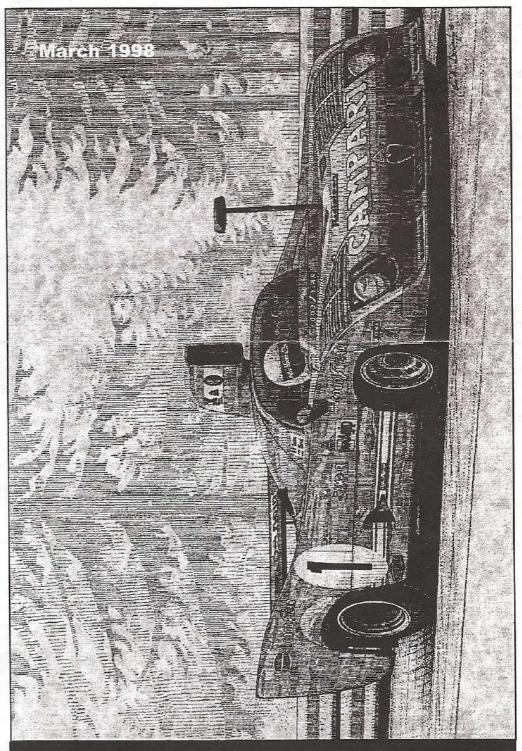


Newsletter of the Alfa Romeo Owners of Southern California



In This Issue: "The Concours Is Coming", "Wild Flowers '98", Spring Swap Meet, and more

Special Notices

y Ron Avery

Attention all Alfa car people: We have been invited to a car show in Fullerton, CA called the "Muckenthaler Motor Car Show."

This is not an *Alfa* club judged event. However, you can go and just show your car, or you can choose to have it judged by the car show. From what I understand, it is a beautiful venue. For information, call Patty at 714-565-6926. The entry fee is \$25.00 per car.

It is held at the Muckenthaler Cultural Center on Malvern Ave, just north of Chapman Ave, the cross street is Euclid St. just off the 5 and 91 freeway. See you there!

The Spring Swap Meet (is almost here)

Save the last weekend in April for the Annual Spring Cleaning Swap Meet. Your local *Alfa Romeo* club will be sponsoring the next in an ongoing series of swap meets on Sunday, the 26th of April.

It will be held in the West San Fernando Valley at *Sensor Systems*, the business of *AROSC* member and occasional time trialer, Si Robin. Further details as they become available. Watch this space.

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Street	City	State	Zip
Home Phone () Work Phon	e ()		
AROC Member Number (if applicable)	Alfa(s) Owned		
Check enclosed in the amount of \$ for			
Make checks payable to "Alfa Romeo Owners C	lub"		

AROSC Previews

AROSC General Meeting - 27 March

Join us for March's general meeting and an evening of Alfarelated fun. Come see what you've been missing in the way of club activities. Along with the usual period for tech questions, "For Sale" and "Wanted" announcements, etc., we'll have a special program.

Charlie Thieriot will be discussing the basics of Alfa engines.

This will be an introduction to the subject for anyone with an interest ed in what makes their Alfa tick, and is in preparation for a hands-on workshop to follow later this spring. As usual, the meeting time and location are located on the top of page 2 of *Alfacionada*.

Please note that our regular room for the general meeting has changed from the one hich we had last year. We now meet in the Uruapan room at Veterans' Memorial Park.

AROSC General Meeting - 24 April

Join us for April's general meeting and an evening of Alfa-related fun. Come see what you've been missing in the way of club activities. Along with the usual period for tech questions, "For Sale" and "Wanted" announcements, etc., we'll have a special program. As usual, the meeting time and location are located on the top of page 2 of Alfacionada.

Please note that our regular room for the general meeting has

changed from the one which we had last year. We now meet in the Uruapan room at Veterans' Memorial Park.

Special Notice

The March meeting will be held in the Uruapan room at Veterans Memorial Park at 8:00 pm.

This will be our location for the rest of the year and is a different room than we had last year.

AROSC Spring Swap

Meet - 26 April

Looking for some hard-tofind parts for an older model Alfa? Want to unload some of your own collection of Alfa parts? Would you just like to window-shop all of the parts that are floating around in the hands of other

Alfisti? Come to the Spring Swap meet and do it all!

This year's AROSC Spring Swap Meet will be held at Sensor Systems in Northridge. Additional details will appear in next month's issue of Alfacionada.

"In Search of the Wildflowers" Tour - 29 March

Join us for the first *AROSC* Tour of 1998. Once again, Jay Negrin will lead us on back roads and over hill and dale in search of the elusive California wildflowers. Will 1998 be the year in which *AROSC* finally traps these mythical creatures? Join us and see!

AROSC "Run for the Grapes" Concours - 11 April

Our first Concours of 1998 will be held at the San Antonio Winery on Los Angeles. Arrival time for competitors should be 9:00 am and judging will start promptly at 10:00 am. Planned categories include open car class, closed car class, special class, and unrestored original class.

All models are welcome, and whether your Alfa is a daily driver or a garage queen, there's a place for it at this fun, low-pressure event. Even if you don't have a car to enter, come along and enjoy the cars, the people, and -- of course -- the wine.

Look for an entry form and directions to the event in the March issue of *Alfacionada*. Until then, mark the date on your calendar so that you can avoid conflicting commitments!

AROSC Driving School at the "Streets of Willow" - 2 and 3 May

Want extensive and expert training in car control plus lots of track time? Think that AROSC Time Trials sound like lots of fun, but you don't want to jump into that scene without preparation?

Have we got a deal for you! Come to "the best bargain in high-performance driving you will find anywhere" - the AROSC Driving School.

AROC 1998 National Convention in Santa Fe, New Mexico - 25 to 28 June

See page 5 for a summary of the schedule of activities at this year's *AROC* National Convention.

0170

by Charlie Schwartz

Spring is right around the corner as I write, and with it the beginning of a very active season of Alfa Club events.

El Nino willing, the last Sunday of the month will see this year's running of the annual Search for the Wildflower tour, led as usual by our very own representative of the biological sciences, Jay Negrin. He has mapped out a new and, to hear him tell it, exciting route to the land of the lotus-eaters in the Lancaster vicinity.

His local spies have reported the area has been "enjoying" quite a cold winter this year – just what the flowers need to encourage a spectacular bloom. And they certainly haven't been starved for water! But whether or not the flowers make it on March 29, this always-popular fun tour culminating in a picnic is shaping up to be a Spring highlight.

The tour will be leaving from the north Valley. For the final details and directions, make sure to get to the March 27 General Meeting at Veterans Park in Culver City.

Also at this month's meeting, Charlie Thieriot, our Competition Chair and longtime Club tech guru, will be introducing the engine rebuilding workshop with a talk about engine basics designed to be informative and necessary for *anyone* who drives and maintains a gasoline-powered car – but focusing specifically, of course, on the acme of the species, the *Alfa Romeo*. This is a must-attend program for just about everyone, not just those planning to get greasy!

The garage portion of the engine workshop, which will probably stretch over two consecutive Saturdays, will follow later in the Spring. See Charlie Thieriot or Jerry Lomas for location and details... but don't wait too long, because places are strictly limited and demand is enthusiastic, as always.

April 11 will see our return to downtown Los Angeles' San Antonio Winery for our first points Concours of the year. It's been a number of years since we've visited this interesting and historic site, definitely NOT what most people think of when they think of California wineries! In addition to the judged Concours (participants, be there by 9:00 am) there should be time for winery tours and a visit to their tasting room. Last time we were there, they also had provision to serve a very nice Italian luncheon al fresco.

The AROSC Spring Swap Meet is scheduled for Sunday, April 26 at Sensor Systems in Northridge. This is a handy and always-popular location, but space is at a premium, so if you are planning to clear out your garage, storage locker, or hangar full of parts, contact a Board member as soon as possible to reserve your space! Check elsewhere in this issue for details.

El Nino has visited our Time Trial program once too often this season, so our Competition Committee is pulling all the stops to schedule an additional time trial later this Spring (we hope after the last of the major rains!). Watch the newsletter for details.

Looking ahead, June of course will see the AROC National Convention in Santa Fe, New Mexico. From personal experience, I can tell you that Santa Fe is going to be VERY busy at that time, so if you haven't yet made your reservations for the convention AND for a place to stay, don't delay or you may be disappointed. For those who haven't been to Santa Fe before, be prepared for a true American destination city.

Besides the friends from all parts of the country and the fabulous cars that will be making the journey to the high altitude (stop me if I'm wrong, but I believe Santa Fe is as high as Denver!), there is a lot to see and do in Santa Fe, not to mention fabulous *food!* I also have it on pretty good authority that Santa Fe is about a day and a half's straight shot from the Los Angeles area (last time I did it by road, going the other way, was decades ago, and I was in touring mode).

Looking even farther ahead, the fabled *Concours Italiano* at the Quail Lodge Resort and Golf Club in Carmel is scheduled to run from 9 am to 4:30 pm on August 14. Full details and exhibitor applications for those still in need are available at http://www.maseratinet.com/concours.html; you can also e-mail directly to *concours@maseratinet.com* or fax 425-646-5458.

I'm sure there's hardly a member who hasn't heard this year's event honors *Alfa Romeo*, but did you know a featured special guest will be Walter di Silva, Director of *Alfa Romeo* Centro Stile? Rumor has it he may have an *Alfa 156* or two tucked in his luggage.

Speaking of the 156, I have arranged with the factory to send our club, direct from Italy, information about the new model that's sweeping Europe and other lands where they deign to sell it. I'll be bringing several complete info packages to the General Meeting as soon as they arrive from the Olde World.

Two newsletter reminders: classified advertising is FREE for all *AROSC* members, so if you have a car to sell or you're looking for a car, if you have parts or any items of specialized interest to *Alfisti*, this is the ideal way to reach over 400 people.

Also, our Editor welcomes letters from members, as do I. So if you have a thought you'd like to share, a question, or a comment, what are you waiting for? Send it in!

See you on the road!

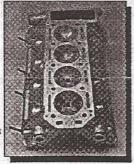


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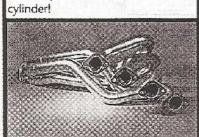
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WildFlowers '98

by Jay Negrin

We've mentioned this before, and you'll likely hear it from us again. The Alfa Romeo Owners of Southern California will driving north to greet the Wild Flowers. We are trying, yet again, to find them in bloom. The object, as always, is to to find a really nice driving road to put us out in the desert area of suburban (?) Lancaster so we can see the poppies, and lupins, and the rest, in full bloom. We have been searching for Wild Flowers for a couple of years now. The fates have to be with us some time soon. So, why not this year?

We will be starting our trek on Sunday morning, the 29th of March. We will be gathering behind the Bank of America on the northeast corner of Devonshire and Sepulveda in Mission Hills. This is in the far north end of the San Fernando Valley, close to the intersection of the San Diego and Simi Valley freeways. We will be meeting and schmoozing about 9 - 9:30 am. The plan is to leave at 10.

Pack your picnic lunch, or buy it before the start. There is a Hughes and a Vons market in easy distance of the start. Bring your lunch with, and after 2 1/2 hours or so of driving and stopping to stretch our legs, we should be ready to stop and enjoy what we have brought along. The only thing I can promise is 75 miles of enjoyable driving roads with good scenery along the way. There will be NO freeway milage on our way out to visit the poppies.

If you need more explicit instructions on how to get to the start, email or phone works well. If there is an atypical, El Nino monsoon happening, I encourage you to call first to verify that there will be a tour. I have seen the roads, and some of them might not be passable in a downpour. Pray for sunshine!!

See you then -Jay Negrin (818)894-3549 jmnegrin@aol.com

Display your Alfa at the LBGP Concours!

We have received a last-minute invitation for members to enter the Concours at the Long Beach Grand Prix.

It is on Thursday, April 2 from 11am to 3pm. They expect over 150 cars to be in the show, which is on the Promenade between Ocean blvd. & Third St. in Long Beach. Participants should setup around 7am or so. A Toyota RAV4 will be raffled off to participants who covet Japanese junk or who like recycling. There will be live music, games, food, retail sales, etc. Contact Gary Gosselin, of ProTime Productions at (562) 432-1187.

Classified Ads

1967 GTV Project car apart for restoration. Very little rust - never hit. 100% complete. Seats already redone. Can be sold as a roller or with a drivetrain. \$2500 or \$3500, negotiable.

14"x6" BWA Sportray Wheels. Very light \$200 for four 14"x5.5" factory steel wheels. \$20 each

Ti or Super front bumper. \$150

Cast iron exhaust manifolds. \$60 per pair. OBO Fred (714) 893-3727

Wanted: 15 x 7" Alfetta wheels, 6" back-spacing. Need a complete set (at least 4). Must be true. Fair price offered for good wheels. Jeff Robin @ (818) 345-0666.

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1971 Alfa Romeo Spider Vintage Race Car. 2.0L, dual Weber 45 DCOE, aluminum flywheel, light crank & clutch, Ward & Deane suspension, close ratio trans, full roll cage, fuel cell, fire system, Sparco seat, 2 sets light alloy wheels w/ BFG Comp TA's. VARA logbook (3 seasons, EP). See it on page 52 of Nov./Dec. Grassroots Motorsports or I can e-mail a picture. \$15,000. Single axle tilt trailer also available. Tina Van Curen (818) 247-8593, btinavc@ix.netcom.com.

Various Parts: New and used engine, transmission and suspension parts for 1300, 1600, 2000, etc. Too many parts to fit in *Alfacionada* listing!

Call Phyllis and make an offer! (714) 536-2089.

1979 Alfetta Sport Sedan. Completely rebuilt engine (balanced and detailed), rebuilt fuel system from gas tank to injectors, Konis, Maserati alloys with new Dunlop 196-60x14s, new radiator, master cylinder, brakes, wheel bearings, emblems, etc. Runs xlnt. Also included with car: rebuilt transaxle, factory wheels/tires,dash with gauges, balfshafts, grill, door panels, and complete Ricambi competition suspension. All for only \$2400.

1987 Milano Platinum Edition. 2nd owner, all records, new steering rack, 3.0 radiator, timing belt, headliner, tires. Just had major service. PW, PS, PM, ABS, AC, AM/FM cassette, sunroof. Blue exterior, grey interior. Runs and looks well. \$3200.

Call Steve or Caprice at (714) 249-2264

1988 Alfa Spider Quadrifoglio. Black w/ gray leather; 79K miles; 15" alloy wheels w/ new Pirelli 600s; PIAA driving lights; Kenwood CD/ AM/FM, 4 x 35 watter w/ detatchable faceplate. New black canvas soft top w/ gray tonneau cover; air conditioning; rebuilt 5 spd trans w/ new clutch; Sachs Supergas shocks; Shankle sport way bars; Sportline wood rim steering wheel; lots of new parts through out. California car. \$8000. Ask for Mike at: (310) 252-3304 (w) or (213) 258-5687 (h)

1986 Alfa GTV-6, black on black, Shankle sway bars rear springs, Konis, Omega Motorsports fully blue printed and balanced engine, 9.75:1, Sperry stage 3 heads, OMS external oiling kit, fresh major service, new belts and tensioner, excellent interior, body and paint, BFG-TA-3 tires.

Contact Rex at (310) 836-3160 (work) or (310) 917-9568 (pager)

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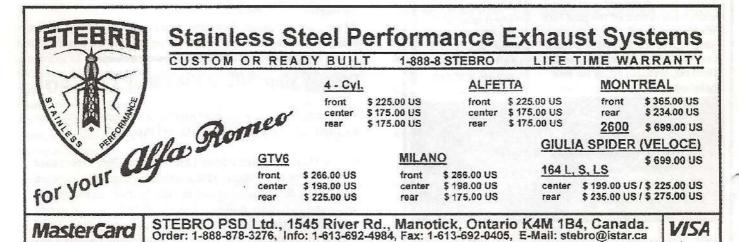
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The Concours is Coming!

by Ron Avery

Our first Concours of 1998 is coming fast and will be held at the San Antonio Winery on Lamar street in Los Angeles. On Saturday, April 11th, plan on arriving at 9:00 am, as judging is to start promptly at 10:00 am. The winery can be reached by taking the I-5 Golden State Fwy north from its junction with one of the other freeways until you reach the Main Street exit. Turn right on Main Street, go five blocks to Lamar Street, and turn left.

After years of competing with all my fellow Alfa club participants, I hope that you will like some of the changes in our Concours program that we will try this year. Our plan is to not only be more efficient with the judging, but also picking venues that have more to offer than just a parking lot!

We also hope to have more judges for each event in order to make judging go more swiftly. We are planning an open class, closed class, special class, and - last but not least - an unrestored original class. Remember, these events are supposed to be fun - it's not Pebble Beach! The time you put into your car can only make it look better. The main points to keep in mind are:

- 1. Clean out the car as much as you can including under the hood as well as vaccuuming the inside of the car and trunk.
- 2. Take out all of the stuff that has accumulated in the car that should not be there.
- 3. Bring all tools, books, brochures, etc. about the car.

Since including the entry form in this issue of the newsletter would push the weight of the issue into a higher postal fee category, you can fill out your formal entry at the event. However, to help us know how many trophies to purchase, please make out a check for the \$15.00 entry fee payable to *AROSC*, and send it ASAP to Ron Avery at 7332 Laura Lane, Reseda, CA 91335. If you have any questions or would just like to chat, call me at (818) 772-6034. See you there!

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Our 1998 Galendar

January	February	March	April
2 SMCCC Rally 8 AROSC Board Meeting 23 AROSC Annual Meeting 8pm, Culver City 31 Time Trial -Willow Springs	1 Time Trial - Willow Springs 5 AROSC Board Meeting 6 SMCCC Rally 21-2 Time Trial -Sears Point 27 General Meeting - 8pm, Culver City	5 AROSC Board Meeting 6 SMCCC Rally 27 General Meeting - 8pm Culver City 29 Tour "In Search of the Wildflowers"	2 AROSC Board Meeting 3 SMCCC Rally 11 Concours at San Antonic Winery in Los Angeles 24 General Meeting - 8pm Culver City 26 Swap Meet at Sensor Systems in Northridge
May	June	July	August
1 SMCCC Rally 2-3 Driving School - "Streets of Willow" 7 AROSC Board Meeting TBD - Museum tour 29 General Meeting - 8pm Culver City	4 AROSC Board Meeting 5 SMCCC Rally 13-4 Time Trial at Buttonwillow 20 Concours at El Dorado Park 26 General Meeting - 8pm Culver City 25-8 National Convention, Santa Fe, NM	2 AROSC Board Meeting 3 SMCCC Rally TBD- Tech session & BBQ at Veterans Memorial Park 31 General Meeting - 8pm Culver City	6 AROSC Board Meeting 7 SMCCC Rally 14 Concours Italiano in Monterey 28 General Meeting - 8pm Culver City 29-30 Driving School at "Streets of Willow"
September 3 AROSC Board Meeting 4 SMCCC Rally 25 General Meeting - 8pm Culver City 26-7 Time Trial at Laguna Seca	October 1 AROSC Board Meeting 2 SMCCC Rally 24 Alfa-Porsche Challenge, Willow Springs 30 General Meeting - 8pm Culver City 31 Time Trial-Willow Springs	November 1 Time Trial-Willow Springs 5 AROSC Board Meeting 6 SMCCC Rally TBD Swap Meet at "Under 3 Liter Meet" at Woodley Park TBD Wine Tour 20 General Meeting - 8pm Culver City. Elections, "White Turkey Auction"	December 12 Holiday Party 13 AROSC Board Meeting