

Alfacionada

JUNE 2012



**Spring Tour Report, Lots of Great Pictures! Plus ...
A Summer Full of Events, and the Gift Shop Is Open! P. 18**



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE

Alfa Romeo
Owners of Southern California



Alfa Romeo Owners of Southern California

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Submissions

Please send classified ads, articles, letters and photographs to the Newsletter Address above, to arrive no later than the 25th of the month prior to publication.

Changes of Address

To keep your newsletter arriving after a move, please send your change of address information to AROC, P.O. Box 12340, Kansas City, MO 64116-0340.

If you're a nonmember subscriber, or receive the newsletter on a complimentary basis, please send change of address information to the Club Business Address above.

About This Newsletter

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 Romeo enthusiasts. Affiliation with AROSC and a subscription to this newsletter are included in your annual \$70 AROC dues. Non-members may subscribe to *Alfacionada* for \$20 per year, and attend meetings and events. See the inside back cover for a membership application form with rates and contact details.

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Meeting Information

General Meetings are held monthly, on a weekend day, at various locations in Southern California. A full listing of activities is on our website, arosc.org; a four-month calendar of events is on the outside back cover of this newsletter, and detailed information is in Previews. Check all three; email any questions to info@arosc.org, and a Club director will respond.

Our Cover This Month

Top, the Spring Tour's first stop was at the Adamson House in Malibu. See story and more pics pages 26-29. Bottom, with two of his favorite judging gigs coming up, we're really missing Fred Firschein. Okay, he's alive and well, just elsewhere. So here he is at the 2011 Huntington Beach Concours, presenting the 1st Place Open Class award to Art Russell for his 2600, and at the last Chili Cookoff with Best Chili winners Joyce and Doug McHattie.

AROSC Board of Directors — 2012

Your entire Board is now available at one point of contact: info@arosc.org. We welcome and encourage your thoughts and feedback. This central email address will allow us to respond, at home or on the road, through our computers and smart phones. Leave your telephone number and request a call-back if you wish; we will be happy to contact you personally.

Don't forget to check our website: <http://www.arosc.org>

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Previews ... *What's coming up and when.*

June 3 – Huntington Beach Concours; see page 20.

June 16 – Chili Cookoff! At the Presidential Ranch in Camarillo; see next page.

June 24-25 – AROSC Time Trials/Race, Laguna Seca. See info page 21.

July 13-15 – Wine Tour, Temecula area. Info on page 19.

July 28 – Braille Rallye, Los Angeles and environs; see page 25.

July 29 – Summer Party!

August 16-19 – Monterey! Pebble Beach, The Quail, Concorso Italiano, Concours de LeMons, and of course our party at the Loose Noodle.

September 8-9 – Driver Education, Time Trials and Race, Willow Springs

September 22 – Agua Dulce Winery visit, General Meeting at Big Mouth Pizza.



Note: Board of Directors meetings are generally held on the last Wednesday of the month. Anyone with business to bring before the Board is requested to please contact II Presidente Mike Riehle.



It was Eagle Festival at Channel Islands National Park in Ventura; Jay, Jack and Susan got to meet the event Grand Marshal himself – Steve Edelman photo.

JOIN US AT THE AROSC ANNUAL

CHILI COOK OFF

JUNE 16, 2012

Arrival time @ 10:30 am

The June Chili Cook Off is right around the corner, so get out your secret family recipes and join us for a great day at the home of our AROSC President!

Prepare and partially cook your chili at home. Bring it to the house for the final touches. There will be electricity provided, but bring an extension cord, just in case.

The chili will be sampled and judged by all in attendance so be sure to make enough to go around. (Cups and spoons will be provided.)



***IL PRESIDENTE* will be grilling hamburgers for all!**

Judging will begin at Noon and include the following categories:

- Best Vegetarian Chili
- Hottest Chili
- Best Overall (Best in Show)

**Please contact Mike Riehle & Chris Burke
to RSVP and get directions/details!
310.780.5427 or email twoina2@sbcglobal.net**

FROM THE TOP ... *the Word from Il Presidente*

I feel like I should somehow be heralding the return of Alfa to this country, but I'm still in the wait and see camp. That said, the announcements and news leaks have become more and more enticing. Shall we wait for it to happen, or go occupy Arese?

While we're deciding, we are getting an up-rated version of the Fiat 500 which carries the Abarth nameplate. One of my favorite magazines, *Grassroots Motorsports*, calls it a genuine Cooper S contender. Forced induction, stiffer underpinnings, bigger brakes and Koni FSD shocks all make for a package that GRM describes as a blast to drive on the track. Anyone care to give one a test drive and write a report for the *Alfacionada*?

The Sprint ran so well on the Ojai Road Tour that Chris and I decided to take it on the May event as well. A little prep work was required as always. Was it just last month our Tech Director was giving us guidance on how often to change our oil? Hey Gene, how does once every four years sound? The maintenance record shows the Sprint's oil was last changed just before the Huntington Beach Concours, in 2008! It's been driven 1,000 miles to a half-dozen events in that time, with very little short trip driving, but four years seems excessive by any measure. Also, the car ran cold on most of the Ojai Tour, so I decided



Il Presidente Mike and First Lady Chris

to change out the thermostat and put in fresh coolant. Please don't ask me how old the coolant was. I have no idea.

Chris and I cheated a little on the Spring Tour to Santa Barbara and met up with the group a little bit further up the coast. (We miss South Bay some, but not that much.) The picnic basket competition was alive and well as predicted. Chris and I weren't really in the running for any awards, but we brought smoked salmon which qualified us for consideration in the Native American and Left Coast Seafood categories. Several others really outdid themselves, and there was no shortage of picnic leftovers at Happy Hour. Look for pictures in this issue.

June and July are big months with multiple events each month. The Sprint is entered in the Huntington Beach Concours. For any who haven't done so, this is a wonderful event for participants and spectators alike. Rolling hills, trees, green grass, June

weather near the beach and a modest entry fee all make for a great day. Two weeks later we have the Chili Cookoff at what our Editors have cheerfully described as the Presidential Rancho. So be it. A good time will be had by all. Bring your jackets too as the coastal cool may roll in before everyone goes home. The following week is another Time Trial/Race at Laguna Seca (miracle of miracles!).

July brings up the Wine Tour, the Braille Rallye and the Summer Party. The Wine Tour and the Summer Party need no introduction. Both events have been quite popular for many years, and will undoubtedly attract a good turnout. The Braille Rallye, however, gets a fairly small turnout. I've always enjoyed the event. The kids from the Braille Institute are great, and it feels good to do something nice for them. It's also an opportunity to rub elbows with fellow car enthusiasts driving everything from old English sports cars to

Detroit muscle cars to Ferraris. Check out this issue for write-ups on all three events.

If you haven't started thinking about Monterey, time is running out, and you'd better get busy. It's been many years since Chris and I last went, but we know there are multiple events, activities and parties bookending the weekend itself.

We are looking forward to participating in our first Concorso Italiano, and are planning to check out the Concours de LeMons. Consult the planning pages elsewhere in this newsletter and get your reservations made. This is the most car-fun-addict weekend on the planet, and you will need a platform from which to launch.

Remember, if the women don't find you handsome, they should at least find you handy. And don't forget the duct tape, a handyman's secret weapon.

—Mike and Chris

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The Tech Guy ... *Don't be Fuelish*

This month's topic is about that which makes our Alfas perform so well: the fuel system. Most people don't ever think of this except when they need to gas up, and then it is only about how much it is costing to fill the tank of their beloved Alfa.

But the fuel system consists of more than the gas tank, and requires periodic maintenance to perform correctly.

The basic fuel system consists of the tank to hold the fuel, a filter to keep any dirt out of the system, a pump to move the fuel from the tank to the engine, and a distributor to provide the fuel to the engine. So let's go over these components one at a time.

Most people know about the fuel (or gas) tank but usually only see the place where one inserts the nozzle when refueling the car. Connected to this filler pipe is a tank, usually made of metal (although a lot of newer cars have plastic tanks). It holds anywhere from 10 to 20 gallons in most cars and is usually located at the rear of the vehicle under, or near, the trunk. The fact that it is metal means that it can rust. It does have a protective coating but, considering that some of our Alfas are 40 to 50 years old, there is a good chance of rust. Usually the rust is inside the tank, which makes it very hard to detect or clean. The rust happens because of condensation in the tank. If left to itself, the tank will eventually rust through and start leaking. This results in lower gas mileage and the potential for a fire. This is generally not good. However, no matter how damaged, most tanks can be repaired.

From the tank the fuel usually goes through a filter to remove any dirt or rust before it goes to the fuel pump. The filter is the first line of defense for the system and needs to be replaced periodically. The exact interval depends on the state of your fuel system. Owner's manuals usually recommend a change interval, but since filters don't cost much it's cheaper to replace it too often than to let a clogged filter cause a breakdown. If your filter tends to clog up a lot, then your tank needs to be checked for dirt or rust.

Some systems have an additional filter after the pump. The Spica-injected Alfas have an additional filter in the engine compartment which should be replaced about every 7,500 miles. This provides additional filtering for the Spica pump, and since a Spica rebuild costs more than \$600, replacing this filter regularly is cheap insurance.

The fuel pump is next. It may be either mechanical (for carburetors) or electric for fuel injection or carburetion. Mechanical pumps are located on the engine and are run by the engine. Electric pumps are located anywhere between the fuel filter and the engine. These pumps are long-lasting, and since they can be expensive they are generally replaced only after they have died.

The last major component is the fuel distribution system, either carburetion or fuel injection. Injection systems can be either mechanical (Spica) or electronic. These systems are complex, so I won't go into detail other than to say that they are generally long-lasting but do require some regular maintenance. Just remember if

your car is not running right the last thing to start fooling with is the fuel distribution.

Connecting all of this together is a series of rubber and steel lines. The steel lines are designed to last the life of the car, but since many of our Alfas have already exceeded their expected life, these should be inspected for damage and/or rust, and replaced if needed. More important are the rubber hoses; they connect the various components together and should be replaced about every five years. The ozone in the air and the chemicals in the gasoline attack both the outside and inside of these hoses. With this,

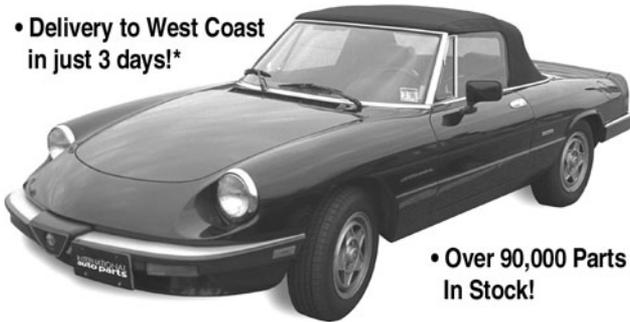
plus stress from their constant flexing, they tend to wear out. When replacing these hoses, be sure to use fuel line, not just any rubber hose. Fuel line is designed to resist the chemicals; regular rubber hose is not. For fuel injection systems, be sure to use hose rated for high pressure; normal fuel line can fail with the higher pressure of fuel injection.

So if you change the fuel filters when suggested, and perform regular inspections for leaks and hose condition, you should have many miles of fun driving without having to rely on the tow truck.

— Gene Brown

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Sunday, 6/24 – Monday, 6/25

\$430 for two days of track time!

All makes and models welcome!

Join us at Laguna Seca Raceway for Time Trials, Racing, and lunchtime Intro Group! Laguna Seca is a world class track and a great driving experience, with excellent food and RV facilities, so bring the family for a fun weekend of driving and spectating! This is your chance to drive the famous “Corkscrew”!

OUR RUN GROUPS! - We have changed our run groups and vehicle safety requirements to provide more fun, and to allow cars in street trim to experience the thrill of getting your car out on the track!

- **Solo:** For relatively new drivers, passing with point-by only in certain straight sections of track. Stock seat belts OK.
- **Point-By:** For drivers with more experience, passing anywhere on the track with a point-by. Stock seat belts OK for 2000 & newer cars unless engine mods or race tires.
- **Open Passing:** For very experienced drivers & faster cars, passing anywhere on the track with no point-by required. 5 or 6 point harnesses
- **Race Group:** Wheel to wheel racing, typical racing equipment is required
- **Intro Group:** A classroom session, then laps around the track following an instructor during the lunch break. Only \$35/day.



Online Registration through MotorsportReg.com

More details at www.aroschpd.org

Questions? Phone Terry Watson at 443-462-7834 (cell)
or email comp@arosc.org

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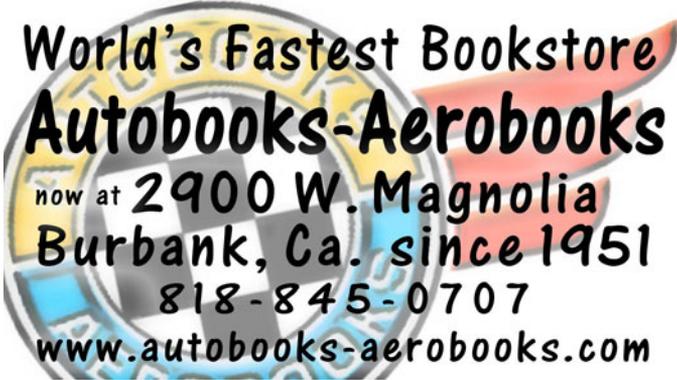
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to receive wine tour information & updates!

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50 YEARS AGO ... An AROSC Jubilee Special

ALFAS ANNONYMOUSE



Well, it looks like AROSC is off the ground and flying, with 20 paid members heading for 30, and a fine series of technical and social events coming up

Incorporations Annonymouse

Welcome to No. 4 in a series on the history of your Club, as gleaned from the pages of its earliest publications. This installment is from *Alfas Annonymouse*, March 1961. The first paragraph is so affirming, we need to share all of it: "Well, it looks like AROSC is off the ground and flying, with 20 paid members heading for 30, and a fine series of technical and social events coming up during the year. By the time you receive this newsy (we hope) newsletter the club will be officially incorporated and formalized in the eyes of the State of California. The turnout at our last meeting was a sight to behold, with dozens of those funny little cars parked all over the place. And most important those present learned a bit more about keeping Giulietta happy. And this is what we're here for."

Yes, indeed. Keeping those G-cars happy is what we live for. (Witness elsewhere in this issue how, during the Spring Driving Tour, we collaborated to get the Meschter GTV under way, and the Riehle-Burke Sprint unlocked!)

Our newly registered club was an enthusiastic amalgamation with an abiding interest in the technical and performance aspects of their cars. The meetings were first technical and

rally-oriented, then social. They had not yet founded our fabulous driver's school, but we find this: "Sometime this fall we will hold a combination drivers school, social get-together and field day, to test both driver and car. This probably will be held over a weekend, and will be a major event." And we are sure it was!

The May meeting was a tech session covering brakes, wheels and suspension. June had the participants heading to Bill Corey's place in Pasadena to discuss electrical systems and owner maintenance.

Actual technical committees were formed and worked to address issues and problems. The newsletter asked: "If you wish technical questions considered, or have ideas about programs, please get in touch with Bob. For example, how would you like to have a clinic session with Hoffman's own tech representative as consultant?"

And the BoD promised that "throughout the summer there will be short runs to the beach or mountains as a group, with either a rally or just a gaggle." These day trips have returned to popularity this decade; maybe we need a few more. But can anyone tell us what "a gaggle" is in road-running parlance?

There was certainly plenty of fun on the calendar that year, including

encouragement to attend SCCA's races. If you could participate at that level, you were certainly invited to try. Mentioned to the south was: "San Diego Region SCCA race at del Mar. We are hoping to meet the San Diego area Alfa-ites at this event." And mentioned to the north was: "Cal Club Region, SCCA's Santa Barbara Road Races [will be] May 26 and 27. If you would like to work in the pits during this event, get in touch with Ed Gustin ... All that's needed are a pair of white pants and shirt and a willingness to help out." Hmmmm, white pants in the pits? Hopefully that was the uniform for corner workers.

Rallying was a true passion for our Club in the 60s. The newsletter reported: "So far team cars have entered 6 rallies lately, with 2 third places so far. If you are interested, whether you have ever rallied or not, get in touch with Larry McGammon ...". It was called the Double Trouble Rally and we'll have more about that in a future issue. Another Club member was there to catch the newbies as they fell. He provided "instruction in the various techniques for those wishing it". You needed to be motivated, however, as most of these events got started at 7:30 a.m.

Even by 1961, "the cost has become prohibitive to send almost 100 newsletters every month and isn't really fair to those who are paid members. By this time you probably know whether this Club will meet your particular needs: technical, social, competitive, etc. If it has some importance, support it with your dues." Who knew that the Internet would come along to help defray some of those costs to allow us to uphold the Club's intent to "... continue to encourage members to bring interested guests to meetings and to pursue our efforts to reach Alfa owners throughout the Southern California area."

Additionally, on the subject of Internet convenience, per the charter of 1962, "We have been advised that all correspondence to the Club should be addressed to the Club. If you wish to contact a certain person, use 'Attention' on the envelope." So in the 21st century, our "info@arosc.org" fulfills that requirement pretty well.

And their final bit of advice for that issue was the sign-off line: "Till next time, have fun, and don't get any speeding tickets out there when your [sic] out blowing off those gutless Corvettes."

— Elyse Barrett

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SAVE THE DATE!

JULY 29, 2012

HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA

The AROSC Annual Summer Party & General Meeting are right around the corner!

We will again have a potluck lunch, and request that attendees bring something to share that we can nosh, snack, or munch upon. We suggest primarily home-prepared dishes, cold or room temperature. We can heat up some things in the oven or microwave, but want to limit the stove-top cooking to just a few items.

Wines are also always welcome!

As in the past, there will be no charge for this event. However, we ask that all attendees bring a food dish to share. If you can't cook or bring food, you can make a \$5 donation per person and Phyllis will buy what is needed to complete the menu. In order for this to work, you must call or **E-mail an RSVP before party day.**

Suggested food categories include but are not restricted to: antipasto, appetizers, salads, sandwich makings, casseroles, pasta dishes, desserts or anything appealing as luncheon fare. Just tell Phyllis what it is so she can coordinate and provide a complete menu.

Alfa Romeo
Owners of Southern California



Summer Party Details:

- DATE:** Sunday, July 31, 2011
- TIME:** Noon to 4:00 PM or???
- WHERE:** Phyllis Gaylard's House
17041 Malta Circle,
Huntington Beach, 92649
(Thomas Bros. Map pg 857 C1)
- RSVP:** To Phyllis by Friday, July 27 at
(714) 377-6377 or e-mail to
AROSCeditor@aol.com
- DETAILS:** Potluck Style – so please confirm
what you are bringing with Phyllis!
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Monterey Weekend 2012

August 15-20

Plan and Book Now!

What we've all known as the Monterey Historics weekend in August is now called Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion, and the four days include the world's most prestigious concours, the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance. Without doubt it is the most fabulous confluence of everything tastefully automotive on the planet and a pilgrimage worth making. If you're thinking of going this year, now is the time to finalize your plans.

Most of the action takes place August 17-19, with many of us heading up earlier on Wednesday, August 15 and leaving later on Monday, August 20. It is time to mark your calendars and make the key reservations you need to ensure your access to the events you want most to attend.

The Italian component of the weekend includes plenty of Alfacentric activities, not the least of which is our own chapter's Thursday night dinner in Monterey at the Loose Noodle Pasta House on Lighthouse Ave. We will again have a choice of soup or salad, a choice of entrees (chicken piccata; meat lasagna, spaghetti with meatballs; salmon alfredo or cheese tortellini with pesto) plus their delicious cheesecake dessert for \$25 per person. The wine and beer bar will be open, so if you wish to have a pre-dinner libation, bring

a bit of cash. Please RSVP to Evelyn Silverman no later than August 10 at norman@msn.com and be prepared for a wonderful evening.

For the rest of the weekend, our Northern California counterparts do the heavy lifting in the organizational end. They are gracious enough to invite and encourage us all to take advantage of the marquee corral at Laguna Seca, a buffet supper at Concorso Italiano, a big Alfa Club dinner at Chateau Julien in Camel Valley, a big block of hotel rooms in Salinas, and an invitation to West and Maggie Clark's home for their annual wine tasting reception.

If you don't have lodging, consider booking at the Laurel Inn in Salinas. Delta Sierra chapter has blocked 40 rooms at virtually the same rates as last year. Room choices are noted on the registration form, but must be submitted separately to James Treadwell (not to John Maclay, who is handling everything else).

If you are attending Concorso Italiano on Friday, the Alfa Romeo Association organizes a buffet at 5 p.m. in Balesteri's Restaurant on-site at Laguna Seca Golf Ranch. It is \$40 per person (which includes tax and tip); drinks are no-host. It is a nice way to end the day and avoid traffic hassles upon departing Concorso. Sign up for this on the form as well.

If you are attending the Historics at Laguna Seca, ARA coordinates admission tickets and Alfa corral passes. Three days at the track (Fri/Sat/Sun) are, per person: \$130; 2 days (Sat/Sun) are \$100; Friday only \$50; Saturday only \$70, and Sunday only \$60. Corral passes are \$10 per car, good for all three days. The parking area is adjacent Turn 1-2 and can be dusty, so plan to have your spider tops ready to go up if it is windy.

Saturday afternoon features a special insider's party for Alfa enthusiasts at the Pebble Beach home of West and Maggie Clark. RSVPs are not necessary and attendance is complimentary. The hours are 3-6 p.m. and most of us make a point to attend. They usually have a barrel of

their own wine to taste and an array of nifty hors d'oeuvres laid out for all to enjoy.

Saturday evening is the Alfa Club dinner at Chateau Julien Wine Estate in Carmel Valley. A special four-course prix fixe menu will be presented at \$55 per person (wine is extra). Reservations must be made at the winery, by telephone only, by calling 831.624.2600.

So, sit down with your calendars, consult the ARA's sign-up form adjacent and let's all get together in August.

Please note: the deadline for ARA to receive your registration form and funds is June 30! Go to the Club website, arosoc.org, where you can download the form.



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AUGUST 17-19, 2012 "HISTORICS" RACE WEEKEND AT MONTEREY/CARMEL, CA

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Race and Alfa Corral Ticket Prices Aug. 17-19 (Children 12 and under are free)

3 Days: Fri – Sun, \$130 per person:	No. _____ Amount (US \$) _____
2 Days: Sat & Sun, \$100 per person:	No. _____ Amount (US \$) _____
Friday 8/17 only, \$50 per person:	No. _____ Amount (US \$) _____
Saturday 8/18 only, \$70 per person:	No. _____ Amount (US \$) _____
Sunday 8/19only, \$60 per person:	No. _____ Amount (US \$) _____

Alfa Corral Pass (Good for all three days, Alfas only), \$10.00 per car No. _____ Amount (US \$) _____

Post-Concorso Buffet Dinner, Friday Aug. 17, 5:00 PM. Beverage, Caesar salad, bread, chicken marsala, fresh yellow squash and zucchini, red potatoes with parsley and strawberry shortcake. No-host cocktails. At Balesteri's Restaurant on site at Concorso Italiano, \$40 per person. No. _____ Amount (US \$) _____

HANDLING FEE PER ORDER (REQUIRED): \$5.00

Total ARA Amount (include above handling fee please, DON'T FORGET THE SASE) \$ _____

NAME & ADDRESS: _____
EMAIL: _____ **PHONE NUMBER:** _____

Send the top part of this form with check made out to ARA **to arrive by SATURDAY JUNE 30** to John Maclay, 426 Blackstone Court, Walnut Creek, CA 94598-3717. **YOU MUST INCLUDE a Business sized (4"x9", #10) 44-cent STAMPED Self-Addressed Envelope for return of tickets. Do NOT send small envelopes. No check or no SASE, no tickets!** Any questions, e-mail preferred to johnmaclay@aol.com or fax at 925-934-4762. If in dire need, call John Maclay at 925-937-2399, cell 925-997-3637.

Wine Tasting at West and Maggie Clark's, Saturday Aug 18, 1044 Majella Road, Pebble Beach Saturday, 3:00 to 6:00 PM. **Complimentary.** RSVPs are unnecessary but phone 831-644-0661 if lost, or e-mail wmcclarkjr@aol.com. Enter PB at SFB Morse gate from Rte.68 W (not the first gate off Rte. 1, go past the hospital on 68 West to Pacific Grove gate) and tell the guard you are going to the Clark party. Enter PB, take the first right turn on Congress, follow Congress until you come to Majella Rd on your left, take a left on Majella and go three blocks to 1044.

HOTEL ROOM AT LAUREL INN, SALINAS
 Delta Sierra has reserved 40 rooms at the Laurel Inn at 801 W. Laurel Drive in Salinas for Alfa club members and owners. Please do not contact the hotel directly. Instead, reserve your room by mailing a photocopy of this part of the page with the room info below completed along with your check made out to **"Delta Sierra Alfa Romeo Club."**

Address it to DSARC, Attn: James Treadwell, 4713 Lake Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608.

Prices below include tax, etc. First come, first served.

Single (1 K) Smoking? Y N	Double (2 Q beds) Smoking? Y N
2 nights (8/17 & 8/18) \$216.40	2 nights (8/17 & 8/18) \$245.00
3 nights (8/16 - 8/18) \$324.60	3 nights (8/16 - 8/18) \$367.50

TOTAL (ROOM AMOUNT ONLY) ENCLOSED: \$ _____

NAME _____ **EMAIL ADDRESS** _____
MAIL ADDRESS _____
PHONE _____

AUGUST 18th, SATURDAY NIGHT ALFA CLUB DINNER

For 2012 we've lined up a tasty new Alfa Club Dinner location. We are still making final arrangements, so we don't have all the details and prices yet. But, all indications are that we'll be dining once again in beautiful Carmel Valley. The restaurant is known for their excellent food and wine, and for having prices that should be a little more reasonable than last year. We'll have all the information in July. Stay tuned...

Please note: the deadline for ARA to receive your registration form and funds is June 30! Use this link <http://www.arosc.org/> to our Club website where you may download a full-sized version of the above form form.

Alfa Romeo
Owners of Southern California



AROSC TT & RACE 40TH ANNIVERSARY
September 8-9, 2012
Willow Springs Raceway



It's been 40 years since our first track event in 1972.
So let's celebrate!

- **Driving tour from L.A. to the track on Saturday morning for non-competition cars**
- **Southern California GTA Reunion**
- **Alfa Cup Feature Race Both Days**
- **All Vintage Race-prepared Alfas Welcome**
- **Track Tour For All Alfa Romeos Attending**
- **Alfa Paddock For Race Cars**
- **Alfa Corral**
- **Saturday Night Dinner W/ Guest Speakers**

For more information visit:
www.aroschpd.org

AROSC Wants YOUR OPINION

... tell us something good, bad or inspiring!

Your Club, the Southern California Chapter of the Alfa Romeo Owners Club, is among the largest in the country with at least two activities per month. We have nearly 280 members and to those of you who participate, we thank you and hope you are having fun.

For those of you we don't see often enough, we want to stage events that will appeal more to you so you'll have a convenient, fun excuse to exercise your cars.

As our Fab 50th Jubilee year gets rolling in earnest, your Board of Directors cordially invites your input

on the drives, collection tours, competition, picnics, high-performance driver training, social events we stage throughout the year.

What would make your membership in this group more fun and meaningful?

Where would you like to drive your Alfa?

What are you tired of and wish to change?

Please help us to help you enjoy your membership in this organization. Write to us at info@arosc.org. A Club Director will respond.

Thank you!



2011 Monterey: Above and below, Alfas and lunch at Concorso Italiano, by J. Barrett. Right, J. Barrett bribes LeMons judge, successfully. Photo by E. Barrett.



SAVE THE DATE!

**Annual Agua Dulce Winery
& Big Mouth Pizza Event
September 22, 2012**

**Join us for wine tasting, fabulous food and great
company at the AROSC General Meeting!**

Look for more details in the July Issue of Alfacionada!



Visit aguadulcewinery.com & bigmouthpizzaco.com

PLUS: No corkage fee at Big Mouth's if the wine is purchased at Agua Dulce!

**RSVP to Sheila:
310.542.3448 or sheila.k@verizon.net**

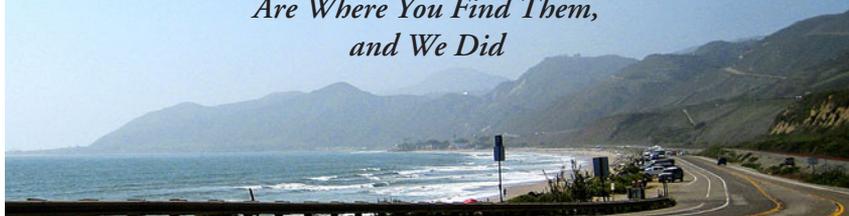
PLEASE NOTE: Big Mouth's no-corkage policy applies to any customer-supplied wine.



Save the Date: July 28! If you've never driven the Braille Rallye, you're in for a treat. Give up your preconceptions about driving in Los Angeles roads as you are guided by a determined, detail-oriented young navigator! Details to come in July Alfacionada.

Spring Tour 2012

*Adventure and Culture
Are Where You Find Them,
and We Did*



The 10th anniversary Spring Driving Tour, attended by 26 AROSC members in 14 cars, may have been the shortest, covering 127 miles from Long Beach to Goleta on Pacific Coast Highway, but it was not lacking in color, challenges, culture and camaraderie. It could also be called “The Suprise Speciale”.

In typical tour format, participants may join the drive wherever they can, so half of our number elected to meet at the first stop in Malibu at the Adamson House.

The format seemed fine until at roll-off hour, Alfa Time glitches entered the otherwise seamless plan. First, Chuck and Jayne Meschter’s ’67 GTV had arrived Friday night with a failing starter solenoid. They elected to return home to Victorville, but a

strong-arm (back and leg) committee was needed to push-start the car to the gasoline pump, and again to send them off. We are sure Chuck will wrench the car back to health and we’ll see them again soon. Second, unnamed sleepy heads and the navigationally challenged were more tardy than expected.

Next we found ourselves caught up in the flow of humanity making their way to the coast to celebrate spring. The surprises included stopping for a parade in Manhattan Beach, dodging the Oxnard Strawberry Festival, and being detoured in an eagle festival at Channel Islands National Park. We learned about the Wheels and Waves car show on State Street a week before our drive, so we lost our Sunday



*A Tale of Two Sprints #1:
The Meschter Sprint gets a push
toward home – E. Barrett photo*



*A Tale of Two Sprints #2: The Riehle
& Burke Sprint got locked and had to
be broken into – J. Barrett photo*



afternoon shopping stroll, but could make other plans.

The hard-core were very pleased to stretch out on a sunny walking tour of the Adamson House gardens and museum (*above*). A private residence that Rhoda Rindge and her husband Merrit Huntley Adamson built in 1930, it opened to the public as part of Malibu Lagoon State Park in 2011.

As with our previous PCH tour, a gimmick “20 questions” local knowledge quiz was provided for navigators who might otherwise not have enough to do. Jay Mackro and Catherine Kusnick were the winners with 18 correct answers.

In thousands of AROSC Spring Driving Tour miles, we have never had a terminal Alfa breakage, wreck, or serious health episode. But we have had the niggling, annoying, progress-delaying episodes. This year it was the Meschter’s failed (new!) starter solenoid and Il Presidente Mike Riehle’s Sprint doors-unopenable-when-locked-using-the-door-handle solved by jimmying the window down enough to snag the handle with a wire. What happened to the Perl Porsche will remain unreported!

We were all together by lunch time at Channel Islands National Park headquarters in Ventura, gateway to the five islands lying 12 to 50 miles outside the Santa Barbara Channel, now preserved for research and serious visitors. The festival had the visitor

center bustling, but our space was untouched. Table settings and wardrobes were not as elaborate as previous years, but the food was very creative. Category winners were: Doug and Joyce McHattie for Native American Fare (thank you; your yummy bribes worked!); Chuck and Jan Cline and Paul and Mary Blankenship tied for Alfamania (we marvel at the ways you-all can come up with green, red and white food. Viva Italia!). The Newbie award went to Mimi Kato and her copilota, Evangeline, for their superb good humor and navigational skills. And, it was gratifying to see 2011 Newbie, Jon Burningham, return to the fray.



Lunch at Channel Islands was a welcome break. The Blankenships (L. foreground) and Clines (R. foreground) tied for the Alfamania theme prize – Steve Edelman photo

The run from Ventura to our hotel was smooth and we stayed off the freeway by taking Old Rincon Highway to be as true to course as possible.



Jon Burningham's Giulia Spider, the quintessential coastal cruiser – Dani Spataro photo



The Clines' Spider in front of the SB Orchid Estate – J Barrett photo

Another of the surprises for the weekend was finding outstanding Stay America just a few blocks off the highway and within minutes of all the remaining stops on the tour. Our traditional happy hour was easily set up on tables in a shady corner of the property, and we were ready for dinner in no time. Except that Alfa Time again rose up to modify our progress as Mike Riehle and Chris Burke's Sprint finally opened after an hour of threats and cajoling. Since Mike is our former tech columnist, perhaps the learnings from this episode could be rendered a future guest tech article?

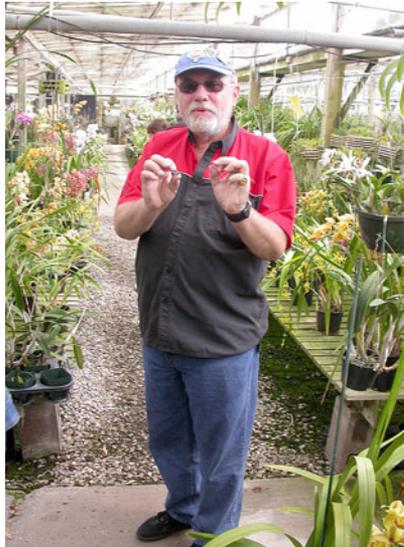
Once ensconced at Pastavino, one of Goleta's favorite Italian eateries, we were able to unwind with generous servings of broiled artichoke, fishes over fettuccini, carbonara, flaming

s'mores and spumoni, and announce the winners of the 20 questions gimmick quiz.

Sunday had two stops for the hard-core, two-day participants. This day's surprise was an environmentalist rally that arranged for parking at our first destination, Santa Barbara Orchid Estate, a commercial grower established in Goleta more than 50 years ago. Our pleasant drive beyond the suburbs brought us in just ahead of the event, and we could enjoy



The Barretts and Dani depart after dinner at Pastavino – S. Edelman photo



Only Norman Silverman can expound upon small car parts in a big orchid room – J Barrett photo

touring the greenhouses. Thank you, Jay and Catherine, for suggesting this amazing place.



At the Orchard Ranch, Evangeline and Lisa make some difficult orchid-purchasing decisions – Steve Edelman photo

The second stop was a visit to the Pacific Standard Time art installation, “Carefree California: Cliff May and the Romance of the Ranch House,” on campus at UC Santa Barbara. The show comprised a look at the innovative mid-century architecture of Cliff May in photographs, original sketches, advertisements, promotions in magazines and wooden scale mock-ups. After getting together for this

group photo on the terrace overlooking the lagoon (*below*), we were off.

Those who didn’t head straight home had lunch at Via Maestra 42, a superb but tiny Italian deli restaurant, followed by ice cream at the iconic McConnell’s.

The successful tactic for avoiding gridlock on PCH was taking Hwy. 192 directly out of Santa Barbara just



We weren’t really in Paradise, but we went by it! – Dani Spataro photo

north of the mission and rejoining the coast road at Hwy. 150. This, our 10th tour, concluded with a final surprise, the partial annular eclipse of the sun. Only in SoCal!

– Elyse Barrett



Classified – Parts For Sale

1991 164 – 139K w eng rbl'd @ 100K. Time Belt with 5K. CA car. Auto trans. Wants to cruise 70+ @ 20+ MPG. Interior good, A/C cold with good step motor, all electronics, lthr seats, sun roof, windows, dash, rear window def + shades, color white. Trans close to rebuild time. \$1800 OBO. Call 818.427.2054.

1987 Milano Gold – Cosmetically challenged beater, ridiculously reliable. Comfort issues: no AC, front windows stuck, driver's seat needs rebuilding. Perennially leaking power steering (surprise, surprise); total mileage unknown, as the speedo quit @ 260K in 1999. Good LeMons candidate, except I won't sell it for that little, sorry. Good headliner, though! \$1200 OBO. Will, 626.345.9659 or nashwill912@earthlink.net (Pasadena)

Rare 1956 Henway – Complete, but needs restoration. Please contact cjones@me.com for info.

Classified Advertising

Classified (non-commercial) ads are accepted and published as a free service to members, and for \$10 per insertion for non-members. Content must be Alfa-related and/or of special and specific interest to the membership. Deadline for ad art files to be received by the editor is the 25th of the month before publication.

Commercial Advertising

Display space may be reserved and purchased at any time during the year. Rates are for 12 months and are renewable upon receipt of invoice. Now that the publication is electronic, advertisers may take advantage of bonus circulation available when posting their logos and links to the Club website, arosc.org. Deadline for ad art files to be received by the editor is the 25th of the month before publication.

Annual Costs, Color or B&W:

Full Page \$275

Half Page \$150

Business Card/1/4-page \$100

Please contact Advertising Coordinator Jim Barrett at info@arosc.org for a detailed rate card and complete advertising information.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Alfa Romeo Owners of Southern California

Dues for a one-year membership in the Alfa Romeo Owners of Southern California (AROSC) and the Alfa Romeo Owners Club - US (AROC) are \$70. Please fill in the information blanks in this form, clip and mail with your check, payable to Alfa Romeo Owners Club, to Alfa Romeo Owners Club, P.O. Box 12340, Kansas City, MO 64116-3040. You may also join online using your credit card by visiting aroc-usa.org, or by telephoning 877.399.2762.

NAME _____ SPOUSE _____

STREET _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____ ALFA(S) OWNED _____

AROC MEMBER # (IF APPLICABLE) _____ CHECK ENCLOSED FOR \$ _____

Affiliation/Subscription

Non-AROC members, automobile enthusiasts, industry friends and special associates may subscribe to Affiliation for \$20 per year, and attend meetings and events. To become an affiliate/subscriber, or renew your affiliation/subscription, send this form with a check payable to AROSC to AROSC Treasurer, 27152 Paseo Del Este, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

Alfa Romeo Owners
of Southern California
20072 Cove Circle
Huntington Beach, CA 92646



Our 2012 Calendar of Events

June

- 3 Huntington Beach Concours
- 16 Chili Cookoff, Camarillo.
RSVP to Il Presidente.
- 24-25 Time Trials/Race,
Laguna Seca

July

- 13-15 Wine Tour, Temecula.
Plan now!
- 28 Braille Rallye, Los Angeles
and environs.
- 29 Summer Party, Huntington
Beach.

August

- 16-19 Monterey! Pebble Beach,
The Quail, Concorso
Italiano, Concours de
LeMons, and of course
our party at the Loose
Noodle.

September

- 8-9 Driver Education, Time
Trials and Race, Willow
Springs
- 22 Agua Dulce Winery visit,
General Meeting
at Big Mouth Pizza.