

New Year's Anti-Football Drive "Neither snow nor rain..."

After all these years of good weather on the New Year's Day Anti-Football Drive, we were all set for another good event to start the 2017 off right. Route guides were printed and catering plans for feeding us our lunch were set. The route was checked the day prior so everything was golden, except... well, that darn weather forecast on the news which mentioned a chance of snow. Gambling that their 50% accuracy rate wouldn't go in their favor this time, I decided not to spoil our efforts and go full speed ahead with the planned drive. This technique had worked perfectly on previous years.

I awoke early to find a bunch of fluffy white reasons proving the weather forecasters were right and perhaps I was in the wrong. I headed out while it was still quite early and checked the route driving it in reverse order so I ended at the start. This trick allowed me to see how bad the roads were and got me to the start in time to meet the few hardy souls who braved the icy roads and snow in places to join us for the day. Roads were slick but passable all the way to our Starbucks starting point.

Right on schedule, people started arriving. Alfa Romeo Spiders, a Milano Verde, my 164, and even a older Giulia Spider and Giulia Super all toughed out the morning. Many others joined along in Audis, a Mazda, a Fiat and even an old French Panhard. After loading up on warm coffee and breakfast snacks, waiting for the last few people to arrive, we headed on our way... just a few minutes late of the schedule.

ate of the schedule.

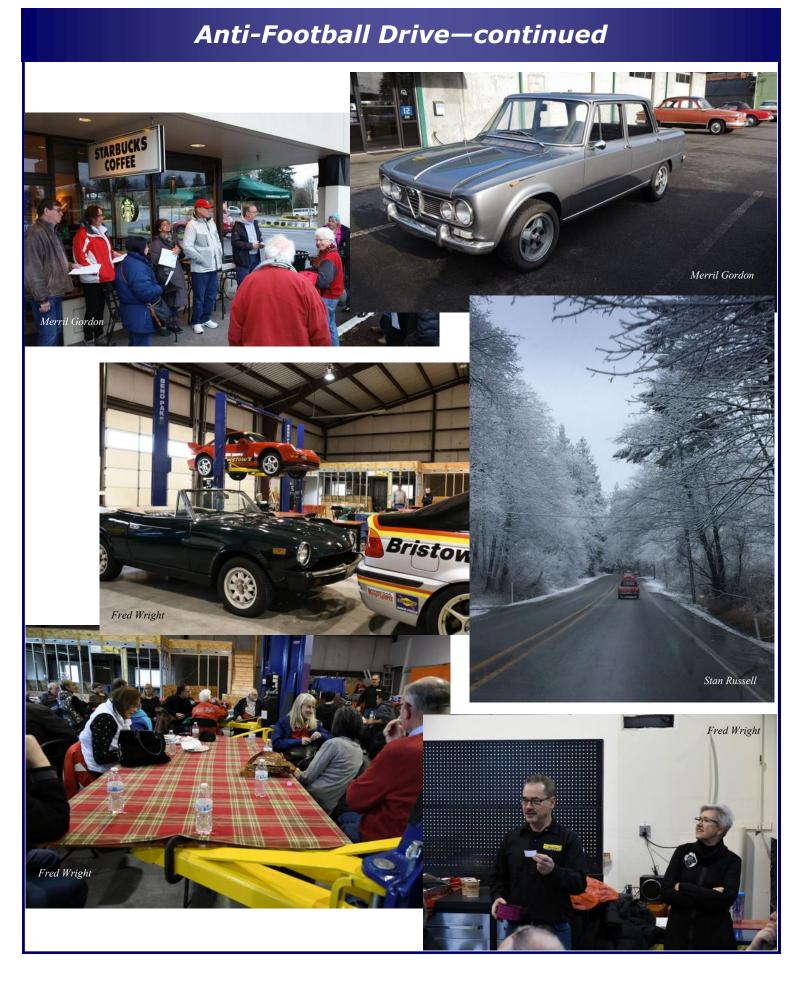
We headed out eastward on the windy Union Hill Road quickly getting into rural neighborhoods and farms. Next, we wound up onto Sammamish Ridge, through neighborhoods and ended up dropping down through Issaquah, then south through May Valley, Covington, Black Diamond, and passing just south of Pacific Raceways.

After a short stint on Hwy 18 South, 167 South, and 410 East we continued onto back roads following the Puyallup River. Heading West we caught Hwy 512 for a couple miles over to the roads that twist through Lakewood. After crossing the narrow bridge over Lake Steilacoom, we headed to the waters edge and the actual town of Steilacoom. Next we wound back up to South Tacoma and Bristow's Exclusive Auto Repair.

After 100 miles of driving and arriving at Bristow's we found a few additional members who went straight to our destination. In total we had around 45 or 50 total people join for the day and now they were being fed wonderful lunch by our host, Pete Bristow. The food from Dickey's BBQ in Tacome was exceptional... just like the cool tables which were actually large plywood sheets on the automotive lifts with table cloths. While we finished our lunch, Pete shared info about his start in the auto repair business and his path to opening his successful repair business.

We closed out our day with a some nice door prizes for some of the guests before heading home in time to enjoy an afternoon Seahawk game that included a win over the 49rs. I guess I made the right choice after all. No chilly weather and snow will stop us from having a great start to 2017. Thanks to all who joined along. - Fred Russell





Next Club Meeting Wednesday, February 15 6:30—9:00



February 15 Club Meeting Tech Session Time!

First off, the meeting is moved to Wednesday, February 15 so as not to conflict with Valentines Day. That means you have no excuse to miss being sweet on the 14th, then learning more about Alfas on the 15th.

Prova Motorsports has invited us over for a Tech Session at their location in Ballard as part of our February club meeting. Chris Benny will share his expertize and advice on tire choices. Which is the best tire application for your vintage car, or your the new car? What is the real difference between all season and winter tires? Low profile and traditional sidewall? Maybe he'll even tell us how to read the code numbers on the tires!

Preceding the Tech Session will be any abbreviated club business followed by a wee bit of socializing, then it's all Chris. The gathering starts at 6:30 with the social and business stuff, followed with the tech session from 7:30 to 9:00 PM. Remember to eat prior, bring your dinner, or order something to be delivered to Prova Motorsports. Here are a few food places nearby:

Teriyaki Bowl 4207 Gilman Ave W, Seattle, WA 98199 (206) 282-4476

Red Mill Burgers 1613 W Dravus St, Seattle, WA 98119 (206) 284-6363

Pagliacci Pizza 1614 W Dravus St, Seattle, WA 98119 (206) 726-1717

Prova Motorsports 4022 23rd Ave W, Seattle, WA 98199



General Club Information

Our group is known as the Northwest Alfa Romeo Club, (NWARC) a non-profit organization of Alfa Romeo enthusiasts. NWARC is a regional chapter of the national Alfa Romeo Owners Club (AROC). Chapter meetings are typically held the second Tuesday of most months except December. Membership dues are \$68 per year, which includes subscription to the monthly national publication, *Alfa Owner*. For information about joining the club, contact the membership chair listed in the right hand column.

Club Communications:

Join NWARC E-mail list: Send an e-mail to info-

subscribe@nwalfaclub.com ...then when the automated tool sends you an e-mail message, simply reply to the msg and you're on the list.

Facebook: NWARC (Public Group)
Club Website: http://nwalfaclub.com
National Club Website: www.aroc-usa.org

Board Members

President

Fred Russell (425) 308-6621 president@nwalfaclub.com

Vice President

Cindy Akana (425) 502 1185 cakana@me.com

Secretary

Gordy Hyde (425) 241 9307 gohyde@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Ken Case casekb@msn.com

Committee Leadership

Activities Director

Judy Gehring 425 822 4231 gehring.judy@gmail.com

Chief Driving Instructor

Mirko Freguia 206 795 0861

Membership Chair

Paul & Kristy Affolter 206 523 8534 phaffolter@gmail.com kristinaffolter@hotmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Jon Inge 206-355-3111 jon@joninge.com

Webmaster

Shannon Low 206-715-9670 lowshannon@yahoo.com

Technical

Wes Ingram 15613 "C" Peterson Road Burlington, WA 98233 360 707 5701 wing@nwlink.com

Digital Printing by Dan Hatch Swifty Print Seattle

Club Liaisons

AROO

(Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon) Ed Slavin 503 789 3282 eslavin@nic-mail.com

FEN

(Fiat Enthusiasts NW) Gordy Hyde 425 241 9307

January Club Meeting - Planning Session!

Maybe it was the inspiration provided by the fabulous cars of Jon Shirley's collection, but the planning session at our club meeting there on January 10 produced some great discussions and excellent ideas for future club activities, both for this coming year and in the future. The freezing temperatures didn't deter good attendance; 22 hardy souls braved the frosty roads and Bellevue's notorious traffic to admire Jon's many rare and gorgeous cars, and to contribute to lively conversations confirming this year's activities and tossing out ideas for possible future ones.

Past Activities Directors have clearly done a great job, since many old favorites were voted forward enthusiastically, including the Faherty's St. Patrick's Day celebration, the Patitz' pre-Historics BBQ, the Viva Italia gathering and the Half-Fast Lap. Following our various past excursions around Washington, this year's Lap will venture into the wilds and great back roads of northern Oregon; we are advised that passports will not be required. Debi Schmid's popular Garden Tour will return, this year focused around Dan Hinckley's legendary Heronswood garden near Indianola on the Olympic Peninsular, a remote-ish location that holds out the promise of a spirited tour of some back roads on the way to and from the garden.

Tech sessions at local Alfa specialists are always well-received, and this year both Forza and Group 2 will be hosting gatherings to advise us on various systems and maintenance tips for our beloved vehicles. Visits to Convertibles Only

and Griot's collection were also proposed to help us learn more about protecting our cars. Ken Case's entertaining back-roads summer drive will return, exploring some of the lesser known drivers' roads in our local countryside before ending up at a private car collection in Redmond, managed by Shannon Low.

The fun began when many new ideas surfaced for possible future events, including movie nights, tours to a hot-air balloon festival or to the Georgetown Steam Plant, moving our traditional chili/pasta sauce cook-off to a summer time slot and combining it with a driving tour en route ("cruising and cuisine"), and perhaps scheduling a separate summer picnic and various ad-hoc driving days for the pure fun of it. Another good idea was to have name tags for everyone attending regular club

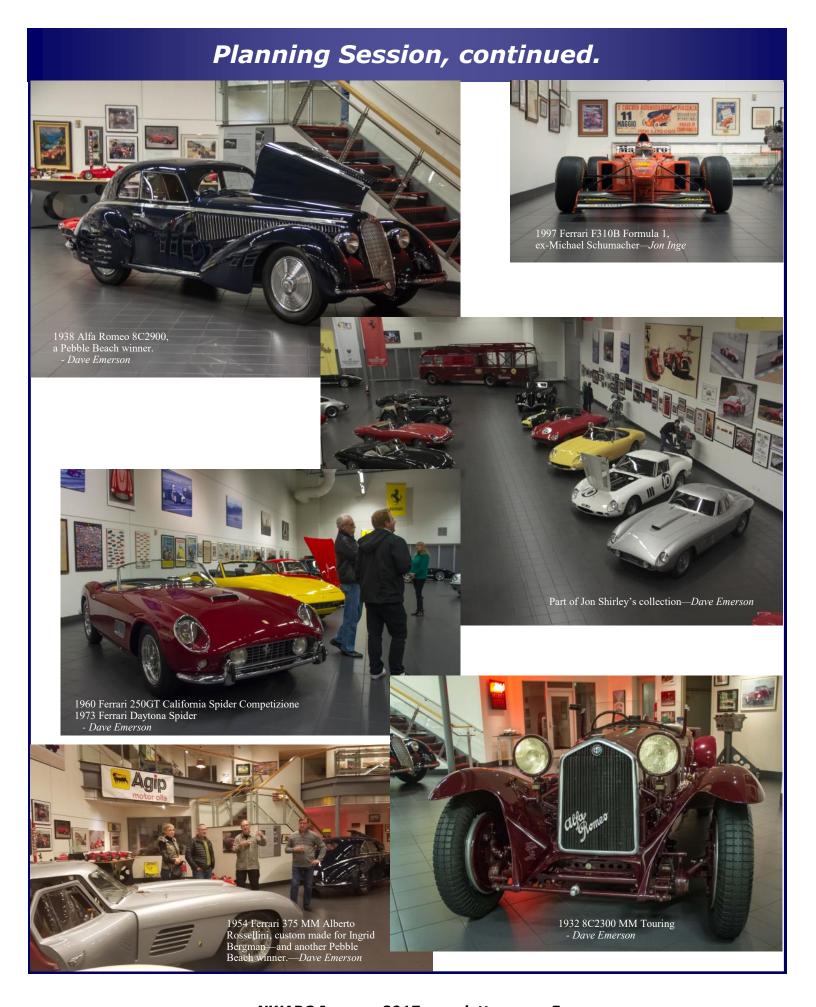


Photo courtesy of Debi Schmid



meetings, making it easier for new members to know who's who and to identify the club officers.

The year will end, as usual, with our Christmas Gala silent auction and party at Marianna's in Redmond. Keep your calendars ready: it's going to be a great year!



2016 / 2017 Calendar of Club Events

- Jan 15 Arizona Concours d'Elegance Phoenix, AZ
- Feb 15 NWARC Meeting / Tech Session Prova Motorsports, Ballard
 - Note that this is on <u>Wednesday</u> night to avoid Valentines Day.
- March 14 NWARC Meeting / Wild About Cars Garage: Tips on Mastering STD Rallies from a Rally Master
- April 11 NWARC Meeting / Tech Session Group 2, Ballard
- June 10 NWARC Garden Tour / Heronswood
- June 30 NWARC BBQ Gary & Marie Patitz Auburn, WA
- July 13-16 AROC / ARCC 2017 International Convention Montreal, Canada
- July 29 NWARC 2017 Viva Italia Saint Edward St. Park / Kenmore
- August 12 NWARC Back Roads Summer Drive
- Sept 9-11 NWARC 2017 Half-Fast Lap NE Oregon / Wallowa Mountains
- December tha NWARC Holiday Gala

