



PIT STOP



MAY 2023

The Official Newsletter of *Empire Sports Car Association*

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

Volume 60-5



Short Run in the Sun for Brunch

May 13, 2023

Meet at 10 am

By Bob the Beard

Are you ready for some car fun? Well, here is your chance to join some friends, on some nice Sonoma County roads.

We will meet at Kaffe Mocha & Grill parking lot at the corner of Aviation Blvd. and Airport Blvd. at 10am. **We will leave about 10:15am** and head for the coast and check out the just completed new section of Highway One.

We will then head to Occidental and Howard's Station for Brunch. Only 50 miles long and about one and a half hours.

Autocross Update

Hello [ESCA](#)n's,

We have had a bit of a bumpy start this year with our AutoX season, which caused us to not have the April event. The main issue is our insurance carrier changed, so getting the agreements and details in place is taking longer than expected. We are working to get the situation buttoned up in the coming weeks and updates will be sent out as we work through it for our future events. Thank you everyone for your patience as we work through this.

Charley Sawyer, [ESCA](#) AutoX Chair

ESCA Meetings are In-Person/ZOOM

May 2 & 16

7:00 p.m.

Round Table Pizza, 1791 Marlow Rd, Santa Rosa

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

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BEARD SPEAK AGAIN

By Bob Jenkins



It looks like we are finally done with the rain, we really did need it, but enough is enough.

Thankfully it did not rain on our charity rallye, and a good time was had by all, and after the last meeting in April we went to the headquarter of Canine Companions for Independence and gave them a check for \$400 dollars. They invited us to attend one of their Monday or Wednesday drop-in tours of their campus at 2965 Dutton Ave, at 10 am.

Sorry to say Insurance issues are still a problem and so autocrosses are on hold until we can work things out. In good news we are looking at a small site in Santa Rosa, so stay tuned. To keep driving skills sharp we have been running Go-Karts at K 1 Speed in Rohnert Park. We will probably continue to run there until we can solve our insurance issues. So, watch you emails for dates.

Because the April **ESCA** autocross was cancelled several **ESCA** members entered cars in the Maria Carrillo High School auto shop car show on the 15th. I heard Chuck Hammond Sr. and Craig Hammond's car took an award (see **June Pit Stop**) and I talked to Terry & Gary O'Connor who were there with their pickup and will be writing an article for next month's issue of **Pit Stop**.

With the sunny weather we have some tours appearing on the calendar, with the first on **Saturday, May 13th**, a short brunch run to Howard's Station in Occidental. Then on **June 3rd**, John Castellano has a two-part adventure run to the Geysers with dinner in Hopland, followed by boat races at the Ukiah Fairgrounds, do one or both parts.

Safe travels and see you at an event.

Autocross May 20, 2023

Autocross at the Ukiah Fairgrounds Track

Tentative do to Insurance issues



June 3rd Tour Part 1: The Geysers

By John Castellano

A road trip to The Geysers is like a trip back in time. One of the wildest backroads in Sonoma County, it once led to The Geysers Resort Hotel from the 1840s, mercury mines from the 1870s, and the ghost town of Mercuryville which survived until fires in the 1970s. We will cross an Iron Bridge originally erected in 1909 and moved here in the thirties. We will see the world's largest geothermal field--evidence of the nearby magma chamber which created Mt Saint Helena, the Petrified Forest, and other local volcanos roughly three million years ago.

Locals have been enjoying the hot springs for about 12,000 years, and electric power has been generated for 100 years. The steam produced here powers roughly 5% of California's needs. More recently, The Geysers is one of Sonoma County's classic road bike rides, made famous by Levi's Gran Fondo. Many local drivers don't know the road, however. It covers thirty miles of stunning views, massive sweepers, and endless twisties. An epic road, for epic seat time.

This tour is not for the weak of heart or bladder. This is an active geothermal area, with constant land movement, landslides, etc. We cross several bumpy fault zones, and there are six short gravel sections. It is not for low clearance vehicles. Our Subie is perfect attack vehicle. A sports bra is recommended if you're so inclined. Check air, oil, and fuel levels. Bring water and FSR radios if possible. We will be "out there".

The tour starts at Bad Ass Coffee on Mark West Springs Rd, meeting at noon. We cross Chalk Hill, snaking through wineries and vineyards rich with volcanic soils. We take a pit stop at River Rock Casino at mile 20. Then it's 30 miles of Geysers Road until we see civilization again, and another 10 miles on 101 N to our destination: the restroom at Hopland Taproom. We should arrive around 4PM for food and libations.

June 3rd Tour Part 2: The Boat Races at Ukiah Speedway

I haven't been to the Boat Races yet, but it sounds like a trip to a dystopic future. Boats racing on our beloved little banked Oval Track!?! You Bet! Check out the video link below. The action starts about three minutes in. This race was won by a teenage girl! **Ukiah Speedway Highlights & Boat Race -- Near Death Escape!!! - YouTube**

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Back Again at Last! 56th Annual April Fools Rallye

By the Beard

As I wrote in an article many years ago, “Don’t let you children grow up to be RallyeMasters” is still applicable.

It rained and rained and rained, and rallye roads flooded and flooded, but the rallye route I put together three years ago stayed the same with only a few sign changes.

Blain Hendrix and I made our second check run of the course, and a few days before rallye day, the rain stopped, and the roads quit flooding.

The morning of the rallye, I made a final check run and found everything still in place. The weather was clear and cold, but no rain, and the sun even came out later in the day.



As in the past, Marci Jenkins and Claudia Quinlivan opened registration to a small group of rallyists with Alan Brandt, from Oregon, there to get car number one.

I thought it would be easier not to have poker this year, and it was, but most people said they missed it.

The rallyists came from all over: Sonoma and Marin County, the Bay Area and as far away as Reno Nevada, Oregon, Fresno, San Jose, and Rancho Cordova.

At 11 o'clock Blain Hendrix with the help of John Schliemann opened the rallye school to a small crowd.

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Back Again at Last!

continued from [page 3](#)

Then just before departure time was to start, cars started lining up to head out, and Blain, John, Gary Shannon, and Michael Bundy started the process of sending out cars, and 5 minutes past one, the last of the 27 cars left the start.

Eight route instructions into the rallye, after going through the "Country Club" area, the rallyists came to checkpoint one on Royal Court, where Frank & Linda Jurin once again, along with Terry O'Connor, worked the location. Here rallyists got 100 points for entering and six more if they correctly answered a question shown to them. It was a two-checkpoint location, where, if you got the gimmick, you entered the same checkpoint twice and got 10 more points.

From there, the route took you out by the Sonoma County Airport and industrial park and over to the Wikiup area. Then

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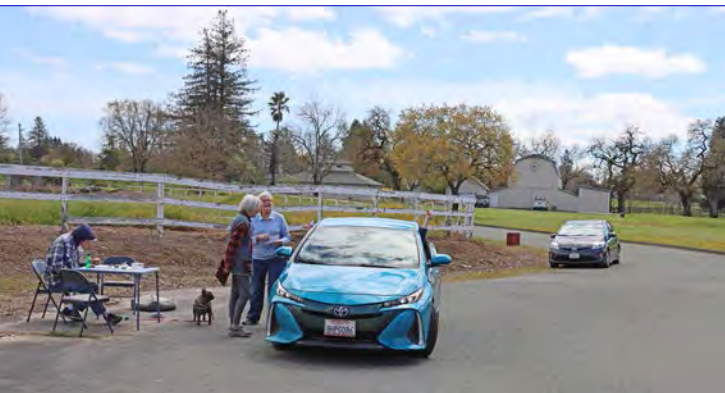
Back Again at Last!

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the route headed to Windsor and as far North as Limerick Lane, before heading back on Old Redwood Hwy and Eastside Road. Next the route went by the Windsor Golf Course and down Skylane Blvd. to the Sonoma County Airport again, at which point the gimmicks ended.

And a Traverse took everyone to the finish checkpoint in a parking lot across the street from the Pizza Parlor and scoring, on Russell Avenue. Blain, John, Gary, and Michael, having moved from the Start to the finish checkpoint collected score sheets, asked a final question, gave each car a critique, ran the score sheets into the Pizza Parlor, also sent the rallyists over to Mountain Mike's for pizza and drinks and to get their final scores.



Inside Mountain Mike's, Marci and Claudia, scored, answered questions, and kept the video running. Long time friends from the Silverado Sports Car Club, Ruffin & Lois Apperson, helped by posting the scores. We had not planned to have a video this year because of all the rain and how much work it is doing a video run and editing it, but in the last week, we decided we would, using a still camera rather than a video camera. It worked pretty good and was much easier in every

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Back Again at Last!*continued from [page 5](#)*

way.

With the smallest turn-out ever on an April Fools Rallye we got to awards time very quickly, with Blain taking pictures, Claudia as trophy lady and me announcing the winners. The Rallye workers enjoyed the pizza that Marci brought.

Our little sports car rallye has turned in to an SUV and ELECTRIC car rallye, as this rallye only had 3 sports cars.

A big THANK YOU goes to all the workers for a great job, for without them there would be no rallye.



The Samuelson Family got the Best Score on the Rallye



Presenting checks at Canine Companions

56TH ANNUAL APRIL FOOLS RALLYE

April 02, 2023

Results

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>CAR#</u>	<u>DRIVER</u>	<u>CLUB</u>	<u>NAVIGATOR</u>	<u>CLUB</u>	<u>SCORE</u>
<u>MASTER EXPERT CLASS</u>						
1.	15	Matthew Samuelson		Emily Samuelson	#	712
2.	03	Phil Reichardt		Brent Sturdevant	#	702
3.	01	Brian Fisher	SSCC/ATC	Alan Brandt	SSCC	686
4.	05	Richard Slusher	MRA	Curtis Ardaurel	MRA	636
5.	11	Joe Masters	ESCA	Claudette Masters		636
6.	10	Karen Larson	ESCA	Maggie Wolfe		582
7.	20	Peter Hosey	TRC	Dean Stanton	TRC	522
<u>EXPERT CLASS</u>						
1.	19	Andy Olsten		Peter Olsten	#	632
2.	22	Mark Burchill	ESCA	Mel Konrad	ESCA	# 592
3.	27	Steve Willis		Denise Willis		526
<u>SENIOR CLASS</u>						
1.	13	Rob Krider	TRC/SCCA/NASA	Gus Krider	TRC	# 632*
2.	14	Mike Haiston		Nancy Haiston	#	606
3.	09	Derrick Green		Suzanne McNealy		512
4.	25	Wei-Hwa Huang	TRC	Marc Pawligor		506
5.	18	Jack Judd		Dennis Link		476
<u>NOVICE CLASS</u>						
1	04	John Magnoli	ESCA	Tristan Benson	#	552*
2.	16	Myles Cagney		Kamorne Cagney	#	552
3.	08	Dennis O'Dea	NOBBC/MGOC	Sheryl King		536
4.	26	Cal Chamberlin		LeAnn Chamberlin		486
<u>BEGINNER CLASS</u>						
1.	06	Anna Krider		Randy Krider	#	536*
2.	23	Kyle Ashman		Robert Ashman	#	430
3.	24	Larry Robert	ZONC	Robin Robert		400
<u>FIRST TIMER CLASS</u>						
1.	12	Robert McPherson		Anita McPherson	#	532*
2.	17	John McCarthy	SAMOA	Kimberly McCarthy	SAMOA	# 446*
3.	07	Holden Domecus		James Krider	SCCA	436*
4.	02	Al Boasberg		Boasberg	JAG	200*

Car 21 did not start.

All ties were broken by which car made the first mistake on the course.

All profits from this rallye will go CANINE COMPANIONS for Independence*

ESCA WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU ALL FOR RUNNING OUR RALLYE. WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED IT.

#

Award Winners

*

Welcome to the next higher class

ALL FIRST TIMERS ARE NOW BEGINNERS



April Fools Rallye - Check Point 1 & 4

By Terry O'Connor

April 2nd dawned and it was a beautiful sunny day. The parking lot at Redwood Empire Ice Arena was pretty full when I rolled in at 10:45 to get my instructions and checkpoint location from Bob Jenkins. The rallye school was about to take place given by long time [ESCA](#) member Blain Hendricks.

The registration table run by Marci Jenkins and Claudia Quinlivan was at 23 cars when I took off for my checkpoint at the Jurin's house.

I brought my rescue Frenchie, Mia, with me and she was excited to meet the Jurins and pee on their lawn.

Frank had our table and chairs set up and after we read our instructions for Check Point 1 and 4 (sneaky Bob) we were ready for our first car.

The morning was warm but windy as the cars started coming in. We had our jobs down and by the 3rd car we were pros at giving the points, waiting to hear "April Fools" and asking the dreaded question of, "What city and state was the bike race held in"?

If you answered correctly, you got a "sup" to help you on your way. I noticed people who had young people (young brains!) answered the question and got it right a lot more than those without. Ha!

A few made it back to us for Checkpoint 4 but it was a very few. Like 3, that's a few. Bob's sneaky trick apparently worked.

The finish was at Mountain Mike's Pizza, but no dogs were

continued in [next column](#)

allowed, so Mia was miffed and we headed home.

Great to spend some time with Frank and Linda and see some club members I haven't seen in a while. Including that Sturdevant kid who had the nerve to tell me he just turned 50 and made me feel Super Old!

Thanks for all your hard work Bob, its no small feat to put on a rallye.

PLEASE WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Derek Dillenberg Audi TT Quattro

The Geysers Part 2 -The Geysers

continued from [page 2](#)

The [ESCA](#) tour starts at the end of the Geysers Tour at Hopland Taproom. We will head up to Ukiah Speedway for a night of action, featuring Monster Trucks, Mud Boggs and finally Boat Races after dark. There is also food, beverages, rides, and music. Racing starts at 6PM and the Fair doesn't close till midnight. After that, you're on your own. Cost is around \$25 at the gate.

You can come for Part 1 or Part 2, or both if you're ready for 12 hours of action. I will post more details as available in the next [PITSTOP](#).

HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAYS...

Martin Franusich

Darrin Holm

Christine Kljavin

Benjamin Mo

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!*



3/28/23 Starting from the Pole

By John Castellano

I had done some [ESCA](#) karting when Driven Raceway first opened, but that was solely time-trialing. My first time, when I dive-bombed Kevan Jurin in the hairpin, he said something like “why did you do that? We’re time trialing, not racing”. But now the format was different: Practice, Qualifying on time, then a standing start Race for position. This was a RACE! A real wheel-to-wheel battle for all the marbles (the opportunity to write this article). This was Mortal Combat.

Somehow I managed to qualify first. Starting from the Pole is a definite advantage but you can’t make any mistakes. I didn’t know I had already made one: Heading out to the starting position, I swerved left and right to warm up my tires—like you see the Nascar guys do. But it backfired. My warm tires had picked up marbles! When the green flag dropped, my kart was all over the place. Alex Ivakhnenko was right on my tail. As I turned into the slick spot, I got a little loose. Sensing an opportunity, Alex gave me a little nudge and I slid towards the wall. Now we were side-by-side through the critical W leading to the main straight. He may have even pulled ahead by a nose. Nobody had a good line. Somehow, I exited with a wee bit more momentum.

Now my tires were clean and I managed to pull ahead. But on lap four, Alex had again closed to within a tenth. Luckily, I



caught the first lapper at the end of the main straight. I came in super hot and just dive bombed on the inside, using the car as a pick. I had to channel my inner Bad Brad Keselowski. I knew Alex was right on my tail. I bulled my way through, taking away the outside line.

Now that we were in traffic, I was able to get clear and Alex got caught up in an incident behind me but held onto Second Place. I could see there was a lot of action back in the pack. Johnny S. got past arch-rival Steve R for Third. Much fun was had, and we will be having one more Karting race by the time you read this. Who will get to write the article???



ESCA 2023 Calendar

MAY

- 02 **ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM**
 03 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
 13-14 RSCC Autocross in Eureka (www.rsc.net)
 16 **ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM**
 17 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
 20 **ESCA AutoX Tentative**
 20 **PCA Monte Carlo Rally from San Rafael**

JUNE

- 01-03 Sonoma Historic Motorsports Festival (SR)
 03 **ESCA The Geysers Tour**
 06 **ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM**
 10 **ESCA AutoX Tentative**
 10 RSCC Two Seat Car Show (www.rsc.net)
 11 NASCAR
 14 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
 17-18 RSCC Autocross in Eureka (www.rsc.net)
 20 **ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM**
 27 TSD Rallye in Roseville
 28 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift

JULY

- 01-02 Bracket Drags
 04 **Holiday - No ESCA Meeting**
 08 **ESCA AutoX Tentative**
 18 **ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM**
 22-23 RSCC Korbel Hillclimb (www.rsc.net)

AUGUST

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

SEPTEMBER

- 04 Bracket Drags
 05 **ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM**

- 06 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
 09 **ESCA AutoX Tentative**
 16-17 RSCC Autocross in Eureka (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 Tentative**
 14-15 RSCC Autocross in Eureka (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

Current ESCA
Membership Total: 120

For Bay Area Rallyes check out the
RALLYE CLUB WEBSITE INFORMATION
<http://www.therallyeclub.org>
or Redwood Region PCA
<https://redwoodpca.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

Northwest Hill Climb Association

(541) 772-7314

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
- 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

A Great Colleague and Friend

Pit Stop readers will notice that long time ESCA member, Julie Etchell's Realtor ad is no longer in the Pit Stop. She passed away on 4-27-23 due to breast cancer. A Tribute to Julie will be in the June issue of Pit Stop. She will be greatly missed.

Julie's ad has been replaced with her great friend and colleague, Parmeeta Ghoman's Realtor ad. The ESCA board offered to make the change.

Julie worked with Parmeeta Ghoman at Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate. Parmeeta at this time is handling Julie's clients and for every closed transaction a donation will be made to Julie's children's trust from BHG/Parmeeta, that way Julie's actual commission will go to her family.

ESCA welcomes Parmeeta's Realtor ad to the Pit Stop and we hope this helps our friend Julie's family.



Parmeeta Ghoman
REALTOR | DRE 01943412
parmeeta.com

707.292.6392
realtorsonomacounty@gmail.com

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707.538.4325
M-F 8am-5pm
[facebook.com/hammondautowerks](https://www.facebook.com/hammondautowerks)

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"