

ALFACIONADA

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2019



*Above: Another perfect Summer Party; photos and story pages 16-20.
Below: AROC in Italy 2019; Our attendees' photos on pages 24-26.*



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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.

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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.

Permission is hereby granted other AROC Chapters to reproduce any original material herein upon request, provided credit is given to the author and *Alfacionada*. We ask the courtesy of a copy of the re-publication. Please send requests and copies to Managing Editor, *Alfacionada*, at the Newsletter Address listed above, or to his email.

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; 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, and a Club director will respond.

On the Cover This Month

Top: David Waelder's photo captures both the spirit of a SoCal summer and the Clines' elegant and welcoming back yard. Those of us who couldn't be there are sighing wistfully, as we should. Next year, okay? Bottom: AROC members from all over the U.S. gather in the museum dedicated to another great Italian marque, Maserati. From fine hotels to great museums to the start of 2019's Mille Miglia, it was one car-freaks' delight after another, and plenty for the gourmets as well. Pat West photo.

AROSC Board of Directors, 2019

Your entire Board is available at one point of contact: 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.*

September 14-15 – Driving School, Streets of Willow

September 22 – Old World Concorso #3, Huntington Beach. Info on page 11.

October 6 – Malamut Collection Visit + Lunch. See details on page 12.

October 12-13 – DE, TT & Race, Willow Springs

November 2 – Vote early, vote often! See page 21 for instructions!

November 3 – Best of France & Italy, Woodley Park.

November 23-24 – TT & Race, Laguna Seca.

December 1 – Board Planning Meeting for 2020.

December 14 – Holiday Party, Redondo Beach.



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.



Pasta-making as Spectator Sport! Emilio shows the traveling Alfisti how the big boys do it, all with simple hand tools and lots of skill and practice. Pat West photo.

See additional notice of our recent events on our website, arosc.org

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

Did you make it to the AROSC Summer Party on August 4th? See the write-up on pages 16-24, then, treat yourself to an additional collection of David's pictures on our website. Who knows? You might find a great picture of yourself. Chris and I donated some limoncello to the auction and I managed to score an Alfa Romeo coffee cup. For those of you who might not know, limoncello is a traditional Italian digestif made with Sicilian lemon zest, ethanol (think Italian Everclear) and sugar. True Italians will swear that Sicilian lemons are a must, but Camarillo lemons seem to work just fine. Our big thanks to Jan and Chuck Cline for a job well done.



No doubt many of you have been keeping a nervous eye on your retirement plans in this uncertain economy. I know I have. This is also a time to keep a close eye on classic car values. Like the stock market, classic car values are doing quite the dance. Buy carefully, sell carefully, and keep your stated values up to date in your collector car insurance.

September 22nd brings up our third Concorso of the year at Old World Village in Huntington Beach. It is a quaint place with lots of trees for shade. Octoberfest is under way, and Dachshund owners will be there racing their dogs. Chris and I saw the races a few years ago and they are a lot of fun. Some of the dogs just don't get it. Others do get it and just can't wait for the starting gun. The fastest dog of the day was a miniature Dachshund appropriately named Hot Rod. I might add that he raced for cat treats! Of course, you can always check out the Alfa Romeos instead. See John Britton's event overview on page 11. Note that concours entries are limited and parking has specific requirements.

October 6th is our visit to the Malamut Auto Museum Foundation. This is really a private collection, but visits can be arranged by appointment. Mike and Barbara are particularly glad to offer tours to car clubs. See details on page 12 and also check out their website at <http://malamutautomuseumfoundation.org/>. It has been nearly 10 years since we toured their collection. It was awesome then, and I expect it is even more awesome now.

October 12th-13th is a HPDE, Time Trial and Race on the Big Track at Willow Springs. The weather should be decent and this is your chance to make sure your car is ready for the November 23rd-24th event at Laguna Seca. Opportunities to run on this famous track are rare, but for the past two years we have been able to be

there, so sign up and pack your bags. There will be noontime Intro groups on both days (helmet required). On Sunday we are hosting a Santa Cruz Symphony League fundraiser where they will also tour the track at lunchtime (no helmet or black tie required).

Expect to receive election ballots in early November. Please vote. I know the Board looks the same as last year, but write-ins are welcome and, frankly, we appreciate the recognition. Results will be announced well before the December 1st Board Meeting when the new Board takes over and plans our 2020 events. Feel free to come and make suggestions. We are always looking for new ideas.

Best of France and Italy is November 3rd. Yippee! Lots of cars, lots of parts, and lots of food trucks. Registration is open now; see Chuck and Tina's website at <http://www.franceanditaly.com/> and mark your calendar. Alfa enthusiasts show up in force, so bring your camera. Advance registration is \$20 per car and admission is free for spectators.

Remember, if 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 ... *A Day At the Races*

Back in July, I had the opportunity to attend the British Grand Prix at Silverstone. This came about because of my wonderful daughter, Margi. She works for a financial firm in San Francisco and for the past few years she has been talking with both McLaren and Red Bull about sponsorship of their Formula One teams. She also knows Chase Carey, chairman of the Formula One Group from when he was at Fox Sports.

For the British Grand Prix she arranged tickets and access to venues for Helen and me, and we flew to the UK the Tuesday before the race.

We had a day to drive out to the McLaren Technology Centre in Woking, Surrey, where we were given a tour and had lunch with some of the McLaren people. It is a state-of-the-art combination of museum, design, restoration and production facility. The first McLaren Formula 1 car, in a long row of cars on display, is a M7C from 1969. This car was driven by Bruce McLaren to third place in the British Grand Prix. It was interesting to see Formula 1 cars with actual instruments, three pedals and a gear shift lever. The whole place was just so impressive. There was an area where they rebuild/restore older McLaren race cars, and they even had Bruce's first race car, a 1929 Austin 7, in the shop. I offered my services there for free. I'd even bring my own tools. This was just the start of our week.

Along with Margi and her husband, Moe, we rented a AirBnB house about 10 miles from the circuit at Silverstone. For Thursday and Friday, McLaren provided us tickets to the Formula 1 Paddock Club. We had a special 12:30 PM appointment – it seemed that Margi had arranged a Pirelli Hot Lap in a McLaren for me. The car was a McLaren 720S which is propelled by a 710 horsepower twin turbo 4.0 litre V8. After signing a bunch of waivers, and maybe a commitment to buy one (I didn't read all the papers), I was given a helmet and escorted to the track. I would be the fourth rider in the car. The driver was a McLaren factory test driver – but the first rider had to go with a substitute driver, Lando Norris, who actually spun the car out on the lap and ended up in the gravel. So he did a second lap. Both times, when he pulled to a stop there was lots of smoke coming off the carbon fiber front brakes.



Gene and daughter Margi at Silverstone. Moe Orozco photo.

For my ride I had the McLaren test driver so it wasn't as dramatic, but it was a whole pile of fun. I got a hot lap at Montreal last year in an Aston Martin Vantage driven by Martin Brundle, and in both then and now the first turn was the most exciting, you have no idea how deep the driver will go in before he hits the brakes. This time I was prepared and braced myself for the sudden deceleration. The driver wasn't holding too much back as you could feel the back end breaking away in the turns. Along the Hangar Straight we got to a top speed of 158 mph. It would have been better with a five-point harness because the standard lap/shoulder belt just does not hold you very well. Since I was the fourth and last rider of the session, I got a second lap, the cool-down lap. It was quite an experience, and I can never thank my daughter enough.



Above, the McLaren 720S, being driven slowly enough to photograph ... for a change. Below is the McLaren hospitality suite. Gene Brown photos.



After the hot lap we spent some time in the McLaren suite and garage, plus we walked the pit lane.

Elsewhere around the weekend, one of the support races was the Masters Historic which featured a 1982 Alfa 182 along with cars from Lotus, Hesketh, Williams, Surtees and Tyrrell. It's good to see cars that I remember running on the track.

For Sunday we were guests of Red Bull and viewed the race from their suite. There was a lot more but I'm limited in column space.

All-in-all it was a great week, but the highlight was the hot lap. You can watch the in-car video along with additional footage added by Moe at <https://vimeo.com/352163175>

– Gene Brown



Enough with McLarens – Time for some Alfa stuff! Clockwise from top left, the Alfa Team flanking their new mascot; vintage 1982 Alfa F1 182; Alfa garage with a car being worked on. Gene Brown photos.



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Cruise-in & Concorso at the Beach

Old World Huntington Beach Sept. 22nd

It's Old World HB for Concorso #3

Join us for our third and final 2019 Club Concours at Old World Village on September 22nd.

Our event will start at the venue, 7561 Center Ave., Huntington Beach 92647, where one of our volunteers will direct you to our special entrance to the left of the village. Please arrive at 8 AM.

A maximum of 20 Alfa Romeos will be accommodated inside the walking streets of the village. If you plan to enter your Alfa to be judged, please sign up now, as we want you to be parked in the village.

For attendees with non-Alfas or Alfas that cannot be accommodated inside the village, there is ample parking at either side of the village, and the more the merrier are welcome for breakfast, foot-cruising among the shops and viewing our wonderful Alfa Romeos.

Once the cars are placed, the village restaurant is open for us to have breakfast together at 9 AM. After breakfast, the judging will be done by our judges and we can relax with our friends, kick tires, and at 12:30 PM Old World will be staging a wine-tasting for our group. Later in the day we can attend the Octoberfest, enjoy a brat and beer and a sing-along before watching the sausage dog races at 3 PM.

RSVPs and Pre-Registration are a MUST.

Please email John Britton at johnbritton.au@gmail.com AND Jeff at rogueman1@mac.com and be sure to include:

1. How many are attending breakfast. (We need a headcount.)
2. The year, model and color of your Alfa Romeo. (Alfas get special parking.)
3. Whether or not you wish to enter your Alfa in the Club Concorso. (Free chance to win!)

October 6th is The Malamut Private Tour – Be There!



This photo, courtesy of the Malamut Museum, gives a hint of what we'll be seeing.

Fellow thrill-seekers: It has been years, but the collections have only improved. We get to return to the Malamut!

We are so very fortunate for the generosity of Mike and Barbara Malamut who are opening the doors of their unique car collections for AROSC to view on Sunday, October 6th.

We will meet at the museum parking lot at 10 AM, to enter at 10:30 AM sharp. Afterward, we have a lunch reservation at a nearby restaurant set for 1:30 PM.

We need head counts!

To guarantee your attendance at either or both, you must RSVP before Sept. 25th, to Jim Barrett at eddinab@verizon.net. If you have already responded, please do so again (thank you!).

Driving instructions and other details will be provided with your RSVP, including addresses for the collection and lunch. Questions, call 714-642-1593.

Background: visit <http://malamutautomuseumfoundation.org/>
<http://malamutautomuseumfoundation.org/the-collection/italian/>

Ciao for now!

– Jim Barrett

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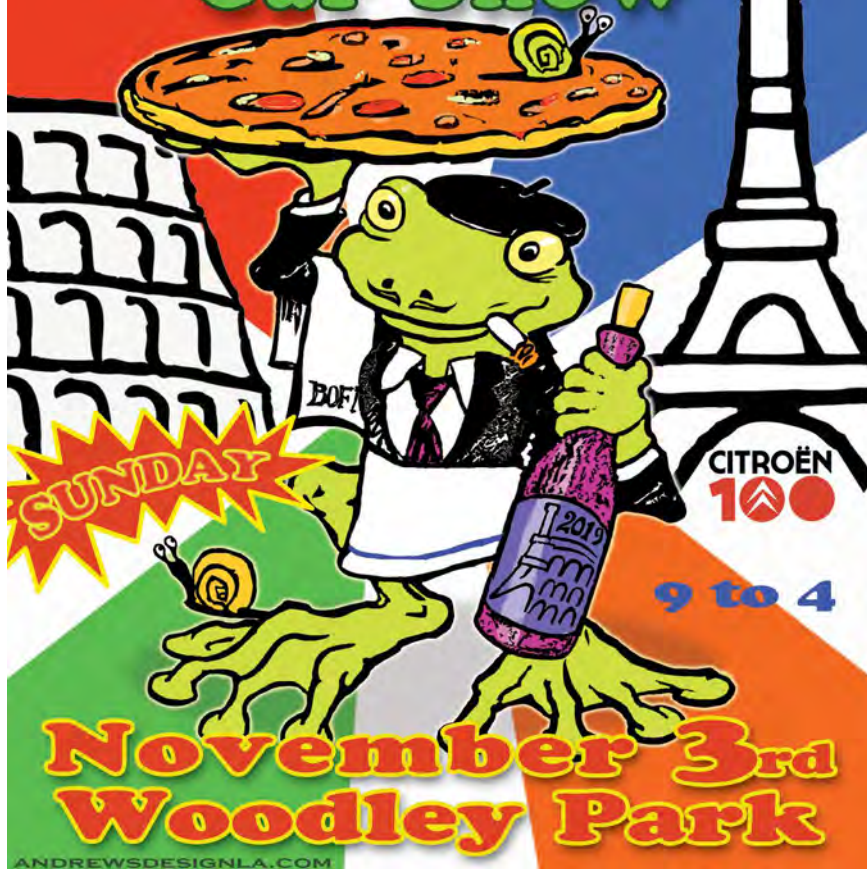
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Owners of Southern California

2019 Schedule

Sept 14-15	Streets of Willow, HPDE Driving School
Oct 12-13	Big Willow, DE, TT & Race
Nov 23-24	Laguna Seca, DE, TT & Race

92 dB. Why not take off the whole week
BEFORE T-Giving!



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

Some Summer Fun, Plus a Grand Garage Clean-Out Party



Steve, Charlie, Bonnie, Mary and Susan enjoy the show. All photos by David Waelder.

Forty-nine Alfisti gathered at Chez Cline for the annual AROSC Summer Party, this time on Sunday, August 4th. It was great to see so many familiar faces, some of whom we see only once a year, such as Stan and David and Charlie and Bonnie, all from Palm Springs. Of course, we suspect they were here to feel the ocean air and watch the whirly gigs spinning madly in the backyard.

The weather was almost perfect, if a little warm – after all it is August in SoCal – but with a light breeze and ample shade for everyone, we were comfortable as the afternoon waned.

There were plenty of good things to eat and drink, all on display on the Cline's dining room table, many of those circling the table, plate in hand, looking for an opening to dive in. Mario Cano's BBQ ribs went over so well last year that he brought a double batch for this occasion.

Along with the food and beverages came numerous Alfa parts, books, manuals, and other publications for the white elephant sale. Even the white elephant appeared thanks to Pat West. She suggested that we bid on it so that it would disappear. Pat raised \$10 for the Club by her efforts. Can we expect the white elephant to appear again in the future?

Auctioneer Paul Blankenship provided encouragement to bidders with a running commentary as he endeavored to keep the entire crowd energized. We bought some homemade limoncello, from il Presidente's own kitchen, assorted auto books, posters, Alfa ephemera, a handful of Shin Yoshikowa's intricate cut-away prints and a few parts. A very clean spider tonneau cover did not sell; perhaps next time.



Mister Auctioneer Paul shows us the REAL White Elephant

The very-special competition car gas cap made another appearance back onto the auction block, and out into new hands.

There was no Club meeting since the Board of Directors had gathered earlier for a quarterly business meeting prior to the party. We are sure that we will hear more about it soon.

Again, it appears that no one left the gathering either starving or thirsty, and many holding on to new purchases. We may see some of those items again in 2020. See you next year!

– Chuck & Jan



Don't know what Paul is selling, but you know you want it!



Above left: Norm rocks the vinyl thing, whatever it is. Charlie approves.

Above, Susan and M.J.

Left, Margaret and Jeff chat with hostess Jan.



Left, David, Stan, Charlie and Dan. Right, Chuck with Kurt and Sharon.



Above, there was as usual almost enough food, and it was all very, very good. Below, Paul and Norm auction some of the wonderful cutaway prints by Shin Yoshikawa.





Takeaway from the party: Aussies like beer! Who knew? John Britton, that's who.

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Elections are Coming Look for Your Ballot and Vote! November 2nd 2019

It is that time of year again: time to participate in how your Club happens: Election time.

We are ready to refresh and reset our leadership roles, and we want your vote.

There is a slate of contenders ready to submit, but we welcome new personalities and new ideas. Please consider joining us as Board Members at Large, Special Counsels, Committee Chairs!

Your ballots will be coming in the next few weeks (around November 2nd) via email and U.S. Postal Service. Please watch for them, and do us the honor of returning them before November 15th.

Your Club does not function without YOU. Be a Board member!
Email info@arosc.org by October 20th for ballot consideration.



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Fun In Monterey!



Chuck collects the Needlessly Complex Italian class award at Concours d’Lemons. Photo by Tina Van Curen.

Continuing to maintain the Southern California history of automotive preservation and irreverence (or irrelevancy), Tina Van Curen and Chuck Forward won the Needlessly Complex Italian class at this year’s annual Monterey Concours d’Lemons. Standing on the shoulders of Jim and Elyse Barrett, two-time past Class Winners (Needlessly Complex Italian and Swedish Meatball), they drove this outstandingly “so ugly it’s beautiful” version of a 1958 unrestored Lancia Flaminia Berlina. The car was seen prominently parked in front of Ambrosia Restaurant in downtown Monterey while Chuck and Tina joined our Thursday Annual Alfa Romeo and Friends dinner and inside the gated community of Pebble Beach at the entrance to the home of West and Maggie Clark, who were hosting their annual Friday night festivities.

Across town on Saturday at Concorso Italiano, our Mike Baum and Bronson Page put their impeccable blue Junior Z on the green, and it topped the *Sports Car Market* marque award group as Best in Class, Junior Zagato, while the entire show recognized 100 years of Zagato. Well done! Beautiful car! — Norm Silverman



Above, SCM says Mike and Bronson's is the "Best Junior Zagato at Concorso Italiano." Mike Baum photo. Below, also at CI, Norm and Evelyn and the Giulia Spider settle in. Lance Dong photo.



Postcards from Italy

This past May, three AROSC members, Bruce and Pat West and John Ireland, joined the third AROC Goes to Italy tour. The group visits significant car collections, museums, manufacturers, cheers the Mille Miglia racers, enjoys sumptuous lodgings and meals, and celebrates Alfa Romeo at every turn. This year the highlights were described in the August *Alfa Owner* by John in a terrific feature titled “Postcards from Italy” and a number of the West’s photos helped illustrate the story. If you missed Pat’s slide show at the Summer Party, here are a few of the editor’s favorites. If you’ve never been, it is a fun introduction to our beloved marque’s homeland and a chance to share it with *Alfisti* from all over North America. — Elyse Barrett



Contrasting approaches to museum signage: Above, entrance to the Ferrari Museum. Below is the Deco-style sculptural sign in front of the Mille Miglia Museum.





The Grand Hotel as seen from the river ferry.



Above, John and Cindy tear up the floor. Right, awesome appetizers. Italy's other culinary P-Word is "Pastry".





Winning T33s at the Museo Storico Alfa Romeo in Arese..



*Above, rainy but pretty Bellagio.
Left, in the Nuvolari Museum.*



AROSC 19th Annual Clubhouse Holiday Party

Saturday, Dec 14th, Noon – 5

Hosted by: M.J. & Sheila in Redondo Beach
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Let Sheila know how many in your party
and what you will bring.

Call 310-542-3448 if you need more info.

Happy Holidays! See you at the party!!

Classified – Cars/Parts For Sale



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