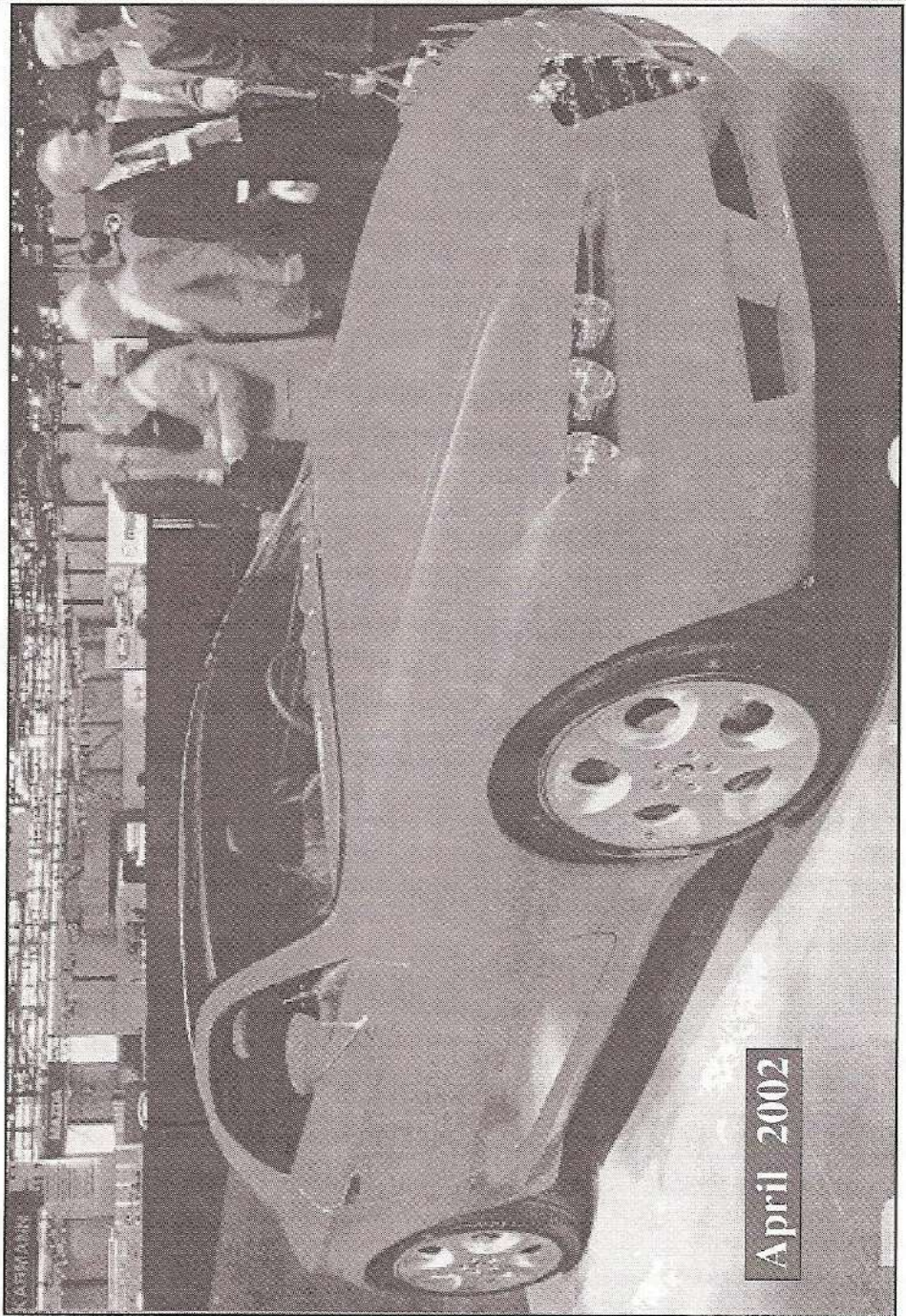


Yacconiworld

Newsletter of the

Alfa Romeo
OWNERS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



**In This Issue: Convention Update,
New Alfa Models, & more**

Meeting Information

General Meetings are held the last Friday of each month except November and December at 8:00pm in the Uruapan Room at Veterans' Memorial Park at the corner of Culver and Overland in Culver City. In November the meeting will be held on the last Friday if there are two Fridays after Thanksgiving, otherwise it will be on the Friday prior to Thanksgiving. A holiday party is held in December in lieu of the General Meeting that month.

Numerous special meetings and events are also held throughout the year. Check the Calendar information on the outside back cover for an overview of the year and review *Alfacionada* for details of events planned for the near future.

AROSC Mailing Address

Alfa Romeo Owners of Southern California
Post Office Box 3621
Granada Hills, CA 91394

Membership Information

See the inside back cover of *Alfacionada*.

Important Deadline & Info!

Please send classified ads, articles, letters, and photographs to the Editor in time to arrive by the end of the month to permit publication in the next month's issue.

General Information

Alfacionada is the monthly publication of the *Alfa Romeo Owners of Southern California*, a Chapter of the *Alfa Romeo Owners Club, Inc.*, a national non-profit organization of *Alfa* enthusiasts. Subscription to this newsletter is included as part of the annual AROSC membership fee of \$55; non-members of AROSC may subscribe for \$22 per year.

Permission is hereby granted to other Alfa Owners Clubs to reproduce any original material herein, provided credit is given to the author and to the AROSC *Alfacionada*.

Classified Advertising

Classified (non-commercial) ads are available as a free service to members and for a nominal charge of \$10.00 per insertion to non-members. Ad content must be *Alfa*-related.

Commercial Advertising Rates

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| Full page | \$500 per year |
| 1/2 page | \$275 per year |
| 1/4 page | \$150 per year |
| Business card | \$100 per year |

This Month's Cover

From the cover of AutoWeek, March 18, 2002. Alfa Romeo Brera Coupe turns heads at the Geneva Auto Show! Too bad they will probably not build it. More info on page 14.

NEW AROSC Web Site: www.arosc.org

Disclaimer (a.k.a. Lawyer Repellent)

AROSC and the authors and editors of this newsletter assume no liability for the accuracy or legality of any technical information appearing herein. They are also not responsible for the safety or practicality of modifications performed by individuals or companies and described in these pages. You should always check with your mechanic before performing any work or modifying your car in any way.

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Brendan O'Brien (760) 822-7821
Brendanobrien00@hotmail.com

Events

Jay Negrin (818) 894-3549
Jmnegrin@earthlink.net

AROSC Previews

An outline of coming events

General Meeting — Friday, April 26, 8:00 PM

Join us for the April general meeting at the Veteran's Center in Culver City. We are working on a special program or some surprise entertainment – it's too early to tell. The usual coffee and donuts will be served as well as our monthly drawing for an assortment of prizes.

Concours at the Los Angeles Arboretum – Sunday, April 28

This is the first concours of the year, and is at a site we have not visited for many years. We can subtitle this event as 'In Search of Domesticated Flowers' while we show off our imported 'flowers' of Alfadom. Charlie Schwartz has written an article on page 12 describing this event.

***Don't Miss the Concours at the
LA Arboretum April 28
or the Wild? Flower Search
on May 19***

talented tool in debugging your electrical woes. The usual coffee and donuts will be served as well as our monthly drawing for an assortment of prizes.

Time Trial & Race at Buttonwillow Raceway — 1-2 June

The third time trial of the year will be held the beginning of June, just in time to tune up your car before the Convention time trial at Fontana. Get ready now! If you are not currently on the mailing list for the Time Trials and the Drivers School, E-mail Terry Watson at slaysman@aol.com and he will add you to the list. For more information about the event, contact Doug Bender at (310) 373-3552 or E-mail at alfabender@earthlink.net.

Board Meeting — Wednesday, May 1, 7:30 PM

The Board of Directors meets monthly at a restaurant, for the purpose of planning the club's activities, conducting the club's business, etc. All members are welcome to attend and join us in a great Persian or Italian dinner. If you have some issue to bring to the board, or some ideas for events, etc., please plan to attend. The location will be Hank's Bistro on Hawthorne Blvd at Rosecrans Ave in Hawthorne.

Board Meeting — Wednesday, June 5, 7:30 PM

The Board of Directors meets monthly at a restaurant, for the purpose of planning the club's activities, conducting the club's business, etc. All members are welcome to attend. If you have some issue to bring to the board, or some ideas for events, etc., please plan to attend. The location will probably be Hank's Bistro on Hawthorne Blvd at Rosecrans Ave in Hawthorne.

In Search of Wildflowers Tour – Sunday, May 19

Winter has neared its end for this year. Spring is trying to release itself on an expectant city. This all points to your Alfa Romeo club hosting its annual Wild Flower Tour. The date has been finalized, and we will be heading out, 'In Search of Wild Flowers', on Sunday, May 19th. Jay's plan is to carve some canyons, through the mountains, and end up, as usual, in a location that can support hungry Alfisti carrying picnic lunches. The start will be at our now regular location in Mission Hills in the north end of the San Fernando Valley. We will finish at Descanso Gardens to ensure a floral sighting. See page 5 for more details.

Vintage Festival – June 22-23, California Speedway, Fontana

The California Speedway and HSR West are putting on a Vintage Festival of racing, featuring Trans-Am cars, both over and under 2.5 liter. This means the Vintage Sedan Race Group (VSRG) will be racing close to home at a spectator event for all to enjoy. The VSRG has been very successful in it's one year of existence, with as many as 25 cars running together, including lots of Alfas. Local club members Alan Ward, Anthony Rimicci, and Dirk Stoehr are regulars, and others are considering joining in for the fun.

General Meeting — Friday, May 31, 8:00 PM

Join us for the May general meeting at the Veteran's Center in Culver City. We are planning a special program on 'Fun & Games With a Multi Meter – Electricity is Our Friend?' Bill Carson and Gene Brown will explain the application of this multi-

AROC National Convention – July 4-7

Don't miss this opportunity to meet with Alfisti from around the world, and see cars from across the country. We have planned some fun events at moderate prices. We haven't had a national convention in the local area for 20 years, and it's been 11 years since the San Diego Convention. Don't expect another one this close for a long time. See pages 8-11 for more details, but don't wait too long to sign up!

View from the Top

Miscellaneous Rumbings from Il Presidente!

Well Mary and I got to enjoy another aspect of automobilia again last night when we went out to Irwindale Speedway for the first time this year. The Grand American Modifieds were racing and friends of ours are sponsors of a car. This NASCAR class is for 700hp, open wheeled monsters with minimum bodywork and lots of tire. Car #25 (my AROSC car number!!) is driven by Roger Carufel Jr. of Saugus. We are in our second year in this class. Roger is in his early 20s and this is his first time in a racecar.

Did I say "we"? Yes, I did. Seems Mary and I are "associate" sponsors of the car. Our name is painted on the rear deck "Thanks To" panel.

Watch for this "kid". He has the ability, finishing second in points last year and he is leading after 2 races this year. He has the charm to work the pits and sponsors. After the race the car is parked in the pits with candy for the kids and a Polaroid picture available of you sitting inside the car.

Hmmm, Alfa Romeo, Racing, Modified, Alfetta . . .

But back to OUR group addiction, Alfa Romeos.

At last month's meeting Norm Silverman asked to spread the word about the caravan this August to the Monterey Historic Races. Quite a novel approach, thinking of the caravan early! So let's start talking at meetings, on the web site Message Board, where ever. For those of you who go to Monterey on your own, you are missing out on a nice perk of being an Alfa Owner. And there is safety in numbers. Traveling with fellow owners, all with an appreciation of old car problems and with the knowledge of how to make roadside fixes. Think about it.

ALFIESTA! 2002 is making good progress. Registrations are coming in (have you sent in yours?) and more sponsors are signing up, so money can now be spent for deposits, trophies, patches, shirts, etc.

So now it looks like we are putting in place what AROSC needs to make a nice National Convention. But what do we need to do to make it a great convention? At this point we need to get some focus on the things we all appreciate at these gatherings. What gave you a "warm and fuzzy" feeling when you went to last years "Pipefitters and Aerospace Admin Assistants Convention"? These are the things we are looking for.

Mary is designing the centerpieces for the Convention Sat. night banquet tables. A reproduction of the ALFIESTA logo is falling into place. A Duetto with surfboard in the back, in front of a palm tree. She has all the pieces except for the Duetto and surfboard. So where can one round up 30 or 40 model Duettos (1/43 scale?) at NO COST. Perhaps we could auction them after the dinner to cover the costs.

At the end of the month the Los Angeles Arboretum will be the site of our next Concours. With daylight savings we all have an extra hour after work to start cleaning up your prize Alfa.

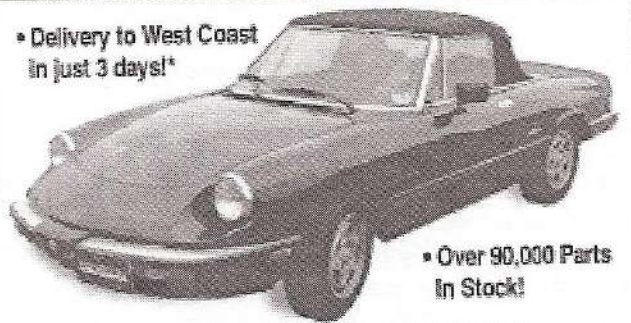
Mary and I will have to miss it, though. Seems some friends are paying our way to Ensenada to watch the finish of the Newport to Ensenada Yacht Race. Free booze and a chance to chat with Dennis Connors.

Caio,

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Wild Flowers? This Year We Search for Any Flowers!

Join the Hunt on May 19!

FLOWERS IN MAY

The time has come for the Spring-Time Alfa club tour. Spring, for AROSC means Sunday, the 19th of May. There will be, again, a slight modification in the original intent of the Wild Flower Tour. I have always thought that wild flowers blooming, in spring, in the high desert, would be a wonderful place to have a picnic lunch. Sitting among the flowers with friends and club members, while dining on delectables can be such a warming experience. Of course, as always, for this to happen, we are relying on that old trickster, Mother Nature, to provide all of the elements to make the flower thing a reality.

This year, prospects are bleak for a good bloom in suburban Lancaster. Quick, to the drawing board, to figure out a Plan B. What I have come up with, as a measure to insure that we can picnic among the flowers, is to forgo the "wild" part of the designation. To virtually guarantee that we can have flowers at the end of the tour meant that I had to find a garden of some sort. That garden is Descanso Gardens, located in the foothills, in La Crescenta.

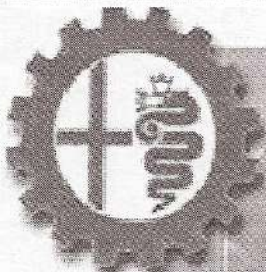
This finish location is good for us for several reasons. Descanso Gardens has a picnic area that can accommodate nearly 100 people. It is adjacent to the

parking lot, which has no admission for entry. To gain access to the garden proper, where the flowers are located, requires a nominal admission of \$5 per person. So the Gardens offer us a nice place to end the tour. It will also give us a preview of where Charlie Schwartz's concours will be held later in the year. Not to worry about seeing the same place twice. The grounds are SO extensive; they always have different flowers in bloom in different parts of the garden, depending on what is in season.

Which brings us to a prime reason for hold the picnic in the first place. It is the end of a tour. Get it? The tour. The driving portion of event. I have laid out a course over the hills and through the woods, utilizing some roads we have seen before, and some that may be new to club members. I have made plans for a couple of stops in the civilized areas, and it is always possible to stop along the way, allowing time for those who run at more leisurely pace to catch up.

So, do join us, on Sunday, May 19th. Enjoy a fun run, carving some canyons, meeting club members you haven't said hello to in a while, dining out in fine picnic style, and visiting one of the premier horticultural sites in the greater Los Angeles area.

Jay Negrin



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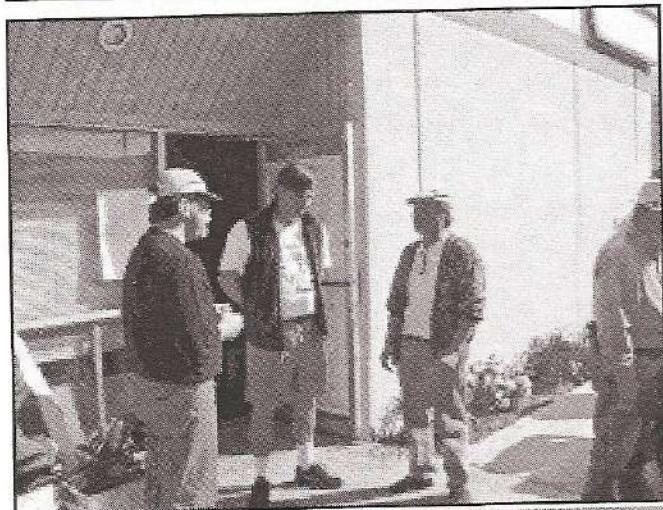
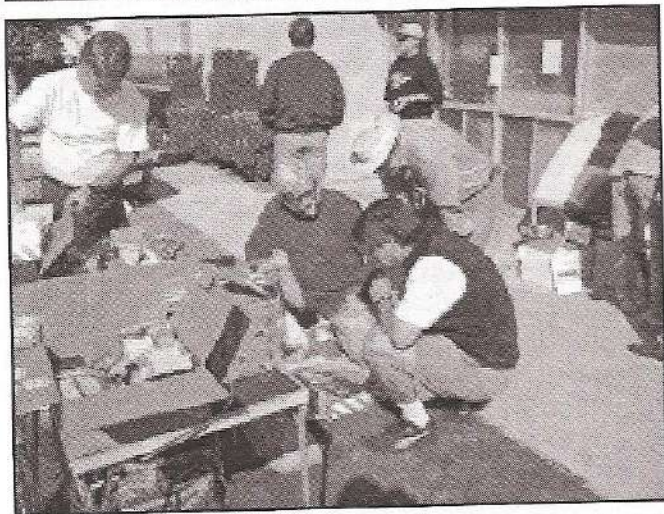
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310/836-3160

Spring Swap Meet

Plenty of Parts to Rummage, no Shamrocks for St. Paddy

Photos by Gene Brown, location courtesy of Fred Schueddekopp -- Autostrada, Huntington Beach.



High Gas Prices Again?

Here's an Idea for Fighting Back!

This message was forwarded to the Editor by Pat Garrett of the San Diego Chapter. It suggests an plan of action that might just work, without sacrifice.

Subject: Gas prices

I hear we are going to hit close to \$3.00 a gallon by the summer - want gasoline prices to come down? We need to take some intelligent, united action.

Phillip Hollsworth offered this good idea: This makes MUCH MORE SENSE than the "don't buy gas on a certain day" campaign that was going around last April or May! The oil companies just laughed at that because they knew we wouldn't continue to "hurt" ourselves by refusing to buy gas. It was more of an inconvenience to us than it was a problem for them. BUT, whomever thought of this idea, has come up with a plan that can really work. Please read it and join with us!

By now you're probably thinking gasoline priced at about \$1.50 is super Cheap. Me too! It is currently \$1.97 for regular unleaded in my town (California). Now that the oil companies and the OPEC nations have conditioned us to think that the cost of a gallon of gas is CHEAP at \$1.50- \$1.75, we need to take aggressive action to teach them that BUYERS control the marketplace not sellers. With the price of gasoline going up more each day, we consumers need to take action. The only way we are going to see the price of gas come down is if we hit someone in the pocketbook by not purchasing THEIR gas! And we can do that WITHOUT hurting ourselves. How?

Since we all rely on our cars, we can't just stop buying gas. But we CAN have an impact on gas prices if we all act together to force a price war. Here's the idea: For the rest of this year, DON'T purchase ANY gasoline from the two biggest companies (which now are one), EXXON and MOBIL. If they are not selling any gas, they will be inclined to reduce their prices. If they reduce their prices, the other companies will have to follow suit.

But to have an impact, we need to reach literally millions of Exxon and Mobil gas buyers. It's really simple to do!! Now, don't wimp out on me at this point ... keep reading

and I'll explain how simple it is to reach millions of people!!

I am sending this note to about thirty people. If each of you send it to at least ten more ($30 \times 10 = 300$)... and those 300 send it to at least ten more ($300 \times 10 = 3,000$) ... and so on, by the time the message reaches the sixth generation of people, we will have reached over THREE MILLION consumers! If those three million get excited and pass this on to ten friends each, then 30 million people will have been contacted! If it goes one level further, you guessed it ... THREE HUNDRED MILLION PEOPLE!!!

Again, all you have to do is send this to 10 people. That's all. (If you don't understand how we can reach 300 million and all you have to do is send this to 10 people ... well, let's face it, you just aren't a mathematician. But I am ... so trust me on this one. How long would all that take? If each of us sends this email out to ten more people within one day of receipt, all 300 MILLION people could conceivably be contacted within the next 8 days!!!

I'll bet you didn't think you and I had that much potential, did you? Acting together we can make a difference. If this makes sense to you, please pass this message on.

PLEASE HOLD OUT UNTIL THEY LOWER THEIR PRICES AND KEEP THEM DOWN. THIS CAN REALLY WORK. YOU KNOW THEY LOVE HOLIDAYS AND SUMMER TRAVELERS!

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AROC Convention 2002: Costa Mesa, CA

More Convention News:

We have some additional sponsors to thank: Off Course Racewear will sponsor the banquet and donate some nice door prizes, Santo's Italian Car Service and ITALSPEED (Dirk Stoehr) are jointly sponsoring the time trial, and Jon Norman's Alfa Parts is sponsoring the autocross. Also, Carroll Shelby Enterprises has donated a set of 4 Goodyear racing tires so we can earn some extra money to help pay for Fontana, a very expensive race track.

We have a certificate for a set of Goodyear Eagle Sports Car Specials or GSCS show room stock tires, and we are offering tickets at \$25 each. Tire size is not specified, and winner need not be present at the drawing to be held at the Convention Awards Luncheon, July 7. A set of Goodyears is worth more than \$600, so we should be able to sell a good number of tickets to time trialers, vintage racers, and anyone else who could use race tires. The odds are certainly better than for the lottery, as we will probably not exceed 200 tickets. If you are interested, send a check to Phyllis Gaylard (see the masthead for address) or see her at any meeting or club event up to July 6.



hand made parts to make them authentic, as well as other crafts projects. Let your imagination be your guide and make something interesting for the show. Don't forget the kids – kids projects are welcome and constitute a separate class for model cars and other artistic projects. All projects will be displayed in the vendor room and judged on Saturday, July 6.

Fire Works and Concert on July 4!

If you want to do something different on the evening of July 4, there is a concert in Irvine that should be great. The Pacific Symphony Orchestra presents "Swingin' July 4th With Sousa! With Fireworks". Looks like some good old Glenn Miller and Tommy Dorsey swing band music with a patriotic flavor from the 1940's along with beloved Sousa Marches and

dazzling fireworks. Ticket sales for the single event start in late May. Prices range from \$19 on the lawn (no seat) to \$26 per seat on the rear terrace, through \$72 for front and center loge seats. This all takes place at the Verizon Wireless Amphitheater (once the Wild Animal Park) near the El Toro Y (I-5 and I-405 intersection). Gates open at 6pm for picnic dining and concert begins at 8pm. Check out the web site at www.pacificsymphony.org or call (714) 755-5799 (M-F 9am-5pm) to order tickets.

Attention: Artists, Crafts People, and

Model Car Makers: With the sponsorship of the Convention Art Show and Model Concours by Sports Car Market Magazine, we will be giving every entrant a photo of their entry and a frame for the photo. We will also have trophies for all classes and categories of entries. Entries must be related to Alfa Romeos, whether the car, the logo, or the name. Past entries have included a quilt, jewelry, paintings, drawings, photographs, ceramic tiles, and models of historic and current Alfas with customized

Wanted: Alfa to Rent During Alfiesta 2002: We have received an inquiry from Alfisti who are flying to our convention next summer, and would like to rent an Alfa for a convention event car. Used car rental agencies are not likely to stock an Alfa, so is there someone in the club who would be interested? References are offered. Contact Phyllis at (714) 377-6377 or E-mail to phyllis3@aol.com. (10/1)

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Magnaflow Performance Exhaust has graciously offered their technical facility and dyno for our use on July 3, 2002 from noon to 3pm. We are offering dyno horsepower runs for \$25 each, first come -- first served. There is not expected to be enough time to do tuning, but if we run out of cars before we run out of time, we will allow tuning runs for additional charge.

We have decided that there is likely to be more than enough people who want to take advantage of this offer, so since it is the day before the convention, we are using it as an AROSC event, but all proceeds will go to the convention. This event will raise some extra funds to help pay for the convention time trial at Fontana.

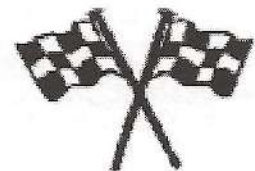
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Convention Activities Summary

(times approximate)

Wednesday, July 3

Tech Inspection for Time Trial & Autocross at Costa Mesa Hilton (4PM to 8PM)

Thursday, July 4

Santo's Italian Car Service & ITALSPEED Time Trials – California Speedway, Fontana (8AM to 5PM)

Jon Norman's Alfa Parts Autocross – California Speedway, Fontana (9AM to 4PM)

Track Drive-Around of time trial course – California Speedway, Fontana (Noon)

Sparco USA Reception (7 PM)

Friday July 5

AROC Board of Directors Meeting (8AM to 5PM?)

Driving Tour of Orange County (9:30AM to 1PM)

Bus Tour of Getty Center – Los Angeles (9AM to 2PM)

Bus Tour of Petersen Automotive Museum – Los Angeles (9:30AM to 2PM)

Beach Party & Dinner Social, Huntington Beach (6PM to 9PM)

Saturday July 6

AR Ricambi Gimmick Rallye – to San Juan Capistrano? (9AM to 1PM)

Bus Tour to Getty Center – Los Angeles (9AM to 2PM)

Bus Tour to Petersen Automotive Museum – Los Angeles (9:30AM to 2PM)

Tech Advisor Round Table (1:30PM-3PM)

Newsletter Editors Meeting (4PM-5PM)

Chapter Presidents Meeting (3PM-4PM)

Car wash session behind hotel (1PM-5PM)

Sports Car Market Magazine Art Show & Model Concours (all day)

AJS Design Reception on Terrace (6PM)

Annual Meeting and *Off Course Racewear* Banquet, Catalina Ballroom (7PM)

Sunday July 7

Meguiar's Concours d'Elegance – Mile Square Park, Fountain Valley (9AM to Noon)

Awards Luncheon Picnic – Mile Square Park (Noon)

Date/Time TBD

Kids' Day Out: Discovery Science Museum and/or Palace Park (Friday & Saturday)



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VISA

FIRST CONCOURS OF 2002 SET FOR LA ARBORETUM

For the first time in nearly 20 years, AROSC's first Concours of 2002 will be held from 10 am till noon in the shadow of the mighty San Gabriel Mountains in the parking lot of the Los Angeles County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Avenue in Arcadia. The Arboretum is located just south of the Baldwin Avenue exit from the 210 freeway and is across the street from Santa Anita Raceway (they race horses, don't they?).

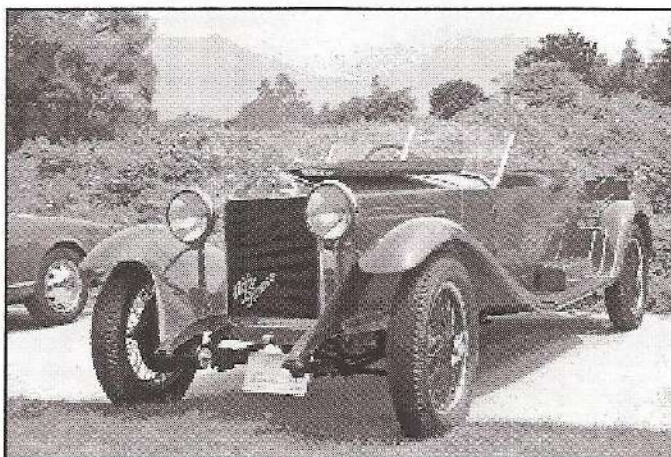
Entrants are advised to arrive no later than 9:30 to be guided into the area where the cars will be parked in the main lot. This is one of the most scenic spots in all of Southern California for a Concours, especially when the Spring flowers and blooming trees are at their peak of beauty, so don't forget to bring your cameras for the ribbon award ceremonies!

If you're going to attend but you're not showing a car, free parking is available elsewhere in the main parking lot. Admission to the Arboretum is still one of the great bargains of the Southland: Adults \$5, Seniors and Students \$3, Kids \$1, and under fives free.

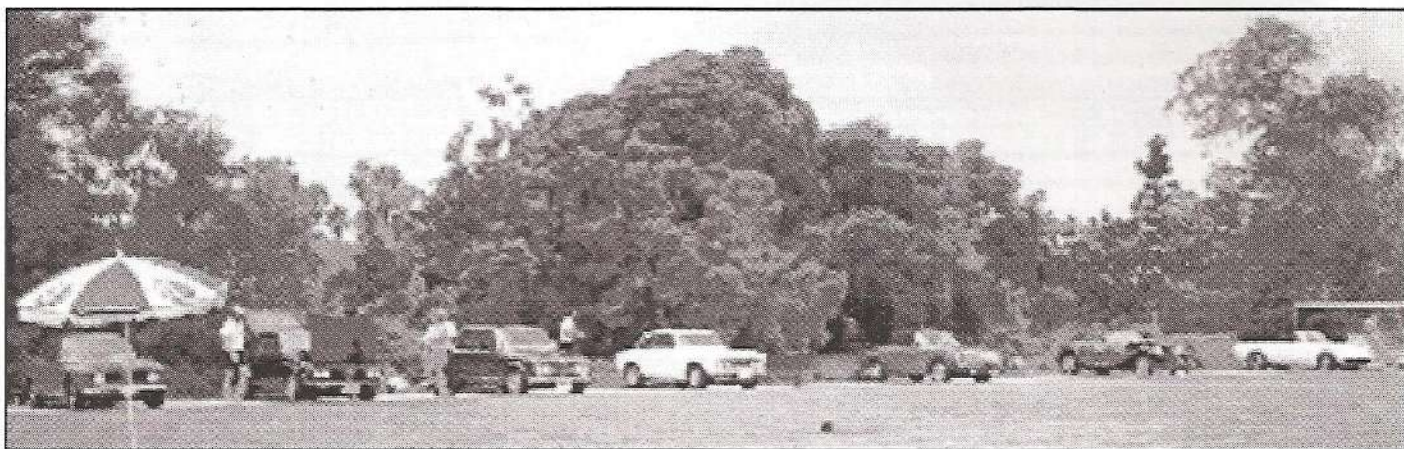
After the event, why not stay on for a picnic lunch or grab a snack or light lunch right in the Arboretum and make a day of it? There's always plenty to see and do, and this could be the perfect chance for enticing yours friends and relatives who aren't excited by attending a car-only event. Highpoints at the Arboretum include demonstration gardens, magnificent greenhouses, and the Queen Anne house and lake where the TV Show Fantasy Island was shot. You're sure to recognize lots of other Arboretum

locations that are frequently seen on the big and little screens.

Best of all, this is an excellent chance to get your little dreamboat into shape for the upcoming AROC/AROSC Concours at the National Convention on July 7. For more on that, watch this space!



At the last AROSC Arboretum Concours in 1984, the late Jack Becronis brought out his 1928 Zagato Spider which he had bought from the previous owner's widow after it sat in a Pasadaena garage collecting dust for many years. His original thought was to use it as a prop in the window of his Pasadena haberdashery, but Alfa magic overtook him and he became a real enthusiast. At the time of this photo, similar examples at auction were fetching 100 times what he paid for this 'prop'.



The last AROSC Concours at the LA Arboretum on the lower lawn had a fantastic turnout in a beautiful setting

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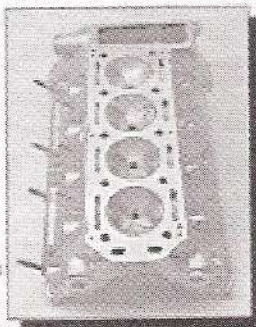
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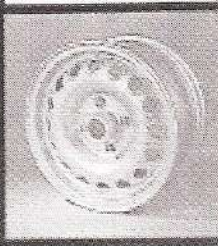
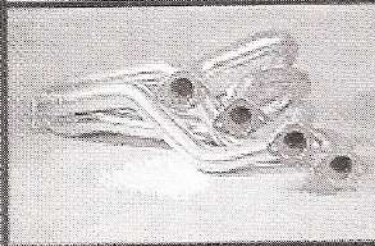
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Cyber Reminders

This goes out to all of you in Cyber-land. As many of you might know, I have a service that I provide to club members who have email. I send out reminder notices approximately one week ahead of most club events and meetings. Occasionally I send out notices of non-club functions that are thought to be of particular interest to club members. This is strictly on a volunteer basis, on both of our parts. You have to want to be included on my list to get the reminders. Those who are already getting the reminders are already familiar with it. Those who do not, may not be aware of this service that I provide.

For those who wish to be included, but have not yet notified me, please contact me at my email address, included below, and let me know if you want to receive the reminders.

There have been many changes going on in regards to Internet service providers. Companies have been bought, sold, and/or gone out of business. This may leave some of you with changes in your email addresses. That is fine for you, but for those of us trying to keep in touch, it presents some interesting challenges.

Therefore, I am also asking all of you out there who have had changes to their email services recently, specifically those who now have a new email address/screen name, to email me with those changes. If you have not been notified of recent events via email, this may be the reason. If you want to continue receiving these reminders, I will need a current, working email address.

Thanks for listening,
Jay Negrin
jmnegrin@earthlink.net



alfa news



Alfa Romeo Brera

BRERA: ALFA'S CARRERA?

Many thanks to *Alfa News*, the magazine of the New Zealand Owners Club (April 2002), and *AutoWeek* (March 18, 2002) for the following info and photos:

ITALDESIGN UNVEILS 400HP COUPE

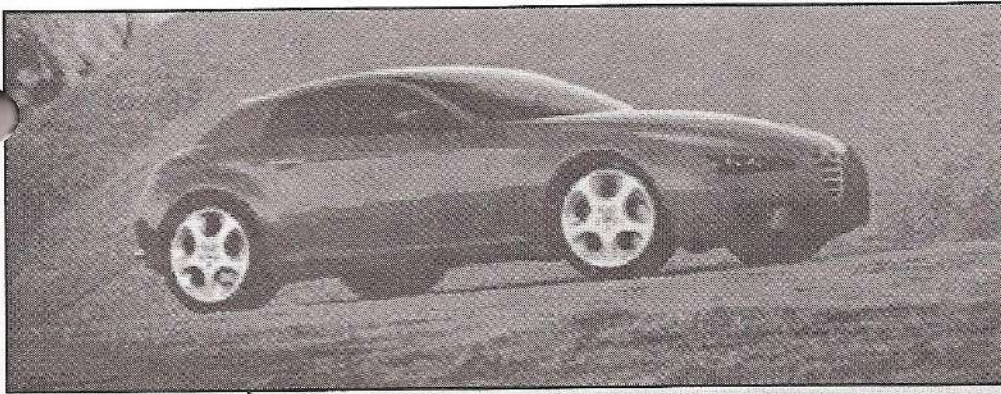
Judged Best Looking Car at the recent Geneva Motor Show was this stunning Alfa Romeo coupe designed by Italdesign's Giorgetto Giugiaro. Featuring carbon-fiber body panels on a special racing chassis, upward-hinged doors, and a 400hp front-mid mounted V8 engine of 4.25 liters (believed to be the all-new Ferrari-designed Maserati V8), the Brera is a bold, aggressive, yet elegantly styled 2+2.

Current and past Alfa themes can be seen in the design (strong 156-esq V-shaped profiles run down the hood to a variation of the 147 grill, while the rear window is said to echo that of the original Giulietta

Sprint), yet Giugiaro has eschewed the latest trend toward retro shapes in creating a modern, even futuristic style. The interior features aluminum with padded leather, advanced lighting controls and distinctly separate driver and passenger compartments. Loaded with what is described as 'production-ready technology', the Brera features advanced Michelin tires and a revolutionary audio system. Having said that, chances of the new coupe reaching production are described as pretty slim, although certain elements may point the way for future production models.

AutoWeek declares this Italdesign 'dream concept' the Best of Show as well, and states that "if this car isn't produced, someone should be arrested."





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Note new address at AR Ricambi!

alfa news



More Great info from the New Zealand Owner's Club magazine (Summer 2002) and AutoWeek (March 18, 2002) about new Alfas.

GTA ON THE WAY

The first of Alfa Romeo's new sporting range arrives soon with the 156 GTA. Available in sedan or Sportwagon form and featuring a 250HP 3.2 liter version of the familiar V6, the GTA gets a subtle but aggressive restyle with mildly flared fenders, 17" rims, a new front bumper, quad-headlights and a rear diffuser with twin exhausts. Underneath, you'll find completely revised suspension geometry, an even quicker steering rack at – get this – a mere 1.7 turns lock-to-lock, uprated brakes, and stronger 6-speed and Selespeed transmissions. Similar mods are due on the 147 GTA due towards the end of the year.

First road tests of this new 156 GTA are starting to appear in European car magazines with an overwhelmingly positive reception. What has impressed the press the most is just how well sorted



and complete a sports sedan/wagon package it is. In part, the 3.2 liter 250HP V6 propels the car to 60mph in 6 seconds on its way to 155 mph, the chassis is a big step forward in terms of body control and adjustability, while the interior upgrade is lavish and superbly constructed. CAR (UK) drove one through the demanding Targa Florio course in Sicily and claimed "The engine and chassis put up a captivating show", and concluded "What seat-of-the-pants feel. What accuracy. What user-friendliness in the steering and long-travel accelerator. What a hoot". In England the 156 GTA is expected to be priced around £28,000. New Zealand availability is scheduled for August (too late for our NZ convention attendees to bring one along).

AutoWeek's comments are similar, noting the aero skirting all around, the Z-rated Michelin Pilot Sport tires which allow incredible traction even when traction control is switched off, and the tooth-extracting braking. They were clearly impressed!



Looks to me like it could use a Ward & Deane kit!

REAR DRIVE RETURNING?

Pushed or pulled? The replacement for the current GTV/Spider may revert to rear-drive after just one generation using a front-drive layout. A final decision was due within Alfa Romeo late last year and it is rumored that the 'rears' might have it despite it being the more expensive route. Regardless, the GTV and Spider will revert to being distinctly different models within the AR lineup rather than coupe and soft-top versions of the same car, with the GTV assuming a more overtly sporting role. Expect the new 3.2 V6 and a revised Twin Spark engine to be featured.

LATE NEWSLETTER? *1st Class mail offered*

The *Alfacionada* has been delivered on schedule to the post office for bulk mailing, 12 days prior to the General Meeting last year. We plan to maintain this schedule for 2001.

If your post office holds up your newsletter and you always get it late, you can now opt for first class mailing of all your issues for only \$5 per year. Bulk rate costs us about 30 cents per issue, while first class costs an additional 25 to 47 cents per issue. With over 400 copies per month, we can't afford to send all of them first class every month.

Just send \$5 to AROSC, 17041 Malta Circle, Huntington Beach, CA 92649 and mention 'first class newsletter' and your issues will arrive well before each meeting.

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Classified Ads

Free advertising for members - please send to the Editor

Parts for Sale: GTV-6 door seals, original, no longer avail., \$150; GTV-6 fitted sheepskins \$90/pair; GTV-6 front bra \$100; GTV-6/Milano euro header pipes \$150; used GTV headers \$50.

1973 GTV: Red, black interior, 15" Panasports, '69 "flying buttress" seats, smog exempt, \$7200. Call Emilio at (805) 966-2498 (4/2)

164S Wheels: Set of 4 stock wheels, 15X6, with nearly new Michelin Pilot XGT-H4 195/65X15 tires. Package deal or separate, \$500 OBO. Call Al Cortes at (310) 970-0127 or E-mail to alcrts@juno.com. (4/2)

FOR SALE OR RENT - Pass Smog Now, Ask Me How! Smog system for Alfetta GT: Complete from pump and bracket, hoses, header, exhaust, catalytic converter and muffler. Just bolt it on, reset your mixture and pass your smog test. I did. Lets talk \$\$\$
Call Paul and Jay's Alfetta Smog Parts - (818) 883-0266 (4/2)

1985 Spider Veloce: Aqua green, with new paint job and roof. 108,000 miles, runs great. Owner is in LA, but relocating out of the country by May 1 and needs to sell quickly, \$4,500. E-mail to stephen.nickerson@warnerbros.com. (4/2)

1978 Spider: Red with black interior, and black 6-yr-old ragtop, 74K miles, 5-spd with less than 2K miles on new clutch; 2 year old catalytic converter. AM/FM/Cassette, runs well, suspension needs some TLC, no body damage or significant rust; interior is in fair condition, exterior good condition. Price \$3000 (obo). Call Rick at (805) 388-4712 or E-mail at jana.n.co@gte.net. (4/2)

1994 164 LS: White with black leather, 5 speed manual trans, 67,000 miles, 17" mag rims w/225 V-rated tires, plus original wheels, FM radio with tape and CD player. Very nice condition, \$12,500 OBO. Call Charlie at (310) 476-8812. (4/2)

1977 Spider Veloce: blue, body perfect, never hit, paint ok, interior/top XLNT, runs great but might need head gasket. Rare Cromodora Daytonas, Konis, springs, swaybars, susp brace, padded rollbar, Sperry head/cams, CD player/amp, all really nice. Weber carbs, will NOT pass CA smog. Superb car if you can deal with the CA smog issue. \$3000 obo. Call Edward at (661) 263-9578. (4/2)

Cromodora Campanatura 38 wheels: 4 rims, 14 x 5.5, from 1979 Alfa Romeo Spider Veloce, with metric steel belted radial M+S 175R14 88S tires mounted. One tire has a sidewall crack and leaks. \$100.00 or best offer! Call Jeff at (714) 843-6262 or E-mail to: surfcitylocal@aol.com (4/2)

For Sale: remote oil filter kit and oil cooler with all connecting fittings, \$75. Two piece single layer racing suit, fits 5'11" 165lb or smaller, \$75. Call Phil at (949) 831 5882. (4/2)

1962 Giulietta Racecar, winner D class Palm Springs Vintage Grand Prix 1991. Rear steering GTV front spindles w/rack and pinion collapsible steering, all disc brakes, 2.0-liter w/ 45 Webers, fuel cell, Watts linkage. Spare 5.10 limited slip, good stock head, wheels, muffler or straight pipe. Fun, reliable and easy to drive, a very special car. \$8,000 firm. Call Tor McPartland at (831) 659-4294 or E-mail to: tor@orangeguard.com (4/2)

1982 GTV-6: Adjustable Watts linkage, lightened gears, Konis, big sway bars, springs, teflon bushings, shift kit, Aeroquipped brakes, new Bosch factory rebuilt alternator, new brake master, clutch slave, Bosch headlights and fog lights. Somebody spent a lot of money on this car (I have the receipts). Car is gray metallic, painted recently (not a great job). Looks fine, drives good later seats, oil scavenge system. Current smog, \$2500. Call Kevin at (310) 521-8362 or E-mail to: archtopper@yahoo.com (4/2)



Free to a good home: GTV-6 stainless steel front bumper. Near perfect condition minus the plastic ends. Just pick it up in Sherman Oaks and it's yours! Call Doug Joseph at 310-440-3100 or E-mail to: djoseph@djpartners.com. (4/2)

1976 Alfetta Sedan: Can be daily runner with some work or can be used as parts car. Body is very rough, interior same, but mechanics—good and clean! All stock parts including Spica fuel injection. \$500 OBO. Located in Santa Barbara. Call Matthew at (805) 892-4838 or E-mail to: matthewtalmage@hotmail.com (3/2)

Parts Available, 1982 Spider: Front and rear bumpers (U.S.), steering wheel/horn assembly, all used. \$100 OBO each piece, plus shipping. Call Scott at (562) 628-5588 or E-mail to spinsky@earthlink.net (3/2)

Wanted, for 1600 Junior Zagato: Original weave fitted woolen carpets (or materials to make them) and the striated rubber rear bumper strips, new or nearly new preferred. Call or Fax to Geoff McGee in New South Wales, Australia, at +612-9667-2314. (3/2)

1971 Spider: No engine or trans., good body and suspension. Free if you haul it away. Please call Joe DeAlmeida at (909) 606-6549 or E-mail at joe.a.dealmeida@boeing.com (2/2)

1984 Spider: Original Owner, nice very clean car, always garaged; 110,000 miles, yellow, \$3,900. Must sell, leaving the country. Please call (805) 966 - 4985 or E-mail at batt@bryanwatt.com (1/2)

Spider Air Dam: for 1966 to 1981 Spider, new, \$100. Call Aaron Meyer at (831) 479-4639. (1/2)

164S Wheels: Perfect set of four 15x6 stock 164S wheels, mounted with one month-old Michelin Pilot XGT-H4 195/65x15 tires. \$500 OBO. E-mail to: davediamond33@hotmail.com (1/2)

1977 Spider: Reconditioned by Alfa Only less than two years ago; 97,000 miles; teal green with black interior; good top, tires, and paint, rust free. A pleasure to drive, asking \$3,600 OBO. Call Irving at (818) 994-5452 or E-mail at goldworm@telocity.com to view or drive. (1/2)

1992 164 L: Dark green/tan, 109,500 miles, automatic, power windows, power seats, CD, new tires, runs great. \$6500 OBO. Call Ralph at (760) 360-5324. (12/1)

Parting out 1991 164: base model, white, seized engine, less than 100,000 miles, rebuilt automatic ZF/by ZF trani with less than 800 miles, California car in really great condition. Call Omega Motorsports at (310) 836-3160, or E-mail alfaomega@prodigy.net (12/1)

1991 164S: available Jan. 1, 2002. Less than 90K miles, excellent condition inside and out, 12CD Sony changer - perfect, ready to

drive \$10,500 firm. Call Omega Motorsports at (310) 836-3160, or E-mail alfaomega@prodigy.net (12/1)

1979 Spider Veloce: Black with tan leather in great condition, new cloth top, Sony CD sound OBO obo. Call Thommy at (310) 836-3160 weekdays, or E-mail to usathommy@aol.com. (11/1)

Parts for Sale: Alfetta/GTV-6 heater unit, headlight set with extra bulbs, windshield wiper unit. One Chromodora wheel (new) for Spider. Call Seppo at (805) 379-0973. (11/1)

1973 GTV: Red, very nice, many details.

1971 Montreal: 0 miles on rebuilt engine w/NEW heads, new ignition, exhaust, and more. Call Jeff at (619) 563-0471 or E-mail jeffr@dexcc.net. (11/1)

1983 GTV-6: Red with tan, Recaro seats, Milano transaxle (recently rebuilt), Shankle front sway bar, Shankle rear springs and sway bar, new Bilstein dampers. Love it, but it won't tow my racecar. Asking \$3500.00. Call Hap Lovejoy at (818) 846-2137 or E-mail lovejoy@emmys.org. (11/1)

1982 GTV-6: 3 liter conversion w/low mileage Verde LSD transaxle, lowered 1" to Euro Spec (Ricambi springs), Konis, Momo wheel, new P600s in front, good P6s in back, suspension completely rebuilt; sheepskins, sunroof, killer 250 watt stereo, ANSA exhaust, new paint. Engine is high mileage, otherwise car is immaculate except for very minor trim pieces. \$6500 OBO. Photos: www.mikestan.com/alfa.htm. Email: ms@mikestan.com, or call Mike at (323) 257-1909. (11/1)

Membership Application

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Dues for 1 year membership in the Alfa Romeo Owners of Southern California (AROSC) and the national organization, the Alfa Romeo Owners Club - US (AROC) DUES INCREASE . . \$70.00

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Our 2002 Calendar

| January | February | March | April |
|---|--|---|---|
| 8 AROSC Board Meeting 12-13 Time Trial - Willow Springs 27 AROSC Annual Meeting and Luncheon at Cirivello's Trattoria, Long Beach | 5 AROSC Board Meeting 9-10 Drivers School, Streets of Willow 22 General Meeting - 8pm, Culver City | 3 Convention Meeting @ Phyllis Gaylard's 10am 5 AROSC Board Meeting 17 Swap Meet at Autostrada Huntington Beach, 9am 29 General Meeting - 8pm Culver City | 3 AROSC Board Meeting 13-14 Time Trial @ Willow Springs 26 General Meeting - 8pm 28 Concours at LA Arboretum, Arcadia |
| May | June | July | August |
| 1 Board Meeting 19 Wild Flower Tour 31 General Meeting - 8pm, Culver City | 1-2 Time Trial @ Buttonwillow 5 Board Meeting 22-23 Vintage Trans-am Races at Fontana w/spectators 28 General Meeting - 8pm Culver City | 3 Dyno Session at Magnaflow 4-7 AROC National Convention, Costa Mesa 26 General Meeting & Tech Session, Omega MotorSports | 4 Summer Party, Huntington Beach 6 Board Meeting 16 Concorso Italiano, Carmel Valley 24 Mt. Wilson Climb to the Stars 30 General Meeting - 8pm, Culver City |
| September | October | November | December |
| 3 Board Meeting 14-15 Time Trial, California Speedway, Fontana 27 General Meeting, 8pm Culver City 29 Concours | 1 Board Meeting TBD Julian Tour 25 General Meeting, 8pm Culver City | 2 Best of France & Italy Car Show & Concours 5 Board Meeting 9-10 Time Trial, Willow Spr. 22 General Meeting, 8pm White Turkey Sale & Elections, Culver City 29-30 Wine Tour | 7 Holiday Party 8 Board Meeting & Planning for 2003 |