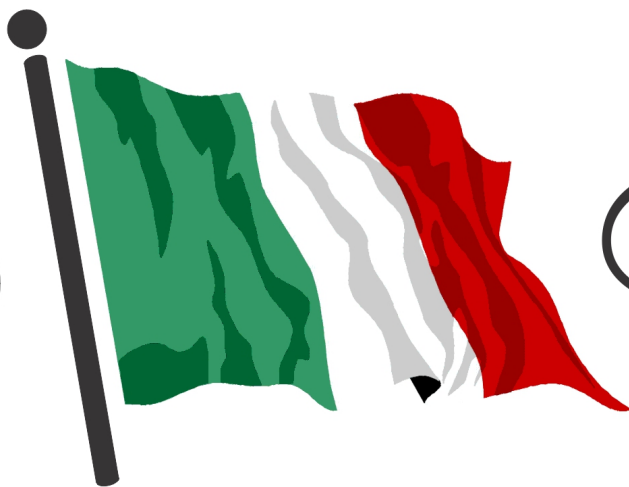




May-June 2023



Italia

NEWSLETTER of the ITALIAN WORKMEN'S CLUB

914 Regent Street • Madison, Wisconsin 53715

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• • • President's Message • • •



Festa 2023

Festa is fast approaching and now is the time to start thinking on how you will be doing your part in being a true member of our club.

The number one thing you can do to help support Festa is selling the raffle tickets you've been provided. If you are in need of additional tickets or have any questions, reach out to Phil C. or me. Your attendance at our monthly meetings is greatly requested and appreciated, that is where you can stay up to date on what we have plans for and where we need help. We will need volunteers to work a shift or two during the event. Finally make sure you are making plans to attend with family and friends. We want

everyone to enjoy all of what we have to offer. Let's remind the Madison area that Festa Italia is a premier family event that features great food, drinks and entertainment.

We're proud to provide an amazing environment to create lasting memories during our bocce games, pasta eating contest (who doesn't love a cash prize?), and live music and entertainment from many genres for all age groups, to name just a few fun things planned.

Your committee members and I are asking you to please help us make Festa Italia 2023 one for the books!

Thank you all for the support and wishing you well

John Caliva ■

*Chi mangia
sulo s'affoga.*

—Italian proverb

*He who
eats alone
suffocates.*

—Translation

IWC Social Calendar (as of 2/1/2023)

January

No events

February

No events

March

No events

April 1-2

International Festival*

April 9

Easter

April 22

Italian Movie Night

May 29

Memorial Day

June 2-4

Festa Italia

July 4

Fourth of July

July 15

Bus Tour Italian Clubs

August 13

IWC Picnic*

September 4

Labor Day

September 17

Sauce Tasting Contest

Charity Golf Event TBD

October 8

IWC / IAWC Awards Banquet

October 9

Columbus Day

October 21

Italian Trivia

October 31

Halloween

November 23

Thanksgiving

December 17

Kids Christmas Party*

December 19

Adult Christmas Party*

December 25

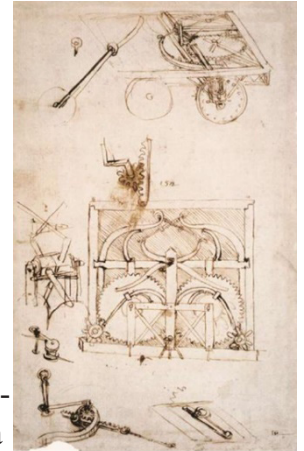
Christmas

Note: If an event isn't marked with *
the date is flexible.

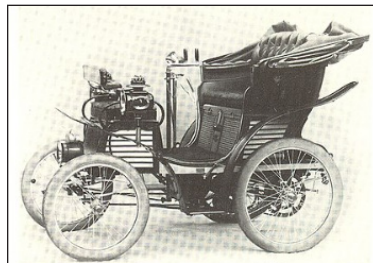
Italy and the Automobile

By Tom Smith

Italy may be famous for its food and its art, but did you know that the first person to think about the automobile was Leonardo da Vinci? In the 15th century da Vinci was creating designs and models for transport vehicles. Though it wasn't really a car, more like a motorized cart for moving things rather than people, it was definitely the first automated mobile device and a precursor to the development of the automobile. Italy has a rich history in the automobile industry, and while America focused on vehicles that grew into "muscle cars" with large-bore engines, it was Italy that created cars that began with basic transportation and grew into some of the most exotic brands ever created, that continue to influence the design of today's auto offerings.



Da Vinci's "car"



Overview

Manufacturer [Fiat](#)

Also called [Fiat 3 1/2 HP](#)
[Fiat 3 1/2 CV](#)

In 1769 a Frenchman named Nicolas Joseph Cugnot created a 3-wheeled steam powered car, but it wasn't until the 1850s that the development of the modern car reached a turning point, thanks to Nicolo Barsanti. Born in Pietrasanta, an engineer, inventor, and Italian priest, in 1859 he designed and patented the internal combustion engine...a 20 horsepower engine.

One of the first names in motorcars from Italy you might recognize is **Fiat** (Fabbrica Italiana Automobili Torino), born on July 11, 1899. Its first model was the Fiat 3 1/2 HP. With just 35 staff, they produced 24 cars. By 1903 they turned a small profit and produced 135 cars, with production growing to 1,149 cars by 1906. By 1910 Fiat was the largest auto company in Italy, and that same year

Continued on page 3

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Aquila Italiana

founded American F.I.A.T Automobile Company with a new plant built in Poughkeepsie, NY. In the years that followed, Fiat grew to becoming a major manufacturer, formed an Italian-American conglomerate named Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, and through

further mergers became part of Stellantis N.V., a multinational manufacturing corporation and the world's fifth-largest automaker.

But Fiat was only the beginning of the love affair between Italians and their cars. In 1905 the "**Aquila Italiana**" (Italian Eagle) was produced by a company of the same name in Turin. It featured a new prototype and was the first to adopt important engineering solutions such as the use of ball bearings for surfaces subject to friction and a piston alloy, along with a pedal clutch. At the same time **Lancia** was founded by Vincenzo Lancia, also in Turin. Their first model produced was the Lancia featuring a 12HP engine. Soon after the Lancia, Alpha was born with a 28HP engine and able to reach speeds of 56mph. It featured a shaft drive instead of the popular chain drive.

Alfa Romeo (Anonima Lombarda Fabbrica Automobili) was founded in 1910, with its creators wanting to focus on a new type of automobile...the sports car. It began with the purchase of the main factory building of French carmaker Darracq in Milan. From its inception, the company linked its identity with its city of origin, Milan. On the left side of the company emblem appears a red cross with a white background as the Milan coat of arms, on the right the famous "Biscione" which was the insignia of the House of Visconti that ruled Milan from the Middle-Ages until the Renaissance. Its sport-oriented vehicle focus included race cars, competing successfully in Grand Prix motor racing, Formula One, sportscar racing, touring car racing, and rallies. The first racing car was made in 1913, and Alfa Romeo won the inaugural world championship for Grand Prix cars in 1925.



From these beginnings have come some of the most iconic and exotic vehicles ever produced, cars that, for most of us, we can only dream of ever owning.



Lamborghini is an Italian brand and manufacturer of luxury automobiles. Founded in 1963 as Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A in Sant'Agata Bolognese,



Continued on page 4

SUPPORT

Italia

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Italia

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Ferruccio Lamborghini created the company with the objective of producing touring cars sophisticated and unique enough to compete with Ferrari. The company gained wide recognition for the Miura sports coupe, which established the mid-engined rear wheel drive layout as the standard for high-performance cars of the time. From that pioneering model to the Countach – one of the many exotic designs developed by Italian design house Bertone, which pioneered and popularized the sharply angled “Italian Wedge” shape – Lamborghini produced many unique models over the years. Despite financial struggles at times, the company continued to evolve, producing luxury mid-size crossover SUVs as well as its powerful sportscars. For 2024 Lamborghini will be selling a new plug-in hybrid, the Revuelto, which features a V12 engine and electric motors producing 1,001HP, that will take the car to 62 mph in 2.5 seconds and reach a top speed in excess of 217 mph. But, if you want to cruise the Beltline in one of these, it will cost you an estimated \$890,000!



Maserati company was established by the Maserati brothers on December 1, 1914, in Bologna. The trident logo was considered to be especially appropriate for their sports car company given Neptune represents both strength and vigor, and his statute is associated with the company’s original home city. They began producing race cars with 4, 6, 8, and 16 cylinder engines. The brothers’ engineering abilities produced great successes, even against Mercedes, the giant of German racing. In 1939 and 1940 Maserati achieved back-to-back wins at the Indianapolis 500, making it the only Italian manufacturer ever to do so. But in 1957, a terrible racing accident that killed their driver and a number of spectators resulted in Maserati retiring from racing to focus on building road cars. Over the years they have produced a number of beautiful sedans, coupes and sportscars. Of all the exotic manufacturers,



Grecale

Maserati might be considered one of the more “affordable” as you can purchase a 2023 Maserati Grecale SUV starting at \$63,500. In 2022 Maserati announced it will produce electric versions of all of its models by 2025, with plans to phase out all of its internal combustion engine vehicles by 2030. EVs will wear the Folgore name (which means “lightening” in Italian).

Ferrari is the name known around the world, and its emblem – the “Prancing Horse” – immediately recognizable. The emblem is based on a symbol that was painted on the airplane of Francesco Baracca, a World War I flying ace,



whose mother suggested Ferrari adopt the horse as a good luck charm. Enzo Ferrari drove for Alfa Romeo, but the birth of Ferrari came on September 1, 1939, when Ferrari founded the “Auto Avio Costruzioni” in Modena, Italy, conceived as an outfit for gentlemen drivers. In 1947 it became “Scuderia Ferrari,” which means Ferrari Stable and in racing refers to Team Ferrari. The first Ferrari-badged car was the 1947 125 Sport, powered by a 1.5L V12 engine producing 118HP and sporting a 5 speed transmission and hydraulic powered drum brakes. Ferrari has been a formidable competitor in racing throughout the years, with the only team to have competed continuously in the Formula



Ferrari 125 S



Testarossa

One World Championship since its inception in 1950. Over the years its road cars have thrilled those rich enough to afford them. In the 70s Ferrari began to market mid-engined 12-cylinder sportscars with the Berlinetta Boxer, followed in the 80s by one of its most famous models the Testarossa (with a base price of \$85,000). Today the least expensive Ferrari avail-

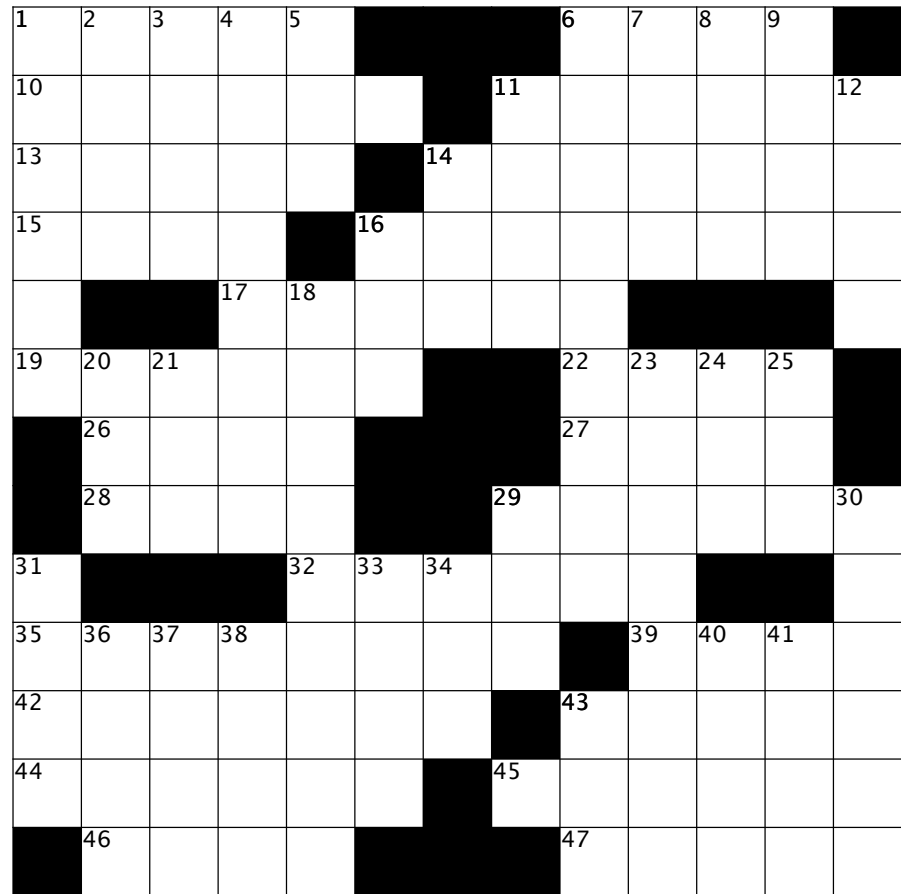
Solution

ACROSS

1. It killed Cleopatra
6. _____ facto
10. End of Lent in Italy
11. Where Black Swallowtail Butterfly lays eggs (2 wds)
13. Toyota hybrid
14. Four Seasons composer
15. Trendy berry
16. Food storage container
17. "The _____ are on me!"
19. Gentlemen's partners
22. It's atop the Cross
26. Orange or lemon peel
27. Home Simpson's favorite drink
28. It once came in thick 6 oz. bottles
29. Insulted someone on the internet
32. Spring holiday where bunnies have chicken eggs?
35. Benefit of sunshine
39. Airline of Israel
42. "_____ Standing" (Elton John song)
43. Side dish in India made with yogurt
44. Mentally absorbs
45. Pluto's creator
46. Math course
47. They make up everything

DOWN

1. Horrify
2. They arrest perps
3. Largest continent in the world



4. It makes pasta black (2 wds)
5. It's made of white blood cells
6. Man of HG Wells title
7. Public displays of affection
8. fertile soil at river mouths
9. Butchered English for 'the old'
11. Pigs say it
12. Railroad in NY
14. Rip _____ Winkle
16. _____ for cat (2 wds)
18. Kind of value
20. Shape of a rainbow
21. Italian for God
23. Part of Asia (2 wds)
24. Happens when you are asleep
25. Anger
29. They deliver flowers
30. Retards
31. Opposite of good
33. Is sick
34. NBC late show
36. How _____ Your Mother (2 wds)
37. Peter the Great was one
38. Bell tower town in Abbruzzi
40. Kind of type
41. Up and _____ (2 wds)
43. Registered Investment Advisor



IWC Birthdays

May

Enzo Ciarletta	(1)
Eric Holmes	(5)
William Battista	(7)
Scott Theel	(9)
Anthony Gatti	(10)
Ron Giordan	(16)
James Pullara	(19)
Jay Moretti	(20)
Jim LeTourneau	(21)
Ron Gatti	(23)
John J. Colletti	(27)
George Colletti	(28)

June

John Baker	(3)
Todd Cambio	(4)
Joseph Shubat	(5)
Anthony Balistreri	(6)
Gary Berger	(8)
Frederick Underhill	(11)
Dick Murray	(12)
James Brausen	(15)

IWC Birthdays

Betty Dybdahl	May 10
Mary Schiro	June 9
Jean Musillami	June 21
Katie LeTourneau	June 23

able is the Roma, a 3.8L Twin-Turbo V8 that will set you back something approaching a quarter of a million dollars. And if you are looking to be more environmentally friendly, Ferrari does make a very nice plug-in Hybrid, the 296 GTB, with a Twin-Turbo V6 that produces 819HP and has a manufacturer's suggested retail price of \$321,400.

Italy is famous for many things...for fabulous food, for magnificent art, for fashion, for architecture. It is not surprising that for Italians, cars are no different. Italian cars are crafted by artisans in a marriage between designers and engineers, with attention to detail and a passion for perfection, to be beautiful, to perform, and to be enjoyed every moment. For more than 100 years Italy has produced cars that have earned a reputation for being some of the most incredible automobiles in the world. To borrow from a quote from Michael Pucciarelli, Vice Chairman of the Italian Cultural Foundation in New York – when comparing Italian and American sportscars – "...it is like comparing hamburgers to a proper Pasta Bolognese...they will both fill you up, but one is fast food and the other is a dining experience." ■



Italia – Where It All Began

by David Rizzo

For many years now, we've all enjoyed reading the articles and keeping up to date with the activities of our clubs. However, most of you have no idea where the concept of the newsletter originated. Here's a little story that I think you'll enjoy.

In late Fall 1989, in the back dining room of Rossario's on Monona Drive, a small group gathered over pizza and wine to generate ideas and gather insights for a newsletter that could entertain members and serve as a reliable information source.

They took a colorful logo, developed by a UW – Madison art student, added some amusing anecdotes and stories from various sources, mixed in occasional photos and a generous helping of advertiser support and *Italia* was born. It established, and continues to maintain an important connection between the members of the men's and women's clubs.

Catherine (Tripalin) Murray was named editor, and early issues featured stories about the old Greenbush Neighborhood, tributes to the people

Solution

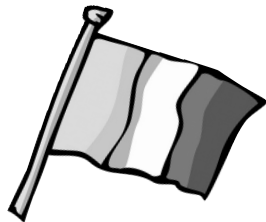
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E				E	A	S	T	E	R			E
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Continued from page 6

who once lived there and articles on the culture that developed, but can so easily disappear without the proper care and attention.

Club membership levels have risen and fallen over the past thirty plus years, but Catherine and a long list of dedicated writers, proof readers, photographers, production coordinators and printers have made sure *Italia* perseveres as the dependable bi-monthly conduit for all news Italian.

I hope you enjoy *Italia*, and if you have ideas for articles, member profiles, or other content please contact me davidrizzo@me.com. ■■



Meeting Dates

IWC Council Meetings – 2nd Tuesday of
Each Month 7:00 pm

IWC Membership Meetings – 3rd Tuesday of
Each Month 6:30 pm

Please clip and post this calendar.



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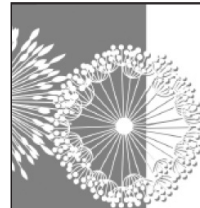
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