

# *Alfacionada*

FEBRUARY 2014



**Awards Banquet and Annual Meeting Report  
First Track Weekend of 2014 at Willow Springs**



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.

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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.

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## **About This Newsletter**

*Alfacionada* is the 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](http://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](mailto:info@arosc.org), and a Club director will respond.

### **Our Cover This Month**

*Top: Chris, Mike, Alessandra, Fabio, Norm and Evelyn enjoy the meal at the Awards Luncheon; see report starting on page 14, Track and Concours awards page 17. M.J. Kutkus photo. Bottom: I wish my Milano looked like that! 1988 Verde, driven by Kirk Lewis of Carlsbad at Willow Springs. See full report and photos on pages 20-22.*

# AROSC Board of Directors — 2014

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Your entire Board is now available at one point of contact: [info@arosc.org](mailto: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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*Technical:* Gene Brown

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

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**February 15-16** – Driving School, Streets of Willow, Willow Springs International Raceway, Rosamond. Become a better driver! Adflyer on page 10.

**February 22-23** – Desert Classic Weekend and Club Concours #1. For details and info see pages 12-13.

**March 29** – Petersen Museum Visit and General Meeting, Los Angeles. Free parking and half-price admission for Club members, RSVP required. See article on page 18.

**April 5-6** – Time Trial and Race, Chuckwalla Valley Raceway, Desert Center.

**April 12** – Alfis at Cars & Coffee and General Meeting, Irvine. Visit to Crevier Classic Center, lunch in an Orange County Italian restaurant. Details page 23.

**May 2-4** – Wine Tour, details to be determined. When we know, you'll know!

**May 17-18** – Time Trial and Race, California Speedway infield.



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



*Desert Classic Weekend 2013 was windy! Here the crew struggles to prevent their picnic from launching itself southward. Steve Edelman photo.*

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

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Our January Annual Meeting at the Lunada Bay House in Palos Verdes attracted a nice mix of competition and non-competition people. As usual, I caught a bit of static from the MR-2 crowd who just can't understand why a guy with a perfectly good MR-2 is working on his old Alfas instead of dicing it up on the track with the MR-2. By the way, the lead heckler (and MR-2 driver), Terry Major, was the recipient of the Charlie Cup this year. He holds the position of Track Liaison for competition events. He does the hard work each year to negotiate the track schedule. A tough job.

Several people, including Hector Vasquez, who won the top concours honors for the year, quizzed me on my Sprint transmission project. The holidays pushed it onto the back burner, so I can't say it is finished, but the case is buttoned up. What I need to do now is pick a nice warm day and get it back up in the chassis. Hector says back in the day people used to purchase the parts from Alfa Romeo to convert their 4-speeds into 5-speeds. I go don't go back quite that far, but apparently my transmission does. To recap – the gearbox made a fair bit of noise, popped out of reverse and leaked oil thanks to a plugged vent and a torn shift boot. Hopefully, all of those problems are now fixed. Wisdom on the Alfa BB is that heavy-duty snap ring pliers are required to get the snap rings off the gear assemblies. I can testify to the accuracy of that intel, and am now the proud owner of high-quality pliers from Amazon and McMaster-Carr. Either would probably do the job, but

I used the one from McMaster-Carr which was delivered really fast.

Our next event is the Driving School at the Streets of Willow. The Streets doesn't offer a lot of passing opportunities for the race group, but it is a fantastic track for time trials and school. Many different kinds of turns make it both fun and challenging. If you have never done it, school just has to be on your bucket list. You will pick up driving skills that might save your life, but mostly it is a lot of fun.

Is everybody ready for the Desert Classic Concours in February? It is really a Palm Springs weekend as the Sunday Concours is preceded by a full day of driving and dining on Saturday. See page 12-13 for events the day before – lunch at Charlie and Bonnie Schwartz's, a driving tour through Joshua Tree, and the dinner party at Doug and Joyce McHattie's. This is always a fun trio of events for those who are up for the trek.

March brings up the Petersen Museum visit. See page 18 for details. RSVPs are required so Norm can arrange his signature Get Out of Jail Free passes (aka parking exit passes). Two of our members are docents at the museum and it is always fun to take the tour with a bunch of fellow enthusiasts. The first year we took the tour Chris was amazed at the level of knowledge in the group. Someone would ask a question about a really obscure car and at least five people would know the answer.

April 12th is Cars and Coffee in Irvine and always brings out a bunch of seldom-seen Alfas. We will have our own dedicated parking area.

Afterward, we will tour Crevier Classic Center and enjoy lunch at a local Italian restaurant. No RSVP is required for Cars and Coffee, but RSVPs are required for the rest.

“Remember, if the women don’t find you handsome, they should at least find you handy. And don’t forget the duct tape, the handyman’s secret weapon.”  
– *Mike and Chris*



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# The Tech Guy ... (Trans)Mission Possible

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Our able but humble President, Mike Riehle, is undergoing transmission surgery, so he suggested that I write an article on rebuilding an Alfa transmission. So here it is, Mike:

Step 1: Remove transmission.

Step 2: Disassemble transmission, replace any bad parts, then reassemble transmission.

Step 3: Reinstall transmission.

That is about as much detail as I can cover in the column-space I am allowed.

Alfa owners come in all types; they run the gamut of those who are not happy unless they are up to their oil-covered elbows in Alfa innards to those whose idea of a tool set are three hammers, big, bigger and biggest, to fit different-size problems. I am of the former, and I know of others whose possession of a screwdriver is a deadly weapon to anything mechanical. But they all have a common appreciation of these pieces of fine Italian mobile art.

When faced with a problem like Mike and his transmission, those who have no desire to get greasy need only to find a good mechanic. If you do not already have one then ask fellow Alfa owners for recommendations or contact one of the shops that advertise in our newsletter.

If you are already experienced at Alfa repair then grab your tools and jump right in.

If you have limited experience you may want to go with a good mechanic or you could ask around for an experienced bolt turner to work with you through the repair. Or, if



*Our Guru of Gears Gene Brown, shown here with daughter Margi Sizemore photo.*

you can't find him, use the Internet to look for advice. The AlfaBB has a lot of good technical help and if you don't find what you need then you can post a question and you will soon have a reply. Also remember that the greatest Alfa mechanic in the world today was once a beginner who knew very little. In addition, Alfa has produced a number of service manuals for the various cars. Copies of most of these manuals are available from the AROC-USA tech manual web page.

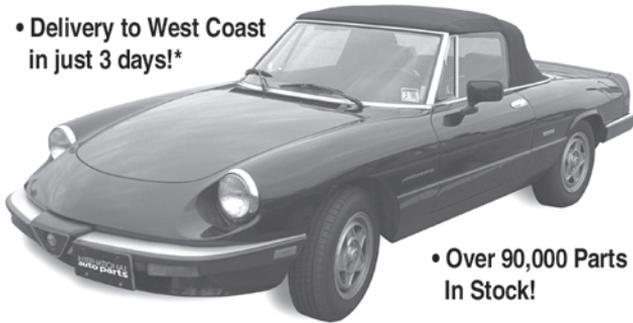
Don't be intimidated by the beauty of the Alfa design. When you get down to the basics parts is parts. With a little bit of technical help a person who has worked on nothing but Studebakers can rebuild an Alfa Romeo. Of course British cars are different; you need to be a Druid to work on them.

So Mike, don't be intimidated by the beauty of the transmission – grab some tools, get some advice, and get that transmission rebuilt and back in the car so you can be on the road again.

*– Gene Brown*

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# JOIN US AT THE TRACK!

## TIME TRIALS, RACING, DRIVING SCHOOLS HIGH PERFORMANCE DRIVER EDUCATION

Alfas encouraged but not required to participate. All marques welcome!

### 2014 Schedule

January 18-19 Big Willow - RACE-TT  
February 15-16 Streets of Willow - Driving School  
April 5-6 Chuckwalla - RACE-TT  
May 17-18 Cal Speedway Infield - RACE-TT  
September 27-28 Buttonwillow - RACE-TT  
November 8-9 Streets Of Willow - TBD - RACE-TT or School



**RACING** with AROSC is focused on having fun, competing with cars with similar speed potential. Car to car contact is NOT tolerated.



**TIME TRIALS** is a speed event similar to autocross, but run at higher speeds on a race track with other cars. All drivers compete for their best lap times. At these events, we offer HIGH-PERFORMANCE DRIVER ED sessions, open to drivers of all ages and skill levels. New drivers must attend classroom sessions. No competition is involved.



Our famous weekend **DRIVING SCHOOL** is for all levels of drivers. Learn about your car and how to get the most out of it in a safe, structured environment. You might even get to meet a famous race car driver guest instructor!

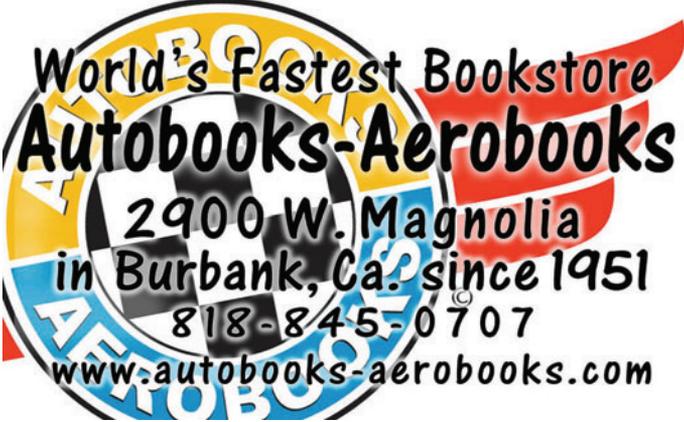
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# Desert Classic Countdown

*Make reservations and RSVPs now!*



*The Alfa Corral at last year's Desert Classic. Steve Edelman photo.*

You are invited to attend our 2014 AROSC Club Concours #1 weekend, February 22-23, with lunch en route in Joshua Tree, dinner in La Quinta and an overnight stay in Palm Desert. This is our first driving foray of the year, and getting there is half the fun! Please note that RSVPs are required for the social events. Car show registration is through the event organizer.

## **Saturday, February 22**

Options for starting out are:

1. Drive your Alfa to Bonnie and Charlie Schwartz's Joshua Tree hide-away by 11:30 AM. Bring what you'd like to eat for lunch and Bonnie will provide a few hors d'oeuvres and beverages. We typically hang out in the house, but if the weather is nice, the bocce ball court is ready for action. RSVP to Stan Deller, [info@arosc.org](mailto:info@arosc.org), if you are planning to attend lunch. Driving instructions will be provided when you RSVP.

2. Drive straight to the hotel and chill at the pet-friendly Best Western Palm Desert. Call 760.340.4441 for reservations. The hotel fills up early since many other events take place in the Coachella Valley at this time of year. Tell the clerk you are with

the Alfa Romeo Club to see if any discounts apply.

3. Join the Club for co-op (semi-potluck) dinner at Joyce and Doug McHattie's La Quinta home at 5:30 PM. Doug will grill his traditional Dougburgers and salmon, and you will bring the side dishes. RSVP to Stan Deller, [info@arosc.org](mailto:info@arosc.org).

4. After RSVP'ing to Stan, you'll get driving instructions and Joyce's contact info so you can call her (ASAP) to discuss the dish you'll bring to dinner.



*Sprint on the green. Mike Riehle photo.*

## **Sunday, February 23**

The location of all club activities on February 23 is within the Desert Classic Concours d'Elegance, staged at the Doral Desert Princess Country

Club and Resort, 67967 Vista Chino, Cathedral City, CA 92234.

Alfa Romeo will have a marque corral in the show, for which you need to pre-register. The entry fee is \$50 per car, which includes admission for two persons, a parking spot on the green and a goodie bag. We need to be on the green no later than 9:00 a.m.



*This 8C was a wonderful addition to the show. Steve Edelman photo.*

A Club Concours at the club corral will be presided over by Concours Chair Jeff Srinivasan. If you plan to have your car judged, please RSVP to Jeff at [info@arosc.org](mailto:info@arosc.org) to receive Concours participation details. If you want to volunteer as a concours judge, please also RSVP to Jeff at the



*Joshua Tree. Steve Edelman photo.*

same email address. Jeff says that no experience is necessary to be a judge, and that you do not need to enter a car in the concours. Training will be provided.

5. Registration: We can register by printing out the registration form from [www.desertconcours.com](http://www.desertconcours.com) for “Car Club Corral.” The registration form link is on the right side of the main page. Fill in the form and add “AROSC member” by your name. Mail the form with a check for \$50 to Desert Classic Car Club Corral, 47037 Marrakesh Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92260.

*– Stan Deller*



*Cars arrive at Charlie and Bonnie’s place. Steve Edelman photo.*

# Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon

*We Honor Our Winners*



*Jack, Jolene, Susan, Lisa, Alan and Erwin at the Awards Luncheon. All photos by M.J. Kutkus.*

Our Annual Meeting was a lot of fun with quite a few people from both the Competition and Social sides of the Club coming out to the Lunada Bay House in Palos Verdes. Close to 50 members and guests attended.

The fine Italian buffet was served in a spacious dining room with an ocean view. After our much-enjoyed meal, Il Presidente Mike Riehle briefly reviewed the 2014 Club calendar of events.

Jeff Srinivasan, one of our newly elected Board Members and the Concours Chair, then took the stage to present the year-end awards to the 2013 Concours winners in three categories. Hector Vasquez, Mike Riehle, Norm Silverman and Art Russell were on hand to accept their awards.

Bruce Colby, our past AROSC Competition Director filling in for current Competition Director Terry Watson, conducted the year-end Competition Award presentations.

Andy Steben, Dennis Fibrow, Terry Major and Beverly Major were on hand to accept their awards. The complete list of the trophy winners in the Time Trial and Race classes is on page 17.

Terry Major was presented with the coveted Charlie Cup this year. Bruce Colby, in presenting the cup, reviewed the outstanding effort Terry has put in during the past year toward the success of our Competition program.



*Terry was surprised to be awarded the Charlie Cup.*

Terry was surprised, and thankfully accepted the award. The Charlie Cup is given in fond remembrance of Charlie Thieriot, the man who dedicated much time and effort to get our Time Trial and Race program started 40 years ago, and kept it running long after that. Terry remarked how the AROSC High-Performance Driving



*Raffle participants check their ticket numbers.*

School is now considered one of the best in SoCal.

After the Awards ceremony, Sheila conducted a lively raffle drawing for the many prizes donated by the generous members of the Club.



*Suzanne and Dave Kunz joined us.*

As a pleasant surprise, Dave Kunz and his lovely wife Suzanne joined us toward the end of the meeting. Dave is the ABC7 Eyewitness News Automotive Specialist covering all of Southern California. Dave was made

February 2014



*Sheila gives Dave a copy of the Anniversary DVD and decals.*

an Honorary Member of AROSC at the December Board meeting. Dave had some complimentary words for the Club, noting the good work members Pat and Bruce West do with the Braille Rally. Dave will try to get an Alfa 4C in advance of the public release and bring it to a Club event. The competition folks suggested bringing it to the Track! Dave was given an AROSC 50/40 Anniversary DVD and 50/40 decals as mementos.

It was a wonderful afternoon, and a good time was had by all!

*– M.J. and Sheila Kutkus*



*Andy Steben receives his award from Bruce and Dennis.*



*Watching the Awards Ceremony.*



*Jeff awards Hector 1st in Concours Race Class.*



*Norm and Dave.*



*Norm wins 1st in Concours Open Class.*



*Chuck, Rich and Patti.*



*Pat, Monique, Val and Cindy,*



*Margaret, Jeff and Stan*

## AROSC Year End TT & Race Trophies for 2013

<i>Time Trials</i>	<i>Pos</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Car</i>
Class O	1st	Bradley Gray	RX7
Class O	2nd	Frank Duran	Mustang
Class P	1st	Mike Steben	GTV
Class Q	1st	Andy Steben	GTV
Class Q	2nd	Randal Harris	Duetto
Class Q	3rd	Andrea McKibbin	MR2
<i>Race</i>	<i>Pos</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Car</i>
Class M	1st	Rob Rhodes	Mustang
Class N	1st	Donald Wagner	Mustang
Class O	1st	Greg Nelson	RX7
Class O	2nd	Terry Watson	RX7
Class O	3rd	Tony Presto	RX7
Class P	1st	Mitch McKibbin	Miata
Class P	2nd	Phil Guiral	Miata
Class P	3rd	Chris Mayring	Miata
Class Q	1st	Dennis Fibrow	MR2
Class Q	2nd	Terry Major	MR2
Class Q	3rd	Beverly Major	MR2

## AROSC Concours 2013 Results

<i>Class/Owner</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Model</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Color</i>	<i>Total Pts</i>
<b>CLOSED</b>					
Mike Riehle	1st	Giulietta Sprint	59	red	163
Jerry Rosenstock	2nd	Giulia GTA	65	red	103.25
Dave Mericle	3rd	Giulia Super Colli	67	white	99.5
<b>OPEN</b>					
Norm Silverman	1st	Giulia Spider Veloce	65	grey	166
Art Russell	2nd	Giulia Spider	63	black	101.4
Ed Aenlle	3rd	2600 Sprint	66	grey	97.25
<b>RACE</b>					
Hector Vasquez	1st	GTV	74	red	193.5
Keith Burnside	2nd	GTV	73	yellow	86.5



*Il Presidente Mike goes over this next year's events at the Annual Meeting.*

# Alfas at the Petersen 2014

*Join Us for a Private Tour and Lunch!*



On Saturday March 22, Alfa Romeo and AROSC will be featured at the world famous Petersen Automotive Museum in downtown Los Angeles. The new exhibit in the main gallery will be “Town Cars: Arriving in Style”, so get your *stile Alfa* on and come to view this and the always-fabulous collections with your fellow Club members. The day’s details include:

**Special Parking:** Parking for Alfa Romeos will be on the open deck 4th floor of the garage. On a clear day you can see the Pacific Ocean. There will be an exception for AROSC Members who show up with an Italian relatives – Fiat, Maserati, Ferrari. All other cars should be parked on lower floors in the garage.

**Arrival Hours:** Arrivals from 8:30AM to 10:00AM. Johnny Rocket’s will supply coffee and pastries on the 4th floor, and will also be open for anyone who would like to purchase breakfast.

**Our Guided Tour:** The Club’s tour will start promptly at 10:30AM. The

museum is undergoing a major restoration, and some interesting changes will have begun by the time of our event.

**Admission:** Entry into the museum for Petersen Museum members is free. AROSC Club members entry is \$8. Parking is free. For all others admission is \$12 and parking is \$8.

**The Vault Tour:** We may tour the vault at 1:00PM and 3:00PM at entry fees discounted to \$18 per person, for AROSC members and guests.

**RSVPs Are Required:** Your AROSC guided tour and lunch at Johnny Rocket’s (on the patio, weather permitting) need to be reserved in advance. RSVP to [info@arosc.org](mailto:info@arosc.org). Your vault tour can be booked when checking in for our tour at the museum.

How about renewing our AROSC membership at [www.arosc.org](http://www.arosc.org) or becoming a Petersen member at [www.petersen.org](http://www.petersen.org)?

For driving instructions: The Petersen Automotive Museum is located at 6060 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036.

## *AROC Board Comes West For Communications Fest*



Between January 17th and 19th, the AROC national Board of Directors held its mid-year meeting in Palm Desert. I am sure that a lot of work was done by the board, but I was invited to attend the “Meet and Greet” on Saturday afternoon after most of the heavy lifting was done.

As an AROSC board member, I told the AROC board members about our various activities. They took a great interest in what AROSC is doing on a local level, and I was invited to act as a go-between to update our club's information on the AROC website. I also met our AROC board

representative, Sean Russell, and he and I have committed to foster closer communication between our two boards.

My plan is to work with our (AROSC) board to capitalize on my meeting with the AROC board members. My impression is that they are eager to build a closer working relationship with us.

The photo shows me (center) with the AROC board members including Carole and Stewart Sandeman (far left); Sean is on the right in the white shirt.

– Stan Deller



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# AROSC Winter Race Weekend, Willow Springs



*All photos courtesy AROSC Competition Group.*

The big stories of our Big Willow race and time trial weekend, January 18th and 19th included: great weather, almost too nice for chili, but the beer helped cool the evening (air temps were 65-75); the annual ChiliFest for Alkaholics (we even had 5 Alfas!); sponsors Oak Hills Brewery from Phelan and new player brought by Greg Nelson, Dale Brothers from Rancho Cucamonga; Mitch Mckibbin in a role that will seal his destiny at the racetrack, and we can change his name to Mitch Economacki. A few of Mitch's creations: "Blazing" Paul Barnes, "Handsome" John Fidele, "Beautiful" Beverly Major, "Flaming" Phil Gurial, and "Greg Nelson Mr. Wonderful." (just ask him).

Race group proved that even the BLIND can race – the sun on Saturday was corrosive to your sight! We had 17 racers on Saturday and 16 racers on Sunday! For time trials, we had a good turnout with 20 contenders on Saturday and 33 on Sunday.

## **Weekend Notes**

- Raceline club tuners lunchtime drive with times 1:32 to 1:42 was a pretty

quick Honda group, very clean drivers with no issues; we look forward to having them back.

- Do you believe in Reincarnation #18? Beverly's reincarnated car #18 lap times same as previous supercharged more powerfull #18 lap times (was much heavier). Way to go to the "Beautiful" Beverly Major!
- Terry's (me) header welded #10, back to winning form!
- I lost on a bigtime DNF "torch" car-b-que supercharred MR2 last October, etc.
- Dennis lost race this time on a transmission failure, maybe karma for my loss in 2013 championship. Looks like it limited Andrea Bock's Trophy Dash as well.

## **More Weekend Stories**

- Rich Mathias working on his Olympic ice skating triple spins. I judge him at 9.75, really high cause he was in my rearview mirror pirouetting.
- Norm Silverman had to pull off the track after 1 laps as he could NOT see.
- Edmond Lo, a CRX force to be reckoned with over and over! Great



*Nigel demonstrates the "Nigel Line."*

racing, great pressure Edmund.

- Dennis and Wagner learning to turn on a GoPro (smile).
- Nigel spending equal amount of time on his own special "line" with the Boxter. We are calling that the "Nigel Line."
- Greg and Tony ditching Miatas this weekend, for Mk 2 RX7s and showing how it is supposed to be done, even though Tony's orange pumpkin must be bruised.
- New guy Chris Lavallee's first real time on track in 91 1.6 White Miata pretty close to getting under 2 minutes
- Chris Mayring in the dirt outside of 4? Welcome back? Not even raining. Hmm ...
- Phil Guiral and Chris mentoring John Fedele, producing 2.5 second quicker laps for John, giving him some very close racing! He also decreased his lap time by 11 sec after taking the World Famous AROSC High-Performance Driving School.
- Terry Watson must be taking private lessons from someone as he beat Tony Presto in similar equipment and I have a feeling more people are going to "Eat Pie" in the future.
- Anthony Covelli had an beautiful Alfa in the Alfa Club race group! It first looked like Bruce Colby had

a new ride, as the car came out of Bruce's trailer.

- Transponder Sellout! Maybe we need some more!
- Norm Silverman broke the mach 2 minimum barrier. Way to go Norm!
- Jodi was in the tower, when someone was not sleeping there! And at the chili pot for another amazing Saturday night dinner! Hey Jodi, where did the meat in the chili come from??
- Zip tie failures ??? What's up with all zip ties breaking while adhering transponders? We went through 30 zip ties. to put on a couple of transponders. We ditched the zips for some old-fashioned "Safety Wire"!
- Great group at the awards ceremony. Check out the Facebook photo at "AROSC High-Performance driving a non-profit organization" showing many of the weekend's winners listed in the results box.
- We are looking forward to the next event, our World Famous AROSC High-Performance Driving School at the Streets on February 15-16. The Chuckwalla Extreme/Alfa Club Race and TT Group will follow on April 5th and 6th.

AROSC had a great time at Willow! The atmosphere with chili, beer, Time Trials and Racing, combined with more competitors gives us a boost for the next event! If you want to improve, see you at the Streets!

– Terry Major



*Willow Winners: Ray, Gary, Andy, Greg, Phil, Paul, Chris, Terry and MJ. Sheila Kutkus photo.*



*Dennis presides over drivers' meeting.*



*"You kids shut up back there – Daddy's trying to race!"*



*Action on the track.*

# Alfa Day returns to Cars & Coffee!

*This Year's Gathering  
is Saturday, April 12*

Our April fun-for-all starts early and ends early, but it is so worth the investment. If you've never been, this is the year to come on down to the best car + coffee klatsch on the planet. Our AROSC day is organized in three parts. Read on and make your RSVPs.

## **Part 1**

We have 45 spaces in the featured marque parking area, which will be filled up by 6:45 AM. There will, of course, be other spaces in the rest of the lot, but those 350 or so will be filled up by 7:00 AM. We kid you not! So commit to banking sleep during the week and getting you and your Alfa organized for some of the best car-eye-opener activity in the world.

The weather will be changeable, so sunscreen, a windbreaker and hat are recommended for the parking lot. Bring your own "first cup" of coffee for when you arrive, finish it off, and plan to get a refill for just \$1. A selection of pastries and fruit are available while supplies last. Restrooms are available inside the Taco Bell corporate headquarters on the south side of the property. You need to walk a block or so, but there are signs to direct you.

This portion of the day is open to all Alfa owners, and we will also be extending the invitation to Central Coast, Orange County and San Diego chapter members.

## **Part 2**

At approximately 8:30 AM we will depart for a special collector car dealer tour. The facility is located in nearby Costa Mesa and driving instructions will be provided to those who have RSVPed. This portion of the day is for Alfa Club members only. If you wish to attend, please RSVP to the Barretts at [arosc.org](http://arosc.org). Please key Cars & Coffee Tour into the subject line of your email.

## **Part 3**

At approximately 11:00 AM we will depart for a Club lunch and April General Meeting. This part of the day is strictly for AROSC members only. We will be dining at a delightful Italian restaurant nearby. If you plan to attend, you must RSVP to the Barretts at [arosc.org](http://arosc.org). Please key Cars & Coffee Tour into the subject line of your email.

We look forward to seeing you all there!

*– Jim, Elyse & Cody Barrett*

## *This Just In From Havana ...*

Former *Il Quadrifoglio* contributor and Alfa guy Mark Burrell made another of his epic trips to his beloved Havana, Cuba, this winter with a new camera in hand. Architecture, the Malecon and fabulous examples of automotive art are a few of his subjects. He found this stock, very well-preserved, privately owned Alfa 1750 in town on business, looking good and on its way to looking better. Viva Alfa Romeo!

– Elyse Barrett



## *An Alfa Eye on the Scottsdale Auctions*

I had the pleasure of visiting the Phoenix area in mid-January to admire the mostly European car auctions, including Bonhams, Gooding and RM; I also checked out Russo and Steele.

The first three had hugely valuable cars, British auctioneers and professional staffs. By contrast, Russo and Steele was loud (!), big (750 cars),



*1931 1750 Zagato Grand Sport at Bonhams.  
Jim Barrett photo.*

and the auctioneers could have been selling commodities like cattle or tobacco.

Alfa Romeo broke new sales records at Bonhams, Gooding and RM. A 1931 1750 Zagato Grand Sport sold for \$2.7M, an “iron block” spider 2000 for more than \$100K, a 1900 CSS for \$600K+ and – wait for it Gene – a Montreal for \$176K!

Obviously auction prices may not necessarily reflect world market prices, and there were several strange results: a perfectly restored black MB gullwing sold for \$1.2M, and an unrestored black gullwing went for \$1.7M. Likewise, a Ferrari 275 GTS stored for 44 years after an engine fire went for \$2M+, just about double the price of a newly restored example.

– Jim Barrett

# One-Day Tour with San Diego Chapter

## *Wine Tasting in Valle de Guadalupe, Mexico*

We are invited to join San Diego AROC on their March 29th one-day, two-winery tour to Valle de Guadalupe, Baja California.

Transport is by bus along Mexico's modern coastal highway, passing

quaint villages with magnificent views of the Pacific Ocean along the way to the beautiful Guadalupe Valley. The 9 AM to 7 PM itinerary includes L.A. Cetto and La Casa de Dona Lupe wineries, with lunch al fresco at L.A. Cetto. The two are delightfully different wineries – one a large operation, and the other a small organic winery – each with its own unique atmosphere.

Registration is through DayTripper Tours at 619.299.5777. Make sure they know you are with the Alfa Romeo Club. The \$99 fare includes lunch.

Note: A valid passport is required. Map and bus pickup information: <http://www.daytrippertours.com/pickup-location/mission-valley/>

Please also notify AROC/SD tour organizers Ed Aenlle at [aenlle@yahoo.com](mailto:aenlle@yahoo.com), 760.625.8330, or George Herschman at [ghershman@gmail.com](mailto:ghershman@gmail.com), 760.529.3276, because they would like to keep track of who is going.



*Norm and Evelyn toured Casa Dona Lupe Winery back in the day. Elyse Barrett photo.*

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# Classified – Cars For Sale

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## 1988 ALFA ROMEO SPIDER VELOCE

– Excellent Condition. Just over 10K miles. Garage kept. One owner. Comes with hardtop. \$15,000.00. Joe, 760.580.6011 (Poway, CA).



## FOR SALE – 1977 ALFETTA GT

purchased in Milan and shipped to the States. Alfetta has been parked in garage since 1978. Body in excellent condition but car does not run. Original owner now lives in Oregon and Alfetta is in Los Angeles, California. Asking \$1000. Thank you.

Margaret Palandech,  
fosterbridgeboulevard@yahoo.com.

## FREE TO GOOD HOME: 1987 ALFA ROMEO MILANO GOLD – Sound

body with fair amount of rust and wrinkles, good strong engine and drivetrain, good headliner, driver's seat recently restuffed and repaired, front windows stuck again. Good project or daily driver; smog check due in July, passed easily last time after extensive replacement of Bosch EFI parts and new convertor. Mileage unknown; odo died in Kentucky 11/99, guessing 160K+. Photos on request.

Will Owen, nashwill912@earthlink.net or 626.644.7173.

## Classified (non-commercial) Advertising

Classified ads are published as a free service to the Alfa Romeo community. Suggested length 60 words; include price, location, contact info. Photos must be in-focus, medium-resolution (300ppi) JPEGs. Alfa-related only! Deadline is the 25th of the month prior to publication (e.g., March issue = January 25).

## Commercial Advertising

Please contact Advertising Coordinator Jim Barrett at [info@arosc.org](mailto: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](http://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 *Affionada* 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 2014 Calendar of Events

### *February*

15-16 Driving School, Streets of Willow, Willow Springs International Raceway, Rosamond

22-23 Desert Classic Weekend and Club Concours #1. Lunch in Joshua Tree; dinner in La Quinta; Club Concours at the Doral Desert Princess Resort.

### *March*

22 Petersen Museum Visit and General Meeting, Los Angeles. Free parking and half-price admission for Club members; docent-led tour of latest special exhibits. RSVP is necessary for the parking pass.

### *April*

5-6 Time Trial and Race, Chuckwalla Valley Raceway, Desert Center.

12 Alfas at Cars & Coffee and General Meeting, Irvine. Visit to Grevier Classic Center, lunch at an Orange County Italian restaurant.

### *May*

2-4 Wine Tour, details to be determined. When we know, you'll know!

17-18 Time Trial and Race, California Speedway infield.