



Newsletter of
the Alfa Romeo
Owners of
Southern California



Summer Party – Didn't RSVP in time? Get on the waiting list! Details on page 3.



Make New Friends – Attend a collab Cars & Coffee + Breakfast in Thousand Oaks on Sept. 21st. We are sharing with AROC of Central California. Info on page 7.

Previews

July 20	Summer Party
Aug 3	Macchinissima II, Los Angeles
15	Thursday Welcome Dinner, Monterey
24	San Marino Motor Classic (there is an Alfa Romeo class)
Sep 21	Cars & Coffee with Central Coast Chapter
TBD	Club Concorso #3 Date TBD

**Please read
The Disclaimer,
page 23.**



*Avanti
e Verso
l'Auto!*

**Presidents'
Message**

Ready or Not ...

Wowzers, it is now full-blown summer here!

We hope you have already upshifted into our blessed SoCal Summer Mode, because there is still a lot of fun to be had.

Your *Copresidenti* just returned from the 2024 AROC National Convention, which was built around several fascinating tours of the vast Michigan Upper Peninsula. Our perspective is forever edited by what we experienced, and our appreciation is still strong for what we enjoy even more here in SoCal. The entire state of Michigan turns is essentially a massive green forest and there's no place in that is more than five miles from a designated body of (very fresh) water. A very foreign concept to us desert dwellers. We also learned among many local details, that there are essentially two seasons in Michigan: Winter and Construction. All that snow and ice really tears up the roads and

mimics the larger forces of prehistoric glacial movements that created the Great Lakes. Seeing the rivers, creeks and lakes constantly running off into a bigger lake that runs off over the horizon is amazing; there are even gushing artesian wells by the side of the road from which to fill your water bottles, canteens and radiators. This sort of discovery is one of the reasons we journey to AROC conventions, and we recommend it highly. And then there is the fun of sharing it with Alfa friends, old and new.

So, what have you planned to do this summer? Where will your best summer driving destination be? How's your

Alfa running? What AROSC events will you attend? Have you secured your tickets for Macchinissima yet? Answers to all these questions can guide you to a successful summer series of activities, especially those your club has already planned. Be sure to see the calendar on our website, in *Alfa Owner* and in ClubExpress at aroc-usa.org (Thank you, Webmaster Mike Riehle!).

Do you have a great idea for an Alfa club drive or fun destination? We just added a September 21st collaboration with AROC Central California (page 7). For those who are not going to Monterey (page 5), you should consider



entering or attending the San Marino Motor Classic on August 24th. Otherwise, summer could be the perfect time for you to suggest that "Hey, why don't we try going here ...?" event. Please send your thoughts to info@arosc.org, and let's see what we can pull off.

Remember also to spread the Alfa love: the chapter has lots of AROSC business cards for those surreptitious under-the-windshield-wiper membership outreaches! We're happy to send you more if you need them! Just let us know at info@arosc.org

Cheers from the other side of the Solstice!

– Jim and Elyse
Copresidenti

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AROSC's mid-year event is fully subscribed at 50 members ready to celebrate summer!

If you did not RSVP in time to beat the crowd, a waiting list was formed in early June. As slots open up, hosts Val Dietrich and Monique Goosens will be contacting those on the list in RSVP order.

For confirmed attendees: we will be having a catered lunch of artisanal pizzas, cooked on-site in wood-fired ovens, with a chopped salad alongside. We are asking you to bring your favorite appetizer or dessert. And of

course, we would love to have you share a bottle of your favorite wine.

AND be sure to sort and bring items from your automotive treasure trove to auction off. The best pieces have a connection to Alfa, motoring sports, or Italy. Last year's sale was our most successful yet; let's make this one bigger and better.

Ciao,
Val & Monique



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The Next Great-Big Thing is ...

We loved it in its debut last fall, now its back at a larger venue with more of what we, the Italian automobile enthusiast community, are looking for: Macchinissima II, August 3rd, 9 AM to 3 PM, in Los Angeles.

This artistically curated car and motorcycle experience – created by AROSC members Mike Baum, Bronson Page and Dorian Valenzuela – is all-Italian: vintage, modern, and modified, 100% not stuffy. It celebrates the diversity and passion of beautiful Italian cars in an exciting, historic location.

AROSC is invited, and tickets are on sale now. Go to Eventbrite <http://Macchinissima2.eventbrite.com> Until July 6th, chapter members may get a 10% discount. Use code FORZA at checkout.

"You want to get cars together that are really interesting; interesting because they have an engineering commonality or just because they look stunning together because they share a common design language, and that's what we've done."

– Mike Baum, Co-Founder



MACCHINISSIMA™
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On August 3, experience Italian cars, supercars, and motorcycles, from the unusual to the sublime, in a historic L.A. location.

More information at www.macchinissima.com

For members who might like to bring a car to the show, there is a link on the site as well. <http://www.macchinissima.com/get-into-it> is the direct URL.

If anyone would like to sponsor the show, please reach out to Mike@Macchinissima.com

RSVP by August 10th Monterey Car Week Dinner

Every year, the annual trek to Monterey is a great opportunity to re-connect with our Alfa Club and Italian car friends from all parts of California and beyond. Having dinner together on Thursday during Car Week has become a tradition. Longtime hosts Norman and Evelyn Silverman have retired from hosting the event, and Mary Ann Dickinson and Delta Sierra Alfa Romeo Club will continue the tradition for 2024.

The informal and always entertaining group will gather at 6 PM on Thursday, August 15th at Ambrosia India Bistro, 565 Abrego Street, Monterey.

The modest cost is \$38 per person (which includes tax & tip) and gets you a tasty



Italian and Indian buffet dinner.
Beverages are available for purchase.

Please RSVP to Mary Ann Dickinson at MaryAnn@dickinsonassociates.com or online via ClubExpress at aroc-usa.org. Reserve your spot by August 10th.

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Meet-up with Central Cal Chapter, September 21st

Conejo Valley C&C

Sharing events among our neighboring chapters has been a thing for AROSC for many years, and 2024 is no exception. Your fall calendar now includes a meet-up on September 21st with AROC of Central California at the Conejo Valley Cars & Coffee at Thousand Oaks Mall (we attended in May of 2023 before visiting Apricot Lane Farms).

We'll have an Alfa space to park in together and get to know our CCC friends better. There will be an optional breakfast afterward. Interested? Get your name on the list by emailing CCC President Chris Armstrong at christopherarmstrong0721@gmail.com



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Do you know ...

How to Sign Up for Events in ClubExpress?!

Your Alfa Club Chapter uses electronic channels for social and business communications. Event pre-registrations and payments are handled by ClubExpress, the club's online communication service.

Members were invited, in 2022, to sign into ClubExpress and choose a username and password. If you haven't yet done that, you'll need to complete a sign-in before attempting to follow these instructions for event registrations. Please verify your login and update it if necessary. Without your member access to ClubExpress you won't be able to sign up for events.

The website has standard features for resetting your username and password. If you encounter difficulties, please contact AROC's administrative team at 971-254-6660. Nikki or Susan should be able to help you.

When our chapter event organizers plan an activity requiring an RSVP or payment, they set up a ClubExpress calendar listing to facilitate the registration.

Event blasts and promotions in *Alfacionada* provide a direct event link at <https://aroc-usa.clubexpress.com/>

But knowing the standard procedure is helpful. Here's how:

1. Go to the national website, aroc-usa.org, and click on the AROC@ClubExpress button under the club logo.

2. Click on Member Login and provide your Username and Password

3. Click on AROC Calendar.

4. Scroll down to the date of the event.

5. Click on View Event Details and read the event details; there may be more than one part of the event to register for.

5. [alternate] Click on View Event Details and read the copy; there may be more than one aspect requiring registration. [Too formal?]

6. Click on Register Now.

7. Under My Registration, click on your level of participation and click Next.

8. Under Additional Information/Registration Questions, click Next.

9. Review your info. in Registrant Information, click Complete Registration to pay.

Note: If you need to return to a previous page, use the RED "BACK" BUTTON at the bottom of the page. Do NOT use the gray return arrow at the top left corner of your browser – it will corrupt your registration and disallow payment and/or registration for you and your guests.

To exit the event listing, click on "events" in the navigation buttons at the top left of the page you are in. You will be sent back to the top of the calendar listing to start over.

This primer will continue in September-October with Part 2: How to Register Your Guests.

– AROSC Board of Directors

AROSC Concorso #2

A Warm Welcome to Summer in Huntington Beach



In conjunction with 38th annual Huntington Beach Concours d'Elegance, the second 2024 AROSC Club Concorso was held on June 2nd under the picturesque trees of Huntington Beach's Central Park.



Left, man of the hour David O'Donoghue (and his '84 Spider) take the AROSC Best of Show and an HB trophy. Below, the judges are convened by Concorso Director Jeff Srinivasan.



A total of 10 beautiful Alfas were on show in three classes. The team of judges (above) included Hal Croulet, John Ireland, Robert Jackson, David Waelder, Jeff Srinivasan and David O'Donoghue.

(continued)

In addition to admiring the handsome cars, attendees also enjoyed catching up with new and old friends. After rigorous scrutiny by the judges, the spectators applauded as ribbons were awarded by Concorso Director Jeff Srinivasan. Later, the blue-ribbon winners lined up to receive trophies and be photographed at the HB Concours announcer's platform.

The third and final AROSC Club Concorso for 2024 is coming up in September – *for sure* you should be there, and maybe you should enter – give it some thought! Watch this space, and your mailbox, for more information. – *David O'Donoghue and Jeff Srinivasan*

Results

Modern

1. Robert & Allyson Jackson 2017 Giulia
2. Elcid & Suzy Aranas 2023 Giulia Quadrifoglio
3. Keith Belyea 2019 Stelvio Q4

Open

1. David O'Donoghue 1984 Spider Veloce
2. Val Dietrich 1960 2000 Spider Touring
3. Mario Cano 1988 Spider Veloce

Daily Driver

1. Harry White III 1975 Spider Veloce

People's Choice

- 1960 2000 Spider Touring, Val Dietrich

Best of Show

- 1984 Spider Veloce, David O'Donoghue



Winners and ribbons L-R: Harry; Val, Susy and Elcid, Robert. Recognized by HB Concours: the Belyea Stelvio and the Jackson Giulia; the big crystal trophies.



(continued)



L-R: Margaret and Hal; Monique and Susan; something shocking on David's Spider's decklid. Below clockwise: Youth admiring the Belyea Stelvio. Elsewhere at the show: BMWs, Corvettes, fine English sportscars.



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Top: one of several views of the Hollywood Hills from Mulholland Drive. L-R We head up Rodeo Drive after coming into town on Old Sepulveda and navigating around an art fair. Before that, a new Giulia challenged an old Milano to a drag off the line.

The rain-delayed in-town road rallye written by uber-local John Ireland at last rolled out over the twisties of the Hollywood Hills on a beautiful day in May. It was a re-creation of an event he wrote 40+ years ago.

"The world and the roads of Los Angeles have changed a lot since the original Hollywood Hills Mille Miglia," he noted in our driving instructions. And those born and raised in Southern California and attended college here, could nod in agreement. So

(continued)



Top: an overlook opportunity on Mulholland Drive afforded sweeping view of Universal City and Burbank, where (above, clockwise from left) many of us took a break. We had already glimpsed the Whisky A-Go-Go, Hollywood sign and Charlie Thieriot's old house and our eyes needed a rest. This super Super was a welcome new participant who we got to meet at the Sherman Oaks neighborhood meet-up/check-in spot.

many people and cars, so little space. What we remembered as little pockets of wilderness in Laurel and Coldwater Canyons are no longer. And who remembers the Sepulveda Pass before the 405 was built?

The route was genius: starting on the Valley side, we warped and woofed down and up

and back and forth out of Sherman Oaks, through Belair (find the former home of Charlie Thieriot!), Beverly Hills, transiting parts of Sunset Blvd. and Mulholland Drive a few times, plus take in the history in Laurel, Benedict and Coldwater Canyons, Rodeo Drive and the Sunset Strip. Finally,

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Quick takes (clockwise from top left): morning Spider scrutineering and drivers' meeting in Sherman Oaks; Jim, John and Duy chat; John talks with the Cervantes team from and San Diego at Pinocchio Restaurant; Don checks in with Alana at the start.

one more transit of Mulholland put us over the 101 through the Cahuenga Pass and into Burbank and our final destination, Monte Carlo Deli and Pinocchio Restaurant, a destination unto itself!

It was a challenging read, but we had no gimmick questions to answer, and the only

time calc to make was to arrive at lunch before 12:30. And lunch was a treat: genuine Italian fare, generously proportioned, in a friendly, bustling setting.

What fun. Let's do this again!
– Elyse Barrett

Seek and Ye Shall Find? Well, maybe.

**Our Spring Wildflowers Tour was
a nice drive, in search of ...**



Clockwise from top left: Drivers' meeting in chilly Lake Castaic; our candy-colored Alfas ready to roll, and the Elizabeth Lake stop.

To embark on our Wildflowers Driving Tour, we met near Castaic Lake, and skirted the lake via the scenic and winding Lake Hughes Road. Our first stop was at Elizabeth Lake where we enjoyed the views and had time for a quick rest stop and group photo (above).

(continued)



Clockwise from top left: off-road photo op and flower-finding; visitor center's parking was also good place for portraits; the center namesake's watercolors display, and residents' monumental yard art.

As we headed over the hills and down to the sprawling Antelope Valley, we were met with an expansive sky, scrubbed to a bright blue by chilly winds and filled with magnificent clouds.

We continued through the scenic beauty of the valley to our second stop at a patch of poppies that were unfortunately closed due to the wind. However, the location provided an excellent photo spot to take pictures of the cars with the clouds as a backdrop.

We then headed to the Poppy Reserve where the adventurous among the group took a short walk to see the rolling hills of the valley, while others explored the visitor center.

(continued)



Clockwise from top left: Goodbye Poppy Reserve; our Bouquet Canyon romp; lunch - Chris and Mike, Paul as the new Wolf Creek meme (see door behind him.), Jan and Chuck, Suzy and Elcid.

Though there were no poppies at the reserve, observant participants were able to spot wildflowers along the way in addition to some unusual sights like an air force training jet and a Cadillac graveyard in the local residents' front and back yards.

Continuing our journey, we proceed over Spunky Canyon past the Bouquet Reservoir and down Bouquet Canyon to our lunch destination at Wolf Creek Restaurant. Fortunately, it was warmer there and we were able to enjoy a nice outdoor lunch on the patio.

– Steve Edelman



It was the passing of the AROSC Competition Program that brought about this once in a lifetime gathering. Longtime AROSC Gadabout and Busybody, Paul Blankenship, felt that the amazing history of the program couldn't just pass silently into the night. Paul looked at the check-book; the program had just enough money left for one last grand Hurrah - an epic feast, a gathering of the people who had shaped, directed, instructed and provided technical support to the club's Time Trials, Racing Programs, and Schools over the last 50+ years.

Paul dug through the decades of documents in search of who to invite and where to find them. At the same time, he located the perfect "Italian joint" to provide the food and setting worthy of all these Alfa legends, and do it on a modest budget.

On Saturday March 23rd, the rain clouds parted as the Gods (and Goddesses) of

Speed gathered at Maggiano's Little Italy in Woodland Hills. From the great northwest, from the sun drenched southwest, and from all over Southern California, they came.

Dr. John Samson, the Godfather of the AROSC TT and Racing program, and his lovely wife Carol, who was the program's first original lap timer, gave us stories about how it all began. The Nuvolari of AROSC, *pilota* Dave Vegher talked about his days at Alfa's Western Division Headquarters, and how the club's competition code was written. Hector Vasquez described his near-death experience riding in the back seat of Charlie Thieriot's GTA, with Rick "The Bear" Clemente in the passenger seat, as Charlie set a new land speed record on the 405 freeway.

The wine and the stories flowed throughout the afternoon. Rex Chalmers, John Green, Rick Clemente and Fred Schueddekopp were the Four Horsemen of the Giulia Super Flying Squadron. Judy Gaukel, Jackie

Chalmers and Lynn Mills (unlike the men, there wasn't a beer belly among them) brought their stories from both on the track and also from the pits. Steve Hamilton had stories from the Drivers' Schools, and the amazing variety of students who passed through it. Husbands and wives, fathers and sons, wrenches and racers and instructors ... everyone found they had their own piece of the history to tell, and memories to share. A name who was unable to attend but sent a "Hi." to everyone is Phyllis Gaylard. Phyllis' track speed and support of the AROSC Time Trial Program was always with 100% commitment.

And there are the names that couldn't be there, friends of AROSC track history that have already gotten their checkered flags. Charlie Thieriot, Al Cortes, Alan Ward and Don Dean, Jack Becronis, Phil Guiral, Len Frank, and others.

Every name present is a story in itself. And here they all are, in Alfa order, for

all of us to remember and thank. Ross Beckwith, Doug Bender, Paul Blankenship, Mario Cano, Rex Chalmers, Rick Clemente, Bruce Colby, John Cote, Karen Davis, Alex Enaceanu, Dennis and Jodi Fibrow, April Friesen, Judy Gaukel, John Green, Steve Hamilton, Jimmy Houston, John Ireland, MJ and Sheila Kutkus, Terry Major, Beverly Major, Mike McKibbin, Mitch McKibbin, Lynn Mills, Greg Nelson, Erwin Pearl, Anthony Rimicci, Santo Rimicci, Vince Rinner, John Sampson, Fred Schueddekopp, Norm Silverman, Hector Vasquez, Dave Vegher, Don Wagner, Terry Watson and Tina Van Curen.

As the afternoon came to an end, it was hard for many to say goodbye. Yet, it had to be. Nothing is forever. But our thanks go out to Paul Blankenship for putting this amazing afternoon together. It was the perfect ending to a track day with AROSC.

- John Ireland



L-R: Rick Clemente, John Samson and John Green share some marvelous memories. (Paul Blankenship was ready with "the hook" if they ran overtime, but was anyone counting?)

The Members' Page

Welcome & Welcome Back

Welcome Summer y'all! We wish to celebrate the arrival of this new member who joined in the month of May: Henrik von Buttlar.

And a tip of the ol' chapeau goes to the *copresidenti* for their 25 years of AROC/AROSC membership.

Plan to come drive with us soon!



Do you know ...

How to Access the Alfa Bulletin Board?!

Did you know that there's a significant wealth of information about Alfas available at your fingertips? The Alfa Bulletin Board is an incredible online resource for all models. To access this shared and moderated website, you'll need to join it with a logon and password.

Here are instructions, including how to join, in the FAQ link:

<https://www.alfabb.com/help/faq/>

And here is the actual "How To Register" link:

https://www.alfabb.com/help/faq/#how_to_register

I enjoy reading the various **Forums**, especially those pertaining to Alfa models I enjoy (i.e., Spider- 105 & 115 Series (1966-1994), Alfetta and GTV6 (1976-1986) and Milano/75 (1985-1993).

I also look at **Car Events**, **Alfa Romeo Cars For Sale & Wanted**, and **Alfa Romeo Parts For Sale & Wanted**.

The AROSC link can be found by scrolling down to **North American Club Forums**, and then choosing **AROSC - Alfa Romeo Owners Southern California**.

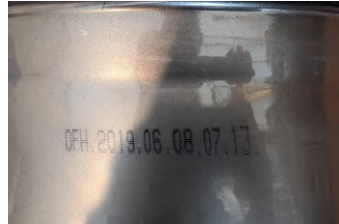
There are so many helpful members of this group, who pretty much can answer any question about anything! Join up.

– Jim Barrett

Classified Ads

**Spare
2017-2023
Giulia Wheel

As New
Never Used**



As the old saying goes, better to have it and not need it, than need it and not have it. This is spare I bought to make me truly run flat safe. It is a lovely smokey gray Alfa alloy. It came mounted on a new/never used Pirelli tire. I kept that for my new spare wheel that matches the four that came with my car. But until I found that, this has ridden in the trunk of my previous and my current Giulias. Never had to put it on the car ... which is the whole point. This will work as a spare for 17-, 18-, and 19-inch Alfa wheels since the circumferences and diameters are when wearing the correct size tires, are within fractions of an inch of each other. \$225. No tax or other stuff.

John Ireland jifigcar@sbcglobal.net / 323.533.6990

Calling all Historians and AROSC Packrats!

We have amassed an honest-to-goodness Chapter Archive of past issues of *Alfacionada*. This entertaining look back at our 63 years of Alfa fun is still missing the years 1975 and 1976.

The effort is under the sure hand of Dan Ritter. Please email info@arosc.org to let him know if you might have access to those elusive editions. *Grazie!*

Mille Grazie to all our member-contributors, whose stories and images make this July-August edition of *Alfacionada* an important part of our wonderful *Alfisti* life: David Waelder, Jeff Srinivasan, David O'Donoghue, Steve Edelman, Paul Blankenship, John Ireland and Jolie Ling-Tsai.

About Your Club

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Changes of Address

To continue receiving the AROSC *Alfacionada*, and the monthly national magazine *Alfa Owner*, your new email and street address needs to be provided to both the Chapter and to the national organization. Send your updates to the chapter at info@arosc.org and go to aroc-usa.org and click on Membership to change your national status. If using the United States Postal Service, send your change of address(es) to AROC, P.O. Box 92155, Portland, OR 97292.

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

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

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Chapter Meetings

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

A full listing of events is posted on our website, arosc.org, along with a 12-month calendar, which is also emailed early each year and periodically updated.

Email your concerns and questions about events, policies and procedures to info@arosc.org and a Director will respond.

Board of Directors Meetings are held quarterly on Zoom. All members in good standing are invited to attend. The Board Meeting schedule is noted in the published Calendar of Events. Contact the Board through info@arosc.org to receive a link to the Zoom meeting. Members are also invited to bring their business to the attention to the Board via email via info@arosc.org

(continued)

About Your Club

Communications Information

Please Note: AROSC consents to receive communications from you by email to info@arosc.org. Since you are already receiving our newsletters, meeting notices, and ballots by email, we deem that you that you have consented to electronic transmission from AROSC of meeting notices and voter related communications to your email address in AROC's database. You may change this email address by modifying your profile in AROC's records (currently available at <https://arosc-usa.clubexpress.com/>). You may withdraw your consent to receive electronic transmission of meeting notices and voter related communications by sending an email to that effect to info@arosc.org. However, by withdrawing your consent to electronically receive such communications, you will no longer be a voting member of AROSC.

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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