sure you thank them. They are really making a difference!

**Jumpin' June** While June has already begun, it is truly the month for Delaware Alfisti. The swap meet at Autocraft in York started us out. Despite the rain, the parking lot was full of wonderful Alfas, beading water. It was great to see some faces not seen recently and to catch up on everyone's projects. Next, we've got the Headhouse Square show which should be a lot of fun. I've emailed as many of you as I can, but the organizer, Thad Kirk from the Fiat Lancia United club is still looking for a few hands to help park the cars. If you can help, please call him at: 610-324-7085. The following week, our monthly dinners will bring us to New Jersey. Charlie Crothers has selected a great venue with outdoor seating and plenty of safe parking. I hope you can get out for a Tuesday evening. Then, a few days later, you'll have the opportunity to sample some of the areas' best wine as we take another tour of Chester County wineries. Pat Carzo has made the event a little shorter than last year, but promises just as much fun. See the Events section for more details.

**Share the Fun** When was the last time you saw an Alfa on the road? With the sun shining, you see more and more of them. Many of these owners don't know about our club. You can help share the fun while helping to strengthen our numbers. The next time you see an Alfa parked, put a note on their windshield directing them to our club's website to join. If you happen to see the owner, take a moment to introduce him or her to the club or invite them to an event.

**Update Your Info** If you read carefully, you'll have noticed that my contact information has changed. Our new phone number is: 610-486-1132 and our email is changing to: [rampbrady@verizon.net](mailto:rampbrady@verizon.net) If you have recently moved or changed your email, please let me know so I can update it. If you haven't gotten an email from the club in a few months, I probably don't have your address. Please send it to me so I can keep you informed.

**Summer is here.... Get out and drive! -bob**

## Classifieds:

**1991 Alfa Romeo 164L** 120,118 miles, 2.5l v-6, 5spd. with short shift & mahogany knob. Paint was 1 year old when stored 4 years ago but garaged. New Michelin Pilot, clutch, starter, timing belt, etc... (see web ad at [www.dvaroc.org](http://www.dvaroc.org) for more details). I have put a lot of time and tons of money into this car. I don't know why. It's a hoot to drive I can assure you. Contact Chris Morrison: 610-255-1301 or [cmorrison773@msn.com](mailto:cmorrison773@msn.com)

**87 White Milano** Automatic, rust free car with 65,000 miles call cell , Bill 201-658-0190 \$4,500

**93 Spider Veloce** - 49Kmi, bought new from Algar and serviced there, header, Ansa, K&N, dash cracked, mech. excellent, 90% cosmetically,

new tires, clutch , red with tan leather, black top, garaged, no rust, \$12K obo, 484-832-2220 - Nick Mongoni

**1986 Spider Quadrifoglio** - 78K, original red paint, Nicest Quad you'll find. Multiple first place winner. Looks new, runs great. Hard top and boot included. Convertible top in excellent condition. Nice Pirelli tires. Meticulously maintained. Garage kept. \$21,500. Southern NJ. Phone: 856-261-9490. [dennismurray00@yahoo.com](mailto:dennismurray00@yahoo.com) Pictures: <http://home.comcast.net/~denmurray/alfa.html>

**Alfetta Front Bumper** 1975 - 1979 Alfetta Stainless Steel Euro front bumper Never used \$400, Call for pictures. Quinn (609) 206 0694 or [qdemenna@comcast.net](mailto:qdemenna@comcast.net)

**'62 Giulietta Spider** - I have been so busy and my car just sits in the garage except for an occasional short drive. It deserves better. New brakes, exhaust, filters, radiator, seats put in from re-originals, new door skins and hardware. A new top that just needs a wood bow in place. dual webbers, 5 spd, red with red and black interior. New tires, hubcaps, and front grill. The trunk near the battery has had new metal put in. The gas gauge does not work and neither does the speedo. The front bumpers and eyebrows need replating. I am asking \$8,500.00. This was the price I paid before all of the work was done to it which was not cheap. New seats alone were \$2500.00. A decent driver. Chris - 610-503-2338 (w) 610-323-6577 (h)

**81 Spider Veloce**- 85k mi red, great condition. Garage kept. Rebuilt spica fuel injection last year. Great runner. Hate to lose her but want someone who will cherish the car. \$8500 Charlie Mest- 215-816-2479

**1974 GTV** Regretfully, I am offering my little red GTV for sale. It is a fast, competitive, reliable time trial car as well as a lovely street car. Excellent condition \$13,000. Call Bob at: 610-486-1132.

**1981 Spider**, runs great, recent inspection, cream with brown interior, no cuts in seats, worn looking...top is good, need window...new tire, new quad rims....118k miles.. call for more info, pics,,, South Phila...Rob Simiriglio 215-380-6143

**1983 GTV-6** 19K miles Silver/Blue, Bill Conway, 973-839-9239 [billconway@comcast.net](mailto:billconway@comcast.net)

**1992 Alfa Romeo Spider Veloce**. It is in FAIR to GOOD condition. (I value it at that so as not to over- estimate it. It runs beautifully, but it does have a chip or two in the paint. Heck, the speedometer WORKS! :-P) You can see some pictures here:

<http://homepage.mac.com/amichalski/PhotoAlbum21.html> Please call me at (877) 444-6188 (That's toll free. I am in Wilkes- Barre, PA.) and we can discuss it. Asking \$8,000

**1975 Spider**. good body rebuilt engine. aftermarket headers and rollbar. spare set of camponola wheels.\$5000. Randy (609)-261-7547.

**1984 Spider Veloce** Silver w/ blue leather, 5 spd, 42K miles. , good condition, Same owner since 1994. Recent full service by Falcone. New canvas top, leather seats and clutch. Paint good, some minor chips and dings. Some rust on rockers. \$5900 OBO. Call for pictures and records. Tony (610)878-4547. [anthony.villano@zlbbehring.com](mailto:anthony.villano@zlbbehring.com)

**Wanted: A 1962-65 Giulia spider or Speciale**. It must be a nice car that I can get into and go for a drive or club activities. I'm too old for another project. This is a very serious inquiry from a Alfa member in N.E.Ohio. Please contact Joe at 440-895-1358 or [jjweh@peoplepc.com](mailto:jjweh@peoplepc.com).

**1993 Alfa 164 L**, Dark Green/Tan, Auto, 100k mi, Purchased new from Algar, all service done at Algar or Sals w/ receipts, car is in exc shape cosmetically and mechanically, paint looks new, no accidents. Dave 302-993-7800 or [davidbeck@sprintmail.com](mailto:davidbeck@sprintmail.com) \$7500.00.

**1962 Giulia Spider** needs total restoration or for parts. \$1000 obo, Jeff Kollar, 610-746-0317

**Giulietta, Giulia Spider, Sprint, SS Parts:** Engines, Veloce bits, trim, body, interior. Call for details. Jeff Kollar, 610-746-0317

## Events Calendar: \* Indicates DVAROC Event

### \*June 10 – Italian Car Show - Headhouse Square, Philadelphia, PA

The DVAROC, NJAROC and others will join the Fiat-Lancia-United club in displaying Italian cars in Old City, Philadelphia. The event will run from about 11am until about 3pm. Show off your Alfa and enjoy the company. For more information, please contact Thad Kirk at 610-324-7085 or [delvalleyflu@gmail.com](mailto:delvalleyflu@gmail.com) or go to <http://fludelaware.italiancarclub.com/>. This was a wonderful event last year. Don't miss it this year. If you're interested and want more information, contact Bob Brady at: 610-486-1132 or [mpbrady@verizon.net](mailto:mpbrady@verizon.net)

### \*June 19<sup>th</sup> – DVAROC Monthly Dinner – Lobster Trap, Pennsauken, NJ

To continue our theme of non-Italian restaurants for our Italian Car Club dinners, Charlier Crothers has selected the Lobster Trap in Pennsauken, NJ. It is located at 5300 N. Park Drive in the Cooper River Park in Pennsauken. The menu is varied, which means there is something for everyone's price range. Their phone number is: 856-663-3537. From Philadelphia, cross the Ben Franklin Bridge and follow Rt. 30 east. Make a left at Kaighn Avenue, then right on to Marlton Pike (Rt. 70 east). Then, turn right on to McClellan Avenue. Take a quick left on to N. Park Drive. If you can make it, please contact Charlie Crothers at: 856-428-1631 or email: [charles@crothersfamily.net](mailto:charles@crothersfamily.net) so we know how many to expect.

### \*June 24<sup>th</sup> – Double Winery Tour – Chester County, PA

Pat Carzo has organized another fantastic tour of two wineries in the southern Chester County area. This year, we'll limit the stops to two, so those of you with Alfas that turn into pumpkins at dusk will be able to make it home. We'll begin the tour from the Carzo's house in Centerville, DE at noon. First stop will be Star Gazer winery - Their tasting is free. Second stop will be Va La winery – Their tasting will be \$15 and will include 5 wines, appetizers, and a complimentary glass. Fat Tom's BBQ will be there to provide some good eatin'. We will be able to use there back deck and tables for dinner. If you plan on coming, please call Bob Brady at: 610-486-1132 or [rampbrady@verizon.net](mailto:rampbrady@verizon.net) so we can know how many people to expect. I hope you can make it!

**Directions to the Carzo's:** From Philadelphia: follow I95 south, to Rt. 202 north. Turn left on to Smith Bridge Road (this might be difficult to spot). Follow that road across a covered bridge, to Rt. 100 (Montchanin Road). Turn right on to Rt. 100 and Pat's house is the third on the left: 3401 Montchanin Rd. **His phone number is: 302-437-4369.** From West Chester: take route 202 south to Smith Bridge Road (about 2 miles from where Rt. 202 crosses Rt. 1). Turn right on to Smith Bridge Road. Follow it 3.7 miles, across the covered bridge, to Rt. 100 (Montchanin Road). Turn right on to Rt. 100 and Pat's house is the third on the left: 3401 Montchanin Rd.

**June 22-25 – Le Belle Machinne D'Italia – Skytop, PA** This three day event in the Poconos has something for everyone: car shows, dinners and track events. There are always some rare Alfa race cars that make a showing. See: [www.italiancarsatpocono.com](http://www.italiancarsatpocono.com) for more information and registration.

**July 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Italian Car Festival – Canton, OH** I have a brochure for this event. It looks like a nice event to attend. If interested, contact Lee Contie at: 330-471-9980 or [lcontie@neo.rr.com](mailto:lcontie@neo.rr.com) they now have a website at: [www.cantonitalianfesta.org](http://www.cantonitalianfesta.org)

**July 7 – 15 Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix – Pittsburgh, PA** This is an excellent event and worth the drive. The races at Schenley Park on July 14-15 and feature older cars. There will also be vintage races at BeaveRun race track, nearby, on July 7-8. These will feature newer, but still vintage cars. For more information, see: [www.pittsburghvintagegrandprix.com/](http://www.pittsburghvintagegrandprix.com/)

**\*July 15<sup>th</sup> – Summer Picnic and Rally – Ridley Creek Park, PA** Enjoy an afternoon of picnicking and driving as the DVAROC hosts its fifth annual summer picnic and rally. We'll meet at Ridley Creek State Park at 10am. Drive to the Bishops Mills Historical Institute HQ on Sandy Flash Drive, off of the West Chester Pike entrance. From there, look for signs to our picnic site. Each participant will drive the course and be timed. The course is about a 15 minute drive and will take you through scenic countryside. The winner of the rally will be the driver who most closely matches his/her time. The coveted DVAROC Driver's Trophy will be awarded. Lunch (hoagies and chips) and drinks will be available for less than \$10/person. Please RSVP Bob Brady at (610)486-1132 or [rampbrady@verizon.net](mailto:rampbrady@verizon.net) by July 14<sup>th</sup> so we know what food to order and how many directions to make.

### \*July 17<sup>th</sup> – DVAROC Monthly Dinner – Location TBD

We haven't locked down a location for this dinner event yet, but it will likely be near Philadelphia, perhaps near Manayunk.

**\*August 11 or 12 – New Hope Auto Show – New Hope, PA** We dominated the field last year. Let's do it again this year! Spend an afternoon among some fabulous cars.... Including your own! The town of New Hope is a short walk from the show grounds and has many attractions. As of this writing, I don't know which day Alfas will be shown so stay tuned for more information. Pre-registration is required by **July 31<sup>st</sup>**. For a registration form, go to: <http://www.newhopeautoshow.com/> Contact Bob Brady at (610)486-1132 or [rampbrady@verizon.net](mailto:rampbrady@verizon.net) for more information.

### Other Events???

If you have a particular interest, know of an event that might interest other Alfisti, or just want to get involved, please contact Bob Brady at: (610)486-1132 or [rampbrady@verizon.net](mailto:rampbrady@verizon.net)

# Some Sights at Recent Events



*This pile of aluminum shavings is what can happen to your Alfa if you don't give it proper care and feeding!*



*John Angeleri's son pays close attention as Vince points out the detail that was left out of this crankshaft, which caused it to crack in half.*



*Vince demonstrates proper posture while fielding questions from Charlie Crothers, Pat Carzo, Jon Goodman, Frank Gil and others.*



*The color of Alfas: Jack Stoll's Burgundy GTV, Charlie Crothers' Blue Giulia and David Burroughs' White Spider.*



*Dave West's new TI awaits Vince's talented hands*



*Over a century of Alfa Romeo involvement between Nick Falcone and Henry Wessells*

In the Garage to get On the Road....

## Spica and the Swap Meet

Bob Brady

The last time the little red GTV saw the light of day was at the Tech Session in April. On the way home, I wasn't 100% happy with the way it was running. Months earlier, I hastily put the fuel injection system back to stock and didn't have things adjusted just right, yet. So, before I pulled it into the garage, I made a couple quick and dirty adjustments to get it running perfect. Haa!! Rule number one with Spica is that you should never attempt a quick and dirty adjustment to it. Sure enough, the seconds turned into minutes and the minutes... well, you know. By the time the sun set, I decided to give up screwing around with it and got it running just barely enough to pull it into the garage, where it would sit, and collect saw dust. So, as the days before the annual Swap Meet at Autocraft in York approached, I knew I was in for a substantial time commitment to get the car back on the road; time I just didn't have. I naively looked over at the Sprint parked next to it, thinking that might make it on the road easier. But, reality set in. The front brake cylinders needed rebuilding. The water pump was still zip-tied together from the 2004 (yes, 2004!) convention. And, the car was still filled with boxes left over from the never-ending move. If I had any hope of driving an Alfa to the Alfa Romeo Swap Meet, it would have to be the GTV.

Somehow, I managed to carve off a couple of hours to tackle the fuel injection and out came the boxes of special tools and manuals.

Spica fuel injection is truly a masterpiece of design. Essentially a mechanical computer, when adjusted properly, it is able to provide performance and drivability far beyond what any carbureted car can deliver. While it is a very robust system in that it can be very much out of adjustment and make the car run, in order to have it deliver its potential performance, it must be set up systematically and precisely.

Years ago, when my GTV was my daily driver (if you can imagine that), I was pretty proficient with Spica. I could set it up with little guidance and could manage to extract that little extra power that even the factory didn't deliver. But, as time went on, and the GTV retired to a life on the track and in the garage, I let my Spica sense lapse. Fortunately, old knowledge still comes back quickly. (I hope I can say that ten years from now!)

I decided to start from scratch and make sure everything was properly set-up. So, out came the special jigs and tools that only Alfa Romeo mechanics once had. These make setting up the complicated and critical geometry of stops and rods almost fool-proof. In a few minutes, the throttle stops were where they were meant to be. Doing this, I noticed that I didn't leave enough play in the throttle cable and didn't have the pedal stop adjusted properly. Perhaps when I changed that cable last time, I wasn't careful enough. Then, in went the famous dummy actuator so that the pump gap could be set and the long rod adjusted. There again, I found that my earlier adjustments weren't quite right and set things straight. Finally, it was time for some mixture adjustments.

With the fuel/air meter installed in the GTV, adjusting mixture is a snap. Once again, having the right tools made all the difference. Unfortunately, I have yet to buy a FCO solenoid wrench and (Vince don't read this) still use a hammer and drift to tighten the lock nut. As the night was getting long, I didn't even bother to road test it as the right tools made proper set-up a snap.

The next morning, the GTV started right up. I backed it out of the garage and gave it a much-needed bath, as I eyed the thunderheads approaching from the west, my destination direction.

I've long since gotten over the paranoia of getting the GTV wet. After all, it saw plenty of snow and ice when I used it to commute. So, my daughter and I hopped in and headed for York.

I can not tell you how much of a pleasure it is to drive a vintage sports car, particularly an Alfa Romeo. Then again, if you are reading

this, you probably know that already. What modern cars have gained in acceleration, comfort and strength, they have lost in feel, maneuverability, visibility and efficiency. I remarked at how easy it was to turn this little car around in my driveway, much easier than the Japanese "compact" car I drive most days. It's also worthy to note that this 33 year old car turns better gas mileage than the modern vehicles that grace my driveway!

Despite the rain, the trip to and from York was a lovely re-bonding experience with my car. The swap meet was great, as usual. The Stahlman's put on a wonderful spread of food and drinks. I met up with acquaintances from several surrounding states that I hadn't seen in a long time. If a little sun poked through, the day would have been perfect!



*Not many Alfisti were fearing the rain; Some beautiful cars!*



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Commercial Ads should be coordinated through Bob Brady.

Rates, per edition, are:

1/8 page - \$ 40
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Classified ads are free to DVAROC members.

The DVAROC web address is at: [www.dvaroc.org](http://www.dvaroc.org)

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Mark Your Calendars! (**bold** = DVAROC Event)

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>June</b></p> <p>3 – Tri-Chapter Alfa Swap Meet and Lunch, York, PA 10 – Italian Car Show – Headhouse Square, PA 19 – Monthly Dinner – Lobster Trap, Pennsauken, NJ 24 – DVAROC Winery Tour 22-25 – La Belle Macchina</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>July</b></p> <p>14 – Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix, Pittsburgh, PA 15 – Summer Picnic and Rally, Ridley Creek State Park, PA 17 – Monthly Dinner – Location TBD</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>August</b></p> <p>1-5 – AROC National Convention – Detroit, MI 4-5 – Das Awksfest – Macungie, PA 11-12 – New Hope Auto Show, New Hope, PA 21 – Monthly Dinner – Location TBD</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>September</b></p> <p>1-3 – Vintage Racing Festival – Lime Rock , CT 5-9 – SVRA Vintage Grand Prix – Watkins Glen, NY 8-9 – <b>100 Cars of Radnor – Radnor, PA</b> <a href="http://www.radnorconcours.org">www.radnorconcours.org</a> 18 – <b>Monthly Dinner – Location TBD</b> 16 - Hagley Car Show - Wilmington, DE 16 - Buckingham Auto Show, Holicong, PA (<a href="http://www.buckinghamautoshow.org">www.buckinghamautoshow.org</a>)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>October</b></p> <p>TBD – DVAROC Fall Picnic 16 – Monthly Dinner – Location TBD</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>November</b></p> <p>TBD – Fall Tour 20 – Monthly Dinner – Location TBD</p>



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