

# ALFA BITS



PUBLISHED CON BRIO BY THE  
ALFA ROMEO OWNERS OF OREGON

NOVEMBER 2013



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VOLUME 45  
NUMBER 11

... is the official newsletter (and the only one we know of) of the Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon. It is published 10 or 11 or 12 times per year in PDF format and downloadable from the club's website, [www.alfaclub.org](http://www.alfaclub.org).

We welcome submission of topical editorial material, and non-commercial buy-sell-trade Alfa-related ads are free for members. Contact [the editor](#) for details, or better yet, just send your ad and we'll let you know if there's a problem. We're really flexible.

We also welcome paid advertising when you actually pay (and you know who you are...). Contact Advertising Manager [Dennis Torgeson](#) for details and/or to repent and pay up.

If every AROO member receiving this e-zine forwarded it to just five friends, and if that pattern could continue through just eight such iterations, by the end of the week this could be the largest-circulation publication in history. And then just think what we could charge for advertising...

## ABOUT THE CLUB

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



As usual, Mark Carpenter leads the pack... or was it a parade lap? Well, it doesn't really matter. The point is, he's in front.

Nobody we know in those cars, but Mark sent this cover-worthy pic of two Alfas at Laguna Seca in that great late-afternoon light.

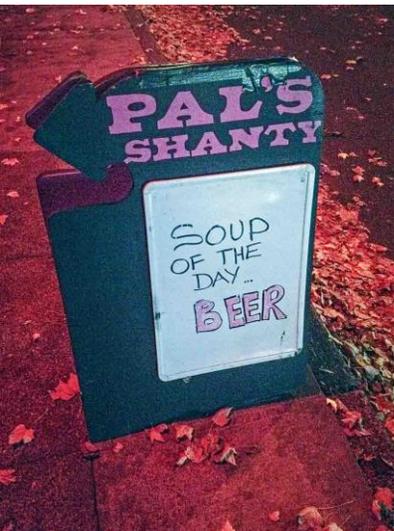


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# Just another frustrated restaurant critic

I have a theory that inside every car club newsletter editor there lurks a restaurant critic. Or maybe it's just me. Either way, this month I was going to exercise my editorial discretion to highlight one of Portland's greatest mostly undiscovered shellfish emporia, but then there was the fire.



I was going to title the piece, "Dive, He Said," but now you're going to have to put off diving to Pal's Shanty on Northeast Sandy Boulevard in the Hollywood District, but do put it on your list. Anyplace that boasts that its "soup of the day" is beer must be explored. After they repair the fire damage, that is.

Speaking of exploring, elsewhere in this issue you'll find details of the next club event, the annual auction and election at the November monthly meeting. That's Must Do #1. Donate something that you want gone and that someone else may want to take home. Or at least bring your checkbook.

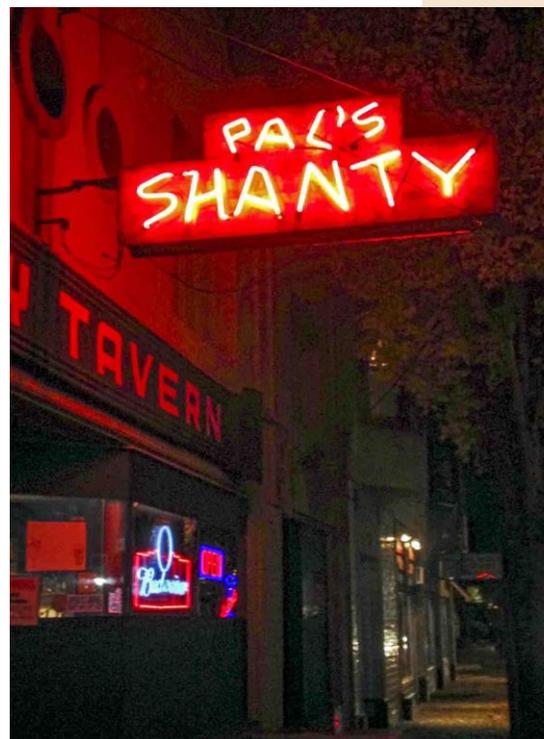
Then there's the Holiday Banquet, a.k.a. Must Do #2. You should very soon receive a Christmas-New Year's card in the snail mail with instructions on how to make your reservation (hint: by mailing AROO Treasurer Cindy Banzer a check for \$39 per person by December 2; see, was that hard?). It's always a nice occasion and nobody's going to press-gang you into volunteering



for the Board or organizing elections in Haiti or anything. We're newbie-friendly, too.

So why do Mark Carpenter's cars appear so frequently in the newsletter, including on the cover? I'm glad you asked. Well, aside from all the drinks he buys me, the magic formula is: He sends me pictures. You can, too. (Buy me drinks and send me pictures of your Alfa.) In fact I wish you would. The winter is slow and we need content for *Alfa Bits*.

Speaking of which, there is no December issue as it is replaced by the Alfa Romeo calendar that you will receive in the mail. So I'll see you here in January, and of course at the November auction meeting and at the December Holiday Banquet, where you can buy me drinks.



[Reid Trummel, Editor](#)



"All the veloce that's fit to print"

# Donate, Buy, Vote, Celebrate!

This is the last *Alfa Bits* for the year. In December we'll publish a beautiful calendar, pre-loaded with AROO events and lavishly illustrated with full color photos of Alfas and their *alfisti*. To close out the year, I'll just mention some upcoming events that you don't want to miss.

The November meeting has traditionally been our annual AROO Auction and this year is no different. Last year this fundraiser paid the rent on our meeting room for the year, which is a nice accomplishment. Let's do it again this year! Bob Stewart is the organizer and Doug Klein will be our auctioneer. You can do your part two ways: First, bring stuff to donate for sale. Alfa-related is nice, but desirable is even better. Think car parts, tools, magazines, books, apparel, art, jewelry, wine, etc. Second, bring money and a generous attitude. And buy stuff. Get into a bidding war over a gasket kit, fine art print, or a sparkly bauble for your sweetie and come home victorious. (Yes, we will continue the "have a beer on us" tradition this month.)

Before the auction gets under way, we'll hold our election for the Board of Directors. The AROO Board conducts the club's business, sets the calendar and budget for the year, and otherwise makes this machine work as it should. Every year half the seats come up for election. This year Erik Roe has decided not to seek re-election and George Kraus is running for the open seat. The other candidates hoping to continue our work on the Board are Lee Anne Barham, Yulia Smolyansky, Reid Trummel, and myself. I think we have a great Board of dedicated, hard-working members and I'd like to see it continue on. Even though there is no competition for Board seats this year, I urge you to show your support by casting your vote for all five candidates, either through filling out and mailing in a ballot, or by voting in person at the November meeting.

Speaking of Boards, as a chapter in the national Alfa Romeo Owners Club, AROO has the right to send up to two members to the AROC Board. Cindy Banzer has graciously offered to continue her service as an AROC Board member. Cindy has been on the AROC Board for many years and is the current AROC vice president. Bill Gillham is stepping down after many years of service. His contribution will be greatly missed. The election is in April, but nominations are due before January 15, 2014. If you would be interested in running for the national Board, you can ask Cindy about the position and let any Board member know you'd like to be nominated. We'll take care of the rest.

The AROO year winds up with the Holiday Banquet where we get together to celebrate our club, honor some of our members and have a good old time enjoying a fine meal with good friends. We will again be at Bugatti's in West Linn. You can find details elsewhere in the *Bits*. We all had such a great time at the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, the Banquet is bound to be even more fun. Be sure to RSVP and join us for a fine evening.

See, it's easy to have fun and support your club at the same time: donate, buy, vote, and celebrate.

[Roger Dilts, Club President](#)

# DRIVER'S SEAT



# Board of Directors Meeting, October 2, 2013

## CLUB BUSINESS

Meeting called to order: 7:18 P.M. at Busters Barbeque Restaurant In Tigard.

Those in attendance: Dennis, Roger, Reid, Erik, Mark, Lee Anne, Cindy, Bob Stewart, and guest Ken Hart.

### **Old Business-Reports:**

1. Minutes review. The September minutes were reviewed, a motion was made by Reid for approval with the spelling corrections being made, and Bob seconded the motion. It was approved with notes for spelling.
2. Treasurer's Report. Cindy provided the treasurer's report. It was approved by a voice approval no motion was made.
3. Membership was reported by the very ever clever engineer Erik at a standing of still about 182 members.

### **B. Past Events:**

1. September 14-15 AROO Fall Tour with Tom McGirr was held, no report.
2. Membership meeting with Bob Ames, 35 people attended, thanks to Cindy for setting this up.
3. President's Tour. Roger reported it was a bit wet. REALLY, it was pouring sideways-down RAIN! But, six closed cars showed up, and no Spiders!
4. MSNWCR report by Reid that the event at this time is fully subscribed and has 6 on the waiting list.
5. Calendar Review. Bob has taken over this responsibility and reports no updates for the balance of the year. Ideas we put on for next year's calendar to get an idea of what was coming up.
6. Merchandise/Apparel. No report.
7. Competition/Track. Ken and Erik reported that it looks OK and a few minor follow-ups, but we should have a good day and enough volunteers.
8. Advertising and Promotion. Lee Anne is working on more ideas.

### **C. New Events:**

1. October 6 Track Day with Ken Hart is set up with Erik is helping support. A number of other events are making this year hard for volunteers, but Ken is working the crowd quite well.
2. October 16 is the Membership meeting with Reid and a Goodwood Revival presentation.
3. October 20 is the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at Caro Amico Restaurant with Lee Anne in charge.
4. October 26 Sidedraught City is hosting a Griot's Demo Day for AROO at 10 a.m. a \$200 budget is approved for food.
5. November 20 AROO Auction and Elections of Board Members. Steve Meunier was signed up to host the event (but has since resigned from the Board). Maybe Bob will do it. Bob did accept the role of looking for an auctioneer; any suggestions are encouraged.

### **D. New Business:**

Board elections are in November. Terms ending are those of Roger, Lee Anne, Erik (not running for re-election) Yulia and Reid. Any others want to run?

Adjourned 8:24 p.m.

*[Submitted by Mark Carpenter, Secretary](#)*

5,000 years ago they sat around small fires...

PAST EVENTS



The scene on the street at the Griot's Demo Day at [Sidedraught City](#). Staring down engine compartments is grim business, but somebody's gotta do it.

George Kraus's immaculate Giulietta is always a center of attention, and here we see several of the club's graybeards showing their approval: Bruce Fogerty, George the proud owner (peering skeptically over his reading glasses), Stu Moss and Mike Schroedl.



1965 GTA 1600. Finished 1st of 30 cars in the St. Mary's Trophy Race.



1965 GTA 1600. Finished 13th of 30 cars in the St. Mary's Trophy Race.



1951-52 Matta 51 belonging to [Scuderia del Portello](#) from Italy.



1964 Ferrari 250 LM leading a 1963 AC Cobra through the chicane in a rain-soaked race.



The next 30-60 days or so...

FUTURE EVENTS

## November 20, Annual Election and Auction Meeting

Best meeting of the year! Donate stuff for the auction! Buy other stuff to replace it! Elect five members of the Board (don't worry, nobody nominated you)! Beer! Is this a great club, or what?!?!? Details on the next page.

## December 4, Board of Directors Meeting, 7 p.m.

Open to all members. Held at Buster's Texas Style Barbecue - in the Meeting Room in the back - at 11419 SW Pacific Highway, Tigard OR 97223. Free sausage-making demo every month!

## December 8, Holiday Banquet

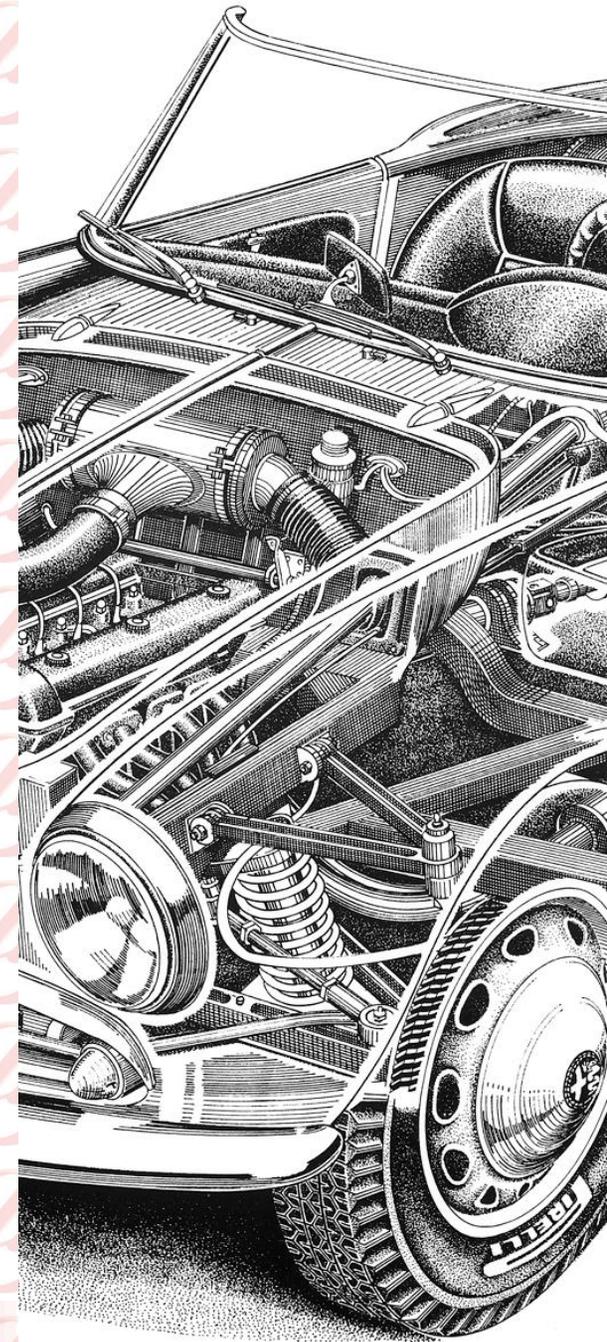
You will soon receive our now annual Holiday Card with details, but the Department of Redundancy Department urged us to repeat them here anyway: Sunday, December 8, at Bugatti's Ristorante in West Linn. No-host cocktails begin at 5 p.m. with complimentary appetizers. Dinner is at 6 p.m. with the gratuity paid by the club. For more information contact [Cindy Banzer](#) or 503.709.7277. Dinner is \$39 per person. House red or white wine is available at \$22/bottle. Corkage fee is \$15. Please mail checks payable to AROO **by December 2** to Cindy Banzer, 6505 SE Stark St, Portland 97215. Your check is your reservation. Bugatti's Ristorante is located in West Linn at 18740 Willamette Drive. Capisce?

## January 15, Monthly Meeting

Who knows what madcap hijinks might ensue? Show up, drink beer, smile and nod. We're counting on you!

## January 26, AROO Karting Challenge

So we were going to say "1<sup>st</sup> Annual," but first let's see how this goes...  
...details elsewhere in this issue.



# FREE BEER

And free is a good price.

We have our own private room at the Lucky Lab Pub. It's like our very own clubhouse. And there's free beer, free snacks, good friends, and fun times waiting for you there.

This month's meeting includes the election of officers and our annual auction. Auctioneer Extraordinaire Doug Klein will be presenting wondrous wares for your discerning eye. Please bring your checkbooks because you won't want to miss out on the opportunities presented.

Where do these "wondrous wares" come from? Glad you asked! That's where you come in. Please bring Alfa-related or other "wares" you consider "wondrous" to donate for the auction. It's a fun and effective way to boost the club coffers while you take home some cool stuff.

We look forward to seeing you (and your checkbook) there!

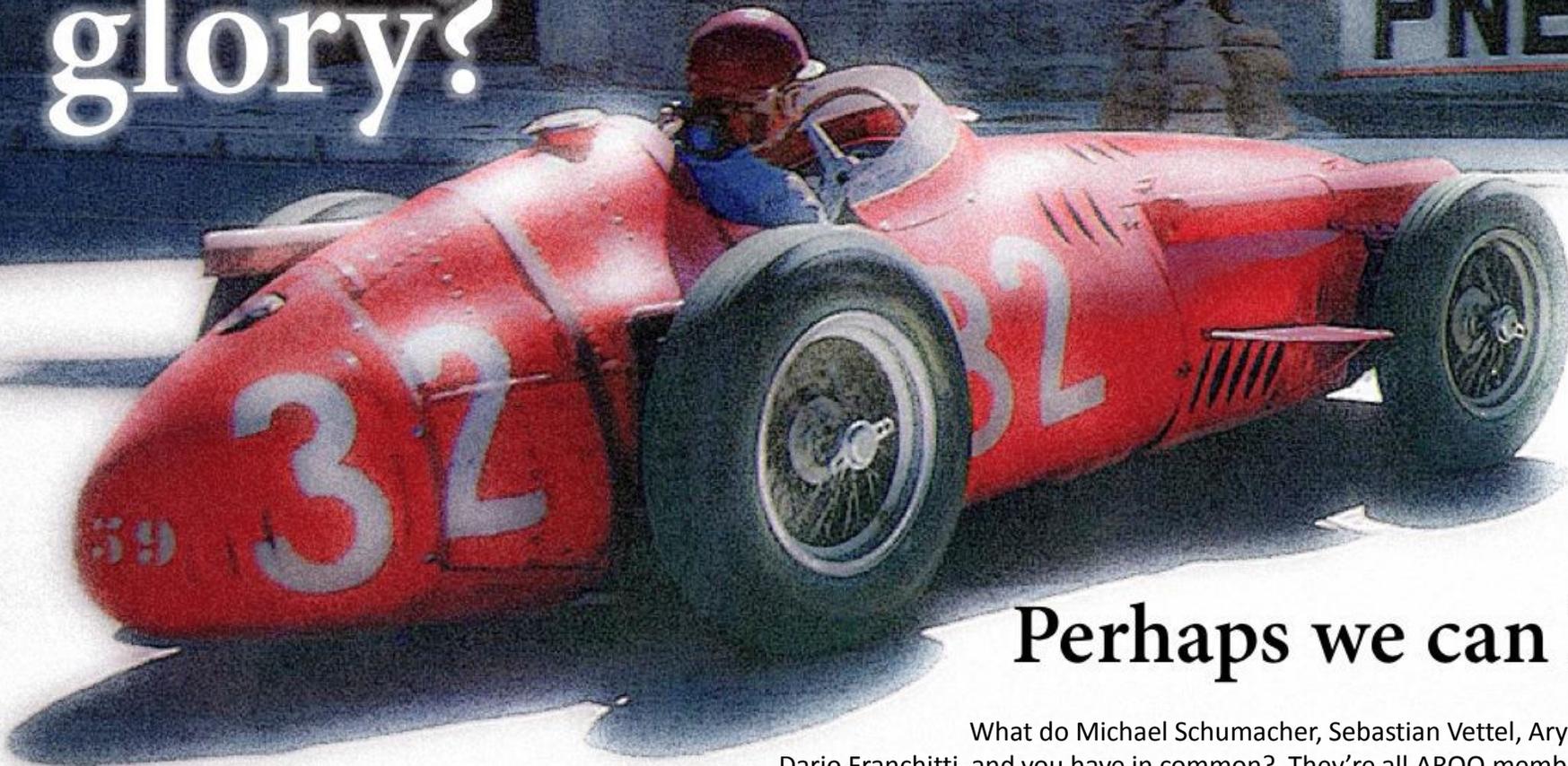
## [Lucky Lab Pub](#)

915 SE Hawthorne Blvd  
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Wednesday, November 20,  
beginning at 7:30 p.m.



Dreaming of  
motorsport  
glory?



## Perhaps we can help...

What do Michael Schumacher, Sebastian Vettel, Ayrton Senna, Dario Franchitti, and you have in common? They're all AROO members. Just kidding. Actually they all sharpened their racing skills karting. What? You haven't tried karting yet? Then come to the AROO Karting Challenge, 1 p.m., Sunday, January 26, at Sykart Indoor Racing Center, 8205 SW Hunziker St in Tigard and see what you've been missing. Karting is fun. Karting is easy. Karting is challenging. Karting is safe. Karting is thrilling. Karting is fun. The event is as simple as can be. Show up, register and pay \$25, watch the short orientation movie, put on your helmet (they supply or you can bring your own), and go out and show us what you got. We will compete in two 10-minute races. After the races we'll adjourn to Max's Fanno Creek Brew Pub, 12562 SW Main St in Tigard (less than a mile from the track) to discuss how brave and skilled we all were. We'll have more details in the January *Alfa Bits*.

## How can the best \$15,000 personal motor car in the world cost less than \$9,000?

Several years ago, an Alfa Romeo cost more than a BMW or a Porsche. But then came the devalued lira.

Since 1972, in the U.S., the dollar has grown 49% in buying power compared to the Italian lira. In that same period, the dollar has lost 27% in buying power compared to the German mark.

That is why, in the U.S., Alfa Romeo simply has not gone up in price the way German (and American) cars have. It is why you can now buy an Alfa Romeo for less than comparable BMW or Porsche models.

This is the Alfa Romeo, not an economy version. It has the all-aluminum engine. Only four other cars have it. Rolls Royce, Jaguar, Ferrari, Maserati.

It has the DeDion independent rear suspension. Only one other car available in the U.S. has it—the \$40,000 Aston-Martin.

Combining these two costly major advances, Alfa created the world's first truly balanced production car; half its weight is in front, half in back. The result is precise handling, easy steering, sure-footed road-holding. You sense a surer control...a new grace under pressure.

Alfa Romeo may well be the best \$15,000 car in the world even though it

currently sells for under \$9,000. Visit your Alfa Romeo dealer. There may never be a better time.

### 6 engineering achievements in Alfa Romeo, bred in 67 years of world class racing competition

**1. All-Aluminum Engine.** Its light weight makes possible better weight distribution for surer control. And, of course, its lighter weight is a gas-saver.

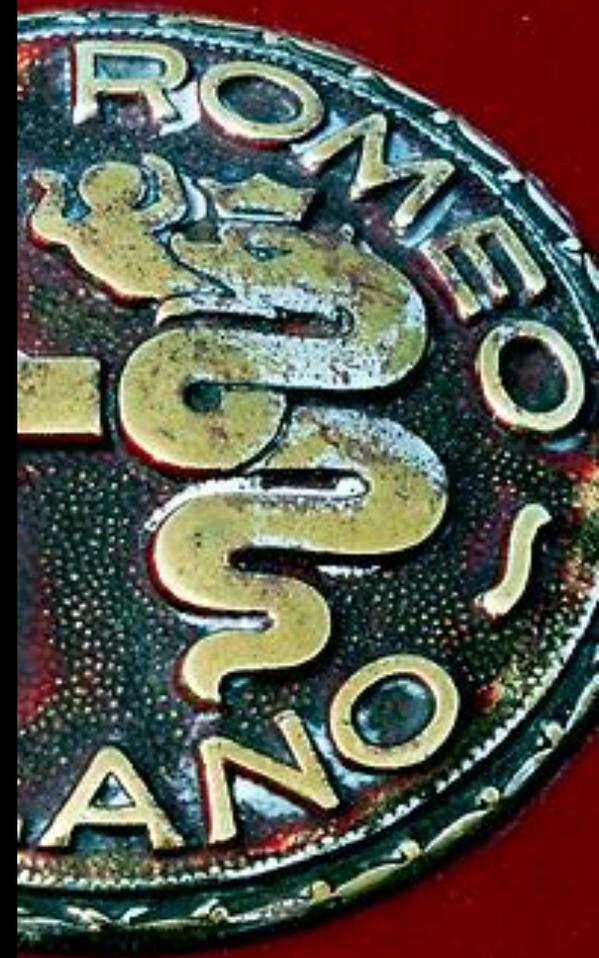
**2. Double Overhead Camshafts.** With this advanced feature, the Alfa is also economical to run. It gives you excellent gas mileage you might not expect in a high performance car.\*

**3. Mechanical Fuel Injection.** Alfa's rugged fuel injection system is the same kind used in racing cars because it is the most reliable made.

**4. DeDion Independent Rear Suspension.** It made possible a whole new driving experience—uncanny handling and roadholding abilities that conventional systems simply cannot match.

**5. Four-Wheel Power Disc Brakes.** Your Alfa stops faster—and without swerving or fading. Demonstrably superior to BMW and Porsche, according to Road & Track's January 1977 issue.

**6. Five-Speed Gearbox.** It is synchronized for smooth, effortless shifting. The fifth is an overdrive gear for maintaining high speeds at low engine rpm's—resulting in exceptional gas economy and longer engine life.



The Alfa Romeo Also Rises

SOME OTHER STUFF

ALFA ROMEO



Things Could Be Worse

SOME OTHER STUFF



SO, ... HOW'S YOUR DAY GOING?

“...as good as a car can be... briefly.”

VIDISSIMO



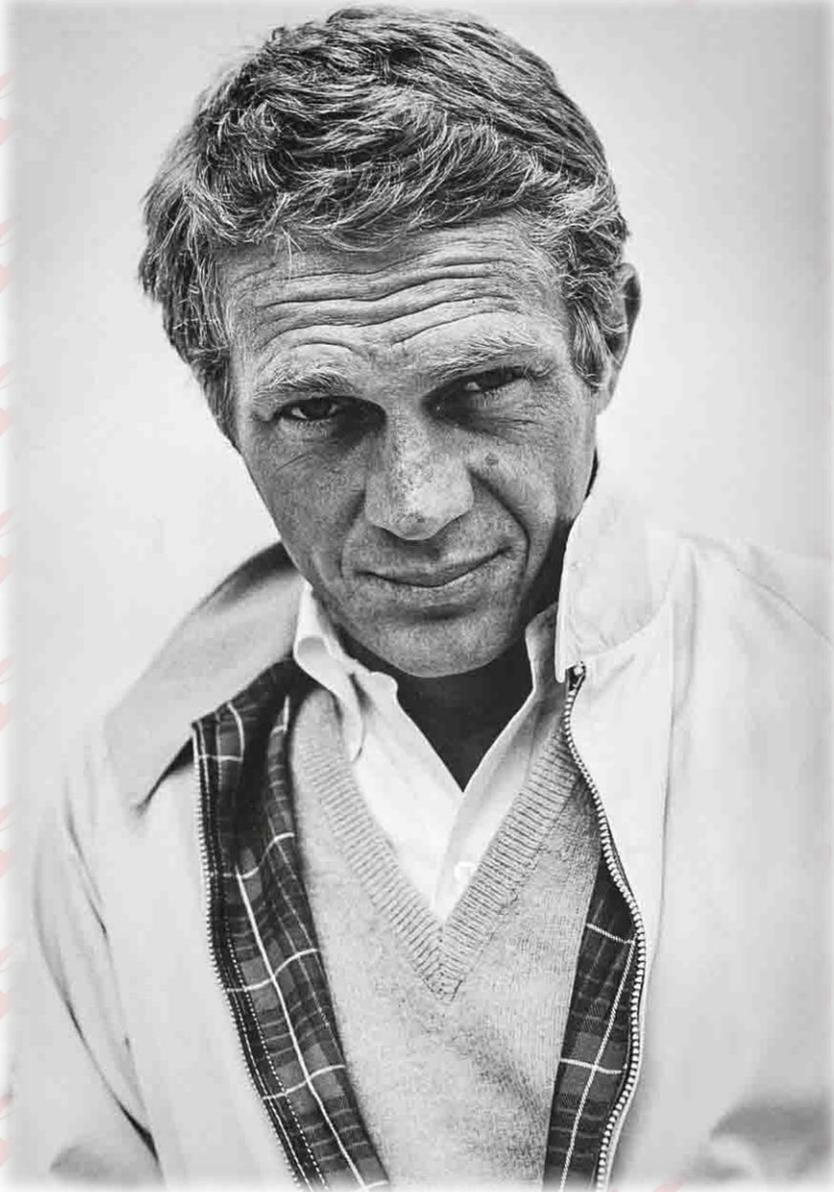
A double-feature this month.

First, ride along with Jeremy Clarkson and the lads from the BBC television hit “Top Gear” where Jeremy sums it up with, “Alfa build a car as good as a car can be... briefly.”

Our second feature is a nearly theme-less compilation that includes some fun footage of Alfas in performance rallies, including a look at one of them performing the maneuver known as the “Scandinavian flick” beginning at about the 2:50 point. There’s also some nice soundtracks in this one, and a scary look at spectators standing in the road inches from speeding cars.

Tighten your chinstrap and click on the images to the left and right.





**“So you really  
wanna bid  
against me?  
Bring it. See  
you there,  
checkbook-  
boy.”**

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Alfa Romeo



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# For Sale: 1985 Spider Graduate

BUY-SELL-TRADE

1985 Alfa Romeo Spider Graduate. I've owned it for about nine years, and while it has 190,000 miles, everything has been rebuilt in the last 12 including a new top, interior, paint, engine overhaul, and transmission overhaul (two years ago). I have the original shop manual and a folder of receipts. The car has always been loved and well cared for. It's a real head turner, runs great, and is a total blast to drive. I am only selling it because I don't have a garage, and would prefer not to have it live under a cover. Asking \$5250 OBO. Call 971.409.7949.



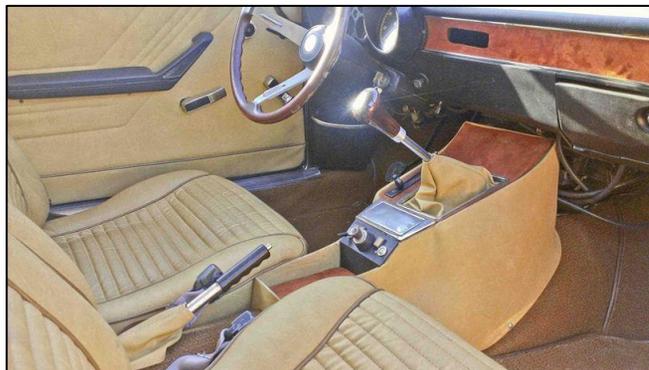
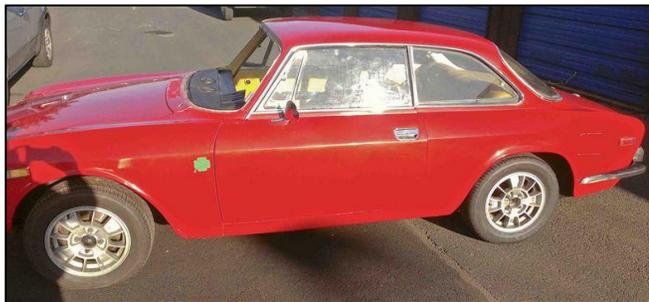
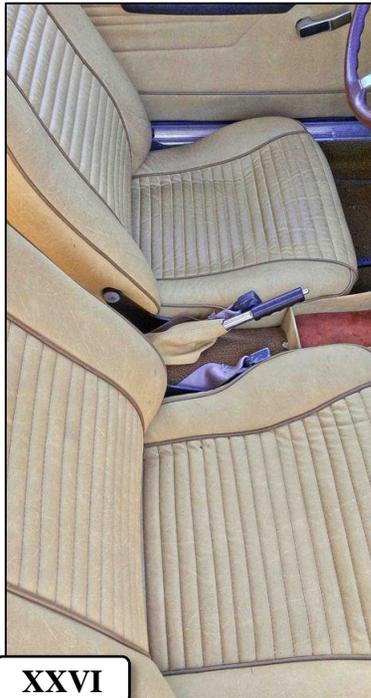
# For Sale: 1974 Alfa Romeo GTV

# BUY-SELL-TRADE



Brought up from Southern California to Portland in 2009.  
No mileage put on since arrival.  
\$5,000 spent at Nasko's (all documented) on mechanicals.  
Interior in decent shape.  
Body has some dings and door hinges do not line up.  
Windshield removed and needs rust repaired around cowlings before it can be re-installed.  
Wheels in good condition and tires with no mileage since new.  
Recent re-spray.  
Overall nice looking car in need of detail attention.  
Asking \$9,500.

Contact:  
Brian 503.367.3088  
[brianjsc@gmail.com](mailto:brianjsc@gmail.com)



Located in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, and belonging to a Mr. Taco Joustra of a high-end men's clothing store there, this interesting Alfa Romeo collectible is available for sale at a price to be negotiated.

If interested, please contact Mr. Joustra at [dominio@dominio.nl](mailto:dominio@dominio.nl)

We make no representation as to the authenticity, condition or availability of the subject item. It's availability was reported to us by a trusted friend of the editor, who examined it first hand. If you would like to contact him first, he is Lou Jaffe whom you may know as a regular Northwest Classic Rally entrant, at [loujaffe@hotmail.com](mailto:loujaffe@hotmail.com)



# Alfa Romeo

