



Alfa Bits

PUBLISHED BY ALFA ROMEO OWNERS OF OREGON

APRIL 2017



In this issue —

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- *Enjoying your Alfa*
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- *Vintage Racing Festival*
- *Buy and sell*
- *And much, much, more!*

*Old Spider Tour
Photo G. Kraus*



About the Club.



The Board of Directors

To see some vidios of
past AROO track events.
CLICK HERE!



Old Spider Tour. Photo G. Kraus

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Alfa Bits

FROM THE EDITOR

Photo G. Kraus

You may have noticed I tweaked the cover masthead and some internal pages this month — cleaned things up — a little spring cleaning. Speaking of spring cleaning, if you haven't had time to prep your Alfa for the “almost here driving season”, there's still time! I finally got around to tending to the final details of making my Giulietta road-reliable. It's only three weeks till the Old Spider Tour, April 29 and 30. See [page 20](#) for more details. Hope to see you there. Also check this edition of the Bits for other great events scheduled for the coming year.

I am always looking for content to fill these pages and encourage you to participate by submitting articles, photos, want-ads and paid advertising. Your content contributions and paid advertising will greatly improve and sustain the club.

Cheers,

George Kraus

Editor

ALFA BITS

Alfa Bits is the official newsletter of the Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon. It is published 11 times per year in PDF format and is downloadable from the club's website, www.alfaclub.org.

We welcome submissions 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 also welcome paid advertising. Contact the Advertising Manager for details.

ABOUT AROO

In the late 1950s, two Giulietta Spider Veloce's came to Portland. They were featured on a local TV show to promote a sports car race, participating in a race which they dominated, winning converts in the growing sports car scene. As interest and knowledge of Alfas

grew, Alfa fans — known as “Alfisti” — began to gather at Rambo Motors, the new Alfa dealer in Portland, which trained mechanics and supported a racing team. In the early 1960s, Bob Rinde, Rambo's sales manager, joined the national Alfa Romeo Owners Club and others followed. By October 1968 there was enough local interest for Bob McGill to apply to start a chapter, making AROO the sixth AROC-US chapter.

AROO MEMBERSHIP LIST

Although located in Oregon, AROO welcomes members from the Pacific Northwest and around the world. For the latest information check out our [website](#) page for events and published newsletters. The monthly meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Ernesto's Italian Restaurant, 8544 SW Apple Way, Portland 97225. June, July and August are evening tours. Check the newsletter for details.

President's Column – April 2017 – Doug Zaitz



Zaitz & Clemson, Imola

I would like to once again thank Fred Russell of the Northwest Alfa Romeo Club for his presentation at our last General Meeting. While I was unable to attend, I understand that Fred captivated the audience for nearly two hours with his slide show and talk. I wish I could have been there, as this was a very special opportunity for us AROO Alfisti! Thank you so much, Fred!

This month I spent a few hours (actually more than a few) going through my past issues of AlfaBits and Alfa Owners of years past – who knew I'd have boxes of them from now nearly 30 years of membership – where has the time gone? I hope to “recycle” some of the more relevant and historical articles from years gone by in upcoming issues of the Alfa Bits.

How about some early history of AROO? Or an article about the fantastic Alfa Romeo Canguro – did you know it was once owned by one of our AROO members? Or how about one of the 94 Giulia Zagato 4R Replicars – the only time a car manufacturer has ever produced a replica of its own car – we had one of those in our club as well...

I hope to share some of these old treasures with you as time and space (and George's ability to incorporate content) permit! AROO has a phenomenal history of almost 50 years now, and so much of it is documented in our Alfa Bits...

This month will conclude my rehash of last year's Car Guy Tour with the visit to the Imola Swap Meet – yes, Italians are no different than us when it comes to buying, selling and collecting stuff (“roba” in Italiano). This swap meet is held every September, in a manner similar to that at our own PIR – two miles of booths, vendors and untold treasures waiting to be found and haggled. While the currency may be in Euros, and the language may be broken between Italian, German, French and the Queen's English, buyer and seller meet and settle on deals of untold treasures.

My visit to Imola was a forty-year step back in time – “vintage” cars there being offered were cars that were nearly new when I first lived in Italy in the mid-to-late 70s. I couldn't believe seeing my late teen-year heart-throbs (including, yes, Alfetta sedans!) being offered – now available to be imported back to the USofA without hassle. Oh be still my beating heart – so many of the cars I lusted after: Fiat 124 coupes, Fiat 130 sedans, Alfetta GTs and sedans, Alfasuds, Lancia Monte Carlos, oh my!

Also a reminder to those participating in the Old Spider Tour at the end of the month – make sure to get your cars ready for the tour and to procure your lodging if you haven't already. Erik Roe has done an excellent job planning this tour for us to enjoy. Please contact Erik should you have any questions or concerns. This is one of AROO's finest tours, and should not to be missed!

And lastly, please join us on Wednesday the 19th for an evening of friends, food and beverage, and an interesting program at Ernesto's in Beaverton -- see you there! This month's program features Mark Carpenter and his guest for the evening, Sandy Bauer – who will be presenting information about the upcoming Portland Rose Cup Races, to be held the weekend following the Fourth of July. Remember, this event has the collector car corral and encourages spectators to bring their sports cars - see you at the races!

EVERY FIRST WEDNESDAY:

Board Meeting at Buster's Barbecue in Tigard at 7 PM
Contact Doug Zaitz at doug.zaitz@alfaclub.org or
509-768-4312.

THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH:

Monthly Meeting at Ernesto's 7:30 PM — September through
May. Evening tours — June, July and August. Check the
complete AROO calendar [HERE](#).

January

4 Board of Directors Monthly Meeting, 7 PM Buster's Barbecue, Tigard.
18 AROO Monthly meeting at Ernesto's 7:30 PM.

February

1 Board of Directors Monthly Meeting, 7 PM Buster's Barbecue, Tigard.
12 AROO Valentine's Tour.
15 AROO monthly meeting at Ernesto's 7:30 PM.

March

1 Board of Directors Monthly Meeting, 7 PM Buster's Barbecue, Tigard.
11 AROO Rally School.
12 AROO Cup Rally 1.
15 AROO Monthly meeting at Ernesto's 7:30 PM.

April

2 AROO Cup Rally 2.
5 Board of Directors Monthly Meeting, 7 PM Buster's Barbecue, Tigard.
19 AROO Monthly meeting at Ernesto's 7:30 PM.
29-30 Old Spider Tour.

May

3 Board of Directors Monthly Meeting, 7 PM Buster's Barbecue, Tigard.
7 AROO Cup Rally 3.
13 Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon - Annual Swap Meet & Garage Tour.
17 AROO Monthly meeting at Ernesto's 7:30 PM.
29 2017 McGirr Alfa Wannabe Car Tour.

June

7 Board of Directors Monthly Meeting, 7 PM Buster's Barbecue, Tigard.
11 AROO Cup Rally 4.
21 AROO Evening Tour. This event is in place of the general meeting.

July

5 Board of Directors Monthly Meeting, 7 PM Buster's Barbecue, Tigard.
15 AROO Summer Picnic.

August

3-6 AROO Monti Shelton NW Classic Rally.
4 Board of Directors Monthly Meeting, 7 PM Buster's Barbecue, Tigard.
16 AROO Evening Tour.
24-27 McGirr AROO 2017 Summer Tour.

September

6 Board of Directors Monthly Meeting, 7 PM Buster's Barbecue, Tigard.
16 AROO Old Super Tour.
20 AROO Monthly meeting at Ernesto's 7:30 PM.
23-24 McGirr AROO Fall Tour.

October

4 Board of Directors Monthly Meeting, 7 PM Buster's Barbecue, Tigard.
15 AROO Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.
18 AROO Monthly meeting at Ernesto's 7:30 PM.

November

1 Board of Directors Monthly Meeting, 7 PM Buster's Barbecue, Tigard.
15 AROO Monthly meeting at Ernesto's 7:30 PM.

December

3 AROO Holiday Party.
6 Board of Directors Monthly Meeting, 7 PM Buster's Barbecue, Tigard.

Click [HERE](#) to see all AROO and non AROO activities.

Click [HERE](#) to see AROO and other AROC-US Chapter Events.

ALFA ROMEO SPRINT VELOCE
CLOTHING ADVANCED ENGINEERING
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The power train and chassis of the Sprint Veloce are much the same as those of the Sport Sedan. The Sprint Veloce is...
Sport Sedan's 76.6 inches. Otherwise they are similar...
under the skin. You might well ask why, then, would anyone

Loggia Della Signoria, Florence

prefer the two door coupe to the more practical four door...
sedan? The answer comes readily enough. The Sprint...
The Sprint Veloce's...
on the sketchpad of Giorgetto Giugiaro of Turin, one of the

world's most respected car designers, and was refined in...
Alfa Romeo's own styling center. There this new model was...
given a more tailored look, with special moldings added...
along with flared wheel openings and the rocker panels. A...
new rear-view mirror design was also adopted.

AROO would like to welcome all new members and congratulate everyone with an anniversary in April.

You make the club.

Thank you all.



April Member Anniversaries

Lawrence Burnett	10 years
Phil Edwards & Cheryl Braden-Edwards	27 years
Susan Halton	4 years
James & Michael Long	26 years
William King	31 years
Bob Willis	16 years
Fred & Lisa Zack	2 years

New AROO Members in April 2017

Cliff Brunk
 Ryan Coulson
 Richard Warner

Six national Board of Director positions open!

From AROO President,
Doug Zaitz



Dear AROO members,

It's that time of the year again (yes to pay your taxes, too!) - AROC has 10, yes ten, candidates running for six national Board of Director positions.

Ballots are due by April 15th.

Electronic voting this year is again via Survey Monkey, following the hot link in the email sent to you several weeks ago from AROC

Administrator Barbara Clark, or using the mail-in ballot from your March Alfa Owner magazine.

From AROC President Cindy Banzer's March 1st email:

**Watch your email this weekend for the 2017 AROC Board of Directors election. Ten outstanding candidates are on the ballot, all deserving of your consideration. Included with the on-line ballot, you will find the candidates' biographical information and incumbents' voting records. Options for a mail-in ballot will be included in the March, 2017, issue of the *Alfa Owner*. Voting concludes on April 15, 2017.*

You can find bio's for each of the ten candidates in the Alfa Owner magazine, as well as each incumbent's recent voting record.

Please be sure to cast your vote!

Thank you!

Doug Zaitz

AROO President & Webmaster

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Imola Swap Meet

By Doug Zaitz



This article outlines the September 2016 Car Guy Tour visit to the Annual Motorcycle and Automobile Swap Meet at the Imola Autodromo Internazionale east of Bologna, Italy. This was my first time to visit the famed Imola track and the swap meet (and to reflect that I was at the other famed track in Italy – Monza – the weekend before for the Formula 1 race...)

During the five days we were staying in Modena during the CGT, we had a “free” Saturday. Several of us had expressed an interest to tag along with Frank Mandarano to the Imola Swap Meet. It is known as one of the largest in Italy (second only to Padua in the Fall), and rivaling the AutoJumble at Beaulieu near Portsmouth, England.

So after a nice breakfast, the group of five of us walked down to the Modena train station and purchased \$25 round trip train tickets to Imola, about an hour’s ride to go east about 40 miles. We arrived and decided to cut to the chase and took two taxis right to the front gate of the track.

The entry ticket was ten Euro, about what you’d pay to go to the Portland Swap Meet, not including parking. It was a nice Fall day, and the sun wasn’t too hot. And so began the fun ~

This is perhaps the largest motorcycle swap meet anywhere, and even the most obscure parts can be found here, especially for Italian-made motorcycles. It was quite refreshing to see the more exotic motorcycles and virtually no Harleys!

There inside the Formula 1 garages, vendors had set up tables of parts, books, manuals and ephemera for cars, motorcycles and bicycles as well. Of course I had to peruse the Alfa books, brochures and models, as well as checking out the unofficial shirts offered. Thank goodness for the always empty-going-over suitcase for the treasures found!



Once we had walked most of the indoor displays, we headed towards the track to walk the circuit until our time would go critical to return via train – another outstanding Modenese supper awaited us at Danilo’s!



All photos Doug Zaitz

(Continued next page)

Imola Swap Meet

By Doug Zaitz

(Continued)



This was perhaps the most fun I had, looking at all of the cars and motorcycles for sale, and knowing that owning them now was only an issue of money, not regulation nor time. Here lining both sides of the track were many of the cars I remembered when I first lived in the Italy in the latter part of the 1970s.

My host mother daily drove an orange-red Fiat 127 hatchback, running on metano (natural gas); my host father drove a beautiful dark blue Alfetta 1.8 sedan. Alfas at that time were considered a wealthy person's car, due to their cost, and the expense of fuel to drive them. My host uncle (father's brother, and tailor to Luca Cordero di Montezemolo, one time President of Ferrari) drove "la Bestia" – the Beast – a hairy-chested two-liter Berlina, chestnut interior with prugna exterior. He'd only drive it on Sundays after church – very much like Nuvolari, arms flailing and car too!

My host aunt drove a bronze Fiat 132 – then a large and not inexpensive sedan. Another uncle drove a Volkswagen Combi four door pickup. My host

All photos Doug Zaitz



grandfather had a little Bianchina Giardinetta (two door station wagon on a Fiat 500 chassis). My host father's Alfa Romeo repair shop had a light gray Alfasud three door station wagon with a 1.2 liter flat four that I frequently drove to parts-run for him.

I remember all of these cars (and their drivers too!) like it was only yesterday. Stepping back into the present, while walking down the Imola track, I am seeing cars like those for sale, 40 years later, not as used cars, but as collector cars. All those memories came flooding back – this crazy county, my adoptive family, their cars and our adventures together over those precious several years so long ago.

Some of us may go to swap meets looking for things to buy, but end up finding treasured memories instead ~



Websites of Interest:

<http://www.crame.it/imola-mostra-scambio.asp?ms2=8>





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- sono robuste, perché la loro struttura è identica a quella delle Alfa che corrono e vincono
 - hanno tenuta di strada e stabilità perfette perché hanno il baricentro basso, montano barre stabilizzatrici ed hanno pneumatici sovradimensionati
 - frenano con eguale prontezza e progressività a qualunque velocità, grazie all'azione combinata dei freni a disco di grande superficie, e del modulatore
 - sono comode e sorprendentemente silenziose



1750 GT Veloce e Spider Veloce: 132 CV-SAE, 190 km/h
GT 1300 Junior e 1300 Spider: 103 CV-SAE, oltre 170 km/h

Alfa Romeo

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March Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, March 1, 2017

Time: Meeting started at 7:15 pm

Board Members Present at Busters:

Douglas Zaitz; Chris Bright; Cindy Banzer; Jim Gunter; Sue Halton; Tom Burnett;

Board Members Present Via Zoom:

Dave Beach; Bill Gillham;

Board Members Absent With proxy:

Mark Carpenter; Bob Stevens

AROO Members Present:

Roger Dilts; Jeff Tunick, Jerry Lomas)

Liaison Reports**1. Minutes Review/Approval (Dave Beach or Bill Gillham)**

a. February 2017 BoD Mtg - Approved as sent via Email

2. Treasurer's Report (Cindy Banzer)

Not burning through our money - we did spend a bit more than we took in. Very close to what we budgeted last year.

\$30,000 in savings

\$6,000 in checking

Hope to add a bit of income from Ads on the Bits to make up some loss of income from Track days.

a. Status of proposed 2017 budget

Proposed Budget which resembles last years was passed unanimously after review.

3. Past Events Reports:

a. February General Meeting

Neil d'Autremont Presentation on Concours prep went well even though there were problems with AV equipment for the slide show.

b. Valentines Day Tour

Bob and Puff Stewart - 12 or 13 cars - Flowers and Candy - a good time had by all.

4. Upcoming Event Reports:

a. AROO Cup Rallies (Roger Dilts)

1. Rally School - Max's Fano Creek Tavern (Date?)

10 teams pre registered

2. Rally cup #1 starts at 9:00 AM (Date, Where?)

\$15.00 early Registration

\$20.00 Day of Registration

Top 3 finishers get a dash plaque

March and April Rally's written by Roger Dilts

May Rally written by Simon

June Rally written by Yulia

Have enough Volunteers for timing etc.

Email Blast to NW Classic participants - Doug Z

b. March General Meeting - introduced by Doug Zaitz

NWARC Fred Russell to talk about curating the Jon Shirley collection and his amazing Automotive life.

c. April General Meeting - Mark Carpenter

- Historic Races at PIR, write AlfaBits Column for April

d. Old Spider Tour

(Erik Roe) - two day, overnight, group dinner, April 29-30 -

e. May General Meeting

1. Discussion about new Giulia and involving the new dealer - Perhaps bring Old Alfas to dealership for a photo op etc. - Chris B

2. Cindy B says that 86 of the 200 4Cs sold were to AROC members.

3. Also perhaps a presentation on the Old Spider

Tour by Erik Roe

f. Swap Meet & Moss Garage Tour Saturday, May 13 - (Time?)

Tom Burnett will host and help with drinks snacks barbecue etc. Invoice expenses to club.

Need to publish directions etc.

g. June General Meeting (Evening Tour) -

Bob Stevens -TBA

h. July General Meeting (Summer Picnic/Tour) -

Russ Paine & Sue Halton - TBA

i. 2017 NW Classic Rally (Jim Gunter)

1. 79 tsd registrants - 90 is the cut off

25 tour cars

New Starting place - World of Speed

85 rooms booked - 120 reserved

More rooms for volunteers booked a block away.

2. Next year Inn of 7th Mountain Also have interest from Salashan

3. URL for Rally expires in July

5. AlfaBits Report (George Kraus) - Absent**6. Membership Report (Bob Stevens) -Absent**

a. New AlfaBits reports - are a nice addition

7. Merchandise/Apparel Report (Jerry Lomas)

a. Discussed finding other existing merchandise

b. Obtain boxes of merchandise from Cindy Banzer

8. Competition & Track Events Report (Mark Carpenter) - Absent

a. Reminder - must use Naughten Insurance Form for all moving

events - link located on AROO website to AROC-US website, form has been updated - Doug Zaitz

(Continued next page)

March Board Meeting Minutes**(Continues from previous page)****Date: Wednesday, March 1, 2017****9. AlfaBits/AROO Website Advertising Report (Jeff Tunick)**

- a. Discuss Duties/Tasks/Expectations
- b. Sales by Jeff Tunick
- c. Billing by Cindy Banzer
- d. Update list of advertisers
- e. Update cost of display ads Alfa Bits
 1. One page - annual-\$250
 2. Half page - annual-\$150
 3. Perhaps later to be based on data

10. AROO Calendar, Website & Emailings Report (Doug Zaitz)

- a. AROO Activity Calendar posted on AROO and AROC websites
- b. All AROO & NWCR events posted
- c. AROC Chapter Events Listing on the webpage - Updated regularly

11. AROC Liaison Report (Cindy Banzer)

- a. Owner up to 45 pages for 6 months
- b. AROC to Italy - all 45 spots filled for 2017 and 2018 with another 28 on a wait list
- c. Board Election held by email (Unique one time usage email vote).
- d. Unofficial request - please vote for Doug Zaitz

New and Continuing Business

1. Finalize 2017 events schedule (Doug Zaitz)
 - a. Tonkin FIAT/Alfa - Giulia event(s)
Discussed at length - general meeting and/or Saturday at showroom?
(Chris Bright, Jeff Tunick March/April?)
 - b. Possibility of Mark Scholtz and the monthly Portland Cars & Coffee Event
(May?) Discussed
 - c. Carting Challenge (2018?)
- Held over as a possibility in better weather
 - d. Complete BoD member meeting assignments - anything else outstanding?
(???)
2. AROO 50th Anniversary (2018) Event (Lisa McNabb)
Lisa will make a presentation at a future board meeting
3. NWCR 30th Anniversary (2018) Event (Jim Gunter)
 - a. Issues, Plans, Thoughts?
 1. Monty is committed to the 30th anniversary
 2. Need a discussion about future of NWCR
 3. Perhaps a survey Monkey survey of AROO members

4. Need Photographer for this year
4. Disposition of AROO Track Day Trailer and Contents
Keep it for now, with new Giulias etc we may start track day up again in the future.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM:***My notes end here and I don't remember any of this being discussed!***

5. Update review of director availability, resolve planned absences (hosting of meetings)
 - a. Who keeps AROO A/V equipment & where?
 - b. Who keeps raffle tickets? (Merchandising Chairman?)
6. Discuss possibility of using Zoom for most AROO BoD meetings (Zaitz)
 - a. Quarterly face-to-face meetings
 - b. Optional meeting place for all meetings, need wireless access for Zoom
7. Discuss Ernesto's Restaurant for General Meetings
 - a. Reserve evenings for remainder of year (Doug Zaitz?)
 - b. Review requirements (cost, headcount, limited menu)
 - c. Need point person for contact with Mike (owner) at Ernesto's (Doug Zaitz?)
8. Discuss status of review of AROO Bylaws document (Roger Dilts)
9. Complete discussion regarding Annual Holiday Party
 - a. Return to MAC for 2017 - YES
 - b. Degree of subsidizing costs (food, wine, parking, gratuity, fees)
10. Policy on permitting / inviting non-AROO members to AROO (AROC chapter) events
- related to expenses incurred and AROC bylaws
11. Specific outreach plan to recruit new NWCR committee members/interns (TBD)
- crucial issue to AROO as this is the only significant source of chapter income to support AROO activities
12. New Sponsor for NWCR post-2018 (TBD)
13. Status of Corporation Papers for Oregon (Roger Dilts, Cindy Banzer)
14. Other Items

AROO Cup Rally Series – Progress Report

By Roger Dilts, Series Director



G. Kraus



R. Dilts



R. Dilts



R. Dilts

With barely enough time to take it all in, we hit the road the next day with the first rally, winding through the farmland and hills of east Clackamas County. With 19 cars on the starting grid, we had the biggest field in my memory. OK, the course was harder than it needed to be and a very tricky intersection caught fully half the teams showing up early to the last timing control. But it didn't rain and everybody made it to lunch in Molalla. Results are in the accompanying table.

The weather gods smiled on us again for the April Rally, giving everyone a clear, dry morning. We had a field of 14 cars start out from the French Prairie Rest Area. This time we were on the west side, first around Butteville and Champoeg Park, then south to St. Paul, then up and down (and up and down) Parrett Mountain, ending with lunch in Wilsonville. The weather was nice, the roads scenic, and the competition fierce, but friendly. As the table shows, the top three places were only 12 seconds apart in four TSDs – a very tight pack.

This is my ninth year putting on this series and I really enjoy it. I've explained that it's like setting up a puzzle as big as half the county and having a party to figure it out. We have a wonderful group of rallyists who are having fun getting to know each other as they learn a new sport, explore the beautiful Oregon landscape, and enjoy their cars. If you'd like to join us, the next rally is May 7.

Here we are half-way through the series, so I should get everyone up to date.

We started off with the Rally School in early March. We had a great turnout with 25 eager students spending half a Saturday in the backroom of Max's Fanno Creek Brewpub. As always, a mix of long-timers and newbies, this was our biggest group in five years. We ran through all the rules and discussed many examples of their application using a "Rally by PowerPoint." Lots of good questions and sharing experiences.



2017 Schedule

Rally School	March 11, 9:am (Max's Fanno Creek Brew Pub)
Rally #1	March 12, 9:am (French Prairie Rest Area)
Rally #2	April 2, 9:am (French Prairie Rest Area)
Rally #3	May 7, 9:am (French Prairie Rest Area)
Rally #4	June 11, 9:am (French Prairie Rest Area)

ONLY THREE MORE ROOMS LEFT FOR THE SUMMER TOUR!



‘Fun awaits the brave!’

WINE/CULTURE/GOURMET FOOD/ MICRO BEER/GREAT ROADS? MUST BE ANOTHER TOM MCGIRR AROO TOUR!

The summer tour will take place August 24-27, Thursday-Sunday. Tour departs from Salem with the first destination being Ashland. I have reserved Callahan's Lodge which can handle ONLY 19 couples. We will be having an early dinner at the Lodge then heading down to the Elizabethan Theatre to see Homer's epic play The Odyssey. I have secured 46 tickets thinking Callahan's would have 4 extra rooms ready, which will not be the case. It might be possible for you to get lodging down the hill at a later date. However, unless I hear from you soon, I will be releasing the surplus play tickets.

Friday we will enjoy some wine tasting at several nice wineries in the Applegate Valley. That evening, we will have dinner at Caldera Brewing Company, which is owned by my daughter and son-in-law. Those expecting pub food may be disappointed...this is a really nice place to eat and they set the bar, as far as I am concerned, for micro beers for both taste and variety (46 on tap at last count)!

(Continued next page)





MUST BE ANOTHER TOM MCGIRR AROO TOUR!

(Continued from previous page)

Saturday will take us on a leisurely drive to Steamboat Inn on the Umpqua River. It is SO relaxing to sit on the decks overlooking the river and enjoying a nice glass of wine or beer! They do a fabulous job on dinner which also includes a pre-function in the library with wine and appetizers. Sunday will feature some nice back-roads back to civilization.

I originally reserved sufficient rooms for 23 couples at Steamboat. **Because Callahans is limited to 19 couples, I will be releasing the surplus rooms at Steamboat soon. The nearest lodging close to Steamboat is 17 miles away, so unless your reserve with me soon, or are super lucky to find they still have a room available, you will not be staying at Steamboat.**

A supplemental billing will be going out for meals, etc that will be pre-arranged.

This tour will be a 'sell out' as I have a number of Alfa Wannabe members who are licking their chops to snap up any openings.

Send me an e-mail c/o tmcgirr@columbiatrustcompany.com if you want to reserve your spot. Deposits can be sent to Tom c/o 3420 Dogwood Dr. S, Salem OR 97302. Questions: Tom McGirr 503-983-3656



AROO 2017 Old Spider Tour

Erik Roe



AROO's 2017 Old Spider Tour April 29th & 30th

With about a month before the event, the 2017 Old Spider Tour is almost here! The plans are coming together, we have a nice sized group with Kah-Nee-Ta room reservations. Some more warm spring weather will give us a few more options for great roads!

We welcome you and your Alfa (any vintage or type), but especially encourage all AROO's Old Spiders (pre 1965) to get out and join us. If you are tight on time, just join us for Saturday. If you have a new Alfa 4C or Giulia Sedan, please

come and let the rest of us appreciate these fabulous new cars from Alfa Romeo.

ACTION ITEM: To allow us to plan our restaurant lunch stop, please email Erik Roe if you are attending! To help ease our group into and out of the restaurant, we need to get a head count and pre-order. If you are attending the tour, please email Erik Roe at erikroe@me.com. Thanks!

Tour Specifics:

Date: April 29th and 30th, overnight tour. Back in Portland about 5 pm on 4/30

Start point: Mt. Talbert Park, 10945 SE Mather Rd, Clackamas, 97015

Start Time: Saturday, arrive at 8 AM donuts & coffee, driver's meeting 8:15 AM

Route: A variety of nice roads, views and some nice twisty bits.

Saturday Night: Kah-Nee-Ta Resort, call (541) 553-1112 (*group rate expired*)

Contact Erik Roe at 503 706 8304 or erikroe@me.com if you are attending.

Click me for more info.

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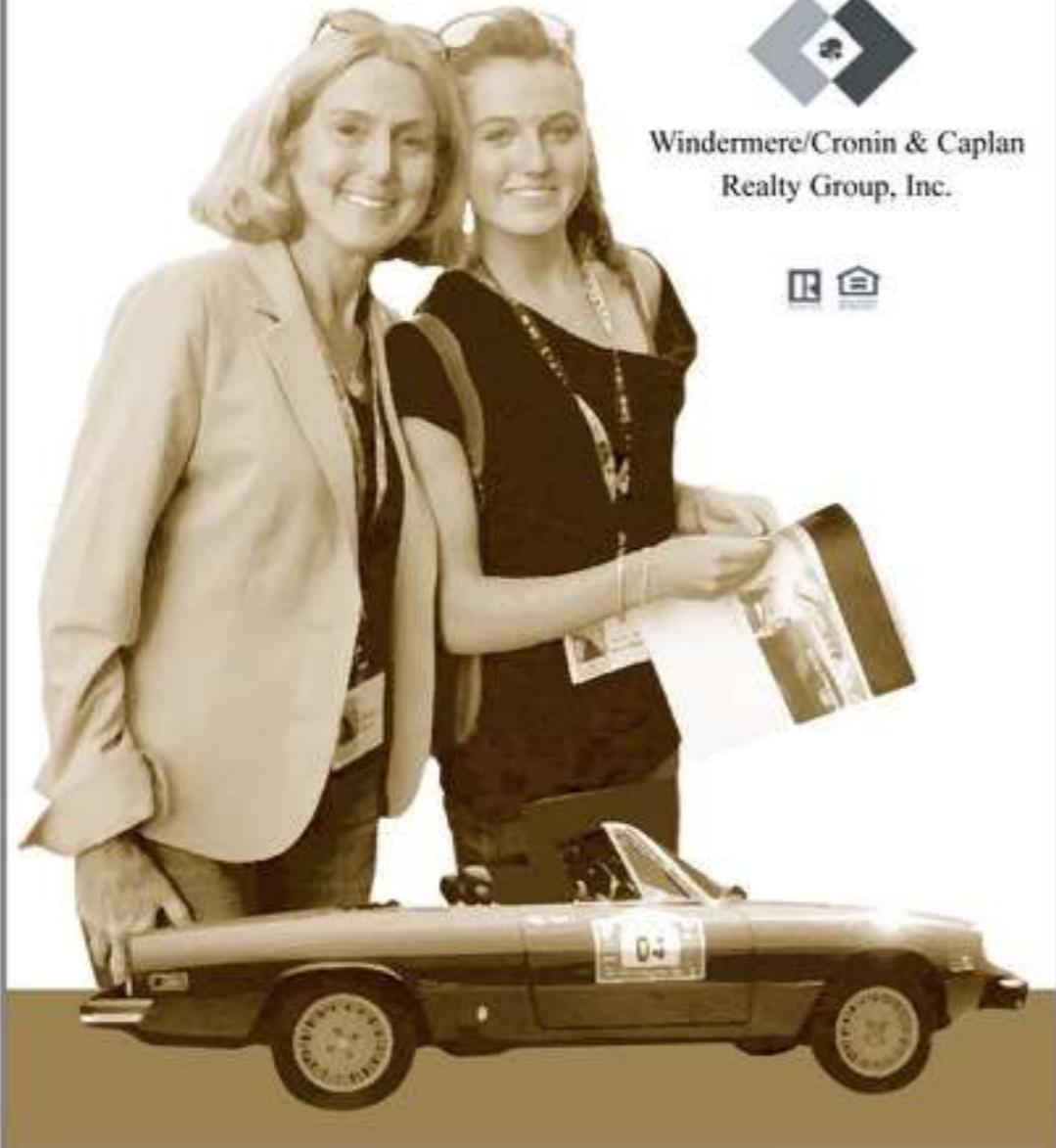
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Safety check

From Roger Dilts



We all know that we should give our old cars a good looking over when they come out of hibernation or before a long trip. Don't want to ruin a trip with a breakdown, or worse. When most people think of a safety check, they are probably thinking brakes, tires, steering, lights. Maybe torque the wheels and check the giubo for cracks. But this story will remind you there are other critical system that your safety depends on.

I had just fired up the spider for a trip to the tire store for new rubber in advance of the Old Spider Tour. This was the first dry Saturday in a while and I'd had to reset the appointment a couple of times already.

The engine fired up just fine and I just did a cursory walk around. I was only going a few miles.

Once warmed up, I aimed west. The spider spends winters in a garage in southeast Portland and I was headed for Tigard. Crossed the Sellwood Bridge and turned onto 43, then swung up Taylors Ferry Road where it climbs steeply up toward Terwilliger. About a quarter mile up, there was a loud bang, then...nothing. No engine. No lights. Just "flame out." If you know this stretch of road, you know it's narrow, heavily travelled and has no shoulder. To the right is a ditch and rocky cliff faces, to the left is a steep embankment down to the creek.

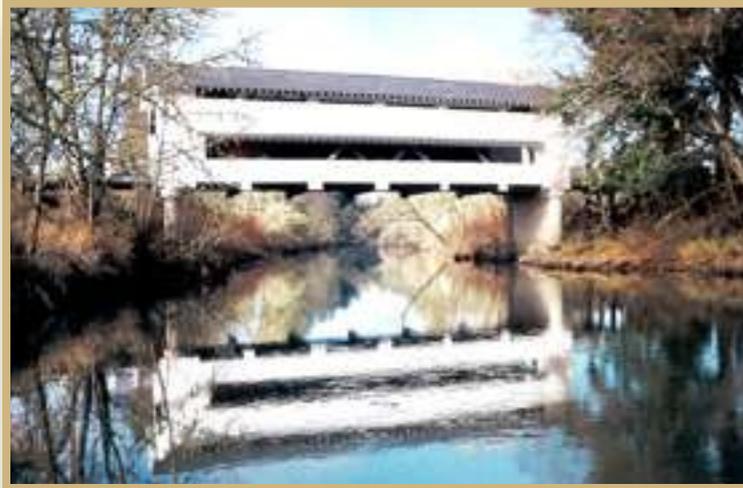
Luckily, I had enough forward momentum to keep going a few yards. Luckily, there was no oncoming traffic when I turned into the pullout that was luckily to my left just where I needed it. That's three "luckilies" in about ten seconds!

Once off the road I found there was no power to anything, as if the battery had vanished. The cables and ground strap were firm. Nothing obvious. A quick call to Jim Trofitter and we figured that the main cable from the positive side of the battery to the starter must had failed. Sure enough, when I reached under the carbs I found the loose, ragged end of the large cable, the aorta of the electrical system. No way to reattach it under the circumstances, so I called for a tow and the story ended OK. No tires yet, but what's another week?

So whenever you go over your Alfa to make sure everything is alright, check those critical electrical connections, along with everything else. Luck is a lousy thing to depend on.

AROO COVERED BRIDGE TOUR

September 23-24



This year's two-day Fall tour will feature 23 covered bridges, fall leaf colors and a stay at the recently remodeled Village Green Resort in Cottage Grove.

The trip will begin in Silverton and take in 15 covered bridges and some great driving roads over a course of about 4 ½ hours. Included in your instructions will be a brief history of each bridge. Lunch is planned for Plank Town Brewery in Springfield. We will reach the Village Green in time to enjoy the pool, weather permitting, and wonder the beautiful gardens. This motel is now owned by Moonstone, the same folks who oversee the Oregon Gardens in Silverton.

I was able to negotiate a GREAT rate of \$129 for their DELUXE rooms which have a fireplace and a very nice patio facing out to the gardens. The next day we will enjoy a leisurely 3 ½ hour drive taking in another 7 covered bridges and finish the tour with a late lunch at another brewpub in Independence.



I have not yet received the formal room block contract so not sure it is set up yet at the Village Green. When it is, you should reference Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon and make sure you are quoted the \$129 rate when you call. 800-966-6490.

While designed to be a two day tour, day trippers are welcome as well. You can stick with us through lunch in Springfield or tour down to Cottage Grove and spring up I-5 home.

However, do try to stay the night...great fellowship!

You can make your room reservations now by calling the Village Green and referencing Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon. Rate should be \$129. 541-942-2491 or 800-966-6490.

While designed to be a two day tour, day trippers are welcome as well. You can stick with us through lunch in Springfield or tour down to Cottage Grove and spring up I-5 home. However, do try to stay the night...great fellowship!

Questions? Call Tom McGirr at 503-983-3656.



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April 19 meeting— Special Guests

Gary Bockman & Sandy Bauer



April 19th Meeting Special Guests
We encourage you to attend the General Meeting on April 19th as we welcome Gary Bockman, President of Friends of PIR (FOPIR) and Sandy Bauer, director of logistics for the Rose Cup Races. FOPIR was formed in 2006 as a 501c3 non-profit with a membership dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of Portland International Raceway as a resource for those who use it, both participants and spectators alike. FOPIR also supports the ongoing management of PIR as an advisory board and is an additional voice for the

user groups. Membership in FOPIR is free.

In 2016 FOPIR took over the promotion and management of the Rose Cup Races from the Rose Festival Foundation. Last July, the 56th annual Rose Cup Races presented by George Morlan Plumbing and managed by FOPIR had over 200 entries compared with the previous few years of less than 100. It took a large effort galvanized by the outstanding cooperation of both Oregon Region SCCA and Cascade Sports Car with stewardship from FOPIR working with PIR management. Note that PIR is owned by the City of Portland but it is self-sufficient and does not receive any public funding. Thus the newly refreshed Rose Cup Races managed by FOPIR created a new revenue source for FOPIR to assist PIR and help educate the region about PIR's history and its diverse offerings.

This year's Rose Cup Races weekend is July 7-9. Gary and Sandy will talk about the race groups, event schedule and reveal the special activities planned. We look forward to having them join us.

Sandy Bauer
503.307.5420



Please join us for the AROO General Meeting at Ernesto's Italian Restaurant, 8544 SW Apple Way, Portland, OR 97225.

AROO - Portland Vintage Racing Festival at PIR



Newly named – Vintage Racing Festival.

July 28-30 (Friday-Sunday) – Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon (AROO) – Portland Vintage Racing Festival at PIR. Hosted by Sportscar Vintage Racing Association (SVRA), contact Kathy Swinford at kathy@svra.com or 817-521-5158.

www.svra.com/events/2017-portland-vintage-racing-festival/

A spectacular gathering of vintage and contemporary race cars will create the Portland Vintage Racing Festival at PIR. The flat yet challenging, 12-turn, 1.967 mile track offers a unique driving opportunity. Whether you're a driver, entrant in the Hagerty Show and Shine Car show, or fan there is a unique fun racing experience for you. This event offers three full days of racing for all SVRA race groups. The Portland Vintage Racing Festival embraces the return of Trans-Am to Oregon by hosting the third of four Trans Am West Coast Championship races. In 1975, Portland International hosted the Trans-Am Series, which was won by John Greenwood, driving a Chevrolet Corvette. Greenwood went on to win the 1975 Trans-Am Series Championship.

New to this event is the Mazda Miata Heritage Cup Series. This race will have its own distinct race with the group made up of first generation

1.6-liter spec Miatas of 1990 to 1993 vintage. This new race offers a new "entry point" to vintage racing.

Friday is an open test day and SVRA offers an optional Driver Orientation/Track Orientation Program (TOP/DOP) for drivers who have not previously competed at this track and/or for those who want to learn a few extra "go-fast" secrets of this road race circuit. Saturday evening will feature a party for drivers and crews.

PIR is built on the former location of Vanport, Oregon, which was destroyed in 1948, when a dike on the Columbia River broke and flooded the city. After the flood, all that remained were the paved streets and concrete foundations of destroyed buildings. In 1960, a time of growing interest in sports car and drag racing, the Portland Jaycees saw that the abandoned roads of Vanport had the potential to become a road race course. In 1961 the first Rose Cup auto race was held. The track has hosted Champ Car, IMSA, NASCAR and more. PIR is situated in North Portland, adjacent to hotels, restaurants, the shops that cater to PIR users.

Spectator tickets can be purchased online or at the gate.

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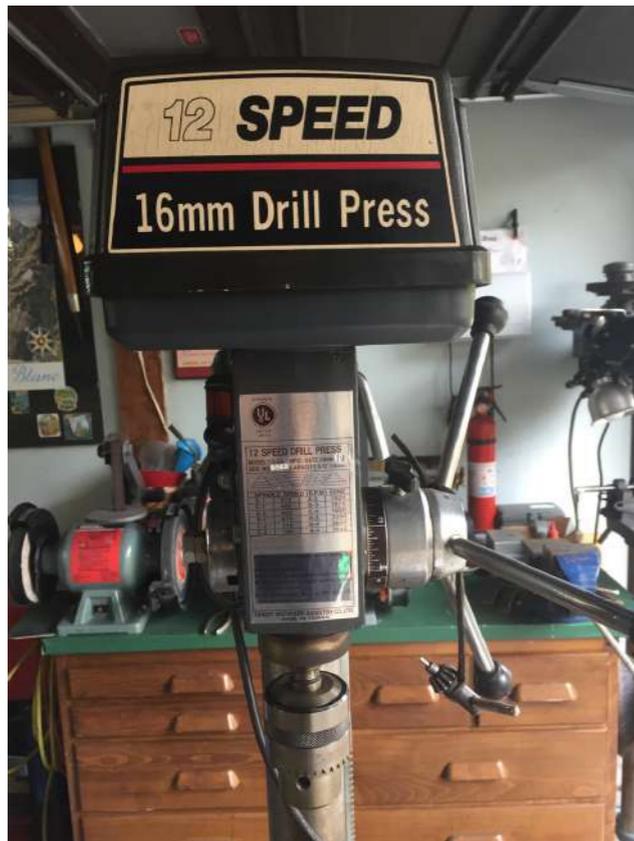


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AutoWeek

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**David J. Bak
Design News**



Alfa Romeo Spider Veloce

"Few cars are as much fun to drive (as the Spider). Quality workmanship throughout. Not inexpensive, but a lot of car for the money."

**John Eaton
The Denver Post**

"The 164 fairly pulsates with hot, Mediterranean blood. Certainly one of the best handling front-wheel-drive cars, the 164 is forgiving, consistent, predictable. This may be the best all-around Alfa ever."

AutoWeek



Alfa Romeo 164 S

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Automobile Magazine**

"[The 164 S] is one of those rare cars that make [us] want to keep driving, just to hear it and feel it run."

Road & Track

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**Richard Truett
Orlando Sentinel**

"The 164 S is a kick to drive. It has a nice balance, terrific brakes, and the 200-horsepower SOHC V6 offers plenty of punch. In other words, it looks good, feels good, and is generally great to be around."

**Michael Brockman
Motor Trend**

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