



# PIT STOP



## April 2023

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

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

Volume 60-4



### ESCA Charity Rallye 2023

Date: **Sunday, April 2, 2023**  
Start: **Snoopy's Home Ice, 1667 W. Steele Ln**  
Cost: **\$20 Per Car**  
Registration: **10:30 am to 12:30 pm**  
Rallye School: **11:00 am by Blain Hendrix**  
Finish: **Mountain Mike's, 3125 Cleveland Ave. in Santa Rosa**

See flyer on page [3](#)

### Autocross April 15, 2023

*Club dues must be paid before your registration is approved.*

*Tentative due to weather*

Autocross at the Ukiah Fairgrounds Track

### First AutoX

Hello ESCAN's!

Happy Spring! I hope everyone has been enjoying the plethora of rain we've been getting, we definitely need it. I don't know about you, but I'm ready for some dry weekends to make sure the project car is ready for our first official 2023 **ESCA** Autocross on **April 15th!**

It will be good to see everyone and hopefully some new faces as well, be sure to let me and/or Marci if you plan on bringing a guest.

I'm still looking for co-chairs for events throughout the year, so don't be shy and try it out if you've never co-chaired before. Torque those lugnuts and finish the last-minute adjustments on your cars and we'll see you there!

Charley ([Registration opens on MSR on 4-5-23](#))

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## BEARD SPEAK AGAIN

By Bob Jenkins



Welcome to Spring, hopefully sunny days and no more rain.

While this has been one for the record books on rain fall, hail, and snow, I sure hope April will be the start of the sunny weather for our outdoor events.

Our Go-Kart events at Speed 1 have brought out double digit turn-outs at the new track and led to great competition and no rain on event nights.

We still have no Entertainment Committee Head, but Marci Jenkins is working hard to find a place to hold **ESCA's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party** and if you have any ideas, please send her an email or talk to her at a meeting.

If you have not heard already the insurance industry is having real problems and our insurance carrier is no exception. We have been told that we will have a new policy soon and the rates as expected are going up. This is not because of car events, it is about all the fires, floods and what-have-you. A sorry state of affairs, but not much we can do.

On **April 2<sup>nd</sup> ESCA** presented its **56<sup>th</sup> Annual April Fools Rallye**, an open event so will run rain or shine. This rallye draws people from all over the area and event Oregon. If you are not working the rallye, please come out and support this charity event and your club. Next, on **April 15<sup>th</sup>** we hope to have our first autocross of the year at **Ukiah Fairgrounds in Ukiah**, we hope members from several other club will be joining us.

It would be really great if you came to a regular meeting at the **Round Table Pizza Parlor** on the **1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday** of the month or attend by ZOOM.

Hope to see you in sunny April.



## ESCA DUES ARE NOW PAST DUE!

Dues are **\$18.00** per year for a single **ESCA** member, plus **\$2.00** per year for **ESCA** members residing at the same address.

You can pay **1)** the Treasurer, Claudia Quinlivan, at a meeting, or **2)** use your credit card on MSR (there is a small service fee and your card will be immediately charged) at

[msreg.com/ESCA2023Membership](https://msreg.com/ESCA2023Membership)

or **3)** send a check made out to **ESCA**, to:

**ESCA**  
**P.O. BOX 2242,**  
**SANTA ROSA, CA 95405**

For questions about paying dues on MSR contact Marci Jenkins [secretary@empiresportscar.org](mailto:secretary@empiresportscar.org)

Please note for all dues paid by check or credit card, your **ESCA** membership card will be mailed within two weeks.

Remember your dues must be paid before you can sign up to run an **ESCA** autocross.

**ESCA Meetings**  
**are In-Person/ZOOM**  
**April 4 & 18**  
**7:00 p.m.**

Round Table Pizza, 1791 Marlow Rd, Santa Rosa

Link for ZOOM meeting will be sent the weekend before the meeting.

## Autocross Helmet Requirement

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

# EMPIRE SPORTS CAR ASSOCIATION

presents the

## 56th

### APRIL

### FOOLS



### RALLYE

#### AN A-B RALLYE OPEN TO ALL TYPES OF CARS

**DATE:** SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2023

**START:** SNOOPY'S HOME ICE, 1667 W. STEELE LANE, SANTA ROSA - TAKE THE STEELE LANE EXIT OFF U.S. 101, ONE MILE NORTH OF DOWNTOWN SANTA ROSA. GO WEST ON STEELE. CONTINUE ONTO GUERNEVILLE. TURN RIGHT AT RANGE. TURN LEFT ON W. STEELE. TURN RIGHT INTO THE SECOND DRIVEWAY AND GO TO THE BACK OF THE PARKING LOT.

**TIME:** REGISTRATION 10:30AM to 12:30PM,  
FIRST CAR OUT AT 11:45AM, LAST CAR OUT AT 1:00 PM

**FEE:** ENTRY \$20.00 PER CAR

**CLASSES:** MASTER EXPERT, EXPERT, SENIOR, NOVICE, BEGINNER, FIRST TIMER

**AWARDS:** MASTER EXPERT CLASS, ~ AWARD ~ FIRST AND SECOND PLACE  
EXPERT CLASS, ~ AWARD ~ FIRST AND SECOND PLACE  
SENIOR CLASS, ~ AWARD ~ FIRST AND SECOND PLACE  
NOVICE CLASS, ~ AWARD ~ FIRST AND SECOND PLACE  
BEGINNER CLASS, ~ AWARD ~ FIRST AND SECOND PLACE  
FIRST TIMER CLASS, ~ AWARD ~ FIRST AND SECOND PLACE  
A PARTICIPATION PLAQUE TO FIRST 40 CARS  
THE OVERALL WINNERS WILL HAVE THEIR NAMES ENGRAVED ON A LARGE PERPETUAL TROPHY  
THE PROFITS FROM THIS RALLYE WILL GO TO CHARITY:  
*Canine Companions for Independence®*

**FINISH:** Mountain Mike's Pizza in Santa Rosa

RALLYMASTER, BOB THE BEARD - FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CALL (707) 546-6867 OR E-MAIL [thebeard@sonic.net](mailto:thebeard@sonic.net)

THE APRIL FOOLS RALLYE WEBSITE IS: <http://rallyeplace.net/>  
or <https://www.empiresportscar.org/rallye>

You can run a practice A/B Map Rallye at both websites.  
Please E-MAIL the RALLYMASTER if you plan on attending.

**THERE WILL BE A SHORT RALLYE SCHOOL AT 11:00 AM FOR ALL THOSE NEW TO RALLYING**



A RALLYE IS NOT A SPEED EVENT. A RALLYE IS A TEST OF A TEAM'S ABILITY TO FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS ALONG THE ROUTE, WHILE LOOKING FOR SIGNS AND SITUATIONS THAT FIT THE DEFINITIONS OF THE RALLYE.





APRIL 2013

## PIT STOP



EMPIRE SPORTS CAR ASSOCIATION  
P.O. BOX 2242, SANTA ROSA, CALIF. 95405



## 10 Years Ago in Pit April 2013

By Bob Jenkins

The car on the cover of this 12 page PIT STOP is Tom Buggia's Red Chevy Corvette. Also on the cover are articles for an autocross at the airport, an autocross meeting, and a past **ESCA** dues notice.

A Fast Times article by the Chairman talked upcoming club events and that the fact that the club was having 60 to 70 members at autocross.

An "Indycar Testing" article by Colette Owens talked about her day at the event.

A welcome New Members list had 17 names, including Dan Woolever and Isaac Hastings.

There was a notice for the Marin Sonoma Concours in San Rafael.

There was an article for the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual April Fools Rallye, starting from the Charles Schulz Museum parking lot.

There was a full-page article about "Getting you car through Tech Inspection" and "Things Tech Inspectors Look For".

There was an **ESCA** 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party Survey from the party committee of Linda Jurin, Kim Smith, Julie Battles, Brooke Smith, and Marci Jenkins.

A "PIT STOP PDF" article asked members if they wanted to get their copy of the **ESCA** newsletter by email.

An "**ESCA** T-Shirts and Sweatshirt. Order" form showed the sizes, colors, and cost, and Hats.

A March Madness article by Steve Rossiter talked about the 81-driver event, which Bill Gemini in his Brunton Stalker took TTOD, followed by Ace Robey in his BMW Z-4M, and Craig Hammond in his RX-7.

The 2013 **ESCA** Board was listed as Chairman John Schliemann, Vice-Chairman Art Battles, Secretary Marci Jenkins, Treasurer Claudia Quinlivan, Ex-officio Steve Rossiter.

### Tentative **ESCA** Autocross Dates For 2023

All dates are Saturdays

April 15th

May 20th

June 10th

July 8th

August 12th

September 9th

October 7th



## HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAYS...

### Art Battles

Thia Buggia

John Castellano

Levi Early

Sebastian Herbst

Tamara Hull

Canaan McKoy

Craig Merrilees

Michelle Sapiente

Greg Soos

Brent Werder

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

## Profile John Schliemann - current **ESCA** Ex-Officio

Hi fellow club members,

My name is John Schliemann. Most club members know me, or know of me. **ESCA** wanted Board Members to write up a profile article about themselves so here it goes. I will do the best I can maybe you might learn something about me you did not know.

Born 1961, been in Sonoma County since 1977. Graduated Montgomery High School 1980 my first car was 1966 Plymouth Barracuda, after that came a Chevy Vegas and building a 1974 327 Chevy V8 Vega with the help of my Jr high school and college buddy Eric Siedentopf. I Have been doing autobody repairs 40 plus years. Have been at Western Auto Body 23 years. Over the years I have bought wrecked cars, repaired and sold them as a side job. In 2007 I bought my 1995 Burgundy Mazda Miata M edition that I had repaired for my customer three times before his wife said "that's it, this time we are selling it". They then gave me the opportunity to purchase the car for \$1,000.00 with my intention to repair and sell it. The car at that time was worth about \$3,500. to \$4,000. Today the car is worth about \$15,000 to \$17,000. The only reason I still have the car today and did not resell it back in 2007 is because of a good friend of mine and fellow club member, Anthony Smith, who said "you should keep the car and autocross it". I said "what's that?" I then joined **ESCA** and have been autocrossing the Miata ever since. Over the years I have four 1st place class wins and several second and third place class finishes. With many close points battles with my good friend, Steve Rossiter. In my years with **ESCA** I have made many great friends, and have had many fun times with autocross, rallies, and tours. Over the years with **ESCA** I have been Chairman 4 years, also Vice Chairman and ex-officio several times. Thanks to all of you I very much have enjoyed being involved in this club. I have two children, Tony who is now 37 years old and Christina at 33. I now find myself with six grandkids.



My son, Tony was in the club for a while before having kids. He started out autocrossing a 1973 Porsche, 911, then a 1985 Mustang 302 V8 which he still has.

Cheers!

Your friend and fellow club member! ~ John



### 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**



*continued on the [next column](#)*





## February Go-Kart

By Charley Sawyer

We had our second 2023 **ESCA** Winter Go-Kart event February 28<sup>th</sup> with a great turnout of 13 drivers that included both members and guests! Unfortunately, due to the single run group limit of 12, we were split up and could not combine the top qualifiers from both groups for the final race. So, we ended up having two separate “mini” series for the night. Regardless, we all had a terrific time with smiles all around!

The format (with the exception of the two mini groups) was the same as last time with a 12 lap practice session, 12 lap qualifying and a 14 lap standing start final. Top time for both practice sessions went to Bryan Burnett with a 22.482. Qualifying for Group A, Blain Hendrix snagged Pole with a 22.191 and for Group B, Eric Lundy took Pole with a 22.214. Qualifying 2<sup>nd</sup> in Group A was yours truly at 22.380 and for Group B, Bryan Burnett at 22.284. Qualifying 3<sup>rd</sup> in Group A

was Gary Shannon at 22.437 and in Group B, Steve Rossiter at 22.338.

The final two races were intense both driving, and watching our fellow club members drive in the other group. The pictures tell the tale! Moving from 3<sup>rd</sup> up to 1<sup>st</sup> in Group A was Gary Shannon who was able to get past Blain and myself to hold the lead, nice driving Gary! I was able to keep 2<sup>nd</sup> with Blain tailing me closely in 3<sup>rd</sup>. 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> was Craig Hammond, Guy Southern and Alex Biddle. I was able to watch Group B and wow, it was a show! Eric Lundy was able to keep his 1<sup>st</sup> place pole position for the win. Steve Rossiter was able to snag 2<sup>nd</sup> AND set the fastest time for the night at 22.105 during the final. John Schliemann took 3<sup>rd</sup> with 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> as Bryan Burnett, Steve Habkirk, Adam Hammond and Jim Whittlesey.

Our third go-karting event will be **March 28<sup>th</sup>**, if the April PitStop has come out afterwards, look forward to another article for that event!



continued on page 7





### Feb Go-Kart Also

By Gary Shannon

If you are reading this and ever thought about trying out an electric kart, you should consider attending an [ESCA](#) Karting event. Like driving your sports car? You will like driving a kart for some easy fun and camaraderie with fellow [ESCA](#)'ans.

Last month's event at K-1 in Rohnert Park was attended by 13 participants, including several guest drivers. Among the group were Adam, son of Craig Hammond, and Alex, son of Guy Southern. We welcome the young talent as they hone their skills. It won't be long before their competitive driving abilities will kick in and overtake the older generation.

The evening format was the usual; warm-up laps (about 12), a time qualifying session where everyone tries for their best lap time, and the final race (14 laps). With a group of 13, we were broken into two groups for each heat and race. The fastest qualifiers start at the front of pack for the evening race. This format allows plenty of time to get familiar with your kart. The little difference between karts makes for some tight competition as demonstrated by lap times.

Congratulations to Blain Hendrix for having the fastest time of the evening during his qualifying heat with an amazing 22.105. Unfortunately for Blain, he could not hold on to his lead at the start of the race. Congratulations to Eric Lundy and Gary Shannon for top position in each of their groups.

The staff at K-1 are most helpful despite some mix-ups during the registration process. Thanks to our host, Craig, for getting things sorted out. Additionally, we are all grateful to Craig for his enthusiastic organization of this seasonal event, and of course our esteemed club photographer, Bob 'The Beard' for capturing the action for others to see.





1998-99 Autocrossing at the Petaluma  
Park & Ride, Petaluma Fairgrounds



*Linda Jurin working Registration*



*Kevin Jurin in the Rotus*



*Blain Hendrix in his Corvette*



*Marty Nygaard in his VW GTI*



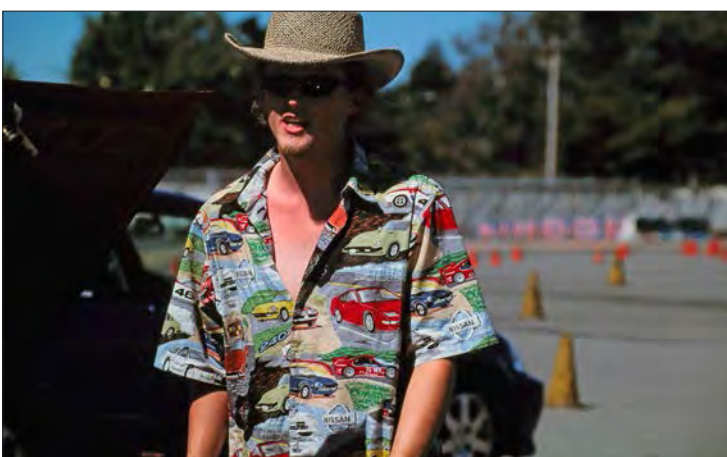
*Joe Masters in his Nissan Sentra*



*Bill Diekmann in Michael Mannion's 240Z*



*Bill Diekmann in his Jaguar XKE*



*Michael Mannion*



# ESCA 2023 Calendar

## APRIL

- 02 ESCA's 56<sup>th</sup> Charity April Fools Rallye
- 04 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 05 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
- 15 ESCA AutoX (Tentative)
- 15-16 RSCC Autocross in Eureka ([www.rsc.net](http://www.rsc.net))
- 19 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift

## MAY

- 02 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 03 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
- 13-14 RSCC Autocross in Eureka ([www.rsc.net](http://www.rsc.net))
- 16 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 17 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
- 20 ESCA AutoX

## JUNE

- 01-03 Sonoma Historic Motorsports Festival (SR)
- 06 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 10 ESCA AutoX
- 10 RSCC Two Seat Car Show ([www.rsc.net](http://www.rsc.net))
- 11 NASCAR
- 14 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
- 17-18 RSCC Autocross in Eureka ([www.rsc.net](http://www.rsc.net))
- 20 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 28 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift

## JULY

- 01-02 Bracket Drags
- 04 *Holiday - No ESCA Meeting*
- 08 ESCA AutoX
- 18 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 22-23 RSCC Korbclimb ([www.rsc.net](http://www.rsc.net))

## AUGUST

- 01 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 02 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
- 12 ESCA AutoX
- 12-13 RSCC Autocross in Eureka ([www.rsc.net](http://www.rsc.net))
- 15 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 16 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
- 19 Tentative Date for ESCA's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party

## SEPTEMBER

- 04 Bracket Drags
- 05 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 06 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
- 09 ESCA AutoX
- 16-17 RSCC Autocross in Eureka ([www.rsc.net](http://www.rsc.net))
- 14-16 Grand Prix of Indycar Series (SR)
- 19 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 20 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift

## OCTOBER

- 03 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 04 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
- 07 ESCA AutoX
- 14-15 RSCC Autocross in Eureka ([www.rsc.net](http://www.rsc.net))
- 17 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 18 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift

## November

- 01 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
- 07 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 15 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
- 21 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM

## December

- 2-3 24 Hours of Lemons
- 05 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- TBA ESCA Annual Meeting & Banquet

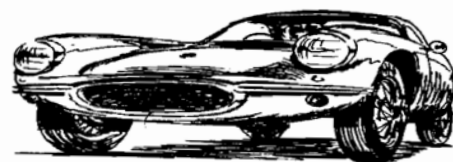
(LS) Laguna Seca Raceway (SR) Sonoma Raceway

For Bay Area Rallyes check out the

**RALLYE CLUB WEBSITE INFORMATION**

<http://www.therallyclub.org>

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



American Autocross Series

<https://americanautox.com/>

SFR SCCA

[https://www.sfrautox.com/?page\\_id=2360](https://www.sfrautox.com/?page_id=2360)

Northwest Hill Climb Association

(541) 772-7314

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

## Cars & Coffee - All FREE events

- 1st Sunday of the Month 8 am - 10 am
- Montecito Shopping Center Santa Rosa

### 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
- 4th Sunday of the Month 8 am - 10 am
- Penngrove 10070 Main St

## 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

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



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**Get in touch with us:**

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

Current ESCA  
Membership Total: 161



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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### 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"