

# ALFACIONADA

MARCH-APRIL 2018



Petersen Visit, Pages 12-15

Lyon Museum Tour and Club Concorso #1, Pages 16-19



NEWSLETTER OF THE *Alfa Romeo*  
Owners of Southern California

# Alfa Romeo Owners of Southern California

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## **Submissions**

Please send classified ads, articles, letters and photographs to the Newsletter Address above, to arrive no later than the 25th of the month prior to publication.

## **Changes of Address**

To keep your newsletter arriving after a move, please send your change of address information to AROC, P.O. Box 92155, Portland, OR 97292.

If you're a nonmember subscriber, or receive the newsletter on a complimentary basis, please send change of address information to the Club Business Address above.

## **About This Newsletter**

*Alfacionada* is the publication of the Alfa Romeo Owners of Southern California, a chapter of the Alfa Romeo Owners Club, Inc., a national

non-profit organization of Alfa Romeo enthusiasts. Affiliation with AROSC and a subscription to this newsletter are included in your annual \$78 AROC dues. Non-members may subscribe to *Alfacionada* for \$20 per year, and attend meetings and events. See the website for a membership application form with rates and contact details.

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## **Meeting Information**

General Meetings are held monthly, on a weekend day, at various locations in Southern California. A full listing of activities is on our website, [arosc.org](http://arosc.org); a 12-month calendar of events is emailed with every January issue of this newsletter, and detailed information is in Previews. Check both; email any questions to [info@arosc.org](mailto:info@arosc.org), and a Club director will respond.

## **Our Cover This Month**

*Top: Alfas lined up just for show on the Peterson Museum's parking-garage roof on our annual visit there. Photo by that GTV-6's owner, Jim Barrett. More on pages 12-14. Bottom: An overview of the WW2-era collection in the Lyon Air Museum, shot from its mezzanine by Steve Edelman. We do not know that bomber's identity, but it's a beauty. See more on pages 16-19.*

# AROSC Board of Directors, 2018

Your entire Board is available at one point of contact: [info@arosc.org](mailto:info@arosc.org). We welcome and encourage your thoughts and feedback. This central email address will allow us to respond, at home or on the road, through our computers and smart phones. Leave your telephone number and request a call-back if you wish; we will be happy to contact you personally.

Don't forget to check our website: <http://www.arosc.org>

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# Previews ...*What's coming up and when.*

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**April 20-22** – Wine Tour, Santa Maria area. See details on page 10.

**April 21-22** – Driving School, Streets of Willow.

**June 2-3** – DE, TT & Race, Buttonwillow.

**June 3** – Huntington Beach Concours. Alfa Classes, Picnic, Huntington Central Park. Info on page 25.

**June 24** – Highway Earth. Club Concorso #2. Franklin Cyn., Beverly Hills. See info on page 21.



Note: Board of Directors meetings are generally held on the last Sunday of the month. Anyone with business to bring before the Board is requested to please contact Il Presidente Mike Riehle.



*There are some very choice cars in the Lyon Air Museum, as well as airplanes. Jim Barrett spotted this gorgeous, graceful Duesenberg J roadster from the mezzanine. There's obviously a rumble seat back there – too bad it wasn't open. Too bad they weren't giving rides, too!*

**See additional notice of our recent events on our website, [arosc.org](http://arosc.org)**

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

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The Porsche exhibit at the Petersen was as impressive as the promo. I was wandering about and looking at a 1939 Porsche when fellow member remarked that it could not possibly be a Porsche. Of course he was right; it was a “people’s car” (aka Volkswagen). Then again, it was clearly still in Ferdinand Porsche’s mind when he designed the first car to carry his name. Check out the write-up on pages 22-23 for more details and pictures of the Alfas on the roof.

The Second Annual Los Angeles Classic Auto Show at the downtown Convention Center was twice as big as last year and took over one of the covered parking garages. Norm recruited a new selection of new/old everyday/exotic Alfas. Chris and I were there Saturday, and like at the Petersen, were impressed by the number of new and prospective Alfa owners who came by. It is clear that Alfa is busy selling cars and those new owners are showing up at our events and becoming members. I met a young Italian guy who pointed at an Alfa and remarked those are Borrani wheels. Then he pointed at another and said those are too. And then he gave me his card: Ruote Borrani, of Classic Wheels, Milan, Italy! My only complaint is: Why is the Classic Car Show downtown? The Convention Center is well-served by public transportation, but it is not a great location for car enthusiasts.

The Lyon Museum near the John Wayne Airport, site of our Club Concorso #1, was a new venue for us and it worked out well. We took over the small parking lot right in front and it was just the right size for our concorso. Turn to pages 16-19 for more. The museum is one enthusiast’s collection and may seem small for an air museum, but all of the planes fly and vintage cars, motorcycles and WW II military vehicles are part of it. We headed west into Huntington Beach for lunch afterward and ably decorated the parking lot under restaurant Basilico’s signage.

Hey, you *Alfacionada* subscribers are missing out by not getting AROC’s *Alfa Owner*. Not only is there a big spread on the upcoming Convention in Olympia, but in the February issue, our Gene Brown contributed to an interesting article on The Making of Unobtainium – about the use of 3D printers to make parts that are no longer available. In Gene’s case it was a plastic drive belt cover for his Montreal. Way to go Gene!

Speaking of computer stuff, our Chapter’s websites are in a state of change. Bruce Colby, who set up these sites and kept them updated, like, forever, is stepping down as webmaster. I spent a day with Bruce and can now do minor updates and maybe even a little more. If my experience to date means anything, most of the actual work involves acquiring the data and following consistent folder and naming conventions. I am already planning to start posting folios of David Waelder’s pictures of recent events for everyone to enjoy.

We are now looking for a volunteer to do the same for our competition site. Kiem Tjong (I hear she’s a very good driver.) created a much nicer home page, but we really need someone to keep it current. That would involve receiving pictures for the home page and write ups for upcoming events and then editing the HTML to

point to the new stuff. You don't need to be an HTML expert, but it would help to be someone who understands a little bit about the competition side of the Club.

April 21-22 is the Driving School at the Streets of Willow. Our school is your chance to bring a stock vehicle and dip a little more than your toe in the high-performance driving pool. It is something everyone should do even if he/she has no intention of going racing. It pays to know how to recover when sh\*t happens. Of course, we hope you all will get hooked.

Our annual Wine Tour is the same weekend, April 20-22. John Britton is taking us up to the Santa Maria area this year. We have found some new wineries and some lovely back roads. See more on page 10.

Last I heard we are still planning to visit a fantastic private collection up towards Camarillo in May. I'd like to be more specific, but we will have to wait until the owner returns from vacation. He is a well known collector of micro cars. That is enough of a hint for many of you to guess who it is.

And don't forget about the Convention in August. Check it out at <http://www.sempreverde2018.org/index.html>. Chris and I are not on top of the details yet, but we have made our reservations.

Remember, if the women don't find you handsome, they should at least find you handy. And don't forget the duct tape, the handyman's secret weapon.

*– Mike & Chris*

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## Tech Guy ... *Keeping It Clean, Part Two*

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In my last column I wrote about the history and evolution of oil filters. This month we'll cover the construction and operation of the oil filter.

Spin-on oil filters consist of several internal components: The filter element, the anti-drainback valve and the bypass valve. The filter element is there to filter the oil. The anti-drainback valve prevents the oil in the filter from draining back into the engine when the engine is not running. The bypass valve allows oil to keep flowing if the filter element is clogged up. In addition to these internal components there is the cover plate and sealing gasket between the engine and the filter housing (see illustration).

In designing an oil filter, all of these parts must be considered on a cost vs. performance basis; it is these tradeoffs that differentiate a great oil filter from a poor one. Considering that oil filters can be designed to last up to 15,000 miles, the quality of these components can be crucial.

The rubber parts, the sealing gasket, and the anti-drainback valve must stay flexible over the life of the filter, and from sub-zero temperatures up to temperatures near 300 degrees. The best anti-drainback valves are made of silicon rubber, flexible over a larger temperature range than other types of rubber.

The housing must also handle those temperatures, plus internal pressures of over 100 psi. Generally they're tested to pressures of three to six times that amount to insure that they will not fail.

The most important part is, of course, the filter element. The ability to filter and to hold particles is based upon the fineness of the filter and the filter area. A filter that will catch any size of particle will not pass any oil, so is not very useful. Most good quality filters will filter out 99% of particles down to 20 microns and 95% of particles down to 10 microns. Some filter brands advertise their filtering ability. Ten microns is 0.01 mm or 0.00039 inches. Synthetic filter elements are usually finer than the paper elements.

But filtering ability alone is not enough. Particles that are caught by the filter also block it, reducing the amount of oil it can pass. If enough of the filter is blocked, the bypass valve opens, allowing unfiltered oil into the engine. So the amount of filter area is also critical to an oil filter's life: The





greater the area the longer it can function. Some manufacturers list the amount of contaminates a filter can hold (in grams). A larger filter will hold more contaminates and thus have a longer life. But the size of the filter can does not always mean more filter capacity. The filter element is wrapped around the core as pleats: The more pleats and the deeper they are, the more filtering area. But a bigger filter container may have fewer pleats and a smaller filter area than a smaller can with more pleats. The only way to find out is to open the can and measure the filter size. There are many websites where people have opened and compared oil filters, but the filters they show may be unlike the filter you use. Some reviews can be old and the data presented no longer valid, so take what you see with a grain of salt. Also be aware that oil-change stations often use the cheapest filters they can get.

For vehicles that use cartridge filters it is much easier. The anti-drainback and bypass valves are part of the filter container on the car; the only part to replace is the filter element. That comes fully exposed out of the box, so it's easier to compare elements from different manufacturers.

So I hope this gives you more information about oil filters than you ever thought you wanted to know. And remember that a few extra dollars spent on a good filter and good oil is a lot less than an early engine rebuild.

– Gene Brown



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## *Update: 2018 Wine Tour to Santa Maria and Surrounds*



**Hello everyone!** Your 2018 Wine Tour planning team has been hard at it, traversing the Santa Maria vineyard region and its lovely backroads to curate a selection of both which will suit your discerning wine palates and driving styles.

Currently, we have the following confirmed and booked for your enjoyment on our long weekend April 20th – 22nd:

**A wonderful hotel:** The Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriot in Santa Maria, which we stumbled upon quite by accident. The rate there is quite good, and the hotel has lovely rooms, lots of free parking, a wonderful indoor pool with health spa, a lounge we can use on Friday night, and to top it off, a hot breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, if you are staying with us for the two nights. The hold on our block was released March 24th, but enquire there anyway, they may still have rooms at their usual rate.

**Dinner at a famous restaurant:** Shaw's Barbecue Restaurant is booked for 7PM on Saturday night. Some of you have been there, and have stressed if we are going to have a meal in Santa Maria, it better be at Shaw's!

**Wineries under review:** The wineries we're looking at are Cottonwood, Rancho Sisquoc, Sextant Wines, Talley Vineyards, Cambria Winery and Vineyard, and Riverbench Vineyard and Winery.

**Alfa-worthy roads:** Along with the choice of wineries which are made, you can all be sure that we have reviewed all the routes which will suit your Alfa Romeo so that you and the cars can enjoy the drive. We have tried them out, the Clines with their Giulia, and I with my Audi, and we can guarantee you will love the experience.

Itineraries and full details will be provided prior to April 19th. For details and to RSVP, contact **John Britton** johnbritton.AU@Gmail.com or 714.493.6054

*– The Clines and a Britton*

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## Petersen Visit = Another Window on Automotive History



*Rositas de Los Angeles – National Treasure lowrider. Jim Barrett photo.*

Our 2018 visit to the Petersen Automotive Museum this past February was another proof that the organization is winning in its mission to keep its refreshed format and exhibits alive and kicking to attract return customers. We have returned for many years, but our enthusiasm is heightened, and others get it too!

The new exhibits, *The Porsche Effect*, *The High Art of Riding Low*, and *Seeing Red* (all-Ferrari) that opened in early 2018 were simply wonderful. The size and depth of each was enough to satisfy, not overwhelm, and make memories stick.

Here are a few visuals from our tour. We gathered on the 3rd floor/top deck parking area, compared notes on all the Alfas present, and before departing for the day, celebrated (docent and event organizer) Norm Silverman's birthday with cake and song at the in-museum restaurant.

If you did not attend with us, go soon. Visiting "The Pete" is a great excuse for a fun day in L.A. and an ever-evolving window on automotive history. – Elyse Barrett



*Our Lady of Death, "La Katrina" in stunning black and white, part of the High Art of Riding Low show. Jim Barrett photo.*



*Above, brutal Ferrari 857 stands out in the Seeing Red show.*

*Right, Porsche 550 Spyder from the mid-1950s, what James Dean perished in. Below, Mark Donohue 1100hp Porsche 917 nicknamed Can-Am Killer. Jim Barrett photos.*





*Above, admiring the engine of Tony's pretty Montreal. Jim Barrett photo. Below left, some new young people attended, too; right, Jan and Chuck apparently happy with their new Giulia. David Waelder photos.*



*Ghia has not bodied many Ferraris, which makes this a rare bird indeed, tailfins and all. The typically Ghia front-end treatment works pretty well here. Susan, Mike, Jay and Catherine are among those admiring it. David Waelder photo.*



*Dramatic lineup of Porsche GT racing cars. Jim Barrett photo.*



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# COME FLY WITH US! LYON MUSEUM AND CLUB CONCORSO #1



*View from the mezzanine Touring under the portrait of Gen. William Lyon LC\_SEdelman shows the range of machinery in this stunning collection. Steve Edelman photo.*

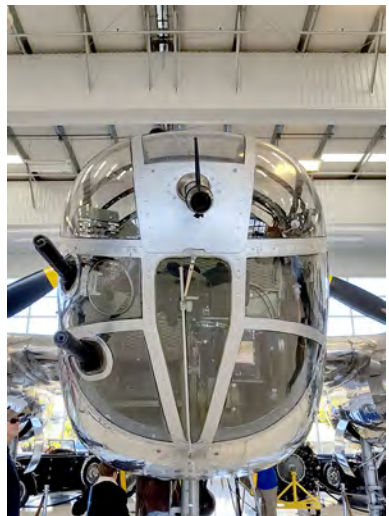
The much-needed Southern California rain took a break on Saturday, March 17th to provide an excellent morning for the first Club Concorso of 2018. And the locale didn't hurt either; we gathered at the Lyon Air Museum in Santa Ana and, after judging was completed, everyone enjoyed docent-led or self-guided tours of Gen. William Lyon's fine collection of mostly World War II aircraft and civilian and military vehicles from the same era.

If you have not visited the Lyon, you owe yourself and your family a trip to Orange County. Check out the following images from the museum and imagine yourself there soon.

Thank you Mark Foster, Jade Nguyen and your excellent docents, for getting us in and organized. Your hospitality was unsurpassed.

This, the first Club Concorso of 2018, ushered in a new era for our entrants and judges: We welcomed the first entrant in our new "Modern" Class, a brand-new 2017 Giulia TI Lusso, owned by John Ireland. This

*Right, the business end of a fighter-bomber.  
Steve Edelman photo.*





class is open to all Alfa Romeos built after 1995, and we expect to see many Giulias, 4Cs and even Stelvios vying for the class win.

Our Concorso included the return of Art Russell's "Low-Tech Racing" GTV to the Competition Prepared Class. Recall that Art usually enters his beautiful, black '63 spider, but this year we expect to see more of his racecar (which he regularly tracks at AROSC events). There was tight competition in both the Closed and Daily Driver Classes. The Best of Show award went to Norm Bianchi and his beautiful ivory 1974 Spider Veloce, which also won the Open Class.

Special mention goes to Pat Quilter, who was presenting his recently refurbished Giulietta Sprint for the first time, and it was a beauty, winning People's Choice (an award voted on by all Club members in attendance) and second in Closed class. Nice job, Pat!



*Touring under the portrait of Gen. William Lyon. Steve Edelman photo*



*Docent tells the story of one of Hitler's favorite parade vehicles, a Mercedes with armored bodywork. David Waelder photo. Top view is visible in top photo opposite.*

Overall we had 19 Alfa Romeos parked in an exclusive section of the Lyon parking lot (a simply beautiful sight from the second-floor viewing gallery in the museum).

After our concorso and museum tour, we motored across town to Huntington Beach for an exclusive Italian lunch at Basilico's. The restaurant opened just for AROSC and we filled the parking lot with Italian automotive art. Chianti, pastas, salads, meatballs and an appreciation of family recipes happily filled us up! Thank you Tony and Josh for making us feel welcome!



*Basilico's Huntington Beach with Italian auto trimmings. Elyse Barrett photo.*



*Over the top lunch at Basilico's. From left front: Steve, Elyse Pat, Jim, Tony, Gino, Gordon, Gene. Taken with Jim Barrett's camera.*



Looking ahead in the Concorso season, we hope everyone is planning to attend an annual favorite in late June: The Highway Earth Classic Car Show (see adflyer on page 21). AROSC returns for its fourth year, with a great turnout of Alfa Romeos expected, along with fierce competition in what will be our second Concorso of 2018.

Visit <http://www.highwayearth.com> to register for the show; the nominal \$25 entry fee paid to Highway Earth gets you parking along side your fellow Club members and their Alfas (otherwise, you can park for free in the spectator lot). And if you wish to enter in the Club Concorso (always free), email Jeff Srinivasan, Concorso Director, at [rogueman1@mac.com](mailto:rogueman1@mac.com).

See you all soon!

– Jeff Srinivasan, Jay Mackro, Jim & Elyse Barrett



## CONCORSO WINNERS BY CLASS

### Modern

1 John Ireland 2017 Giulia Ti Lusso

### Race

1 Art Russell 1966 GTV Race Car

### Closed

1 Steve Cole 1977 Alfetta GT  
2 Pat Quilter 1956 Giulietta Sprint  
3 John Britton 1986 GTV6

### Open

1 Norm Bianchi 1974 Spider Veloce

### Daily Driver

1 Susan Waelder 1991 Spider Veloce  
2 Pat & Cindy Terrise 1978 Spider Veloce

### Best of Show

Norm Bianchi, 1974 Spider Veloce

### People's Choice

Pat Quilter, 1956 Giulietta Sprint



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## 2018 AROSC Club Concorso #2

Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup>

*held in conjunction with*

# HIGHWAY EARTH CAR SHOW



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# AROSC Shows Off in Los Angeles



*Paul chats with Meguiar's Mike Stoops before the show opens. Jim Barrett photo.*

The Classic Auto Show made its second U.S. appearance at the Los Angeles Convention Center March 2nd - 4th. It was a big hit, and AROSC was a part of it. In addition to a full South Hall, this year the show also filled Kentia Hall with vendors, American Steel, Vettes and a live restoration in progress.

Our space was 4,000 sq. ft. on the main aisle, and with help from chief design engineers Paul Blankenship and Gene Brown, support by Jim Barrett, the nine classic Alfas contributed by Ed and Nora Aenlle, Jayson Hymes, Charlie DeMarco, Jeff Srinivasan, Al Evans, Bob Russell, Art Russell, your humble VP and Evelyn, plus a new Giulia Quadrifoglio and Stelvio from Auto Gallery Santa Monica, the presentation was spectacular by any standard.

Based on the comments and traffic, we made the most of it. We met prospective members, got reacquainted with old members, gave out lots of calling cards, and almost all of our event calendars and copies of *Alfacionada* were collected by interested showgoers.

In addition to visits by Dennis Gage, Wayne Carini and AROSC friend Donald Osborne, we were amazed at the attraction Stelvio in particular on the women. One woman, about to buy the new Jaguar SUV, sat in the Stelvio, called her husband back and said, "THIS is what we're buying!" It went on like this for three days.

We'll see how many new cars continue to show up at the track and how many new people will start showing up at events.

*– Norm Silverman*



*Left, Gene's Montreal doubles as the transport vehicle for the AROSC popup. Paul Blankenship photo.*

*Below, Aenlle Quattroute graces the AROSC show space. Ed Aenlle photo.*



*The DiMarco GTV6, Russell 4C, and Hynes Giulietta. Ed Aenlle photo.*



*Norm, Bogi Lateiner (All Girls Garage), Wayne Carini, Donald Osborne, a new Alfa enthusiast, and Ed. Nora Aenlle photo.*

# Let's Party Like We Did Last Summer!



It's time to ink your calendars for Saturday, July 21st, for our annual AROSC Summer Party in the OC. Our 2018 seasonal celebration will be held a month early this year, on Saturday, July 21st, but it is definitely summer and worth celebrating!

**Foodie Fest** As always, this is a potluck lunch, so please bring something to share. Favorite and creative homemade dishes – hot or cold – are highly desired. We suggest Italian: antipasto, salads, casseroles, pastas and/or desserts. Also, please bring your favorite beverages of choice to share.

If you can't bring a dish, please make a \$5 donation per person and Jan will buy what's needed to round out the menu.

**New Homes for Unwanted Parts** In keeping with tradition, we will feature our "white turkey" auction for all those Alfa parts, manuals, and tidbits out of that car you sold 20 years ago. Ephemera will also be appreciated. Just bring those precious pieces, and let them go. The Club can use the funds raised to support future events!

This is also an official AROSC monthly club meeting.

**Save the Date** So please save the date, and RSVP to [info@arosc.org](mailto:info@arosc.org)! Directions to the Cline's will be provided in response.

– Ciao,  
*Chuck & Jan*



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# Concursos We Love! Non-Scheduled Shows You Can Attend



*The Woodies class at the San Marino Motor Classic several years ago. This is a charity event benefitting various area organizations, so its gate fee for spectators is higher than most, but so is the percentage of rare and exquisitely prepared classics. Will Owen photo.*

There are too many concours and car shows on the calendar every year, and AROSC cannot make all them part of our official events schedule, so we recommend attending or entering these for fun and to broaden your automotive horizons.

**June 3rd Huntington Beach Concours d'Elegance** Now celebrating its 33rd year, the HB concours benefits the children's wing of the Huntington Beach Central Park Library. There is a slate of classes for Alfa Romeo and a beautiful space for picnicking. The website features a photo of our Club's cars with Norm, Gene and Bruce judging Fred's champagne gold GTV. Visit <http://www.hbconcours.org/event-schedule/> for details.

**June 10th San Marino Motor Classic** In its seventh year at Lacey Park, the San Marino Motor Classic brings together upwards of 200 Brass Era, Depression Era and Post WWII luxury vehicles and benefits the Pasadena Humane Society and ASPCA. There are often amazing examples of vintage Alfa Romeos present. Go to <https://www.sanmarinomotorclassic.com/> for information.

**November 11th Veterans Day Car Show** AROSC's Vic Galich has put on this heartwarming benefit for the Paralyzed Veterans of America every Veterans Day in the beachfront parking lot on Coast Hwy. since 2010. A great mashup of rods, customs, sportscars, and his own Alfas, this is a fun way to honor our service members and spend a fresh fall day at the beach. See [www.veteransdaycarshowhb.org](http://www.veteransdaycarshowhb.org) for particulars.

# Classified – Cars/Parts For Sale



**HISTORICAL ALFA ART PORTFOLIOS** – I am cleaning out space at home, and have found two identical sets of old-model Alfa prints, 8.5” x 11” landscape format on cardstock with 14 different profile drawings in each set. They are housed in red folios (folios are not pristine, but the prints are like new) **JUST ONE SET LEFT**, \$35. Shipping to be negotiated. Lloyd, 310.951.9097; lloydlehrer@gmail.com

## Classified (non-commercial) Advertising

Classified ads are published as a free service to the Alfa Romeo community. Suggested length 60 words; include price, location, contact info. Photos must be in-focus, medium-resolution (300ppi) JPEGs. Alfa-related only! Deadline is the 25th of the month prior to publication (e.g., March issue = January 25).

## Commercial Advertising

Please contact the Editor at [info@arosc.org](mailto:info@arosc.org) for a detailed rate card and complete advertising information.

# Join Us At the Track

Beginners, track day drivers, or Racers,  
we have a run group just for you!  
All marques are welcome –



## 2018 Schedule

- April 21-22 – High performance Driving School**  
At the Streets of Willow
- June 2-3 Buttonwillow – DE, TT & Race with NCRC  
Sorry, no enduro this time.
- Sept 15-16 Streets of Willow – Driving School
- Oct 20-21 Laguna Seca Raceway – DE, TT & Race  
92dB limit, so get a new muffler! We need  
100cars to make this work, so make plans  
now!
- Dec 8 & 9 AAA Fontana Infield – DE, TT & Race

You can sign up for our track events at  
<http://aroschpd.org>