

Romeo & Giulietta



GROUP PHOTO AT THE KICK-OFF BRUNCH

KICKK-OFF BRUNCH

CARS & COFFEE IN LA JOLLA

NEW MEMBER PROFILES

Il Presidente

Rich Precario

I assumed this office in December 2019. The first event on the agenda was the Kick-Off Brunch scheduled for January 12th. Thanks to all the Alfa Romeo Board members, the outline for this event was already underway. Nora had already secured the Green Dragon Tavern and Museum for the brunch; she provided all the details and negotiations for the venue. All that was left was to put together a presentation for the members. Lance put together a very impressive slide show showing the events, people, and cars that made the previous year a great year for the club. Erik Rathmann and Chris Dugan came and gave a talk about what they do and the capabilities of their shop (Dugan's Enterprises). Alfa Romeo of San Diego (Kearny Mesa) provided two representatives to the event with cool cars, one a 4C and one a Stelvio Quadrifoglio. They gave us a rundown on current Alfa Romeo offerings and future possibilities.

Everyone enjoyed a very tasty brunch during the presentations and the "question and answer" sessions. The food was quite good. After the indoor activities ended, the membership went outside for a group photograph. Everyone seemed to find something of interest to do, whether it was catching up with friends or enjoying the cars provided by the Alfa Romeo dealership. Chris Dugan answered a myriad of questions about the type of work they do and also about facilitating the sale of some very collectable Alfas.

Overall the brunch went rather well and seemed to please all involved.

At the January board of directors meeting, ideas put forth during the brunch were evaluated for implementation and their associated details. One idea was to improve coordination between our club and the Southern California chapter (AROSC). I believe we have AROSC's concurrence that this is mutually beneficial to both clubs. We'll try to make this the norm for the future.

Our February event was a "Cars and Coffee" at La Jolla shores on the 22nd. This event was only attended by 5 people due to massive rain storms all over San Diego that morning. It just wasn't a good day to bring out the collector cars. We'll have to schedule another "Cars and Coffee" later on in the year to let everyone enjoy talking to their fellow Alfisti and seeing all the beautiful cars.

That's all for now. Hope to see everyone at our next events; the Chili-Cook off in March, the trip to the Campo train museum in April, and the trip to the Petersen Auto museum in May.

RECENT EVENTS

KICK-OFF BRUNCH

By Ed Aenlle, Vice president

This is our second year at the Green Dragon Tavern and Museum in Carlsbad for our first club event of the year. We've been happy with the location and amenities here and came back after a successful KickOff last year. There was a great brunch menu, which our group enjoyed. Of course, the availability of all this next to the parking area designated for our Alfas was a big plus.

Thirty one AROC San Diego members came to look at the Alfas. The newly elected board members were introduced by Rich Precario, the incoming President. The prior Board members were also recognized for their service. Lance Dong had a slide show featuring the club events for 2019. Honorary lifetime member, Glenna Garrett, joined us.

Guests at the Brunch were Luke and Blaine, who represented Alfa Romeo of San Diego and brought a new, shiny, all black 4C Spider for display and for demo rides.

Chris Dugan and Eric Rathman of Dugan Enterprises provided our group with information about their Oceanside shop. As you San Diegans know, Eric landed here with his Alfa and Italian car expertise. Theirs is a full-service shop that specializes in Ferraris as well as other "Vetture Italiani". They work on engines,

gearboxes, running gear, body and coachwork. This is great news for those of us with older Alfas.

There was a lot of talking about all things Alfa. The members were able to put in their input for upcoming events this year, some of which have already been put into the calendar.

See you all at this year's events.



Alfas at the brunch



Alfas at the brunch



Past President Lance Dong reviewing 2019 events



Chris Dugan & Erik Rathmann discuss the capabilities at Dugan Enterprises



Blain & Luke from San Diego Alfa Romeo



The food line at the Green Dragon



Arnie was hungry



Arnold Torma with President Rich Precario

CARS AND COFFEE

By Rich Precario, President

Rain, Rain, Rain, everyone was cancelling because of the rain. I looked outside and noticed only a little sprinkle, so I thought “what the heck” I’ll go. I took the Alfa out and started towards La Jolla, and halfway there, the rain started really pouring. I turned on the lights and the wipers and just kept going. As I approached La Jolla the rain slowed and then stopped. I pulled into the Galaxy Taco parking lot and there was Glen Wior and Kris Roberts. Glen had driven his Jaguar XK coupe; Kris had his black 74 Alfa spider. I thought we had a “Cars and Coffee”.

Shortly after, Peter Pang pulled up with his white Alfa Giulia and then Jason Minos came in with his white Alfa Giulia. Jason brought a younger member of the family (no doubt a future Alfisti), and our group was complete.

Conversation ensued; Glen had bought several cars since last we saw him, Kris told us about racing both in the real world and the virtual world, Peter told of his experiences with the Giulia; Jason talked about his good experiences with the dealer (Kearny Mesa Alfa Romeo). We all stayed in the parking lot and talked (no one went to the coffee shop; I guess this was more a case of Cars without Coffee). Shawn and Molly Styles wandered through the parking lot and checked out Kris’s 74 Spider, everyone was engaged in conversation so we didn’t get a chance to talk to them. The weather must have heard of our schedule because it waited until



Ed and Erik



Terri Kragen, William Furgenson, Carol and Vince Ruggiero



Carrie & Dan Milhone

about 9 AM before starting to drizzle, this was our clue to head for home. It was a nice time for those who could make it through the downpour of rain that seemed to be everywhere except La Jolla shores.



AROC-USA Seventh Annual Mid-Winter Retreat

By Lance Dong

The Mid-Winter retreat was a huge success. This gathering started out as a way for the national board of directors to discuss organization issues that we didn't have time to talk about during a convention or the regularly scheduled monthly meetings. It has transformed to a venue where the National board can discuss and exchange ideas with the membership that attends from all over the US. Attendance was an all-time high at 130+ Alfisti from DesertAlfas, San Diego, L.A., Portland, Seattle, Phoenix, Detroit, New York, New Jersey, Kansas, Missouri and Florida.

Friday afternoon was a regularly scheduled group meeting with the Alfa Owner publisher Casey Annis and Elyse Barrett, the managing editor.

The social festivities began with a reception at the fantastic mid-century home of Bob and Linda Merliss, overlooking the entire Palm Springs community. The driveway was a collection of Alfas that would rival any museum collection. We even had a freshly restored Montreal. We also had a special guest, Reeves Callaway arrived in one of his creations, the twin turbo GTV6!

Saturday morning was the scheduled drive. We headed out of Palm Desert with 55 cars for the first destination, lunch at La Casa del Zorro in Borrego Springs. The post lunch part of the drive was the longest leg as the destination was the Sonny Bono Salton Sea Wildlife



Refuge near Calipatria, CA. This leg was comprised of several long stretches of country road that were just right to let the cars stretch their legs. Unfortunately, one of the more senior drivers leading a group caught the attention of the local carabinieri, but after an explanation of why we were out there, he was let off with a warning.

The next destination was the much-anticipated Box Canyon Road which took us around the eastern and northern shores of the Salton Sea, running by Bombay Beach and Mecca on the way. Box Canyon Road had just reopened, having been completely repaved due to a washout that happened during a severe storm flood a couple of years previous. The road is a spectacular piece of work that was as smooth as any racetrack. Unfortunately for the group of cars that we were in, the driver of the Giulia that was in the lead was not driving with any spirit at all, but it was fun anyway. Box Canyon Road is about 15 miles long from Mecca to I-10. From there it was a blast down the freeway back to Palm Desert and preparation for the dinner reception and pool party at the home of our President, Cindy Banzer.

Sunday morning brought the January Board of Directors meeting where President Cindy outlined the year's goals for the club and the various National events. We will have a presence at the upcoming Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance in Florida, another guided tour of Italy, the *Alto Miglia 2020* convention in Colorado Springs, Concorso Italiano and as last year, a group at the Formula 1 race at Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas.

It was then off to Escena Country Club for a late brunch and impromptu Concorso.

This event has grown each year and is becoming the event to attend if you can't make it to national convention. Conversations about the club, the cars, the Alfa corporate management and the future of our club were held all weekend long and many of those conversations are ongoing topics of discussion. The original goal of fostering discussions and sharing ideas has flourished into a great annual event that should not be missed. It's right in our back yard. Hope to see more of our AROCSD members next year!



Desert Lily HQ



Friday Night Driveway



Former AROCSD Members Bill & Carol Biggs



Lunch at Casa del Zorro



Delmas Green, Bill Barrett & Bill Daemke



Escena Car Show 1



Reeves Callaway in his Twin Turbo GTV-6



Escena Car Show 2



Montreal



Escena car Show 3

Hosting Convention in 2022?

At the February Board meeting we voted to form an exploratory Committee to investigate hosting the AROC National Convention in 2022. Anyone interested in serving on the committee, please contact Lance Dong (araknd@gmail.com).

WEB SITE

I encourage all of our members to use our web site: www.arocsd.org. If you click on events and then calendar, you will be able to see a schedule of parties, tours, car shows and other things that we participate in. Clicking on an individual event on the calendar will open a sub window with more details. I also post more photos of past events on the web site than I can include in the newsletter.

NEW MEMBER PROFILES**UPCOMING EVENTS****CHAVONNE & MILTON KARAHADIAN**

Milton purchased a 1992 Spider about 14 months ago from his brother to fix up for a Christmas present for Chavonne. This is their first Alfa. They have previously owned several other performance cars; an SRT8 Magnum with a Hemi, a 1970 Dodge Cuda and a 1965 Chrysler 300 convertible. Both Chavonne and Milton work in administration at Point Loma Nazarene University. They are looking forward to participating in meet and greet and car show events.

MIKE KIMBALL

Mike has two Alfas. He bought his 1969 GTV here in San Diego in 1985 and it has been with him in Idaho for 3 years and the SF Bay Area until 2 years ago when he moved back to San Diego. He bought his Super in Escondido last year.

He bought the GTV when he saw it for sale in a used sports car dealership in Pacific beach. No real reason, he just always liked them as a kid. He bought the Super because he wanted a car to tinker with and the GTV is fully restored and too rare to mess with.

Mike works for himself as an attorney in the venture capital and high-tech area. He would like to participate in track days and cars and coffee events. Mike's two Alfas are shown below.



Sunday, March 22: Annual Chili Cookoff combined with a driving tour of some back roads of Fallbrook. Glenna Garrett is again hosting us at her home, 2468 Gum Tree lane in Fallbrook for our 14th annual Chili Cook-off. Meet at Glenna's at 1:00 PM to ice the beer and plug in the crock pots. Ed Aenlle will then lead us on a one-hour tour of some backroads of Fallbrook. If you don't want to participate in the tour plan on arriving about 2:00 PM. Small prizes will be given for the following categories: Red Chili, Green Chili, Specialty Chili and Corn Bread. Those who want to enter the contest, prepare your entry ahead of time. Everybody else: just plan to attend, eat, drink and judge the chilies. Bring your own alcoholic beverages.

Saturday & Sunday April 18 & 19: La Jolla

Concours/Motor Car Classic. Reception with food and drinks Saturday evening, Car Show with morning scones and coffee followed by a lunch with open bar. Cost \$175/couple. Please visit the web site for more details: <https://www.lajollaconcours.com/registration/la-jolla-motor-car-classic-registration>

Sunday, April 26, 8:30 AM: Driving Tour to Campo.

Meet at KM Alfa Dealership, 56135 Convoy Street, just off Freeway 52, for a scenic drive out to the Railroad Museum in Campo. After an hour ride on a vintage train we will drive back to the Hollywood Casino in Jamul for lunch.

Sunday, May 3: Peterson Auto Museum in Los

Angeles. Meet at 8:00 AM at the Oceanside Welcome Center, 928 North Coast Highway, Oceanside, CA to caravan/car pool up to Los Angeles.

Il Mercato**1982 Spider Veloce**

Excellent, strong, running condition. 82,025 miles; new battery, clean top, ivory paint with black interior. VIN ZARBA5419C1014067, clean title and Car Fax. Always garaged. \$11,500 obo. Contact Anthony Stiegler: 858-449-4068 or stiegleranthony@gmail.com



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