

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

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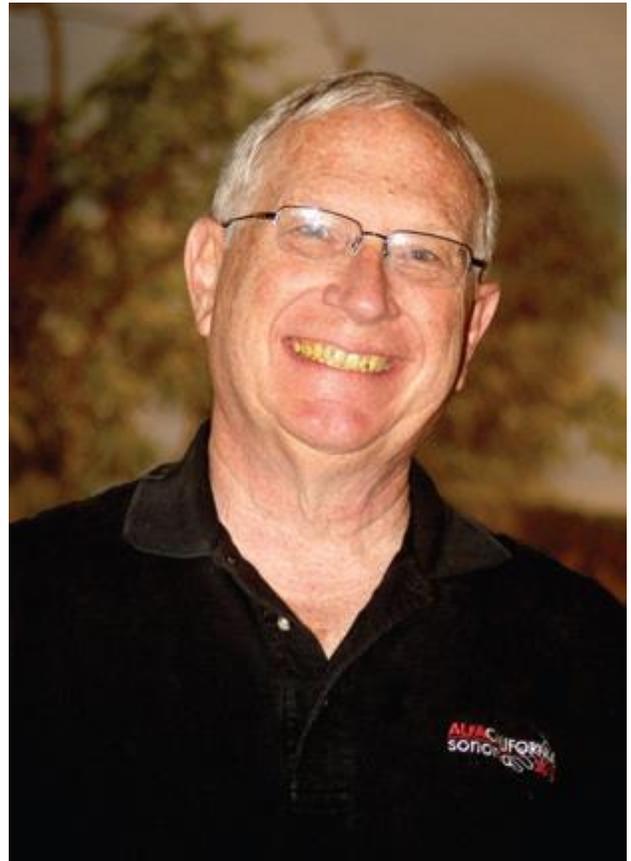
(taken from the Aug/Sep 2014 *Alfacionada*)

The event for the end of July was the Summer Party at Chuck and Jan Cline's. We ate, drank and socialized as always. The turnout was excellent and we enjoyed the company of several new and seldom-seen Alfisti. Charlie Schwartz's quick wit as auctioneer made the White Turkey Auction an entertaining affair. Our thanks to Chuck and Jan and everyone else who helped make the event a big success. Saying last month that Chuck wanted to clean out his garage a bit turned out to be a masterful understatement. Jim Barrett bought a set of four wheels and tires. Lots of people snapped up Alfa-related apparel. And Chris and I scored several collectible books and magazines in the new silent auction. Overall, the Club netted nearly \$350 from the auctions.

I spent some time talking to Alan Ward at the party. Many of you are familiar with Ward & Deane springs for 105 cars. Alan confided that he used 700# front / 200# rear spring rates as suggested by Trevor Harris. It turns out they were and are friends from way back. Speaking of springs, I bought some Dave Rugh springs for the Sprint. They are about twice as stiff as stock which makes the Sprint about as stiff as a stock 105 car. The ride is still quite soft and it still leans in the turns, but not like before.

Chris and I didn't make it to Monterey this year. She threw her back out and is recovering, but was not ready to risk a relapse. Word is the Little Car Show, the Pebble Tour, dinner at the Loose Noodle and the dinner party at the Clark's were all wonderful. Alfa Romeo participation at Concorso Italiano was down some this year. A few of us weren't happy when they moved the event to Saturday and apparently so were 30+ others. That said, the new venue is beautiful and there were some very nice '50s Maseratis this year.

September 13 brings up a new event that has not previously been on the calendar. We are holding our third and final 2014 Club Concours event of the year at the Autry National Center in Griffith Park. (See page 10 for more details.) If you have never toured the Autry, it is a worthy destination all by itself. Our Concours Chair, Jeff Srinivasan, has requested RSVPs for this event as parking is at a premium there. Please give him the courtesy of RSVPing early so Jeff can give the museum a headcount.



*Il Prez, in his new Official Portrait by Ken Sizemore*

The vintage car races in Coronado are the very next weekend. Last year, a small contingent scouted the event and made a favorable report. It's like the Monterey Historics, but imagine \$35 for a weekend pass! Everything is much more manageable with smaller crowds, less dirt, much less challenge getting hotel accommodations, and it's closer to home for most of us. The First Lady and I are signed up. If you aren't signed up yet, see page 12 and/or go to the AROSC website.

October 18 brings up the fall Dash and Dine. Steve Edelman will chart us a course along back roads to Palmdale which will bring us to lunch at Pat and Cindy Terrisse's. This is a Steve's third Day Tour, but it is sure to be an adventure for all of us. Please RSVP early.

It is election time again! We have managed to recruit 10 candidates for 9 positions, so do your civic duty and VOTE!

“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 & Chris*