



# PIT STOP



## JUNE 2022

### The Official Newsletter of *Empire Sports Car Association*

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

Volume 59-6



#### Autocross at the Ukiah Fairgrounds Track Saturday, June 11, 2022

**Time Change: Set up 8am, Entry 9am, Close 6pm**  
**\$60 ESCA MEMBERS \$70 GUEST DRIVERS**

Happy June to all

We will be having an Autocross on **June 11<sup>th</sup>**. Once again we will be using the Ukiah fair grounds race track area.

So we can now all enjoy just a bit more sleep in the morning, we will **open at 8 am for set-up and at 9 am for general entry**, and we are still aiming for the track to be hot around 10:30 am, and we now have a new **finish time of 6 pm**.

The plan at this point is to setup the course as we did the first time, when we did our "test day:" in November.

It was about a 60 second track and very fun.

*Continued on [page 2](#)*

#### A Memorial Party for ESCA Member, Terry Larson

Karen is hosting the party with live music, **2-5pm** on **June 18<sup>th</sup>** in Santa Rosa. Come celebrate Terry's life!

Upon receipt of RSVP, you'll be sent all the details.

RSVP to [secretary@empiresportscar.org](mailto:secretary@empiresportscar.org)

#### Father's Day Car Show Sunday, June 19, 2022

They are once again having the Father's Day Car Show on Father's Day at Juilliard Park in Santa Rosa! They are also looking for food and product vendors! Car Show registration flyer is now available!



<https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Community/Fathers-Day-Show-Shine-Car-Show-692138374167670/>

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Information, Views, and Mission Statement

## From the Cockpit

By Bruce Bentz



A fun month for the club in May! Our first official autocross at the Ukiah oval track and a great club tour to Sturgeons Sawmill. Thanks to John Castellano for setting up the new course at the oval track. It's still a work in progress and he's developing the best way to set up the course. Thanks to Nick Doyle for hosting the tour, I've heard that it was a great time.

Coming up:

The club is having our yearly picnic on **August 6<sup>th</sup>** up at Lake Sonoma Warm Springs Recreation Area, thanks to Marci for setting this up. We must have more volunteers to help make this event work for everyone, so please check your calendars and lend us a hand.

More autocross at the Ukiah oval track on **June 11<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you Craig Hammond and John Castellano for chairing this event. I'm sure it will be a blast!

We are moving to a different **Self Tech Form** for our autocross events. Previously we would use one tech card for each season. We now require each driver to self tech their vehicle for autocross safety prior to each event. The new form will have the safety rules for the event as well as a checklist and sign off that the driver confirms their vehicle and equipment are in good condition. We need each participant to check off each item that you have verified, sign the waiver and then turn this into the autocross chair before you will be allowed to participate in the event.

We're not seeing too many faces at our club meetings. We are holding meetings at the Marlow Round Table and you can join by Zoom (that mostly works). We're starting to feel like the club board is going to make all of the decisions without more people to voice their opinions at the meetings. Please put in a LITTLE effort to make our meetings feel more like a meeting and less like a game of solitaire.

You can always reach me at [blbentz@yahoo.com](mailto:blbentz@yahoo.com)

**Please Welcome New Member . . .**

**Kenneth Huang**

**Miata**

## Autocross at the Ukiah Fairgrounds Track

Continued from [front page](#)

Please remember it can get very hot up there so sunscreen and water is suggested.

Please print all documents that will be coming your way after registering. It's very important that you read and fill out correctly and completely. A quick heads up on the paperwork there are multiple places that require signature AND initials.

Each missed signature or initial will be subject to a one second time penalty on your fastest run ( just kidding but I bet that would make ya read it more closely tho right?)

All requirements such as noise, helmet, guest , ect.. will be status quo as with events in the past and noted in multiple Pit Stop articles.

If you have any unanswered questions after reviewing the regulations feel free to contact me at

[craig@hammondautowerks.com](mailto:craig@hammondautowerks.com)

Hope to see 30 of my closest **ESCA** friends on the **11<sup>th</sup> of June!**

Thank you - Craig Hammond

**ESCA Meetings are Back**

**to In-Person /ZOOM**

**June 7 & June 21**

**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.

**Birthday Party Planners Needed**

**Who wants to plan a party?**

Your **ESCA** Board and Committee Chairs are looking forward to celebrating **ESCA's 59<sup>th</sup> Birthday** on **August 6<sup>th</sup>**. We have the Lake Sonoma Warm Springs Area reserved again. We have had several great parties and car shows there in the past. **SAVE the DATE - August 6<sup>th</sup>**

We are looking for volunteers to help plan the party!

If you're interested please contact the **ESCA** Secretary, Marci at

[secretary@empiresportscar.org](mailto:secretary@empiresportscar.org)





## Sturgeon Mill Tour

By Nick Doyle

Hello fellow club members! Wanted to sum up our tour to Sturgeon's Mill for those who could not attend. We had a very nice turn out on a very beautiful day! We met up at Andy's Produce at 9:00am. We had 13 members that met up along with a couple that met us at the Mill. We had originally planned on going on the cruise first before the Mill, but Marci suggested that it may be best to go to the Mill first which turned out great. We got to the Mill just after 9:30 as it was only 10 minutes from Andy's. Perfect timing for parking as it was filling up fast. Two other clubs were there, including a few members from the Porsche Club and the Corvette Club, which was nice to see. We grouped up and as we were walking in,



the steam whistles were already singing. We were greeted right away by one of the docents and we got right into the second tour group. Very well run operation and the docents were very knowledgeable and fun! I am sure Bob will provide photos to show most of the operation because words do not do it justice! Beautiful location nestled into the redwoods and it sure is amazing what steam power can do. They had multiple on-site locations with demonstrations on what they did back in the 1930's. They had a live Blacksmith demonstration, horse log

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# Sturgeon Mill Tour

Continued from [page 3](#)

dragging, steam cable transportation and the fully operational mill with a tour underneath. After we got to see the entire operation we sat down for lunch, they had a full BBQ setup on site. We regrouped and set out for our nice drive through the redwoods on Pocket Canyon Rd. out to Hwy 1/ Jenner. Headed to Bodega Bay and made a pit stop at Campbell Cove (Hole in the Head). We then drove to Ginocchio's Kitchen to finish up with a cup of hot coffee. Was a shorter drive as far as the tour goes but the main event at Sturgeon's Mill was a hit! For those who were not able to come they are doing a few more public demonstrations this year including June 18-19, Sept. 10-11 and Oct 15-16. I would highly recommend grabbing the family and checking it out! Well worth it and it is free to enter. Lastly, I wanted to provide a list of those who attended! We had Bob and Marci Jenkins driving their 350z, Chuck and Lorie Banks came with their beautiful De Tomaso Pantera, Ron and Carol Cox with a Ford Mach 1, Isaac Hasting and Sarah Hollister in his new Miata, John Martin pulled out his Triumph TR6, Martin Johns and Ed Biglin with the BMW 128I and Brianna Wick and myself took my convertible 240sx. John and Marisa Castellano also were at the mill but not sure what they drove!



(Thank you Marci for helping with the headcount.)

## Sturgeon Mill Tour Photos

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/H1PHNBVgQCWe8ZpYA>

Anyway, I have my own tour in mind for June on the 12<sup>th</sup> but, the 12<sup>th</sup> is the day after Autocross so members may just want to relax on Sunday. There is also a Z's Owners of Northern California tour that is going to BlackHawk Auto Museum on June 5th which may be worth a tour all by itself!

Please reach out to me if the Museum sounds good!

[Nd0yl3@gmail.com](mailto:Nd0yl3@gmail.com) More info to follow. Also, a friendly reminder that Terry Larson's Memorial is on **June 18<sup>th</sup>** for those who would like to attend. Hope everyone is well, see you soon!





# HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAYS....

**Chuck Banks**  
**Steve Chiesa**  
**Adam Hammond**  
**Craig Hammond**  
**Frank Jurin**  
**Kahtarina Kljavin**  
**Brinna Mahoney**  
**Frederick Nelson**  
**Ken Silk**  
**Grant Weaver III**  
**Tamara 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!*



## The Redwood Region Proudly Presents Mount Tam Trek A Modified TSD Rally

No math required! You will be given clear instructions to each checkpoint, and the time you should arrive. Drive the assigned route and park. At your assigned time, trigger the GPS checkpoint using your smartphone.

The rally is open to any car, regardless of make or model, and PCA membership is not required. The route includes the Mount Tamalpais State Park and the Point Reyes National Seashore.

All roads are paved and in good condition. Great roads and great vistas, and all checkpoint destinations have restrooms. This is an entry-level event, perfect for people who have never rallied before, or for people who hate math.

### When:

- Saturday, June 18, 2022
- Mandatory safety meeting at 11:00
- First car out at 12:01
- First car finishes about 4:00

### Where:

- Start: (tbd) in Marin County
- Finish: Mary's Pizza Shack, Novato

### Who:

- PCA members from any region
- Non-PCA members (\$5 additional)

### How to enter:

- Pre-registration is required
- No on-site registration
- \$25 per car (non-PCA \$30 per car)

### What you will need:

- Smartphone with the GPS app
- Nothing else is required

### Questions:

Jim\_Robison@comcast.net

Register by Tuesday June 14 at [MSRreg.com/MtTam](https://MSRreg.com/MtTam)

## Some Local Car Events

10  
JUN

**Peggy Sue's Car Show and Cruise**  
Fri, 8:00 AM – 8:30 PM  
Sonoma County Event Center ...  
Santa Rosa, CA



2  
JUL

**All-American Veteran Car Show**  
Sat, 6 AM – 3 PM  
1351 Maple Ave  
Santa Rosa, CA



12  
JUN

**Cars and Coffee - Santa Rosa**  
Sun, 8 – 10 AM  
Starbucks, 358 Coddington C...  
Santa Rosa, CA



16  
JUL

**VFW 4th annual car show**  
Sat, 10 AM  
Veterans of Foreign Wars Gold...  
Sebastopol, CA



16  
JUL

**Devils Darlin's 33rd Annual Car Show**  
Sat, 9 AM – 3 PM  
Sonoma Veterans Memorial H...  
Sonoma, CA



## Save the Date

# October 15 -16

**Over-night Tour to Mendocino and  
the Hill House Inn**

## Tentative Autocross dates for Ukiah

July 23, 2022

August 13, 2022

*A possible event at Sonoma Raceway this Summer*

September 10, 2022

October 22, 2022





## A Long Course on a Short Track

By John Castellano

On May 14<sup>th</sup>, we had a “points” event at Ukiah Speedway for the first time. It was our second autocross at the new site, our third different venue, and fourth autocross of the year. 27 drivers braved the high banks, fast straights, hot windy weather, and goose poop. Yes, instead of blowing gravel off the track, this time it was...oh never mind.

We are just learning how to utilize the new site. It's not an expansive site, but I wanted to make a reasonably long course. I set up an out-and-back since we didn't have too many cars. Well, I was shooting for the 70 to 80 second range, but it wound up more like 90. Slight overkill. All our past autocross sites have had obstacles—trees and ditches at the Airport, industrial rubble at Factory Pipe, and concrete barriers at Sonoma Raceway paddock and now Ukiah Speedway. The barriers are designed for safety—after all, teenagers race here. But it is a narrow track and there's not much room to spin out. Cones



help keep the cars away from the wall on the main straight, but there's still a pucker factor.

I like to include some straightaways in my courses to prioritize exit speed and include some braking zones. The course started with a big jog right after the lights, then straight down the long and narrow paddock. At the south end was the Virtual Pivot—go through a gate, make a 180, and back through the gate. Fun and challenging, but I couldn't get my

## 5-14-2022 Autocross Photos

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/7MJPIaTqkdxcd746>

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## ESCA 5-14-2022 Autocross in Ukiah

	Class	#	Driver	Car Model	Raw Time	Diff.	From 1st
1	X	11	Guy Southern	1999 Chevrolet Corvette	88.175	0.000	0.000
2	GTB-S	30	Daniel Lassen	2015 Ford Focus ST	89.078	0.903	0.903
3	GTC-S	421	Nicholas Doyle	1996 Nissan 240sx	89.840	0.762	1.665
4	GTB-R	27	Craig Hammond	1983 Mazda rx7	90.051	0.211	1.876
5	GTB-R	19	Benjamin Bettega	2017 Ford Focus RS	90.080	0.029	1.905
6	GTB-S	95	Brent Werder	2003 Nissan 350z	90.185	0.105	2.010
7	GTB-S	2	Blain Hendrix	2007 Porsche Cayman	90.593	0.408	2.418
8	GTC-S	162	Mike McCrory	1995 Honda Civic	90.672	0.079	2.497
9	GTC-S	3	John Castellano	1960 Volkswagen Bug	90.889	0.217	2.714
10	GTB-S	282	Noland Priester	2016 Ford Focus ST	91.223	0.334	3.048
11	GTA-S	53	Michael Prescott	2013 Ford Mustang 5.0	91.623	0.400	3.448
12	GTC-R	9	John Schliemann	1995 Mazda Miata	92.958	1.335	4.783
13	GTB-S	14	Martin Johns	2011 BMW 128i convertible	93.003	0.045	4.828
14	GTA-S	32	Chuck Banks	1988 Pontiac Fiero	94.147	1.144	5.972
15	GTA-R	505	Martin Franusich	1990 Chevrolet Corvette	94.232	0.085	6.057
16	GTC-S	96	Sebastian Herbst	1987 Toyota Mr2	95.766	1.534	7.591
17	GTC-S	131	Ed Biglin	2002 Honda S2000	96.585	0.819	8.410
18	GTC-S	701	Chris Soos	2004 Mazda RX-8	98.527	1.942	10.352
19	GTC-S	196	Brendan Baylor	1987 Toyota MR2	99.144	0.617	10.969
20	GTC-S	923	Jared McGee	1992 Mazda Miata	99.619	0.475	11.444
21	GTC-S	170	Greg Soos	2004 Mazda RX8	100.195	0.576	12.020
22	GTC-S	122	Joy Prescott	1999 Mazda Miata	101.615	1.420	13.440
23	GTC-S	189	Dan Woolever	1999 Mazda Miata	102.720	1.105	14.545
24	GTC-S	329	Tyler Chung	1991 Mazda Miata	104.483	1.763	16.308
25	X	76	Nikki Southern	2002 Chevrolet Corvette	105.623	1.140	17.448
26	GTC-S	61	Peter Mahoney	2002 Mazda Miata	108.371	2.748	20.196
27	GTC-R	67	Ron Cox	1967 Austin Mini Mk1	109.114	0.743	20.939





## A Long Course on a Short Track

*Continued from [page 6](#)*

car to cooperate there.

Next was the crossover to the oval. It's narrow here, so I put a tight wiggle to keep the speeds down. A little too tight, because the Corvettes could barely fit through. I had to widen it slightly partway through the second run. Oops. Now I have good numbers for the future, though. On the oval, the Circular Slalom worked well in November, so I repeated that feature. Six cones, spaced 60 feet apart around the 180 degree banked turn. I switched it to the south end, and rotated it to make both options viable.

At the north end, I put a big offset to push everybody above the pothole in Turn Three. It did get a little gravelly up there late in the day. Then there was a hairpin with a challenging ridge in the pavement, and a return all the way back through the same route. It had it's Miata moments (crossover, hairpins) and it's Corvette moments (straightaways). It was a long course and it made for a long day. We got six runs in (barely) for about nine minutes of epic track time each. A true team effort, especially with several key players out sick.

We're looking for additional ideas on using the new site. Course ideas are welcome too. For example, I'm going to add cones on the bottom next time to keep people (like me) from putting wheels in the dirt coming onto the straight. I got loosey goosey there. I also want to try gridding on the south end, where there's shade, picnic tables and the bathroom. The trick is getting in and out while we're running. Talk to me or Charley or Craig or Steve if you've got ideas.





*At the Autocross Besides the Cars*



*The geese were first*



*One Wheeler Nick Doyle*



*Michael & Joy Prescott*



*Top Gun Guy Southern*



*Dan Lassen and Michael McCrory*



*The art project of a course worker with a slow work station*



*Brianna Wick - "I wish I had a converable sports car to run."*



*Greg Soos, Chris Soos and John Castellano*



## ESCA 2022 Calendar

### JUNE

- 04 TRC A/B Rallye [therallyclub.org](http://therallyclub.org)  
 04 Cobra Day at Martinez  
 07 **ESCA Meeting / ZOOM**  
 12 Save Mart 350 NASCAR (SR)  
 11 **ESCA Autocross at Ukiah**  
 11-12 RSCC Autocrosses in Eureka [www.rsc.net](http://www.rsc.net)  
 19 **ECA Fathers Day Car Show Santa Rosa**  
 21 **ESCA Meeting / ZOOM**  
 22, 29 Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)

### JULY

- 05 **ESCA Meeting / ZOOM**  
 06, 13 Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)  
 09 Tamale Fest & Car Show, Windsor Town Green  
 15 **ESCA Meeting / ZOOM**  
 23 **Tentative ESCA Autocross at Ukiah**  
 23-24 RSCC Korbel Hillclimb tentative [www.rsc.net](http://www.rsc.net)

### AUGUST

- 06 TRC Rallye [therallyclub.org](http://therallyclub.org)  
 06 **ESCA's 59th Summer Picnic at Lake Sonoma**  
 10, 17, 24, 31 Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)  
 13 **Tentative ESCA Autocross at Ukiah**  
 13-14 RSCC Autocrosses in Eureka [www.rsc.net](http://www.rsc.net)  
 13-14 Monterey Pre-Reunion (LS)  
 17-20 Rolex Monterey Reunion (LS)

### SEPTEMBER

- 07-11 Ferrari Challenge North America (SR)  
 10 **Tentative ESCA Autocross at Ukiah**  
 17-18 RSCC Autocrosses in Eureka [www.rsc.net](http://www.rsc.net)  
 28 Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)

### OCTOBER

- 01 & 02 CSRG Charity Historic Car Races  
 05, 19, 26 Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)  
 08-09 RSCC Autocrosses in Eureka [www.rsc.net](http://www.rsc.net)  
 15-16 **ESCA Mendocino Hill House Inn Overnight Tour**  
 22 **Tentative ESCA Autocross at Ukiah**

### NOVEMBER

- 02, 09 Wednesday night Drags & Drift (SR)

### DECEMBER

- 03 TRC Charity Rallye [therallyclub.org](http://therallyclub.org)  
 03-04 24 Hours of Lemons at (SR)  
 TBA **ESCA Annual Banquet & Meeting**  
 (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.

## 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](mailto:thebeard@sonic.net)

## Autocross Helmet Requirement

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

## 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

## Track Night in America

at Thunderhill Raceway Park,

June 9

August 25

September 29

For Bay Area Rallyes check out the

**RALLYE CLUB WEBSITE INFORMATION**

<http://www.therallyclub.org>



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](http://www.nhahillclimb.org)

## ESCA's Club Store

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

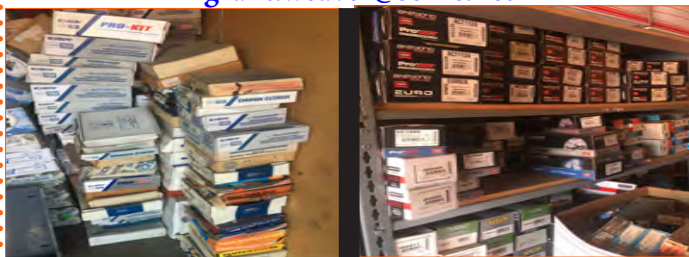
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 M-F 8am-5pm  
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Current ESCA  
 Membership Total  
 157

**THE GARAGE**

2004 Bodega Avenue, Petaluma CA 94952

Kurt Klein  
 Marty Nygaard  
 Tel: (707) 762-0272  
 E-mail: [the.garage.petaluma@gmail.com](mailto:the.garage.petaluma@gmail.com)

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 DRE# 01517847

**KW WINE COUNTRY**  
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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"