



Newsletter of
the Alfa Romeo
Owners of
Southern California



New Autumn
tradition: an Angeles
Forest Run! Save the
date - info, page 4.



Come to Woodley
Park for the Best of
France & Italy Show.
See page 5 for
details.

Previews

- Sept 2** Concorso #3
Petersen Museum,
Los Angeles
- 17** Q3 Board Meeting
- Oct 14** Angeles Forest
Run + Lunch +
Descanso Gardens
- Nov 4** 2024 Board of
Directors Election
- 5** Best of France &
Italy + Alfa Italia
People's Choice
- 18** Q4 Board + 2024
Planning Meeting

**Please read
The Disclaimer,
page 20.**



*Avanti
e Verso
l'Auto!*

**Presidents'
Message**

Happy Late Summer!

We hope you are thoroughly enjoying the boundless natural beauty of our region. This is certainly the most wonderful time of the year to get your Alfa out and let it shine!

Our traditional Summer Party was a multiple success: Epic Tacos again provided delicious food, and the dessert potluck offerings were over the top. Garage Goodies/Alfa Treasures Auctioneers Jeff and Paul plied us with their best persuasive patter, and we had another record-setting financial result!

During Monterey Car Week our members and friends from throughout western Alfadom again supported tradition by packing India Bistro for Evelyn Silverman's Thursday Welcome Dinner. Then they were off to all of the wonderful events nearby. Concorso Italiano featured many types of Alfas, along with the many old friends who brought them. Past president and current archivist Dan Ritter's 1965 Lancia Flavia PF coupe was Best Lancia at this CI. A well-deserved recognition. He now has a

project GTV in his home garage. At The Quail, member Mike Baum's Lancia Appia won the Preservation Class trophy. And, did you know that at the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, a 1932 Alfa Romeo 8C 2300 Corto was a Best in Show finalist, and that a 1952 Alfa Romeo 6C 2500 SS Touring Spider won the Chairman's Trophy? Funky old Italian cars are still being noticed.

Earlier in August, your *Copresidenti* participated in the Northwest Classic Car Challenge rally and tour in Oregon. We had a lovely time, did some gimmickry to win a few select door prizes, saw

great cars, and navigated amazing country roads and byways, including antique covered bridges! It was the 34th running of this family-friendly event. Think about participating next year.

The Third Quarter meeting of your AROSC Board of Directors will occur over Zoom on Sunday, September 17, at 11:00 AM. All members may attend. RSVP to info@arosc.org to get a meeting link.

Please note that we also have a Board of Directors election on the horizon (page 3). If you would like to have a direct say



in how Your Club operates, please let us know at info@arosc.org

Saturday, October 14 will be our fall day drive, a chance to enjoy the backroads of Angeles National Forest, followed by lunch and an optional self-guided tour of Descanso Gardens (page 4). And on the usual first Saturday in November (the 5th!) we will help stage the biggest car party of the year at the Best of France and Italy in Van Nuys (info on pages 5 and 13). Alfa Italia is coming back with another People's Choice award. Don't miss this quintessential SoCal car gathering with fellow Italian and French car devotees.

Ciao for now,
Jim and Elyse Barrett
Copresidenti

P.S. Who knows what American team will race Alfa Romeos in Formula One next year? The first member to tell us at info@arosc.org could win a prize!

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Call for Nominations

Board Election is Nov. 8



Our annual election of the AROSC Board of Directors is fast approaching and if you are a voting member as of October 5th, you will receive your ballot via email in mid-October.

But the present order of business is to receive *your nominations* for board members. What we really need are volunteers to self-nominate. But, if you wish to nominate someone else, be sure they are willing to serve.

The board meets quarterly to discuss events, membership, and finances. A board member's most significant job is to help organize a chapter event of your choosing, whether that be a regional cars and coffee, a day drive with colorful destination, a garage tour, or something new that you have been dying to do with your fellow *Alfisti*.

So please send your nominations to info@arosc.org soon. The deadline for nominations is October 1, so that we have time to get the ballots out to you in mid-October. November 8 will be the deadline for receiving your vote.

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~Angeles Forest & Descanso Day Drive ~ Saturday, October 14th

Ready to take your Alfa out for a day in the great outdoors?

Join us for our fall driving event on Saturday, October 14th. We will be taking a leisurely panoramic drive through the Angeles National Forest, exploring Angeles Forest Highway and lower Angeles Crest Highway. After the drive we're heading to a no-host lunch at The Kitchen at Descanso Gardens (<https://www.patinagroup.com/descanso-gardens>) on their outdoor patio.

Following lunch, you have the option of taking a self-guided tour of Descanso's botanical collections and visiting the artisan

gift shop and gardening store.

The Kitchen is a counter-service restaurant located outside the gardens and does not require a garden entry ticket to dine, if anyone wishes to depart after lunch. Entry to Descanso Gardens requires a paid ticket to enter which can be purchased on their website, descansogardens.org or on site. *Please note, the restaurant and gardens ticket booth do not accept cash payments.*

If you will be attending, please RSVP by October 3rd to Steve Edelman at arsq90-arsteve@yahoo.com

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Best of France & Italy

November 5th - Woodley Park

Save the Date!



Before you know it, autumn will be here and with its arrival, we will be celebrating at our favorite fall fun-for-all: The Best of France & Italy Car Show at Woodley Park in Van Nuys.

Always held on the first Sunday of November, this year's gathering will be November 5th.

Our friends at Alfa Italia will again conduct their People's Choice for Best Alfa Romeo, contest, circulating ballots among all attendees parked with us - usually upwards of 100 Alfas of all ages and models.

Club members and unaffiliated enthusiasts come in from Santa Barbara to San Diego and the majority are Los Angeles owners with fabulous cars we've never seen. And then there are the equally fabulous "other" Italian

cars - Fiat, Lancia, DeTomaso, Ferrari, Maserati - plus wonderful French cars, and motorcycles, and the swap meet, and Italian music in the air!

Your Chapter sets up a picnic area under our banner and red pop-up. Bring your lunch, folding table and chairs and join the fun.

Spectator admission is free. Cars are \$25 per vehicle online in advance or \$30 day-of. Space in the Swap Meet is \$25. Register online at <https://www.franceanditaly.com/>

Mark your calendars, invite family and friends, and plan to make a day of it.



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Summer Party !

What a way to beat the heat!

Our 2023 Summer Party was a hot time in the old town of Moorpark (well, in the hills suburbs nearby) and more than 30 of us made the drive into the countryside to celebrate the season at Jeff and Margaret Srinivasan's beautiful new home.

We again grazed at the portable cooktops of Epic Taco as our chefs turned out delicious quesadillas, and chicken, carnitas, grilled veggie and al carbon tacos.

As a nod to our traditional summer potlucks of olde, we did a wine table and a dessert collection and covered the kitchen island with sweet and savory delights.

After socializing and dipping a toe into the pool, it was garage tour time. Jeff and Margaret's tasteful collection of dailies, collectibles and track cars all fit into the space. The walls were appropriately festooned with automotive art, significant keepsakes, bits of their boys' wheeled toys. Oh, that we all could

have just a little more square footage to emulate this garage at home!

As the sun arced toward the horizon, we adjusted the rake of the umbrellas and hunkered down for the performance art/business end of the day: the annual Garage Goodies/ Alfa Treasures Auction!

Jeff graciously led the calling of the lots and engaged donors to describe their special offerings. We had literature, art, old parts, new parts, ephemera, period correct pieces, models, limoncello, outrageous ancillary bits, logowear ... Treasurer Jay Mackro reported a record-breaking \$800+ haul of (mostly) cash for our chapter treasury.

We also welcomed two new members to the family: David Ballantine and Henry Tucker - both owners of vintage Alfas, a Sport Sedan and GTV-6, respectively. And they actually found auction items they could use!

- Elyse Barrett

(continued)



Clockwise from top left: the cars partied outside with the Epic Taco van while the people partied, well, all over, while enjoying Epic Tacos. Jeff leads a garage tour then has a chat with new member Henry Tucker. Doug, Erwin and Gene discuss in the cool of the dining room and Randy views Jeff's garage art collection.

(continued)



Clockwise from top left: Susan, Elyse, Steve and David gather for a shade break in the great room. The dessert potluck was popular and pilfered early (inset, center). John, Mike, Norm, David and Val discuss over lunch. Cheryl and Susan bring the sunshine in. Sheila and Alana and the desserts = sweet combo. Dan and Marge consult the Epic crew on taco choices.

(continued)



Clockwise from top left: To save the Auctioneers' voices, some members were asked to describe their donations. John pitches a unique large-format book while Jan, Mary Ann and Paul absorb the message. The group sought shade at all times, and by this time there was a nice breeze from the west. Jeff calls this lot - a beautiful Monterey Historics poster. Roberto describes a period-correct radio he brought to sell. Our 60th Anniversary t-shirts are still available and (inset center-top) Paul offers a lot comprised of two collectible books. What a fabulous fund-raiser!

The Tech Guy

by Gene Brown



Keeping it Cool

Now that Summer is fully entrenched in our region (vengefully so, in some locations) you might want to pay attention to keeping your engine cool. And by that I don't mean a chrome air cleaner and fluorescent pink hoses. I'm talking about the engine's cooling system and using the proper coolant.

Most engines are water cooled, and one would think that straight tap water would be called for - it was for quite a while, however, tap water has a few drawbacks. The first is that when it gets below 32° F it freezes and has a somewhat unique characteristic in that it also expands which, in an enclosed space (like an engine) can cause the engine to crack. The minerals in water can also cause corrosion of engine parts and distilled water was recommended to prevent the corrosion caused by the minerals. Eventually alcohol was added to water to lower the freezing point, but that had its own corrosion issues.

In 1926, ethylene glycol was first used as an automotive antifreeze. Out here in the southwestern United States, freezing weather is not quite the problem as it is in the northern states, so it took years until antifreeze became the default coolant. Also, over time, the name changed from just antifreeze to "antifreeze-coolant".

Trivia note: Ethylene glycol is used as a replacement for glycerol in the manufacturing of dynamite.

Of course, today's antifreeze does not just keep your cooling system from freezing, it also raises the boiling point of the coolant and contains chemicals to reduce corrosion and rust in the cooling system.

Today there are a wide variety of coolants to choose from. There three types of antifreeze-coolants used today: Inorganic Acid Technology, Organic Acid Technology and Hybrid Organic Acid Technology.

It should also be noted that coolant (antifreeze) come in various colors. The colors are just dyes to keep the coolant from looking like potable water and to help identify the different formulations of the coolant.

Inorganic Acid Technology (IAT) coolant is usually ethylene glycol or propylene glycol and is used in automobiles up to the 1990s. It was to be replaced about every two years.

Organic Acid Technology (OAT) coolant is usually pink, orange, bright red, blue and dark green. It does not contain silicates or phosphates, but it does contain additives to prevent corrosion and rust and is usually good for 10 years.

Hybrid Organic Acid Technology (HOAT) coolant is like OAT coolant but contains silicates to increase protection of aluminum. It comes in yellow, turquoise, pink, blue or purple.

You should neither mix different types of coolant in your car's system nor even keep to the same color - the formulations can be different, and the additives may counteract each other. You should check your car's owner's manual for the proper type of coolant (antifreeze) for your vehicle. Prestone and Peak sell coolant (antifreeze) labeled as domestic, Asian and European, and produced in various colors so you should be able to find what you need for your car.

When you buy coolant, you can get either get a concentrate or a prediluted 50/50 mix. If you get the prediluted mix you can just pour it in. If you get the concentrate, you need to mix it 50/50 with distilled water. Do not use tap water as it contains salts and minerals that you do not want in your cooling system.

Unless you know the exact capacity of your car's cooling system or you premix the concentrate with distilled water first, it is probably easiest to just get the 50/50 mix.

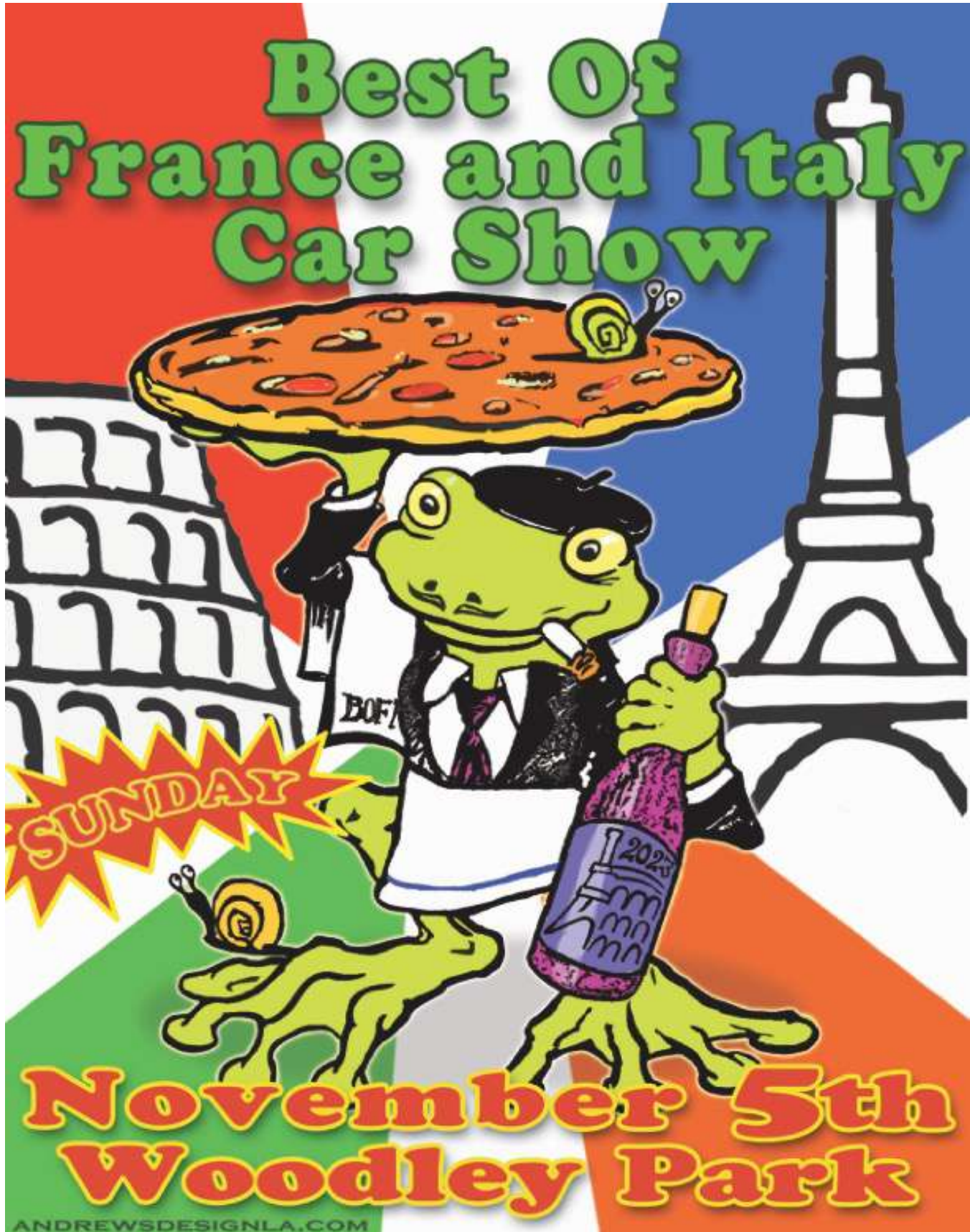
There are also "lifetime" coolants that are supposed to last the lifetime of the vehicle, but given that we tend to hang on to our Alfas, will lifetime coolant in your Stelvio still be good after 50 years?

Now that you know everything you need about coolant maybe at the next concorso we can add a coolant inspection the judging sheet.



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Monterey Memories *a mini-scrapbook*



Thursday PM: Evelyn's Welcome Dinner

Wednesday: arrive, kick back at the best-kept secret rooms in Pacific Grove, then head to the Little Car Show.



Saturday: Ed's gorgeous NRING Giulia enters the CI space.

Thursday AM: Ge to the PB equestrian center to hear the fabulous Figoni-bodied Alfa warming up for the Pebble Tour.



Saturday: Dan's Lancia Flavia (R) is best Lancia at Concorso Italiano Above: His view on approach to the prizegiving.



Saturday: Mike's Lancia Appia was the Preservation Class awardee at The Quail.



A number of AROSC members made the pilgrimage to North Carolina for the 2023 AROC National Convention in Concord-Charlotte. Setting some transcontinental driving records were Paul Blankenship and Mary Ann Dickinson, who piloted their Giulia and Stelvio coast-to-coast. Flying in were Ron and Donna Avery, and your *Copresidenti*. Alighting from the AROC Goes to Italy Tour were Jan and Chuck Cline. And Lance and Jennifer and Gordy and Dolly of AROC San Diego and Desert ALFAs made for a cool SoCal contingent.



Clockwise from top left: Blankenship advertising sticker; Southern Distilling tour; NASCAR Hall of Fame = great architecture; Fontana Dam on the Pre-Tour; Tail of the Dragon keepsake; Chuck's concorso favorite was best of show; Jan & Chuck on the Dragon; Donna and Todd; one of three Tonale TV ads as seen on the big screen in the hotel bar! (continued)



Clockwise from top left: the Barretts' 2nd place Gimmick Rally trophy; Pre-Tour days were too rainy to see the garden at the summit; Ron in his element; Paul puts Convention swag to work; the cross-country fleet; Southern Highland Craft Guild Folk Art Museum was amazing.



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The Members' Page

Welcome & Welcome Back

In Q2 we are pleased to welcome these new members and proffer a big thank you to those 35 *Alfisti* who renewed their membership last month, or returned after being away.

Joining between August and October are: *John and Michele Bivens (Gold Family - thank you!), David Helfand, Ilona Shillman and Branden Ushijima.*

Welcome, and come drive with us!



Still In Stock!

60th Anniversary T-Shirt!

To show your Chapter pride, wear red! You need the AROSC crew-neck anniversary t-shirt.

Purchase and arrange shipping by contacting Norm Silverman at normanev@msn.com

Reeves Callaway

It is with great sadness we share the loss of Reeves Callaway, our member and pioneering automotive engineer, entrepreneur, and friend, who passed unexpectedly this past July - at his home in Newport Beach, California, from injuries sustained after a fall. We know him for the fabulous twin-turbo GTV-6, of which there are several examples owned and enjoyed by Club members. In recent years, he established a TT registry and a page on the Alfa Bulletin Board. And we saw a lot of him - he presented Tech Talks at both the 2021 and 2022 AROC National Conventions, attended the 2020 Winter Retreat and was affiliated with our Chapter. Always gracious, with a sense of humor, he wore thong sandals and brought his dogs along everywhere he could. Read a longer story about him, plus and tributes from us in the October *Alfa Owner*.

Mille Grazie to all of our member-contributors, whose stories and images make this September-October edition of *Alfacionada* so effective: David Waelder, Jeff Srinivasan, Dan Ritter, Steve Edelman, Paul Blankenship, Ron Avery, Jay Mackro, Evelyn Silverman, Jan Cline, Joli Lin-Tsai, Mary Ann Dickinson.

Classified Ads



1987 Milano Platinum

Color: ivory over gold undercoat. California car. 164,263 miles. Mechanically sound; maintained and reliable. Owner's Manual included. Upholstery in need of a refresh. Transaxle and steering replaced with Gold equivalents by Alfa Italia (Burbank, CA); brakes done in 2015. Needs good home. \$3,500. Contact Jim Barrett 714-642-1593 and/or cobralfa65@yahoo.com.



1961 Giulietta Sprint Veloce



The car is 95% restored and running. Located in Lima, Peru. Raced in the '60s/'70s, then brought back to street spec. Missing the Veloce oil pan (it has the *normale* oil pan) and the original instrument dials (it has 101 dials). Interested persons can contact me via diegogradados@gmail.com or to +1 909 7369827 | +51 992759328.

Got Vintage AROSC Literature?

Calling all historians and AROSC packrats!

We are amassing an honest-to-goodness Chapter Archive of past issues of *Alfacionada*. We specifically need the years 1964, 1965, 1966 and 1967. Someday this history will reside on our website and in Club Express for everyone to read and enjoy.

The effort is being led by Dan Ritter. Please email info@arosc.org to let him know what you can contribute. *Grazie!*

About Your Club

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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.

2023 Board of Directors

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

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, aroc.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

(continued)

About Your Club

the Board via email via
info@arosc.org

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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