



# Alfa Bits

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ALFA ROMEO OWNERS OF OREGON

February 2024 Volume 56 Issue 2

## From [Steve Davis](#) - AROO Board President

Hello AROO Members -

We are going to continue with this abbreviated format for a bit longer, as your Board of Directors works on new ways to improve the “connection” between club and its members. So, you get my column on the front page once again. But this time, your AlfaBits will have a “bit” more content!

I have some news and updates to share with you all. Members of the Board met a few weeks ago on January 27. Our main objective was to finalize the 2024 Calendar, which is on the next page. If you notice, we have added a number of tech sessions, directly in response to many of your suggestions. And, they aren’t just “old car” sessions - Board Member Steve Hunker is putting together a series of sessions on upkeep and info on the new-gen Alfas as well - Giulias and Stelvios. As we get more of these wonderful cars (and their owners!) into the club, we want to showcase how to care for them.

The Board also is undertaking some new and updated ways to stay closer in touch with our members. Of course, the AlfaBits (the premier Chapter Mag within AROC, in my opinion!) will continue. However, we want

to find ways to get more “current and right now” methods of communication. Additionally, we are working on the “look and feel” of our existing “print” and social media, and want to have more consistency. New Board Members [Lila Dale](#) and [Jan Lomax](#) are running point on this effort. Our plan is to augment the ‘Bits and the excellent email blasts that Doug Zaitz is doing - those won’t go away! Have any ideas? Let them know!

One thing you will start noticing in the AlfaBits is that we are going to better link the newsletter with the web site. So, instead of many pages of newsletter, you’ll see more “Click here to...” things. Our first example is that we will continue to make public all our Board Meetings, and the minutes to them will be posted on the Web Site instead of printed here. For example, the link to the February meeting (held Feb 7) is [HERE](#).

One thing we will ALWAYS include in the AlfaBits is info on upcoming events! Turn the “virtual page” to see our full 2024 Calendar (which we will continue to update online) as well as some info on our next few months of upcoming events.

Keep those cars nice and warm this winter; you are going to want to use them a lot in 2024!

## Club Stuff

AROO (Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon) is affiliated with the national Alfa Romeo Owners Club. Our club mailing address is: 6505 SE Stark St., Portland, OR 97215

AROO website: [www.alfaclub.org](http://www.alfaclub.org)

AROC website: [www.aroc-usa.org](http://www.aroc-usa.org)

We welcome Alfa owners, admirers and lovers of our beautiful Italian machines. To join, go to the AROC web site, click on “Membership” and follow the prompts to join AROC. When asked, choose AROO (Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon) as your club.

## Meetings and Events

Our club meets regularly throughout the year! We often meet the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm at the [Old Spaghetti Factory](#) at 715 SW Bancroft St, Portland, OR 97239. Our calendar of events is posted on our web site [HERE](#) and includes the General Meetings, plus tours, tech sessions, picnics/eateries, and more.



### 2024 Calendar of Events!

Mark your calendars NOW for these great events in 2024! We will be adding other events (as well as non-Alfa events of note) as we move forward. Note Links in Green.

Event Name	2024 Date
Annual Valentines Tour/Lunch	<a href="#">&lt;RSVP&gt;</a> Sun, 2/18
General Meeting	Wed, 2/21
Rally School	<a href="#">&lt;RSVP&gt;</a> Sat, 3/9
Rally Cup #1	<a href="#">&lt;Web Site/Registration&gt;</a> Sun, 3/10
General Meeting	Wed, 3/20
Rally Cup #2	Sun, 4/7
Old Car Tech Session/General Meeting	Wed, 4/17
Rally Cup #3	Sun, 5/5
45th Old Spider Tour/Giulietta 70th Anniv	Sat, 5/18
Tech Session at 503 Motoring	Wed, 5/15
AROC NATIONAL CONV - MICHIGAN	5/28-6/2
4th Annual SummerFun Tour/Picnic	Sat, 6/1
Rally Cup #4	Sun, 6/9
Northwest Classic Challenge	<a href="#">&lt;SIGN-UP!&gt;</a> 6/27-6/30
Annual Wine Tour/Picnic	Sat, 7/20
AROC Concorso/Forest Grove Concours	Sun, 7/21
Monterey Car Week	8/9-8/18
1st Annual "Old vs. New" Tour	Sat, 8/17
New Car Tech Session	Wed, 8/21
General Meeting	Wed, 9/18
Annual Old Super Tour	Sun, 9/22
Alfetta 50th Anniversary Tour	Sat, 10/12
General Mtg	Wed, 11/20
Annual Holiday Dinner & Tour	Sun, 12/8

### February Upcoming Events!

#### Sunday, Feb 18th - AROO/SCM Valentines Tour!

Our first big event of the year! Join tour-master John Clemson for a leisurely 120-minute, 80-mile "Drive in the Country" tour from the Beaverton area to Camp 18 for a no-host restaurant lunch.

If the weather looks particularly menacing, we will notify via email, and reschedule if necessary.

RSVP (not required but requested) to [John Clemson \(LINK HERE\)](#)

#### Details:

Where: South East Side Parking Lot at the Beaverton Town Square Fred Meyer [11745 SW Beaverton Hillsdale Hwy, Beaverton, OR 97005](#).

When: Sunday, February 18 - Arrive by 9:30 AM for some socializing and a to-go coffee, drivers meeting to follow at 9:50 AM, with departure at 10:00 AM sharp.

Arrive about 12:30 at [Camp 18](#). Lunch is on your own. Return when you are ready. We will email RSVP'ers if the weather is iffy.

#### Wednesday, Feb 21 - AROO General Meeting

Our first General Meeting will be held at the [Old Spaghetti Factory](#) at 6:30pm as per usual. **Please bring \$25 CASH to cover dinner.**

Beverages on your own. Pay Chris Bright - please don't forget!

Agenda will be:

- Steve Davis will present the 2024 Calendar
- Doug Zaitz will share pictures and stories from his visit to the Alfa Romeo Museo to celebrate the Montreal - amazing!

Gather at 6:30; dinner at 7:30; program at 7:30



### Rally Season is Approaching

#### March is about the Annual AROO Rally School and Cup

As an intro, AROO is known throughout AROC (and the PNW) as one of the premier Rally Clubs in the USA. Starting with the Northwest Classic Car Challenge (originally the *Monte Shelton Northwest Classic Car Rally*), AROO has given hundreds of people the opportunity to have fun and compete in a Time-Speed-Distance (TSD) Rally. A few years ago, AROO actually started our own Rally School, followed by a "cup series" of four TSD rallies, all leading up to the Northwest Classic.

Ever wanted to know how to TSD Rally? Want to be a part of the 34th Northwest Classic Car Challenge, but don't know a Transit from a Regularity? Here's your chance to learn!

Dates:

- School: Saturday, March 9, 9:00am, Langers in Sherwood, Free to attend, in person or by Zoom (sent w/ registration) NOTE: Preregistration is Required! RSVP to [Paul Eklund \(LINK\)](#)
- Rally Cup #1: Sunday, March 10
- Rally Cup #2: Sunday, April 7
- Rally Cup #3: Sunday, May 5
- Rally Cup #4: Sunday, June 1

Each event is \$20/car (\$30/car non-AROO). Pre-pay the series for \$60/\$90 (one free!). If you participate in all four, you are eligible for a cup trophy at season-end.

For more details, follow this [LINK HERE](#) to the AROO Web Site page for the AROO Rally Cup and School.

#### The Northwest Classic Car Challenge - June 27-30

The NWCCC is AROO's premier event, and this is the 34th running of it! Cars of all marques, from all over the western USA join the fun. It's a strict TSD; however, for those that want the fun of the drive without the competition, there is a separate Tour Class.

For 2024, the route starts in Portland, and then heads east. Home base hotel is the Cross Keys Station in Madras. Lots of fun events are part of the NWCCC - it's as much a social event as it's a driving event!

There's far too much to document here - all the details are at the [Northwest Classic Car Challenge home page LINK HERE](#)

### Big Alfa Anniversary Celebrations

When you are a car company that is over 100 years old, you are going to have some models that made a significant impact. At Alfa Romeo, two of those cars have BIG anniversaries in 2024... and we are going to celebrate them!

#### Saturday, May 18 - Old Spider & Giulietta 70th Anniversary Tour

There may be a handful of people on the planet that know more about the Giulietta than AROO's own Bill Gillham. Bill has been loving and restoring them for decades. With this year being the 70th Anniversary, he's promising a great tour, and hopefully, an opportunity for him to share what he knows about the car that moved Alfa from custom-build to mass-production - truly, one of the most important model ranges in Alfa's entire history. It's only right that this is also the "Old Spider Tour", which is AROO's oldest event - we've been running this tour for 45 years!

Mark your calendars now, and look for more information about this tour - we want to get ALL the Giuliettas out for this!



#### Saturday, October 12 - Alfetta 50th Anniversary Tour

For many Alfisti (your Board Prez included) the Alfetta was the "gateway car" to Alfa Romeo. Compared to the much loved Spider and GTV of the early 70's, the Alfettas (Sedan and Coupe) were strikingly different - in looks and technology. The Alfettas set Alfa Romeo on a path that continued into the late 80's. We are going to celebrate the Alfetta and it's technological brethren, the GTV6 and Milano, with a tour leading into Eugene to view the private [collection of Alex Haugland](#). Alex's collection is a stunning gathering of Italian, English and other European marques. He also has an Alfetta GT and a GTV6, so he's very much a part of the celebration! Look for more in future communications.