



The Newsletter of  
the Alfa Romeo  
Owners of  
Southern California



Gimmick 2022: We could see forever from the L.A. Foothills. That's Palos Verdes and Catalina Island on the horizon, really! - on page 7

Time to rise and shine! Come to AROSC's Club Concorso #1, on June 5th, Huntington

## Previews

- May 15** O.C. Mystery Tour, a Day Drive
- June 5** Club Concorso #1, Huntington Central Park
- 12-19** AROC National Convention, Coronado
- 24** Zoom Happy Hour
- July 10** Malibu Canyons to Carpinteria Day Drive
- Aug 18-22** Monterey Welcome Dinner & Car Week
- 27** Summer Party



*Avanti  
e Verso  
l'Auto!*

**Presidents'  
Message**

## Springing into Action!

May is the month in which AROSC got its start in 1962. **Happy 60th birthday to us!** We will raise a glass in our Q3 Happy Hour on June 24th and your board is working on a more personal celebration for later in the year. Look for some graphics to commemorate the milestone as well.

Our March Gimmick Rally, hosted by David and Susan Waelder, was a fun opportunity to get out and see areas of L.A. replete with historical significance. And it was noteworthy that Tina Van Curen and Chuck Forward had the winning results – they can't attend Saturday events, and when they participated on this Sunday, they showed their prowess! It was so gratifying to have our group together afterwards for a shared meal.

April 1st provided a "no fooling" return to our annual wine tasting tour in the Paso Robles area; Jan and Chuck Cline again provided an **excellent itinerary** among Italian-specific wineries, which

more on **2**

were all fabulous. It was most wonderful when the Sarzotti family poured a full flight of their finest while we enjoyed our picnic lunches – what a spread!

Our next event is the Orange County Mystery Tour on May 15th; please RSVP by May 10th if you're interested. We'll start at OC's newest Alfa dealer, and enjoy driving some great scenic roads. Lunch will be at a family-owned cafe and smoked meats specialty store. Learn more when you RSVP.

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

register now, and bring your beauty to the beach! Info on page four.

One More Reminder: You should have received an official letter in February from the national office about AROC's new database, Club Express. All your information has been migrated to the new system. You must log into the new system, and *change your password*. If you need help, or encounter "surprises", there are contacts included in that letter who can help you resolve any issues. If you can no longer access your letter, let us know at [info@arosc.org](mailto:info@arosc.org) and we can assist you.

### The REALLY BIG DEAL



**this year** is the AROC National Convention in nearby Coronado (June 12-19), and **it will be excellent**. You will see plenty of important and historic Alfas, and many familiar faces. Registration is through the new AROC Club Express system (You must activate your new member number and log in, creating a new password to get this done). **Our special hotel room rate ends on May 10th, and online registration closes June 5th.** Go to [aroc.conventions.org](http://aroc.conventions.org) to register and get updates on the event. See page six for more details.

We are continuing out new page in the back to celebrate new members who have joined AROSC and members who have returned with new/renewed Alfas! Check it out and welcome those who share our enthusiasm for the marque.

Come drive with us!

–Jim & Elyse Barrett  
Copresidenti

 A photograph showing the interior of a classic Alfa Romeo car. The view is from the driver's perspective, showing the black steering wheel with the Alfa Romeo logo, the dashboard with several round gauges, and the gear shift. The interior is well-maintained and features black leather seats.
 

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 The Alfa Italia logo, which is a diamond-shaped emblem. It features a winding road that starts in the bottom left, goes up and right, then down and right, then up and right, and finally down and right to the bottom right. The road is white with black dashed lines. The background is split into green on the left and red on the right. The words "ALFA ITALIA" are written in white across the middle of the road. A small "TM" trademark symbol is at the bottom right.

# May Mystery Tour

Enjoy a day in the country!



May 15th is the day we drive into the wilds of the Cleveland National Forest in northeastern Orange County. If you recognize any of the photos above, you have an idea where we're going – but we're keeping the route a secret until the driver's meeting.



We'll convene at Irvine Alfa Romeo, kick some fires, order a special edition Estrema Giulia or Stelvio or two, then head out to heights you may not have visited before. We will spend the morning on the road and pause for an outdoor lunch at an outstanding eatery amid the canyon live oaks and blooming black locust trees.

**We need your RSVP by May 10th! Email Elyse - [editor@arosc.org](mailto:editor@arosc.org) - so our lunch hosts can be prepared for our visit.**

# Club Concorso #1

## Join the Dawn Patrol in Surf City USA

AROSC will hold our first Club Concorso on Sunday, June 5th in conjunction with the 36th annual Huntington Beach Concours d'Elegance. The event has its home on the picturesque lawns of Huntington Beach Central Park in Huntington Beach. Central Park lies adjacent to the Huntington Beach Public Library & Cultural Resource Center.

Vehicle registration costs \$50 and can be completed online at:

<https://www.hbconcours.org/register-vehicle/>

A paper registration form is also available for download at:

<https://www.hbconcours.org/obscuredir/wp-content/themes/twentyten/pdf/Sunday%20Entry%20Form.pdf>

Registering your Alfa will admit the car and two people into the show. Spectator admission is \$10 and may be purchased in advance or at the gate.

Your car will just be judged once, but you are entering two events, the AROSC Club Concorso and Huntington Beach Concours, and will be eligible for prizes from both. AROSC members will serve as judges. If you are interested in becoming a judge, please contact Jeff Srinivasan (rogueman1@me.com)

The Alfa classes for the 2022 Huntington Beach Concours are: 26B Alfa Romeo open cars through 1996; 26C Alfa Romeo closed cars through 1995; 26D Alfa Romeo all cars 1996 and up; 26E Alfa Romeo all cars race and competition prepared

AROSC will have its own corral area, so bring a picnic lunch, water, comfortable chairs, walking shoes and sunscreen. Food is also available on-site.

*-Jeff Srinivasan and Jay Mackro*



Our 2021 HB Concorso winners show off their ribbons. It was a great start to a more open season of AROC fun.

The new Alfa corral location is up near the entrance to the park, on the east side – with lots of big shade trees and a couple of picnic tables.

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# Last Call for the AROC 2022 National Convention

Special room rate ends May 10  
Registration closes June 5

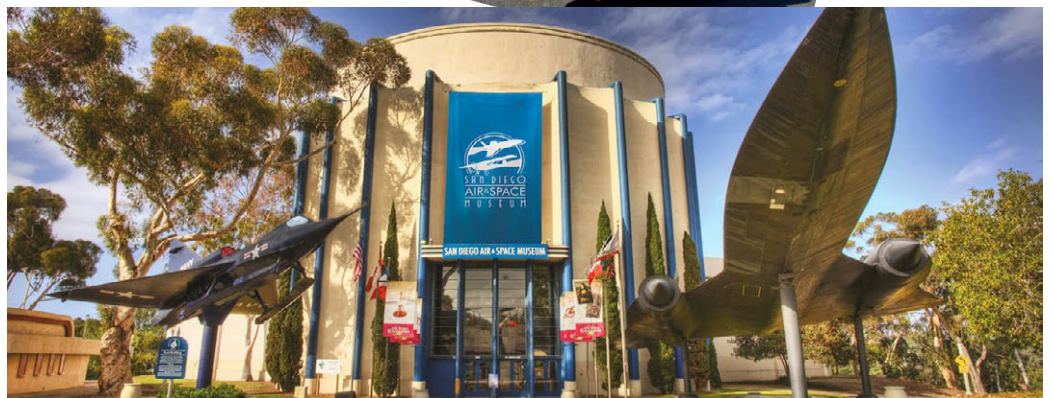
Do not miss the opportunity to attend the biggest gathering of *Alfisti* in the country – right in our backyard: *Alfiesta Coronado*, your club's national convention, in nearby beautiful Coronado!!

AROSC is running the Track Day on June 13th and sponsoring the Concorso on June 18th, and those events will be spectacular.

In between there are scenic day drives, bus rides to Balboa Park and Little Italy, tech talks by our friend and GTV-6 TT creator Reeves Callaway, and Burt Levy will be our banquet keynoter.

Larry Dominique, Head of Alfa Romeo North America will also be here to hang out with us.

**Go to  
[aroc-conventions.org](http://aroc-conventions.org)  
and register now!**



# We Rallied !

Driving through our foothill towns was a blast, and we learned a lot about the region's past



March 20th was a brilliant, windswept spring morning to tackle the clever clues and scenic route.

What happens in a gimmick rally? Where can we go? And, how can we make it fun?

These were our challenges as we took on the assignment to construct and conduct AROSC's first gimmick rally in, oh, more than a decade.

As it happens, almost anything can happen in a gimmick rally. Contestants typically confront a series of trick clues that provide route directions. It can be kind

of like a scavenger hunt but without an Easter egg or physical prizes to collect. In fact, it doesn't have to be anything particular at all. All one needs to have fun in your car is an interesting road, something to look at, and a nice day.

We found some fanciful homes in the north valley, stories of scalawags and water wars out of *Chinatown*, utopian dreamers who

sought to encourage farming in a glacial moraine and other interesting characters. We plotted a route threading through Glendale and Sunland from one improbable historical marker to the next fanciful house, with some long vistas thrown in. We decided the tricky questions were better suited to the quiz, and

Continued



Clockwise from left: an address we all missed. Three generations of high-performance Alfas. The weird but wonderful rock garden. Bolton Hall Museum: more rocks, well-used!

drafted clear and straight-up directions. At least, we believe they were clear but, now that we think of it, we never did take a head count at the restaurant.

In the week before the rally there were ominous weather forecasts - clouds, drizzle, fog, cold. No driving with the top down? Running windshield wipers? That's not fun. And what's the point of having a vista that looks all the way to Catalina if you can't see it? But as the week wore on, the damp vision gradually lifted. Saturday

dawned glorious, wind-swept and squeaky-clean.

We recruited seven intrepid teams. We had Chuck and Jan Cline, Val Dietrich and Monique Goossens, Tina Van Curen and Chuck Forward, Chris Burke and Mike Riehle, John and Alana Ireland and her brother John, Steve and Don Cole, and Mario and Karen Cano. Jim and Elyse Barrett, having had a preview of the directions, participated ex-officio. We met up at the Empire Center in Burbank,

distributed the rally instructions and lined up for a staggered start. Everyone roared off in good LeMans fashion.

We gave the field a good head start and then traced the route to pick up any lost souls. We were gratified that everyone seemed to be progressing. Participants darted from Doctors House in Brand Park to Bolton Hall

**Continued**





We were all smiles at the end!

Arriving at Basin 141 are clockwise from top left: Alana, John and John, Mike and Chris, Val and Monique.

Jim and Jan confer inside at lunch.

Photos by David Waelder and Elyse Barrett



Continued



Tina and Chuck were our winners. The Basin 141 long table with (clockwise l-r) Jan, Chuck, Monique, John, Alana, Mike, Chris.

Museum (the Hall of Bolton Hall), past the “Castle House”, on to “Viking House”, over to Dennis Morgan’s Two Strike Park and up Ocean View Blvd. for a wonderful view all the way to the ocean! (See photo on page 1.)

To conclude, we met up at the Basin 141 Social Bar &

Kitchen in Montrose. (The name references the number of original settlers at the Los Angeles Pueblo.) There we all enjoyed some pretty tasty burgers, scored the questionnaires and announced the winners. We awarded a nice bottle of Italian red wine to Tina

Van Curen and Chuck Forward, but scores from the other participants were nipping at their heels. A good, albeit noisy, end to a picture perfect day.

– David and Susan Waelder, Rallymasters




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# 2022 Wine Tour

## Our triumphant return to Paso Robles



The AROSC 2022 Wine Tour to the Paso Robles region went better than we expected, considering the challenges involved with lining up wineries to visit. A number of them turned us away because of limited staffing or the size of our group. As this was supposed to be our long-awaited post-pandemic return to the road, we did drive some empty country byways.

However, fear not, this tour was enjoyed

by all who participated just for the joy of clearing out the cobwebs from both our Alfas and ourselves. We had pleasant weather, got to spend quality time with like-minded *Alfisti* and everything that goes with spring, Alfas and wine.

The wineries we did visit – Volatus, Sarzotti and Clesi, producers of Italian varietals and very tasty wines – were all welcoming and receptive to our needs under the circumstances. We

Continued



It was major catch-up time at Friday's hors d'oeuvre dinner. Clockwise from top left: Jay, Kimi, Catherine. Susan, Evelyn, Cheryl. Susan, Bonnie, Sheila. Charlie and Mike. Chuck and Jan open the drivers' meeting.

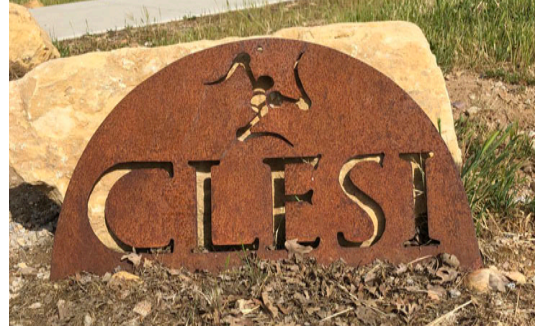
received positive comments from many of our participants.

The Holiday Inn Express in Atascadero, our headquarters hotel, was spacious, well-appointed and had special parking for us. The breakfast room in the lobby was large enough for more than 30 of us, plus our food and wine on Friday night. I don't think we have had a better time reacquainting ourselves with our

clubmates. But there was that very good time when Margi ended up surrounded by empty wine bottles on a lawn in San Luis Obispo. Another story for another time.

We delighted in lunch under cover at Sarzotti, as they poured tastings for us at their picnic tables. Their Italian hospitality

Continued



Clockwise from top left: Our shaded lunch venue at Sarzotti. Classy Clesi signage. Jim, Elyse, Susan, Kimi and John at Clesi. Mary, Tony, Nikko and Tony at Griff's for dinner. The center table at Giff's Mike, Karen, Mario, Jan and Chris. Mrs. S pours for Chris, Mario and Karen at Sarzotti.

extended even to the point of Jim bringing out his Maseratis for our viewing pleasure.

Saturday evening's dinner venue was an impressive find. What looked like a little pizza shop turned out some very good Italian food. No one went away hungry.

We had some new tour group participants but most were old hands, and we believe all will be returning next year. A good time was had by all, and we call that a success.

– Jan & Chuck Cline

More photos pg. 14



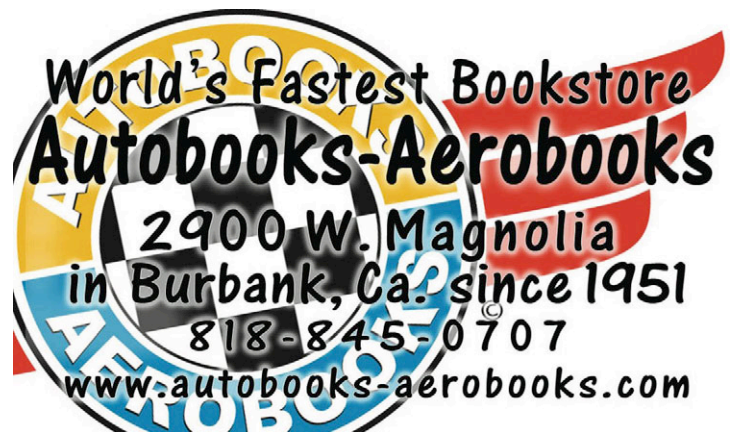
Jan gets to thank our dinner host, the namesake at Giff's for a great evening. Wine is an attitude and there are tee-shirts to prove it. This successful wine tour found 30+ of us out and about on the byways of the central coast. Thank you Jan and Chuck for a fabulous weekend!

Photos by David Waelder, Bonnie Schwartz, and Elyse and Jim Barrett.



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GARY TODISCO



*Save the Date: July 10th*  
**Malibu Canyon Carving and Coastal Day Drive**



'Tis the season to convert our convertibles to summer mode  
 for a top-down AROSC day on the road.

Save July 10th for some quality Alfa time on excellent canyon roads  
 that concludes with a tasty lunch.

We are heading to a popular Malibu morning cars & coffee meet-up, then  
 letting our Alfas loose on routes we haven't enjoyed for two years.

A few details are to be decided, but mark your calendars  
 and watch your email for updates!

*- Jeff Srinivasan*

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# Welcome *and Welcome Back*



AROSC is pleased and gratified to see our roster continue to each month.

Please welcome these new members: John and Wene Barbour, Jonathan Beutler, Hunter Gaukel, Rick Harbus, Bill Johns, Dan and Sara Melzer Alexander Mendiola, Brent Morgan, Lynda Neuman, Harry and Laura White (joining at the Gold Family level - thank you!).



David took the leap and imported this lovely Berlina. Chuck helped collect it at the dock at Port Hueneme.



Julie's totally refreshed Spider is happy and running strong. Hope to see them both this summer.



# Join Us at the Track!

Just starting out, experienced or already a racer?

We have a run group for you!

All marques are welcome.

You don't have to drive an Alfa to run with us!

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## 2022 Schedule

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



Sign up for our track events at  
[www.alfaclubracing.com](http://www.alfaclubracing.com) or [motorsportreg.com](http://motorsportreg.com)

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Classified ads are published in *Alfacionada* as a free service to the regional Alfa Romeo community. Content must be Alfa-related! Suggested length is 60 words. Include price, location and contact info. Photos must be in-focus JPEGs, at least 50KB to 300KB in size. Send us your text and photos, and your ad will be published in the next three issues. If you wish an extension, or if your item sells, please let us know right away with an email to [editor@arosc.org](mailto:editor@arosc.org)

### Commercial (paid) Advertising

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

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

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

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alfa92708@yahoo.com

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Norm & Evie Silverman  
normanev@msn.com

## **Concours Director**

Jeff Sirinivasan  
rougeman1@mac.com

## **Webmaster**

Mike Riehle  
310.780.5427

## **Newsletter Editor**

Elyse Barrett  
editor@arosc.org

## **Member at Large**

David & Susan Waelder  
davidwae@sbcglobal.net  
swaelder@icloud.com

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## **Chapter Meeting Information**

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

A full listing of events is posted on our website aroc.org along with a 12-month calendar, which is emailed early each year to members and updated periodically. Email your questions and comments to info@arosc.org and a Chapter Director will respond.

Board of Directors Meetings are held quarterly and all members in good standing are invited to attend and/or bring their business to the attention of *Il Presidenti* via email.

# About *Alfacionada*

*Alfacionada* is the publication of the Alfa Romeo Owners of Southern California, a chapter of the Alfa Romeo Owners Club, Inc. (AROC-USA), a national nonprofit association of Alfa Romeo enthusiasts in North America. Joining AROSC includes a subscription to the national magazine and this newsletter - all covered by your annual \$68 AROC dues. Visit [aroc-usa.org](http://aroc-usa.org) to join, and select Chapter 20 to affiliate with us, AROSC.

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