

# UNA NOTIZIA

VOLUME 24, NUMBER 4 THE ALFA ROMEO OWNERS CLUB OF OKLAHOMA MAY 2010

## June: Tech, Race, Show



Jonathan Hyman works at taking an Alfa rear end apart at the April 24 tech session. (Photo by Keith Kelly)

### Events

#### JUNE

- 5 Tech Session, Simmons. 1:00 p.m.
- 6 Kart Racing, JRP Speedway, 5920 W 51 Street, Tulsa. 3:00 p.m.
- 11-13 EuMoEx, Sand Springs.

#### JULY

- 4 Party
- 11 Kansas City Italian Car Show
- 17 Pizza at Stableridge Winery, Stroud. (tentative)

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June has something for every Alfisti's taste. If you're interested in what makes your Alfa go, the June 5 tech session, scheduled at 1:00 in David Simmons shop, is for you. This tech session has no particular theme, although you may want to use the opportunity to get your Alfa ready for EuMoEx, the Jaguar Club sponsored car show in Sand Springs, June 11-13. The registration form is on page 11.

Sunday, June 6 is our rain-delayed Kart Race event. Same time: 3:00 p.m. Same place: JRP Speedway, 5920 W 51 Street, Tulsa. For after-race food, we're planning to go to Joe Momma's Pizza, 112 S Elgin in the Blue Dome District of downtown Tulsa.

The events start Friday, June 11 and continue through Sunday, June 13 for EuMoEx, although the main event is Saturday, June 12—the car show in downtown Sand Springs. We need a great turnout of Alfas in honor of our favorite marque's 100th birthday. Be sure to register and join the fun.

Speaking of 100th birthday parties—our sister club in Kansas City has invited us to participate in their celebration: an Italian car show, hosted by the Kansas City Maserati dealership July 11. The registration form is on page 10. The KC members would like to have at least 30 cars and have asked for our participation. Kansas City is about a four-hour drive from Tulsa.

If you weren't able to participate in our April and May events, you can enjoy them vicariously inside the pages of this newsletter: Spring Fling, hosted by the St. Louis club; the April tech session and our Talimena trip.

Wherever Alfisti are, there's fun! See you at a fun event soon.



Ready for the trail ride: Oklahoma Alfisti prepare for an exciting trip up the Talimena Trail May 15. *Back row:* David Simmons, Eileen Simmons, Katia Visser, Claudia Oswald, Jerry Pickerell, Patty Pickerell, Terry Norris, Jeff Lang. *Front row:* Randy Visser, Alan Oswald, Les Neidell, Joan Neidell.

## Member News

Congratulations to two high school graduates this month: *Dani Perlingiere* graduated from Owasso High School and *Ted Hyman* from Holland Hall.

## Eureka Springs

OK. It's May. But it's not too soon to be thinking about Fall Fling in Eureka Springs, Oct. 22-24. And it's not too soon to make your room reservations as some Alfisti have already done. Call Best Western Inn of the Ozarks, 800-552-3785. Tell them you're with the Alfa Club.

## Drive Hallett

An open track day will be held at Hallett Raceway June 29. The cost will be about \$250. Contact Les Neidell for details. He and David Simmons plan to participate.



John Fitzgerald, Glenn Beckerdite and David Simmons set up the Spring Fling autocross.



On the road: Les and Joan Neidell, Alan and Claudia Oswalt, Jerry and Patty Pick-erell. (Photos by Katia Visser)



## Talimena Thank You

FROM ROBERT VICK TO RUSS NEELY  
(AND TO ALL OKLAHOMA ALFISTI)

Hi Russ,

I am enjoying a little retirement time by doing things I never got around to doing. One of the things on my list was to visit Mena Arkansas. I was told "it's nice." That is so true, what a lovely place. There is this scenic highway that starts (or ends, depending on your beginning point) in Mena. Linda and I decided to check it out! We were having a blast, just tearing up the road. We crested



a hill and blasted around a 90 degree turn when all of a sudden we were confronted by a most unexpected sight. A silver 164S, a red 164, a black Milano, a blue Spider, and a yellow Mini with an Alfa hood decal driving hard headed east. With no place to turn around all we could do was watch them disappear from sight.

It made me remember the last time the Oklahoma club put on the National Convention and how impressed I was with the group. There were as many Alfas at the track day and autocross as there were in the car show. The

group "up there" realizes that owning an Alfa is not about shiny wheels, power windows, or concorso points, it is about driving! My faith has been renewed. Next time I go to Mena, my Milano Verde is going with me!

Next time you see the Mena drivers, thank them for me!

Ciao,  
Robert Vick

*Eds note: Next time, we'll invite him to join us!*

*Photo by Katia Visser*

# Trail Ride!

It was a dark and stormy night. Well, actually it was a damp, gray kind of drizzly day. But it had been a dark and stormy week and the weekend weather forecast for May 15-16 wasn't encouraging—a 60% chance of rain and thunderstorms in southeastern Oklahoma, our destination.

After fielding several phone calls about whether we were going to cancel the trip, David said, "Let's go. It was be the two of us and we might be driving the Mini, but we'll go."

After checking the weather forecast, David decided to drive the Mini (christened the MiOne for these occasions), and we were off to meet the group at River Parks in Tulsa. We were greeted by Les and Joan Neidell in their Milano, Alan and Claudia Oswalt in their 164 and Jerry and Patty Pickerell in their Spider. Jerry and Patty, back in Oklahoma for a brief visit, had trailered their Spider from their home in Colorado, especially for this trip, their favorite Club event. The threatening weather was not a deterrent.

We were going to meet Jeff Lane and Terry Norris, from Arkansas, and Randy and Katia Visser, from Choctaw, at Rosanna's in Krebs for lunch. Jeff and Terry elected to drive a 164 and Randy and Katia a Toyota Land Cruiser instead of their Spider because of the weather forecast.

Between Tulsa and Krebs, there was a little rain. It looked that the weather would cooperate with us. We arrived at Rosanna's where a table was waiting for us. Jeff and Terry were a bit late, having been stopped for speeding in one of the small



David Simmons and Jerry Pickerell visit at River Parks before leaving Tulsa.

towns south of Krebs. Jeff got a warning.

After lunch, we headed to Lovera's Italian Grocery, where we loaded up on Italian sausage, cheese and other goodies, shopping for our cookout on the grounds of the Queen Wilhelmina Lodge. We did talk briefly about getting some already-cooked food in case of rain, but we didn't.

We stopped for gas and then pulled out, headed for the Talimena Trail. As we were leaving Krebs, David looked in his rearview mirror and said, "They got Jerry." Sure enough, a Krebs police officer had Jerry's Spider pulled over. Randy and Katia were right behind him and the rest of us waited on the side of the highway, right across from Speed Trap Bar-B-Q. The police officers in Little Dixie must have been in a good mood, be-



Parked in front of Lovera's: Jeff Lang's red 164; Alan and Claudia Oswalt's silver 164; Les and Joan Neidell's Milano; David and Eileen Simmons MiOne; Jerry and Patty Pickerell's Spider.



Maybe the owners of the cycle shop and the Bar-B-Q are making a political statement or giving a warning to people driving through Krebs.

cause Jerry got a warning, too.

Then we were on our way to the Talimena Trail. In spite of the dire weather forecasts for the weekend, we had not encountered any significant rain. So far, so good.

The weather gods continued to be with us. We stopped at the bottom of the Talimena Trail for the traditional group photo and then we were off. The trip up the trail was wonderful, the perfect Alfa road of hills, curves and beautiful scenery—what you could see as it whizzed by! We stopped at one overlook for a more relaxed view of the scenery and then took off again. The trip was fast and fun and over too soon.

We arrived at Queen Wilhelmena in plenty of time to rest before our cookout. David and I hiked Lover's Lane Trail, an easy hike, although the trail is steep in spots. We finished our hike and arrived in the picnic area just as Alfisti were gathering and unpacking food.

Once again, as in every Talimena Trail adventure, the area was filled with the smells of Italian sausage on the grill, the sound of conversation and laughter as we shared food, wine and stories of our Alfas and our lives. Once again, we watched a beautiful sunset and then adjourned to the lodge for more talk into the night.

Sunday morning was thick with fog. David and I visited with Jerry and Patty and with Jeff and Terry at breakfast as we watched the sun emerge and the fog burn off. We left about 9:30, saying good by to Jeff and Terry, who were leaving to go home. We were heading down the Trail as we saw a group of about ten Porsches arrive—and Jeff's red 164 do a quick u-turn to join them.

From the Lodge, it was an uneventful, though rainy in spots, drive to our final stop, the Fin and Feather Resort on Lake Tenkiller for lunch.

We were joined there by Joe and Cindy Dorzab, who live in nearby Cookson. They have owned many Alfas of all kinds, but are currently Alfa-less. We have a hunch that will change soon! We enjoyed meeting and talking with them.

After lunch, we said good-by to Randy and Katia who decided to explore the Lake Tenkiller area before heading back to Choctaw. The rest of us caravanned back to Tulsa. The Neidells left the caravan in Tulsa; the Oswalds west of Sand Springs at 129th West Ave. and David and I



Why we came: Alfas on a hilly, curvy road—the Talimena Trail. (Photo by Katia Visser)

waved goodbye to the Pickerells as we exited Highway 51 at the Keystone Dam and they continued to their exit and home.

Another great Alfa Adventure; another set of memories and more of both waiting to happen.



At brunch at the Fin and Feather near Lake Tenkiller, Alan Oswald, Eileen Simmons, David Simmons and Claudia Oswald react to an amusing Alfa anecdote. (Photo by Katia Visser)

Les Niedell and Jerry Pickerell have a shade tree discussion.



Terry Norris and Joan Niedell enjoy the unexpectedly dry weather.



Katia Vissers enjoys the food and conversation.



Jeff Lang's stories provided much of the evening's entertainment.



David Simmons listens with amusement to the latest story.



At an Italian picnic: Alan Oswalt, Katia Visser, Patty Pickerell, Claudia Oswalt, David Simmons, Les Neidell, Jerry Pickerell, Jeff Lang, Randy Visser.

## Learning about Alfa Rear Ends

So... there's a bunch of guys hanging around the shop inspecting rear ends, taking them apart, trying to put them together again and learning how Alfa rear ends work.

The place was David Simmons shop on April 28 and the occasion was a tech session on Alfa rear ends. The assembled Alfisti took apart four rear ends—furnished by Alan Oswald, David Simmons and Jamie Perlingiere. None turned out to be rebuildable. So the Alfisti contented

themselves with disassembling the rear ends, learning about limited slip differentials, consuming Adult Beverages and having a great time hanging out in the Guys Alfa Playhouse for an afternoon.

An entire Alfa Spider unexpectedly showed up at the tech session. Jamie Perlingiere and Vijay located the very sad Spider in Bristow where Vijay bought it and he and Jamie then towed it to the tech session, where it was thoroughly inspected and commented on by the Alfisti.



Keith Kelly, Vijay, Jonathan Hyman and David Hyman give Vijay's Spider purchase a close inspection.



Jonathan Hyman and Jamie Perlingiere apply muscle to a stubborn Alfa rear end. (Photo by Keith Kelly)



David Hyman checks out some hub-caps.



Vijay and Keith Kelly find Vijay's recent Spider purchase amusing.



Alfa rear ends are serious business. Scott Fowler listens as Alan Oswald explains the inner workings of the rear end.



David Simmons explains how an English wheel works to David Hyman.

David Simmons, Jamie Perlingiere, Vijay, Scott Fowler and Jonathan Hyman gather around the shop table to see rear end parts. (Photo by Keith Kelly)

## Spring Fling: Rainy Start, Sunny Event

It was raining as David and I packed for Spring Fling the morning of April 30. We had a sense of déjà vu, since last year, we drove through torrential rain most of the way to Washington, MO, about 40 miles west of St. Louis. We were not deterred by a little rain, however, and after packing and loading the car, saying good-bye to our two Beagles and making a quick stop at the Sand Springs Post Office to pick up a package of live plants, we headed east.

This year, the rain stopped around Joplin and the trip was an uneventful drive on I-44 to Washington. We drove to Spring Fling Headquarters, the Super 8 Motel, and were

greeted by a parking lot with many Alfas in it and by Alfisti. Glen Beckerdite and John Fitzgerald of the Kansas City Club were checking in when we arrived and the guys spent several minutes in Alfa conversation before the deck clerk interrupted to ask if we needed to check in,

We drove the Mini, christened especially for the event as the MiOne and with a magnetic Alfa emblem firmly attached to the hood. David parked it among the Alfas, of course, and the gathering began unofficially with plenty of parking lot Alfa talk. Everyone noticed the duct tape affixed to the side windows of Ralph Coldewe's beautiful gray 750 Spider. Ralph used

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the duct tape to waterproof his car, based on the wet forecast for Friday night. It worked. The storms came and the interior of his car stayed dry. Plus, the duct tape was nicely coordinated with the color of his car.

The first official event was a pizza party in the motel, hosted by the St. Louis Club, who brought beverages and desserts to accompany the pizza. The food was delicious, but the best part was visiting with other Alfisti, getting caught up on what's been happening since we last saw them and generally enjoying the company. And, of course, the Alfa discussion in the parking lot continued.

Rallymistress Sue Houser gave the group information about Saturday morning's rally, a variation on a Poker Rally. She christened this one Alfa You Can't Hold 'Em Back Rally, in which she adapted Texas Hold 'Em rules.

Saturday morning, the breakfast area was full of Alfisti drinking coffee, eating breakfast and waiting for Sue Houser's arrival. She came, we signed the waivers, she gave instructions again and said that it wasn't a timed start. Back out to the parking lot, where there was more Alfa conversation and finally ralliers began to leave.

The rally was wonderful, a non-stressful drive over great Alfa roads through beautiful farming and wine country. Sue's instructions were clearly written, had great diagrams and even warnings where signs were hard to see. Some of us still managed to miss turns, but it was ok. David and I backtracked to get a closer look at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, a spectacular building built in 1919 and undergoing some renovation.

The rally ended at Bommarito Winery, a lovely venue for a bottle of wine and lunch. We lingered there for quite a while and then headed to Walt and Marian Hatcher's home for the art show and to spend a lovely afternoon at their home on a bluff overlooking the Missouri River. Their circle driveway was lined with Alfas and more Alfa talk. Some of us were fortunate enough to stake out a seat on the front porch, look at the cars, watch the river and talk. The sun broke through the clouds for a wonderfully sunny afternoon. It was perfect.

The banquet was at the Gourmet Café and it certainly lived up to its name. The food was wonderful. David and I shared a table with Darrel and Marilyn Ellis from Topeka and



David Simmons, Steve Coldewe, Glenn Beckerdite, Ralph Coldewe and John Fitzgerald talk to a St. Louis Club member while admiring Steve's Sprint Speciale.



Rich Hirsch, Bruce Tilden and David Simmons check out the cars entered in the concours.

Bruce Tilden from Kansas City. We enjoyed the company, the conversation and the door prizes, which were plentiful. St. Louis President Phil Dean had a toast for each person who won a prize, which added entertainment to the evening.

Sunday morning, the breakfast area at the hotel was nearly empty of Alfisti when David and I arrived for our breakfast before going to the autocross site. Phil Dean had asked for volunteers to help set up the course. We shared a breakfast table with Bernie and Diana Bennett, our friends from the Texas Hill Country Club. Bernie and Diana were test-driving an Alfetta to make sure it's roadworthy for the national convention in June. We had a good visit with them and then went to the autocross site. Bernie and Diana were not far behind us. Part of the road test was autocrossing the Alfetta.

Glen Beckerdite of the Kansas City Club and David set up the course. It was a little easier this year without the tractor trailer in the middle of the parking lot. The course was fun and relatively fast for a short run. And Glen and David came in first and second in the autocross! Must be the Perlingiere effect. . .

As the autocross ended, the concours began—a line up of lovely Alfas. More Alfa talk, parking lot conversations and lingering in the unexpected warmth of a sunny Sunday morning. We left the concours for the awards lunch, held (conveniently for us) near I-44.

David and I came home with trophies—third in the rally (the result of tie-breaker cards being drawn because there was a four-way tie for third); David's art entry, the Century Cam Plant, placed third in the art show and David won his autocross class—non-Alfas. (The MiOne was the only non-Alfa in the autocross.) Although he didn't get a trophy for it, he did place second in the autocross behind Glen Beckerdite.

We said our goodbyes and headed for I-44 and home. The weekend turned out to be a beautiful one for weather, despite the grim forecast. But the forecast for a weekend of non-stop Alfa fun was an accurate one—we thoroughly enjoyed Spring Fling.

We had one more Alfa Sighting on the way home—we waved to Bernie and Diana Bennett as we passed them on I-44. They planned to spend a few days in Branson before going home to Texas.

Glenn Beckerdite and David Simmons check their autocross layout.



David Simmons turns in the rally form at the Bommarito Winery.



David Simmons and Bernie Bennett watch as St. Louis President Phil Dean and Graham Davis check waiver forms for the autocross.

Kansas City Italian Auto and Motorcycle Show  
*Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Alfa Romeo*

July 11, 2010

*Sponsored by Aristocrat Motors*

Located at the Vox Theater, 1405 Southwest Boulevard, Kansas City, Kansas

Entry Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Car/Motorcycle Information

Make \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_ Special edition? \_\_\_\_\_

Mileage \_\_\_\_\_

Club Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

**Entry forms are due by June 15!**

**Please submit entry forms to:**

**Kansas City Alfa Owners c/o Stuart Brown  
1308 W 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64101**

**Questions? Please contact Stuart Brown at (913) 481-9368**

**Please have your entry at the Vox Theater for set up between 9:30 AM and 10:30 AM**

**Show is scheduled to end at 4:00 PM**

**ALL BRITISH & EUROPEAN CARS**  
**June 11, 12, 13 Downtown Sand Springs , Oklahoma**  
 Benefiting the Tulsa Akdar Shrine Transportation Fund

**June 11 Friday:** 4:00 pm: Registration, cook out, tailgate party Sand Springs Hampton Inn (Host Hotel), 81st W Ave off Highway 412. 6:30 pm. till ??????

**June 12 Saturday:** 8:00-10:00 a.m. Registration and set up downtown Sand Springs. 10:00-2:00 Cars in place, participants' choice judging. 6:00 p.m. Awards Dinner at Chastain's Casual Café, 112 N. Main, Sand Springs

**June 13 Sunday:** 9:00 a.m.: Slalom on K-Mart parking lot, 1200 East Charles Page Blvd.

REGISTRATION FORM : Please complete and return to: **JAGUAR CLUB OF TULSA, PO Box 471134, Tulsa, OK 74147.**

**ONLINE:** [www.eumoex.com](http://www.eumoex.com)

Participant Names \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle marque: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Additional auto Marque: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Additional auto Marque: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

**SHOW PACKAGE (before 6/1/10):**

Includes one car entry, free hat and 1 dinner \$55 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

After 6/1/10 Show package will not include hat Additional hats @ \$15 each  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registration prior to 6/1/10: \$30 1st car, \$15 each additional car. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registration after 6/1/10 \$35 1st car , \$20 each additional car \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Awards Dinner: # persons \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25 each (June 13 reservations cannot be guaranteed)  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Slalom only: \$15 (JCNA members deduct \$5, club covers insurance) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional donation to Akdar Shrine Transportation Fund THANKS! \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **JAGUAR CLUB OF TULSA INC** **TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Release of Liability**

It is an Entrant's privilege to participate in any Jaguar Club of Tulsa Inc. event upon executing proper registration forms and paying published entrance fees. I hereby agree to enter the above described automobiles in the Euro Motor Extravaganza. In consideration of the right and privilege to enter and participate and other valuable consideration, and intending to be legally bound, I agree to release the Jaguar Club of Tulsa Inc. and the Euro Expo show committee from any and all liability for injuries, damage or loss arising from my entry and attendance in the show.

Entrant signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**Top:** The Mini as MiOne

**Bottom:** The tag frame on the Pickerell's Spider reveals its origin in Tulsa.

## Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Tell us about your Alfa(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dues are \$65.00/year, renewable on anniversary. Send check and application form to June Mustari, 4128 E. 37th Place, Tulsa, OK 74135.

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