



ALFA BITS

Published by the Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon

Alfa Bits

SEPTEMBER 2015



August evening tour
Photo George Kraus

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Just a reminder, this months meeting is back at Ernesto's Restaurant, 8544 SW Apple Way, Portland, OR 97225. See page 7 for details.

ALWAYS IN NEED FOR CONTENT

I encourage any and all submissions of either articles or photos for future issues. It's your newsletter, and it will greatly improve with your participation. Submissions are due by the first Wednesday of each month. I will try to publish the *Alfa Bits* one week before the general meeting which is the third Wednesday of each month.

Cheers, *George Kraus* Editor.

ALFA BITS is the official newsletter of the Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon. It is published 10 or 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 Advertising Manager [George Kraus](#) for details.

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From the Driver's Seat

By Roger Dilts, Pres.

Where did August go??

Wow, how did it get to be September so fast? After the haste and blur of the Monte Shelton Rally at the end of July, I ducked out and hid for a while (see last month's "non-column"), catching up on some chores and doing some serious camping, hiking and mountain biking with my brothers and their families. I missed my first Board meeting in five years, but the rest of the Board managed without me. I did get the spider out for the August Evening Tour, which was a blast, if lightly attended. Not much else car-wise. Planted the late summer garden, hosted and attended a number of birthday parties. And the month just slid away.

So here it is, the last month of official summer, although the last couple of days show that fall can drop in any time. A good time to look forward to the remainder of the AROO year. First up is the regular membership meeting set for 7:30 at Ernesto's in Beaverton on the 16th. Yulia Smolyansky will be presenting slides by Joe Cantrell and Rick Warner of the Monte Shelton Rally and other AROO events. I've gotten several emails from new members who are interested in participating, so be there to welcome the newcomers and find out what happened all summer.

The first driving event is the AROO Fall Tour to Astoria on September 19-20, organized by Tom McGirr. Tom's tours are always great, so if you haven't signed up, you should. The next weekend is the Fifth Annual (and the last one to be put on by me) AROO

President's Tour on Sunday the 27th. We'll be starting in the Gorge and touring part of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, ending with lunch at the Full Sail Brew Pub in Hood River. I've got a great route planned and you need to complete your collection of dash plaques, so be sure to join us. See the promotional page elsewhere in this issue for details and watch your email for Event Alerts.



Next up is the AROO Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on Sunday October 18th, one of my favorite AROO events. We are an all-volunteer organization, which means nothing happens without a lot of work by folks doing it just for fun. Here we get to thank you. Dinner at Ernesto's is on us! So if you've volunteered for anything this year be sure to come and get our sincere thanks.

George Kraus will be hosting the October membership meeting with the story of restoring his beautiful black Giulietta spider. Come see how he turned a pile of parts into a 100 point concours winner. October closes out with Fall Track Day. Come out and drive, or come out and volunteer, but don't stay home.

I'll cover the rest of the year next month, but right now you need to know that there are several open positions on the Board for next year and the election is in November. Please consider serving your club with a term on the Board.

Other than that, be sure to catch some driving time before it gets too nasty out there. Right now gas is cheap, the roads are dry and your car is running great. So hit the road on an AROO tour. You'll be glad you did!

MINUTES - AROO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**August 5, 2015**

Location: Via Conference Call (freeconference.com)

Attendance: Bob, David, Mark, Lee Anne, Russ

Absent: Reid, Roger, Cindy, George

Time: 7 pm**Events and Liaison Reports**

1. Minutes review – Russ Paine - Approved
2. Treasurer's Report - Cindy Banzer - absent
3. Past events reports:
 - a. Portland Festival of Vintage Cars (Historics) – 155 participant cars, will repeat event in 2016.
 - b. AROO Summer Picnic – 23 members and 14 cars participated, great route, refreshments and food.
 - c. Monte Shelton Rally – Great success again, thanks to Reid and the Rally Committee!!
First action for 2016 Rally is to notify all 2015 participants of 2016 event – Motion approved.
4. Upcoming events
 - a. August 19: AROO August Evening Tour – David – has route developed, start at Sauvie's Island. Email Blast to be sent by George.
 - b. Sept 16: AROO Membership Meeting – Yulia – plans for a full slide show of recent events including the NW Classic Rally
5. MSNCR 2016 report – Jim/Mark – all moving forward, committee developing plans.
6. Calendar Review – Bob – Fall Tour Sept 19th – needs an Email Blast; President's Tour 29th – details TBD
7. Membership Report – Yulia – no update.
8. Merchandise/Apparel - Lee Anne – no update.
9. Competition and track – Mark – several items to discuss, will discuss Sept BOD meeting.
10. Advertising/Promotion/ Bits – George – no report.
11. AROC report – Cindy – no report.

New and Continuing Business

1. Track day (October 24): Neil has agreed to chair. Need to support him and provide policy guidance on Tech (rollbars, etc), price structure, promotion (use of videos, etc.). Need to obtain marketing video link from Reid.
2. Alan Chockie needs to be replaced as web site developer. We need to maintain the alfaclub.org domain name ongoing.

Adjourned 7:45 PM

Submitted by Russ Paine, Secretary

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Alfa Roads and Trolls

By David Fish.

When my son Matt was five, I had a red Milano Verde and I would put his car seat in the back and take him for rides on "Alfa" roads. "What are Alfa roads daddy?" he'd ask. "Alfa roads have lots of curves and go up and down and around hills, Matthew" I'd tell him. "They can also take us fun places to see family and eat good food" I told him on a trip over highway 20 through Clearlake on the way to the Napa Valley to meet my fiance and her family.

Fast forward thirteen years to August 19, 2015 and he is now driving me in my GTV6 over Alfa roads he found. Earlier that evening we met eight hardy Alfa club members who gathered in the 97 degree heat with their convertible Alfas in the overflow parking lot on Sauvie Island. From there we crossed back over the bridge and headed north on Hwy 30 to Rocky Point road where one of the roads broad curves gave us a panoramic view of downtown Portland.

A quick dash down Logie Trail put us back on Hwy 30 south towards Portland where we went climbed back up to Skyline on McNamee Rd. The road wound up the hill and under a rail trestle inhabited by Trolls--one of which came from Norway. Once we reached the summit, Skyline boulevard gently wound us south to Hwy 26 and across the Marquam Bridge to Bocci's on 7th in SE Portland. We arrived at Bocci's to find a chalk Alfa Romeo emblem on their today's soup board out in front of the restaurant. Inside and adjacent to the bar we found a block of tables saved for more than double our small group. The wait staff was friendly, the food excellent, and we enjoyed dinner and conversation longer than the evening tour we took to arrive there.



Trolls under the bridge, Photo David Fish.



Bocci's on 7th, Photo David Fish.

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

September 16th at 7:30 pm.

Yulia Smolyansky will present a slide
show of recent events including the
NE Classic Rally.

FALL TOUR TO ASTORIA!

September 19-20

PROCRATINAORS-ATTENTION PLEASE!

Room Block at Holiday Inn Express in Astoria expires at the end of the month. You can still probably find a room elsewhere, but this is still a busy time on weekends.

ALSO, IT WILL BE *NECESSARY TO **PRE-ORDER YOUR DINNER ENTRÉE*** which means *YOU NEED TO LET ME KNOW YOU ARE COMING AND PROVIDE AN E-MAIL ADDRESS SO I CAN SEND YOU THE LIMITED MENU!* As of now, the following have let me know they are coming: Doug Prentice (2) , Joe Sacamano (2), Scott Goodnight (2), Michelle Rand (1), Stu and Shirley Moss (2), Mark and Kathleen McGirr (2), Mark Brundage and Janelle (2), Fred and Lisa McNabb(2). If you are not on the list and you want to go, contact Tom McGirr at mcgirrt@columbiabank.com asap. Deadline for meal choices is Friday, September 11.

This trip can be done either as an overnigher or a day trip. We depart at **8am** from Cooper Mountain Nature Park (18892 SW Kemmer Rd, Beaverton). The first leg takes us out towards Yamhill, Bald Mountain, the Nestucca River and finally Pacific City where we will have an early lunch at the Pelican Brewery. Our afternoon leg takes us to Cape Mears, inland along the Miami River, Hwy 53 to Saddle Mountain State Park and finally to Astoria. We should be there by 4 so plenty of time for happy hour. Bring your favorite beverage and something simple to share.

In that this is still a busy tourist time, you should make your reservations soon as rooms will be limited. Contact Info: Holiday Inn Express & Suites – Astoria, 204 West Marine Drive, Astoria OR 97103, 503-325-6222 503-338-4702 888-898-6222 www.astoriahie.com. Riverview room \$199 , Cityview room \$179. If the Holiday Inn becomes full or you want a less expensive option, you can consider the Best Western about 6 blocks away (\$160) or if you do not mind a more modest facility, the Astoria Dunes or Astoria Riverwalk, both of which are close by which come in around \$100-110.

Dinner will be at Bridgewater Bistro, walking distance from the hotel. They are the #3 rated restaurant in Astoria. Being located on the river, the views are grand. Dinner will be at 5:30. Hence, day trippers will have several options: Leave after lunch or after dinner.

Sunday we will leave around 9:30AM and enjoy backroads towards Scappoose stopping at the Elk viewing area and ending up at Rock Creek Tavern for lunch where the tour will officially end.

Keith first joined the Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon club in 1969

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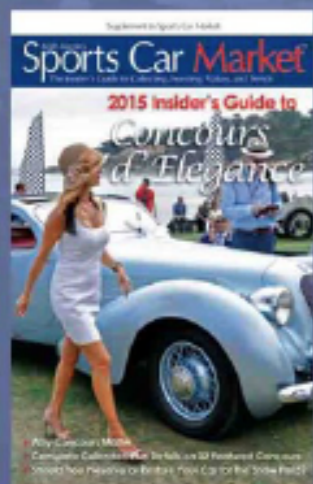
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EVERY FIRST WEDNESDAY:

Board Meeting at Buster's Barbecue in Tigard at 7 PM.

THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH:

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

September

2 Board Meeting, Buster's Barbecue, 7 PM Tigard.

11-13 Oregon Festival of Cars.

16 AROO monthly meeting at Ernesto's 7:30 PM.

19 AROO Fall Tour.

27 AROO President's Tour.

Here are some videos of AROO "Track" days at PIR!

Any Experience Level: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lk4vtwGtSAk>

Any Age: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CYvCdMMc4WU>

Any Car: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PRJKtO67utM>

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

Photo George Kraus

Bill Eastman, Fred McNabb, Tacoma 2015 LeMay Museum Motorcycle Meet.

October

3 Concours de Maryhill.

7 Board Meeting, Buster's Barbecue, 7 PM Tigard.

18 AROO Volunteer Appreciation dinner.

21 AROO monthly meeting at Ernesto's 7:30 PM.

24 AROO Track day PIR ([SEE INFO PAGE 19](#)).

November

4 Board Meeting, Buster's Barbecue, 7 PM Tigard.

18 AROO monthly meeting at Ernesto's 7:30 PM.

December

2 Board Meeting, Buster's Barbecue, 7 PM Tigard.

6 AROO Holiday Dinner ([SEE BELOW](#)).

Save The Date

AROO Holiday Party

Sunday, December 6, 2015, Multnomah Athletic Club

Details In October Alfa Bits

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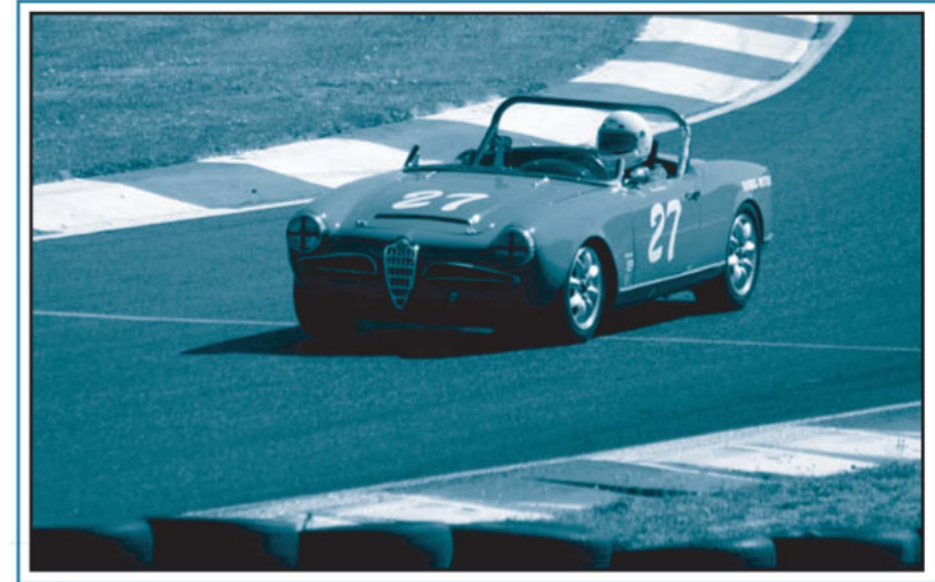
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NEW LOCATION!

Buster's Texas Style Barbecue

11419 SW Pacific Hwy

Tigard, OR 97223

7 p.m.



We would like to welcome the following members who have joined AROO in 2015. We hope you had the opportunity to get involved in some of the many AROO activities held this past year and those still ahead for the rest of the year.

Welcome!

Barbara Clark
John D'Anna
Larry Marks
Jonathan Spaeth
Bill Daemke
Dennis Everson

Tom Kreger
Jeff Roberts
Fred Zack
Lonnie Dicus
Frank Leonard



August evening tour, Photo George Kraus.



FIFTH ANNUAL AROO PRESIDENT'S TOUR SUNDAY, SEPT 27

START: Home Valley County Park ON WA-14, 8.6 Miles *east* of Bridge of the Gods. Enter the park and follow signs to "Swim Beach."

Meet at 8:30, depart promptly at 9 a.m.

100 mile tour of Gifford Pinchot National forest, ending with lunch at Full Sail Brewery in Hood River.

The fine print: there are four short sections of unpaved road on this tour, the longest is just over one-half mile, the others just a tenth. The break is at a USFS recreation area that charges \$5 per car, or is free with golden age/access passport, NW forest pass or USFS recreation pass, so be prepared.

AROO TRACK DAY at PIR

AROO track day is rapidly approaching and registration is open September 12, 2015, 12:00 AM PDT. Come join us for our October Track day at Portland International Raceway, Saturday October 24th.

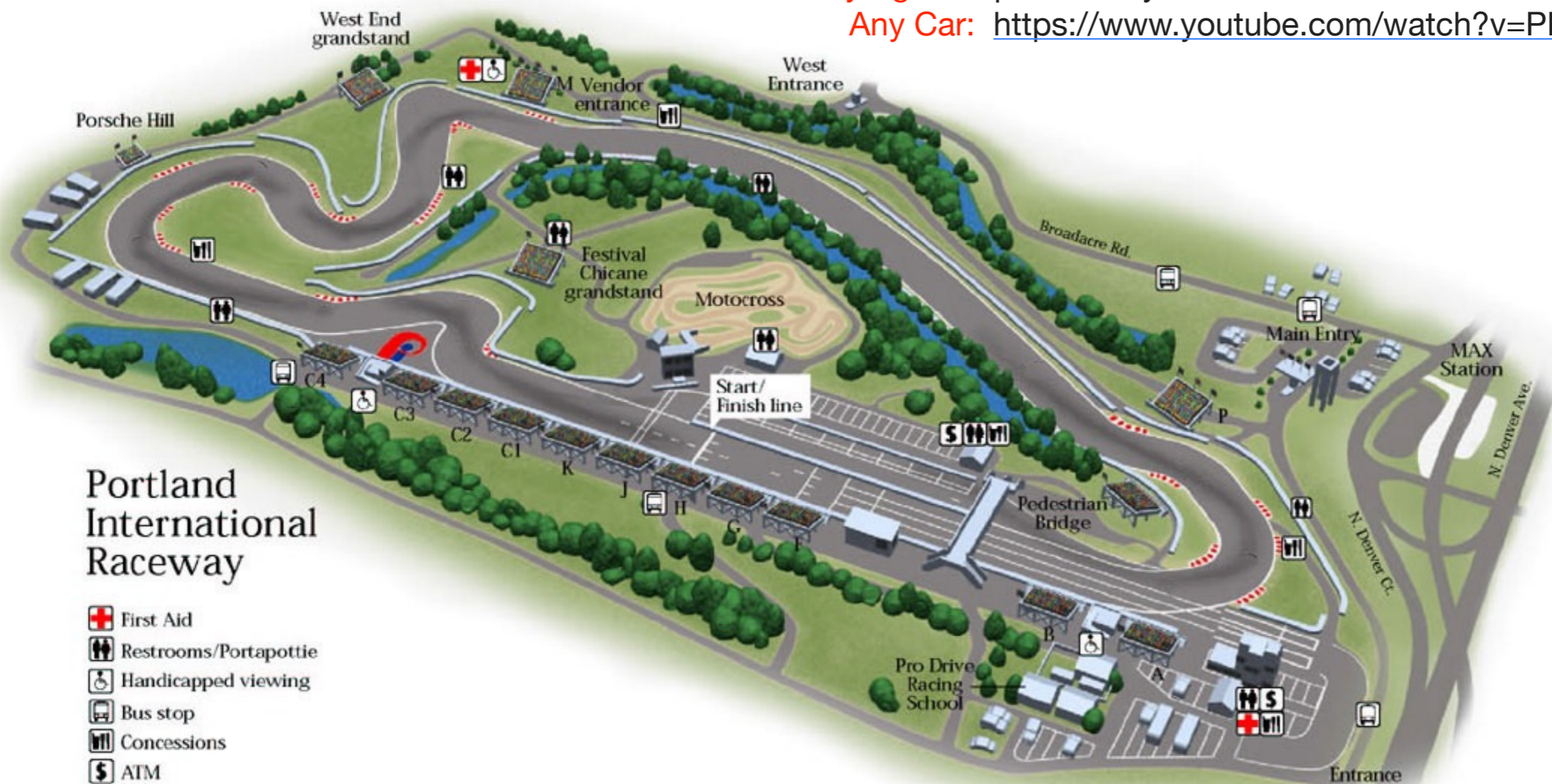
- **Drivers Registration:** Please click [here](#) to register.
- **We need volunteers!** If you are interested in volunteering please click [here](#) for volunteer registration.

Here are some videos of a previous track day this year. Enjoy!

Any Experience Level: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lk4vtwGtSAk>

Any Age: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CYvCdMMc4WU>

Any Car: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PRJKtO67utM>



The Back Seat



Photo George Kraus
MSNWCR 2015