

ALFACIONADA

ALFA ROMEO OWNERS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



VOLUME 18 NO. 11 NOVEMBER 1979 P.O. Box 261, Los Alamitos, Ca. 90720

the ROAR of the BEAR

by Rick "Bear" Clemente

At the October General Meeting we had a lengthy discussion on the subject of National affiliation. The result of the vote was resoundingly in favor of staying in the National. The opportunity to air some grievances was a healthy one.

Dues for 1980 will be \$30.00; this to be split with National. It is in keeping with the National hypothesis that this hefty increase will allow AROSC to develop a surplus to enable us to go several years without another increase.

This month we have our annual elections and White Turkey Auction. Please note that the date of the meeting is Friday November 23rd at 8:00 PM. Don't miss this important meeting.

Coming up, on Saturday night, December 8th, is the AROSC Christmas Party. This year's bash will be at Charlie Thieriot's house. Charlie is very experienced at partying, and John Ireland is coordinating, so this should be a terrific party-see info inside this issue.

Many events are in the planning stages for next year. The LBGP seats are the best yet. GET YOUR DEPOSIT IN NOW!!! We will repeat the party after Friday practice. John Ireland

is already at work on a "Grand Tour". Dave Vegher is putting together a Time Trial school, as well as continuing a great T.T. program. Concours, slaloms, rallies, Vintage weekends...all in the making. Talk of a regional get-together...YOU can make it happen your way! Run for the Board, or volunteer to help put an event together. Get involved, it's fun!

See you at the Turkey Sale.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| Nov | 20 | AROSC Time Trial Committee Meeting, 8 PM (Vegher's) |
| | 23 | Annual Election Meeting and White Turkey Sale, Alondra Park, 8 PM
<u>PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE</u> |
| | 27 | AROSC Board Meeting, (Bernstein's) |
| Dec | 1 | ALFACIONADA Articles Due |
| | 8 | AROSC Christmas Party (Details inside) |
| | 25 | Buon Natale! |



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PRESS RELEASE

CHAMPION DRIVES NEW ALFA -- Former auto racing champion John Fitch recently tested this new Alfa Romeo Mille Miglia Sprint coupe at the sports car race track in Lime Rock, Conn. The new high-performance car, one of only 500 being produced by Alfa, is named in honor of the world's most famous road race. Run for 1000 miles through the streets of Italy from 1927 to 1957, the Mille Miglia was won 11 times by Alfa Romeo.

Fitch, who won the GT class driving for Mercedes-Benz in 1955, noted that this Alfa would be a "delightful" car to race in the Italian Classic, if it were still being contested today. "In fact," he continued, "many of the features of the Alfa Mille Miglia were only on the most sophisticated racing cars in 1955. Five-speed transaxles, for example, or DeDion rear suspensions were seen only on Grand Prix cars, while aerodynamic aids such as the front air dam and rear spoiler didn't even exist."

AROSC

1980 BOARD NOMINEES

Dan Bernstein
Jack Becronis
Al Cortes
John Ireland
Rick Alvin
Dave Vegher
Sue Bernstein
Andy Steben
Alana Ireland
Tom Lipkis



.....

**AROSC DUES FOR
1980 ARE
\$30.00**

ALFACIONADA



MEETING

1980 Election of Officers
White Turkey Sale

Here's your golden opportunity to clean out your garage and sell those Alfa parts. 10% - up to \$10.00 - of the selling price goes to the club. This is also a chance to buy those parts to keep your Alfa running.

The election of the 1980 AROSC Board of Directors will also be held. This is your opportunity to choose the leaders of your club for the coming year. This is the most important meeting of the year.

See you there!!! With your parts and cash.



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VINTAGE AUTO RACES

by Dave Vegher

The Vintage Auto Races held October 13-14 at RIR were a gas. AROSC was represented by 4 people and cars: Rocky Chisholm, TZ; Scott Gray, GTA; Tom Hines, GTA; and Dave Vegher, TZ. Jack Becronis' 1928 Zagato 1500 SS couldn't make the race because of a missing radiator.

Saturday's morning practice was unusually cool and damp. However, the cars loved this weather and everyone went fast. On Saturday we were also treated to the glorious sight and sound of 2 Ferrari Daytona competition cars lapping the course in the low 1:30s.

Saturday afternoon brought forth the big event of the weekend, the Endurance Race of Makes. The Alfa team of cars consisted of the previously mentioned group and another Alfa nut from up north, driving a 1900 Zagato-bodied competition car. This race is usually fun for entrant as well as spectator, but this time the whole procedure was fouled up. It took the event organizers about 1.5 hours to stage everyone in their proper positions. This, coupled with the late date in the year and consequently early setting of the sun, could only mean that the last cars of the race would finish in twilight.

Nevertheless we pressed on, and Jim Cesari, in his 1900 Zagato, drove flawlessly. Next out was Rocky in the TZ. Rocky consistently beat his projected time and brought the Alfa team up to 3rd position. Tom Hines took over and went very well, gaining another position for us. Scott Gray went out, and by this time things were happening; other faster cars were breaking down,

spinning out, and generally screwing up. The Alfa team, however, went like clockwork. I believe that at one time we were in first place, or so an announcer was saying, but who really knows. However, in the very middle of Scott's laps, an oil line blew out and put oil all over his tires, causing him to spin out. This oil slick also caused car after car behind Scott to spin out. There was no time left to clean the track, so the event organizers called the race with Ford assuming the lead. The worse part of all of this was that I didn't even get to run. "Oh well," I thought, "I'll just have to run that much harder tomorrow."

Sunday was another uncharacteristically cool, overcast day. Although the haze burned off later, the air remained somewhat cool; the ideal conditions for running hard.

The first race of the day for our particular group was of the Australian Pursuit type. An Australian Pursuit race starts the slowest car first and gives it a carefully projected lead over the next car out. The faster the car, the later it goes out. The result being, if all the cars are handicapped correctly, a photo-finish of all the cars in the race. This never happens, but very exciting finishes have resulted from this kind of competition. I believe that the race was won by a group of Morgans. I say "I believe" because I was the second to the last car away, and even though I passed a great number of slower cars, I was nowhere near the front at the finish.

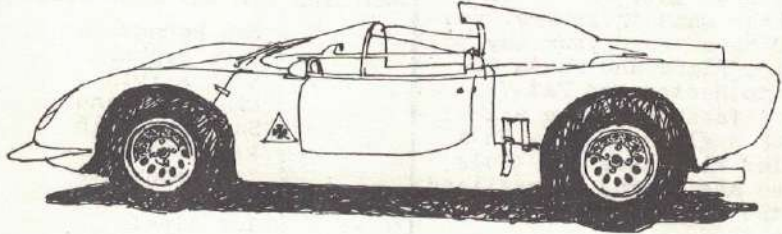
Our group's final event was the rolling start scratch race. My TZ was gridded 3rd behind a 904 Porsche on slicks (which are not supposed to be allowed) and another Porsche 911R. Gridded next to me was Scott Gray's GTA. Behind me was Rocky's TZ and next to him was Tom Hines' GTA. When the flag dropped, I tried to bury my car's nose in the tail of the 904. The 911R disappeared

after Turn 2 and the race was on. Rocky Chisholm, held up at the start by the 911, dipped to the inside and came out of Turn 2 an undisputed 3rd place. Scott's car, suffering from the previous day's battles, never got above 7th place.

Back to the front, the Porsche 904 was fast. I couldn't pass him, but

I kept the TZ's nose always within 10-20 feet of his rear bumper. That's the way we finished, the 904 crossing the line ahead of me, with Rocky 3rd, and Tom Hines 4th. It was an exciting race, one I'll never forget.

The next VARA race will be in February, see you there.



BEST DRIVER Challenge

by Sally French

October 21st brought the long-awaited Malibu Grand Prix Challenge. The stage was the Anaheim track, and contestants from Thousand Oaks to San Diego began arriving by 11 AM. After carefully walking the track, noting apexes and straightaways, we were ready to commence racing.

Two hundred and fifty laps later, after all the times were marked down, the eight-member racing teams from AROCSD and AROSC sped down Katella to the nearest Straw Hat Pizza Palace for score tallying. Team scoring was done by taking the top three times of each contestant and adding them to each other. Thus the club with lowest combined times was declared the winner.

With the help of some very fast times by Kent Knoblock, Mark Moran, Charlie Thieriot, Andy Steben, "Bear" Clemente, John Wakamatsu, Dick Harmon, and yours truly, we managed to put down any serious threats and San Diego's part. In fact, Kent's times were so fast, that six out of the seven laps he ran were faster than anyone else driving that day. Mark kept getting faster and taking more laps until he beat Charlie out of second place by a couple hundredths of a second.

All agreed it was a fun, successful event, but San Diego says that they want to find something that they can beat us at! We'll let them try.



the SONG of the ALFA

by John Ireland

Well, the rallye was a lot of fun. Baxter Street proved that even an Alfa owner can perspire. All 12 cars finished, no one getting completely lost. There were two TSD stages, and one Monte Carlo. If you don't know what these are, you still would have found your way to Little Toni's Pizza and Pasta Palace, next to Hector and Pat Vazquez's new Alfa shop. As we all gathered for a glass of wine in a garage filled with cars and tools and trophies and photos, I realized that half the fun of owning my Alfa was joining AROSC.

The rallye results were based on who had the lowest penalty points. 1st place, with 380 points, Rick and Ricki Clemente.

2nd place, with 425 points, Robert and Linda Perales.

3rd place, with 732 points, Paul Reinstein and Brad Barnes.

4th place, with 770 points, Tom Lipkis and Skip Eastman.

5th place, with 950 points, Steve Robinson and James Dennis.

6th place, with 1195 points, Dave and Nancy Vegher.

7th place, with 1260 points, Rick and Diane Alfvn.

8th place, with 1435 points, James Griffin and Leslie Flanders.

9th place, with 1549 points, Ben Briggs and Mike Helf.

10th place, with 1665 points, Bryant Kolsin and David Bushey.

11th place, with 1790 points, Ernie Carpenter and Ernelyn Gail.

And, winning the traditional quart of oil, was Ron and Jean Coffeen, with 1795 points.

Ben Briggs won the beautiful Alfa equipment bag that was raffled off by Pat and Hector, with proceeds going to the Gunner Nilsson Cancer Fund.

The end of 1979 and the beginning of 1980 doesn't mean a slowdown in the chances to share your love

of good twisty roads. November 23rd will be the election of your new Board of Directors and the one-and-only AROSC White Turkey Auction.

Nominees for the 1980 Board are:

Dan Bernstein
Dave Vegher
Rick Alfvn
Alana Ireland
Sue Bernstein
Al Cortes
Jack Becronis
Andy Steben
Tom Lipkis
John Ireland

December 8th is Alfa Claus '79, the annual AROSC Christmas Party. Come join the fun.

February brings the New Year's first Grand Tour. This will be two-lane blacktop at its best.

Last, but not least, I would like to say how much I am enjoying the friends I've made in AROSC. Many of you I'm just getting to know and others already know how crazy I am, but all of you are a big and happy part of my life. AROSC is more than metal machines, it's also some of the finest people I've met. We thank you for your friendship.

John, Alana, Doggy, and Marcello



ALFA



CLAUS '79

YES, SPEED FREAKS, THERE IS A 1979 AROSC CHRISTMAS PARTY. AND YOU'LL MEET ALFA KLAUS IN PERSON AT THE MOST FANTASTIC ALFA BASH OF THE YEAR. IT WILL MAKE "THE BOG" AT WATKINS GLEN SEEM LIKE A CONVENT.

THIS YEAR, IN ADDITION TO EATING AND DRINKING UNTIL YOUR O-RINGS SPLIT, YOU'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO WIN SOME SWELL PRIZES BY ENTERING THE POLISH NATIONAL DRIVERS TEST, THE BEST ALFA LIE IN 25 WORDS OR LESS CONTEST, AND THE WORLD'S FIRST FORMULA 1 CREEPER GRAND PRIX.

THE DATE IS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8th, AT 8:00 PM, AT 2500 ROSCOMARE ROAD, LOS ANGELES, PH. (213)476-8812 (in case you get off course!)

THE COST IS \$4.00 PER PERSON, AND THAT INCLUDES A GREAT TUMMYFUL OF FOOD AND PLENTY OF MIX. BUT BRING YOUR OWN BOTTLE OF "RACING OIL".

FOR INFORMATION, CALL JOHN IRELAND AT (213)874-1445 EVENINGS, OR (213)464-0101 DAYS AND LEAVE A MESSAGE. I WILL RETURN ALL CALLS.

DON'T MISS IT!!!

AROSC CHRISTMAS PARTY

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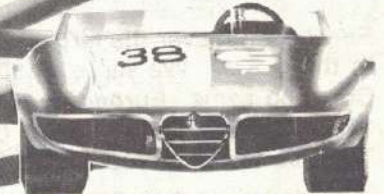
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Subscriptions to this newsletter are included as part of the \$20.00 per year AROSC Membership fee. For membership information write: AROSC P.O. Box 261, Los Alamitos, CA 90720. Articles, letters, and personal ads are always welcomed and should be 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:

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