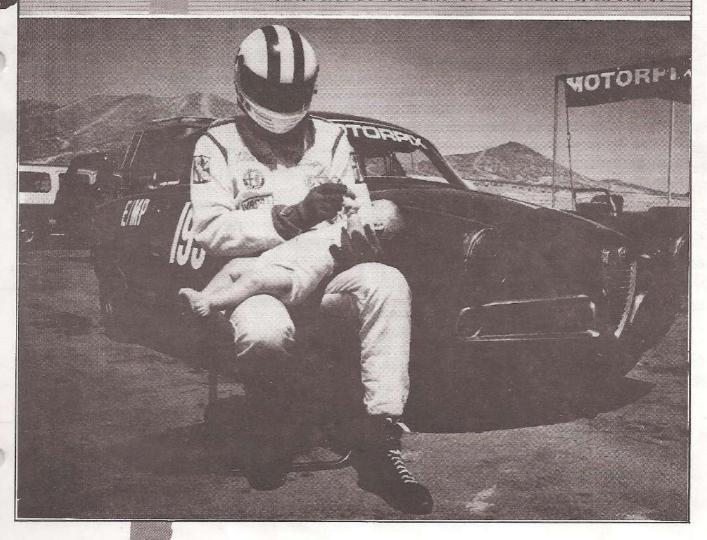
JANUARY 199

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ALFA ROMEO OWNERS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



Alfacionada is the monthly publication of ALFA ROMEO OWNERS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, a regional chapter of ALFA ROMEO OWNERS CLUB, INC.

Subscriptions to this newsletter are included as part of the \$47.00 membership fee paid to AROC, Inc. Meetings are held monthly on the LAST FRIDAY of the month at 8 p.m. at Alondra Park Clubhouse, located at 3850 Manhattan Beach Blvd., Lawndale, CA unless otherwise noted in the newsletter.

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Please send articles, letters, ads and photographs to the newsletter editor by the tenth of the month for publication in the next month's edition. Classified ads are available as a free service to members and at a nominal \$10.00 charge to non-members advertising Alfa related items.

This newsletter and its authors and editors assume no liability for the accuracy or legality of any technical information appearing herein.

IMPORTANT DEADLINE:

All articles and classified ads are due by the 10th of the month to be featured in the following month's newsletter.

Cover: "Self Portrait with two babies".

Photo by Tom Farrington

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William J. Pringle	621 Deodara Dr., Altadena, CA 91001
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 Phil Guiral
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 Concours
 (213) 439-5550

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 4539 Jubilo Dr., Tarzana, CA 91356

 Membership
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Fabio Garbini 3786 Meier St., Los Angeles, CA 90066

Program (2138) 398-1421 (H) (213) 644-2933 (0)

Newsletter

Louise Velazquez (213) 934-4508

Editor Mailing Address:

Steve Gerow P.O. Box 48616

Art Director Los Angeles, CA 90048

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1/8 Page	Half Year \$60.	Full Year \$100.
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1/2Page	240.	400.

Editor's Desk

Louise Velazquez

ANUARY MEETING Our annual first of the year extravaganza will take place Saturday January 26th at 8 PM in Music #7 at El Camino College (Please see the map directions on the inside front cover). The legendary Strother MacMinn will be our speaker and we will be having an unusually great raffle of Alfa-related paraphenalia. The 1990 Concours and Time Trial awards will also be handed out. It will be a good opportunity to meet the new Board of Directors, catch up with old friends and start out the new year by making some new ones.

We traditionally have an interesting assortment of Alfas on display at the January meeting. Any club members interested in displaying their cars should contact Dan Ritter at (213) 374-3153.

I would like to extend special thanks to Charlie Thieriot, Rex Chalmers, Fabio Garbini and Tom Farrington for their contributions this month and a nod to Barry Klein and Russ Neglia for their recent notes of support. We will be initiating a "Letters to the Editor" column and would love to hear from those of you who can take a moment to let us know what's on your mind.

Parole del'Presidente Nuovo...

William J. Pringle

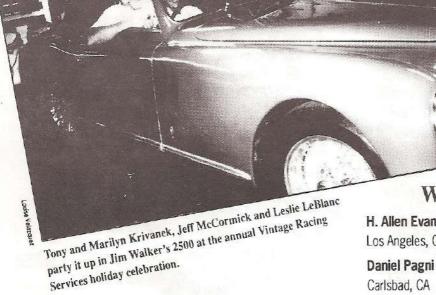
ell it's 1991 and we have one hell of a calender set up for all you Alfanatics out there in Southern California! As I segue into this administration I would like to thank, in advance, some people who have already helped to make 1991 a funfilled year for the club: Steve Gerow and Louise Velazquez for a great-looking newsletter (without which this club couldn't function); Stu Schaller who found the time to put together a banquet and grandstand seating for the 1991 Long Beach Grand Prix (see special insert this issue) and to Charlie Thieriot and his gang for putting together a great AROSC Time Trial schedule. Anyone who's name I missed (there are many), I am most appreciative.

One of the major events to look forward to in 1991 will be the Alfa Romeo Owners Club National Convention to be held the weekend before the Monterey Historics in August. It will be hosted by our neighbors to the south: The Alfa Romeo Owners Club of San Diego. Hats off

> to them for all the hard work they will be putting in! Official hotel will be the Holiday Inn at Montgomery field where they will hold a "people's choice" concours among other activities. Lead foots cross your fingers...the speed event is yet to be nailed down as there are virtually no locations available for a time trial or autocross. How about the 3/4 banked oval at El Cajon Raceway? I'd love to do the Dale Earnhardt in my Berlina, drafting guys like Fred Schueddekopp while slippin' and slidin' on the banking!

> > Not wishing to ramble on here, simply keep an eye out in this and future newsletters for information regarding upcoming events

Buon Capodanno!



Welcome New AROSC Members!

H. Allen Evans Los Angeles, CA

Carlsbad, CA

R. Speers Robinson Northridge, CA

Mark Roman Pacific Grove, CA

Michael Slutzker

Pacific Palisades, CA

Steve Sparklin Manhattan Beach, CA

The Checkered Flag

Dan Ritter

oming out of the last corner. The rev counter's coming up to 7400 however I can feel the power kind of go away, like I'd better shift it soon. I reach for the gear lever and move it Northeast, and like silk, the Alfa gearbox makes the change to fifth. This is the last run and as I push the accelerator harder into the floorboard I sense my right shaking. I can just now make out the checkered flag waving in the distance and within a small space in time I'll be right back where I started from- a regular member of the Alfa Romeo Owners of Southern California. That's right in a month or so it's like I'm outa here, adios, so-long, ciao, etc. Has it been great being the president? You bet! I mean I've learned more in the last two years than all of grad

school and my two marriages combined. That doesn't happen without people. Alfa people, proud people, people like yourselves. This club is an extraordinary tribute to the great marque of Alfa Romeo but it takes each member's effort to make it worthy and make it last. For myself, it's been a distinct privilege to serve as President moreover I think the office has given me the opportunity to meet many of you and it is I who have been the benefactor of learning and sharing your Alfa experiences. Actually I've had the pleasure of serving on the Board of Directors since 1984 when I was Vice-President, then Concours Chair, and after that as Competition Director. In these last two years as President the issue of preserving the hobby as we know it has been subject to much restrictive legislation hence I pushed for the ACCC membership. Another idea I thought was worthwhile was the library. Under the capable and adroit Larry Meyer, the club Library is growing and it looks like this will be a part of the club from here on in. Along with fiscal accountability and responsibility I believe the attendance at the General Meetings has increased which is which is due to the efforts of the Program Chairmen Pringle and then Garbini. But perhaps I'm getting ahead of myself which we can now segue into the most important aspect of this diatribe are the Thank Yous. Here are some Alfa people whom I owe a great debt of gratitude; From left to right they are Rex Chalmers, Chuck & Jan Cline, Past President Al Cortes, Bill & Vicki Dillman, Tom Farrington, Phyllis Gaylard, Phil Gurial, Ada Garza, Past President John Green, Terry Higashi, Past President Joel Hoffman. Past President John Ireland and his wife Alana Ireland, Gene Jacob, Yolanda Keh & Fabio Garbini, Frank & Pat Kranz, Larry Meyer,



Dan Ritter at Palm Springs, 1990

Tom Farrington

Noel Norwick, Bill Pringle, Harold Rich, Bob Sarbacker, Stu Schaller, Mike Sperry, Dr. Dirk Stoehr, Tom Stoner, Charlie Theriot, Randy & Lisa Van Daalen Wetters, Pete Valenzula, John Deghi, Jim Wood, Gene & Sue Zettle, Tony Kravanik, Andy Steben, Brad, Bob, and all the folks at Ricambi, and John Kravchak. I hope I haven't inadvertently omitted any name belonging to this list.

Points of Interest

ELECTIONS! On the 11th of November which was the day of the swapmeet at Alfa Ricambi the final balloting was submitted and the results of the elections for the new officers to the Board of Directors is in. By a majority vote as stated in the bylaws I can report with confidence that the next Board of Directors are as follows:

THE HEAT DOOLD OF I	MICCIOIS aic as Iolions.
President	William J. Pringle
Vice President	Stu Schaller
Secretary	Tina Van Curren
Treasurer	Pete Valenzuela
Concours	Phil Guiral
Competition	Charlie Theriot
Membership	Dirk Stoehr
Newsletter	Louise Velazquez
	Steve Gerow
Program	Fred Schueddekopp
	Fabio Garbini



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Good News, Bad News & Just News

Stu Schaller

he swap meet at Ricambi today was a success, I even found the proper radio blanking plate and arm rests for my early 2600 Sprint. The problem in finding the arm rests is that one design was used up until '64 and a later design was used from '64 to '67. I found some late ones; thanks to Al Cortes for the right ones! There was even a set of mint original 6" Carrello head lamps for an early Guilietta Sprint at this meet, but at \$2500, they went unsold, as far as I'm aware.

• I was at the first Los Angeles Miata Club event, and a number of people were interested in running our Time Trials and Drivers School programs, and they offered to let us run their rallies and social events, such as wine tours and picnics. I look forward to working with them; they even asked me to be on the committee which organizes their first board and the initial aspects of non-profit incorporation. Very nice people and as enthusiastic (but less "gearhead") than we Alfa nuts.

• Alfa Course/Patrick Racing has found some 40H.P. plus reliability with the short stroke/ 4-valve motor, and found the 5-valve to be of little use with a turbo motor. There is also a 12-cylinder motor up and running of 3.5 liters for future use and development for group "C" or I.M.S.A. "GTP" sports cars, but Alfa wants the Indy car effort to be at the top of the heap before devoting funds to sports car racing, as it is more expensive than even formula one!! More one this at a later date

• A new magazine, Alfa Romeo World has just been issued. The magazine is actually edited in Italy. It is secondarily edited in England, and translated. The U.S. distributor is P.M.G. Inc., 2001 West Main, Suite 140, Stamford, CT., 06902. A subscription is \$22.00 for six issues. P.M.G. also publishes Ferrari World, and another new magazine, Italian Cars is to come shortly (at t\$28.00 for six issues). P.M.G.'s phone number is (203) 969-2533. Glenn's old Alfa Tune-Up and Repair Guide is now reissued, and covers Giulietta, Giulia, cast iron 2000 and 2600 models.

• I am currently working on a Alfa stand at the Long Beach Indy Car Race in April with Charlie Thieriot and Tina Van Curren. We may also have a party on the Friday before the race at the Hyatt in the middle of the course. The price for a seat and the party will be in the fifty dollar neighborhood. Please contact me immediately if you are interested.

• There are a few Alfa books out recently, the best of which is The Alfa Romeo Tradition by Griff Borgeson. The retail price is \$69.95.

 I also have donated an almost complete set of Road & Track magazine (up to 1966) to the club library, which is growing at leaps and bounds.

Laguna Seca Time Trial NOVEMBER 17-18, 1990

Fabio Garbini

hh, the agony of non-competition. If not for my engine, transmission, steering box, differential...I could have been partaking of the excitement at Laguna Seca. For some reason the track at Laguna Seca has always had a special allure that gets my adrenaline pumping and brings a smile to my face. I wonder if it's the clean smog-free air or the track itself?

The conditions could not have been more perfect. The expected rain graciously remained offshore and the sun kept the temperature in the low 70's. With a dry track and cool weather, what more could you ask for? Even the turnout was great - our best this season with almost 100 cars. Thank you Northern California for your participation and good company.

The weekend went fairly smoothly. The only track casualties were Jerry Rosenstock's TZ-1 and Harold Rich's Alfetta (courtesy of Skip Farnsworth). Jerry crunched out at Turn 11 on Saturday and had to bow out the rest of the weekend.(I hope he doesn't retire the beauty). On Sunday Skip aerodynamically altered Harold Rich's Alfetta while unwinding from the blinding corkscrew at Turn 8. At least Harold and Skip managed to get the Alfetta going and even place 2nd and 5th in their class.

Yes folks, another Time Trial season has slipped by. January 5 - 6 at Willow Springs marks the first of the 1991 Racing season. (Please note the key word race, that's correct, we will be RACING this season.) Too much fun, too little time! Anyway, I hope to see you all there.

Results

Name	Car	Class	Time
Tor McPartland	GTV	D	1:54.59
Wes Ingram	GTV ITB	D	1:55.80
Dale Farmer	GTAm	C	1:56.49
Ray Ramsey	Spider	D	1:58.02
Patrick Moran	Spider	E	1:58.66
Alex Brown	GTV	E	1:58.84
Harold Rich	Alfetta GT	C	1:58.87
Tom Sahines	GTV	С	1:59.60
Jerry Tinney	GTV	C	1:59.67
Terry Tinney	GTV	С	1:59.96

1991 Time Trial Schedule

March 2 & 3

March 30 & 31

June

AROSC Drivers School at Willow Springs

Time Trial at Willow Springs

Time Trial in San Diego (date TBA)

Time Trial at Willow Springs

October AROSC Drivers School at Willow Springs

November 2 & 3 Time Trial at Laguna Seca

Concours News

Philip Guiral

he last concours of the year turned out to be the most interesting with a variety of cars and activities. Not all of the Alfas that showed up entered the concours, but we did have a fantastic selection including a 1900 coupe (3rd in class at Pebble Beach 1990), a Sprint Speciale, a Montreal, and many other very nice Alfas. **Chartie Thieriot** and the other merchants sponsored a photo contest with a one hundred dollar first prize. The cars, photo contest, interesting people, and good food all made for a great afternoon. Hopefully this will become an annual event with other car clubs joining us next year. I would like to thank everyone who took part in the concours program this year. I hope to see you all next year.

Insight Photo Video Concours Results

Concom 3 W	counts
50's & 60's	
1957 1900 coupe	Bob Hackamack
1969 spyder	Walter Meyer
1965 Guilia	Stefan Chmara
70's	
1974 GTV	Rex Chalmers
1974 GTV	Bill & Lynn Reinert
1972 Montreal	Frank Panto
80's	
1984 GTV-6 coupe	Fred Biba
1981 spyder	Dirk Stoehr
PEOPLES CHOICE &	BEST OF SHOW
1957 1900 coupe	Bob Hackamack
	50's & 60's 1957 1900 coupe 1969 spyder 1965 Guilia 70's 1974 GTV 1974 GTV 1972 Montreal 80's 1984 GTV-6 coupe 1981 spyder PEOPLES CHOICE &

Drivers School at Willow Springs

March 2-3, for Street, Time Trial and Racing

John Green

elcome to 1991 and the first of AROSC's two Drivers Schools and we've made some changes! I know it's only January but we can only take a limited number of students. And depending on whether or not the February newsletter is on time this may be the last issue you will receive before the acceptance cutoff! Our September school was sold out so it helps to get the entry in early. For those of you wishing a very reasonably priced drivers school offering great instruction and loads of track time just keep reading.

If you wish to become a better street driver, hone your skills for our Time Trial, Racing, Slalom, or Rally programs, or just see what it's like at the track under low key conditions, this is the best deal in town! The AROSC Time Trial Instruction Proram will be putting on our fifth AROSC DRIVERS SCHOOL at the Streets of Willow Springs on March 2nd and 3rd. We have some of the best instructors in Southern California who will be holding chalk board sessions, a car control clinic on the skid pad, a shifting exercise, and sessions on the "solo" course so you can put what you learn to practice. We start from the basics of In to hold the steering wheel and go on to cover the theory of cornering. We do it in easy steps, with lots of fun and some great people.

The beauty of this school is it allows you to use your own car without having to invest in added safety equipment. And we even allow cars other than Alfa's. You will, however, need to get your car tech'd at one of the authorized tech shops. The only equipment you'll need (except for the racing school) is your street seat belt, a Snell approved helmet and proper clothes, shoes and gloves. As we have done in the past we will have a lapping session on Sunday for experienced drivers in competition equipped cars.

The racing school will be new this year. It is designed for the experienced and licensed Time Trialer who wishes to participate in the AROSC Racing Program but has no racing experience. You must be equipped as per the 1991 Competition Code under Racing. We will discuss strategy, the theory of passing and cornering as well as practice starts. On Sunday we will have a short race for you to put to use the skills you have learned.

The cost for the school is \$125 for the Street and Time Trial student and \$150 for the Race student. This is a price that can't be found anywhere in the country. And we don't require you to bring a porsche. Because of the track size we have to limit the number of students so the entry will be on a first come first entered basis).

ENTRY DEADLINE: POSTMARKED NLT FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND We have arranged a special priced hotel for those of you wishing to stay over night and I'm arranging a "separate check" dinner just as we did in September. Danny McKeever, the Chief Instructor of Willow Springs Drivers School, will make available some of his specially prepared Long Beach Grand Prix Celebrity race cars for rent, give him a call at 805-256-2414 if you're interested.

Continued Page 8

Join the Club with Universal Appeal.

We invite the participation of the following:

- Leadfoots
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- Socialites

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hatever your demographic category, as long as you've got Alfas in your blood, an AROSC membership offers the following potential benefits:

- · Alfacionada, your guide to the LA area Alfa scene.
- · Membership in the national Alfa Romeo owners club; Alfa Owner, its monthly magazine, with many articles on current Alfa events, rumors, technical, historical and competition topics. It also carries ads from all the major suppliers of aftermarket parts and accessories.
- Popular Time Trial, Race, and Concours Schedules
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Il Technico Frigo

Rex Chalmers

i everybody, it's nice to be back. Your editor, Louise, called and asked me to write an article on a basic safety check for time trial car preparation. I'm not going to get too technical, we'll just keep it to the basics.

Starting on the ground, let's check out those tires. First make sure that there are no foreign objects, i.e. nails, screws, etc., imbedded in the tire. Next check to make sure that the tires are round, yes, round. Jack up one corner of the car at a time and place a jack stand next to the bottom of the tire. Use a thin screwdriver on top of the jackstand and line it up under the tire and rotate the tire. Check to make sure that the gap between the end of the screwdriver and the tire does not vary much more than one sixteenth of an inch. Next make sure that the tires are not down to the wear indicators. Check for uneven wear and have the tires checked for proper balance.

The next items to check are the wheel bearings. They should be repacked and adjusted every 12-15,000 miles. If yours haven't been looked at in a while, please check them. If they fail it can ruin your whole weekend. The bearings should have just the slightest play. Check your shop manual for adjustment procedures. If the bearings are discolored or scarred, replace them. Next check your brake pads and discs. If the pads are under one half of their original thickness, change them. Check the rotors for warpage and thickness. If the runout is over .003" or they are at or below minimum thickness, replace them.

The next area to look at is the engine compartment. First check the battery. Make sure it is secured properly. Improperly secured batteries are one of the top causes of failure at tech inspection. Next check the fuel system for any leakage and that the throttle return springs are in good working order. Next check the brake fluid resevoir, low level would indicate a leaky master, seaping brake lines, fittings, calipers, or excessive brake pad wear. Check for oil or coolant leaks. Oil leaks generally occur around any gasket or seal. Coolant leaks usually appear at the indicator header tanks and at the end of the hoses. Check all the drive belts for wear or deterioration. This is especially important on V-6 engines where a worn drive belt can cause bent valves-more than a minor inconvenience. Don't forget to check all fluid levels; including engine, coolant, gearbox, differential, battery, brake fluid and steering

In the passenger compartment we must first check the feel of the steering and brakes. If there is excessive play in either system, locate the cause and repair. Make sure the seat is mounted securely. Do a light check, paying close attention to proper functioning of the brake lights. Secure mounting of the fire extinguisher is, of course, essential.



Checking for proper mounting of your safety harness is one of the most important items to inspect. If your belts are not mounted properly I can assure you that you will not pass technical inspection. If the webbing of the safety harness is old, frayed or if you have been in a major collision it should be replaced immediately. This material loses resiliency over time which can cause it to give too much in the event that stress is put on it. This is an important area that many people tend to ignore.

Finally, boys and girls, use your common sense. if it doesn't look or feel right, it probably isn't. We're trying to insure your safety as well as the safety of your competitors, so get out there and make your Milanese jewels safe. If you're not 100% sure, see your local friendly Alfa wrench.

Willow Springs School from P. 6

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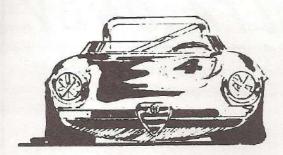
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Sunday, April 14th (ticket includes): • Race day seat and parking

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• Ticket and parking......\$75.00

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