

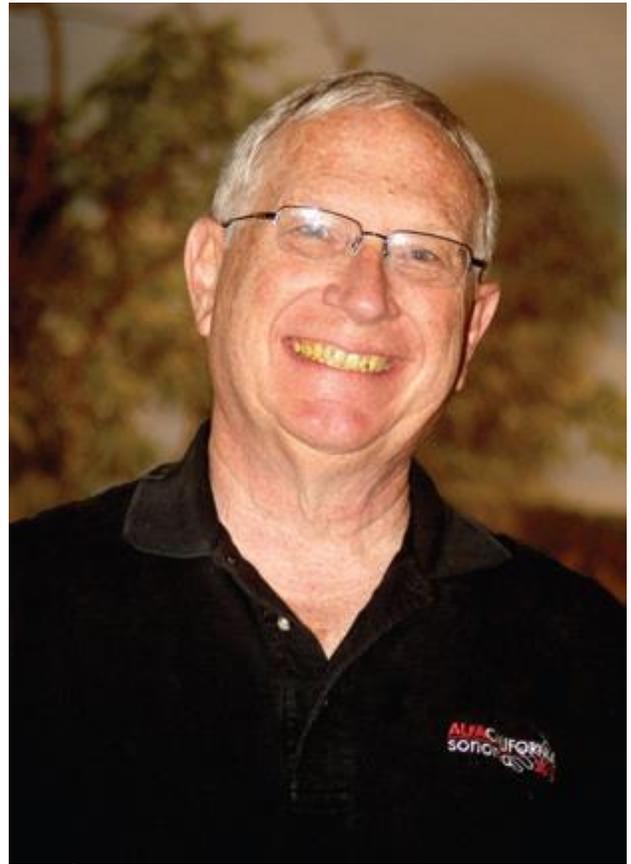
# FROM THE TOP ... *the Word from Il Presidente*

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(taken from the July 2016 *Alfacionada*)

Chris and I made it to Franklin Canyon Park for Highway Earth and our second 2016 Club Concours, but just barely. We foolishly assumed we remembered exactly where it was. After an early morning run through Laurel Canyon, we realized we were in the wrong canyon and fished out the directions. So much for setting a good example by being early. At least Laurel Canyon was fun.

We had a good turnout, including three 4Cs. At this rate, Jeff might have to start putting them in their own class. Mel, one of the 4C owners, and I talked for quite a while. Turns out he also has a 1965 Spider in the restoration shop. Seeing two 1965 Spider Veloces (mine and Norm Silverman's) side by side was his idea of serious research candy. We had two very nice race cars parked side by side. A big thank you to Jeff for a job well done! And, if you have ever wondered how your car was judged, Jeff would love to teach you how to be a judge. We normally judge in teams of two, which makes it easy for beginning volunteers to learn the ropes.



*Il Prez, in his new Official Portrait by  
Ken Sizemore*

Evan Klein, organizer of this event, is an Alfa guy and has owned a spider for many years. I'm sure you all know that ALFA stands for Always Looking for Another. Evan must have the bug, since he has now acquired a Giulia Super and restored it to its former glory. That fresh coat of maroon paint is just a bit unusual, and looks simply fantastic.

Franklin Canyon Park was plenty warm, but not as hot as last year. We worried because the trip home though the Valley can be brutal, and it was. Chris and I melted, but the Spider's temperature gauge held steady. The spider has developed one problem: a little oil is showing in the coolant. The engine was rebuilt about 30 years ago, so I expect the O-rings around the high-pressure oil feeds to the cams have deteriorated and the head will have to come off. More about that next month.

July 23rd is the Summer Day Drive up the Angeles Crest Highway ending with lunch in Wrightwood. Steve Edelman is the event organizer. Wrightwood is a bit far from home for us, so we have made plans to stay the night and have a leisurely drive home on Sunday. I know a few others are of similar mind, and a local Alfisti will join us in the evening to swap Alfa experiences. If nothing else, we will all get together for dinner.

A mere two weeks later is the annual Summer Party and we are looking forward to a fine time in Chuck and Jan Cline's backyard in Fountain Valley. Not only is it a great event, but this year the Clines and the Silvermans can regale us with their recent experiences in Italy at Mille Miglia time. And don't forget the "Clean Out Your Garage" sale. Bring something. Alfa Romeo parts are always welcome, but other items such as home-grown eggs, fruits and vegetables are also well received. One year someone even donated a wine cooler! Sorry, the '67 GTV seats I bought last year are gone, but Chuck will offer up the '67 GTV bumpers that we forgot to sell last year. Did you finish those Alfa books you bought last year? Bring them back and let someone else enjoy them. This event always seems to attract our seldom-seen members, past presidents, and others who personally remember much of our Chapter's history.

Who is going to Monterey? I hope everyone knows by now that the Historic Races and the Pebble Beach Concours aren't the only events that week. You can avoid the crowds and go to the pre-Historics. Chris and I especially like the Little Car Show in Pacific Grove. Concorso Italiano is on Saturday as is the Concours d'LeMons. Legends of the Autobahn should be extra big this year since BMW is the featured marque at the Historics. Oh, and I have lost track of how many auctions will be held. In the midst of this cacophony of car activity Evie Silverman has organized the traditional AROSC dinner on Thursday night.

It's not too soon to start thinking about the Coronado Speed Festival in San Diego. This year it is September 16-18 so mark your calendars. This event has been aptly described as the smaller, cheaper, less-crowded alternative to Monterey. Chris and I have gone the last two years and have enjoyed it immensely. If you do go, be sure and get a sticker for car club parking which will let you park right behind the grandstands. Remember, if the women don't find you handsome, they should at least find you handy. And don't forget the duct tape, the handyman's secret weapon.

*Mike & Chris*