

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

Our Sprint seems to be in good health again. It has been suffering from a case of bad gas and clogging carburetor jets. Fresh gas, a new fuel pump, new fuel filter, and a cleaned carburetor did not immediately solve the problem. I'm not quite sure where the last bits of crud were lurking, but the problem seems to be gone now. The car ran beautifully on a test drive around Camarillo and to/from the Best of France and Italy (aka BFI).

Did you make it to BFI? The weather was perfect and we christened two new Alfa-red pop-ups. The Clines brought the pop-ups and tables and the Silvermans brought delicious bread, cheese and cold cuts. There were around 80 cars in attendance, but we did not attempt to make an exact count. Some old friends were there hawking parts and I saw several people walking away with bargains. I should also mention that Jay Leno was there, much to the delight of all. See pages 28-30 for pictures.

We are always a little nervous about renting Laguna Seca because of the travel distance and the cost, but the October Laguna Seca event filled up and we made some money. See pages 18-27 for two stories and some great photos.

The new Board meets November 25th. We will congratulate ourselves for a job well done, swear in the new Board, and promptly start hammering out the schedule for next year. If you have suggestions now is the time to let us know. Send an email to info@arosc.org or make your pitch in person. We are always looking for a few more good ideas.

Our next competition event is at Auto Club Speedway (Fontana). Check it out online at <https://www.motorsportreg.com/events/auto-club-speedway-time-trials-races-arosc-racing-hpde-584805>.

Our competition website(s) are still in need of fulltime volunteer support. Terry Watson and others are setting up the MotorSportReg pages where people can sign up for specific events, but the web pages are being updated ad hoc. Bruce Colby is updating the www.aroschpd.org site when he is available. I'm putting more competition events on the www.arosc.org site, but no one is doing the www.alfaclubracing.com site which is being updated irregularly and is usually out of date. It all works after a fashion, but it could be better.

MJ and Sheila Kutkus will be hosting our annual Holiday Party on December 12th. I know it is a busy time of year, but you don't want to miss it. I'm what they call a healthy eater. MJ is grilling Northwest-themed proteins this year. See page 10 for more information. Since it is a potluck, we need you to RSVP and work with Sheila on what side dishes and desserts to contribute. This party is always well attended and brings out a host of new and old faces.

The annual meeting on January 12th is where we honor people who have contributed generously to the Club and hand out annual Concours and Race high-point trophies. Don't think you're in the running for a trophy? No matter. Come out anyway, enjoy the camaraderie and the food, and vow to do better next year.

The November *Alfa Owner* says the AROC Mid-Year Retreat in Palm Desert will be January 19-20. AROC members in the West will soon receive invitation post cards in the mail. Typically, there is a day drive and party on Saturday and an AROC Board meeting Sunday morning. Other activities are usually tacked on as the date approaches (a Friday evening reception; a Sunday luncheon or private garage visit). People come from all over Southern California and Arizona to meet the Board and generally have a good time. It is becoming our de facto "Winter Palm Springs Weekend", similar to those we enjoyed years ago. Chris and I try to attend every year and this coming year should be no exception.

The following weekend, January 26th-27th, is the Driving School at the Streets of Willow. I know we usually don't have a driving school in January, but it's not like the track can always give us our first choice of dates. The Streets is actually one of my favorite tracks because it is such a technical track. In simple English that means it has lots of different kinds of turns.

Remember, if 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*