



ewsletter of the

**Alfa Romeo**  
OWNERS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



October 2008

**In This Issue: More  
Monterey Weekend, Drive!  
Shine/Dine meeting, upcom-**

# Alfa Romeo

| Month     | Event  | Date  | Location            |
|-----------|--|-------|---------------------|
| September | Board Meeting @ Luigi's                                | 3     | Luigi's             |
|           | Time Trial & Race at Spring Mountain, NV               | 13-14 | Spring Mountain, NV |
|           | General Meeting - Drive/Shine/Dine                     | 27    | Luigi's             |
|           | Party @ Casa Silverman                                 | 30    | Casa Silverman      |
| October   | Board Meeting @ Luigi's                                | 1     | Luigi's             |
|           | Time Trial & Race @ Willow Springs                     | 11-12 | Willow Springs      |
|           | General Meeting, Nethercutt Museum, +                  | 25    | Nethercutt Museum   |
|           | Party @ Casa Silverman                                 | 30    | Casa Silverman      |
| November  | Best of France & Italy                                 | 2     | Luigi's             |
|           | Car Show & Concours                                    | 5     | Luigi's             |
|           | Board Meeting @ Luigi's                                | 5     | Luigi's             |
|           | General Meeting, 1pm                                   | 22    | Luigi's             |
| December  | Board Meeting @ Luigi's                                | 7     | Luigi's             |
|           | Competition Committee Meeting                          | 7     | Luigi's             |
|           | Holiday Party at the Kutkus home                       | 13    | Kutkus home         |
|           | Board Meeting and planning for 2008 at the Kutkus home | 14    | Kutkus home         |

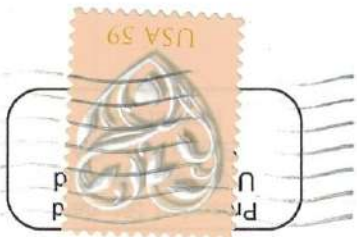
## Our 2008 Calendar -- Revised Again



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

Arthur Russell  
3852 Bledsoe Ave  
Los Angeles, CA 90066-4018

1A





### Meeting Information

General Meetings are usually held the last Friday or Saturday of each month at various locations. Check the Calendar information on the outside back cover for an overview of the year, and the Previews section on Page 4 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

### AROSC Web Site:

[www.arosc.org](http://www.arosc.org)

### Important Deadline & Info!

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

### General Information

*Affacionada* 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 Affacionada*.

### 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 or of special interest to the members.

### Commercial Advertising Rates (modified for new page size)

|               |                |   |
|---------------|----------------|---|
| Full page     | \$275 per year | <b>Membership Information</b>                     |
| 1/2 page      | \$150 per year | See the inside back cover of <i>Affacionada</i> . |
| 1/4 page      | \$100 per year |   |
| Business card | \$100 per year |   |

### This Month's Cover

An Alfa 8C2300 Spyder Mille Miglia Short Chassis (1931-34 era) on the Pebble Beach Tour d'Elegance this year. Photo by Paul Dexler.

### Disclaimer (a.k.a. Lawyer Repellent)

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**Wine Tour:** Margi Brown [wine.tour@arosc.org](mailto:wine.tour@arosc.org)



## View from the Top -- *Mostly Ramblings of Il Presidente!*

Just to rub it in. Those of you who missed the "Drive, Shine and Dine" General Meeting arranged by Fred and Tina Firschein, really missed a spectacular road rally and, by most standards, a truly outstanding Pizza. The drive was an awesome trip from Pico Rivera over the narrow canyon roads of Hacienda Heights down through La Habra to La Mirada. An hour and a half of joy. Even needing help to pry my fingers from the steering wheel. It looks like we have a new Rally Master in the making.

It's starting to look like perfect weather for our Time Trial / Race weekend at Willow Springs October 11<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>. Before writing this month's missive, I checked the 10 day forecast, and though a few days early, the prognosis is looking good. Mild temperature and sunny skies seem to be leading into the weekend. For the non-competition club members, this will be the last opportunity of the year to give your daily driver a little exercise on the big track. Each day we provide around 45 minutes of classroom instruction and during lunch hour, you or, more importantly, your child (of driving age) gets both

experience and improved driving skills following immediately behind an instructor for about 45 minutes of vigorous laps around the track. Check out [www.arosc.org](http://www.arosc.org) for details. By the way: 1 - The track is only 1 hour north of the SF valley, 2 - Many of the time trial drivers and some race drivers have a five point harness for their passenger seat and will be happy to give you laps at speed during their run groups. Not too expensive to stay for Sat. night dinner and come back for another round on Sunday.

Our October General Meeting will jump start us into the holiday season. We have been invited to tour the Restoration Department at the Nethercutt Museum (see page 19). This opportunity is rarely made available to the general public. The restoration tour will start at 11:00 AM and, for those who are interested, we are scheduled to join the museum's 1:30 PM general tour. There is no cost to tour the Nethercutt. We will head from the Nethercutt to Casa Silverman in Chatsworth (about 8 miles away) for our general meeting. Comfortable back yard, pool, grass, shade, 6' Italian Subs, soft drinks and many

bottles of old grape juice will be provided by the Silverman's. **PLEASE RSVP TO EVIE AT** [nortmaney@msn.com](mailto:nortmaney@msn.com) or 818-998-6796. **BRING A CHAIR OR TWO.** The Nethercutt is free, but the meeting and all the food and drink you can consume will cost \$5 per.

Into November with our annual meet and greet at the Woodley Park "Best of France and Italy" (see flyer on page 18) on November 2. Note that there is a late registration fee, so mail your entry to the BFI show early! This will also be the last AROSC Concorso of the year. The competition has been extraordinary and points for year end awards are VERY close. This year we are planning to have an AROSC hospitality booth and look forward to greeting new members and exciting existing members with our upcoming activity plans. Trying to stay with our policy of inclusiveness, there should be something for everyone.

**The Board of Directors tries to accommodate every member's ideas and needs. You can continue to help shape the future of AROSC by actively participating as a BoD member or Committee Chair. The run for election to the Board of Directors is on.** You don't have

to be a member of the Board of Directors to offer ideas, suggestions or, perish the thought, actually organize an event that YOU would also attend and enjoy, but it would be nice to have you join us for our monthly Italian dinners at Luigi's in Hawthorne the first Wednesday of each month.

Along with the annual election at the November Meeting, we will **have our traditional empty your garage** "White Turkey/Elephant Sale" at a new place (to be announced) to add to our listing of places to visit.

Contrary to popular opinion, if you are a person of extraordinary ethical and moral values you would still be welcomed to the Board and may, without fear of ridicule, eschew the outrageous salary, graft, corruption, rampant cronyism and actually have your ideas welcomed and acted upon. Attendance at this meeting used to be the surest way to avoid being nominated and elected to the Board of Directors - unless your significant other nominates you from the floor, but times they are a changin'. Actually being a BoD member is not a bad job. You get to have dinner out with some friends once a month, plan an events calendar that avoids conflicts with your schedule and you get to be the selector of

to have dinner out with some friends once a month, plan an events calendar that avoids conflicts with your schedule and you get to be the selector of



## More II Presidente:

volunteers as opposed to being the selectee.

Things don't stop or even slow down after the November General Meeting. The following week it is time to celebrate Thanksgiving and then on the morning of November 30<sup>th</sup>, we will gather at the Northern LA version of Cars & Coffee, Donut Derelicts, Premier Auto -

**"EURO SUNDAY AT THE WOODLAND HILLS COFFEE ROASTER".** This informal gathering usually draws around 300

to 400 exotic, mostly European (though Bruce Meyer did drive up in the 1960 Corvette that won Le Mans, etc.) cars. The cars start arriving by 7-7:30, kind of peak between 8 & 9 and start to disappear by 11. We will arrange a canyon run over the Santa Monica Mountains for those who would like to discover a new way home.

Keep the wheel side down,  
*Norman*

## TUSTIN CONCOURS Oct 25-26, 2008

The Enderle Center's inaugural Classic European Concours - featuring European Classic Cars of the 1930s, 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s - will take place in Tustin,

California, on Saturday and Sunday, October 25 - 26, 2008. Public viewing is from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM both days. Enderle Center is located at 17th and Yorba Street, just east of the 55 Freeway and north of the 5 Freeway. This exclusive automotive event is open to the public and will benefit the Anaheim Family YMCA and other select YMCA programs throughout Orange County, California.

Pininfarina Car Designer Maurizio Corbi will be visiting from Torino, Italy, and he will be on site to meet all Concours participants. Maurizio recently celebrated his 20th Anniversary as a Car Designer and his Ferrari designs, portfolio of fine automotive artwork, and worldwide media coverage have all served to promote the Corbi name.

The entry fee for this event is \$150 and parking may be a problem, so the club is not promoting this event, but if you are in the area, it might be a nice place to visit.

## Elections Are Coming! Here Is Your Chance to Get Involved!

Annual elections for the AROSC Board of Directors are coming in November. A mail ballot may be sent out in November with the candidates and candidate statements that have been received by then. Voting will be by mail and at the November club meeting. If you are interested in running, please let us know soon so you will be listed on the ballot.

We elect ten members to the Board of Directors, who choose the officers and committee chairs among themselves. Membership on the Board adds one meeting

per month, which includes dinner - such a deal. We usually meet at a restaurant for food and business.

If you or someone you know would be interested in serving, contact a board member or attend the November meeting to nominate that person from the floor. Here is your chance to help plan and conduct the wide variety of activities that makes this chapter so great. You probably have some new ideas that would be fun for all of us. Don't keep them to yourself, join the Board and get involved.

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## Tech Article: Testing Coil Polarity, A Shocking Experience

Last month I wrote about a "pencil test" for determining ignition coil polarity and promised to try it on the Sprint. Basically, the test involves lifting a spark plug wire maybe 1/4" off the spark plug terminal and inserting a sharp pencil lead into the gap. If the coil polarity is correct, the spark should flare from the pencil lead toward the spark plug.

Well, I tried it and, as feared, it was a shocking experience. I'm not quite ready to say the pencil test is for Dummies, but if this was an IQ test, I'd definitely be rated subnormal. Being stubborn as well as a slow learner, I managed to shock myself multiple times. Eventually, it occurred to me to swap out the resistor-type spark plugs, hold the pencil with insulated pliers and to not complete the

possible electrical circuit through my body by touching the car. I am not willing to do any more testing so please don't ask me which step made the critical difference. Success, if you want to call it that, was limited because it wasn't totally obvious whether the spark was more flared before or after the pencil.

There is a better way. Herb

Carrier of the Champion Spark Plug Company did state that if you have a voltmeter handy, you can locate reverse polarity in a minute, but he failed to elaborate. Did an Internet search and struck pay dirt. Set the voltmeter on the highest voltage range. Connect the negative lead to the spark plug terminal and the positive lead to the engine block. (The coil is hooked up correctly when there is negative polarity at the center spark plug electrode.) Crank the engine. The voltage should show an upward blip when the cylinder fires. If not, the coil is reversed. Using this method, I managed to avoid getting shocked and was left with no ambivalence as to whether the coil polarity was correct.

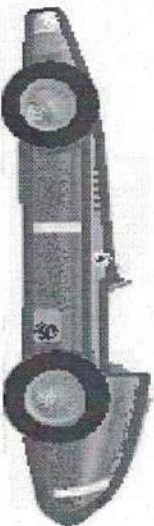
This seems to be the month for electrical gremlins at Mike & Chris' house. We planned to take the Spider on the "Drive, Shine and Dine" event, but were forced to make a last minute substitution when the Spider's generator light refused to go out. Looking on the bright side, I had a topic for this month's column.

Thought about just pulling the generator and taking it to the rebuild, but pulling a generator out through the front suspension never was one of my favorite jobs. Decided a little preliminary troubleshooting might be in order, even if it just postponed the inevitable. Got the voltmeter out again and cleverly deduced the generator wasn't charging, but I still wasn't convinced the problem was in the generator. Vaguely remembered that the field coils are grounded externally on Bosch generators and dug through various

manuals to confirm it. Shorting the field coil wire to ground made the generator come to life, so the problem was in the regulator. Great news since regulators are both cheaper and easier to replace than generators.

Being curious as well as stubborn, I opened up the regulator, filed the points inside, and viola! Hopefully it will turn out to be a near-permanent repair. Centerline sells new Bosch regulators for only \$38, but I don't suppose they look exactly like the original units.

Mike R



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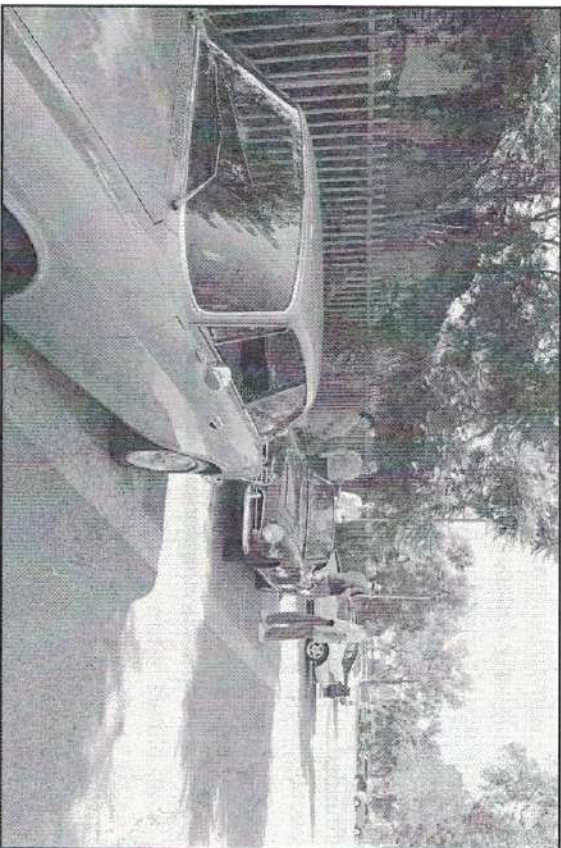
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## September Meeting -- Drive, Shine, & Dine Event

Photos by Jim Barrett & Paul Dexler.

Note that the drivers were very busy on this rally, and I didn't have navigators, so there are no photos from the driving portion. But believe us, you missed a great scenic drive through the hills and canyons.



Seeking shade in the warmth of Santa Fe Springs while waiting for more rally entrants to arrive so we can start.



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Seeking shade again while waiting for the rest to arrive so we can start the self-judged concours portion of the event.



The end of the run! We all found the Pizza place, of course! No one got lost on this interesting driver's rally.





*Carrie Adrian joined us for lunch at the finish and kept Elise & Cody Barrett company outside the restaurant.*



*Fred Firschein had the task of tallying all the results while the rest of us enjoyed fantastic pizza.*



*The group patiently waits for food delivery.*



*Happy diners finish up their lunches.*





*Fred announces the winners.*



*Norman conducted a brief meeting.*

## **Last Concours of the Year -- Best of France & Italy Car Show, Sunday Nov. 2**

The 'Best of France and Italy' is an incredible show that features cars under 3.0 liters in displacement, encouraging an eclectic mix of ecceterenni and exotics. Tina and company put on a great show and it consistently draws a lot of wonderful Alfas. Entry forms are due by October 25<sup>th</sup> with the entry fee of \$15.00, but you can decide to drive in the day of the show and pay \$20.00 for parking on the grass and a goodie bag.

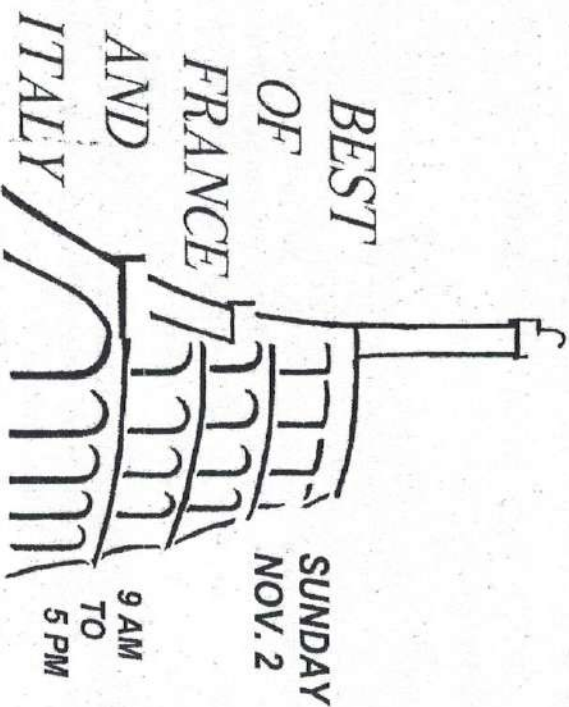
The Alfa Romeo Owners Club of Southern California will once again host Concours judging at the show. This will be our third and final Concours of the year. A club donation of \$10.00 gets your car judged for awards as well as year-end points. The Alfa Romeo marque has been very well represented in the past few years and this year should be no exception. You do not have to enter your car in the Concours, but don't think you have to have a 'show car' in order to enter. We have several classes that accommodate almost anything you drive.

So here's the plan: Clean up your car, pack a picnic and join us on Sunday, November 2, 2008 for a great time. This is always a wonderful opportunity to meet up with all of your Alfa, Lancia, Fiat and French car friends. Plus you may find that perfect item at the Swap Meet/Vendor area! Even if you don't have a car to show -- come on by. Parking (off the grass) is free but limited and you'll have a great day. Woodley Park is located at the Northwest corner of the 101 and 405 freeways (Burbank Blvd. exit, turn west then north at the first signal past the freeway. The show starts at 9AM.

Entry form and information are available at [www.franceanditaly.com](http://www.franceanditaly.com) or on the reverse of this page.

Doug Adler & Stephanie Stacy





## CAR SHOW AND SWAP MEET

**FOR FRENCH AND ITALIAN CARS, MOTORCYCLES & SCOOTERS  
JOIN US FOR A DAY IN THE PARK THIS IS A NON-JUDGED CAR GATHERING**

**DIRECTIONS:** Woodley Park is in Van Nuys on Woodley Ave. between Burbank Blvd. and Victory Blvd. just North of the intersection of the 405 and 101 Freeways.

Info: (626) 797-4221 or [www.franceanditaly.com](http://www.franceanditaly.com)

### ENTRY FORM FOR PREFERRED ADMISSION AND PARKING

Years makes & models: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>st</sup> Car \$15, 2<sup>nd</sup> Car \$10, 3<sup>rd</sup> or more Free

1<sup>st</sup> Motorcycle \$10, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$5, 3<sup>rd</sup> or more Free

Swap Meet vendors \_\_\_\_\_ (same price as cars for each vehicle) Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**RELEASE STATEMENT (Must be signed by registrant)**

I hereby agree to the following conditions for attending and entering vehicles in the Best of France and Italy at Woodley Park on November 2, 2008. I agree to release the organizers, volunteers, staff and the City of Los Angeles from any and all liability for injuries, damage, or loss arising from my entry and attendance at said event.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Entry and Payment to:

**BEST OF FRANCE AND ITALY**  
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Toluca Lake, CA 91610-0299

Please make checks payable to: "BEST OF FRANCE AND ITALY" Please mail by Oct 25, 2008.

**Late registration \$20, available at the gate.**

## October Meeting -- Nethercutt Tour 11:00 AM October 25, Sylmar

On October 25 we will have a general meeting in conjunction with a tour at the Nethercutt Collection and Museum at 15200 Bledsoe Street, Sylmar, CA 91342. **NO: children under 12, no shorts, no totally bare arms.**

### Directions:

The Nethercutt: take the Roxford St. offramp from the I-5, just north of the merger of the I-5 and the I-405. Turn east on Roxford Street, and then right (south) on the first street: Encinitas Ave.

Follow this around the forced left onto Bledsoe and proceed past San Fernando Rd to the corner of Bradley Ave. Parking is in the lot on the left.

**1:30 PM** we will tour the Museum Tower, which has the Grand Salon and the musical instrument collection. If you think you might be a little later than 11 AM, call Norman's cell phone and let him know so the group will wait for you.

Villa Silverman is in Chatsworth. Go back to the I-5 South, follow signs onto the I-405, and then go onto the 118 Fwy West for about 8 miles. Exit onto De Soto Ave and go south down the hill to Chatsworth Street. Turn right, proceed to Canoga Ave and turn left. Make a left on Stanwell (first opportunity on left) and find #21330 on the right side.

**Note correction in times for this event!!**

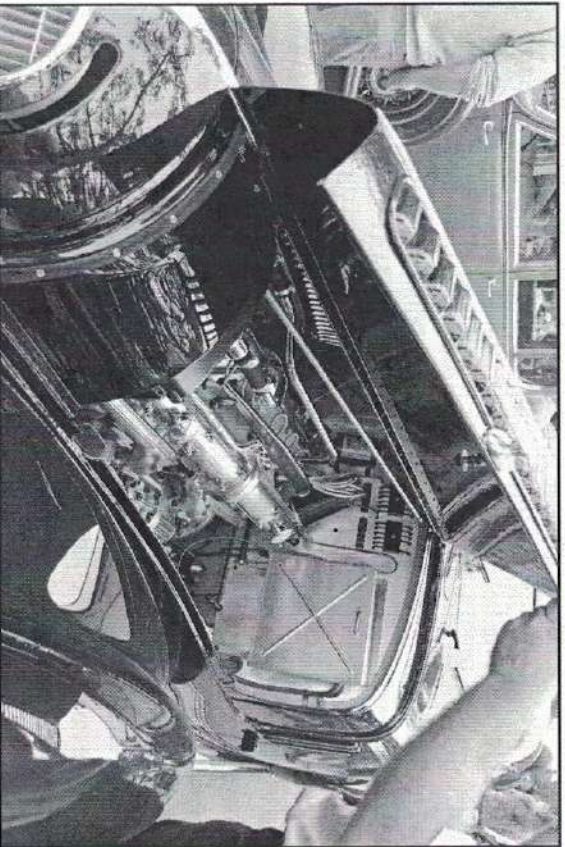
Afterwards, we will proceed south and west to Chez Silverman for the meeting, party, food, wine, and etc - **RSVP TO (818) 998-6796 to join us for food!** Bring outdoor chairs and a table (if you have one) for back-yard dining, so we don't have to rent them.



# The Pebble Beach Tour d'Elegance

## The Concours Cars Drive the Monterey Peninsula

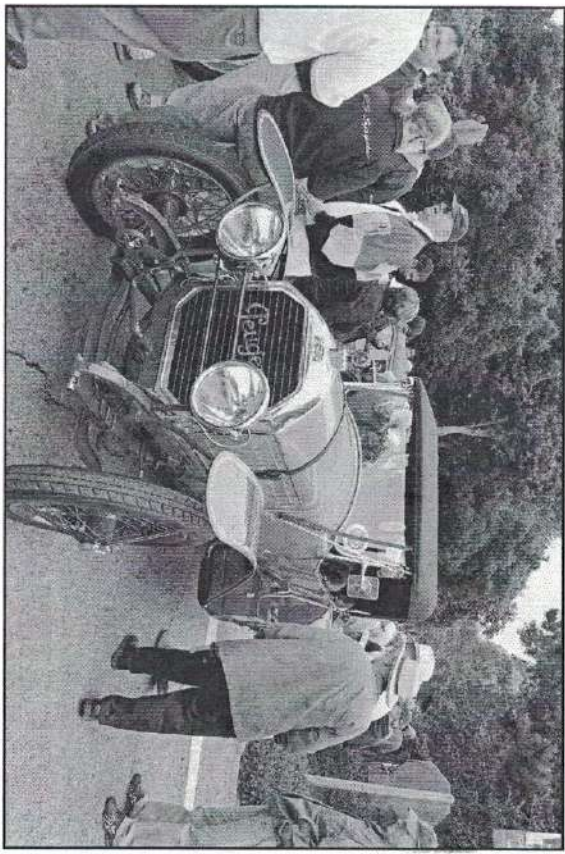
Photos by Paul Dexter



The beautiful "Best of Show" 8C2900B and its engine bay on the tour.

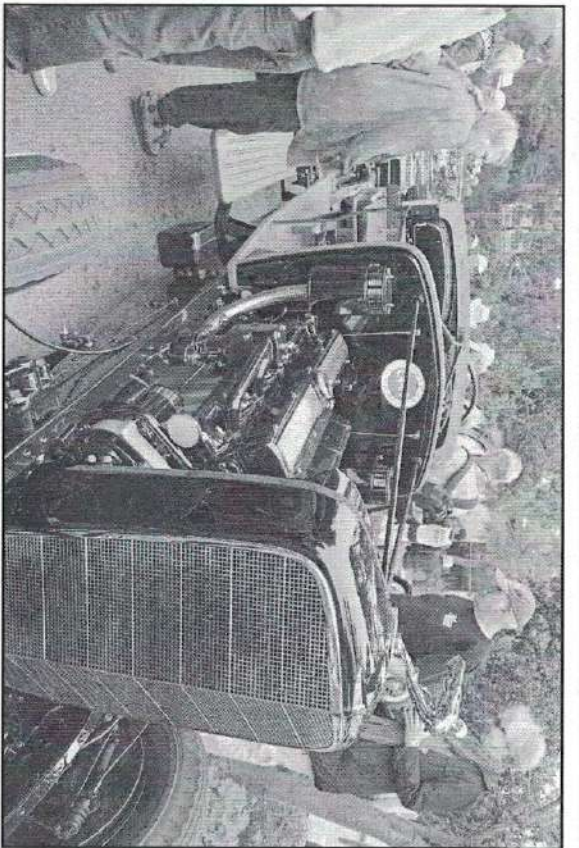


These are 2 of Paul's buddies from the Netherlands in their 1903 shaft-drive Peerless rear-entrance tonneau. They thought it was the only one left in the world until another one showed up on the tour. These cars run in the London to Brighton run for cars no newer than 1904!



A 1914 Peugeot Type 150 Phaeton -- very advanced styling for its period.

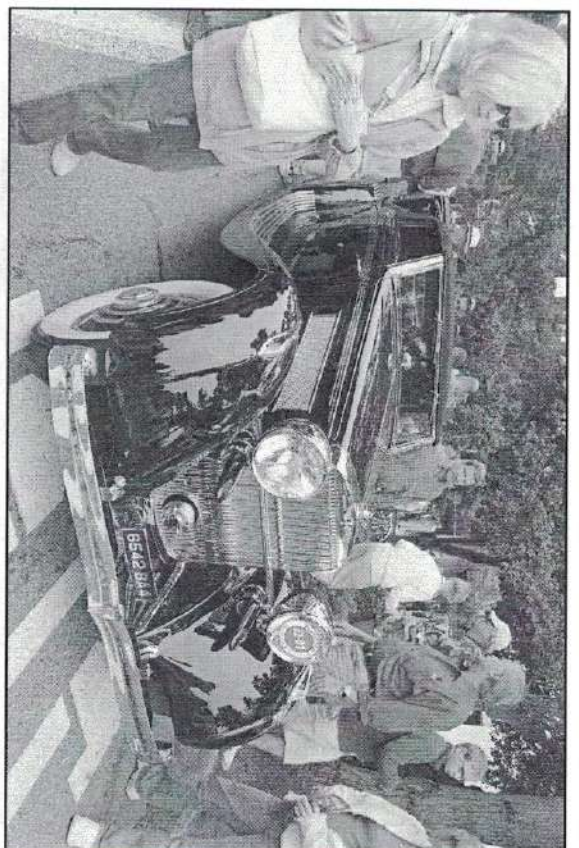




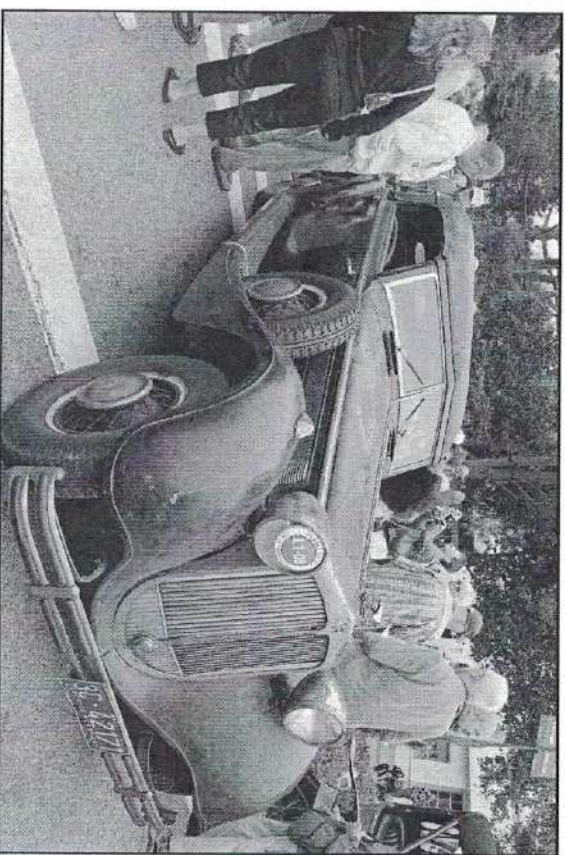
*A 1933 Cadillac V-16 chassis, body to be installed later. Brought to show the engineering of the V-16.*



*Paul Dexter poses with a car of the same year as himself (don't think he has 16 cylinders though).*

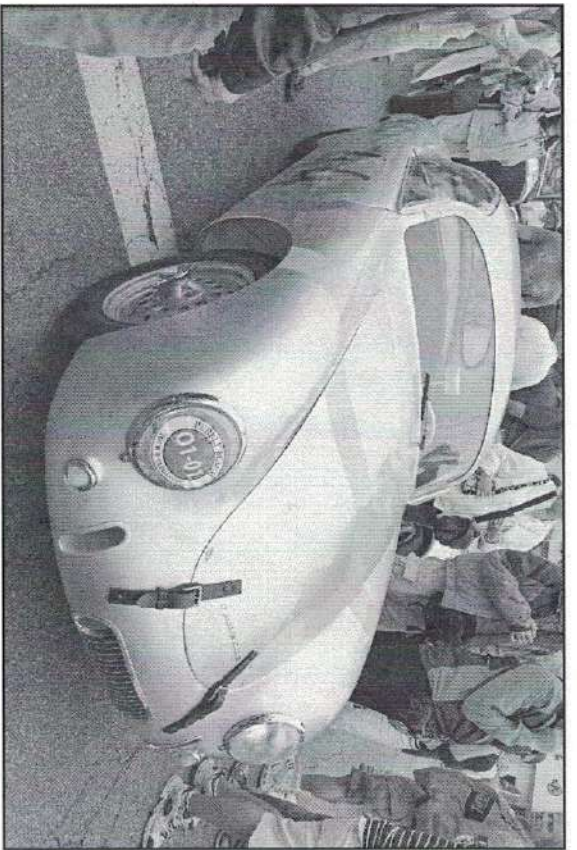


*The 1935 Hispano-Suiza (French) Brando Cabriolet of Sam & Emily Man from New Jersey. They have won Best of Show a couple of times, but not this year.*



*This rusty Horch doesn't look like a concours entry, even in our Daily Driver Class! But it does fit into the "preservation" or "barn find" class, and it still carries a 1952 'US Forces in Germany' license plate.*





*This is a 1952 Glöckler-Porsche Weidenhausen roadster, just about the first competition Porsche.*



*The interior of the Porsche roadster; clearly not a production model.*

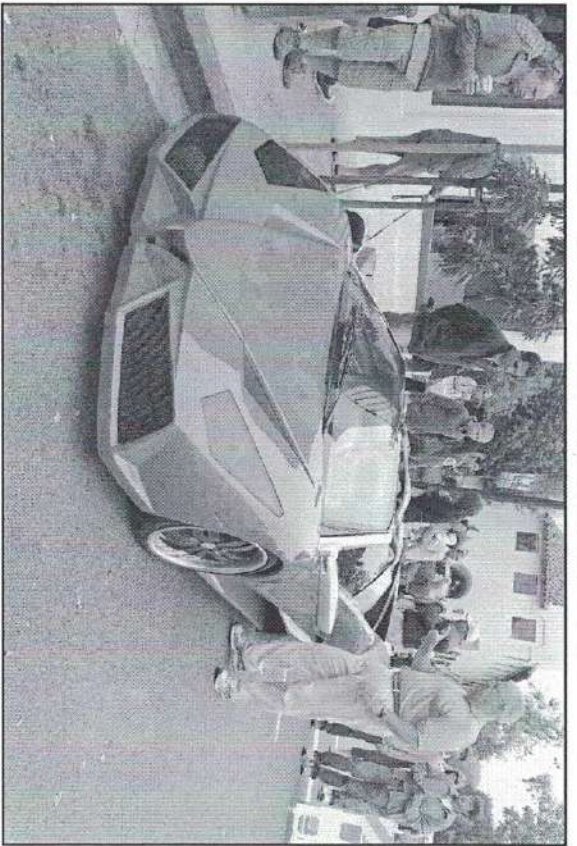


*A 1955 Lancia D24 Pinin Farina Spyder. Its racing history is unknown, but it was brought over from Switzerland.*



*The covered passenger compartment and faired head-rest indicate it could have tun at Le Mans or the Mille Miglia.*





*This looks like a Lamborghini Gallardo on the street in Carmel, but we don't think so -- it has no badge and the nose is a little different. It is typical of what shows up for the Monterey weekend, and appears to be a one-off, being a 3-seater with the driver in the center!*

Lancia

Alfa Romeo

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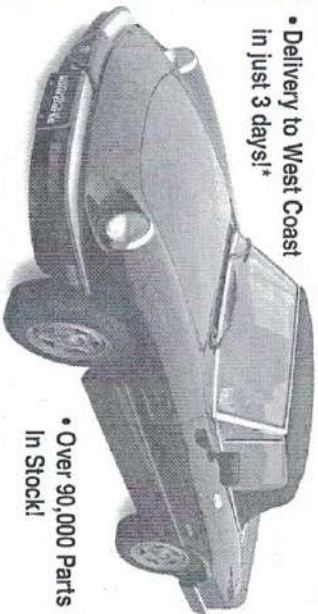
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# Classified Ads --

## Free advertising for members

**1991 Spider Veloce:** exceptional condition with 71.5K miles. For sale by original owner, purchased new in National City, CA. It is a non-accident, non smoker, non-commuter car. Red with tan interior (re-upholstered seats/door panels in full Connolly leather). The seats are covered in \$900 custom sheepskins. Top is like new



with clear, scratch-free window. New Pirelli all season tires/nose-brail/car cover. No dings/dents etc. A true top 1% car. Numerous photos available. The car is a must see for a true Alfa enthusiast. Will accept/consider all offers. *Call Dave at (310) 996-4390 days (10/8)*

**Wanted: Early Duetto 1600 engine.** Our friend Palermo is looking for a Duetto engine. Several Spider Duetto 1600's were shipped to the USA from 1967 to 1969. Palermo needs an Alfa Romeo engine 1600 cc type AR 00536, which was equipped with two carburetors of type WEBER 40 DCOE 27. It is ok if the engine comes without carburetors. Contact Carrie Adrian at olecia@aol.com. (8/8)

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