



PIT STOP



May 2022

The Official Newsletter of *Empire Sports Car Association*

P.O. BOX 2242, SANTA ROSA, CALIF. 95405

Volume 59-5



Sturgeon's Mill Tour

Hello **ESCA** members, we have our Sturgeon's Mill tour coming right up here on **Saturday, May 7th**! This tour was inspired by **ESCA** members, Martin and Brenda. I have been looking forward to this as I've heard from a few people that it is very fascinating to see the mill running. The plan is to meet up at **Andy's produce** off of Hwy 116 in Sebastopol at **9:00 AM**. They have Roasters coffee there and we can get some produce from Andy's if we'd like for sandwiches. Sturgeon's used to provide lunch for everybody who came but they now are advising to pack **your own lunch**. The operation is run by volunteers for donations and we should expect to contribute. We will be departing Andy's produce around **9:30 AM** and

Continued on [page 2](#)



Ukiah Fairgrounds

Circle Track Autocross

ESCA Series AutoX #3

May 14, 2022

New Site, Circular Thinking!

Hello **ESCAN's**!

We will be having our third points event at a new site, which as some of you know is at the Ukiah Fairgrounds' 1/4 mile circle track! The club had a test event last November (see the wonderful article in the December 2021 Pitstop about it!)

Continued on [page 4](#)

What's Inside . .

Page [2](#).~ From the Cockpit,
Tour, Meeting, & Party

Page [3](#).~ MC Car Show

Page [4](#).~ Birthdays, Car Shows

Page [5](#).~ 2009 Autocross at airport

Page [6](#).~ 4-9 AutoX article

Page [7](#).~ 4-9 AutoX, website

Page [8](#).~ 4-9 Auto X Results

Page [9](#).~ Calendar, C&C, Track Night

Page [10](#).~ Ads & Ad Rates

Page [11](#).~ 2021 Board and Committee Chair

Information, Views, and Mission Statement

From the Cockpit

By Bruce Bentz



Moving forward! April gave us one last chance to run up at the Ukiah Pipe Factory Site. Helmets off to Charley and Steve chairing this event. They made use of every square inch of gravel-asphalt (grasphalt?) available and it was a really fun track with some exciting off camber turns. Special thanks to Charley for running the street sweeper over the course, it made a huge difference! And we know for sure that this is the last event on this site as we had to dodge around the huge excavator and water truck that was demolishing the site while we were running!

Our next autocross will be **May 14th** up at the **Ukiah Fairgrounds' oval track**, I guarantee it will be exciting! Additional dates TBD.

Looking even farther ahead, Charlie Davis with SCCA is working on a proposal with Sonoma Speedway to pave one of their parking lots for a permanent autocross track. There are lots of questions that he's asking all of the car clubs to gauge interest and needs:

Trailer storage: What would be a reasonable monthly trailer storage rent? Would we want to keep our trailer there?

Entry participants: Charlie is thinking the smallest event would be 50 members. I think this is reasonable.

Entry cost: In previous discussions with Charlie, he was tossing around probably \$4,000 a day rental for the track. Assuming 50 entrants this would push **our entrance fee to \$86 to break even including insurance, etc.** Would this fly? Or drive?

How many weekend events would we want? Would we want two day events? Are Saturdays or Sundays more problematic?

How many weekday events would we want?

Of course, depending on how many clubs are interested would limit how many days would be available. Charlie has assured me that the SCCA would be as forthright and equitable with track days as possible. Think about what we want and let's talk about this at our next meeting **May 3rd** at Round Table Pizza on Marlow Rd., Santa Rosa, or by ZOOM.

You can always reach me at blbentz@yahoo.com

Tour

Continued from [front page](#)

we will be heading North West up 116 to Pocket Canyon into Guerneville. From Guerneville we will head towards Jenner and then head south on Hwy 1 through Bodega and back up Bodega Ave. We will take Bohemian Hwy to Occidental Rd. and a left on Green Hill Rd. to 2150 Green Hill Rd., Sebastopol, CA 95472. I am thinking we will get there well before noon so we can settle in and eat lunch and listen to their music, if they have it going this year. After lunch they will be running the steam powered saw mill again, which should be fun to watch. The tour will wrap up at Sturgeon's so everyone is free to go whenever. If anyone is interested in a drive after that could be an option as well. Feel free to check out the Sturgeon's Mill link for more info: <http://www.sturgeonsmill.com/>

Looking forward to seeing everyone there, **RSVP by 4/6**, and please feel free to reach me at nd0yl3@gmail.com with any suggestions. Thanks! ~ Nick Doyle

Birthday Party Planners Needed

Who wants to plan a party?

Your **ESCA** Board and Committee Chairs are looking forward to celebrating **ESCA's 59th Birthday** on **August 6th**. Lake Sonoma Warm Springs Area is again available. We have had several great parties and car shows there in the past.

We are looking for volunteers to help plan the party!

If you're interested please contact

the **ESCA** Secretary, Marci at

secretary@empireportscar.org

ESCA is Back to

In-person/ZOOM Meetings.

May 3rd & May 17th

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 the Sunday before.

Let's All Go to the Car Show!

Article by: Gary O'Connor

Photos by: Terry O'Connor

After two years of being locked up in our homes and under our car covers we emerged, blinking and covering our eyes from the wonder and brightness that is..... a car show.

Except for the occasional trip to the store or evening drive we haven't had the chance to take our oldies out to socialize or be with 'our kind' for too long.

Maria Carrillo High School has been hosting a car show for the last several years (excluding the last couple, of course) to raise funds for their auto shop classes. I believe these are the only high school auto shop classes being offered in Santa Rosa and maybe the county so I'm always happy to support them.

After a quick cleaning, Terry (in her '55 TBird), my brother, Wayne (in his '66 Corvette) and I (in our '51 Ford woodie wagon) got to the school early and set up our chairs and umbrella in preparation for a day of relaxation. We also had our rescue Frenchie, Mia, along for her first busy outing and she did very well. Because of late advertising the show was smaller than in past years (60-ish cars) but the quality was still high. The students are involved in the administration of the show, selling raffle tickets, parking cars..... the whole deal! There was great music all day and lunch was no hot dog and burger affair.... the culinary class made three bean chili, enchiladas and pulled pork sliders. Delicious! Great to see several disciplines active in the event.

It's always fun to answer questions about our cars, see our friends and make new ones. The 'trend of the day' was middle aged women looking at Terry's Thunderbird and turning to their husbands/boyfriends and saying "That's my car". The rest of the show had trailer queens and daily beaters and everything in between. There was a mid '60's, hemi engined Dodge behind us and when I went to look at it I found out it was built by a surveyor friend of mine and that he had recently passed. That news, unfortunately, is becoming all too common.

It was great to get out for a day like the 'before times' and we look forward to more like it. Although life may not get back to complete normalcy, at least we can safely enjoy a day outside with our cars and friends. The next one we'll be at is the **Father's Day show at Julliard Park on June 19th**

Continued on [next column](#)



so come by, check out 400 cars and say 'hi'... we'll be under the shade of the redwoods. The next weekend we head down to Santa Cruz for **Woodies on the Wharf**, a gathering of over 200 woodie wagons of all sizes, shapes and makes.

It's a great day every year and is well worth the drive down.

See ya at a car show!!



HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAYS....

Armand Bengle
Rich Bishop
Martin Franusich
Darrin Holm
Christine Kljavin
Mitchell McGee
Benjamin Mo
Bob Reid
Carl Rittiman
Charley Sawyer
Eric Siedentopf
Charlie Smith
Dan Woolever

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



CALIFORNIA AUTOMOBILE MUSEUM'S
MEMORIAL DAY
Car Show
ALL MAKES AND MODELS
Featuring Vettes & Vets
MONDAY
MAY 30
8 A.M. - 1 P.M.

For information use the links below.

<https://www.calautomuseum.org/Events>

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cam-veterans-memorial-day-car-show-car-registration-tickets-301970741617>

Ukiah AutoX #3

Continued from [front page](#)

which proved the site to be a viable location for our upcoming events. The entrance to the track is literally just a right-hand turn compared to going to the old Ukiah site at Factory Pipe.

We have some more ideas for track layouts which should make for fun and interesting events despite us being conformed to the circular layout. I am very grateful that the membership was able to support the cause by attending last November to "feel the water" there.

Now I'm looking to our membership again to come out and support our new venue. I hope to see some more members at this exciting new place to have some fun!

The cost will be **\$60 for members and \$70 for guests.**

Please be sure to mark the date on your calendar!

Charley Sawyer
ESCA AutoX Chair



ECA Father's Day "Show & Shine" Car Show Juilliard Park, Santa Rosa

ECA is once again having the Father's Day Car Show on Father's Day! **Sunday, June 19th, 2022** at Juilliard Park in Santa Rosa.

Applications to register your car are available. ECA is also looking for food vendors! If you are a food vendor and would like to join the car show email:

mary@nceca.org.

ECA is accepting vendors selling product if approved by the car show committee. Thank you!!!

Car Show registration flyer is now available!

<https://nceca.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/car-show-registration-2022-1.pdf>

ESCA Oct 2009 Autocross at the Airport



JOHN CASTELLANO



RON COX BEFORE THE WIDE TIRES



ERIC SEIDENTOPF



FRANK JURIN



OLLIE STEPPLER



MICHAEL SIVONGXAY



MIKE MCCRORY



OLD ESCA TRAILER



LYNN MILLER



ART BATTLES



DAN CLARY

Ukiah AutoX #2 4-9-22 – So Long!

We had our second official event of the 2022 season at Honorary ESCA Member Ross Liberty's property for one last send off. We had a few more folks turn out this event, which was great, along with some new faces to join the fun. As usual course setup was a breeze and with minimal issues, we were able to get a massive 9 runs! I hope everyone had as much fun as I did even though I broke my Mustang on the 8th run.... (Don't worry, it was just a throw-out bearing, which has since been replaced!)

Since I knew this would be our last event at the site, I wanted to create a course that had elements from some of the most memorable layouts that our creative members had come up with over the past three years. I took inspiration from John C's "minefield" feature and shrunk road course along with some elements from others' layouts which made for a fast paced, but well utilized site course. The main unique feature of the Ukiah site was the elevation change that offered a dimension not normally found at autocross events. I will really miss this



4-9-2022 Autocross at Ukiah site photos:
<https://photos.app.goo.gl/pFEM8fNMhUEEV79f7>



aspect of the site despite its short comings with surface quality and obvious obstacles from being a lumber mill in its previous life.

Speaking of obstacles, we had a large excavator tearing up a cement foundation whose operator graciously kept himself away from our course while we ran during the day. It's always fun to interact with outside folks who are always impressed with how we run our event. Speaking with the excavator operator, he was a bit of a car enthusiast himself, so I hope we might get another new member soon!

Continued on [page 7](#)



Chuck Banks is the last car leaving the Ukiah site after the last ESCA Autocross on April 9, 2022

Ukiah AutoX #2

Continued from [page 6](#)

There were some impressive times at this event, with Issac Hastings, Ben Bettega and Steve Rossiter rounding out the top three. There were familiar members in the top 10 times for the day, but most notably, some new faces in the top 10; Jared McGee and Mike McCrory came in fourth and seventh respectively which is a great sight to see!

Even though I am sad to see the Ukiah Site go, I am looking forward to where **ESCA** will continue to run fun, challenging and rewarding events, despite our ongoing search for a new place to call home. I appreciate everyone who comes out and shares in our comradery, I hope everyone feels the same!

Until next time!

Charley Sawyer



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

ESCA Website: Rallye, Club Store and Email Addresses

What is an ESCA Annual April Fools Rallye?

The **ESCA** website now includes the Rallye Place website. The Rallye Place was built by Marci & Bob Jenkins and has been a stand alone website until now.

So when you have an opportunity visit the **ESCA** website at <https://www.empiresportscar.org/>

Under the **Rallye** tab for you'll find a tab for **Map**. This is a paper rallye, with General Instructions, Definitions, a Map, Route Instructions. You have the ability to select your answers and there is a **A-B Paper Map Critique**. This will give you a feel for what is the **Annual April Fools Rallye**. The other tabs will give you the Rallye Flyer (it will be posted in December 2022), the Results of 2019 and a list of past winners. The last tab is where you'll find lots of photos of the **Annual April Fools Rallyes** from 1997 to 2019.

ESCA Email Addresses

We have added some email addresses for **ESCA** and have made a change to the Secretary email.

Your **ESCA** Officers and Committee Chairs can now be reached at:

chairman@empiresportscar.org

vicechairman@empiresportscar.org

secretary@empiresportscar.org

tour@empiresportscar.org

rallye@empiresportscar.org

autocross@empiresportscar.org

data@empiresportscar.org

meeting@empiresportscar.org

entertainment@empiresportscar.org

contact@empiresportscar.org

ESCA Club Store

The **ESCA** website has a tab with a link to our Club Store. You can shop the store for T-Shirts, Sweatshirts, Mugs, License Plate Frames, Canvas Carry Bags and more. You pay Cafepress directly. **ESCA** does not mark up the items nor do we receive any funds. If you know of an item that Cafe Press carries but it is not in the **ESCA** Store, just contact the **ESCA** Secretary and it can be added to our Store.

<https://www.cafepress.com/ESCAShirts>

ESCA April 9, 2022 Autocross in Ukiah

Row	Class	#	Driver	Car Model	Raw Time	Diff.	From 1st
1	GTB-S	1	Isaac Hastings	2005 Mazda speed Miata	47.043	0.000	0.000
2	GTB-S	19	Benjamin Bettega	2017 Ford Focus RS	47.280	0.237	0.237
3	GTC-R	45	Steve Rossiter	1983 Mazda RX7	47.455	0.175	0.412
4	GTA-S	923	Jared McGee	1995 Ford Mustang	47.601	0.146	0.558
5	GTB-R	27	Craig Hammond	1983 Mazda rx7	47.953	0.352	0.910
6	GTB-S	95	Brent Werder	2003 Nissan 350z	48.036	0.083	0.993
7	GTC-S	162	Mike McCrory	1995 Honda Civic	48.385	0.349	1.342
8	GTC-S	3	John Castellano	1960 Volkswagen Bug	48.401	0.016	1.358
9	GTC-S	421	Nicholas Doyle	1996 Nissan 240sx	48.604	0.203	1.561
10	GTA-R	505	Martin Franusich	1990 Chevrolet Corvette	48.617	0.013	1.574
11	GTC-S	666	Kenneth Huang	2000 Mazda Miata	49.064	0.447	2.021
12	GTB-S	88	Jiro Tulley	1995 Mazda Miata	49.677	0.613	2.634
13	GTA-S	351	Charley Sawyer	1966 Ford Mustang	50.111	0.434	3.068
14	GTA-S	32	Chuck Banks	1988 Pontiac Fiero	50.268	0.157	3.225
15	GTC-R	9	John Schliemann	1995 Mazda Miata	51.375	1.107	4.332
16	GTB-S	129	Bruce Bentz	2009 Porsche Boxster	51.501	0.126	4.458
17	GTC-S	701	Chris Soos	2004 Mazda RX-8	51.549	0.048	4.506
18	GTC-S	82	Alan Veach	Mazda 2008 MX5	51.704	0.155	4.661
19	GTB-S	14	Martin Johns	2011 BMW 128i convertibl	51.899	0.195	4.856
20	GTB-S	0	Thomas Buggia	1991 Toyota Mr2 turbo	52.588	0.689	5.545
21	GTC-S	96	Sebastian Herbst	1987 Toyota Mr2	52.815	0.227	5.772
22	GTC-S	131	Ed Biglin	2002 Honda S2000	52.817	0.002	5.774
23	GTC-S	83	Alvin Nguyen	2002 Mazda	53.049	0.232	6.006
24	GTC-S	170	Greg Soos	2010 Mazda RX-8	54.498	1.449	7.455
25	GTB-S	118	Carl Rittiman	1989 BMW 325i	54.595	0.097	7.552
26	GTC-S	873	Avi Moore	1986 Toyota Mr2	55.754	1.159	8.711
27	GTC-R	117	Robert Elliot	1997 Honda Civic	58.594	2.840	11.551
28	GTC-S	73	Bob Blick	2016 Chevrolet Spark	60.259	1.665	13.216



ESCA 2022 Calendar

MAY

- 03 (TUE) **ESCA Meeting and ZOOM**
 04 (Wed night) Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)
 07 (SAT) **ESCA Tour to Sturgeon's Mill**
 14 (SAT) **ESCA Autocross at Ukiah Fairgrounds**
 17 (TUE) **ESCA Meeting and ZOOM**
 18 (Wed night) Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)
 21-22 (S & S) RSCC Autocrosses in Eureka www.rsc.net
 25 (Wed night) Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)
 30 (Sat) California Automobile Museum's Car Show

JUNE

- 04 (Sat) TRC Rallye therallyclub.org
 07 (TUE) **ESCA Meeting and ZOOM**
 12 (Sun) Save Mart 350 NASCAR (SR)
 11-12 (S & S) RSCC Autocrosses in Eureka www.rsc.net
 15 (Wed night) Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)
 17 (TUE) **ESCA Meeting and ZOOM**
 19 (Sun) ECA Fathers Day Car Show Santa Rosa
 22 (Wed night) Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)
 29 (Wed night) Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)

JULY

- 06 (Wed night) Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)
 09 (Sat) Windsor Tamale Fest & Car Show,
 Windsor Town Green
 13 (Wed night) Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)
 23-24 (S & S) RSCC Korb Hillclimb tentative www.rsc.net

AUGUST

- 02 (Sat) TRC Rallye therallyclub.org
 10 (Wed night) Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)
 13-14 (S & S) RSCC Autocrosses in Eureka www.rsc.net
 13-14 (S & S) Monterey Pre-Reunion (LS)
 17-20 (W-Sa) Rolex Monterey Reunion (LS)
 17 (Wed night) Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)
 24 (Wed night) Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)
 31 (Wed night) Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)

SEPTEMBER

- 07-11 (W-Su) Ferrari Challenge North America (SR)
 17-18 (S & S) RSCC Autocrosses in Eureka www.rsc.net
 28 (Wed night) Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)

(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 Coddington 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

ESCA's Club Store

ESCA's club store can be accessed by going to the ESCA website at www.empiresportscar.org/club-store

The store is through CAFE PRESS. ESCA does not have a markup on the merchandise. If you have any questions please contact the ESCA Secretary, at

secretary@empiresportscar.org

Track Night in America at Thunderhill Raceway Park,

May 12 June 9
August 25 September 29

American Autocross Series

<http://www.americanautocross.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.therallyclub.org>

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Asking \$1600

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

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For more information email Paul
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great. I just
drove to Paso
Robles and
back. Car is in
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Get in touch with us:

707.538.4325
M-F 8am-5pm
facebook.com/hammondautowerks

Current ESCA
Membership Total
154

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Marty Nygaard
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E-mail: the.garage.petaluma@gmail.com

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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"