

Alfa BITS



JUNE 2006



Photo: E. Roe

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HOT NEWS - READ NOW!

MINI-RALLY 3, June 11th

NEW LOCATION! NEW TIME! YEAH, BABY!
John Olson and Reid Trummel have teamed up as co-rallymasters for the June 11 Mini-Rally, third in the 2006 series, and there's a new start location and a new start time for it.

The start point for this rally will be the venerable Stark Street Pizza Company, 9234 SE Stark Street, Portland, popular site of so many car club meetings over the years and to this day.

The start time is one hour earlier than usual, meaning a First Car Out time of 9:01 a.m. Participants should arrive by 8:30 a.m.

Covering about 70 miles with the first car returning to Stark Street Pizza about 11:45 a.m., this rally covers many of east Multnomah County's wonderful and scenic rally roads, literally

Cover Photo: Ed & Jacob Godshalk on the 2006 Old Spider Tour
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taking you over the river and through the woods (complete with a stop at grandmother's house).

Plan now to attend Mini-Rally #3, another fun rally in the Portland area's best rally series, and *the last Mini-Rally before the Monte Shelton Northwest Classic Motorcar Rally*. Yeah, baby!

Need more info? Call Reid at 503.753.3700 or email to editor_reid@hotmail.com

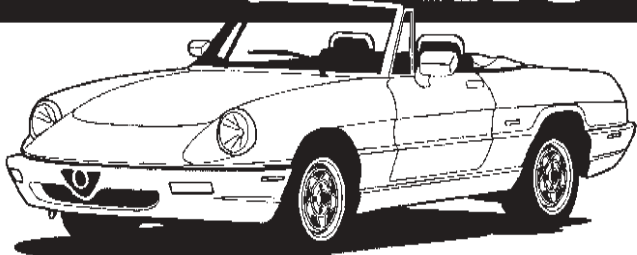
**Alfa Deco 2006
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It's this year's AROC National Convention, you know... the big show Alfa Romeo!

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HOT NEWS - READ NOW!

TRI-CLUB TRACK DAY JUNE 23RD

Tri Club Track Day is scheduled this year on June 23, 2006. BMW is the host for this round so start looking on their web site for a registration form.

Next year it will be our turn to host the event so start getting your car ready. In fact, AROO has a track day coming on October 22, 2006, if you can't make it to the tri club day, you can surely make it to the October one.

See you at the track. Remember, if we don't support PIR, it might not be there when we want it.

Columbia Gorge Classic June 23-24-25

Get your classic British car or pre-1980 collector ready for a great rally weekend! This year's Columbia Gorge Classic Rally-master is AROO's own Reid Trummel. Perfect practice time for the Northwest Classic Motor Car Rally just a few weeks later!

2006 Monte Shelton Northwest Classic Motor Car Rally August 10-13

Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon presents the 2006 Northwest Classic Motor Car Rally. Perhaps one of the West Coast's most prestigious Vintage Automobile events, this year's Rally will be heading to Silverdale, Washington, located in the beautiful Puget Sound area.

Whether a volunteer or participant this event is sure to be a lot of fun. Reserve a room at the Silverdale Beach Hotel by calling 360-698-1000. Plan ahead, mark you calendar, get you classic car ready, call your favorite driver or navigator, and sharpen those TSD skills!!!!

FROM THE DRIVER'S SEAT

Marty Schneiderman, AROO President

We should all be very excited! At our last membership meeting on 5/17/06, our own AROC President, Bill Gillham, was our keynote speaker for the evening. He informed us that, according to the Italian Press and corroborated by Alfa Romeo Inc. in Orlando, Florida, Alfa Romeo will resume sales of automobiles in the United States. Target date for this huge happening is late 2007/early 2008. A new dealership network will be established with dealers selling and servicing both Maseratti and Alfa Romeo. According to ARI, Alfa Romeo will import: the 159, the Brera in Spider and GTV form, the 8C competition, and perhaps two turbo diesel models.

Along with this great news of reentry to the U.S., our Oregon chapter would like to host the national convention for 2008. This convention would celebrate the 50th year of Alfa in the U.S. and also the 40th year of AROO.

If these stars were all to align, just think of all our possibilities! The combination of a new generation of Alfisti, combined with our current membership, will create a new enthusiasm that would last far into the future. What an incredible Marque we all enjoy! This is the "shot in the arm" we Alfisti have needed. Hopefully, it will come to pass.

The month of June again brings out some great events for us. June 11 is the Mini Rally Cup Three. Reid Trummel and John Olson, co-rally masters, will lead us and start at Stark Street Pizza Company, 9234 S.E. Stark Street, Portland. The first car out will be at 9:01 A.M. Participants should arrive by 8:30. This will be the last chance to tune up your rally skills before the August Monte Shelton N.W. Classic Rally.

Wednesday, June 21, in lieu of our monthly meeting, please join us for our annual evening tour. Meeting at Lewis and Clark State Park, just beyond Troutdale on I-84, at 6:30 P.M., we will leave at 7:00, with our driver's meeting at 6:45.

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MEETING MINUTES

Minutes, AROO Board Meeting 5/3/06

Respectfully submitted by Diane Sommers, for Kim Lindstrand secretary

Board Present: Marty Schneiderman, Alex Carrara, Char Sommers, Dan Sommers, Bruce Fogerty, Bob Gordon, Dave Beach, Dave Rossman, Dave Reich. Board Absent: Kim Lindstrand. Others Present: Diane Sommers, Tami Iaboni, Nicholas Iaboni, Lisa McNabb, Fred McNabb, Glenn Vanselow

Meeting called to order by President, Marty Schneiderman, at 7:30 p.m.

Treasurer: Dave Rossman reported that the books have been sent to Ken Ivy for taxes. No further report.

Membership: Lisa McNabb reported 1 new member.

Minutes: Kim Lindstrand was absent, Marty went over the minutes. No changes.

Mother's Day Tour: Bob Gordon reported that 23 people have signed up. Bob given insurance forms to send in. He is concerned that so few have signed up.

Old Spider Tour: Report by those present who attended, good roads, good tour. Very much enjoyed.

Historic Races: Lisa reported that she has 16 cars signed up.

General membership meeting 5/16: Bill Gillham to speak about 2008 National Convention.

Alfa Bits: Dave Reich reported that May's issue is printed and ready to mail, waiting for labels from AROC. He is also collecting articles etc for June's issue, and needs photos from events.

Mini Rally: Dan Sommers reported that May 7th mini rally is ready. It will begin and end at The Rock Creek Tavern.

Web site: Ron Zaitz relinquishing duties as Web Master. Neil D'Autremont is ready to take it over. Discussion: Club and Board need to support Web Master with information.

Old business:

Track Days: Discussed probable changes to track days. How changes in AROC insurance could affect track days. Also discussed probable problems with potential closure of PIR.

Discussion regarding AROC insurance and Dave Beach's investigation on other possibilities for Track insurance. Dave will present his results to the National Board. Dave and Char will convey to National Board the importance of AROC insurance to AROC.

New Business:

Discussed 2008 convention. Motion was made by Char Sommers, seconded by Glenn Vanselow and withdrawn by Board for AROC to present the 2008 convention either singly or in conjunction with Canada as a joint venture. Char Sommers to communicate with Bill Gillham the Board's concerns about Canadian connection, particularly since it is no longer an AROC club.

Motion was made by Dan Sommers, seconded by Bruce Fogerty and passed by Board for AROC to present and host the 2008 AROC convention. Bill Gillham, Char Sommers and Dave Beach are to present our bid at this year's convention.

General membership meeting is evening tour. Meet at Lewis & Clark Park rather than Busters.

Marty presented a plea from member Russ Paine for cars for display at a art & car show August 20th at Orenco Station.

Dave Reich passed out documents to the Board outlining duties and protocol of each member. Board members to list their duties as they see them. These documents will be assembled for future use.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

AROO EVENING TOUR

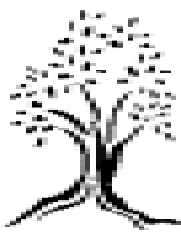
The AROO Annual Evening Tour is Wednesday, June 21. We will meet at Lewis and Clark State Park (just beyond Troutdale on I-84) at 6:30pm. Drivers' meeting is 6:45, leaving at 7pm.

We will wind along the bucolic roads of the Sandy River, crossing at Dodge Park, enjoying some great views of Mt. Hood (if the weather is good), and returning by country roads to Yoshida's new Riverview Restaurant at the Stark Street Bridge and the Sandy River.

The Riverview has a glass-walled private room that looks out to the new gardens and the river. The room seats 40, with any overflow in the main dining room. It is a bit more upscale than many of the AROO venues but worth it for the ambiance and excellent food. Penny, our son and I personally critiqued the restaurant and gave it high marks.

With as many folks as we often have for these tours, they have asked that we order a week ahead of time. The menu is available at <http://www.yoshidariverview.com/?pg=menu> so you can choose at your leisure and let us know what you want to order. They may be able to accommodate a few drop-ins, but it will be a risk.

Please e-mail or call to let us know of your participation and your preference from the menu by June 14. David (drossman@cascadeaccess.com) or Penny (prosswoman@hotmail.com) Rossman at 503/695-2155. A Gresham Outlook article on the Riverview is available at <http://www.theoutlookonline.com/article/11296> Looking forward to seeing you for a fun tour!



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From the Duetto to the Brera: Alfa Returns to the USA

A news article from Italy's daily "Corriere Della Sera - Online"

Translated by Alex Carrara

The last model sold on the U.S. market was the 164, with sales ending in 1995. Yet, American alfisti's passion for the marque has never been stronger.

Turin - "Alfa Romeo will return to the USA". The announcement was made during the 2006 First Quarter Results conference call by FIAT CEO Sergio Marchionne, who also stated that the sooner the marque returns on this market the more likely it will meet its sales objectives.

Supercar - The news of Alfa's return has been heard several times before. At some point rumor had it that this was going to happen around 2007. It is indeed possible that 2007 might be the year in which Alfa Romeo will return to a market that, in the past, has brought a mix of successes and failures. The best way to recapture the Americans' hearts is to introduce a high caliber flagship model, like the smashing 8C Competizione that will be produced in limited numbers and will likely be unveiled at the 2007 Detroit Auto Show.

Reminiscing - Alfa Romeo retired from the U.S. market in 1995, shortly after celebrating its 80th anniversary. In 1991 I personally awarded the Mayor of Milano, Ohio, the commemorative anniversary medal that Alfa Romeo sent as a token of appreciation to the sister city. Though today the name Milano no longer appears on the logo. At the time, I drove a 164, (the last model that was imported on the U.S. market) which I delivered back to Alfa mechanics in Indianapolis, where the marque was running the famous Indy 500. Statewide, prior to the 164, other models were sold since the end of the 1950s and have always received rave reviews; that was also due to the widespread popularity of the movie "The

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2006 Old Spider Tour a Hit!

With over 25 Alfas and close to 50 people, perfect weather and great roads, AROOs 2006 Old Spider Tour was a another success. We were wondering what the weather might be. Early in the week, it was WET and not looking good. By Friday, a high pressure set in and we enjoyed some of the best car touring April weather I can remember.



Leaving Lewis & Clark Park Photo: E. Roe

The group met at the Lewis and Clark State Park just off I-84 by the Sandy River. A cool, but clear morning with the promise of a fine day ahead. Many fishermen had gotten there first and used up the parking spots, but we managed to squeeze in the Alfas. By 8:15 I had handed out over 28 instruction sets. I think we had 26 cars to start with. And, to my pleasure, 6 old Spiders. These included my Giulietta Veloce, Ed Godshaulk's Giulietta Veloce, Doug Klein's Giulietta Veloce, Bill Eastman's Giulietta Veloce,



Photo: E. Roe

Dave Rossman's Giulia Veloce and Dave Beach's Giulia Veloce. Wow, what a great collection of fantastic old Spiders! And all of these fine cars ran the 300+ miles without a single issue.

We also had a nice collection of late 1960s and early 1970s cars. One interesting fact - this was the first Alfa tour in a while that started out with ONLY Alfas in the group. Members really driving their Alfas is one of the many strengths of AROO.

Our route was focused on driving the two lane roads of the Gorge. We did have to take a short run east on I-84 to cross at the Bridge of Gods. After that, we enjoyed scenic two lane bliss. From Hwy 14, we took a nice loop called the Cook-Underwood road. A fine loop with a few curvy hill climbs that give you some of the best Gorge views available. The temperature was a bit cool at this point, hovering the 40s.

Once back on Hwy 14, we quickly turned to another favorite, Hwy 141 towards Trout Lake. From B-Z Corners, we took the road to Glennwood and were treated to a perfect view of Mt Adams.

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Our group at lunch, over 25 cars!

Photo: Joe Cantrell

were not too happy, but it made for a perfect lunch setting. Many a blanket was spread out and folks just soaked up the setting. Lush grass, warm sun after a morning of great driving – could it get better? Indeed.

From lunch we crossed over into Oregon and ran up Hwy 216, taking a back road to Moro. The hill climb out the Gorge was a hoot with the scenery changing from wooded and hilly to open fields, freshly tilled. The line of asphalt through this area was very smooth and great fun in our old cars.

Freshly covered in snow with bright blue sky, it was a treat. As we zoomed over wonderful Alfa roads, the mountain would pop out for our enjoyment. Truly a unique driving experience.

Our first break was at Leidl Park on the Klickitat river. A twenty minute break stretched into almost 45 minutes as folks enjoyed the company of fellow AROO members with the warm sun and crisp air. The few tops still up came down and all enjoyed the run to lunch via Goldendale.

Lunch was picnic style at Maryhill Park. First time I have ever been at that park and had sun, but no wind. Usually, you get one or the other. The windsurfers and kite boarders



Route 30 Cafe, Moiser

Photo: Joe Cantrell

From Moro we buzzed across the farm lands, Mt Hood ahead of us, and then enjoyed a rapid and very curvy drop to the Deschutes river. The road literally hangs on the edge of the hills side and looks like it belongs in the Alps of Northern Italy. Everyone's tires and brakes got a work out negotiating the rapid pace and tight turns.

Upon crossing Sherars Bridge over the Deschutes river, we stopped for an afternoon break at White River Park. This little park is a lush spot in the high plans. The river supported a couple of past dams for milling grain and generating



White River Falls Park

Photo: Joe Cantrell

Continued next page

power, but is now free flowing and a sight to see. The group was relaxed and enjoying the



End of Tour, Mosier Photo: Joe Cantrell

days. After a leisurely 30 minutes, we drove on to more great roads.

From White River Park, we drove to the Dalles and were treated to views of the fruit orchards clinging to the hillsides. We dropped onto I-84 for a quick run to our next section – the back roads to Mosier. Most folks enjoy the Rowena Loops, and while I cannot argue that this way to Mosier is wonderful, the Seven mile road is better. No traffic, lots of curves and you drive through a pine forest – just a great piece of touring.

We stopped in Mosier to enjoy an ice cream and some coffee at the Route 30 Café. Our group had shrunk some, but we still had about 10 cars and many happy people.

Benvenuto our new members to AROO:

Robert and Diana LaBrum
5291 ConComly Rd NE
Gervais, OR 97026-9763
702-379-2491

The LaBrum's own a 1967 Duetto and a 1987 Milano and are interested in Tours and Rallies. They certainly have the right cars for their interests!

Carl A. Foleen
2605 SE Sherman St
Portland, OR 97214-5565
503-234-3675

Carl does not yet own an Alfa but is beginning to look!

AROC PRESIDENT SPEAKS

Char Sommers

Board of Director AROO and AROC

AROC's president Bill Gillham was the special speaker at the May, 2006 general meeting. Bill thanked the club for inviting him to speak on what is dear to him. He gave us a rundown on the activities and responsibilities of being President of AROC (Alfa Romeo Owners Club). He explained he will average 70 to 80 e-mails a day and he answers every one of them as communication is the primary responsibility of being president. His goal settings during his term as president has been to bring involvement of the members and to improve communication with the board and all it's members.

Bill explained how AROO is the standard by which we should develop AROC's future. If accomplished, it would relatively insure the future of AROC.

Although our ranks seem to be declining at a slow rate due to age of some of the members who are unable to participate in the driving of



Bill Gillham & Marty Schneiderman.

their Alfa's and some members forget to pay their dues and are dropped from the roster. Many AROO members own as many as six, eight or more than ten Alfa's. The only way our membership can grow is by reaching out to those many Alfa owners who are unaware of the local activities available to an Alfa owner. Alfa's

are made for driving enjoyment, not something to be treated like a trophy.

According to the Italian press and corroborated by Alfa Romeo inc. in Orlando, Florida: Alfa Romeo will resume sales of automobiles in the United States in 2007 or early 2008. A new dealership network will be established with dealers servicing both Maserati and Alfa Romeo. According to ARI Alfa Romeo will import the 159, the Brere in Spider and GTV form, the 8C competition and perhaps two turbo diesel models.

As you know, 2008 will be the 50th year since the start of AROC and the 40th year since AROO began. AROO Board of Directors have unanimously voted to vie for the 2008 convention. Original discussion at last years convention was to celebrate the 50th anniversary

by combining three areas, British Columbia, Seattle and Portland. This idea did not become reality as the Canadians were unable to get enough members and Seattle was exhausted from their convention. AROO decided to go for the gusto. We as a club; love the involvement. Bill said he will be the Chairman if we get the nod. Bill recommends many types of driving events that will show off our Alfa's.

Bill reiterated he will be driving to Tulsa with Dave Beach and anyone interested in joining them on the trek should let Bill know as they are certainly welcome. Your reporter will be flying as time is of the essence but will be with them in spirit for every mile of fun and frolic on the way to Tulsa.

Thanks again Bill for being the speaker at my appointed general meeting.



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MOTHER'S DAY TOUR REPORT

It may have been the perfect day! Nine Alfas and two Ferraris left Elmer's Restaurant in Tigard under sunny skies, and in just slightly over two hours on some fun roads, arrived at Coleman

enjoy an already gorgeous view that was enhanced by a row of shiny (mostly) Italian cars nicely positioned between our picnic tables and the vineyards themselves. Kim and Randy Coleman were great hosts, poured generously,



Vineyards to find fine wine, great food, and a wonderful view awaiting us. When we were asked how we managed to pick such a great day for our tour, Dan Sommers replied: "We're an Italian car club, we made special arrangements with the Pope!" We were joined at the winery by two more Alfas and a rogue Cobra, and got to

and told us that we are welcome to return there anytime.

There was some attrition after the lunch hour, and once again nine Alfas and one Ferrari took to the road for a short but enjoyable half hour back roads drive to the Evergreen Aviation Museum. We were met out front and asked if we could help with their lawn weed problem by parking out in front of the museum on the grass. We obliged, and took the nice gentleman up on his offer of a group tour. The museum is one of those places that is always being upgraded, and

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was full of surprises, even for those of us who had been there before. Good fun!

All in all it was as if the Pope really did come through for us, because everything seemed to



come together as it all too rarely does. Except for a minor Ferrari grounding on the lawn in front of the vineyards, there were no mishaps, and everyone seemed to really enjoy themselves.

Photos: Bill Spencer & Bob Gordon



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18th Annual Monte Shelton Northwest Classic Motor Rally August 10,11,12,13, 2006

Sponsored by Monte Shelton Motor Company for the benefit of the March of Dimes.

Organized by the Northwest Classic Rally Committee of the Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon.

On behalf of the Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon and the March of Dimes, we are inviting you to apply for the 18th Annual Monte Shelton Northwest Classic Motor Rally. As is our tradition, the rally will be four days in length. We will begin on Thursday evening at Monte Shelton Motors at 1604 S.W. Alder in the heart of downtown Portland for a no-host social, during which your automobile must be made available for tech inspection. We will conduct a driver's meeting to answer questions, register your automobile and give you your official rally number. On Friday and Saturday, August 11 and 12, we will be rallying in northern and western

Washington with Silverdale as our destination. Sunday, August 13, we will have our awards brunch and conclude the event by 12:00 noon.

The rally will follow scenic back roads and some highway routes as we head toward Silverdale. We will be staying at the Red Lion Silverdale Hotel near Puget Sound both evenings. The reservation number for the hotel is 1-800-544-9799. The room block is listed under NW Classic Motor Rally. Please save this phone number! All room reservations must be made by June 15, 2006 to hold rates. The room costs are blended at \$95.00 so I expect the best rooms to go quickly.

We will present the traditional form Northwest Classic this year, a comfortably paced rally, semi-technical in nature using paved roads. Scoring is determined by correct times through checkpoints. The real objective is to enjoy your car, your friends and to have a good time. Off course control areas, should any be used, will be well marked or manned to avoid losing a lot of time if you venture into one. All odometers and speedometers must be of original equipment type (on car when manufactured).

Route and scoring will be supervised by Dr. Patrick and Tami laboni, our rally masters, and this will be their second opportunity to challenge our skills. The pace of this year's rally will be as usual and we will be adding additional rest stops due to long transits or montes.

The rally will be limited to eighty cars. The types of automobiles we accept are sports cars that fall into the pre-catalyst era or are from the first few years after that time (1974). The committee will begin the selection process for the event after April 1, 2006.

The entry fee is \$550.00 U.S. currency and will cover registration and meals for two persons. The cost of accommodations at the destination resort is the responsibility of the participants.

To get an application form, if you have any questions, or desire more information, please contact Jim Gunter at 503-698-8090 (home) or 503-382-4503 (office). Additional information on current and past events is available at www.alfaclub.org or e-mail to nwrally@comcast.net

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10th Annual Mirafiori (Fiat) Oregon Event returns to Howard Prairie Resort July 20-23, 2006



The Mirafiori Oregon Event has evolved to an internationally recognized Major West Coast HAPPENING for Fiat/Lancia enthusiasts. 2005 brought a participant from Germany. Each year draws the hardiest Fiat Folk from Eastern USA. You know...like from Colorado, Texas, and Utah!

Four days includes traditional camping activities of hiking, boating, bird watching, and enjoying the lovely Resort, located 20 miles east of Ashland OR. But the real reason we're there is for bench racing, car ogling, and touring of the scenic mountain countryside in Southern Oregon. For 25+ drivers, The Fiat Trackday at Jackson County Sports Park on July 21 is the prime attraction. 2006 will be the 5th consecutive year for The Trackday, which continues to draw a nice mix of 1st timers, as well as many returning drivers. Some drivers only run this Trackday, some are diehard racers.

Approximately 50 I-cars are expected, along with about 100 Fiat's. I say "I-cars", since some Alfas usually show up. AROO members are cordially invited to come check it out.

A unique aspect of this event is that it is put on by the participants. Every activity is put on by someone who simply steps up and does it. Volunteers abound whenever an activity leader steps up, so the work is shared. There are no officers, no meetings, no dues, and no club...just a bunch of Fiat Nuts who have come together at the premier Fiat website, www.mirafiori.com

Diversity of participants is vast. Ages range from teens to 'over 70', vehicles range from beaters to trailer queens, economic levels from 'well heeled' to 'mountain folk'. There are \$100 cars to five-figure restorations, fully prepared racecars to daily drivers. There are no fees, other than the trackday. Info links:
Resort: www.howardprairieresort.com
Track Facility: www.sccmedford.com (gotoTrack link)
All about event: www.mirafiori.com/oregon2006
Or call Mike Mittelstead at MetroPrint 503-252/4009

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1978 Alfa Romeo Spider , 88K original miles, White, no rust, new canvas top, new tags, DEQ. Very clean car ready for summer. \$3800.00 OBO (503)777-8848 Silas

1979 Alfa Romeo Spider Veloce, 95k miles, 3 owners excellent mechanical condition: new clutch, new brakes, new starter, new alternator, new tires, great maintenance record, black color with tan leather seats, am/fm cassette, few cosmetic defects, scratch on nose, some tears in leather seats, top is water tight \$5,000 obo, Josh Kling, 503-260-8974, jkling@westernrivers.org

1979 Alfa Romeo Alfetta Sedan for sale for the best offer. Mechanically it is good, interior is rough (4/10), and the body is rusty (4/10), but it is an excellent donor car if you require drive line and misc. parts. The car is located just outside of Victoria, B.C. Canada. Rob Carson, Tel: 250-652-0733, carsonpacific@pacificcoast.net

1988 Alfa Spider Quadrifoglio, black with 37,700 original miles. Always garage kept. Includes original factory hardtop, owners manual, tool kit, window sticker, convertible top boot and even the rear window cloth. Also has Koni shocks and springs installed by Veloce Motors, IAP windscreen and Wolf car cover. Interior and exterior in excellent condition, dashboard has no cracks. Serious inquiries only. Contact Mike at 503-624-0221. \$10,000.00

New Alfa Romeo Milano CAR COVER, custom made. I haven't had the car in years and found the car cover when we recently moved. I'd like

to get it into the hands of someone who can use it. \$35.00, and can be delivered to the Portland/Vancouver area. Greg Brunette design9t9@msn.com h:503-697-3062 w:360-896-0442(cell)

Alfa Owner and Alfa Bits from 2002, some unopened. Probably most issues. Maybe a 100 issues. Take all. Free. Tom Nelson 502 273 8098

Driver's Seat, from page 2

Led by David and Penny Rossman. If you have any questions, call them at 503-695-2155. Look for further details in this issue.

I want to thank Bob and Gail Gordon for an exceptional Mother's Day lunch and wine tour at Colman Vineyards. The day was sunny, the scenery beautiful, with good friends and delicious food. We ended our day touring the Howard Hughes Spruce Goose at the Evergreen Aviation Museum. It was a perfect day for all.

See you all at the June events. Drive carefully and enjoy the journey!

Alfa Returns, from page 4

Graduate", perhaps one of Dustin Hoffman's most famous flicks.



The Milano - In the spring of 1986, the new Milano was grandly introduced in Phoenix, Arizona. The Milano (which was sold in Italy as the "75"), on the exterior had federalized bumpers (which were used here on the 3.0 V6 and Turbo versions of 1987) with side-markers

and a slightly different color scheme. The interior dashboard featured unique graphics such as a chrome-plated Milano tag and a cigarette lighter knob with the cloverleaf logo. Air Conditioning was standard on all models, ABS, Limited-Slip differential and sun-roof were also available.

American flops - To market the 164 and Spider models simultaneously, ARDONA was established (Alfa Romeo Distributors Of North America) in joint venture with Chrysler. This ended in 1994 along with Alfa Romeo Inc., which originally had headquarters in both New Jersey and California. In 1990 Alfa introduced the 164 and the Spider Veloce. The 1978 year-model Spider, initially sold in California, featured a hideous U.S.-only "Niki Lauda F1" version; that was to commemorate the Austrian F1 driver that switched from Ferrari to the Brabham - Alfa Romeo team.

High Fever - As previously stated, the 164 was the last Alfa sold on the U.S. market... a market that will re-open for a new player. Predictably the fever is rising among U.S. alfisti in view of the marque's return. Unlike the apathy shown by Americans for the departure of other car makers from the market, The "Cross and Serpent" still draws a strong desire in fans to see new and exciting cars on the roads colored in stars and stripes. According to the Detroit News, there are many enthusiasts that keep the Alfa passion alive in hopes of a return from the eleven year absence: "Those who know and love these cars, better known as alfisti are still devoted to the Italian marque. At the annual Alfa Romeo Owners Club convention of 2005 held in Bellevue, Washington, hundreds of American alfisti showed up at the event, all driving legendary Alfa Romeo models from the past".

Nestore Morosini, May 4th, 2006

Disclaimer: the views expressed in this article are solely those of the author, not the translator... we cool? Capeesh??

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If you own an Alfa and are not a member of the Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon, you may not appreciate what a magnificent machine you're driving. AROO is a friendly and dedicated group of Alfa enthusiasts who can show you how to get the most out of your Alfa - driving, maintaining or just purely enjoying. You'll get this monthly newsletter, Alfa Bits and the national magazine The Alfa Owner, discounts on parts and service, and an invitation to dozens of fun events: tours, track events, tech sessions, picnics, banquets and monthly meetings.

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AROO Membership Chairman, P.O. Box 10072, Portland, OR 97296

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION INFORMATION

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YEAR AND MODEL ALFA(S) YOU OWN: _____

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Other _____

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The Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon, Inc. is a non-profit organization of Alfa Romeo enthusiasts and is a regional chapter of the Alfa Romeo Owners Club, Inc. It is incorporated in the State of Oregon. Meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month, except December. The Board of Directors is elected by the Membership. Membership dues are \$60.00 per year. Subscription to Alfa Bits only is \$25.00 per year. For information, contact one of the officers or drop a note to the post office box.

AROO Web Page <http://www.alfaclub.org>

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