



The Newsletter of
the Alfa Romeo
Owners of
Southern California



Previews

- Mar 11** Zoom Happy Hour
- 20** Gimmick Rally, Los Angeles
- April 1-3** Wine Tour, Paso Robles
- May 15** O.C. Mystery Tour Day Drive
- Jun 5** Concorso #1, Huntington Beach
- 12-19** AROC National Convention, Coronado
- 24** Zoom Happy Hour
- Jul 10 or 24, TBD** Malibu Canyons to Carpinteria Day Drive



Awesome Annual Meeting -
on page 4

Could this be a clue on our
Gimmick Rally in L.A.? - on
page 9



*Avanti
e Verso
l'Auto!*

Presidents'
Message

Good Day! Are We Ready to Roll?

AROSC is off to a great start in this, our chapter's **60th year!**

We have already conducted our Annual Meeting, where a great time was had by all at the Petersen Automotive Museum, and our first Time Trials and Race meeting at Willow Springs on February 19-20, and enjoyed a lovely AROC Winter Retreat in Coachella Valley over the same weekend.

We have lots of good times coming, described in the following pages.

This month we'll catch up with pals during our Q1 Zoom Happy Hour on March 11th, and meet in person on the road in the Gimmick Rally to be held Sunday, March 20th. It has been literally years since AROC staged a rally of any kind, so this one is special, written by our new Board members, David and Susan Waelder, and planned to explore some special corners of Los Angeles County.

In April, we will at long last resume our traditional Wine

more on **2**

Tour weekends. Jan and Chuck Cline have sought out vintners specializing in Italian varietals and this year's tastings should not disappoint.

On Sunday, May 15th, we will head out on a day drive dubbed The Orange County Mystery Tour, which will include a number of delightful surprises.

Two weeks later, it will be show time at the Huntington Beach Concours d'Elegance on June 5. This will be our first chapter Concorso of 2022, so save the date!

Club Business: You should have received an official letter from the national office about AROC's new database, Club Express. All of your membership

information has been migrated to the new system, but you may have been assigned a new member number and you will need to re-identify yourself. You must log into the new system, and *change your password*. If you need help, or have "surprises", there are contacts included in that letter who can help you resolve any issues.

The REALLY BIG DEAL this year is the AROC National Convention in nearby Coronado (June 12-19), and it will be excellent. You will see plenty of



important and historic Alfas, and many familiar faces. Registration is through the new Club Express system (noting your new member number and new login is a must to get this done), and you should do so soon, as this will be very popular. You need to book your room directly with the headquarters hotel, Loews Coronado Bay Resort. The room block is on its way to selling out, so don't delay. See page 12 for more details and visit aroc.conventions.org

Many of the convention volunteers are AROSC members, and there is room for more. This is a genuine opportunity for you to play alongside many of your friends as we help make it happen. Please contact Mary Ann Dickinson at m.dickinson@aroc-usa.org for job openings.

Finally, we are celebrating 22 new members who have joined AROSC in the past six months! Our chapter is going places and doing things. Won't you come drive with us?

Jim & Elyse, Copresidenti

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Clockwise from top: Gray skies did not deter us as 30 Alfas and 40+ of their owners came to the Petersen for the 2022 Annual Meeting. Primary colors of the Blankenship Giulia, next to the Terrisse and the Quadrelli Spiders brightened the day. Continental breakfast in the parking garage!

Annual Meeting in Los Angeles

Gathering at the Petersen Automotive Museum was the way to start the year off right!

It was a happy opening day for AROSC's 60th anniversary on January 29th as we gathered for our 2022 Annual Meeting with a new format, in a new venue.

Going for a combination of fresh-air festivities and a visit to two of our favorite Los Angeles hangouts - the Petersen Automotive Museum and Tom Bergin's Irish Pub - we did what comes naturally. We hung out in the 3rd floor parking garage, talked about cars and consumed a Continental

breakfast. Then *il Presidente* Jim Barrett called the formal meeting to order. More than 40 of us parked ourselves on chairs in the garage.

On the agenda was the introduction of our newly elected Board of Directors members, David and Susan Waelder. You'll know them from David's photography which has graced the pages of this newsletter and the national magazine for years.

And we have created two

(continued)



new spots on the board who we're calling, *Codirectori* to help the officers. Bob Schmitt and Roberto Quadrelli have graciously agreed to be on hand to assist with putting on this year's program of drives, *concorsi* and social activities.

Year-end awards were next and Concorso Director Jeff Srinivasan delivered the goods, literally and finally.

His ribbon vendor fell victim to the economic woes of the pandemic, he made placeholder facsimile ribbons to give out at Huntington Central Park and Chino Airport's Yanks Air Museum, our two concorso venues.

The stats for these two contests were 14 unique entries in Open, Closed,

Modern and Daily Driver classes. There were 11 entries at Huntington Beach and 7 at Yanks.

Season trophy winners were David and Roseann O'Donoghue in Daiy Driver class with their 1984 Spider Veloce and Jim and Elyse Barrett in Closed class with their 1989 Milano Verde.

After reviewing the

2021 Concorso winners at last received their real ribbons! Clockwise from left: Cindy & Pat Terrisse, Elyse & Jim Barrett, Susan & David Waelder, John Ireland and David & Roseann O'Donoghue.



Above: Welcome new AROSC Board members David & Susan Waelder !

Welcome new co-directors Bob Schmitt & Roberto Quadrelli

(continued)



By row from top: Santo and Anthony do a synchronized engine scrutiny; Gene, Val and Steve inspect a Montreal. Evelyn and Elyse. The breakfast bunch hangs tough. Jim runs the meeting. A big 40+ of us attend. Paul impresses with an Italian song!

year's calendar and thanking Santo and Anthony Rimicci for sponsoring the upcoming National Convention Track Day, we were treated to a Gino Londi recording of a classic Italian ballad and a surprise performance of another wonderful Italian tune sung by new member Peter Pavia. Who knew

AROSC had such breadth and depth of talent?

Upon adjournment, we dispersed to enjoy the latest offerings inside The Pete: supercars, hypercars, classic F1 racers, off-road marvels, the Pininfarina room and the wonderful Bond

Cars exhibit.

When 1 p.m. rolled around, it was time for a sumptuous lunch under the big top outdoors at Tom Bergin's. They opened just for us, and we made it worth their while with 20+ diners.

- Elyse Barrett



Clockwise from top: A 6C 2300B Cabriolet graces the Pininfarina history room. This Alpha is a Wolf Electric Truck. The Pagani Huayra hypercar has an interior by Hermes. If you have to ask how much it costs ... Ditto with the stunning McLaren Speedtail. At the other end of the spectrum is The Dale, a controversial city car concept. Google it. And in the entry hall coming off the third floor parking were otherworldly vehicles like this peplemover from "Lost in Space".



Badasses:
 Connery as
 Bond and the
 DB5 ca. 1964.
 Silverman as
 docent and
 the Petersen
 sweatshirt, ca.
 2022.



Also in the
 Bond
 collection, one
 of the wrecked
 -in-action stunt
 DB7s.

And
 elsewhere, an
 artful presen-
 tation of dials
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Thank you, Steve Edelman and David Waelder for contributing these views of our event and the fabulous exhibits at the Petersen Automotive Museum.




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Gimmick Rally !!

It has literally been years since AROSC staged a rally of any kind, so be brave and come drive with us – March 20th.



What kind of hall is the Bolton Hall Museum? How did Two Strike Park get its name? Where did the Los Angeles Municipal water wars begin? (It wasn't Chinatown.)

The north San Fernando Valley as it crawls up into the foothills was fertile ground for eccentrics, scoundrels and individualists of all stripes. Our gimmick rally will address all these questions and give you a nice run on a curvy road as it takes you through the communities of Tujunga, Burbank, Glendale and Montrose. It will showcase vistas all the way to the ocean (if we have a clear day) and thread through neighborhoods with examples of idiosyncratic home designs. There will be colorful designs, a Japanese garden, shields, turrets and crenelations - something for all tastes.

The rally should take about three hours with stops along the way and restrooms available at reasonable intervals. The directions and test questions will keep you connected throughout. The final stop will be lunch in Montrose Village.

After lunch, you are invited to visit the beautiful Descanso Gardens, a County Park nearby (an optional, fun cap to your day on the road). The Japanese Tea Garden will be full of cherry blossoms and late-blooming camellias. The tulips in reds, yellows, white, pinks, purples should be in various stages of flower. Azaleas in red, orange, and white are also expected. Members are free, seniors 65+ \$11, adults \$15.

RSVP to David and Susan Waelder via email at davidwae@sbcglobal.net by March 15th.



From the sugary (top) to the surreal (left) - we will see some amazing sights and learn some fascinating stories on the L.A. Gimmick 2022.

Wine-Tripping

It's time to return to Paso Robles



Wine lovers, do we have a tour set up for you! Again we will visit wineries specializing in Italian varietals - some we have just discovered, others that are old friends

Friday evening we will have our traditional "night before" social hour(s) with everyone providing munchies and wine to share. The hotel has a breakfast room we will use, to reacquaint ourselves after a two-year break in our wine tours.

Saturday we will head north along scenic back roads, taste, then to Sarzotti's winery for lunch and an

outdoor tasting. Since we have discovered our group likes to linger and enjoy each stop, we plan on visiting only three wineries for the day. Our last stop will be at a winery new to most of you, but a producer of true Italian wines, and we'll have another outdoor tasting.

Dinner is still TBD.

For Sunday we have some options. The Zoo, Franklin Hot Springs or perhaps another winery. Everyone who went to the Air and Plane museum in 2019 loved it, so if you missed it, please consider it. Please let us know if you have any other ideas for Sunday other than

sleeping in.

Please note that we have filled our block of 15 specially discounted rooms at the Holiday Inn Express Atascadero and March 1st was the cutoff to get that rate. There were rooms available at their standard rate as of press time.

So don't delay: book today! And be aware that there is a 7-day cancellation policy. Call direct, 805-462-0200, and say you are with the Alfa Romeo Club Tour. Email alfa93010@yahoo.com to RSVP.

-Your Wine Tour Guides, Jan and Chuck



O.C. Mystery Tour

May 15th



Who is up for a late-spring day drive into the wilds of the Cleveland National Forest in northeastern Orange County? If you recognize any of the photos above, you have an idea where we're going – but we're keeping the route a secret until the driver's meeting.

Save the date for Sunday, May 15th and plan to see some fantastic sights from heights you may not have visited before. We will spend the morning on the road, pause for an outdoor lunch amid the chamisa and chaparral, and make one more stop on the way home.

Early registrations are welcome. Email Elyse at editor@arosc.org to RSVP.

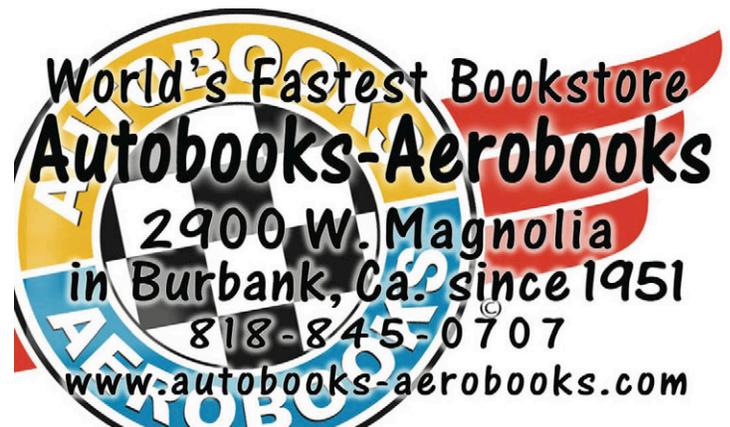


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COMING THIS SUMMER TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA!

Here Ye, Hear Ye: It's Convention Time in SoCal!

YOU ARE INVITED!

It has been 20 years since we had an AROC National Convention in Southern California (yup, AROSC hosted it then). Now it's time to party like it's 2002!

Registration is open! Visit aroc.conventions.org and sign up. If you do so before May 1 you can be entered in a lottery to win a free room night.

Stories with details have been running in *Alfa Owner* since January, so go back and check every issue.

Your chapter is not running this convention, but we are bookending it. Our competition crew, Paul Blankenship, Norm Silverman and Don Wagner are putting on the event-opening Track Day to kick off the event on June 12th-13th at Willow Springs. And Santo's is a sponsor. Come up for Autocross and Time Trials and midday Parade Laps!

And, at the end of the program on June 18th, AROSC has sponsored the Concorso at Tidelands Park on Coronado. We are rounding up the finest Alfas in the country for this judged show and Concorso Director Jeff Srinivasan will be joined by Roberto Quadrelli and Mike Reihle, to help discern the best of the best.

In between these high points will be fabulous day drives to places we've not

seen on our past tours of San Diego County. There will be bus rides to San Diego attractions like the *USS Midway*, Balboa Park and Little Italy. How long has it been since you were a "tourist at home" to revisit these favorite and iconic places?

A boffo gimmick rally is also on the agenda, to be written by pros from the Northwest Classic Rally. Space is limited for this one, so sign up early.

Three Tech Talks are scheduled featuring our own Reeves Callaway with a reprise of his history of how his TT GTV-6 came into being; a panel discussion about modding your 21st century Alfas led by AROSC member Jason Minos, owner of Alfissimo International, and a fascinating look at Paul Wilson's passion - his restoration of two 6C 2500s.

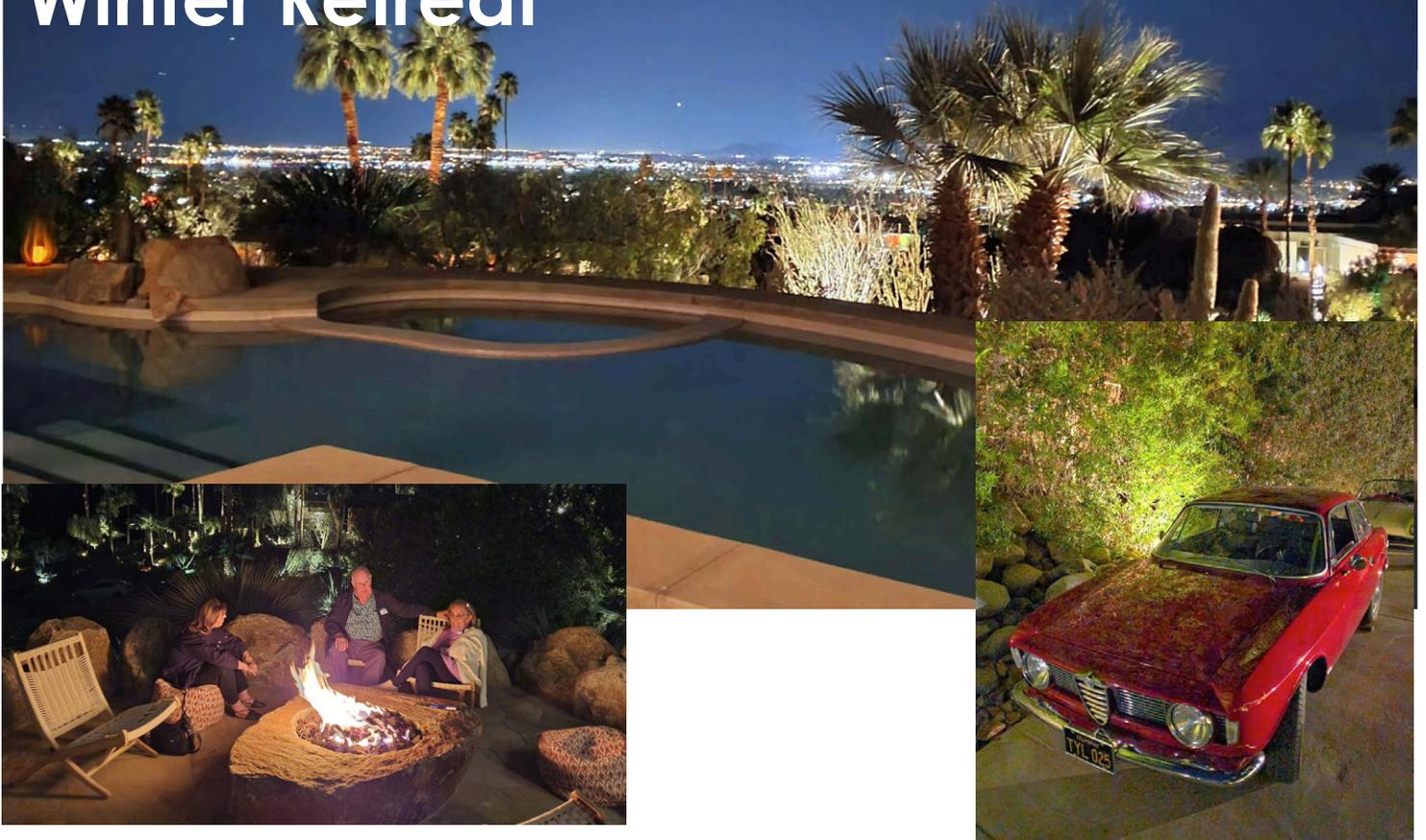
The headquarters hotel, Loews Coronado Bay Resort in Coronado Cays could not be nicer. It is elegant and airy and we will be very comfortable here! See a February 12th post on your AROSC Facebook site.

Saturday night's banquet speaker is still a secret. More news in the May-June issue.

This will be a memorable convention, and right in our backyard. Register now so you'll have a full choice of fun activities.

AROC Winter Retreat

Party in Palm Desert



The 8th Annual AROC Winter Retreat, postponed and repositioned outdoors to achieve a safe and sane weekend of driving and socializing was happy, busy success story. Nearly 100 *Alfisti* made it to Palm Desert and a contingent of 19 AROSC stalwarts were a part of it!

We came in new, classic and ersatz Alfas arriving Friday afternoon for lunch and the now-traditional reception at the marvelous Merlis House.

We were able to connect with our local members, Doug

McHattie, Bonnie and Charlie Schwartz, and Stan Deller and David Weir. We could see in person our friends from Florida, Michigan, Utah and Arizona.

Although the Retreat coincided with Modernism Week, we could navigate the P.S. bustle and have fun in our own bubble.

Saturday's drive took us down the south side of the Salton Sea and up to Anza Borrego for a photo op in Galleta Meadows and box lunch picnic. Afterward we took a special spin through a vintage trailer park, where our Alfas complemented their Airstreams. Then it was up over

Hwy. 74 and back down into the valley after a photo op at Vista Point. And while parked there, we were buzzed by a vintage biplane!

Saturday's party at President Cindy Banzer's Palm Desert home was also an outdoor affair. We dressed up and enjoyed socializing in the cool evening air.

Sunday's late lunch at Ecena Golf Club was relaxed and we were also served outdoors, with plenty of time before and after to appreciate the quality and variety of our Alfas present on the green.

– Elyse Barrett

Friday



AROSC early arrivals lunched at our now-traditional watering hole, the Fresh Agave in Palm Desert. Clockwise from left: Erwin, Doug, Chuck, Cheryl, Jan, Susan, Evelyn, Norman.

Saturday



Saturday's drive drew more nearly 50 cars and crews of 2 per car. A lot of comfy, air-conditioned 21st century Alfas were also present.



Clockwise from top: Barrett copiloti, Ginger and Lily helped keep the party going, even to 221 feet below sea level. Monumental roadrunner art and Stan's Spider in Anza Borrego; group photo op in Galleta Meadows featured double parking on the side of the highway and behind the Terrisse's super Spider. Jay and Catherine set up for lunch at our Christmas Circle stop in the middle of A-B.



Saturday evening's garden party at the Banzer-Kilian home featured John's new-to-him Spider out front and sophisticated cocktail stations where Jim, John and Jay could converse.

Sunday



The weekend drew to a close at Ecena Golf Club with a fantastic lineup of our varied and colorful Alfas on the green. Right: AROC board members Delmas Greene and Arno Leskinen appreciate the Deitrich iron block Touring 2000.



Our gang enjoys the farewell lunch at Ecena. From far left (moving the umbrella) Monique, and Jan, then seated: Chuck, Erwin, Susan, Evelyn, Norman, Roberto, Cheryl, Val.

Thank you Steve Edelman, Bob Piacentini, Dave Hammond and Lance Dong for the use of your photos!

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Welcome and Welcome Back



AROSC is pleased and gratified to see our roster grow in the past year, including an amazing 22 of you who joined or re-joined between September 2021 and January 2022.

We extend a enthusiastic *Alfista* welcome these members: Leonard Abbeduto, Behzad Ali, Anthony Cosentino, Anthony Covelli, Larry Guzin, Joe Hagel, Matt Hoffman, Jesse Ibarra, Charles Koster, Duncan Lemon, Jon Martin, Timothy Martin, Kimberly Merritt, Dirk Neely, Stig Nielsen, Kurt Oblinger, Peter Pavia, Momi Pointer, Chris Suggs, Mario Vitale, Timothy Weston, Shelly Zide.

Special appreciation goes to those who show up! Sini Serafini (4/21) brought true *Alfista* enthusiasm to the Holiday Party with tales of the 75 he left behind in Italy.

We saw him again at the Annual Meeting.

Peter and Naomi Pavia (12/21) attended the Annual Meeting and Peter delighted us by singing an Italian ballad to rival that of Gino Londi's recorded classics (see what you missed not being in our 2020-21 Zoom Happy Hours?!?).

Returning to the Club is Larry Guzin (1/22) who recently took delivery of a nice 4C after a few years away with his Morgans. He introduced himself at the Annual Meeting and shared a memorable photo of his 4C arriving on the transporter (and a shot of him as a youth with his 1962 Giulia Spider).

Mario Vitale has returned in

good form and we have been pleased to see him at Chino, Holiday party and the Annual Meeting.

It was also a pleasure to see Robert Jackson at the Annual Meeting.

The Pete was a real crossroads of SoCal *Alfisti*.

Also returning to the Club is Jack Brown, whose beautiful, meticulously maintained Alfas have been missed on drives and at concorsos for way too long.

Don't be shy! Come drive with us.

Then: Larry and the '62 Giulia Spider.
Now: Larry taking delivery of the 4C.



Join Us at the Track!

Just starting out, experienced or already a racer?

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2022 Schedule

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Jun 13 | Big Willow, Time Trial, Race, Autocross
(AROC National Convention Track Day) |
| Sept 10-11 | Streets of Willow, High-Performance Driving School |
| Oct 8-9 | Big Willow, Time Trial & Race |



Sign up for our track events at
www.alfaclubracing.com or motorsportreg.com

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FOR SALE, MILANO WHEELS - Four SSR Integral A2, 8 in. x 16 in. wheels for Milano or GTV-6. Three good; one with a minor scrape. Includes four 5 mm spacers and 20 "thin" lug nuts to fit the narrow stud openings. With 215-40-16 Kuhmo Ecsta tires, Dec 2007 date. Tread enough for one fun day at Willow. I can remove the tires. \$600. More photos available. Paul Blankenship, Chatsworth, California, 818-809-7476, sidewaysalfa@msn.com



FOR SALE, ALFETTA WHEELS - Two BWA Sportstar 6 in. x 14 in., 4 x 98 wheels for Alfetta. Good condition, some paint scrapes. \$40. More photos available. Paul Blankenship, Chatsworth, California, 818-809-7476, sidewaysalfa@msn.com



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Space (in full-page, half-page, quarter page/business card sizes) may be purchased at any time, and will be billed annually. Please request a rate sheet and deadlines from editor@arosc.org

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If you are receiving this newsletter on a complimentary basis, email your change of address to the Newsletter Address or the Club Business Address.

2022 Board of Directors

Your entire Board of Directors is available at one point of contact: info@arosc.org

Leave a detailed message and/or your telephone number and they will be happy to contact you personally.

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Website: Mike Riehle

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 to join, and select Chapter 20 to affiliate with us, AROSC.

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