



The Newsletter of the  
Alfa Romeo  
Owners of  
Southern California



Coastal Cruising Time in SoCal! Join us  
July 10th for the Malibu Canyon-  
Carving Day Drive - info on page 3



This year is AROSC's 60th Birthday and  
we're partying on August 27th - details  
on page 6

## Previews

- July 10** Malibu Coast & Canyon Day Drive + Lunch
- Aug 18-22** Evelyn's Thursday Night Welcome Dinner, Monterey + Car Week '22
- 27** Summer Party: Our 60th Birthday!
- Sep 9** Zoom Happy Hour
- 10-11** Driving School, Streets of Willow
- 17** Mullin Museum, Oxnard
- Oct 8-9** TT & Race Weekend, Big Willow
- 16** Mt. Baldy Day Drive



*Avanti  
e Verso  
l'Auto!*

**Presidents'  
Message**

## Happy Summer!

We hope the 70+ AROSC members who attended the Alfiesta Coronado AROC 2022 National Convention festivities had as much fun as we did! The event far exceeded our expectations. And huge thanks are due to the more than 30 AROSC members who volunteered to put it on! See page 7.

The Barretts brought all three of their Alfas to the convention. And, thankfully, all three family members made it home on their own wheels. The 1973 Spider drove well, the 1982 GTV-6 provided blissfully efficient air conditioning during our inland convention drive and gimmick rally experiences, and the 1989 Milano Verde was a pleasant freeway flyer for our friends who drove it to concorso for us. However, there was a small problem with a leaky Milano external oil pressure sensor that ultimately left an oil trail on the roads, and some pretty thorough rustproofing on the undercarriage. Remedies are being applied as we type.

more on **2**

Further to the convention: It is significant that Alfa Romeo North America was a presence at this event – they stepped up with sponsorship funds and media support to become a part of our version of Alfa world for a few days. Not only did the head of Alfa Romeo NA, Larry Dominique, show up at the concorso and address the banquet, the Stellantis press relations coordinator and social media content associates walked among us. This has not happened in more than 20 years.

While our club demographics may not be the primary target of the brand's marketing efforts, they are listening to us. This was a spirited topic of discussion in

our June 24th Zoom Happy Hour. Let's keep the conversation going.

In Larry's remarks during the Saturday night banquet (with pretty good food!), he complimented us for staying with the brand when Alfa wasn't producing great cars, or distributing in the USA. He noted how important the historic DNA of Alfa Romeo has provided shined a light on current demands for style, handling and fun in the new cars, and how Alessandro Maccolini, Chief of Design Exterior, is dedicating his work to our passion for great looks and greater performance in future models. (See the



August 2021 *Alfa Owner!*)

Also in this issue you will find the results of our first Concorso of 2022. Our Concorso schedule has yet to be filled out, so if you have a suggested date and venue where you'd like to show off your Alfa, speak up.

Our next event will be the Malibu Day Drive on July 10th, as found on page 3. The last iteration of this drive was excellent, and exhilarating. We are **so lucky** to live and drive on such fabulous roads.

Everyone please note: our AROSC Summer Party will be on August 27th at Norm and Evelyn's home in Chatsworth. We will be **toasting our chapter's fabulous 60<sup>th</sup> birthday**, so we want to see everyone there! Info on page 6.

September will bring us to a premier automobile collection that we haven't visited in some years, the Mullin! We're going to have a morning drive and an afternoon go-home refreshment stop in Camarillo. Save the date: September 17th, and watch your email for further details.

*Ciao for now!*

*- Jim & Elyse, Co-Presedinti*

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# Malibu Day Drive !

## Give your Alfa an Italian Tune-up on July 10th

### Summer drive time is here!

Join us for our 2022 Malibu Day Drive, starting from Malibu Bluffs Park (where Malibu Canyon Rd. and PCH meet, across from Pepperdine University) at 9AM. A driver's meeting will be held at 9:15AM and we'll leave as a group shortly thereafter.

After a little less than two hours of mountain and coastal driving, we will end up the roof-top/outdoor terrace at Spruzzo Restaurant and Bar in Malibu (Zuma Beach) for a no-host lunch. We have a special menu from which you must make your entree selection in advance (see below). Appetizers and dessert will be your choice from their full menu, along with beverages, including a fine selection of Italian wines.

**Sign-ups close on July 5th so RSVP today!** Include the number of people in your party, and each person's entree choice. Email to Jeff Srinivasan at [rogueman1@mac.com](mailto:rogueman1@mac.com) You will pay at the restaurant.

As an optional pre-drive activity, you can arrive early at Malibu Bluffs Park (between 7AM and 9AM) and attend Malibu Cars & Coffee (see <http://www.malibucarsandcoffee.com> for more information). I suggest arriving before 7:30AM to maximize the chance of finding convenient parking.

I will reply with a map to the meeting location. The drive route maps will be available at the Driver's Meeting.

– Jeff Srinivasan

### Spruzzo Restaurant and Bar / AROSC Menu

**Italian Salad** V GF Mixed greens, tomatoes, cucumbers, watermelon radish, and garbanzo beans served in an Italian vinaigrette. Half \$9 | Full \$15 *Protein-Add options may be available.*

**Margherita Pizza** (12 inch, 8 slice) Fresh sliced buffalo and regular mozzarella cheeses, tomatoes, and basil without sauce. \$24

**Petrale Sole** Sauteed in a white wine lemon garlic cream sauce with toasted pine nuts, served with sauteed vegetables and mashed potatoes. \$21

**Meat Lasagna** Thin layers of pasta baked with bechamel and meat sauce. \$17  
All bills will have sales tax and gratuity added.

Please RSVP no later than July 5th to [rogueman1@mac.com](mailto:rogueman1@mac.com)

# Monterey Beckons

## *Evelyn's Thursday Welcome Dinner kicks off the weekend*

Monterey Car Week is back in good form this year with many of our favorite activities returning to the docket. If you are going on the pilgrimage, you can look forward to the Little Car Show, Pebble Tour d'Elegance, racing at Laguna Seca, Concorso Italiano and the big show on Sunday off 17-Mile Drive.

For *Alfsiti*, the real parties are Thursday and Friday nights, August 18th and 19th. At Evelyn Silverman's Thursday Welcome Dinner at Ambrosia Bistro, 565 Abrego St., Monterey, \$35 per person (includes tax & tip) gets you a tasty Italian and Indian buffet

dinner. Beverages are available for purchase. If you'd like to go, please RSVP by August 16th via email to [normanev@msn.com](mailto:normanev@msn.com) or by phone at 818-314-1262.

Friday brings back West and Maggie Clark's wine-tasting and dinner bash in Pebble Beach. The dinner menu will consist of tri-tip sandwiches, beans, potato salad and green salad. Please RSVP no later than Friday, August 5th via email to Maggie at [margaretclarklaw@gmail.com](mailto:margaretclarklaw@gmail.com). Please consider bringing a bottle of *vino rosso* for our gracious hosts.



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# Summer Party is 60th Birthday Bash

**Funny hats! Cake! Prosecco! Garage  
Goodies Auction!**



Do not miss the opportunity to attend your chapter's 60th birthday party on August 27th.

Hosted by Norm and Evelyn Silverman, this will be the Summer Party of the decade.

We are departing from tradition: this will not be a potluck lunch. Instead we will enjoy a buffet (about \$20 per person, including soft drinks, tax and tip) from the caterer that made the national convention's Petersen Museum

visit famous: Epic Tacos!

We will have a prosecco toast, a big birthday cake and maybe some door prizes. Everyone is encouraged to please bring a couple of their own beverages (adult and/or otherwise) to drink and to share.

We will stick to tradition by staging the wild, wonderful Garage Goodies auction. After two+ pandemic years of shuffling stuff in the garage, let's do a little belated spring cleaning.

We will need you to RSVP so our chefs can be prepared. **More details will be forthcoming in eblasts, so watch your email!**

Save the date, get serious about all that stuff in your garage, and plan to party like its 1962!

All eyes are on the prize from this table: watching Paul present a real white elephant for sale.



# AROC National Convention: It's a Wrap !

**The Coronado adventure well-attended.  
The weather was perfect.  
We had fun!**



AROSC and friends in the Pininfarina exhibit at the special Petersen tour (from left): Mario Cano, Steve Crowley, the Millozotti family, Keith Belyea and son-in-law, Austin, Burt Levy and Kim Merritt. We enjoy a little breakfast reunion at the headquarters hotel (from left): Fred and Tina Firschein, Evelyn, Bonnie, Charlie, Norm, David and Stan.

AROSC, as a chapter, were reluctant to be convention producers, but 30 of our people stepped up to make this meeting a success for the 300+ members who came from across the country to enjoy our coastal climate and SoCal hospitality. And 70+ chapter members attended.

It was noteworthy that Alfa Romeo North America supported the event with sponsorship funds and sent its president, press relations chief and social media content generators to hang out

with us for at least two days of the event.

Two local dealers, Alfa Romeo of Glendale and Alfa Romeo of Ontario, supported activities with sponsorships and Alfa Romeo of Irvine sent its showroom queen, their blue 6C 2500, to the concorso. National retailers Centerline International and Alfissimo International also sponsored parts of the event and Alfa Italia bought a full-page ad in the program. And a day-

of donation to the liquidity of the Track Day came from Nizam Zambri and April Friesan. We wish to thank them profusely for their generosity! This level of participation was huge – can we say unprecedented? MONDAY

The convention kicked off with Track Day, run by AROSC's Paul Blankenship and crew, including Don Wagner, Mario Cano and Karen Davis. We had 52

**Continued**



Track Day views (from top left): fastest times of the day Rimicci cars; Nizam's TT Intermediate Class-winning Milano in action; Brian Shorey with his Berlina that also won 1st in Show & Shine at Concorso, and the Big Group Pit Photo! Thank you Caliphotography.com !

entries (41 Alfas), with 38 Time Trialers in four classes, 12 Autocrossers and 17 joyriders in the Parade Laps. Our chapter winners included Anthony Rimicci who earned the national Russ Neely trophy for fastest time of the day in TT, plus first in the Advanced class; Nizam Zambri won the Intermediate class, and Hunter Gaukel took a ribbon in Non-Alfa TT, plus a trophy for first

in Autocross. Kimberly Merritt was third in Autocross. Congratulations all!  
**TUESDAY - FRIDAY**  
 Totally booked-up Pre-Convention Touring and Day Drives brought us together on the road in multiple groups of 30 cars. Thanks to George Hershman of San Diego AROC, we visited some familiar haunts and were introduced to some new routes in the very

scenic San Diego County countryside.

#### WEDNESDAY

The Welcome Reception was outdoors, poolside on the Marina Terrace. A great way to mingle in the fresh air.

#### THURSDAY

The highlight of the day was the Gimmick Rally, an awesomely written and

**Continued**



Day drives and the three-part Pre-Convention Tour took us to Pt. Palomar, Julian, Idyllwild, Jamul, the Ramona Wine Country and the North County coast, including Stone Brewery. On Wednesday, they overlapped (above) and we were have lunch together in two places. Clockwise from top: Val chats with Bill; Julian Pie Company is a must-stop; the Lieu Quan Meditation Center was unique; lunch at Stone; wine tasting!



Continued



enjoyable-to-drive  
escapade into the

countryside. Reasonable air temps. Fun roads. Challenging writing. Top four scores were pretty close, but Jim and Elyse aced it for the win and were congratulated for running the course in their 40-year-old GTV-6.

**TECH SESSION SPEAKERS**  
Our Reeves Callaway drew a crowd of about 40 on Thursday afternoon for his illustrated history of the twin turbo GTV-6.

Afterwards, in the *porte cochere*, we got to get a peek under the hood of Mark Brummond's fine example (above), which he brought in from North Carolina for the event. But he didn't take it home. AROSC's Ron Avery acquired the car that evening, and it now lives near us in Oxnard.

**MORE FRIDAY**  
The hotel would not allow

our traditional convention Swap Meet to take place on the premises, so we set up shop at the Coronado YMCA Surf Camp, a couple of miles down the road where we also had established parking for tow rigs. Garages in the region were not totally cleared out, but Glenna Garrett's treasure trove deserved merit, and Fred and Jim




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Dan, Val and Steve confer.



Mike, judging with his hands.

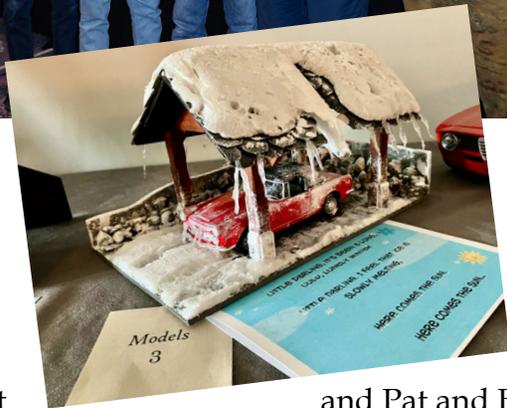
sold (and then bought!) a couple of items. It was fun to make this unlikely event happen.

#### SATURDAY

The week's denouement was Saturday's National Concorso. AROSC members and friends accounted for seven of the 15 outstanding Alfas in the Halo Car Row: Jack Brown's green Giulietta Sprint Speciale; Ken Roath's 1900 Zagato CSS (Best of Show/Pat Braden Memorial

Award winner); Shelly Zide's '72 Trans-Am winning GTV, Mike Baum and Bronson Page's Junior Z and Giulietta Sprint (Ed Mackey Award for Giuliettas winner); Herb and Rose Wysard's 6C 2500 cabriolet; Dorian Valenzuela's Giulia Sprint GT, and Val Dietrich's 2000 Touring. Thank you, Jim Barrett, for curating this unique gathering of Alfa

excellence. He even got Alfa Romeo of Irvine to send their showroom show-stopping 6C 2500 to Coronado for the morning. In addition, six member cars among the 17 submitted for *Certificato d'Oro* judging earned their certificates for originality and overall period correctness. This is the only group actually, seriously, for-sure judged at national *concorsi*, and the



cars must achieve a minimum 95-point rating. We are very proud of Steve Cole and his '77 Alfetta GT, Tony Covelli and his '67 Giulia Super, the Roath 1900, the Wysard 6C 2500 and the Baum Jr. Z.

Past president Mike Riehle, Mike Baum, and David O'Donoghue served as judges. Roberto Quadrelli

and Pat and Bruce West, served as car and layout wranglers, directing traffic, listening to needs, wants and concerns. We thank everyone for their expertise.

And the rest of us on the field had a beautiful morning. MORE SATURDAY Later that day was the annual meeting and member recognitions at the banquet.

Our guest speakers included Larry Dominique of Alfa Romeo NA and Burt Levy, Alfa Guy and "world's fastest novelist." Chuck and Jan Cline received their 50-year membership pin and so did Ed and Nora Anelle (San Diego is their primary chapter affiliation, but let's give them credit here too!).

SUNDAY And on the seventh day ... we



Here's a parting postcard of Southern California grace and charm. Thank you, Jack and Margaret Brown, for sharing your icon of Alfa excellence this week. Ciao until we all meet again.

partied some more! As trophy producers, Jim and Elyse also somehow became Awards Brunch showrunners.

Um, great! Another opportunity to applaud AROSC participants. First were the Track Day trophy-getters, mentioned on page 7, plus a special thank you ribbon each

to Mario Cano and Karen Davis, plus a "We Screwed Up" ribbon to Brian Shorey for the Autocross scoring lapse. After that we got our Gimmick trophy. Next, Fred Firschein was voted best of Art and Model Show Models/Dioramas for his icy carport. And the denouement was again the Concorso

awards, as mentioned in the Saturday section.

It was fun. It was exhausting. Next year the convention is in North Carolina. Let's go there to be guests and socialize!

– Elyse Barrett

Thank you to AROSC friends and photojournalist pals from across the country who provided images for this newsletter: Steve Edelman, CaliPhotography.com, April Friesan, Rick Andreoli, Mike Baum, Jim & Elyse Barrett, Dave Hammond, Bonnie Schwartz, George Hershman. Look for more photos and remembrances in future issues.

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The morning was cool and refreshing as AROSC members and their Alfa Romeos arrived around 7:30AM at the annual Huntington Beach Concours d'Elegance on Sunday, June 5th. As is our recent tradition, our Chapter provides the judging corps to score the Alfa Romeo classes for both the AROSC Club Concorso (our first of 2022) and the HB Concours classes. Fortunately the classes line up quite nicely, making it easy to judge each car once and place them in the correct classes for both concurrent events.

The judges for this year's event were Chuck Meschter, John Ireland, David O'Donoghue and Jeff Srinivasan (yours truly). A big thanks goes to Chuck, John and David for their exemplary judging.

The Alfa "corral" had six vehicles,

including five classics and one modern Alfa Romeo. This was a somewhat depleted field as four members who intended to bring their Italian *Bella Machina* were unable to do so. But the ones who did were wonderful to behold. The following vehicles (and owners) were on the field for display only (they were not judged): 1967 GTV (red) owned by Chuck Meschter, and the 1974 Spider Veloce (yellow) owned by Jeff Srinivasan

That left four competitors in the HB Concours Classes and the show-within-the-show AROSC Club Concorso Classes.

As is our tradition, we also award Best of Show to the highest point scorer amongst all judge cars and a People's Choice Award for the most beloved Alfa Romeo

Concorso #1 Winners

HB Class & Place	AROSC Class & Place	Alfa	Owner
Pre-1996 Open/Street 1st	Daily Driver 1st	1988 Spider Veloce	Mario Cano
Pre-1996 Open/Street 2nd	Daily Driver 2nd	1974 Spider Veloce	Mark Warshauer
Post-1996/Concours 1st	Modern 1st	2021 Giulia	John Ireland
Pre-1996 Closed/Concours 1st	Closed 1st	1977 Alfetta GT	Steve Cole



Big winners: Steve Cole (left) and Mario Cano (right), in and out of their cars. Congratulations!



(including judged and non-judged cars) as voted by, you guessed it, The People (ie. all Alfa owners and Club members in attendance). Those winners are **People's Choice:** 1974 Spider Veloce owned by Mark Warshauer **Best of Show:** 1977 Alfetta GT owned by Steve Cole

After we distributed the various ribbons to the winners for the AROSC Club Concorso, the cars who won their HB Concours Class were invited to drive their vehicles "across

the announced other than radio "ramp" to be by none personality and car guy Dave Kunz and receive a crystal trophy (and a bucket of Mother's car care goodies and I mean bucket, the 10-gallon size) from Miss Huntington Beach. Wow! That was cool to watch and fun to participate in (and I know, having been a past winner with my Spider).

Congratulations to all the winners and special thanks to all the judges who made the competitive portion of this event



Modern Class winner, John Ireland collects a blue for his Giulia and Mark Warshauer takes 2nd in Daily Driver and becomes our People's Choice champ. Congratulations guys!

Below: Other fun sights at the HB Concours: Indy Pace Car, Ferrari GT and model trains!



happen. I will also note that the Huntington Beach Concours attracts a large number (think 100+) of cars from marques other than Alfa Romeo. There was a large gaggle of BMWs parked right next to our cars and muscle cars, luxury classics like Rolls Royce and Bentley as well a few beautifully restored full classics were all on the show field.

Consider attending next year. And bring along your Alfa Romeo and display your pride and joy along side your fellow members beauties. And if you enter your car in the judging, you could earn a really nice ribbon along with the admiration of your fellow club members. What could be better?

- Jeff Srinivasan, AROSC Concorso Director

## Remembering Al Cortes

My good friend and longtime AROSC member, Al Cortes, passed away in May after a prolonged illness. Al's passion for all things automotive came at an early age, with his first car, a 1928 Oldsmobile. After high school Al served in the Navy and upon discharge the GI Bill enabled him to attend college, graduating with a BA in engineering from USC. He put that degree to work in the aerospace industry for more than 30 years. It was about this time that Al saw a 1952 Alfa Romeo 1900 Touring Coupe on a used car lot in Los Angeles. Smitten with the form and the artistic lines of the Alfa, Al became an inveterate *Alfista*. He purchased that 1900, and retained ownership of this car until his passing.

His membership in the Alfa Romeo Owners Club began in 1963. Al served as president of AROSC in 1982 and was active in various capacities for decades. A champion of early postwar cars, Al's knowledge of the 2500, 1900, 2600 and early 2-liter cars was profound. He established Exoticar, a restoration shop in Lawndale, and the business flourished as he supplied parts for the aforementioned early cars and in his machine shop, manufactured specialized lightweight racing components for Alfas and many other marques. Al's cars, including his 2600 Zagato Coupe were also featured on the cover of *Alfa Owner*. It was this 2600 Zagato that he, restored to a level that resulted in a class win at Pebble Beach.

During this time his interests expanded into competing on track. He prepared a GTA and became a distinguished member of the vintage racing community. His nature was always "drive to win" and in the early 1990s, he was retained to co-drive a vintage Ferrari in the prestigious re-enactment of the historic Mille Miglia.

In 2010 Al completed an engineering *tour de force* in designing and building his own Alfa Romeo tribute 3000 CM utilizing a 2600 engine and a modern Milano transaxle. The tubular frame was his own design utilizing original Alfa Romeo drawings. His creation received many accolades and was a special feature at the 2010 Concorso Italiano. Al pushed the limit with regard to modifying cast iron 2-liter engines by adding counterweights to the crankshaft to gain higher rpm. One of these highly modified engines, installed in a 2L Touring Spider has stood the test of time, as it is still campaigned by a prominent AROSC member today.

Al Cortes is survived by his two brothers Joe and Rene, his children, Tony, Melanie and Alex, and many friends. He will be sorely missed.

- Dan Ritter

Far right,  
Al with the  
CM on  
Rodeo  
Drive. Al  
and son  
Tony.



# Welcome *and Welcome Back*



AROSC is pleased and gratified to see our roster continue to grow and refresh each month.

Please welcome these new and returning members: Jack and Margaret Brown, Martin and Fern Cohen, Daniel Frank, Iler Ganz, Jon Ghoddoussi, Bernard Gilpin, Craig Goldenson, Greg and Carrie Haskin, Chad Hutson, John and Ann Keane, Brian McCormack, Brian Mertz, Andrea Onorato, Jason Paulus, Ken Roath, John South, Peter Switzer and Herb and Rose Wysard.



Herb and Rose Wysard's fabulous 6C 2500 was admired by all at the AROC National Convention Concorso. This car was Best of Show at the 2019 Concorso Italiano and it earned an AROC *Certificato d'Oro* on June 18th. Welcome back to the Club, Herb and Rose!



Ken Roath's amazing 1900 SS Zagato was voted the Pat Braden Memorial Best of Show by people's choice balloting at the AROC National Convention. Welcome to the Club, Ken.

# Join Us at the Track!

Just starting out, experienced or already a racer?  
We have a run group for you!  
All marques are welcome.  
You don't have to drive an Alfa to run with us!



## 2022 Schedule

Sept 10-11 Streets of Willow, High-Performance Driving School  
Oct 8-9 Big Willow, Time Trial & Race



Courtesy, Caliphotography.com

Sign up for our track events at  
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## Chapter Meeting Information

General Meetings of AROSC are held in conjunction with activities as they take place monthly throughout Southern California.

A full listing of events is posted on our website aroc.org along with a 12-month calendar, which is emailed early each year to members and updated periodically. Email your questions and comments to info@arosc.org and a Chapter Director will respond.

Board of Directors Meetings are held quarterly and all members in good standing are invited to attend and/or bring their business to the attention of *Il Presidenti* via email.

# About *Alfacionada*

*Alfacionada* is the publication of the Alfa Romeo Owners of Southern California, a chapter of the Alfa Romeo Owners Club, Inc. (AROC-USA), a national nonprofit association of Alfa Romeo enthusiasts in North America. Joining AROSC includes a subscription to the national magazine and this newsletter - all covered by your annual \$68 AROC dues. Visit [aroc-usa.org](http://aroc-usa.org) to join, and select Chapter 20 to affiliate with us, AROSC.

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