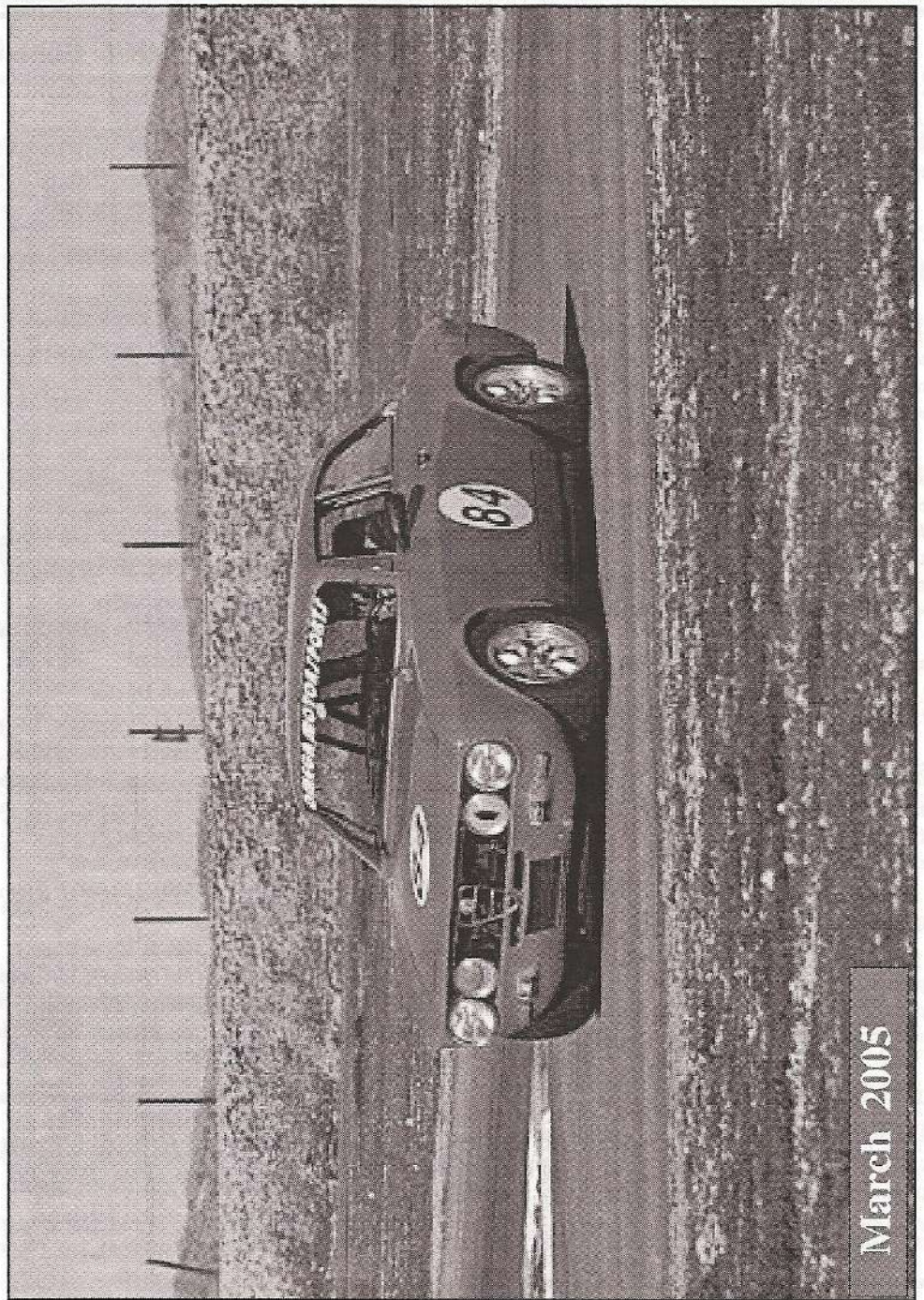


Yacimientos

Newsletter of the

Alfa Romeo
OWNERS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



March 2005

**In This Issue: Drivers School,
Convention Info, upcoming
events, and more.. ..**

Meeting Information

General Meetings are held the last Friday of each month except November and December at 8:00pm, usually 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, the Previews section on Page 3, and review *Alfacionada* for details of events planned for the near future.

AROSC Mailing Address

Alfa Romeo Owners of Southern California
17041 Malta Circle
Huntington Beach, CA 92649

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 \$70; 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

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

Art Russell's GTV, driven by his wife's cousin Steve Glasser, shows how to corner without rolling onto the door knobs. Way to go, Art, and please talk to Andrew Watry about his rolling GTV, shown on page 15!

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.

AROSC Board of Directors - 2005

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(213) 623-6141 (Work) normanev@email.msn.com
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(714) 964-9530 (Home) eddinab@mindspring.com

Web Site Coordinator

Jon Pike
(949) 559-6308 (Home) jhpike@cox.net

AROSC Committees

Liaison: Paul Blankenship sidewaysalfa@email.msn.com

'Wired' Notices: Jay Negrin jmnegrin@earthlink.com

2005 AROSC Previews

An outline of coming events

Time Trial and Race – California Speedway – Fontana, March 19-20

We are returning to the parking lot outside the Speedway for a lower-speed fun time trial. This is a great event for those thinking about competing, but not sure about the high speeds of Willow Springs and other tracks. There will not be a race group, as this is likely to be a third or fourth gear max speed course, at not much over a mile. But, there will be maximum fun, and car control will be primary. We will have a dinner in Ontario Saturday evening. For more information, contact Bruce Colby at the phone/E-mail listed on page 2, or Phyllis Gaylard for an entry form.

John Retsek is host and originator of the Saturday Car Show on KPFK. He is giving a talk to the So Cal Audi club, and we are invited. See the info on page 10.

Tour of Nethercutt Car Collection – Saturday, April 16, 11 AM

^{3P}
This is a change from the tour of the Astor collection, as they wanted too much money for entry which includes a fancy lunch. We have not been to the Nethercutt for some time, and it is a wonderful collection of not only cars, but musical instruments and other collectibles. See page 10 for more details

***DON'T MISS:
General Meeting at Mosier
Restoration March 25
Wild Flower Rallye April 3
Nethercutt tour April 16³⁰
Palms to Pines Tour
April 23-24***

General Meeting at Mosier Restoration – March 25, 7:30 PM

Join us for the March general meeting at Mosier Restorations in Inglewood. This is a popular semi-annual event, and the cars under restoration vary. We can see all kinds of neat cars in all stages of the restoration process, up close and personal. The usual coffee and donuts will be served. See page 9 for details.

Rallye "In Search of Wildflowers" – April 3

We will start at the Reel Inn on PCH in Malibu again, and drive up, down, and around the Santa Monica Mountains, ending up at the Reel Inn for lunch. There should be an abundance of wild flowers this year, and hopefully it will not still be raining! See page 5 for details.

Board Meeting – Wednesday, April 6, 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, having dinner, 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 be there. The location has moved to Luigi's Restaurant, Rosecrans just west of the I-405.

Retsek Luncheon and Talk, Saturday, April 9, 2:00 PM

April 23-24

The Barretts are planning another great road tour, starting in San Juan Capistrano, heading over Ortega Highway to picnic lunch in Idyllwild, then down the back side of the Cleveland National Forest to dinner and stay-over in Palm Springs. They have even found reasonably priced accommodations! See page 11 for more info.

General Meeting – April 29, 8:00 PM. Culver City

Board of Directors Meeting – May 4, 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, having dinner, 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 be there. The location has moved to Luigi's Restaurant, Rosecrans just west of the I-405.

General Meeting/Tour – May 21, Petersen Museum

Since the original date for this meeting was the day before the holiday weekend and the time trial at Buttonwillow, we decided that it would be poorly attended, so have moved the meeting to the preceding weekend, with a tour of the Petersen Museum.

Pines to Palms Road Tour –

View from the Top

Mostly Ramblings of Il Presidente!

How quickly we forget. I took a look at my 'Ramblings' from this time last year and what do you know??? **“What a great end to the month. After a week of continuous rainy weather fronts moving through the southland, Doug Adler finally got to breathe as gorgeous weather greeted the nearly 40 Alfisti and friends (up this year from the Pantera Club) that showed up for our first Concorso of the year...”**. **“The venue, Pepperdine University, is a beautiful campus on the Pacific Ocean slope of the Santa Monica Mountains. All the ‘greats’ were covered. Great cars, great weather, great view, great picnic and a great drive for those coming up or down Pacific Coast Highway or over any of the canyon roads running to the ocean. Kudos to Doug his dad and Stephanie for the outstanding job they did organizing this event”**.

Jeez this job is getting easy. Under Doug's guidance and direction the judging is getting more consistent and the daily driver class has brought out quite a few more entrants. In fact the number of cars being judged topped 'The Best of France & Italy' Concorso. Much more and pics in the April issue of Alfacionada. As mentioned in the last issue, The Village Coffee Roaster (www.villagecoffeeroaster.com) holds a European car day on the last Sunday of each month. This weekend featured Ferrari's and since we weren't going to have a presence, they donated 2 gift baskets for us to use as prizes for Best of Show and Best Pantera. After their morning gathering broke up, they drove over the canyon to ooh and aah with us.

At our month end meeting we few, we band of brothers, were treated to a DVD disc presentation of the recent LA car show as viewed by Paul Dexter during the press preview. Alas, still no Alfa's to be seen.

This is a busy and exciting month for AROSC and friends. On Sunday, March 13 at 9:00AM we are gathering at Omega Motor Sports in Culver City for a Swap Meet, Dyno Session, and tech inspection for those of us going to Fontana the next weekend, March 19th & 20th.

The Fontana event will be held in their enormous parking lot, where we will lay out an approximately 1.5 mile course. This is strictly a Time Trial event and there will not be a race group. This is wonderful opportunity for graduates of

our High Performance Driving School to try to work on their skills and compete as novice Time Trialers. By the way, the February School was sensational. Special Guest Instructor, Kas Kastner and new AROSC member and frequent Guest Instructor, Tony Adamowicz, along with an outstanding cast of regular instructors, created a lot of enthusiasm among the participants and improved a lot of driving skills. Once again I was in the clutches of the Marquis de Sade Instruction team of Phil Guiral, Brad Gray and Chris Mayring. When Monday morning came and the adrenaline rush had worn off, I felt like I had run a two day Marathon – but it was goooooood.

Remember the major requirements for Novice Time Trial are: a) any car (that has been teched), b) a Snell 2000 helmet (which may be rented at the track), c) natural fiber clothing neck to ankle, d) a five point harness (which are easy to bolt in) and, e) a fire extinguisher within reach. All Novice Time Trial drivers will have a large X on the back of their car so they can be observed by Instructors and experienced drivers and they must attend classes before each practice run.

“Our special General Meeting this month will be held on Thursday, March 25 at Mosier Restoration near LAX. This semiannual event is among the best attended meetings of the year”. I had lunch with Bob last week and as I walked in I was facing a brace of Stutz. It probably took me 5 minutes to realize that they were next to a Duisenberg. The Pinin Farina '31 Boat Tail Cadillac Roadster chassis has been removed from the rebuilt frame and was waiting for the paint room and the Horch is being re-skinned.

On April 3rd, we will go in Search of Wildflowers in combination with a Gimmick Rally over the Santa Monica Mountains. We will begin and end at the Reel Inn in Malibu. **Life is good.***

All bold letter copy was purloined from last years Ramblings.

Keep the wheels side down

Norm Silverman (Norman I, Rex)

March Meeting at Mosier!

It's time again for our bi-annual meeting at Mosier Restoration. Located at 1020 W. Hillcrest Ave., Inglewood (directions below), Mosier's can only be described as an atelier – an artist's workshop. For those of you who are unfamiliar with Mosier Restoration, Bob Mosier and his talented staff of artisans are considered to be amongst the finest quality restorers in the world of Classic and Vintage Cars.

Bob has some new additions since our last meeting including a 1931 'Pinin Farina' designed V16 Cadillac Boat tail Roadster. This is one of the oldest known and possibly the first major body design by Pinin Farina and it will be presented at the Pebble

Beach 'Concours d'Elegance 2005. For those of you who have been following the progress of the 1939 Horch, the reconstructive surgery is continuing. The wood frame has been refurbished and the skin re-attached. Sounds a little gruesome, but the sight is awesome. Also on the floor are a pair of Stuzes (?) and a Duesenberg!

DIRECTIONS:

If you take the 405 North toward LAX, exit on Century Blvd, go West (left) to La Cienega Blvd. Go North (right) on La Cienega and West (left on Hillcrest) Going South on the 405, exit Manchester and continue straight ahead to La Cienega. Go West (right) on Hillcrest. We would like to start the meeting at 7:30.

Alfa Stuff

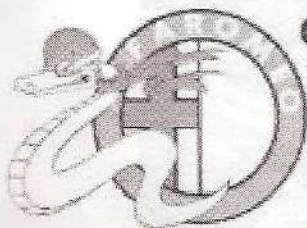
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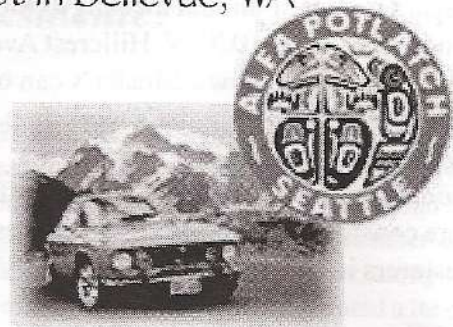
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Alfa Potlatch Seattle 2005 AROC National Convention

Share the Experience July 27th - 31st in Bellevue, WA

The North West Alfa Romeo Club Welcomes You To The 2005 Alfa Potlatch Seattle! We hope as you plan your schedule for the various events, that you can also take some time to explore the breathtaking beauty that is the Pacific Northwest. Please check our web site at www.alfapotlatch.com for more detailed info on the various events that we are offering.



Schedule of Events

Wednesday, July 27

2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Check-in for Convention Attendees - *Convention registration desk located at the 1st level Banquet Lobby*

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Alfa Potlatch Welcome Reception - *DoubleTree Hotel*

Thursday, July 28

8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Check-in for Convention Attendees - *Convention registration desk located at the 1st level Banquet Lobby*

TBA

Vendor Booths Open - *DoubleTree Hotel*

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Tours, Sightseeing, etc - *Various locations*

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Board of Directors Meeting - *Velato's Meeting Room*

9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Art Show & Model Car Show - *DoubleTree Hotel*

9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Miniature Car Race - *DoubleTree Hotel*

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Tour of Jon Shirley's & Greg Whitten's Italian Auto Collection

3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Pre-Tech for Time Trials & Autocross - *1st level parking lot*

4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

All Alfa V6 Engine Performance & Transaxle Handling Dynamics

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Tech Session & Tour - *Group 2 Motorsports*

Time Trial & Autocross Informational Open House - *DoubleTree Hotel*

Friday, July 29

8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Check-in for Convention Attendees - *Convention registration desk located at the 1st level Banquet Lobby*

TBA

Vendor Booths Open - *DoubleTree Hotel*

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Time Trials - *Pacific Raceways, Kent, WA*

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Tours, Sightseeing, etc - *Various locations*

9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Art Show & Model Car Show - *DoubleTree Hotel*

9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Miniature Car Race - *DoubleTree Hotel*

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Parade Laps - *Pacific Raceways, Kent, WA*

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Editors'/Webmasters' Meeting - *Misty's Lounge*

5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Welcome Party - *1st level Banquet Lobby area*

9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

Moon Light Madness Concours - *1st level parking lot*

Saturday, July 30

8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Auto Cross - *Emerald Downs, Auburn*

TBA

Vendor Booths Open - *DoubleTree Hotel*

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Tours, Sightseeing, etc - *Various locations*

9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Art Show & Model Car Show - *DoubleTree Hotel*

9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Miniature Car Race - *DoubleTree Hotel*

12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

TSD/Gimmick Rallye - *Emerald Downs, Auburn*

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Tech Session with Wes Ingram - *Velato's Meeting Room*

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Model Car Concours Judging - *DoubleTree Hotel*

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Alfa Art Show Judging - *DoubleTree Hotel*

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Suds & Suds Car Wash - *1st level parking lot*

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Cocktail Reception - *1st level Banquet Lobby*

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

AROC Annual Meeting & Alfa Potlatch Banquet - *Evergreen Ballroom*

Sunday, July 31

8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

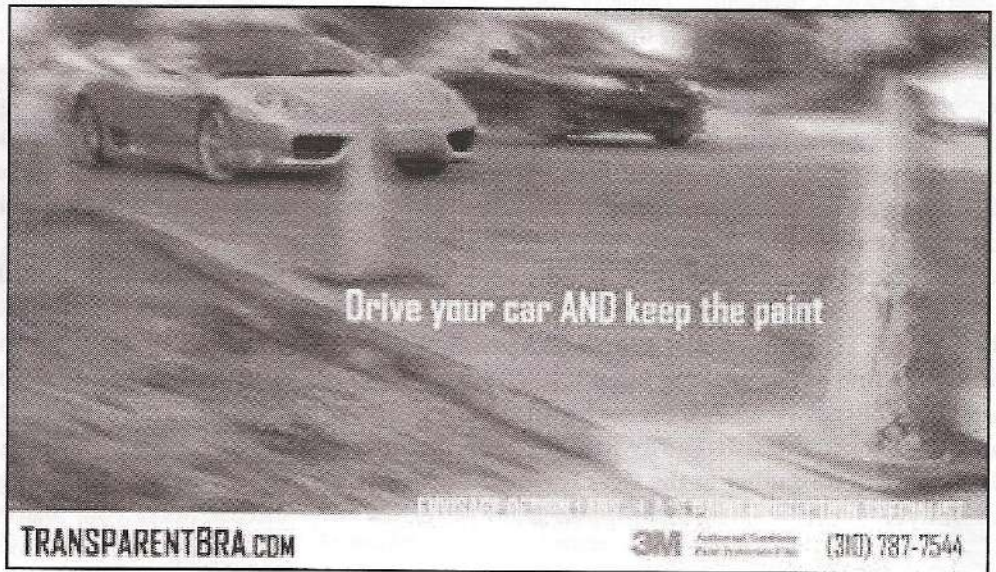
Concours d'Elegance - *Bellevue Community College*

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Awards Luncheon - *Evergreen Ballroom*

Caravan to Potlatch Planned

Are you interested in joining us in a caravan to Seattle this July? We need to arrive by Thursday, July 28, and with easy days driving, we probably will leave Sunday or Monday before then. If you wish to join us, please contact Phyllis Gaylard at the phone or E-mail listed on page 2. If you would like to help plan the route and stopping points/motels/etc., that would be a big help as our tour planner to the Portland Convention may not be able to join us this year. It is always more fun to go with friends on a trip like this than to go it alone.



Alfa Potlatch 2005

AROC National Convention
Event Sponsor: NWARC

July 28 - 31, 2005

www.alfapotlatch.com

Join us in Seattle in 2005!

AROC Election is Coming! Look for Ballot in *Alfa Owner*!

The ballot for the AROC Board election is going to be an insert in the April issue of the *Alfa Owner*. Look for it and vote!

The last time they did this the response was about 5% versus the usual 20% for first class ballots, and that is not really high enough for a good election. However, this will save the club about \$1700 to have it in the *Owner*, which is money hard to come by.

This Could Be Your Alfa In The Collage



Charles Abrams Photography

1880 Veteran Avenue Suite 312
Los Angeles, CA 90025
310/478-0912

Wild Flower Rallye April 3!

Tune up your cars. Check the brakes. Find the barf bags - it's Wild Flower Rallye Time! Those of you from last year's rallye know of my fascination with wickedly twisty roads. This year's course promises more of the same to test our fabulous Italian machines and driving abilities. What a great way to spend a day: your favorite car, your favorite driving partner, some great roads and hopefully wild flowers. With all of the recent rain, we should have vista upon vista of flower covered hillsides [those that are intact!]. Oh, and look at the road now and again too.

The AROSC Wild Flower Rallye will be April 3rd. We will be starting at the parking lot of the Reel Inn restaurant in Malibu at 10:00 am. Please be on time. The Reel Inn is on Pacific Coast Highway just north of Topanga Blvd. We will be ending at the Reel Inn for lunch after the Rallye.

This year's first rallye will probably be a poker style rallye. You will receive an instruction sheet and one playing card at the start. You will receive more playing cards at various checkpoints along the way and at the end. The best poker hand wins. This is not a timed event, so relax and enjoy. However, if you go over the allotted time, you will be disqualified. This is to keep things moving and not drag the day out too long.

It would be advisable for you to bring a clipboard and a pen so that you may check off the driving directions as you go. This implies that you will need to bring a co-pilot. Try not to bring someone that A) can't read B) gets carsick C) whines like a little kid or D) smells bad. Remember to top off the gas tank prior to starting. There are NO gas stations en route. For those of you with thirsty Alfas, plan on a round trip from the Reel Inn to the end of the rallye as about 70

Comment from the Editor Now you can E-mail Photos!

I now am connected to the internet by a cable modem, and can thus download photos, etc. without taking forever as it did with my dial-up modem. So, if you wish to submit photos, articles, etc., please do so using my new E-mail address: AlfaEditor@socal.rr.com. If your file is large, I have had problems with roadrunner, so send to the old Phyllis3@aol.com address, mention photos in the subject and I can download with broadband AOL.

miles or so. There are gas stations near the Reel Inn. For those bladder-challenged members, facilities are to be found at the gas stations and at hopefully at one place about mid-rallye. Please prepare accordingly. Always make sure your Alfa is in good working order and check the tires and check the brakes! Always obey local laws and the posted speed limits. Anyone acquiring a little piece of paper from a local enforcement officer will be disqualified.

As mentioned above, the rallye will start and end at the Reel Inn. So, what this means is that if you get lost, head back to the restaurant, where we will have lunch.. should be to the restaurant slightly before noon.

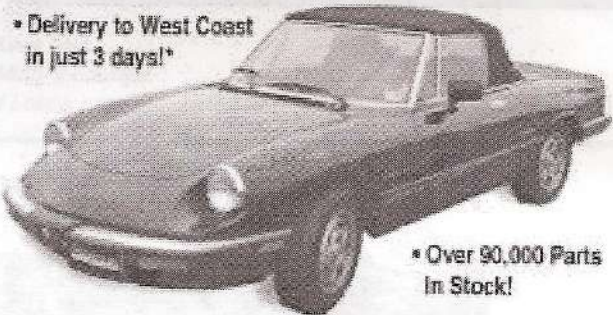
We have been busy putting the finishing touches on the rallye (weather permitting), so come out and support our efforts. Make your plans now and put the date on the calendar. Remember, this a great way to try to earn an award at the yearly banquet. I hope to see everyone from last year and a bunch of new faces as well. Rallye On!

Bill Carson

P.S. A couple of volunteer workers would be appreciated. Please contact Bill Carson.

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SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 2005

10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.



MERCURY

COME CELEBRATE . . .

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- TWO REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR ONE WEEK'S USE OF A NEW 2005 FORD CAR
- SPECTACULAR "SPECIAL INTEREST" DISPLAY BY FORD MOTOR COMPANY

➤ **TWENTIETH ANNUAL ALL FORD EVENT** will be held at Knott's Berry Farm, Buena Park, California. Car show will conclude with presentation of the **Johna Pepper, Bill Stroppe and George Watts Memorial Trophies.**

Due to safety and liability issues, **ALL CARS MUST REMAIN IN PLACE UNTIL 3:00 P.M.**
This is not a swap meet • No outside vendors • No alcohol • No loud music • No burn-outs

SPECIAL LOW RATES!

➤ **KNOTT'S BERRY FARM HOTEL & RESORT**

714-995-1111

Ask for the **Fabulous Fords Forever** rate.

Groups of 10 or more rooms, call Group Sales, 714-243-2011

Show cars enter through the gate on Stanton Ave. at La Palma Ave. beginning at 7 a.m. and **WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN AFTER 10:00 A.M.**

➤ **EMBASSY SUITES - Buena Park**

714-739-5600

➤ **HOLIDAY INN - Buena Park**

714-522-7000

➤ **Advance registration only** Must be postmarked on or before April 1, 2005 or until capacity is reached - **\$35 per vehicle**

➤ **You will receive** a confirming registration card which will serve as your **PASS** into the show area.

➤ **This card MUST be hung on your rearview mirror as you enter**, and must also be presented to obtain the complete registration packet **before 12 noon**.

Discount tickets to KNOTT'S BERRY FARM Theme Park can be obtained by mail in advance or at the show grounds on Sunday! Discount tickets will be valid any day through May 31, 2005!

PLEASE NOTE!

THERE WILL BE NO SAME-DAY REGISTRATIONS.

DOE TO LIMITED PARKING SPACES FOR SHOW VEHICLES, NO TRAILERS, TOW OR ASSIST VEHICLES WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE SHOW AREA.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Phone 562-862-9311; E-mail: info@fordcarclubs.org; Website: www.fordcarclubs.org



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Tour of the Nethercutt Museum on April 30

The Nethercutt Museum in Sylmar, California, will provide us with a partially guided tour of the cars, trains, (but no airplanes) in their collection on Saturday, April 30. We should try to be there no later than 11:00 in the morning, and figure on two to three hours, depending upon how much independent absorption you want before or after the formal part of the tour. If we're all good boys and girls, there is a very good chance the tour will also include a trip through their world-class restoration shop, where work is under way on the cars for exhibition at Pebble Beach in 2005, 2006, and beyond.

The Museum is located in Sylmar, a short distance from the 5 freeway at Roxford Street. Roxford is the first exit after the northbound 5 and 405 merge. (Thomas Guide page 481.) Stay to the right, get off the freeway at Roxford. Make an immediate right at the signal onto Encinitas Avenue. Follow it until it ends in a left turn, at which time you will be on Bledsoe Street. Continue on Bledsoe across San Fernando Road and turn left at Bradley Avenue, then an almost immediate left into the Nethercutt Museum parking lot.

Two things more. No children under 12 are allowed, and there is a dress code: no shorts, no totally bare arms. Other than that, be as comfortable as you want.

Future tour: On June 4, also a Saturday, we will be able to see Otis Chandler's Vintage Museum in Oxnard. More information on that will be available when it gets closer.

We're Invited to a Talk & Luncheon April 9

CARS I HAVE LOVED AND HATED

John Retsek, host of the Car Show on KPFK, is speaking to the So Cal Audi Owners, and we are invited to join them on **Saturday, April 9 at 2:00 pm**

John Retsek has been described as a Renaissance man. He is an avid sailboat racer, an automotive journalist, a biographer, a set designer, and the art director of KCET. He is also the founding host of the Car Show (co-hosted with Len Frank for many years), which has now been on the air at KPFK for over thirty years – it is the longest running and arguably the best automotive radio program in the country. Unlike some of the nationally syndicated radio car programs, which emphasize humor and in which the automotive world is almost secondary, the Car Show (now co-hosted by Retsek and Art Gould, and which very frequently has guest speakers) is extremely rich in car reviews, news of the automotive industry, news of local as well as national and international car-related events, analysis of trends in automotive engineering and design, and call-in questions. One of the most refreshing things about the Car Show is its forthrightness: views and analysis are clearly expressed, with no beating around the bush.

For more than three decades, Retsek has test driven an average of one car a week. He will speak about some of the cars that have impressed him ... both positively and negatively. The talk and luncheon are organized by the Southern California Chapter of the Audi Club of North America. This is an ecumenical event, and they warmly welcome the participation of members of other clubs of interesting marques. In addition to the talk and luncheon, they look forward to meeting new friends and seeing some great cars.

RESERVATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL!
RSVP by April 5 to Richard.gunde@dr.com

Location: Ante's Restaurant
729 S. Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731
(310) 832-5375

Luncheon: \$13.50, tax included
Choice of entrée: Roast beef, pot roast, roast chicken,
Cornish game hen, or fresh fish of the day
Rolls & butter
Salad, choice of dressing
Veggies
Mostacoli
Coffee, tea, or milk

AROSC Spring Driving Tour to Feature, Well, Uh ... Driving! April 23-24

Our third informal foray onto SoCal byways and highways, wrapped in the theme of "Palms to Pines," is set for April 23-24. The day's activities will follow the favorite and familiar, but will be bookended by new start and finish locations. We think it will be almost 300 miles of colorful California cruising, culture and cuisine.

The tour will include 1) starting somewhere in Palms!; 2) our now-traditional visit to the unique gold-medal gourmet-queso heaven, Winchester Cheese, and 3) the third annual juried piney picnic in Idyllwild, before embarking on a 4) new 'round the mountain jaunt on Highway 74 up out of Garner Valley and across the flank of the lower San Jacinto Mountains (with a photo op pause on Seven-Mile Hill), to 5) settle for the night in Palm Springs.

We're staying at the Village Inn, an intimate downtown hotel with single queen-bed rooms starting at \$89 (please book by mentioning AROSC and the "Palm Springs.com rate.") Space is totally available *now*, so book, like, *right now*! There are only 15 rooms (but in their totality, they can sleep more than 30 people – sharing for greater savings is an option). Call (866) 320-8266 to secure your room. To view the venue in some detail, visit palmspringsvillageinn.com.

The evening meal is still being sorted, but the Cedar Creek Inn looks like our dining destination. Does anyone have a favorite PS restaurant that can handle a crowd of up to 20 starving Alfisti?

Sunday, after Continental breakfast at the hotel, we'll swing through the Palm Springs Desert Museum and take flight on the Palms Springs Aerial Tramway.

Questions, suggestions? Please call Jim & Elyse Barrett, (714) 964-9530, or e-mail to eddinab@mindspring.com.



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- 1961 Alfa Romeo Giulietta Berlina. Dove gray on black, completely restored, like new.
- 1965 Alfa Romeo Giulietta Ti. White on red, California car, unbelievable original condition.
- 1967 Alfa Romeo Giulietta GTV. White with red nose on black interior, 2.0L, set up for racing.
- 1964 Fiat 500 D. Powder blue on red interior, suicide doors, restored to original condition.
- 1965 Bianchina. Yellow on red interior, rust free, restored.
- 1958 Lancia Appia Truck Series I. Dark green on beige, beautiful condition.

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The Company Car – Reprise

AROSC Driving School, February 2005, Streets of Willow

By Mike McKibbin

My first attendance at one of these schools was a number of years ago with brother Mitch, and we used my office perk, a 1997 Mustang SVT Cobra which, in the article I was conscripted to write, was dubbed "The Company Car". That vehicle is now lovingly owned and maintained by good friend/teammate Rob Rhodes, and still appears several times a year for time trials.



Old number 9, recuperated and having fun again.

Meanwhile, the office perk was upgraded to a 2001 Cobra. My dear father used to inquire of me why I insisted on acquiring cars like this when I couldn't possibly use their potential on the streets and, as I was to find out as I grew older, my father turned out to be correct most of the time. So, in went the roll bar and the competition belts (probably not quite the result he was looking for, but he wasn't specific). One evening not too long ago Greg Nelson was engaged to tech the car for an event, observed the files, documents, Dictaphone and cell phone in the front seat, and briefcase and file boxes in the trunk, and remarked, "God, this really is a company car." Yep, a regular rolling office.



Mike's Office at speed, late in the day.

Photos by Art Russell, Mike McKibbin, & Terry Major

My office and I enrolled in advanced time trial, Rob brought our Mustang GT (recuperated since my faux pas during the Willow Springs qualifying race last October) for racing school, and Mitch alternated cars. Mitch spent his first track session in novice time trial, but the excellent staff ran him out of there early as he proved to be a bit of a distraction. HE spent the rest of the weekend with the advanced group.

Bloodlust wasn't really a requirement for being here either. The street performance class was designed either for those who simply want to drive better, or want a taste of what it's like to performance drive with a view to moving up to the competition classes. And you didn't need a sports or muscle car to get the education; witness my daughter Andrea taking the course in her GMC Sonoma pickup. Towards the end of the weekend, the truck was showing a noticeable lean as she went through corners.

The instructors, of course, were superb. Nowhere was this more apparent than during the graduation races on Sunday when the instructors spread themselves through the pack, engaging the students in various aspects of side by side racing, passing and repassing. Particularly entertaining was the race long exercise between instructor Dennis Fibrow in his Mazda and student Beverly Major in her MR2.

There was also the duel between instructors Brad Gray in my Mustang Cobra and Paul Ellis in his Dunestang. We all thought Brad had Paul's number until, 2 turns from the finish, Paul steered off the track and cross country where the Cobra could not go, taking the lead and the position. At the next school, they ought to have an off-road section (after last October, I'm sure I'd get an invite).

Many thanks to Steve Hamilton and his staff, including guest instructors Tony Adamowicz and Kas Kasner, for a truly excellent job. No matter how good many of us think (or pretend) that we are, I've yet to talk to anyone attending these schools who will deny that they learned a lot. I sure do, every time I come.

Right now, however, the company car needs new tires, and I've got to figure out how to get those by the managing partner.

Leave your Cell Phone at Home!

From *Autoweek*, Feb 28, 2005:

There is an article about the BMW Advanced M School which is held at Lowe's (Charlotte) Motor Speedway and Virginia International Raceway. One of the driving instructors tells his students that in-car cell phone use is prohibited. But he is serious. "I've seen 'em out there on the phone, going through the slalom: 'Mama, you should see what I'm doin'!'" By the way, this is a 2 day school, including use of M3 coupes and M5 sedans, as well as meals with 2 nights lodging, and only costs \$4,650 per person, and is limited to 15 students who have graduated from certain driving schools. What the heck, it's too far anyway.



Paul Ellis' Dunestang has sprouted metal body work and a big windshield since it's last visit to these pages. It corners very nicely.



Getting the McKibbin team ready, early in the AM



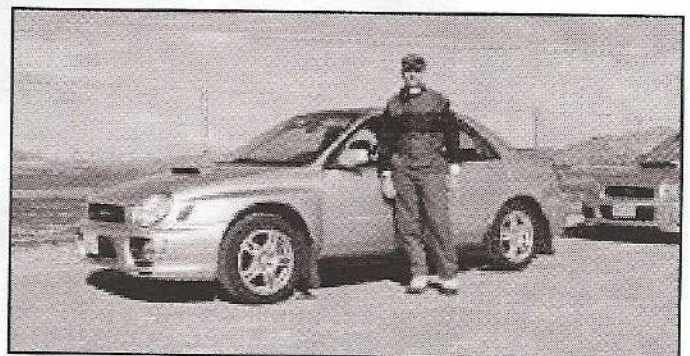
Andrea McKibbin's Jimmy leans into a corner.



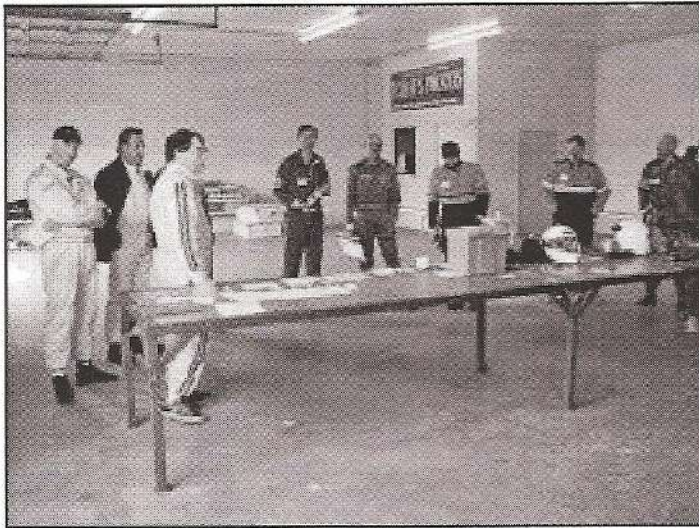
Dennis Fibrow's Mazda ran all weekend!



Gifford Hawn made it out in the Ex-Dettinger GTV.



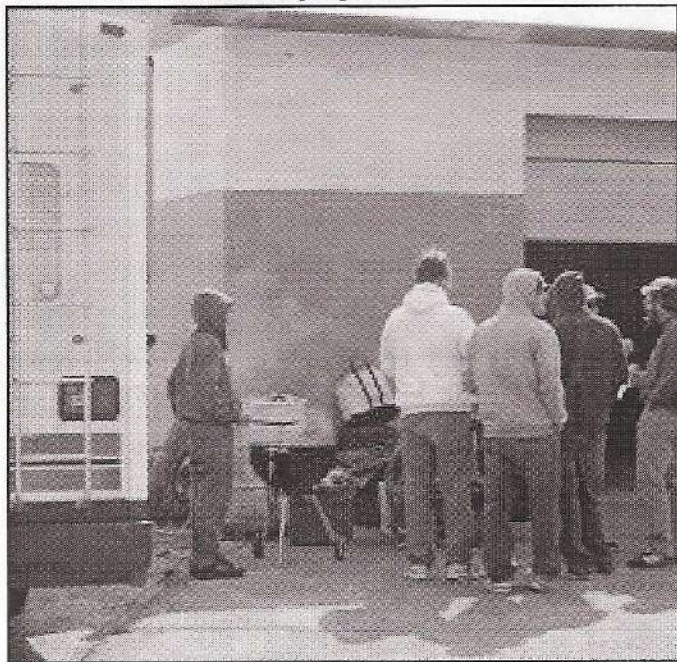
Bill Carson had a great time in his WRX.



The instructors prepare to start class.



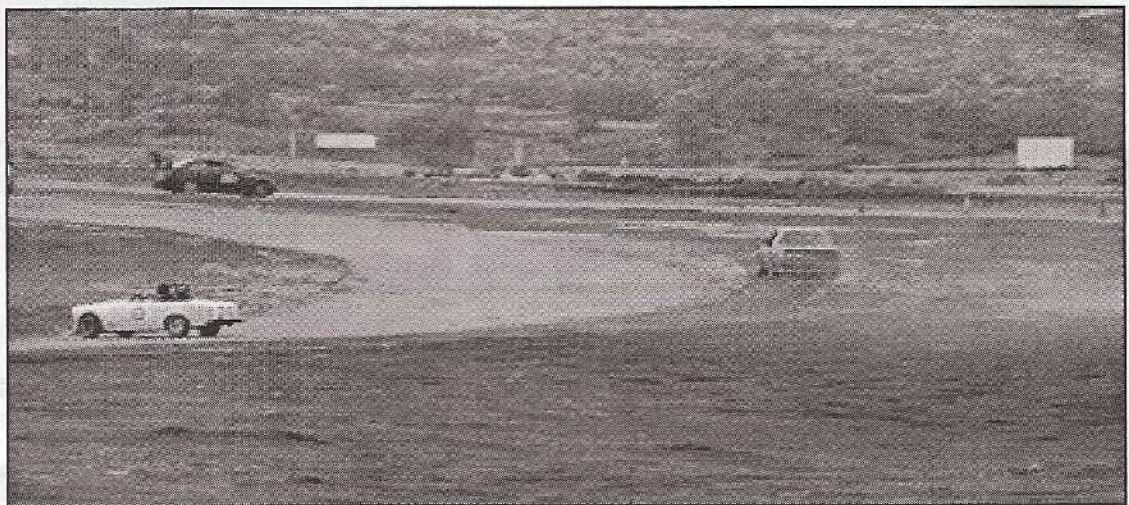
A rapt group of students!



Jodie Fibrow makes lunch when the track kitchen is shut down.



Near the end of the race, before the Dunestang goes 'duning' of road to pass Brad Gray in Mike's 'Office'.



Racing action in the dusk -- that doesn't look like the right lines!

Alfa Sedans at the AROSC Drivers School

From the Alfa Digest:

I attended the AROSC driver's school at the Streets of Willow track this weekend. I went in my 1974 GTV for the street performance class. All in all there were maybe 1/3 Alfas, with BMWs, Mustangs, lots of WRXs, and a smattering of other dull and interesting cars (an incredible early 911S, a full-race Datsun 2000 roadster, a GMC pickup, a Callaway GTV6, a rental Pontiac, a four-cylinder Passat wagon, a "Dunestang" 351-powered dune buggy).

There were two four-cylinder Alfa sedans: Norm Silverman's blue Giulia TI time trial car, and Dawn Niederst's white with green racing stripes 2000 Berlina in my class. Other later sedans included a variety of Milanos and 164s, and Fred Hamilton's (91 years old?) time trial Buick, who/which could kick all of our butts. Norm's TI was great, if slow, with stock 1600 and single carb, and original dash and steering wheel. It's lowered, with wide tires. Dawn's Berlina was built by her husband Jay, who has an Alfa shop in Santa Paula. Formerly a stock beige car at the last school I went to 8 years ago, now it's fully restored, lowered, with a mildly prepared 2000 with higher compression and hotter cams. It has 600 miles since its rebuild, and worked flawlessly, including plenty of runs up to redline. Jay did a beautiful job on this car, and Dawn uses it as her daily driver, complete with racing stripes.

Instructor Peter Kemos demoed the line on the track for Dawn, me, and my cousin, in the Berlina. This was the first moving Berlina I'd been in since I sold mine a year ago. What a great car, and thanks to Peter for being very helpful at the event. The Berlina goes around the little track really well, with solid cornering and good grunt on the uphill front straight. Dawn was really getting into it by Sunday's track sessions. As much as I love my Giulia Super, the Berlina sure does have a different, great feel to it in cornering. A little bigger, a little softer, but it sticks really well and is predictable as heck. I used my old stock 2000 Berlina as a mild track car too, and you could place the thing within inches. In some ways a better feel than a Giulia. Maybe the revised front geometry, plus rear sway bar? Amazing cars. Nothing to me looks better on the race track than an Alfa sedan.

Thanks to AROSC for a great event. I can't endorse their schools strongly enough if you're tempted. I'm probably going to do a bit of prep work on my GTV and try out a time trial school next time.

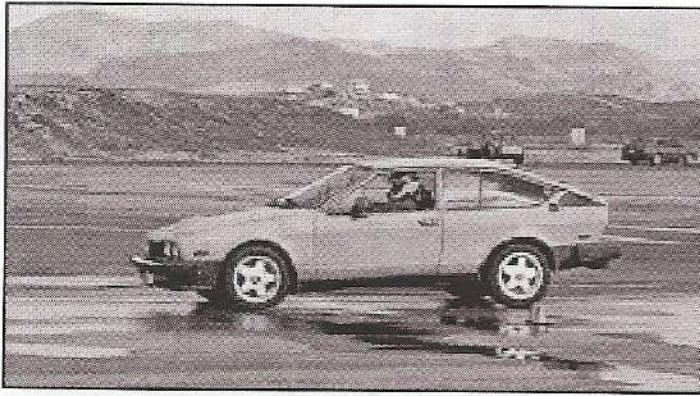
Andrew Watry



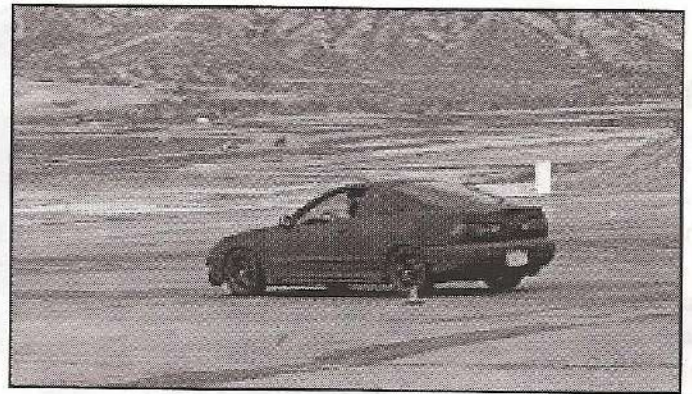
Dawn Niederst in her 2000 Berlina handles well.



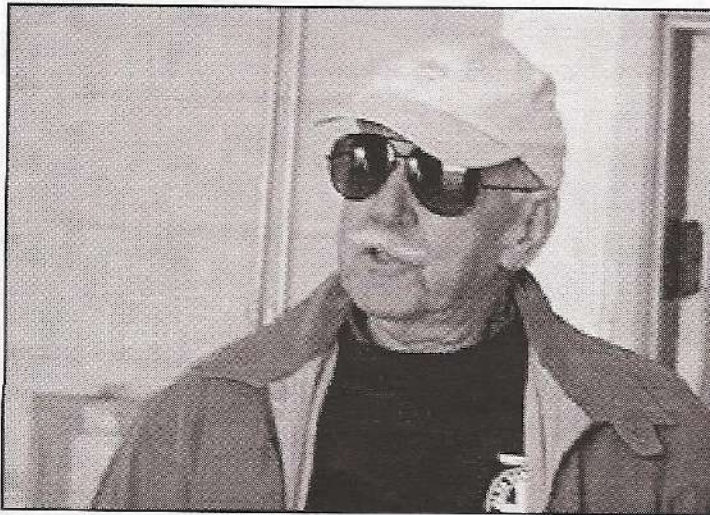
Andrew Watry's GTV needs some help in cornering! He needs Alan Ward's number for some springs & sway bars!



Elyse Barrett tries out a wet skid pad in the 'suede' car.



Copycat! another 'suede' car - Bruce Markarian



Guest instructor Kas Kastner.



Saturday dinner at the China Empire.



Tom Gillis brought out his Callaway twin turbo GTV6.



Hot race action with Todd McNall and others.



Winner and still champion of Big Grin contest - Norm



More action on track!

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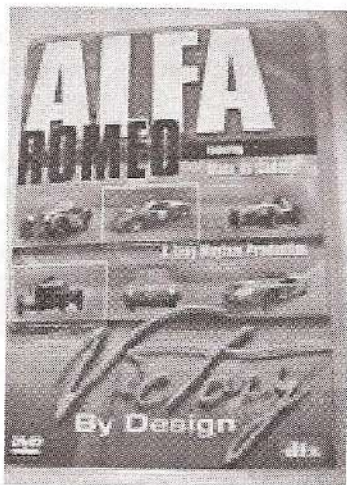
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1974 Spider: 2-stae silver metallic paint, no rust, black leather seats, Ward & Deane suspension, Bilstein shocks, Quadrifoglio wheels, fanatically maintained (owner is an engineer!). \$8000. Call Joe at (05) 646-4272 or E-mail to: joe-jane@pacbell.net. (3/5)

1991 Spider: Red, tan leather seats, 37,000 original miles, 3-speed automatic, almost new top, very carefully maintained, no rust, \$8,000. Call Joe at (05) 646-4272 or E-mail to: joe-jane@pacbell.net. (3/5)

Parts For Sale: GTV6 motors \$450 each, 2.0 ltr motors/long blocks \$300 each, many other misc GTV6 parts including computers, fuel pumps, etc. Alfetta transaxles \$200 each, GTV6/Milano transaxles \$300 each. Limited slip transaxles \$750 each, have both high and low ratios. Call Jim Ferris at (909) 861-1471 or E-mail to: rude82000@adelphia.net. (3/5)

1974 Spider: White with black top. Beautiful condition and perfectly maintained. 70,824 original miles. Complete engine rebuild, including Spica, at 63,435 miles. Elgin cams, high compression pistons, dyno rated at 128.73 hp at rear wheels. Ward and Dean street suspension. Two-part custom roll bar that can be easily removed. California smog exempt. New upholstery. Six club Concours ribbons. Too many other improvements to list.

This car is in excellent condition, and has been given wonderful TLC since the day it was purchased. Well over \$23,000 invested. Any reasonable offer will be considered. Call Norm at (949) 721-0192, or E-mail to: n.bianchi@sbcglobal.net. (3/5)



1967 GTV Race Car: Because I am moving out of state, I am selling a fully race-prepared GTV, run with VARA and HSR West. 2000 engine, dyno tested at 192 HP, with Engine Machine Service prepared head, Norman racing cams, Tilton aluminum flywheel, Carillo rods, forged 85mm pistons at 12:1 compression, with less than 2 hours track time. Close

ratio gear box, DCOE 45 Webers, Ward & Deane racing suspension with relocated racing sway bars, Ward & Deane Panhard rod, large brake calipers with vented disks, racing Panasport wheels, 4 never-used Hoosiers, special high capacity aluminum radiator, Sperry equal-length ceramic coated headers, racing fuel cell with double fuel pump, full roll cage, new Sparco seat, GTA dash and front grill, fiberglass & carbon fiber doors & lids, Lexan vented rear window, and battery in cabin with enclosed well, plus many more parts and modifications. \$28K. Serious enquiries only, please. Car can be seen at Alfa Italia in Burbank. For enquires, call Sergio at (661) 391-8433 or Onofrio at Alfa Italia (818) 841-6959, or E-mail to sperticucci@bak.rr.com. (2/5)

1977 Spider 2000. British Racing Green exterior in very good condition. Motor and transmission also in great condition. Near new tires, 4 wheel discs brakes. AM/FM cass. Interior Black in fair condition. 142,407 miles. I have maintenance records from 1991. \$2550.00 Call Don at (661) 297-3649 home or (661) 433-6821 cell. E-Mail at donbobbi@pacbell.net. (12/4)

1974 Spider, Red, fire victim. Restoration mostly completed. Still needs dash rewired and some paint. Could also be used for parts, many good ones. Good interior, top, engine, Spica, and more. Also have extra set of Turbinas and brand new cylinder head, with oversized valves. \$1,500 OBO. Call Bill Byron at (951) 321-0491 or E-mail to: TrojanKnight@Hotmail.com. (10/4)

1991 164L: Rebuilt transmission, rebuilt steering rack, 116K miles, uses almost no oil. Mechanically very good, clean body and leather interior. \$3750. Call Alan Lambert at (650) 747-0770 or E-mail to Alan.Lambert@stanfordalumni.com. (9/4)

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Our 2005 Calendar

Some of which is tentative!

January	February	March	April
5 AROSC Board Meeting	2 AROSC Board Meeting	2 AROSC Board Meeting	3 Wild Flower Rallye
8-9 Time Trial - Willow Springs	5-6 Drivers School, Streets of Willow	13 Swap Meet at Omega MotorSports, 9am	6 AROSC Board Meeting
30 AROSC Annual Mtg and Luncheon at Luigi's, Hawthorne	25 General Meeting - 8pm, Culver City	19-20 Time Trial @ Fontana Parking Lot	9 Retsek Talk & Luncheon
	27 Concours @ Pepperdine University, Malibu	25 General Meeting, 7:30 <u>Mosier Restoration</u>	23-24 Palms to Pines Tour
			29 General Meeting - 8pm Culver City
			30 Tour of Nethercutt Car Collection, Sylmar
May	June	July	August
4 Board Meeting	1 Board Meeting	6 Board Meeting	10 Board Meeting
21? General Meeting @ Petersen Museum	4 Tour Chandler Collection	16 Braile Rallye 2004	19 Concorso Italiano,
27 NO General Meeting at Culver City -- holiday!	12 Concours at Craig Park Fullerton	28-31 AROC National Convention, Seattle	20-21 Monterey Historics
28-29 Time Trial & Race @ Buttonwillow	24 General Meeting/Tech Session, <u>Omega MS</u>	29 NO General Meeting	26 General Meeting - 8pm Culver City
	24-26 Calif Historic Races at Fontana w/spectators		28 Summer Party, Huntington Beach @ Phyllis'
September	October	November	December
3-4 Drivers School, Streets of Willow	1 Swap Meet/Dyno Session @MagnaFlow	2 Board Meeting	4 Competition Committee Meeting
7 Board Meeting	5 Board Meeting	5 Best of France & Italy Car Show & Concours	
24 General Meeting, Castaways Restautant, Burbank	22-23 Time Trial & Race @ Willow Springs	12-13 Time Trial @ Pahrump	10 Holiday Party at the Kutkus' home
	28 General Meeting, 7:30pm at <u>Mosier Restorations</u>	18 General Meeting, 8pm White Turkey Sale & Elections, Culver City	11 Board Meeting & Planning for 2006 at the Kutkus' home
	30 Rallye	26-27 Wine Tour	

2005 AROC Convention -- July 28-31, Seattle