

The Serpent's Tongue

A Publication of the Delta Sierra Alfa Romeo Club

May 2008

Additional information and a variety of Alfa Romeo photos can be seen at www.Alfa-DSARC.org.

WINE COUNTRY CLASSIC RACES MAY 31 – JUNE 1, 2008 INFINEON RACEWAY, SEARS POINT

Infineon Raceway at Sears Point has invited us to have a car corral at the Wine Country Classic races for vintage cars on May 31st and June 1st. They have offered us a discount price on tickets of only \$35 for either Saturday or Sunday, or a combined ticket for both days of only \$50. That is a savings of \$5/day for an individual day's ticket and a savings of \$10 on the entire weekend ticket price.

In order to take advantage of this offer, we need you to send a check made payable to DSARC, P.O. Box 161587, Sacramento, CA 95816-1587 before May 19, 2008. You must also send us a stamped, self addressed envelope for the return of your tickets. It's very simple: No stamped return envelope, no tickets! Please tell us for which day you want a ticket; or if you want a ticket for both Saturday or Sunday.

If the Alfa Club members don't buy a least 20 tickets in advance, then there will not be any Alfa Romeo Car Corral according to Marc Holmes, the auto club account executive at Infineon Raceway. **NO LATE TICKET ORDERS.** If you don't get us your check in our hands by May 19th, then you will have to pay full price at the track to get in.

HILLSBOROUGH CONCOURS WINNER!

Long time DSARC member John Cecil reports that his very nice red 1969 Alfa Romeo 1750 Spider won 2nd in class at the prestigious Hillsborough Concours d'Elegance on Sunday, May 4. John reports that it was a very nice event with lots of Alfas and pre-Fiat Lancias. (John is also a tifosi of Lancias!) There was a terrific 1947 Alfa Romeo 6C2500 cabriolet, two Alfa Junior Zagatos, and an Alfa SZ. The most spectacular Alfa at the show was a 1930 6C-1750 GS Zagato Spider owned by the McClenahan family. The Palo Alto Concours d'Elegance, coming on June 22, will feature Alfa Romeo - don't miss it. John has entered his Spider in that event as well. Let's all turn out and cheer him on!

NEWSLETTER CHAIRPERSON

DSARC needs your help to survive. It desperately needs someone to act as the Newsletter Chairperson who will write articles for it. Months have passed without a newsletter going out because I am just too busy with other issues to take care of it. You can write about whatever you like, so long as it is mildly related to cars, and Alfa Romeo's in particular. Stacy Harty will do all of the editing and layout/set up work. You just need to supply her with the raw content – articles, news stories, some photos you have taken yourself, or borrowed from the Internet of new Alfas. The newsletter can come out as often as you like – bi-monthly or quarterly. It all depends on how motivated you happen to be. Please contact Mike Devereaux at 916-358-5652 if you have an interest in becoming a famous automotive journalist. Who knows, maybe Trevor Faye, the well know automotive journalist for Qantas Airlines from Australia, will get you into the Pebble Beach Concours for free as his cameraman!

EMAIL NEWSLETTER

We need your email address to send you the DSARC Newsletter! We only get \$5/year from the national Alfa Romeo Owners Club to support the local Delta Sierra Chapter. That is not enough money to copy and mail everyone a Newsletter on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. If you have an email address, please send it to us so we can email you the Newsletter, as well as email you speed-shift notices of all those special DSARC Club Events that take place between the Newsletters. Have not heard of them? Well, we don't have your email address to let you know when we plan something on the spur of the moment. Send your email address to: alfasgofast2@sbcglobal.net

MONTEREY HISTORIC CAR RACES

August 15th – August 17th, 2008

Laguna Seca Raceway

The Monterey Historic Automobile Races will celebrate its 35th anniversary this year by celebrating highlights from the event's illustrious past. The event will take place on August 15-17 at Mazda Raceway-Laguna Seca in Monterey, California, and will salute the Alfa Romeo, which was the first marque to be featured at the Historics in 1975.

To commemorate the event, a variety of featured marques from the past 34 Monterey Historic races will be recognized during the weekend of exciting and highly competitive races. Legendary Alfa Romeo racing driver Mario Andretti will be the official guest of honor for the event.

"We are extremely pleased to have Mario Andretti join us at the Rolex Monterey Historic this year. He is a living legend for all of us, and we'll join together to celebrate the anniversary of his winning the World Championship in 1978," said Steve Earle, the President of General Racing Ltd., the event founder and organizer.

Mr. Earle explained that with great cars like the Alfa Romeo 8C-2900B Mille Miglia returning, which was the star of our second event back in 1975, as well as with the 1908 Grand Prix Mercedes racing car which is celebrating 100th year, and with the historic Trans-Am cars, there will be racing as close as ever. We will have the noteworthy past Monterey Cup winners and the ever popular Toyota "Race of Legends" at lunchtime, together with the Ferrari Historic Challenge, autograph sessions, and an enhanced Consumer Expo shopping experience where taxpayers can invest their economic stimulus checks and tax refunds, fans should find this an event they will long remember.

Mario Andretti, who is widely considered the most accomplished Alfa Romeo racing driver in motorsports history, will participate in a variety of events throughout the weekend, including driving a few demonstration laps in his Formula One Championship winning Lotus 79. You will also have the opportunity to get Mr. Andretti's autograph on the Owner's Handbook of your Alfetta GTV "Mario Andretti Signature Edition" at autograph sessions both Friday and Saturday. If you do not have an Alfetta, you can always have him autograph your official DSARC t-shirt or on a bottle of wine from the Andretti Vineyards. Mario Andretti remains the only driver ever to win the Indianapolis 500 (1969), the Daytona 500 (1967), and the Formula One World Championship (1978).

"The Rolex Monterey Historic is the premier historic auto racing event in the country," said Mr. Andretti. "I am pleased to be a part of these festivities and look forward to spending time with fans and enthusiasts from across the country who travel to Monterey for this wonderful event. Laguna Seca has always been one of my favorite tracks. For a driver, it's a truly technical and challenging course that provides immense satisfaction. For a spectator, it's phenomenal because of the many vantage points to watch the action."

As is the custom, Rolex will present their award-winning Motor Sports History Display "Moments in Time" honoring the singular achievement of a car and driver in racing history. Highlighting the display this year will be the 1938 Alfa Romeo 8C-2900B Mille Miglia Spyder that Phil Hill drove to first place in the Del Monte Trophy Race in 1951 at Pebble Beach. Mr. Hill and the Mille Miglia Spyder have a long history, as he drove the Spyder again during the Monterey Historic Automobile Races in 1975 where he took the checkered flag. Phil Hill sold the car in 1951 and over half a century later, the car is now fully restored back to its original 1938 specifications and race trim and is part of fashion designer Ralph Lauren's collection. The car is one of four made and came second in the Mille Miglia in 1938. Hill is well-known internationally for becoming the first American to win the Formula One World Drivers Championship in 1961, the ultimate competition in all of motorsports. For 17 years he stood alone with that title and today shares the title of World Champion with only one other American, Mario Andretti.

Phil Hill has a particularly close relationship with the Monterey Historic, having been raised in California, and raced in the early 1950's through the nearby forest at Pebble Beach. Establishing his credentials as a champion driver and a consummate car enthusiast, he raced and showed his cars with equal passion. Coming out of retirement to drive his old Alfa Romeo 8C-2900 for then owner Brooks Stevens in 1975, Hill thrilled the fans and won the hearts of all of the participants. He was elevated from "hero" to "a real car guy" and has attended numerous events since that time. In 1984, the name of the event's major award, "The Pebble Beach Cup", was changed to "The Monterey Cup - The Phil Hill Trophy."

WITH ALFA ROMEO THE FEATURED MARQUE THIS YEAR, YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THE EVENT. PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED ORDER BLANK FOR MAKING YOUR MOTEL RESERVATION WITH THE ALFA ROMEO CLUB AND FOR THE ALFA CLUB DINNER ON SATURDAY NIGHT.

AUGUST 15-17, 2008: HISTORIC RACE WEEKEND AT LAGUNA SECA RACEWAY

Please enter Concorso Italiano vehicles directly at www.concorso.com or call 425-742-0632, Fax 425-0764

The TOP HALF of this page for ADVANCE RACE & CORRAL TICKETS only. Your order must be received NO LATER THAN SATURDAY JUNE 21ST in order to meet the track's deadline for advanced purchases.

Race and Alfa Corral Ticket Prices Aug. 15-17

3 Days: Fri – Sun, \$125 per person: No. _____ Amount (US \$) _____

2 Days: Sat & Sun, \$95 per person: No. _____ Amount (US \$) _____

Saturday 8/16 only, \$65 per person: No. _____ Amount (US \$) _____

Sunday 8/17 only, \$45 per person: No. _____ Amount (US \$) _____

Friday 8/15 only, \$45 per person: No. _____ Amount (US \$) _____

Alfa Corral Pass (Sat and Sun only), \$1.00 per car per day. No. Sat: ____ No. Sun: ____ Amount (US \$) _____

HANDLING FEE PER ORDER (REQUIRED): ____\$5.00__

Total ARA Amount (including handling fee please) \$ _____

NAME & ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER: _____

Send the top part of this form with check made out to ARA by SATURDAY JUNE 21st to John Maclay, 426 Blackstone Court, Walnut Creek, CA 94598-3717. YOU MUST INCLUDE a Business sized (4"x9", #10) stamped Self-Addressed Envelope for return of tickets. Do NOT send small envelopes. No check or no envelope, no tickets!

Any questions, e-mail is preferred at johnmaclay@aol.com or fax at 925-934-4762. If in dire need, call John Maclay at 925-937-2399, cell 925-997-3637.

Wine Tasting at West and Maggie Clark's, Saturday Aug 16, Saturday, August 16, 3:00 to 6:00 PM. Complimentary. RSVPs are essentially unnecessary but you may call 831-422-6728 before 8:00 PM or 831-757-2644 during work hours, or e-mail wmlark@aol.com for directions. West will be at Concorso on Friday and will bring maps to the Laurel Inn.

HOTEL ROOM AT LAUREL INN, SALINAS AND COMBINED ALFA CLUB DINNER AT GINO'S SAT 8/16/08

Delta Sierra has reserved 40 rooms at the Laurel Inn at 801 W. Laurel Drive in Salinas to be shared by ARA and DSARC. Please do not contact the hotel directly. Instead, reserve your room by mailing a photocopy of this part of the page with the room and dinner info below completed along with your check made out to "Delta Sierra Alfa Romeo Club."

Address it to DSARC, Attn: James Treadwell, 4713 Lake Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608.

Prices below include tax, etc. First come, first served.

Single (1 K) Smoking Y N 2 nights (8/15 & 8/16) \$214.40 3 nights (8/14 to 8/16) \$321.60

Double (2 Q beds) Smoking Y N 2 nights (8/15 & 8/16) \$247.40 3 nights (8/14 to 8/16) \$371.10

AUGUST 16, SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER, 7:30PM, GINO'S, 1410 S. MAIN STREET, SALINAS

Italian buffet style menu for our clubs includes Blackened Chicken Rotini, Traditional Meat & Cheese Lasagna, Bowtie Pasta Alfredo, Vegetable Sauté, tossed green salad, garlic bread, dessert, and wine. No need to pre-select your dinner choice. Cost is \$40 per person. If attending, please add the dinner amount to your room reservation check.

Number eating at Gino's. _____ X \$40 Each Dinner Amount \$ _____

TOTAL ROOM AND DINNER AMOUNT ONLY ENCLOSED: \$ _____

NAME _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

MAIL ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

ALFA ROMEO – HECHO EN MEXICO?

That's right, Alfa Romeo is considering building an assembly plant in Mexico to make Alfa Romeo's for the North American market due to the weak dollar and strong Euro. A least, that is what "The Truth About Cars.com" and "es.Autoblog.com" wrote a few weeks ago. Another reason to polish up that high school Spanish!

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