

Alfacionada

JULY 2012



Huntington Beach Concours Report, Spicy Doin's at the Chili Cookoff, Wine Tour Preview, Monterey Coming Up!



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE

Alfa Romeo
Owners of Southern California



Alfa Romeo Owners of Southern California

AROSC Business Address

27152 Paseo Del Este
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
info@arosc.org

Newsletter Address

1098 N. Mentor Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91104
nashwill912@earthlink.net

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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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, picnic crew at the Huntington Beach Concours. Left to right: AROSC Concours Chair Jordan Lee, Il Presidente Mike Riehle, Evie Silverman, 1st Lady Chris Burke, Co-Editor Elyse Barrett, Carol Murray. MJ Kutkus photo. Bottom, Chili Cookoff competitors compare notes while the impressive contents of 15 pots and slowcookers bubble. Left to Right: Elyse Barrett, guests Carol and Mike, Jan Cline, Mike Riehle and Jack Merriam. Jim Barrett photo.

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.*

July 13-15 – Wine Tour, Temecula area. Info on pages 12-13.

July 28 – Braille Rallye, Los Angeles and environs; see page 29.

July 29 – Summer Party! See info, pages 20-21.

August 16-19 – Monterey! Pebble Beach, The Quail, Concorso Italiano, Concours de LeMons, and of course our party at the Loose Noodle. Preview on page 24.

September 8-9 – Jubilee Weekend at Willow Springs. See updated info on pages 22-23!

September 22 – Agua Dulce Winery visit, General Meeting at Big Mouth Pizza. Updated info page 28.

October 13 – Cars & Coffee gathering, followed by General Meeting with brunch, Cline-style.



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.



Bruce West and Bonnie Schwartz are rapt listeners at the Chili Cookoff. Jim Barrett photo.

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

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

Two cups of coffee and I'm starting to recover from our Third Annual Chili Cookoff. It was a great event blessed with good weather, a record turnout and a wide selection of some really good chili. See pictures and a detailed write-up elsewhere in this issue.

I expect there is also a write-up on the Huntington Beach Concours. The Sprint made the round trip without incident and brought home a first place trophy. In what category you ask? I'm not exactly sure. There were much nicer cars there, Armin's Sprint Lightweight for example, but they apparently won awards in other categories.

Our next event is the Wine Tour on July 13-15. Note that the hotel info has changed as the hotel we originally planned tried to dictate new terms which were unacceptable. Margi assured me that the Ramada Inn has a good spot for our traditional impromptu Friday night get-together, so come down Friday if you can. People have been suggesting specific wineries to visit and Margi is going down to check them out personally. It's a tough job, but someone has to do it.

Pat West does the July 29th Braille Rallye and I've been a vocal supporter. It gets a fairly small turnout from the Club and I've never understood why. Maybe it's because most of the Club's social activities appeal to couples? The obvious solution is to bring two cars!



Il Presidente Mike and First Lady Chris

Never rallied before? No problem. If you somehow manage to get yourself hopelessly lost, they even give you sealed emergency instructions on how to go straight to the finish. I've found the kids to be great. 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.

The very next day is the Summer Party at Phyllis' in Huntington Beach. Never let it be said that we don't try to stay near the coast in the hot summer months. Phyllis' backyard is always cool and pleasant with plenty of shade for everyone. Attendance is always good and should easily exceed the 34 people we had at the Chili Cookoff. RSVP early and let Phyllis know what you are bringing.

If you haven't started thinking about Monterey, time is running out, and you'd better get busy. Chris and I are taking the Sprint and going up early and coming back late. There is so much to see and do there is

no way to do it all. We are looking forward to participating in our first Concorso Italiano. Chris is planning on one day of shopping. I'm hoping to check out the Concours de LeMons. In between we plan to participate in several of the ARA-sponsored events. And, of course, there is dinner at the Loose Noodle organized by our very

own Evie Silverman. As I said last month, this is the most car-fun-addict weekend on the planet.

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



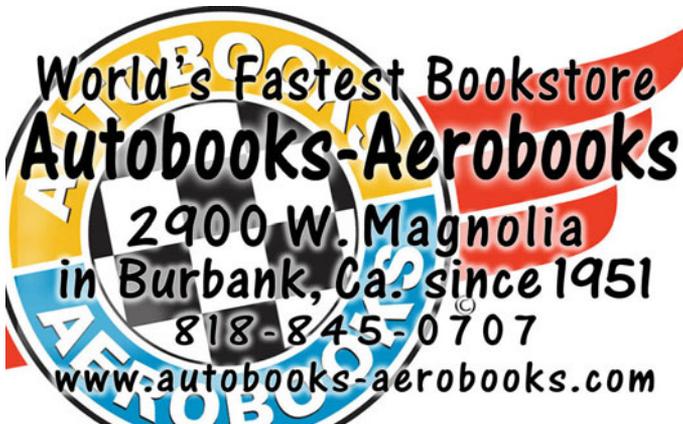
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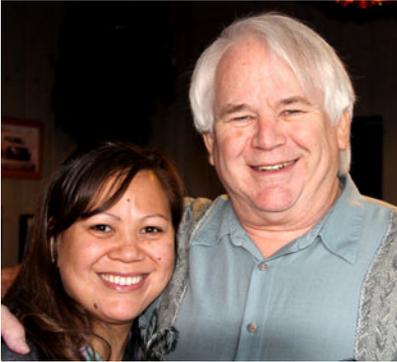
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The Tech Guy ... *When Good Motors Go Bad*



Tech Guy and daughter Margi Brown-Orozco. Ken Sizemore photo.

About six weeks ago I took the Montreal out for a little ride. Other than the Ojai trip I hadn't driven it since early February. The destination was Napa for a fun weekend. However, when I got into San Jose to pick up a friend the engine was making some strange noises. They appeared to be coming from the right cylinder head. The engine was still running strong but remembering the article I wrote a while back about listening to your car (*Alfacionada*, Sept. '11) I decided to investigate. So I pulled the right cam cover, but everything appeared to be okay; the timing chain was tight, the camshaft caps were all tight, and there were no noticeable broken parts. Realizing that I couldn't do much more in a hotel parking lot, we decided to leave the Montreal in San Jose and take my friend's car for the Napa trip. On Monday we were back in San Jose and I had to get the Montreal back home. I have 200-mile towing with the Auto Club but it's about 350 miles from San Jose to Simi Valley. So I decided to drive it down to San Luis Obispo and then get it towed from

there. As I said, the engine seemed to run fine, other than the noise, and I knew from experience that it did not sound like the engine was ready to explode.

So we set out with me driving the Montreal and my friend following in her Acura MDX. When we got to San Luis the Monty was still running fine (and you can hear the noise at freeway speeds) so I decided to forgo towing and drive it the rest of the way. I know what you are thinking: it blew up shortly thereafter. But no, the Alfa made it all the way home with the noise about the same as when we started. This just goes to show the reliability of the Alfa-designed engines. Even though wounded, they still press on and get you home.

An interesting side note. We both fueled up in Salinas and then again in Buellton and both vehicles took the exact same amount of gasoline. We both got about 20 miles to the gallon. I don't know about you, but I would rather get 20 miles to the gallon driving a V8 Alfa than driving an Acura MDX, even with A/C and a CD player.

Other things were occupying my time so it wasn't until June 16 that I got a chance to work on the Alfa. Even though I thought the problem was in the head and might be a broken valve shim, I decided to pull the engine. Besides, I had some oil leaks that needed tending to which could not be taken care of in the car.

So I called on fellow Club member Paul (Frequently Sideways) Blankenship and another friend, Erik Smythe, to help me. In four hours we had the

engine and transmission out, with only a couple of problems. We forgot to disconnect the clutch slave cylinder and the speedometer cable. Also the driveshaft fell on my arm. Despite the injury, I was told that I could still play the piano, which was great because I never could play it before.

A word of advice: if you have multiple people working on a job like pulling an engine, have a checklist, or have a person that has done this

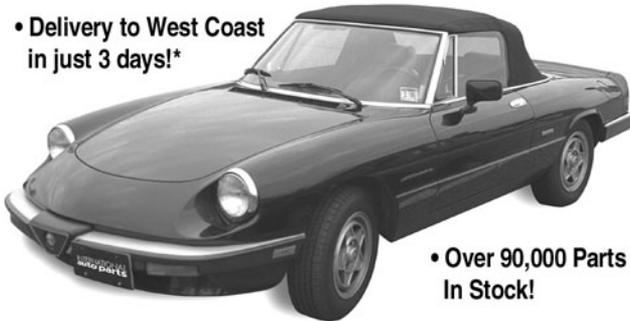
before check to ensure that everything is undone. Both Paul and I have pulled several Alfa engines but we still forgot the two items.

So now the engine is out and ready to be inspected. Is it something simple like a broken valve shim or is it something much more serious? Check back next month when I will have the answer.

— Gene Brown

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50th Anniversary Jubilee Merchandise

Support the Club – Be an Alfacionista!

Our 50th Anniversary year is half over, but we can make it last forever with the fun mementos created by the design genius of Club members. Here's how to get some of the AROSC 50th Anniversary goodies.

We will have shirts and decals at the Club events for the next few months. Just have some cash with you and you can take them home right then.

We can also mail them to you for a small extra charge. Just send an email, with your order and your shipping address, to Paul Blankenship at sidewaysalfa@msn.com. Tell him:

- *How many shirts and what size.*
- *How many decals, and what style.*
- Then figure the cost:
 - Shirts are \$15 each or 2 for \$25
 - Decals are \$5 each.
 - Shipping is \$5 for 1 or 2 shirts and any decals
 - Or \$1 for decals only.

Payment is easy, check or PayPal:

- Check: payable to AROSC and mail to Treasurer, 27152 Paseo del Este, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
- PayPal: go to treasurer@arosc.org

Thank you to Steve Edelman for the terrific AROSC club anniversary logo, the combo 50/40 Club/Racing Program logo, and the t-shirt concepts you see in our ad on the previous page. Thank you to Paul Blankenship for getting the decals produced, and thank you to Norm Silverman for producing the shirts!

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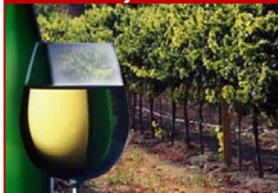
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Ramada – Old Town



Saturday Wine Tour



Friday Night Reception



Saturday Breakfast



Saturday Dinner



Email your confirmation info to:

margibrown@thekernorg.com

to receive wine tour information & updates!

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The Annual Wine Tour...Heads South This Summer!

This year, the ARSOC will be headed to the Temecula Valley for our Annual Wine Tour Weekend.



The Temecula Valley is located in an area that includes over 35,000 acres of vineyards. Known as the Citrus/Vineyard zone, the Temecula Valley is widely recognized as the 'jewel' of Riverside County. Centrally located and within an hours drive from San Diego, Orange County or the Palm Springs area. Every winery is family owned and easily accessible and situated just close enough in proximity to one another to make our wine country tour a breeze.



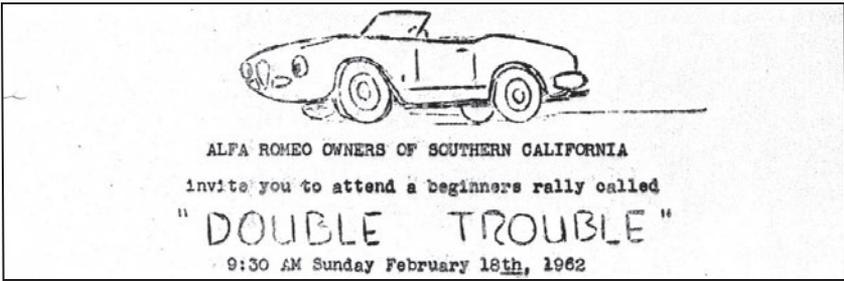
5 Fun Facts About... Pinot Grigio

- 1) Pinot Gris (French) and Pinot Grigio (Italian) refer to the same grape – just different countries and different styles.
- 2) Very closely related to the Pinot Noir grape, the grape normally has a grayish-blue skin, accounting for its name – *gris* meaning “grey” in French; *pinot* comes from the French word “pine cone,” which could have been given to it because the grapes grow in pine cone-shaped clusters.



- 3) The first American Pinot Gris vines were planted in Oregon in 1966 by David Lett from Eyrie Vineyards.
- 4) Pinot Gris grows well in the Central & South coastal areas of California.
- 5) Pinot Gris is considered an “early to market wine” – which means it can be bottled and out on the market within 4–12 weeks after fermentation.

50 YEARS AGO ... An AROSC Jubilee Special



Rallying the Rallyists

Welcome to No. 5 in a series on the history of your Club, as gleaned from the pages of its earliest publications. This instalment is from an insert for *Alfas Anonymouse*, January 1962. It was a detailed invitation/orientation to the Double Trouble Rally.

Rallying, SCCA road racing and tech sessions were the staples of the Club activities calendar back then, and this invite was such a fun read, it begs the question: Why don't we do some of this these days? Most of us have done a few gimmick rallies and a couple of years back we did a casual time-speed-distance run out of the San Fernando Valley. Why not revive rallying?

The Double Trouble was so-named because it was run in two legs: one using "Gimmick" instructions, the other "Straight Forward (sic) Navigational" instructions – both to be completed in a 3-hour timeframe, which equalled a nice six-hour Club activity day.

To encourage the beginner, the invite explained there would be experienced instructors on hand to help and equipment would be for sale. Each leg was to be preceded by a tutorial, and the day would conclude with a critique and evaluation

session. Non-participants were not left out; the rally started and ended at the same place, in this case Lakewood Bowl, where "wives and kids could roll a few lines while you rally."

The price was right, too. "All Alfas and vintage sports cars free. All others \$2, and dash plaques are \$1 extra."

The invite offered a wealth of information emphasizing "...success depends on paying attention to a multitude of tiny details. It means being in the right place at the right time, following a given route without actually knowing where you are going ..." Fabulous, we are so into THAT!

Additional advice included: "Read the general instructions; many is the rallyist who has been disqualified because he didn't." Hmmm, good advice in any decade. And, "The figuring can be done in various ways: with a slide rule, with a rally computer...with tables...or with a manual computer." Wow, raise your hand if you own a slide rule!

The concluding bit of nostalgia was the telephone prefixes (there were no area codes) of the day: Fred could be contacted at CR 4-8230; Ed could be contacted at LI 4-0022. Special.

It was a special time for our special marque.

– Elyse Barrett

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Huntington Beach Concours 2012



Alfa Lineup enjoys promo table at Huntington Beach. Elyse Barrett photo.

June was the second concours of the year, the Huntington Beach Concours. What started out as a gloomy, chilly morning ended up being bright, warm and a very good Alfa day, despite everyone's cars not all being grouped together. There were 12 entries in the Club concours, and 14 different members won awards in the HB Concours itself!

Sadly, the Club concours results could not be announced to the group as usual, due to the fact that eight members had placed first in the HB concours and had to drive their cars around to the stage. On the plus side, they each got a bucket filled with Mother's car care products and a nice

trophy. Congratulations to all!

Some Club concours results were:
Open 1st - Howard Zellman with his 1964 Giulia Spider Veloce.

2nd - Gregg Newbury with his black 1963 2600 Spider Touring.

3rd - Art Russell with his 1963 Giulia Spider. This show last year was this car's first concours!

Closed 1st - Steve Cole with his beautiful red 1977 Alfetta GT.

2nd - Armin Wittenberg with his great 1956 Giulietta Sprint Veloce Lightweight.

*— Jordan Lee,
Concours Co-Chair*

Note: there is a chart showing all club concours results on page 19.



Ken Burnside's gorgeous GTV won its HB Concours class. Gregg Newbury photo.



Above, Armin Wittenberg's Sprint Veloce Lightweight wins first in its class; below, Art Russell takes his class's top prize with his Giulia Spider. Right, from top: Norm Silverman wins a bucket of Mother's car care products; Paul Martin's Spider was another class winner. These photos by Gregg Newbury. Below right, Ken Burnside watches his GTV being scrutinized by Dave Mericle and Norm Silverman. Jim Barrett photo.



Gregg Newbury makes his 2600 even more perfect. Elyse Barrett photo.



Above is the Brain Trust in action; left to right are Chris Burke, Jan Cline and Dani Spataro. Elyse Barrett photo. Right, Armin Wittenberg's perfect Sprint baffles attempts by Jordan and Art to find any flaws – did they try licking the floor pan? Below, MJ and Sheila, Jack and Jolene swap lies over lunch in the good old-fashioned way. Jim Barrett photos.



Place	AR Closed: 1976 to Present Alfetta and later – Street	
3	Jordan Lee	1983 GTV6
2	Phyllis Gaylard	1995 164 Q
1	Steve Cole	1977 Alfetta GT
	AR Closed: 1950-75 Giulietta to 2000 GTV – Concours	
1	Armin Wittenberg	1956 Giulietta Lightweight
	AR Closed: 1950-75 Giulietta to 2000 GTV – Street	
1	Mike Riehle	1959 Giulietta Sprint
	Competition Cars – Concours	
1	Keith Burnside	1973 GTV
	AR Open: 1950-66 Giulietta, Giulia, Early 1900/2000/2600 – Concours	
1	Arthur Russell	1963 Giulia Spider
	AR Open: 1950-66 Giulietta, Giulia, Early 1900/2000/2600 – Street	
2	Greg Newbury	1963 2600 Touring Spider
1	Norm Silverman	1965 Spider Veloce
	AR Open: 1966 to present Duetto and later – Concours	
2	Nick Constantino	1992 Spider Veloce
1	Chuck Schwartz	1969 1750 Spider Veloce
	AR Open: 1966 to present Duetto and later – Street	
3	Paul Martin	1974 Spider Veloce
2	Jan Cline	1993 Spider Veloce
1	Jerry Wright	1991 Spider Veloce

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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 29, 2012
- 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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Homecoming at Willow Springs

Jubilee Weekend is Sept. 8-9 – You Are Invited!

On August 6, 1972, 32 entrants presented themselves and their shiny Alfas to the small drag strip raceway pre-grid at Orange County Raceway in Irvine, California. Twenty-seven male and five female drivers paid their \$20 entry fee. And so began Alfa Romeo Club Time Trials in Southern California.

On the weekend of September 8-9, 2012 we are gathering at Willow Springs Raceway to celebrate 40 years of race track competition at our regular race and time trial weekend. This has turned into a homecoming for former AROSC racers and the race enthusiasts of the Club are looking forward to a little nostalgia and a lot of great competition.

Special to this celebratory meeting will be the Alfa Cup Race and Time Trial. At press time we have more than 20 Alfa owners planning to race. More will time-trial. Alfisti from as far away as Washington state, Wisconsin and New Mexico will be there. You can be among them!

OK, so you don't race your Alfa. Why drive way out in the desert, in the summer? Here are some reasons:

- See Alfa Romeos that are race prepared. See them race. We will have an Alfa Romeo paddock where you can look, hear and smell real race Alfas.

- Alfa Romeo corral parking area for all us other non-race car Alfas.

- At lunch time all Alfa Romeos are welcome to do some laps on the track, with supervision.

- Saturday night at our host hotel we will have a banquet with some of the people from “back in the day” who started this whole thing in SoCal

OK, so now you want to come out. What are the details?

Willow Springs Raceway is in Rosamond, about 60 miles from where the I5/14 freeways meet. Take the 14 Fwy out past Lancaster, about 55 miles, to Rosamond Blvd. Head west about five miles. You can't miss the track. The track will take about \$10 from you and have you sign a release form. Drive right in and look for all the Alfas and find a space to park your Alfa.

If you just want to observe and enjoy, come out at any time. Saturday would be the best day. Early is better. But Sunday we will be racing all day.

If you want to drive your Alfa on the track at lunchtime Saturday, you MUST be at the track by 11AM. We will take another \$10 from you (racing is not cheap), register you, give you a wristband, and conduct a short class. Then at noon we will be on the track for about 30 hot minutes! Sorry no passengers. You do not need a helmet or a rollbar, spiders are OK. All Alfas are welcome.

The track has pretty good burgers, sandwiches and cold drinks in an air conditioned café. It will probably be a little warm/hot, so a picnic lunch may not be the best thing to bring along. But a cooler of water or drinks, a big hat and sunblock will make your day nicer.



Did I mention that it will probably be HOT at the track? Dogs and young children are not advised as you are walking around live pits with loud race cars buzzing around.

Saturday night we will have a banquet at The Palmdale Hotel. Kick back, have some dinner with us, and listen to some good stories. The details of “back in the day” have had 40 years of embellishment. It will be a colorful end to a fabulous day.

If you want to make it a whole weekend, book a room at The Palmdale Hotel, 14 Fwy at Palmdale Blvd. Call the hotel directly at 661-273-1200. Let them know you are with the Alfa Club. Our rate is \$69

a night for a single, a little more for a double; breakfast included. Go to their website to see how nice the place looks. We have a block of rooms till August 24 so book your room NOW.

Then Sunday morning you could drive back to the track (no additional fees required) and catch the next run sessions. Or you can take a long drive back home over your favorite routes and roads.

See you at the track!

– Paul Blankenship,
AROSC 40th Anniversary Chair

**For more information, please visit
<http://www.aroschpd.org/> or call
818.809.7476.**



Last Call for Historics Weekend

Make this the Year to Play in Monterey!

Monterey Historics weekend – the most fabulous confluence of everything tastefully automotive on the planet – is August 15-20. If you haven't decided, now is the time to finalize your plans.

Many of us head up early on Wednesday, August 15 and leave late, on Monday, August 20. We ALL attend Evelyn Silverman's AROSC dinner on Thursday at the Loose Noodle Pasta House on Lighthouse Ave. in Monterey. 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), tea or coffee, plus their delicious cheesecake dessert, all for only \$25 per person. The wine and beer bar is no-host. Please RSVP to Evelyn no later than August 10 at normanev@msn.com and be prepared for a wonderful evening.

For the rest of the weekend, the Alfa Romeo Association and Delta Sierra chapter always invite us to take advantage of the marquee corral at Laguna Seca (ticketing reservation deadline was June 30), a buffet supper at Concorso Italiano, a big Alfa Club dinner (NOT at Chateau Julien in Camel Valley: there is a new venue, so please check with ARA on this), a big block of hotel rooms in Salinas, and an invitation to West and Maggie Clark's home for their annual wine tasting reception.

Consider booking your room at the Laurel Inn in Salinas through Delta Sierra chapter. The 40 rooms they blocked are going fast. Room choices are noted on the registration form on our AROSC website, 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.

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.

If you are attending the Historics at Laguna Seca, ARA coordinates admission tickets and Alfa corral passes. The deadline to reserve was June 30, so you will now need to go through Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca to get tickets.

Please visit our website, arosc.org, to download an ARA registration form, find a telephone number and make reservations.

THIRD ANNUAL CHILI COOKOFF: NO BLAZING SADDLES HERE!

We achieved a record turnout of 34 people and 15 chilis despite concerns that Camarillo might be too far out in the boonies. And the weather was perfect. Not too cold for the people from Palm Springs and not too hot for the rest of us. The Presidential Rancho proudly displayed the Alfa Romeo banner. The roses and jacaranda trees were in full bloom. We moved the Japanese Alfa next door and opened the garage to enhance the effect.

I have to say that the quality of the chili continued to improve this year. Several chefs including myself succumbed to the urge to do something “different”. I made an “Italian Chili” with white beans and Italian sausage. Bonnie and Charlie Schwartz made “French Chili” and several others made “White Chili” with chicken



Serious chili lineup. and these are only half the entries! Jim Barrett photo.



Charlie Schwartz gets creative with the sampling cups. Jim Barrett photo.

and/or turkey. Texans wouldn't call that creative stuff chili, but it sure was good.

A couple people brought dishes in lieu of chili and a couple more brought brownies in thinly veiled efforts to sway the judges. Chris and I were worried that people might not have enough to eat or drink. What were we thinking? In hindsight, I'm surprised anyone saved room for hamburgers.

Judging was a serious(?) affair with all present receiving a ballot. Most people made the rounds twice, once to get the general overview and once to make more specific comparisons. Fortunately, it was possible to take



Alan Simon, Doug McHattie and Susan Perl: serious sampling has begun. Jim Barrett photo.

small quantities and avoid the need to chow down 30 bowls of chili.

The “Best Vegetarian Chili” award went to Bruce and Pat West. They won by a landslide since they had the only vegetarian chili there.

The “Hottest Chili” award went to guests Mike and Carol. I might add that their chili was not super macho, just the hottest by a slim margin, and also received several votes for best overall. Chris and I had obtained a giant bottle of Tums as a possible award, but somehow it didn’t seem appropriate under the circumstances.



Sheila Kutkus makes sure her chili is at prizeworthy temperature. Jim Barrett photo.

“Best Chili Overall” ended up in a tie between MJ and Sheila and Jack and Jolene. Each received eight votes. Sheila’s was a yummy white chili. Jolene’s was more traditional and very nicely executed. What about the rest of the votes you ask? It is a testament to the quality of the entries that nine entries received at least one best overall vote.

Since the party, there has been one interesting bit of fallout. The First Lady took a look at our recycle bin and became concerned over the number of empty wine bottles. The Club may have a reputation to protect, but so does Chris. She went so far as to suggest that I should remove most of



Chili Cookoff Best of Show co-winners, MJ and Sheila Kutkus, Jolene and Jack Merriam. Jordan Lee photo.

the bottles and spread their disposal over the next several weeks. Naturally, I didn’t bother. Well, the city just picked up the recycle bin and I must say the crash of glass into the truck was deafening.

– Mike Riehle

2012 Chili Cookoff Best Chili Co-Winners: The Recipes

SHEILA'S CHICKEN CHILI

Six chicken thighs
Teriyaki sauce
2 Tbs chili powder
1/2 tsp coriander
1 tsp each ginger, cumin and oregano
1 Tbs olive oil, or as needed
1/2 C each chopped onion, celery, red Bell pepper
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 Tbs chili garlic sauce (Lee Kum Kee or similar)
1/2 C chicken broth
2 Tbs dry sherry
1 can each pinto and canellini beans, drained
Shredded Jack cheese for topping

- Marinate chicken in Teriyaki sauce, then grill until done. Cool, debone, cut into small cubes and set aside.
- Combine chili powder, coriander, ginger, cumin and oregano in a bowl and reserve.
- Heat olive oil in pan. Combine onion, celery and Bell pepper. Sweat in oil until they soften; add garlic, the chili garlic sauce and reserved spices and blend.

- When all is blended together, add chicken broth and sherry. Add the chicken and the beans. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat and simmer five minutes. Serve topped with a sprinkle of the cheese.

JOLENE MERRIAM'S "I Really Don't Have a Recipe" Recipe
(Jolene explained she'd lost her recipes in a house fire and just winged this.)

To basic chili sauce add:

Onion
Chorizo
Hamburger
Ketchup
1 sm. can tomato sauce
1 sm. shredded pork roast

She added, "Basic sauce is a couple cans of stewed tomatoes, tomato sauce, kidney beans, pinto beans, minced garlic, green peppers chopped fine, small can Ortega diced chiles, chili powder and water." She says that all the meats are cooked before adding, and thinks the microwavable roast (from Costco) is a tenderloin.

– transcribed by Will Owen



Oh, and there were Alfas involved – Bruce and Pat West's spider is in great shape. Jim Barrett photo.



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!

Agua Dulce Winery will offer wine tasting for \$7 per person and will feature an Alfa Romeo Club Wine Price Special for the day for our members.

We will gather at 11:00am for wine tasting/attitude adjustment. Around noon, we will go two miles down the road to Big Mouth Pizza. We will order off-the-menu at the counter. Enjoy Big Pizza, Big Salads, Big Sandwiches, Big Pasta & other good things. **PLUS: By special arrangement, no corkage fee to enjoy your wine at Big Mouth Pizza.**



Directions to the Agua Dulce Winery:

Take I-5 to the 14 North. Take Sierra Hwy exit. Turn right on to Sierra Hwy & go 12.8 miles. 9640 Sierra Highway, Agua Dulce, CA

Directions to Big Mouth Pizza:

Go back to West on Sierra Hwy 0.8 miles. Turn left on to Agua Dulce Cyn Rd. Go 2 miles and the restaurant will be on the right. 33323 Agua Dulce Cyn Rd., Agua Dulce, CA



Visit aguadulcewinery.com & bigmouthpizzaco.com

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

Braille Rally! ... a message from Pat West

Do you want to spend a day with some really cool kids? How about seeing lots of cars ... old, new, unique. What about just being with lots of people who enjoy their cars? Or discussing the fine points of traffic law with CHP officers?

Have we got an event for you! Join us for Braille Rallye 2012 on Saturday, July 28. At the end of the day you will be uplifted and inspired. Ask Norm, who has a special relationship with Tyrone, his navigator of several years. Ask Jordan, who placed as a first time participant. Ask Mike, who, well, has driven for a few years. Besides, how often do you have a visually challenged teenager tell you where to go?

It's a simple time and distance rally ... no gimmicks, no tricks, no special equipment needed. We hope you'll join us for a day you'll never forget.

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714-953-3020

GARY TODISCO

Classified – Cars 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. No AC, perennially leaking power steering (surprise, surprise), but the seat and window problems are fixed, and it's just passed smog (new cat). Total mileage unknown; speedo quit @ 260K in 1999. \$1200 OBO, for now, or you can wait until I get it all prettied up and pay more. Will, 626.345.9659 or nashwill912@earthlink.net (Pasadena).

1993 SERIES 4 SPIDER VELOCE – Red/black. 78K miles on the odo. Four new Pirelli P6 s mounted July '11; new top installed Sep.'11. Huntington Beach Concours winner in “daily driver” class '08. No, not a show-quality concours winner, but a solid driver for touring and weekend outings. Normal 2nd gear balky synchro. Maintained by APC in Orange from end of new car warranty. Photos on request. \$8,750. Chuck or Jan Cline, 714.531.3541; jclinefvca@yahoo.com.

1981 SPIDER – 85K miles on new engine. Garaged in San Francisco area. Ruby metallic over cream, completely refurbished 1998. Convertible top and radial tires in good condition. Standard equipment includes



turbina wheels; power brakes and windows; 5-speed manual trans. and limited-slip differential; Spica fuel injection. Beautiful car that has aged gracefully. \$6,500. Call 209.352.0128.

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

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 Affiliacionada 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

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, Concorso de
LeMons, and of course
our party at the Loose
Noodle.

September

- 8-9 Book now! Jubilee
Homecoming Weekend at
Willow Springs Raceway!
- 22 Agua Dulce Winery visit,
General Meeting
at Big Mouth Pizza.

October

- 13: Cars & Coffee gathering,
followed by General
Meeting with brunch,
Cline-style.