



Newsletter of the Alfa Romeo Owners of Southern California



Spring Driving Tour – The San Gabriel Mountains are calling. Answer them with us on May 18th. Info on page 3.

Concorso #2 – Come to the Beach, Huntington that is, for the next club concours! It is Sunday, June 8th. See details on page 5.

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**Please read
The Disclaimer,
page 21.**



*Avanti
e Verso
l'Auto!*

**Presidents'
Message**

Time to Go Green!

We are so fortunate to enjoy living now, in the greenest time of the year! This vibrant color reminds us of the green flag that starts a race, and our season has already blasted off.

Our visit to the Petersen Museum in March for our first Concorso (pages 8-10) also included entrance to the museum, showing a splendid collection of Ken Brock cars in addition to the other fabulous galleries of automotive art. Downstairs was an intensely beautiful display of lowriders, including the amazing 1958 GREEN Chevy Impala (page 2).

Last month's Wine Tour provided great driving, fun group conversations and opportunities to meet new members. We sprinted through three nice days in the very GREEN Santa Ynez Valley. And a very GREEN Alfa Romeo Montreal was seen trying to keep up with

a couple of 4Cs and a certain black Milano VERDE on our way to the picnic lunch!

This month we're driving some great GREEN-adjacent roads in the San Gabriel Mountains, on another most excellent tour by Steve Edelman. Sign up now, because the tour RSVP deadline is May 7th!

And in June we'll be immersed in the luscious GREENERY of Huntington Beach Central Park for the second Concorso of the year on June 8. Bring your shiny Alfa and join in the fun! Besides our own AROSC Concorso, there are also

awards from the HB Concours organizers for our Alfas.

One last tie-in to green: Today is Cinco de Mayo, an American holiday dedicated to consuming cactus juice products. It's supposed to be a celebration of the Battle of Puebla when the army of Emperor Maximilian of France was defeated in 1862. It took place in a country whose flag, like that of Italy, is red, white and GREEN.

Back to this country, and our Alfa Romeo Owners Club parent organization. If you intend to attend the 2025 AROC National Convention, September 17-21 in the Chicago



area, now is the time to sign up at www.2025arocconvention.com. Late registration fees apply on July 15. Your *copresidenti* will be there and are especially looking forward to the Pre-Convention Tours and driving in the Gimmick Rally!

Finally, at the wishes of Bonnie Schwartz, those who want to remember Charlie have an opportunity to do so by donating to the AROC Historical & Educational Foundation's brand-new Charles Schwartz Memorial Scholarship. See page 16 for details.

We look forward to seeing you at our club functions, and hope you have as much fun as we do!

*Jim & Elyse Barrett
Copresidenti*



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Spring Driving Tour

May 18th

*Last Call
Register Now*



Alfas need to be driven! RSVP today and plan on giving your car the exercise it deserves during our 2025 Spring Driving Tour, Sunday May 18th, 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM.

We will gather at Legends Classic Diner, a counter service Route 66 diner where those arriving early will have the option of getting breakfast (no-host).

Our drive will take us past a landmark "Big Tree" planted in the 1880s and up the twisty roads of the San Gabriel Mountains to an elevation of approximately 6,000 feet. There we will take a break to enjoy the fresh mountain air among the pine trees.

The descent down the hill will lead us to our lunch stop at the Glendora Public Market, a food hall inside a repurposed 1940s Wonder Bread location with a variety of counter service food vendors (no-host) representing a variety of cultures.

RSVP by the end of the day on Wednesday May 7th to Steve Edelman via email at arsq90-arsteve@yahoo.com

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ALFA ROMEO

Giving Our Classics a Break

SB 712 could roll back smog checks to cars built through 1990

California State Sen. Shannon Grove and former "The Tonight Show" host and classic car enthusiast Jay Leno joined forces this past winter in an effort to keep more classic cars on the road in the golden state.

"Leno's Law," or Senate Bill 712, proposes to remove biennial smog requirements from classic cars 35 model years or older – contingent on them being insured as a collector vehicle.

"California's smog-check laws for classic cars need to be updated," Leno said.

Currently only vehicles built through 1975 are exempt from smog checks. That means any

vehicle manufactured from 1976 through today is subject to being smogged. But, properly functioning dated smog equipment appropriate to test those older vehicles is quickly disappearing. In recent years owners of vehicles built as recently as 2000 report difficulty finding shops willing and able to keep their cars on the road.

The "Smog Bill" bill is also backed by the Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA), which represents 1,066 small automotive aftermarket businesses in California, and is expected to move through the legislative process throughout the coming months.



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Take Your Alfa to the Beach ... *Huntington Beach that is!*

Club Concoso #2 is Sunday, June 8th

This event will be held on the picturesque lawns of Huntington Beach Central Park in Huntington Beach. Central Park is adjacent to the Huntington Beach Public Library and Cultural Resource Center on Talbert Avenue between Goldenwest and Gothard Streets.

If you plan to exhibit your car, you must register by noon on Friday, May 30th. Early registration is recommended, as the event could fill up. Registration costs \$60/car and can be completed on line at <https://www.hbconcours.org/register-vehicle/> or by mailing in the paper form available at <https://www.hbconcours.org/obscuredir/wp-content/themes/twentyten/pdf/Sunday%20Entry%20Form.pdf>.

Two people (driver + passenger) can ride into the event with each registered car. You can request that your Alfa not be judged, but you'll still need to register through the Concours website to park it on the field. Even if you don't register an Alfa, you can still join the fun; spectator entry is \$15 per person and parking is available at the Sports Complex.

The Huntington Beach Concours organizers have defined their Alfa Romeo classes in a way that doesn't fit our club's usual classes,

but we can make it work with your help. So please select a class as defined below when you register your car:

06A Open: All open Alfas through 2014

06B Closed: All closed Alfas through 2014

06C Sedan: All Alfas 2015 and newer

AROSC members with pre-2015 cars who wish to compete in AROSC's Classic Street class (formerly called "Daily Driver) should enter the appropriate Huntington Beach class (06A or 06B) and select "Street or Race" sub class on the entry form. Similarly, owners of 2015 and later Alfas who wish to compete in AROSC's Modern Special class should select 06C and check "Street or Race" on the form. Please contact Concorso Director David O'Donoghue, bomberodavid@aol.com if you have questions.

The AROSC section of the Huntington Beach Concours has historically been an integral part of this very large, friendly event and with your help, will continue that tradition in 2025. So, polish up your Alfa, bring a picnic lunch, chairs, comfortable shoes and sunscreen, and we'll see you there!

– Jeff Srinivasan, David O'Donoghue and Jay Mackro

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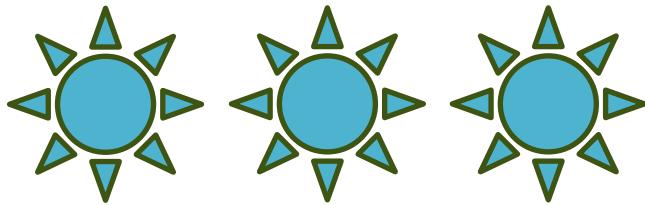
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July 26th – Save the Date

AROSC Summer Party!



Summer is almost here, and you know what that means? The AROSC Summer Party (and Auction) is right around the corner!

This year, after a wonderful 2024 event at the Palos Verdes home of Val and Monique Dietrich, we are back in Moorpark at Jeff and Margaret Srinivasan's place. So please save this date, Saturday, July 26th, and plan to join your fellow members for a fun afternoon of good eats and drinks, and friendly competition for amazing Alfamobilia auction items. All proceeds go to the chapter treasury and support future events.

Registration will be through ClubExpress and will open in mid-June, so watch for an eblast announcement around that



time. Participation will be limited, so you will have to sign up early.

Meanwhile, dig out your Alfa Romeo posters, models, books and other *etceterini* (for the auction) and find your favorite recipe for an appetizer or dessert (for the potluck).

The main course for lunch is still TBD, but will no doubt be truly scrumptious. Oh, and remember to bring a bottle of your favorite wine to share and enjoy!

– Jeff & Margaret Srinivasan

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Concorso #1

A Beautiful Day at The Pete



AROSC kicked off the 2025 Concorso season on March 29th at the world-famous Petersen Automotive Museum in Los Angeles. There was a strong turnout of vintage and modern Alfas, a goodly number of spectators and some hotly contested competition for Concorso ribbons.

The beautiful cars and perfect spring weather made for a very pleasant morning. After John Ireland presented Best Photography awards for the L.A. - The Good, Bad, & Ugly/Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow Tour (see page 11), Concorso Co-Chair Jeff Srinivasan presided over the Concorso ribbon awards ceremony (results on page 10).



Above, Adil's class and Best of Show winning Spiders. Right, Steve makes his Alfetta GT more perfect.



Above, our People's Choice winner was Lee's 1900C SS. Left, David, Cheryl and Roseann get check-in going.

(continued)



Top L-R: We again had the 3rd floor deck of the parking structure to array our awesome Alfas for admiration by all. Above clockwise: Adil's Giulia Spider was impeccably equipped; and John's Alfetta promoted period publicity materials; Ian's Closed Class winning Montreal impressed with the autograph of designer Marcello Gandini on the dash!

Special thanks are due our hard-working Concorso judges, Hal Croulet, John Ireland, Robert Jackson, David O'Donoghue, Jeff Srinivasan, and David Waelder. With so many excellent entries, we might need to recruit more judges soon! And a special tip of the hat to the tireless David Waelder, who took photographs non-stop when he wasn't judging. Be sure to visit the AROSC website to see David's photos and get a taste for the Concorso.

After the awards ceremony, spectators and participants toured the Petersen and enjoyed food and fellowship in the Meyers Manx Cafe.

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Clockwise from top left: Larry and Peter study Peter's Spider; people's choice ballots come in; Jeff and David try to judge Lee's "Orange Unicorn"; Massimo and Rich quiz Paul, and Adil, Lee, Roberto and Cheryl cheer the class winners.

Concorso #1's attendance featured 24 Alfas (14 judged), two very nice show-only Lancias and over 50 participants. Already anticipation is building for AROSC 2025 Concorso #2, Sunday, June 8th, as part of the 34th Huntington Beach Concours d'Elegance (info on page 4). Don't miss it!
 – David O'Donoghue

Class Winners

Closed

1. Ian Cartabiano, 1974 Montreal
2. Steve Cole, 1977 Alfetta GT

Modern

1. Robert & Allyson Jackson, 2017 Giulia
2. Larry Guzin, 2015 4C
3. Xiao Wu & Renee Hungar, 2019 4C Spider

Open

1. Adil Farooqui, 1973 Spider Veloce
2. Adil Farooqui, 1965 Giulia Spider Veloce
3. Lee Harris, 1956 1900C Super Sport Barchetta

Street

1. Pat Terrisse, 1978 Spider Veloce
2. John Ireland, 1976 Alfetta GT

Best of Show

Adil Farooqui's '73 Spider Veloce

People's Choice (32 total votes cast)
 Lee Harris' '56 1900C SS

Irie, Oggi, Domani Photo Contest Winners



1st David Helfand



2nd Don Cole



We were pleased that photos submitted by entrants in The Good, The Bad & The Ugly Tour on February 19th, embraced the concepts of auto transit in Los Angeles seen historically, currently and in the future.

Don Cole, our second-place winner, showed images focused on Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow. The image of the Hotel Roosevelt nicely linked the historic structure with the road and multiple cars leading to it. The Tail of the Pup, a Hollywood icon, was linked to Don's car seen in the foreground. And the future is in the robot distribution vehicle seen in the final image.

Our first prize winner, David Helfand, skillfully made images of a classic Alfa seen in a rearview mirror image. The present showed houses on stilts with a Duetto in the foreground. Regrettably, the final photo showed that same Duetto being towed away, but the image was thoughtfully composed with the city skyline in the background.

- John Ireland & David Waelder, event-runner & chief judge, respectively



And there we were again, rolling through a sun-washed valley so quintessentially California. Pasturelands dotted with oaks, bordered with golden poppies and purple lupine, the vineyards beckoning from the rolling hillsides.

AROSC's annual Wine Tour is our perfect long weekend, and while we try to make it different

each year, the same two nights away plus the full day of driving and dining and tasting is warmly familiar. This was our third foray into Santa Ynez Valley's fabulous wine country and our headquarters was the Sideways Inn in Buellton.

Friday evening, we met for a pizza party at Sideways Inn's Vintage Hall, with pies and



Clockwise from top: the gang's all here at River View Park. At the pizza party on Friday: Marlene and Bruce. Yinghua Lu, Hiram, Margaret, Jeff. Andrew. Naomi and Peter. Niko and Tony. Good times, y'all.

(continued)



Clockwise from top: The drivers' meeting gets under way, despite delays for changing a forbidden \$100 bill (Xiao!). Jim reviews the itinerary. Group Romeo and Group Alfa arrive under the oaks at Andrew Murray at their respective tasting times.

garden salad from Feather and Flame in the Flying Flags RV Park. We teamed up into two groups for Saturday's tour and started to get to know the new members of this merry band.

We were so very pleased to meet and welcome Mike "Boz" Bozarth (red 4C), Brad Geving and Shelley Yee (black 4C), Bruce and Marlene Frasco (silver S4 Spider), Henrik von Buttlar and Judy Fujimoto (silver Duetto), and Hiram Wang and Yinghua Lu (tan Lancia

Beta Berlina) - all new members and first-time tour participants.

We visited two wineries - Sunstone, which we first saw when it first opened the early 1990s and Andrew Murray, which we had visited under previous management, also in the previous century. Both establishments focused on what the region produces best: grenache, Mourvèdre, Pino Noir, Syrah and Viognier. In between tastings, we paused for a picnic lunch and photo-op in Buellton's River View

(continued)



Clockwise from top:
 Group Alfa at Andrew Murray. Group Romeo at Sunstone. Group Romeo at Andrew Murray. Group Alfa at Sunstone. Boz and Brad lead out through Alisitos Canyon.



Park where the wisteria was wildly in bloom, showering us with blossoms set free by the afternoon breeze.

The traditional Saturday night dinner took place in the Mendenhall Museum of Gasoline Pumps & Petroliana. We wandered the wonderland of collections amassed by two generations of Mendenhalls arrayed in garages surrounding their home while they

prepared a genuine Santa Maria barbecue with salad and beans from recipes created by family members. One evening was not enough to see it all!

Then suddenly it was Sunday, and after a farewell cuppa at Ellen's Danish Pancake House, we dispersed back into our usual lives.

(continued)



Clockwise from top: Group Romeo settled in at Sunstone. Henrik, Judy and Buster Brown arrive at Sunstone. Parked at River View Park. The banner under the wisteria bower leads the way to lunch. Bonnie: our wine tour poster girl!



The marvelous Mendenhall - a gearhead's playground. Words don't suffice; photos help only a little. Below: 4Cs in repose, ready to rock another day.

We thank the attentive and helpful staff of The Sideways inn, our hosts at Sunstone and Andrew Murray, and Mark Mendenhall and family for a very enjoyable time.

Until next year!

– Elyse Barrett



The Members' Page(s)

Welcome & Welcome Back

Greetings, Everyone!

Please join your Board of Directors in applauding the good taste of these Alfa Romeo who joined AROSC between February and March: Scott Bantle, Sherri Colligan, Brad Geving, Paul Hoppe, Ryan Howes, Emile Joseph, Jose Karam, Eugene Lee and Lou Leto.

Come drive with us – soon!



Announcing the Charles Schwartz Memorial Scholarship

“Charlie lived and breathed Alfa Romeos from an early age,” said Bonnie. “So, he would love it if those wishing to remember him supported the Club.”

Happily, early this spring, the AROC Historical & Educational Foundation established a scholarship in his name and contributions are being accepted.

It is a separate fund within the Foundation, reserved for students of any age wishing to enroll in classes emphasizing repair/rebuilding engines or bodywork, with a desire to specialize in Alfa Romeos, old or new.

A formal website for the Foundation with the scholarship page is under construction, but club members can use this link to donate.

<https://www.aroc-usa.org/aroc-historical-educational-foundation/>

Due Duettos: Welcoming the New Kids on the Block



New member Andrew Minstein and longtime member Paul Blankenship showed up at the Petersen for Concorso #1 with their new rides, both acquired-in-California Duettos. Andrew: a white 1969 1750. Paul: a red 1967 1600. Welcome to the new kids on the block!



Congratulations are in order for longtime member and ace photog, Steve Edelman for landing in the centerfold of the May Alfa Owner. We make new friends at the Winter Retreat, and one was NWARC member Lance Sweeney of Washington, who consented to pose his 1965 Giulia Sprint Speciale for us at Sunnylands. Super job, Steve.

***Mille Grazie* to all our member-contributors, whose stories and images make this May-June edition of *Alfacionada* a most entertaining and effective communications vehicle for our Chapter: David Waelder, Jeff Srinivasan, David O'Donoghue, Steve Edelman, Paul Blankenship, John Ireland, Bonnie Schwartz, Brad Geving.**

Classified Ads

**Spare
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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.

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For Sale: 1972 Spider hood and trunk lid, Good condition. \$140.00 each. No shipping; pick up in Crestline, California.

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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://aroc-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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