

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

For anyone visiting them regularly, yes, our Chapter's website(s) are still in state(s) of change. My experiences updating the social site have gone well and, if you haven't been there lately, it now includes links to folios of David Waelder's pictures of recent events. Assuming I don't fall down on the job, the pictures are available quite quickly after events.

Bruce Colby is still updating the competition site while we search for a volunteer to take over. We don't need a website expert, but it would help that person to know the people who contribute write-ups and pictures. A little programming background would be helpful too, but it doesn't take an expert to edit the HTML to point to the new stuff.

Did you make it to our annual Wine Tour? Well you missed a very nice weekend. Many thanks to John Britton, and Chuck and Jan Cline. The hotel offered its complimentary breakfast area off the lobby for our impromptu Friday night potluck – a perfect meeting venue that night, and for dining the next morning. In what could be an AROSC first, people had so much fun on the morning legs of the drive that we didn't make it to all of the wineries. There was something just too right about lunching under a vine-covered pergola, listening to live music, and enjoying the view with a glass of wine. Dinner was at Shaw's Steakhouse, a Santa Maria landmark and an excellent eatery we've been to before. But hey, who put the drunk driver checkpoint on the road between the restaurant and the hotel? Being sober, we elected to not take a detour, and found ourselves in a traffic jam at the check. Oops! See Wine Tour coverage starting on page 12. By the way, we hit Kenneth Volk Vineyards on Sunday (a winery we didn't get to on the tour) and it was delightful. I nabbed a mixed case of their library wines that was on special, and will lobby to visit again the next time we are in the area.

It is now old news that our May event did not come together. The collector would love to have us, but when he returned from vacation we learned that the building housing his collection is under renovation and our proposed visit would be impossible. We will try to reschedule this event next year.

June 2nd and 3rd is our next competition event at Buttonwillow Raceway featuring DE, TT and Race events. It is hosted by NCRC (Northern California Racing Club), an organization that touts safety and claims drivers can spend their budgets on tires and fuel, as opposed to collision repairs.

Registration is open for Highway Earth, Club Concorso #2, on June 24th. We have done this event for the last several years and what's not to like? We have our own little area, lots of trees, interesting cars, and the organizer, Evan Klein, is an Alfa enthusiast. See the event adflyer on page 10 and sign up.

The Summer Party is in July this year, again hosted by Chuck and Jan Cline. Their big backyard, cooled by ocean breezes and outfitted with plenty of comfy tables and chairs under colorful umbrellas makes for a lovely day. There is a write-up on page 16. Note that you must RSVP so Jan can coordinate the potluck dishes.

Don't forget about the AROC National Convention in Olympia, Washington in August. Activities are selling out, so if you haven't signed up, now is the time to do so! The website is informative and nicely done. Check it out at <http://www.sempreverde2018.org/index.html> Chris and I have not finalized our travel plans yet, but we have made our reservations.

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