

PIT STOP







The Official Newsletter of *Empire Sports Car Association*P.O. BOX 2242, SANTA ROSA, CALIF. 95405 Volume 59-4

ESCA is Going Back to In-person/ZOOM Meetings.

April 5th 7:00 pm

Round Table Pizza
1791 Marlow Rd, Santa Rosa

If you can't make the meeting, you can attend by ZOOM.

A link will be sent out with the April Pit Stop.

New Autocross Helmet Requirement

Autocross helmets **MUST** be Snell Approved **2010** or Newer for all events.

April 9, 2022 Autocross

This will be the second autocross in the ESCA Autocross Series and the last autocross at this Ukiah site.

\$50 dollars for members and \$60 for guests
Registration is already open and will
close on Thursday, April 7.

ESCA Dues Are Now Past Due

Save the Date

For ESCA's first Tour of 2022

Saturday, May 7, 2022

A short tour to Sturgeon's Mill

http://www.sturgeonsmill.com/

What's Inside . .

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Information, Views, and Mission Statement

From the Cockpit

WELCOME
TO Fabulous
LAS VEGAS
NEVADA

By Bruce Bentz

Correction: In my last article I mistakenly attributed the February autocross course design to John Castellano when in truth it was laid out by Charley Sawyer. Thanks Charley!

A few scenes from our February autocross:

Percussive Maintenance

Setting up the computer and timers requires some snake charming skills to get all the cords plugged into the right sockets. We're running late, we need to get this setup going as fast as possible because we're holding up the parade. All plugged in, connections verified, time to turn on the power. Bweeeet!

The power inverter to keep the computer fed conks out. What to do? Steve Rossiter gets a couple of fuse pullers but the damn thing is built with no clearance around the fuses to pull them out. Let's try using the fuse checker to measure the fuse using the little tiny prongs that stick out on the top of the fuse. What, you can't read the fuse checker in the sunlight? How do you jam the tester onto those tiny pins? Time is ticking by and now a crowd is starting to form around the trailer. A mild panic starts to seep into our plans. Maybe we can drive over to Harbor Freight and buy a new one? Well, we only need power to keep the computer running. We could run as long as possible and then call it quits, you know this is just a fun run and we won't record times for the last runs. Wait! John Castellano pulls up with a Simpson voltmeter, a rock solid meter that looks like it's from World War 2 that's the size of an overnight case to test the fuses. Two hot seconds later we look over and Wheeeet the inverter is working just fine. John gave the inverter a solid whack on the side of the head and it came to its senses. Glory, glory, the day has been saved! I get enough whacks on the side of the head I should have thought of that. Or maybe that's the reason why I didn't.

Ride Along with Rick Moranis

Isaac Hastings invited me for a ride along in his super Miata. I was pretty excited to hop in the passenger seat only to find that I couldn't twist my body enough to get my helmet in

Continued on next column

the cabin! Bonk, bonk, #\$)(&*#(* bonk! I admit that I do have a large size helmet, but it's all the better to fit my big conceited head. I had to jump out, lean backwards and get my head in first. To all the Spaceballs fans out there, Isaac yelled out "Good going there, Dark Helmet!"

April meetings will be hybrid meetings. We will be meeting at Round Table Pizza on Marlow unless someone out there can find us a better venue. If you don't like Round Table, find us a new place!

As always you can reach out to me at blbentz@yahoo.com



HAPPY APRIL

BIRTHDAYS

Amber Bamberg Lorie Banks

Jarod Banks

Art Battles

Stewart Bobo

Georgianne Boissier

Anthony Bopp

Thia Buggia

John Castellano

Levi Early

Andrew Hardin

Sebastian Herbst

Tamara Hull

Tim Ibrahim

Canaan McKoy

Craig Merrilees

Kyle Prescott

Ari Rule-Gustafson

Michelle Sapiente

Greg Soos

Brent Werder

Kevin Wolzen

If you're not listed — it's because the Editor does not have your month of birth. And you're wished a Kappy Birthday!

Ukiah Fun Run Autocross 2-26-22

By Charley Sawyer

Hello **ESCA**n's! Happy 2022 (belated, yes, I know)! We had a fun run Autocross event at the Ukiah site to break in the new season and help shake the rust off from the winter break. Trying to take advantage of the clear weather we've been having; it was still very cold in the morning of the 26th! Everyone came out with their same helpful mentality and braved the chilly weather to help setup and run the event.

The course had some last-minute changes to the design which in the end made it a fun longer course, and I think helped get as much seat time for our drivers.

We had some guests from the Mendocino College Automotive Club who took some photos and were very excited to see what **ESCA** was putting on. They were very impressed with how we ran the event, and hopefully we will see them join the club!

Our last event at the Ukiah site located on Honorary Member Ross Liberty's property will occur on April 9th! Please be sure to come out to help send off this unique property that has









been a rewarding experience learning how to use the site. We have enjoyed three years of running at Ross's location, which has provided a place to continue our hobby and enjoyment of **ESCA** company through these challenging times.

Please be sure to thank Ross if you happen to bump into him.

See you soon!







Link for more Photos of 2-26-2022 Ukiah Autocross https://photos.app.goo.gl/Xei5ry2L1WVp9U3V6

ESCA February 26,2022 Autocross in Ukiah

	Class	#	Driver	Car Model	Raw Time	Diff.	From 1st
1	GTB-S	19	Benjamin Bettega	2017 Ford Focus RS	61.931	0.000	0.000
2	GTB-S	1	Isaac Hastings	2005 Mazda speed Miata	63.216	1.285	1.285
3	GTB-S	128	Rob Luis	2019 Chevrolet Camaro turbo 1le	63.216	0.000	1.285
4	GTC-S	3	John Castellano	1960 Volkswagen Bug	63.909	0.693	1.978
5	GTB-S	2	Blain Hendrix	2007 Porsche Cayman	63.934	0.025	2.003
6	GTA-R	505	Martin Franusich	1990 Chevrolet Corvette	64.294	0.360	2.363
7	GTA-S	923	Jared McGee	1995 Ford Mustang	64.500	0.206	2.569
8	GTB-R	27	Craig Hammond	1983 Mazda rx7	65.183	0.683	3.252
9	GTC-R	45	Steve Rossiter	1983 Mazda RX7	65.279	0.096	3.348
10	GTA-S	351	Charley Sawyer	1966 Ford Mustang	65.451	0.172	3.520
11	GTC-S	421	Nicholas Doyle	1996 Nissan 240sx	65.684	0.233	3.753
12	GTA-S	14	Martin Johns	2011 BMW 128i convertible	66.283	0.599	4.352
13	GTC-S	28	Shawn Luis	Mini Cooper	67.173	0.890	5.242
14	GTC-S	82	Alan Veach	Mazda 2008 MX5	68.055	0.882	6.124
15	GTB-S	30	Carter Luis	Hyundai Genisis Coupe 3.7 spec R	69.351	1.296	7.420
16	GTC-S	96	Sebastian Herbst	1987 Toyota Mr2	70.659	1.308	8.728
17	GTB-S	129	Bruce Bentz	2009 Porsche Boxster	71.592	0.933	9.661
18	GTA-S	928	Mitch McGee	1995 Ford Mustang	72.001	0.409	10.070





ESCA 2022 Calendar

APRIL

02 (Sat) TRC Rallye therallyeclub.org 05 (TUE) ESCA Regular Mtg - Round Table/ZOOM ESCA Autocross at Ukiah 09 (SAT) 09-10 RSCC Autocrosses in Eureka www.rscc.net 09 Car Show at Maria Carrillo High School 10 Cruisin North Swap Meet & Car Show - 6am-Noon at Vets Bldg Parking Lot1 5-16 GT World Challenge (SR) ESCA Regular Mtg - Round Table/ZOOM 19 (TUE) 22-24 Trans Am Speedfest (LS) 27 (Wed night) Wednesday nigh Drags & Drift (SR) SVRA Sportscar Vintage Racing (SR) 29-30 Solvang Datsun Roadster Show MAY Wednesday nigh Drags & Drift (SR) 04 (Wed night) 18 (Wed night) Wednesday nigh Drags & Drift (SR) 21-22 RSCC Autocrosses in Eureka www.rscc.net 25 (Wed night) Wednesday nigh Drags & Drift (SR) JUNE TRC Rallye therallyeclub.org 04 (Sat) Save Mart 350 NASCAR (SR) 12 (Sun) RSCC Autocrosses in Eureka www.rscc.net 11-12 15 (Wed night) Wednesday nigh Drags & Drift (SR) 22 (Wed night) Wednesday nigh Drags & Drift (SR) 29 (Wed night) Wednesday nigh Drags & Drift (SR) JULY Windsor Tamale Fest & Car Show, Windsor Town Green Windsor Town Green 23-24 RSCC Korbel Hillclimb tentative www.rscc.net **AUGUST** 02 Sat TRC Rallye therallyeclub.org 13-14 RSCC Autocrosses in Eureka www.rscc.net 13-14 Monterey Pre-Reunion (LS) 17-20 Rolex Monterey Reunion (LS) SEPTEMBER 07 Ferrari Challenge North America (SR) 17-18 RSCC Autocrosses in Eureka www.rscc.net **OCTOBER** 08-09 RSCC Autocrosses in Eureka www.rscc.net (LS) Laguna Seca Raceway (SR) Sonoma Raceway

Check websites and Facebook for the latest information to learn if the events are going to happen as scheduled.

Cars & Coffee All FREE events

2nd Sunday of the Month

- ► Santa Rosa at Coddingtown Parking Lot
- ► Sonoma at 19632 8th St E

3rd Sunday of the Month 8 am - 10 am

- ▶ Petaluma at 389 S McDowell Blvd
- Last Sunday of the Month 8 am 10 am
 - ▶ Rohnert Park at 459 Rohnert Park Expressway

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FREE

I have 4 used YOKO 008R racing tires: 275 40 VR17.

Pick them up in Roseville.

Call 916-872-8311 John Troup

I was an **ESCA** member for many years before I moved to Roseville. I had the 71 Maserati Indy, a 75 Nissan 280Z, and an 65 Apollo 3500 GT.

> Track Night in America at Thunderhill Raceway Park,

April 21, June 9, May 12, September 29 August 25,

American Autocross Series

http://www.americanautox.com/schedule/

SFR SCCA

http://www.sfrautox.com/?p=1626

Northwest Hill Climb Association (541) 772-7314

www.nhahillclimb.org

For Bay Area Rallyes check out the RALLYE CLUB WEBSITE INFORMATION http://www.therallyeclub.org



POTA

By John Castellano

Circuit Of The Americas is a 20 turn, 3.4 mile Grand Prix road course in Austin Tx. When the NASCAR Cup guys ran at COTA for the first time last year, I noticed that the triangular outline of the track was similar to the paddock area we use at Sonoma Raceway. Hmmmmm. On Google Maps, the satellite view of COTA clearly shows the rubber laid on the track. You can put your cursor right at the corner apex, on the racing line, and read off the latitude and longitude. So I loaded all twenty turns into a spreadsheet, shrank it, moved it to Sonoma, and rotated it into position. Voila! Paddock Of The Americas was born. I had it all figured out. A 1/8 scale version of the original.

Did I mention that NASCAR got to use their new rain tires at the inaugural event? I remembered that two weeks before our event, when the weatherman started threatening rain on OUR parade. Would I have to shrink the course further? Would it be too tight? Paranoia Of The Americas had set in. I used my spreadsheet to see how tight the turns were, and how far between gates. Oops, it turns out that 1/8 scale is too small for full size cars. My car can't even get close to a 14' radius turn! And 30' between gates is too close. Oh no! I had to simplify the course.

What are the chances that a day of rain forecasted two weeks out would actually happen? In a megadrought? Well as





it got closer, and I realized that it was a points event, with no cancellations...now it was Panic Of the Americas. I'm used to being responsible for everybody's good time, but making a safe course which was fun, fast, and not-too-tight was stressful! Marisa and I went down Friday so we could set up in the dry. That's when we got another surprise—a fence across the end of the paddock. I had to shorten the main straight about 100'. PITA of a POTA!

The pavement at Sonoma has a nice smooth surface, and brand new tires also have a smooth surface. Just add water and you get "Pushes Of The Americas". Things started to dry out by the fourth run of the first group, but for me...no grip. I think everyone was feeling a sense of urgency to get a clean dry run. Showers came and went, but in the end everyone got to run on a dry track. It was still hard to get a good clean run. The course took under 40 seconds, and had only 20 cones, but it was hard to not screw up. So easy to blow right past your apex. The sideentry slalom was a new twist I hope people enjoyed.

Guy Southern took TTOD in the Vette. Ben Bettega was a second behind on street tires. Steve Rossiter was .027 sec back on new Hoosiers. Brent Werder powered to a fourth overall, and Craig Hammond rounded out the top five. Mike McCrory



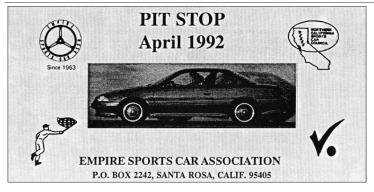
and I had an epic battle for 6th, and Mike Prescott pulled a rabbit out on his last run, his 2013 Mustang beating Charley Sawyer's '66 Mustang by ½ second for eighth. Isaac Hastings was nipping on his heels in ninth, and Eric Siedentopf drove a long way to do a sub-36 second lap for tenth.

Out of the 41 drivers, **ESCA** took the entire top half of the field. Nice Job! Thanks to Ace Robey for providing the venue and safety checks. Blain Hendrix too, for his safety tweaks. The Autocross Crew for getting the trailer, and the whole **ESCA** team. Perhaps the course was merely inspired by COTA, but fun was had, nobody got too wet, and we put on a good show for the lucky Japanese car show participants.

Link for more Photos
3-19-2022 Sonoma Raceway Autocross
https://photos.app.goo.gl/CXDWRXH4EVvT7Dyt8

March 19, 2022 Autocross Results

	Class	#	Driver	Car Model	Raw Time	Diff.	From 1st
1	Х	11	Guy Southern	1999 Chevrolet Corvette	33.458	0.000	0.000
2	GTB-S	19	Ben Bettega	2017 Ford Focus RS	34.453	0.995	0.995
3	GTC-R	45	Steve Rossiter	1983 Mazda RX-7	34.480	0.027	1.022
4	GTB-S	95	Brenton Werder	2003 Nissan 350Z	34.835	0.355	1.377
5	GTB-R	27	Craig Hammond	1983 Mazda RX-7	35.128	0.293	1.670
6	GTC-S	3	John Castellano	2020 Volkswagen Beetle	35.502	0.374	2.044
7	GTC-S	162	Mike McCrory	1995 Honda Civic	35.699	0.197	2.241
8	GTA-S	153	Mike Prescott	2013 Ford Mustang	35.778	0.079	2.320
9	GTB-S	1	Isaac Hastings	2005 Mazda MX-5	35.817	0.039	2.359
10	Х	28	Eric Siedentopf	1995 Chevrolet Camaro	35.896	0.079	2.438
11	GTB-S	2	Blain Hendrix	2016 VW Golf R	36.096	0.200	2.638
12	GTA-S	351	Charley Sawyer	1966 Ford Mustang	36.271	0.175	2.813
13	FUN	9023	Ace Robey	Subaru	36.281	0.010	2.823
14	GTA-S	23	Blaine Pope	1995 Chevrolet Camaro	36.670	0.389	3.212
15	GTC-S	421	Nicholas Doyle	1996 Nissan 240SX	36.714	0.044	3.256
16	GTB-S	13	Noah Friedman-Biglin	2016 Ford Focus RS	36.899	0.185	3.441
17	GTA-S	240	Rich Bishop	2017 BMW M240i	36.959	0.060	3.501
18	GTA-S	32	Chuck Banks	1988 Pontiac Fiero	36.971	0.012	3.513
19	GTC-R	9	John Schliemann	1995 Mazda MX-5	37.080	0.109	3.622
20	GTC-S	7	Jonathan Teeter	1995 Honda Civic	37.210	0.130	3.752
21	GTB-S	14	Martin Johns	2011 BMW 128i	37.335	0.125	3.877
22	GTB-S	129	Bruce Bentz	2009 Porsche Boxster	37.803	0.468	4.345
23	GTC-S	57	Gllenn Zucca	1974 Alfa Romeo GTV	37.805	0.002	4.347
24	GTC-S	9004	Ian Johnson	2013 Subaru BRZ	38.324	0.519	4.866
25	GTC-S	82	C Alan Veach	2008 Mazda MX-5	38.343	0.019	4.885
26	GTB-S		Thomas Buggia	1991 Toyota MR2	38.496	0.153	5.038
27	GTC-S	1701	Christopher Brazell	2019 Mazda MX-5	38.535	0.039	5.077
28	GTC-S	131	Ed Biglin	2002 Honda S2000	38.723	0.188	5.265
29	GTB-S	85	Sam Brabo	2001 BMW Z3	39.006	0.283	5.548
30	GTA-S	109	Tamara Woolever	2019 Chevrolet Camaro	39.099	0.093	5.641
31	GTC-S	83	Alvin Nguyen	2002 Mazda Miata	39.108	0.009	5.650
32	GTB-S	9006	Chase Moser	2011 Volkswagen GTI	39.422	0.314	5.964
33	GTB-S	9001	Michael Fjermestad	2010 Audi A3	39.721	0.299	6.263
34	GTA-S	189	Dan Woolever	2019 Chevrolet Camaro	39.751	0.030	6.293
35	Х	76	Nikki Southern	2002 Chevrolet Corvette	40.007	0.256	6.549
36	GTC-R	67	Ron Cox	1968 Austin Mini Cooper S	40.287	0.280	6.829
37	GTC-S	65	Efrain Alers	1999 Subaru Impreza	40.330	0.043	6.872
38	GTA-S	41	27 Mckoy	2010 Ford Mustang	40.430	0.100	6.972
39	GTC-S	9008	Jorge Zamora	1993 Volvo 240 Series	40.445	0.015	6.987
40	GTB-S	9002	Mike Hsieh	2006 BMW Z4M	40.578	0.133	7.120
41	GTB-S	68	Addison Brabo	2000 BMW 328i	42.753	2.175	9.295



Thirty Years Ago in Pit Stop April 1992

By Bob Jenkins

On the cover was a column entitled **MCTD** by Ted Dunlap in which he talked about the up coming April **ESCA** events, the **Annual April Fools Rallye** and a club autocross. Also on the cover was an ad by Hawleys Paint Store.

A **Scenic Dinner Tour** article by Bob Jenkins talked about the 28 people who signed up for dinner at the William Tell in Tomales. There was a tour from Santa Rosa that took a round about way and some of the people went straight out from home, but all enjoyed a great evening of good food with friends.

A full page **ESCA** event calendar listed 16 events from April through December and included rallyes, autocross, Concours, the Sports Car Olympics, and parties.

An **Adopt an Expert – May 17**th article by Ted Dunlap suggested members looking for experience at running rallies, contact Bob Jenkins or Ted Dunlap and they would hook them up with an expert rallyists and then they would run the May 17th May Flowers rallye in Fremont. Also on this page was an ad for Temptations by Terry, Cakes for all Occasions, by Terry O'Connor.

A **Club Autocross** article by Justin Bowen reminded members of the April club autocross.

A **Porsche/ESCA Autocross** article by Scott Torgerson talked about the 44-driver autocross hosted by the Redwood Region Porsche Club at the airport. The **ESCA** driver's results showed Scott Torgerson in a 240Z in first, followed by Dale Hartman in a Corvette, Gary Bayless in a Porsche 912, Justin Bowen in a 240Z, and Blain Hendrix in a Corvette in 5th.

There was a full -page entry form for the California Capri Club (N.A.S.A.) for a Laguna Seca Drivers School in May.

There was a full-page flyer for **ESCA**'s **Shift and Drift** OPEN autocross at the Sonoma County Airport, which listed 6 classes

Continued in next column

with awards in all classes from The Tire Shop, Benedetti Tires, J T's Auto supplies, Jordan's Auto Parts, Johnny Franklins, J & D Automotive, Big O Tires, and Westwind Data Systems.

The 1992 **ESCA** Board was listed as Chairman Ted Dunlap, Vice Chairman Gary O'Connor, Secretary Curt Askim, Treasurer Neal Campbell, and Ex-Officio Bob Jenkins. The autocross committee head was Justin Bowen and the Concours committee head was Marty Nygaard.



ESCA Member Profiles Wanted

Let your fellow **ESCA** members get to know you better! We're asking all members who would like to write a short profile about themselves and their car(s) to send it in.

You can write about the things you have done to your car, the ESCA events you like to attend, when you joined ESCA, and/or your hobbies other than ESCA.

Please hold your article to no more than one page.

Also include a picture of yourself and your car and send to the **Pit Stop** editor at:

thebeard@sonic.net

For Sale

Asking \$2,000

1992 Alfa Romeo 164L, 5 Speed manual - 187,000 miles.

Car is in good Condition – Cosmetic issues include the clear coat peeling off, and some dents.

For more information email Paul

at pauljosep13@gmail.com

Otherwise, this car runs great. I just drove to Paso Robles and back. Car is in Graton.



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Name Brands! Price negotiable.

*Brake Parts *Ignition Parts *Clutch Kits *Clutches

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AND MORE! Excel spreadsheet with part

numbers available. Any shops looking to expand their
inventory? Let's make a deal! Contact Grant at





Current ESCA Membership Total 223



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PIT STOP ADVERTISING RATES:

ESCA members: 1/2 price on below, except, Classified text is FREE. \$1.50 PER MONTH FOR PHOTO; ROOM PERMITTING.

Classified	\$2.00	per month	5 lines max.
Business Card	\$3.00	per month	3 1/2" X 2"
1/4 Page	\$4.00	per month	3 1/2" X 5"
1/2 Page	\$8.00	per month	7 1/2" X 5"
Full Page	\$16.00	per month	7 1/2" X 10"