



Alfa Bits

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ALFA ROMEO OWNERS OF OREGON

Volume 55, Issue 5

September 2023

Summer Picnic & Tour



Photo by Steve Davis



About the Club
The Board of Directors

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James Parker photo

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FROM THE EDITOR

Photo Cliff Brunk

Time to move on

Clubs run on the backs of a few volunteers, and it takes a lot of work in the background for it to prosper. If any one person does too much for too long, they totally burn out. I've always thought that if we do a LITTLE bit, for a LITTLE while, we can still contribute and enjoy all the benefits of the club. With that said, it's time to turn the reins of the newsletter over to someone new.

I hope that someone will step into the editor position and push it to where it needs to go. A fresh set of eyes, new enthusiasm, and new vision will keep Alfa Bits moving in the right direction.

Thanks to everyone for all the ideas, support, and help over the last few years as editor of Alfa Bits!

If you want to contact me my email address is james.parker@alfaclub.org.

James Parker
Alfa Bits Editor

ALFA BITS

Alfa Bits is the official newsletter of the Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon. It is published about 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.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

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.

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

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 [The Old Spaghetti Factory](#), 0715 SW Bancroft St., Portland, OR, 503-222-5375. June, July and August are evening tours. Check the newsletter for details.

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Sports Car Market salutes the
Northwest Classic Challenge

Summer Solstice Tour and Picnic

By Steve Davis

The tour was grand, the people were fantastic, the food was tasty... and except for a ten-minute rainstorm ("Quick, put up the soft-tops!"), the weather was great! The 2023 Summer Solstice picnic was another success, with at least 40 people coming from the South, East, West and North.

The tour group coming down from Portland followed much the same path as previous years, with tour leader Dennis Howell doing a tremendous job getting the cars here on time! By then, a number of other AROO-ers from all over had shown up. The first order of business was the impromptu car show on the front lawn, where all the Alfas were lined up. At the far end, by the garden, Stu Moss's Super race car was on the trailer, having just picked it up from The Sports Car Shop in Eugene. We had both old and new represented, with multiple Stelvios (Stelvii?) and 4C's, all the way back to a few late 50's/early 60's models.

After front-lawn gawking/talking, some people headed for the Shop, where Steve's 76 Alfetta GT Restomod continues to come together. A big change from last year, the car is on it's own suspension and off the rotisserie, and much of the interior is all in. The engine, newly rebuilt with help from Tom Sahines, was on a display stand, ready to go in. Next year (I promise!) it will be on the lawn!

Others headed directly over to the back yard deck, where chef Gilbert was already grilling up the burgers. Lots of good salads and desserts were also spread out on the serving counter, along with beer, wine, bubbly water and iced tea. For many, this is the closest event to them, and there was lots of catching up to do! Walking around, I did overhear Alex and Amy Haugland telling their table about their adventures on the SCM1000, which literally finished the previous day!

Around 3:30 or so, the participants all said their good-byes and started the drive back home. This event continues to be such fun, as it's all about our cars and our club members, talking and relaxing and sharing stories. We are already planning the 2024 edition – stay tuned and watch for a "Save the Date" – we may be adjusting the date so that we can have even more cars and people converging on the "middle of the state"!



September Meeting: Insider's Look Into Twin Spark Engines

Date: Saturday, September 16, 2023

Time: 11:30am – 2:30pm

Place: The Piacentini's Garage (address provided when a ticket is purchased)

Cost: \$20 per person

It's time to talk about twin sparks! Our September monthly meeting is shifting to Saturday so that we can have a very special program!

The Piacentini Brothers are graciously opening their shop to AROO members for a tech talk hosted by Bill Daemke. On hand will be three Alfa Romeos that feature these impressive engines and a rare twin-spark head for a 2600.

The featured vehicles will be:

- 1992 Alfa Romeo 155 with 8V TwinSpark (Doug Zaitz)
- 1996 Alfa Romeo GTV (Type 916) (Donald and Leslie Jackson)
- 2005 Alfa Romeo Bertone GT, 3-door hatch 2.0 JTS 5-speed (Paul Eklund)

We will gather and start with a lunch of pizza, salad, soft drinks, and other items to meet most dietary restrictions.

After lunch, the program will get started and should last about an hour. Then we can linger and visit as time and weather permits.

We ask that you purchase tickets ahead of time at the cost of \$20/person. Tickets are available at [this link](#). Once you have your ticket, you will get the specific location of the event. Please email chris.bright@alfaclub.org if you have any dietary restrictions to ensure we have enough for all to enjoy.

By Chris Bright



2023 Old Super Tour(s)

By Chris Bright

Date: Thursday, September 21 OR Saturday, September 23

Time: 9:00am (both days)

Location: Southbound French Prairie (Baldock) Rest Area on I-5

The venerable Old Super Tour is a sign of the arrival of autumn for AROO. Tour leader Dave Beach has added a new twist to this year's event with two options for participants to run it on Thursday, September 21, or Saturday, September 23. (Or the particularly hardcore folks can do both!)

Thursday Option - Tour of Marathon Coach

The impetus for this is that Dave has arranged for a special tour of the luxury coachbuilder Marathon Coach in Coburg. Since tours are only available on weekdays, the Thursday tour will have an opportunity to see how million-dollar motor homes are designed and assembled.

Saturday Option - Tour of Thompson's Mills State Heritage Site

The Saturday crowd will enjoy a tour of Thompson's Mills State Heritage Site near Shedd. The 160-year-old mill was a popular stop a few years back. Thompson's Mills is the last water-powered mill in the state and its turbines can be seen in action on guided tours.

The routes will be virtually identical and will get underway at 9 am from the Southbound French Prairie (Baldock) Rest Area on I-5. Both tours will conclude with a no-host lunch at a quaint restaurant in an historic house in Coburg.

For newer members, the Old Super Tour is open to members and can be driven in any car you desire. Old Supers, as the honored model, get to lead the tour.

Be sure to RSVP to Dave Beach at beachblueberry@gmail.com so that he can have an accurate headcount for the restaurant and tours.

Now with Thursday and Saturday Options!



David Labriere Returns with *Magnum Opus*

By Chris Bright

Date: Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Time: TBD

Location: TBD

Last November, David LaBriere presented a memorable evening of gorgeous photos synchronized with uplifting music. It was a night to remember.

Guess what? Hee's Baaack!! David will present another one of his fun/entertaining/dynamic slide shows, only this time without the old slide projectors. He is calling it his "Magnum Opus," whatever that means. In this presentation, evocative music supports beautiful photos of all kinds of life, including, but not limited to, cars that include Alfas and many other varieties, too!

This event will not be held at the Old Spaghetti Factory, and we will share the details when available.



AROO Fall Tour

October 7-8, 2023

By Tom McGirr

The Fall Tour is heading to the beach! Tour departs from Wallace Marine Park in West Salem at 9 AM. We will stop at Dory Cove in Lincoln City for chowder and be in Yachats by 4 PM.

Suggested lodging is Adobe Motel. 541-547-3141. I strongly recommend making your reservations early as I tried to book a room at the Fireside and Overlook Motels, where we have stayed on earlier tours, and both had NO ROOMS!

Please let me know if you are coming so I can make lunch and dinner arrangements.

Tom McGirr

tomsredalfa@gmail.com

503-362-8597

Historic Lodges Tour 2024 -UPDATES

4 spots left!

July 4-15, 2024

By Tom McGirr

Still a FEW spaces left for this 2024 tour. Unlike some earlier tours, you need to book your own reservations at each lodge/hotel. More work for you but you gain added flexibility to cancel up to a week or so before the event (in contrast to rooming contracts).

The 2024 Alfa Wannabe Tour will take us to three National Parks and feature 5 old lodges and 2 very old hotels, all on the National Register of Historic Places. The tour will be 12 days in length.

The first night will feature Timberline Lodge (1937). After an early afternoon walk among the wildflowers and a soak in the outdoor hot tub, we enjoy libations in the Rams's Head bar and enjoy fellowship and dinner in the lodge. Likely to see a lot of fireworks from the mountain.

Day 2 has us heading to Lake Quinault Lodge (1926) in the Olympic National Park. The lodge sits on the lake among huge fir trees. One will be able to choose among several short hikes in dense rain forest, see the world's largest Sitka tree and/or sit on the grounds behind the lodge and relax.

Day 4 we next head to Lake Crescent Lodge (1915) also in the Olympic National Forest. A short walk in the Hoh Rain Forest is a must since we are in the area. Thereafter, we visit Ruby Beach, which I feel is one of the more scenic beaches in the NW. Finally, we stop at the Makah Tribal Museum located on the NW tip of Washington. While not being a large facility, the museum has outstanding exhibits.

Days 5 and 6 are at Paradise Inn (1916) on Mt. Rainier. Along the way, we will drive up to Hurricane Ridge to bid farewell to the Olympic Mountains. If the snowpack cooperates, the wild flowers should be beautiful. Once in Rainier, we will take the scenic drive to Sunrise Point, one of the higher places one can drive to and have sufficient time to enjoy this beautiful setting.

The next destination is the Balch Hotel (1907) in the small town of Dufur. The hotel was built by Charles Balch, a rancher who relocated here from Massachusetts in the early 1900's. This hotel has been restored with loving care to retain much of its original glory.

Day 8 has us heading East to enjoy some open roads and the historic Grand Geiser Hotel in Baker City (1889). When the Geiser Grand Hotel opened, Baker City, Oregon, was known as the "Queen City of the Mines," a nod to the Gold Rush happening in the region.

The next historic lodge is too far away to reach in a day. Hence, we will spend a night in Bend at the fun and funky St. Charles School McMenamans.

Thereafter, we are off to Crater Lake Lodge (1915) for two nights. In addition to making the Rim Drive, we will take a cruise around the lake and spend some time on Wizard Island.

Continued



Continued

The tour is limited to 19 couples due to limited rooms at the Balch Hotel. If you have interest in joining this tour, you should call all the lodges/hotels and make your reservations. As of a few days ago, there were still rooms available at all the National Park lodges, but they usually fill up 8-10 months in advance. Here are the dates for each lodge/hotel:

- July 4-Timberline Lodge
- July 5-6-Lake Quinault Lodge
- July 7-Lake Crescent Lodge
- July 8 and 9-Paradise Inn at Mt Rainier
- July 10-Balch Hotel in Dufer Or
- Grand Geiser Baker City (call and ask for Barbara and refer to car club/me for special rate)
- Mc McMenamin's Old School in Bend
- Crater Lake-July 13 and 14

If you do get rooms, then let me know so I can add your name to the tour list c/o tomsredalfa@gmail.com.

Tom McGirr 503-362-8597



EVERY FIRST WEDNESDAY:

Board Meeting on Zoom at 7 PM Contact Chris Bright at chris.bright@alfaclub.org or 503-307-1261. All are welcome!

January

- 4 Board of Directors Zoom Meeting, 7 PM
- 18 General Meeting & Presentation, 6:30 PM

February

- 1 Board of Directors Zoom Meeting, 7 PM
- 12 Valentines Day Tour, host Rick Martin
- 15 General Meeting & Presentation, 6:30 PM

March

- 1 Board of Directors Zoom Meeting, 7 PM
- 11 AROO Cup Rally School, Sherwood, 10 AM
- 12 AROO Cup Rally #1, Wilsonville, 9 AM
- 15 General Meeting & Presentation, 6:30 PM
- 30-31 PIR Swap Meet
- 31 Portland Expo Swap Meet

April

- 1 PIR Swap Meet
- 1-2 Portland Expo Swap Meet
- 5 Board of Directors Zoom Meeting, 7 PM
- 16 AROO Cup Rally #2, Wilsonville, 9 AM
- 19 General Meeting & Presentation, 6:30 PM
- 22 Driving Tour and No-Host Lunch, host TBD

May

- 3 Board of Directors Zoom Meeting 7 PM
- 6 45th Annual Old Spider Tour & Lunch, host Bill Gillham
- 10-24 Alfa Wannabe Tour to Utah National Parks, host Tom McGirr
- 17 General Meeting & Presentation, 6:30 PM
- 20 Driving Tour and No-Host Lunch, host TBD
- 21 AROO Cup Rally #3, Wilsonville, 9 AM

June

- 5-15 AROC Goes to Italy
- 7 Board of Directors Meeting, Zoom Video Conference, 7 PM
- 11 AROO Cup Rally #4, Wilsonville, 9 AM
- 17 Summer Solstice Drive & BBQ, hosts Steve & Tina Davis
- 21 June Evening Tour, host TBD, 6 PM
- 17-25 AROC National Convention & Pre-Tour, North Carolina
- 23-24 FIA Formula E World Championship Race at PIR
- 23-25 Summer Tour to Mt St Helens & Condon, host Tom McGirr

THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH:

Monthly Meeting at Old Spaghetti Factory 7:00 PM — September through May. Evening tours — June, July and August. Check the complete AROO calendar [HERE](#).

July

- 5 Board of Directors Zoom Meeting, 7 PM
- 7-9 Rose Cup Races at PIR
- 15 Annual Summer Picnic and Wine Tour, hosts Russ & Carol Paine
- 16 Forest Grove Concours - Alfa Corral, host TBD
- 19 General Meeting - Not Scheduled
- 21-23 SVRA Portland Vintage Racing Festival at PIR

August

- 2 Board of Directors Meeting, Zoom Video Conference, 7 PM
- 3-6 34th Annual NW Classic Rally & Challenge in Eugene
- 11 Shelby America Auto Club NW Track Day at PIR
- 16 August Evening Tour, canceled
- 19 Portland Yacht Club Classic Boats & Cars Show, host Chris Finks
- 19 AROC Goes to Concorso Italiano in Seaside CA
- 26 Driving Tour and No-Host Lunch, canceled
- 27 Oswego Heritage Council Car & Boat Show, host Rick Warner

September

- 6 Board of Directors Zoom Meeting, 7 PM
- 8-10 Columbia River Classic at PIR
- 9 5th Annual Giro di Coupe Tour, canceled
- 16 General Presentation & Pizza, 11:30 AM-2 PM
- 21 Annual Old Super Tour #1, host David Beach
- 23 Annual Old Super Tour #2, host David Beach

October

- 4 Board of Directors Zoom Meeting, 7 PM
- 7-8 Fall Overnighter Tour to Yachats, host Tom McGirr
- 7-8 Maryhill Loops Road Hillclimb (SOVREN) & Show
- 14 Driving Tour and No-Host Lunch, canceled
- 15 AROO Dirty Rat TSD Rally, Wilsonville, 9 AM
- 18 General Meeting & Presentation, 6:30 PM
- 19-23 AROC Goes to USGP F1 in Austin TX

November

- 1 Board of Directors Zoom Meeting, 7 PM
- 15 General Meeting & Presentation, 6:30 PM

December

- 4 Annual Holiday Party & Silent Auction, 5:30 PM
- 6 Board of Directors Zoom Meeting, 7 PM
- 20 General Meeting - Not Scheduled

Welcome New Members & Congratulations to everyone with an anniversary.

New Members

Josephine Pino, of Beaverton
Jeffrey Singer, of Beaverton
Maxwell Hunker, of Newberg
Santo Graziano, of Beaverton

Member Anniversaries

Cheryl Hamilton – 1 year
Doug Stowell – 1 year
Bob Pease – 1 year
James King – 1 year
Chentao Yu – 1 year
Miles Buck – 2 years
Michael McGee – 2 years
Thomas Burke – 2 years
Travis Foxx – 3 years
Nikki Nalum – 3 years
James Hurst – 4 years
Jeff Sabatini – 5 years
Rich Olmstead – 6 years
Dennis Howell – 6 years
Lonnie Dicus – 8 years
Scott Pope – 10 years

Jerome Deluz – 10 years
Joseph Sweeney – 10 years
William Helzer – 11 years
Darci and John Spetter – 16 years
Roger Dilts – 16 years
Christopher Yeats – 21 years
Barbara and Steve Harrold – 22 years
James Prato – 24 years
Janos Jeszenszky – 25 years
Carrie and Marc Ereminas – 28 years
★ Donald and Leslie Jackson – 31 years!
★ Jim and Nancy Gunter – 36 years!
★★ David and Kathleen Beach – 42 years!
★★ Bill and Marian Gillham – 46 years!
★★★ Andy Gordon – 49 years!



Anniversaries and New Member list is prepared each month by Steve Davis. Thank you Steve.

★ *Members that have been with the club longer than 30 years.*
★★ *Members that have been with the club longer than 40 years.*

Board of Directors welcomes all members
to attend our meetings
on the first Wednesday of the month.

The Board meetings are now being held virtually via
Zoom. If interested in attending, contact Chris Bright
at (503) 307-1261 and chris.bright@alfaclub.org to
receive the login information.



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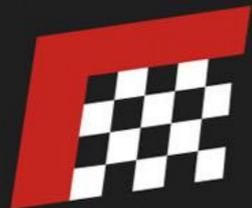
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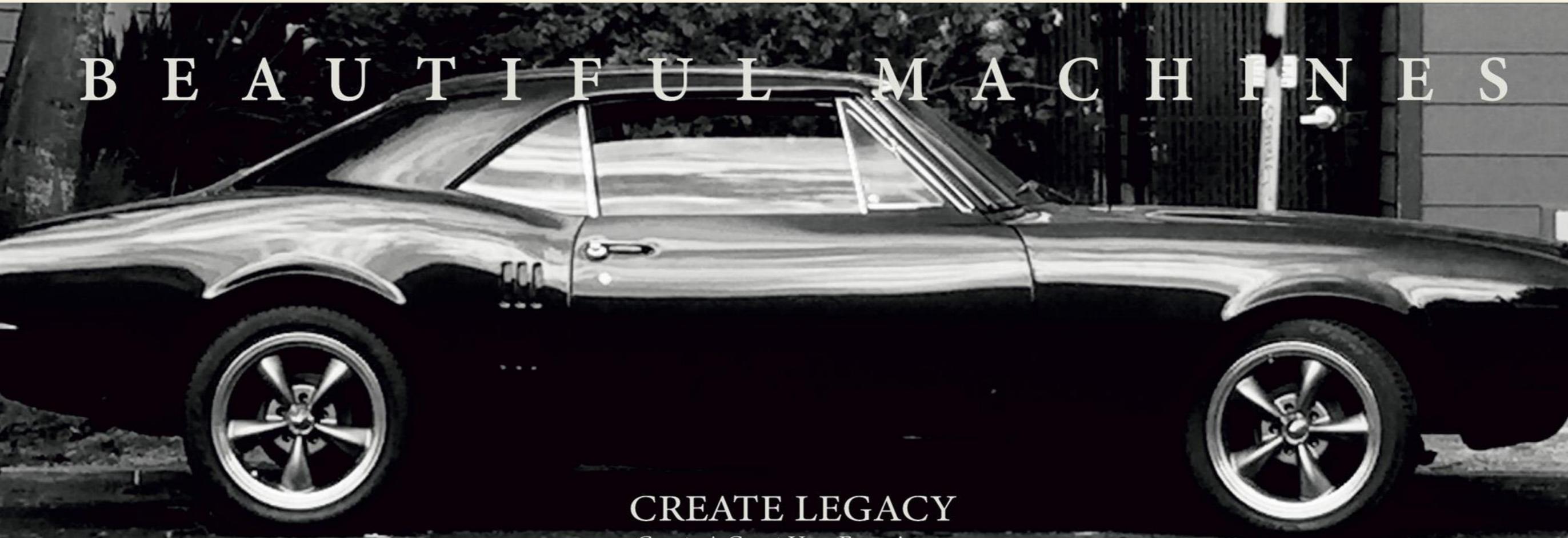
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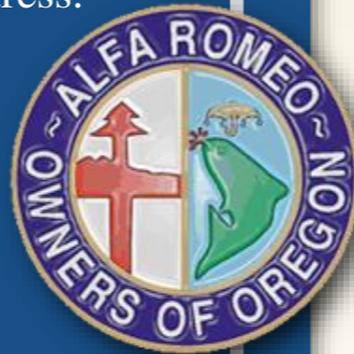
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David LaBriere
503-312-6855.



1967 Duetto

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Giulietta 7 cv | 1300 cm³ | Berline TI-155 kmh/Sprint-165 kmh/Sprint Veloce-180 kmh
Spider-165 kmh/Spider Veloce-180 kmh/Sprint Speciale-200 kmh



Les modèles ALFA-ROMEO sont importés en France par Renault et distribués par un réseau d'Agents spécialisés