



On the second Friday before Christmas 22 Alfa enthusiasts turned out for our first meeting, many braving L.A. traffic, others travelling 50 miles or more to get there, principal areas of concern and interest centered on the scarcity of adequate service facilities, and a belief that dealers displayed little interest in the car after delivery. It is hoped that the owners club could provide a series of technical meetings, while at the same time work towards promoting better owner-dealer-factory relations.

Since the meeting an informal steering committee has been appointed to explore, in a more specific way, club structure, program, and goals. The committee consists of:

- Ed Gustin.....Chairman
- Fred Bonzer.....Activities
- Dick Miller.....Finance-Correspondance
- Bob Nerell.....Technical
- Ted Medley.....Membership-Publicity

The committee met Dec. 26, and drafted the following recommendations: A formal request be made at the January meeting for a charter from National AROC; and annual dues of \$5.00 in the light of present club structure and future plans. The hope is to keep the club largely informal while at the same time providing effective technical and social programming, and this can only be done with the active cooperation of all members within their own limits of time and responsibility. Working together, we may yet learn to live happily with Giulietta and her sisters.

**JANUARY MEETING:** Friday, Jan. 12th, 7:30 PM,  
3515 Atlantic, Long Beach

Through the courtesy of Brewster Gray imports, and Max Briney Foreign car service, the Club has been invited to meet in the Gray showroom, Frank Aldous, the Alfa Romeo specialist from Hoffman Motors, will be the Club's guest. He will participate in the technical discussion and answer any and all questions relating to the care and feeding of 'Alfas'.

**FEBRUARY MEETING:** No firm date has yet been set, but on some sunny Sunday afternoon the Club will undertake to teach those members interested the basic principals of rallying. A short orientation lecture will be offered and then a rally, incorporating both gimmick and light navigational techniques will be run. Experienced rallyists will form the faculty, so if rallying is "Something that you've been intending to do for a long time" plan to be there and find out what you have been missing.

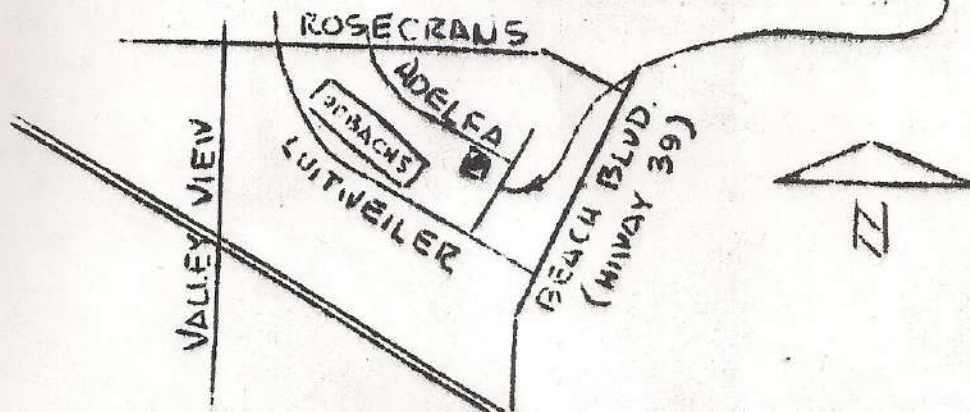
See you the 12th of January,

# ALFAS ANNONYMOUSE



Well, it looks like AROSC is off the ground and flying, with 20 paid members heading for 30, and a fine series of technical and social events coming up during the year. By the time you receive this newsway (we hope) newsletter the club will be officially incorporated and formalized in the eyes of the State of California. The turnout at our last meeting was a sight to behold, with dozens of those funny little cars parked all over the place. And most important those present learned a bit more about keeping Gallietta happy. And this is what we're here for.

APRIL MEETING On Friday, April 27, at 7:30 P.M., the regular monthly meeting will be held at the LA MIRADA BOWLING LANES, 15001 Adelfa Drive, La Mirada. The management is providing us with a room adjacent to their dining room. It will be possible to obtain an excellent buffet dinner at a very reasonable price, even though this is not a dinner meeting. The program will be presented by the California Sports Car Club, a Regional group of the Sports Car Club of America. They will have some 'racy' movies, and discuss sports car racing in this area. This meeting will offer a better opportunity to 'get acquainted' than we have had in the past, so it is hoped all can make it. Since we are meeting at a bowling alley, bring the family and let them throw around a few bowling balls while you throw the ball. For how to get there-

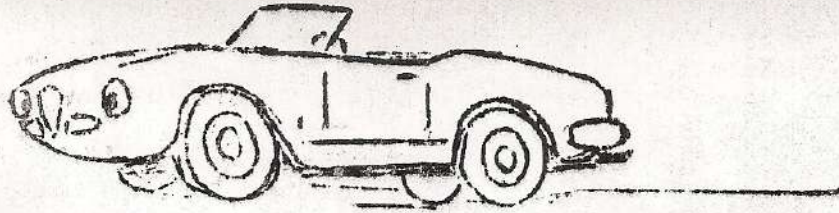


MAY MEETING This will be a tech meeting covering brakes, wheels, and suspension, and would be geared to owner maintenance.

JUNE MEETING We are discussing with Bill Corey in Pasadena the possibilities of holding a Tech session on the notorious electrical system, again with reference to owner maintenance. This is by far the greatest area of owner complaints, for a good lot of reasons.

FALL FIELD DAY Sometime this fall we will hold a combination drivers school, social get-to-gather and field day, to test both driver and car. This probably will be held over a weekend, and be a major event.

Throughout the summer months there will be short runs to the beach or mountains as a group, with either a rally or just a gaggle.



ALFA ROMEO OWNERS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

invite you to attend a beginners rally called

"DOUBLE TROUBLE"

9:30 AM Sunday February 18th, 1962

This will be an instructional rally for the beginner, and a refresher rally for those out of practice. It will be run in 2 legs, one using "GIMMICK" instructions, the other "STRAIGHT FORWARD NAVIGATIONAL" instructions.

There will be experienced instructors on hand to help you on everything from bare essentials to advanced techniques. We will also have rally equipment on hand for sale, and we will assist you in finding the right equipment to suit you.

Before the start there will be an instructional period dealing with techniques, equipment, procedures, etc. Then you will be sent out on a 1 1/2 hour "GIMMICK" type leg, with a critique afterwards. After a breather and a final instructional period you will be sent out on a 1 1/2 hour "STRAIGHT FORWARD NAVIGATIONAL" leg, followed by a final critique and evaluation period. During both legs there will be instructors on the course to assist you.

The rally will start and end adjacent to the Lakewood Bowl, so bring the kids and wife, etc., and let them roll a few lines while you rally. There is also a coffee shop in the alley, and two restaurants nearby. And lots and lots of parking space!

P.S. Bring a camera for there will be scenic stops on the rally.

LOCATION Lakewood Bowl, Lakewood Center, Lakewood

TIME Starting 9:30 AM



All Alfas and vintage sports cars free. All others \$2.00. Dash plaques \$1.00 extra.

<u>TIMES</u>	Begin instruction-----	9:30
	Start gimmick leg-----	10:00
	Break-----	12:30
	Navigational leg-----	1:00
	Final evaluation-----	4:00

FOR INFO: LA Area: Fred Bonzer CR 4-8231

Orange County: Ed Gustin LI 4-0026

RM's: Dick Miller, Karl Flenn



## YOUR FIRST RALLY

Success in rallies depends to a great deal on paying attention to a multitude of tiny details. It means being in the right place at the right time, following a given route without actually knowing where you're going, and adhering to prescribed average speeds.

-See that your car is ready; gas and oil topped up, tire pressures checked.

-Take plenty of pencils, scratch paper, & a clipboard.

-Use a timepiece you can trust.

-Have a tool to help you figure time, speed and distance: a slide rule, a rally computer, and time-speed-distance tables.

-Make last-minute comfort stops; it won't be convenient to stop along the route.

At the starting area, look for a headquarters where you can pay the entry fee and register. You will also be assigned a time for starting. By this time you may have received the "general instructions", telling you something you need to know but nothing you want to know. That comes later, about a minute before the start. But read the general instructions; many is the rallyist who has been disqualified because he didn't. Check your watch against the official time, and then, if you still have a few minutes, walk up to the starting line and observe which way the cars head as they leave. This may save you valuable seconds when it's your turn to take off.

Just before you start you'll be given a set of route sheets, detailing the course you're to follow and prescribing average speeds. It isn't easy to give the driver route directions and figure out if you're ahead of or behind time; don't make the common mistake of being so concerned with average speed that you forget a turn. There's nothing to be gained by being right on time but in the wrong place.

Keeping to your average speed is done by using the odometer; or mileage counter, that's a part of your speedometer. The speedometer needle is useful only as a handy guide to keep you out of trouble with the law. In a rally, you must check your average speed by computing time against distance; your watch against your odometer. Dividing miles covered by minutes elapsed, and multiplying the result by 60 will give you your average speed in miles per hour. Assume that your odometer reads exactly 21.6 miles when you have been out 54 minutes. Dividing 54 into 21.6 gives a quotient of .4 which is your speed in miles per minute. Multiplying 60 by .4 shows your average speed to be 24 mph; and if the prescribed average speed is 24 mph, you're right on time.

This figuring can be done in various ways: with a slide rule, with a rally computer (itself a type of slide rule), with tables, or with a mechanical computer. For your first time out, concentrate on following the route and learning how things are done, keeping as close as possible to average speeds in the simplest way you can. Above all, don't buy more equipment for the sake of having it. Before you buy make doubly sure you need it.

Most rallies have an "SOP" (seat of pants) class where your odometer is blanked out and you guess at your average

This will be the final newsletter to those who have not sent in their dues (Five dollars, payable to Alfa Romeo owners of Southern California, P.O. Box 61, Tustin). The cost has become prohibitive to send almost 100 newsletters every month, and isn't really fair to those who are paid members. By this time you probably know whether this Club will meet your particular needs: technical, social, competitive, etc. If it has some importance, then support it with your dues. Of course we will continue to encourage members to bring interested guests to meetings, and to pursue our efforts to reach Alfa owners throughout the Southern California area. An up-to-date list of members (and we will include AROC National members, whether AROSC members or not) - is being prepared. This will provide a source of information and advice in the event of problems or distress out on the road.

EVERYONE KNOWS BUTVME DEPT. That late Alfas have tuned exhaust systems, and that efforts to modify the muffler-resonators cause all kinds of power losses. Once again it appears that the factory, like father, knows best.....

TECHNICAL COMMITTEES The chairman of the technical Committee is Bob Nerell, 4814 Palo Verde, Lakewood. If you wish technical questions considered or have ideas about programs, please get in touch with Bob. For example, how would you like to have a clinic session with Hoffmann's own tech representative as consultant?

RACE DATES San Diego Region, SCCA, races at Del Mar, April 28 and 29. We are hoping to meet the San Diego area area Alfa-ites at this event. Cal Club Region, SCCA, Santa Barbara Road Races, held May 26 and 27. If you would like to work in the pits during this event get in touch with Ed Gustin, AROSC. All that's needed a pair of white pants and shirt, and a willingness to help out.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT We have been advised that all correspondence to the Club should be addressed to the Club. If you wish to contact a certain person use "Attention" on the envelope.

**RALLYING** A club rally team is being formed, and the AROSC Team will enter various events during the Summer. So far Team cars have entered 6 rallies lately, with 2 third places so far. If you are interested, whether you have ever rallied or not, get in touch with Larry McCannon % the Club, or call him at his home: 4176 N. Walnut Grove, Rosemead AT 6-7141. He will be responsible for coordinating the Clubs participation in all rallies, and will also be responsible, along with Dick Miller, for providing instruction in the various techniques for those wishing it. Double Trouble rally will be rerun at 10:00 Sunday May 6 for those interested in joining the Team or those just wanting to learn. We will go over the course very thoroughly this time! We hope to be able to enter a team in all the upcoming major events, both navigational and the gimmick. At least one Team car will be entered in the next major rally, so if you would like to give it a try come on along. called Sierra XI it starts at 7:30 A.M. at Kerosonica, Grangerhorpe and Lemon St. in Anaheim. Look for a White Spider with a Team sign on the rear.

Till next time, have fun, and don't get any speeding tickets out there when your out blowing off those gutless Corvettes.