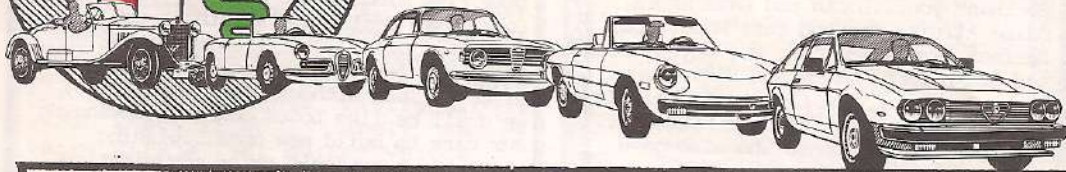




ALFACIONADA

ALFA ROMEO OWNERS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



VOLUME 22 NO. 12 DECEMBER 1983

P.O. BOX 261, LOS ALAMITOS, CA 90720



by John Ireland

The easy part of giving up the Presidency of AROSC is because of all the unfinished business. The hard part is also because of all the unfinished business. I also feel bad because as of this writing, your new President, Teri Wood, does not yet have a Newsletter Editor for 1984. As I have said, thanks to Teri's organization, the job has never been easier, all it takes is someone with creative itch that needs scratching, and a couple of spare hours each week. The newsletter is the basic form of communication for the club...it tells you when and where to meet, and it gives the entry forms for the various events, it offers things for sale, and gives technical tips...and if there is no newsletter, AROSC will also start to disappear.

As I have said before, the January 1984 Meeting will not be at ARI Western Division Headquarters as it has been in the past...but instead will be at El Camino College, about a mile east of Alondra Park. I am finalizing arrangements now, and a formal announcement, along with the specific location will be in your January newsletter. The date will still be the fourth Friday of January, so mark it on your calendar.

continued on page 2

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER

- December 25 - Christmas, Are you hoping for an Alfa under the tree?
- January 15 - Board meeting, 2:00pm Nancy & Steve Averill's. Both 83 & 84 board members are asked to attend.
- January 27 - General Meeting with ARI. 8:00pm at El Camino College. It is about half a mile past Alondra Park on Manhattan Beach Blvd.



It's been an easy year for me because all the Board of Directors did so much of the work. I won't take the time to be specific since you'll see them all in January, but they do deserve a fast mention. So thank you...Lorin and Dave Skora, Daine Alfvn, Jim and Teri Wood, Joel Hoffman, Frank Scholer, Pat Hayes, Dick and Sue Harmon, Nancy and Steve Averill, Peter Becronis, Tom Lipkis, Phyllis Gaylard, Dave Crowley, Dolores Hodgson... plus non-board members who also gave time and more to the club, Al Cortes, Charlie Thieriot, Craig Morningstar of ARI, John Masterson of Masterson Motors in Ventura, Alfa of Santa Monica, Alfa Milano, Inc., Alfa-Ricambi, Ward and Deane Racing, Alfa Speciale/Jafco Turbo, Blake Morris, Dave Vegher of Veloce Motors West, Mike Sperry and Sperry Valve Works, Andy and Ann Steben, Jerry Rosenstock and the Vintage Auto Racing Assoc., Jack Becronis, and all the Alfa Dealers and all our Newsletter advertisers!

The January Meeting is still being organized, but to start things off, we will be having an exhibit, of Alfa Romeo Tee shirts, so if you've got an old one or a rare one, bring it to the meeting. In case of duplication, the first one to arrive will be the one we display. The Meeting will also be your first chance to place an order for new AROSC tee shirts, and your last chance to order an AROSC Club Jacket. You've seen them in the newsletter and you know what a great bargain they are, well January will be the last time they are offered for a long time.

Also at the January meeting, look for some very interesting information about future cars from Alfa Romeo...I'll let Craig Morningstar give it to you first hand, plus ARI will hopefully have some samples from the new Alfa Boutique, car goodies for those who love their Alfa Romeos. Also at this time, Craig is working on getting some very special cars for display...but that still has to be worked out with El Camino first.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

From the looks of our membership roles, the club is growing again...much of this due to all the Alfa Dealers who are now distributing our new membership form/sample newsletter. PLEASE, take five minutes and drop by your local Alfa Dealer and say thank you on behalf of AROSC. It is important that they feel our appreciation of their efforts...and without the Alfa Dealers, we'd all be like Lotus owners, scavenging our cars to build new ones...wishing there was a national sales organization to turn to for a constant supply of parts and the support that Alfa Romeo has given to AROSC for twenty years.

Well, thank you all for your support this past year. It has been fun. Together, let's all of us give the new Board our support, beginning at the January 27th meeting that kicks off 1984!

John, Alana, Millie, Bruno, Marcello, and the little red GTV.

JOHN

ALFACIONADA is the monthly publication of the Alfa Romeo Owners Club of Southern California (AROSC). Box 261, Los Alamitos,

Subscriptions to this newsletter are included as part of the \$35.00 per year membership fee. Meetings are normally held on the fourth Friday of the month, 8:00 p.m. sharp at the:

Alondra Park Clubhouse
3850 Manhattan Beach Blvd.
Lawndale, CA

Directions - 405 to Hawthorne exit, north short block to Manhattan Beach, right about 1.5 miles.

For more information call:

John Ireland (President)
(213) 841-8939
Joel Hoffman (Membership)
(213) 994-4730
Jim & Teri Wood (Editors)
75 N Oakleaf Ave.
Agoura, CA 91301
(213) 991-3754

Send articles, letter, personal ads, etc. directly to the editors by the 1st of each month for publication.

YOU CAN'T ALWAYS GET WHAT YOU WANT

Way back in 1969 when I had a Camaro I would drive up to Lime Rock, Conn. for the Trans-Am races. I couldn't wait until the quiet Alfas, BMWs etc. got off the track so the real race cars, Camaros, Mustangs etc. could race. Also in 1969 The Rolling Stones had a big hit with the song You Can't Always Get What You Want. Little did I know that it would apply to my third Alfa a 1981 Spider Veloce.

With visions of myself someday joining Alfa's Formula One team, I had my dealer, Bobcor Motors, install a roll bar. Oh the car looked great; very racy. But when I got into the Alfa I felt like a prisoner in a cell. Before I could stretch out my arms fully, Italian style, now my arms were bent at the elbows and my back was sitting straight up.

To get back some of those lost 2 & a half inches I first took off the plastic shoulder belt guides. I found about a half an inch more room, but I still had a long way to go. After moving to Los Angeles I bought two Recaro LS seats which are not only more comfortable, but also narrower. Step 3 in getting back more and reclining room was a stop at SRPM in Torrance, Ca. for a custom roll bar. This one pivots where attached at the parcel shelf and tilts forward to clear the top. This gained back about 1 & a half inches of seat travel, but more importantly allowed the seat to be reclined way back. But, the song's title still held true. Step 4 took me to Giuseppe Cappalonga who owns Targa Florio, an independent Alfa shop in Van Nuys, Ca. He installed a smaller than stock BWA leather steering wheel and cut out about 1/2 inch from the new hub, welded and repainted it. It's almost perfect now.

Joel Hoffman

ALFACIONADA

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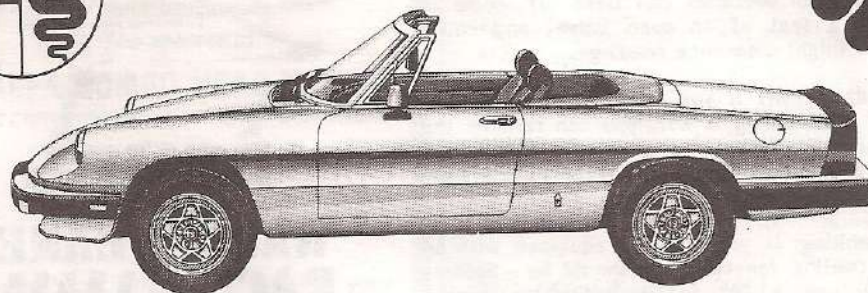
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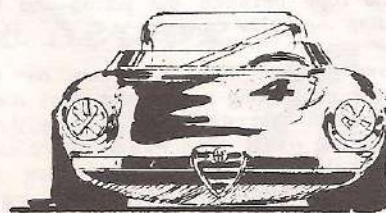
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THE TURN OF THE WRENCH

Valve Clearance Measurements: Do NOT remove spark plugs before measuring valve clearances because carbon particles can flake off, come to rest on the seat of an open valve, and cause erroneous (high) clearance readings.

Valve Adjustment: If you need to adjust valves but your cam timing is OK, you can remove the valve shims by lifting the cams out of the way without ever disengaging the cam sprockets from the timing chain.

Hand Cranking: If your Alfa is equipped with an electric cooling fan (which it should be - Spiders included), use a 1½" (=38mm) ½"-drive socket (Snap-On SW481) and ratchet to hand-turn the engine via the crankshaft pulley nut, when adjusting valves or tensioning the cam chain.

Chain Tensioning: Tension the cam timing chain by turning the engine manually, or by pushing the car in 5th gear on a level surface, NOT by letting the engine idle as is recommended in the manuals.

Intake Seal Replacement: You can remove valve springs and replace intake seals without removing the head by stuffing about 8' of clothesline into a spark plug hole, then raising the piston to squish the rope between the piston and valve, thus holding the valve closed.

Cam Cover Clips: When you can no longer tolerate the oil leaking out around those dreadful plastic clips on the cam cover, remove them by drilling out the rivets, then thread the holes with a ¼x28 tapered tap. You can then plug up the holes with ¼"x¼"x¼"-28(NF) set screws installed with Loctite (the taper tap gives a V-shaped threaded hole so the set screw will bind tightly when installed).

Fuel Injection Tuning: The FI mixture can be set easily by backing off the cutoff solenoid to a very lean setting, manually or mechanically holding the throttle to a constant 2000-3000 RPM, then slowly richening the solenoid until the maximum RPM is reached. Back off ¼ turn lean from this point and leave it there.

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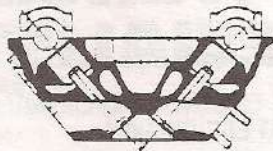
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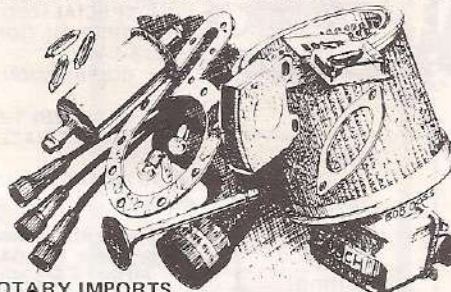
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TIME TRIAL #5
November 26, 1983

		AROSC				
		1st_lap	2nd_lap	3rd_lap	4th_lap	5th_lap
Class A & B						
John Samson	72 GTV	1:44.90	1:44.83	1:45.76	1:44.35	1:43.25
Al Cortes	65 GTA	1:52.52	1:51.23	1:52.15	1:52.29	1:50.56
Class C						
Mike Sperry	64 GTA	1:47.58	1:47.63	1:47.89	1:47.50	1:47.53
Peter Beconis	67 GTV	2:01.77	2:03.56	2:02.00	2:00.54	2:01.52
Class D & E						
Phyllis Gaylard	73GTV	2:01.69	2:00.36	2:08.50	2:01.47	2:00.82
John Ireland	74 GTV	2:04.43	2:05.27	2:03.39	2:02.87	2:02.37
Class F						
Allen Werner	73Zagato	1:52.75	2:03.42	1:52.00	1:51.36	----
Alan Ward	73Berlina	1:54.53	1:54.87	1:56.06	1:56.32	1:58.46
Tom Lipkis	67 GTV	1:57.78	1:57.41	1:57.36	1:57.50	1:56.93
Andy Steban	73 GTV	1:59.92	1:57.65	1:57.26	1:57.90	1:57.87
Skiio Farnsworth	74GTV	2:05.00	2:04.82	2:05.03	2:02.87	2:03.53
Saverio Bono	74 GTV	2:06.82	2:06.35	2:05.57	2:06.04	2:04.50
VARA						
Jim Miller	Crossle	1:48.82	1:47.82	1:45.46	1:45.84	1:44.75
J. Rosenstock	Healy	1:59.17	1:54.57	1:54.71	1:55.02	1:57.60
Dick Riddell	Bugati	1:57.85	1:57.32			
Barb Bollinger	Lotus	2:09.92	2:06.56	2:06.83	2:13.32	2:06.77

Trophies were awarded to John Samson - Class A & B who also had Top Time of Day. Class C - Mike Sperry, Class D & E - Phyllis Gaylard, Class F - Allen Werner 1st. Alan Ward 2nd.

WANTED/FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Transaxle from 76 Alfetta GT. Bad spider gears otherwise in great shape. \$75 Jim Wood (213) 991-3754

FOR SALE: 72 Berlina, European cam. Runs well. \$1700 OBO. Charlie Furst (213) 399-5882.

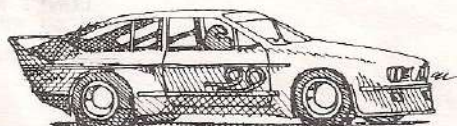
FOR SALE: 79 Alfa Sedan, Automatic Trans. Needs Rewiring. \$1500. (213) 386-9826. William Morrison

WANTED: Air Conditioning unit to fit 71 GTV. Bob Tomanak (213) 887-9015 or 702-3029 days.

FOR SALE: '67 Duetto Spider. Very clean. \$5500. Lonnie St Marie (213) 531-3211(home) or (714) 893-9222(work).

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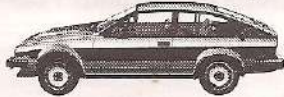
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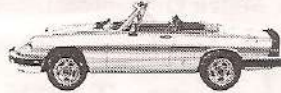
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