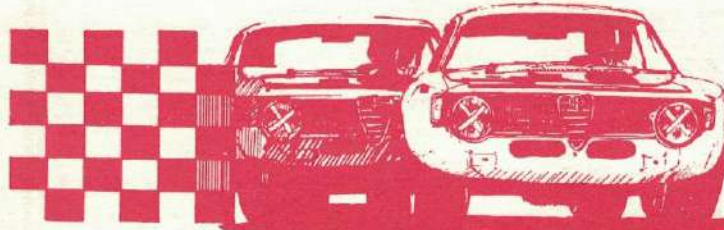


ALFACIONADA

ALFA ROMEO OWNERS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



VOLUME 17 NO. 4 APRIL 1978 P.O. Box 261, Los Alamitos, Ca. 90720

From the Pit

by Dave Vegher



March was a busy time for Alfa enthusiasts. We had a fun rally put on by Bob Meadows and Jerry Wright. Nine cars entered the 2 hour event which ended at a great Italian restaurant. Lou and Diane Alaman took first, I and Nancy were second, and Sel Ramsay (driving by himself!) took third. Nice going, Sel!

We had a very interesting meeting with a turn out of 75 to 100 people to see another of Lou Liserani's fantastic slide shows. The enthusiasm generated by the Time Trial slides was amazing!

In April, we had one of the greatest automotive spectacles take place, the Long Beach Grand Prix. A group of Alfisti went to the two days of practise which saw the Brabham-Alfa team finally placing 3rd and 5th on the grid. On Sunday, it looked like half the Alfa Club was in the stands! We all know what happened to the cars. Little problems stopped both Alfas before 20 laps were over. However, as long as the flat-12 Alfas ran there was a race. After 10 laps the two Alfas and two Ferraris were well ahead of the field. It appeared as if two races were going on- the four flat-12 Italian machines against an obvious slower field of V8's. When the Alfas stopped, the race stopped. All our great hopes were wiped out! But judging by the great performance of the Alfa team, the checkered flag can only lie one or two races ahead. GO Brabham design! GO Autodelta! GO Alfa Romeo!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | | |
|-------|-------|--|
| April | 28 | Meeting Alondra Park |
| | 30 | SCCSC Slalom, Lion Country Safari |
| May | 5 | Alfacionada articles due |
| | 7 | "Auto Faire", Los Alamitos Race Track |
| | 13 | AROSC Rally (see details inside) |
| | 20,21 | Lone Pine Time Trials |
| | 20,21 | Dos Dias Rally (for info contact Sue B. 832-4, 54) |
| | 26 | Meeting Alondra Park |
| June | 11 | SCCSC Slalom, Place TBA |
| | 24 | AROSC Time Trial |
| | 25 | SCCSC Slalom, Lion Country Safari |
| Aug | 12 | Party (tentative) |
| Sept | 30 | AROSC Time Trial |
| Nov | 11 | AROSC Time Trial |
| Dec | 1 | Election Meeting Alondra Park (mark this date) |
| | 16 | Christmas Party (tentative) |



This month's meeting will feature a traffic court judge who promises to tell us the whys and wherefores about courts, tickets and police procedures. And May 14th there is a rally that promises to be an Alfa experience. I hope that some more of you will show up at this rally. You really can't beat the price, comraderie and fun for an evening! Try it - you'll like it!!



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For Immediate Release

PRESS RELEASE

CHAMPION'S ALFA -- While he is in the United States for the Long Beach Grand Prix, Alfa Romeo is introducing this special Spider Veloce sports car to honor Formula One World Driving Champion Niki Lauda. Faintly red with blue and white stripes to resemble the design used on Lauda's Alfa-powered Brabham racing car, the high-performance convertible has four-wheel disc brakes, limited-slip differential, five-speed transmission, and Alfa's race-bred double-overhead cam, all-aluminum, fuel-injected two-liter engine. Nicknamed the Niki Spider, the car will be available next month at Alfa Romeo dealers across the country.



Have you paid your dues twice??? If you've paid National \$15.00 and AROSC \$20.00, please send your name and a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Sue Bernstein, Membership, 2817 San Ramon, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90274.

APRIL MEETING



HERE COME DA JUDGE!!!!

Slaloms & Such

by Joe Richardson

By no doubt you have now seen and read the enclosed flyer announcing "Auto Faire" to be held May 7th at Los Alamitos Race Track. It should be an interesting affair especially since the promoter, Dave Robertson, has granted AROSC a free space to advertise our club. We will have one of our Alfas on display, plus anything else we can come up with. Although this year the Concours is only for Ferraris, the plan is to have a different club in this event each year. Maybe next year it will be AROSC. Incidentally, the bar and restaurant at the track will be open!

The 1978 SCCSCC Code books and membership cards are now available, and I will have them at the April meeting. They will also be on sale at all the Slalom events. There are some classification changes and other items of interest for this year.

The recent rains have wiped out several Slalom events, but most have been re-scheduled, so consult the Calendar for new dates. April 30th is the next scheduled event at Lion Country Safari, and I would like to see a full team of five drivers show up. Along with myself, Charlie Teale and Barry Klien that only leaves two to go... How about it?? Team trophies are given out as well as for individual accomplishment, not to mention our own club awards.

Despite a slow start, this year promises to be an exciting one. LET'S GET INVOLVED!!!

Have you succumbed to the lure of Alfa Mania and consequently seen flashing red lights in your rear-view mirror? Many of us have, unfortunately... Come listen to Alfa owner and traffic Judge Robert Polis as he answers your questions and offers advice for future ticket-free driving! Plus there will be some short spots from the Long Beach Grand Prix in living technicolor! All this at the April 28th meeting... Don't miss it!



AROSC now has the red "Alfa Romeo" jackets for sale. For those of you who were not at the March meeting, they are the red nylon with a light cotton flannel-type lining. The script letters Alfa Romeo are across the back in white. These will be available at each meeting, as long as supplies last, for \$15.00. For those unable to attend meetings, send \$15.00 plus \$1.00 postage and handling to: Sally French, 1312 Pine Avenue, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266.



Several people have been inquiring about the small cutout Alfa symbol that Lou Liserani, Debbie Laborde and others have. There is a place in Colorado that makes these and Alfa jewelry, including rings and large pendants. The cost for the small cut out charm is \$8.00 in sterling silver and approx. \$50.00 in 14K gold. Send requests for more information to: Cooper Gold and Silversmith, Inc. 2200 - 5 East Arapahoe Road Littleton, Colorado 80122

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We Alfa fans were a little disappointed at the outcome of the Long Beach Grand Prix... It appears we weren't the only ones!

More on the LBCGP in the May issue after we've had a good cry...



PAGE 4

GOT YOUR HEAD gasket ON RIGHT??

Three things are important in doing a proper head gasket replacement: cleanliness, flat parallel surfaces & proper torquing. In 1300, 1600 & 1750 models, head gaskets usually blow in the classical sense. That is, the combustion chamber seal itself leaks combustion gases into the water jacket of the engine. This problem is caused by head warpage brought on by overheating an engine, running it out of water (a mortal sin for Alfa owners!), improper torque settings or piston/liner projection. To remedy the situation one must trace down the culprit problem. Careful inspection is the key here. Don't just put on a new gasket and bolt it up! Another important check is this: look at the spark plug holes & notice the small filet of aluminum that extends between the hole and the exhaust seat itself. It should show no cracking. If it is cracked, you can bet the head was run out of water at one time or another. If the crack is hairline there is usually no problem and the engine will run properly. If the crack is larger, look out! Trouble is ahead. Get it welded or find another head & save yourself some problems!

In 2000 engines the head gasket goes south in another way. One can usually see big oil streaks running down the side of the block! I've never seen a 2000 blow like the earlier series. I attribute this to the higher liner projection in the 2 litre motors, revised and improved gasket material, and better head design. Two litre oil leakage can be solved by standard replacement with the addition of inserting what Alfa call "head dowels" in the block oil galleries. This mod recommended by Alfa is a sure fix to the problem. (In fact, all new Alfas come with these dowels already installed.)

One more thing: Always stick to factory recommendations for torquing and re-torquing! It works!

ALFA ROMEO MISCELLANY RALLY

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Claude (213)331-9755. **SUPPORT YOUR HABIT - COME TO THIS EVENT!!!**

PAY DIRT

by Louise Strona

Although rain spread across Southern California canceling the Excedrin Rally on March 11, it was clear and beautiful on the deserts of the area where six cars of an Alfa Rally Team swung into action to capture six trophies. Never before has Alfa captured so many top prizes in a single rally event. To sweeten the prize even further, Alfa captured more trophies than any other competing teams, many having over 20 cars participating!

Beth and Sid Keely got the first place awards for Top Navigational time, Over-all Best time for the beginners? class, and a special award presented by Peter Satori for best time of any competing Alfa.

Phil and Louise Strona brought home the team award for best time in our team not receiving a place award.

Dan Fein and navigator Anita Pruitt captured the trophy for third place in the beginners ranks for the Navigational portion. This was Anita's first rally, too!

Don Ernst and navigator Doreen McIntyre captured the best of Mark-for a VW? Oh well! I guess Don didn't want to get that beautiful 2600 of his wet.

If anyone is interested in joining an Alfa Rally Team which competes in events throughout Southern California, call Phil at (714)985-5746 for more information and join the fun!



GIULIA SUPER

ALFA ROMEO

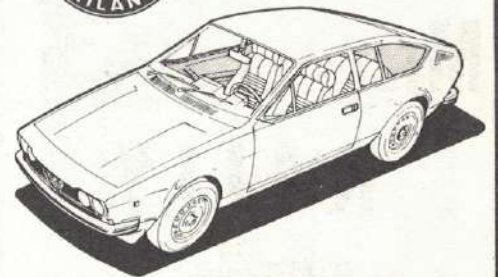


WANTED

For a 1962 - 101.03 series Giulietta Spider: my most desperate need is for a pair of trunk hinges. (Mine have the top latch as an integral part of the hinge. I'm told that these were a late type also used on the 1600 series.) I would also like to upgrade all of the trim rubber, including cockpit mats, as mine show their age. Also a muffler system. I am interested in hearing from anyone who has miscellaneous pieces as I may want to stockpile them for future use. Don Kite, 3616 Thornwood Dr., Sacramento, CA 95821 (916)920-6211 days, (916)487-1533 nite.



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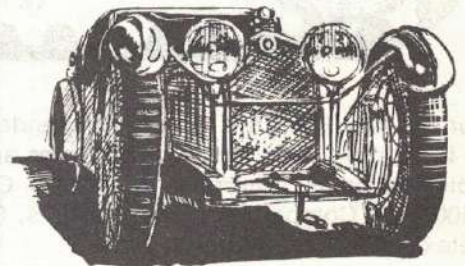
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1969 GTV - New clutch, AM/FM radio, and paint. Good interior and exterior. \$2,000 or trade. Call Mark Seretan at (213)433-8524.

1964 Giulia 1600 Spyder - \$2,200.00
1967 Spyder Duetto - \$2750.00
Both are in beautiful condition inside and out. Duetto also has both hardtop and soft top. Norm Crandall (714)595-5773 or Al Primm (714)879-9469.

1971 GTV - rebuilt engine, new hydraulics, Pirelli CN36's. \$3,000.00
Larry (714)346-1880.

1971 Spyder - 40,000 mi. New clutch, Bosch pump, and CN36's. Excellent condition. \$4150.00. Also, 4 speed gearbox from a '63 Giulietta Spyder. \$75.00. Call Mike Rivera at (213)633-4975 for both.



BOB, have you gotten any "cans" lately?????

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Alfacionada is the monthly publication of the Alfa Romeo Owners Club of Southern California, (AROSC).

Subscriptions to this newsletter are included as part of the \$20.00 per year AROSC membership fee. For membership information write: AROSC, P.O.Box 261, Los Alamitos, CA 90720.

Articles, letters, and personal ads are always welcomed and should be received by the editor 20 days prior to the monthly meeting. Meetings are normally held on the fourth Friday of the month at the ALONDRA PARK CLUBHOUSE, at 3850 Manhattan Beach Blvd., Lawndale, just east of the San Diego freeway. Date or location changes will be posted in the newsletter prior to the meeting. Meetings start promptly at 8:00 PM. For more information call:

Dave Vegher (pres.) (213)835-9851
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