



# PIT STOP



## SEPTEMBER 2023

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

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

Volume 60-9



### Autocross News for September

By Charley Sawyer, AutoX Chair

Hello [ESCA](#)ns,

I know the 2023 AutoX season has not turned out as we had hoped, but I want everyone to know we are still actively pursuing getting our foot in the door at new autocross site in Santa Rosa for an event this year.

That being said, myself and a group of [ESCA](#)ns are going to the AutoX event that **TrackMasters** is putting on at the Sonoma Raceway on **September 23 and 24<sup>th</sup>**. The event is \$80 per day and will be a "fun run" event. If you are interested please contact me ([autocross@empiresportscar.org](mailto:autocross@empiresportscar.org)) or Marci ([secretary@empiresportscar.org](mailto:secretary@empiresportscar.org)) so you can be put in contact

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### Marine Lab Tour Friday, September 22, 2023

By Michael Bundy, Tour Leader

Marine Lab Tour is on again so mark your calendars. **September 22<sup>nd</sup>** is not to be missed! The Bodega Marine Laboratory is attached to U.C. Davis is finally open to tours again. The scheduled tour is the latest available on Friday to allow for maximum participation. We will meet at **Kaffe Mocha** 397 Aviation Blvd. leaving promptly at **1:45 PM** for a pleasant ride through parts of the west county and the Russian

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## BEARD SPEAK AGAIN

By Bob Jenkins

### September Delite

**ESCA's** 60th Birthday Party was a great affair with great people, food, cars and talk of past **ESCA** events, with the only draw back being not having time to talk with everyone. I did get to talk with former member, Steve Thomasson and current members, Gary & Terry O'Connor about some of the great ten **ESCA** California car camping tours and **ESCA** birthday parties. The ten tours ran all over California, and were great adventures on back roads and then later we took boats and just went to one lake for several days. The stories were about Gary & Terry packing their Sunbeam Tiger for one trip and waking up the first morning and finding everything did not fit any longer. The time we stopped at a campground and settled in for the night, only to be awoken around midnight when a train passed about 100 yards from the campground and then it did several more times during what was left of the night, blowing it's whistle each time.

The Summer/Birthday parties included talk about the one at Windsor Water Works that included a Funkhana with a wagon made by Gary O'Connor. And the one at the Thomasson's in Blucher Valley, that included a slide into a mud bog, which the kids loved, the adults not so much. The Summer Party at the Hendrix place that had an Hawaii theme, where you climbed a ladder and picked fruit and pushed your partner in a wheel borrow.

There was also talk of the Kenwood Pillow Fights in Kenwood, where **ESCA** paid the entry fee for members Bill Diekmann, Ted Dunlap, Mike Jump, Katha Engblom, Martha Wendt, and Nancy Voepel, to enter the event while other members, watched, cheered and picnicked. Oh, and there are pictures and movies of most everything **ESCA** did.

For September we have the **Marine Lab Tour** on Friday, **September 22**, which will be another Michael Bundy affair and fun for all, so email Michael and get on the list.

Sorry to say there is still no word on an **ESCA** autocross date but **TrackMasters** has autocrosses on **September 23 and 24** and several members are planning on running one or both.

So, stay safe out there, smile at the camera and I will see you at an event or a meeting.



## Autocross News for September

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with the group that is going if anyone want to travel down together, meet up, etc.

Not everyone will be going both days, but it should be fun regardless of which day you go! Hope to see you there! The links for both days are below.

### Saturday, 9-23-23

[www.motorsportreg.com/events/trackmasters-autocross-event-3-sonoma-raceway-racing-813722](http://www.motorsportreg.com/events/trackmasters-autocross-event-3-sonoma-raceway-racing-813722)

### Sunday, 9-24-23

[www.motorsportreg.com/events/trackmasters-autocross-event-4-sonoma-raceway-racing-431039](http://www.motorsportreg.com/events/trackmasters-autocross-event-4-sonoma-raceway-racing-431039)

## Marine Lab Tour

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River area, then out to Hwy 1 and down the coast to Bodega Bay. It will take approximately one hour to arrive at the Lab. Our tours are scheduled in two time slots and I'm unsure if we will all be touring at once, or broken into two groups. Guess it depends on how many sign up. The tour through the lab should be completed by 4:30 PM or so leaving time for everyone to enjoy a nice early dinner or beach walk or both! I'm asking everyone pay \$20 per person to be donated to the Lab in appreciation of their hospitality and to help fund on going good works they do to help maintain and restore our ocean. It will be an educational and eye opening experience, participation is limited so sign up early.

E mail me at [Salmoncreekcompany@comcast.net](mailto:Salmoncreekcompany@comcast.net) to insure your spot.

## ESCA Meetings are In-Person/ZOOM

### September 5 & 19

### 7:00 p.m.

Round Table Pizza, 1791 Marlow Rd, Santa Rosa

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

### Current ESCA

### Membership Total

# 122



## ESCA's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Picnic

By Marci and Bob Jenkins



**Some ESCA Charter Members: 60 years later:**  
from left to right: Homer Balsley, Geraldine Peterson,  
Paul Damgaard and Ian Cook

Memories – memories – and more memories are made of this . . . That's what the conversation of the day was, but, new memories were made also – a car show, a corn-hole game – and great food that was enjoyed by **ESCA**ns, former **ESCA**ns and guests, on a mild and sunny day in Oakmont, Santa Rosa.

Charter Members who have retired from **ESCA** Paul Damgaard and Gerry Peterson both of Santa Rosa, and the current **ESCA**ns, Homer Balsey of Burney Falls and Ian Cook of Shingle Springs came to celebrate what they started 60 years ago.

There was former **ESCA**n, Steve Thomasson and Larry Wendt there. There were many long and not so long time current **ESCA**ns, Bob and Marci Jenkins, Frank and Linda Jurin, Lu Kistner, Karen Larson, Terry and Gary O'Connor, Blain Hendrix (with his wife, Karen), Chuck Hammond (with his wife, Janet), Craig Hammond and Kathleen Brady, Marisa and John Castellano, John Schliemann (with his guest, Annette



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## ESCA's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Picnic

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Ibeleto), Oregon members, Debbie and Eric Siedentopf, Ed Biglin, Martin Johns, Ron Cox (with his wife, Carol), Bob and Carol Blick, Mike McCrory, Abel Perez, Keith Miller, Charley Sawyer (with his wife, Monique and their son, Benjamin, who at 13 weeks was the youngest person to attend the party and the only child), Brianna Wick and Nick Doyle, Gary Shannon (with his guest, Lori Fladseth), Issac Hasting (with his guest, Sara Hollister), and Bruce Bentz made for a good size party.

We took over the picnic area at the Oakmont West Rec. Center, thanks to [ESCA's](#) Vice-Chairman, Ed Biglin and [ESCA](#)n, Martin Johns. The picnic tables were lovely faux boards and needed no tablecloths. It came with horseshoe pits that no one played and there was a Bocce Ball court nearby, but again no one played. The area was partially shaded by large trees that everyone appreciated, and the Easyups stayed in the cars.

We did try to I.D. the driveway down to the picnic area with signs and balloons, but they must not have been in the right places, as several people had trouble finding us.

The day started with [ESCA](#) Chairman, Bob Jenkins introducing everyone present - he did an awesome job of remembering everyone's names and he repeated this feat again



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## ESCA's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Picnic

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after lunch when more **ESCA**ns joined the party.

We had a very delicious Pasta King lunch with two types of pasta and sauces, meatballs, tossed green salad, Dutch Crunch rolls and butter. There was food left over and our far-thinking caterer, Annette Ibeito, brought take-home containers. Since it was a BYOB event, **ESCA**'s bottled water seemed 2<sup>nd</sup> choice.

Nick Doyle and Brianna Wick brought yummy deviled eggs! (There was too much good food!).

Lunch was followed by excellent **ESCA** cupcake-cake baked by **ESCA**n Terry O'Connor. Terry has made several of the **ESCA** Birthday cakes. It was observed that several members were seen putting a finger into the very desirable butter cream frosting that was left on the plate!

**ESCA**'s Chairman, Bob Jenkins, was too busy setting up the car show entrants to take as many photos as usual.

**ESCA**n and guests enjoyed looking at the **ESCA** Historian books, the 1<sup>ST</sup> FIFTY YEARS OF **ESCA**, and the slideshow of photos spanning many, many years on the portable picture frame.

Most people really enjoyed catching up with friends, see the BEARD SPEAK AGAIN column in this issue for some of the remembrances.

Now that we've caught up with friends current and past, let's



plan a memory making adventure for the next Birthday Party – we're not getting any younger!

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## ESCA's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Picnic

continued from [page 5](#)



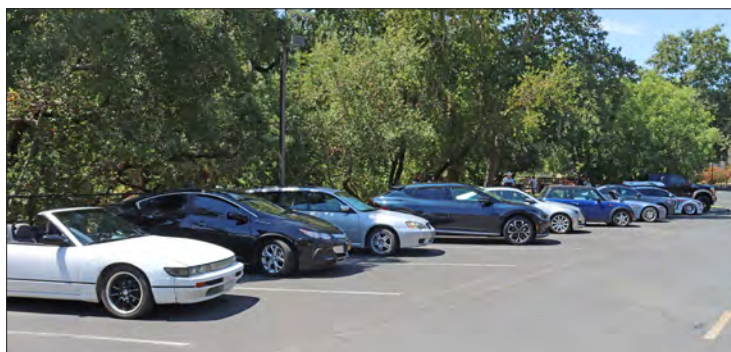
## ~ The Car Show ~

The cars ranged from daily drivers to many beauties. The Sports Cars were a Corvette, a 350Z, two Miatas, a Porsche or two, and several convertibles. Then there was the Woody and several E cars and a new motorcycle.

### The People's Choice

Chuck Hammond Sr.'s red and white (multiple winning) DeSoto - see below. Chuck also won in this year's Maria Carrillo HS car show. The People Choice 2<sup>nd</sup> place went to John Schliemann's 1995 purple Miata.

Award winners each won a \$25.00 Gas Card.



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## ESCA's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Picnic

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### ~ The Game – Corn Hole ~

The Winners - Brianna Wick and Nick Doyle

This was Nick's 2nd year in a row in taking home the **ESCA** Corn Hole Championship. The lucky winners each won a \$25.00 Gas Card.



### ~ The Stats ~

At this year's party, we had forty-seven (47) people and one (1) child. No grandchildren. There were three (3) very well behaved dogs. **ESCA** membership present totaled in excess of 701 years of **ESCA** fun.

**ESCA**'s current membership is 122. Over the last 60 years **ESCA** has had 1,483 members.

**ESCA** did not start out as an autocross club. According to the early Pit Stops and per members who were there, the club was Rallyes, Touring and Parties. There were the occasional Autocrosses, but 1965 marks the start of **ESCA** Autocrossing.

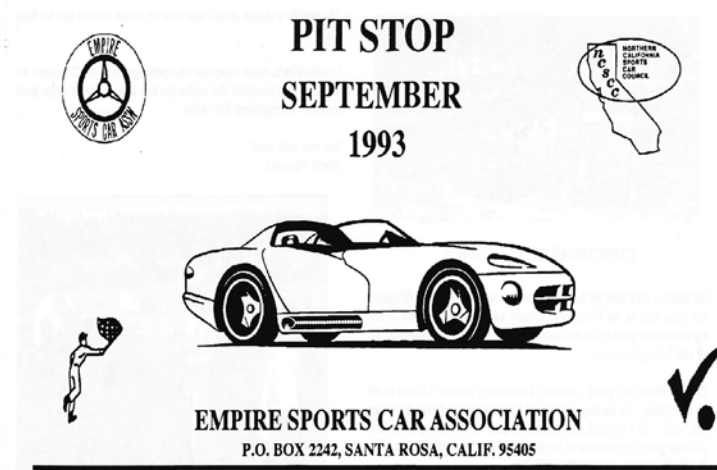
**Thus ends another ESCA Birthday Party!**

Link to all the 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party Photos

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







## Thirty Years Ago in Pit Stop September 1993

By Bob Jenkins

On the cover was a drawing of a Viper Sports Car. An article entitled ROYAL REED MEMORIAL CHARITY AUTOCROSS, by event chairman Gary O'Connor who talked about the event benefiting Easter Seals at the Sonoma County Airport, and an article called FUN SPORTS CAR TOUR, which was going to the Marin Cheese Factory for a picnic lunch and a tour of the factory.

A Concours de Elegance article by Marty Nygaard talked about the second concours **ESCA** held that year. This event was held at the Fieldstone Winery in Healdsburg. Bob Jenkins' 240Z took first place, with Nancy Nygaard's VW Karmann Ghia taking second and Justin Bowen's 240Z taking third.

An **ESCA** Rallye Series article talked about the third rallye in the two-class series and showed Neal & Kris Campbell taking first in the Experienced Class with Blain & Karen Hendrix taking second. In the Rookie Class Carl & Sherri Basillie took first and Hope & Shean Mac Rae took second. The overall standings after three rallyes showed John Gardner in first place.

A Club Autocross article by Jim Odom & Eric Tokle talked about the 27 driver event, with Frank Jurin in his Rotus Super 7 taking first, Justin Bowen in his 240Z second, Barbara McCrory in her Porsche 911 in third, and Steve McCrory in the same 911 fourth.

There was a profile of Nancy Nygaard and a picture of her and her VW Karmann Ghia.

A 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration article talked about the pot luck picnic and barbecue at the Oddfellows Park on the river, thanks to member Gary Mulanix. In all 46 members, ex-members and children attended the affair. Terry O'Connor made

continued on the [next column](#)

a two-decker birthday cake and a brass band, of Ted Dunlap, Bill Katz, and Mike Bryant played happy birthday. There was a softball game, while waiting for the barbecue to be ready. After lunch some people tried Bocce ball or went down to the beach and played in the river. The club chose the occasion to present Bob Jenkins with a token of their appreciation for his years of service as the club's preeminent Rallymaster.

A notice for **ESCA**'s Christmas Party showed the event would be in December at Oreste's Golden Bear Lodge in Kenwood.

An Enduro-Autocross article reminded members that the last autocross of the season would be a 5 lap per run event.

On a calendar was a Sports Car Olympics event on Labor Day weekend, a Club Autocross in Oct. and Nov., an **ESCA** Charity Rallye in November, and **ESCA** Christmas Party in December and the NCSCC Banquet in January.

The 1993 **ESCA** Board was Carl Balsillie Chairman, Curt Askim Vice Chairman, Mike Bryant Secretary, and Bob Jenkins Ex-Officio.



### 2023 ALL BRITISH MOTOR SHOW

Mini Owners of America - San Francisco is excited to host the 33rd annual All British Motor Show on Sunday, October 15, 2023, registration is now open.

The show is held in honor of the late Nick Becker who conceived and promoted the show for many decades. It will be held in the Blackhawk Museum parking lot in Danville.

We are celebrating two marques this year. The Austin Healey Sprite and Triumph Motorcycle that are featured on the T shirts and other branding. The shirts can be pre-ordered during registration.

Since 2015 we've partnered with the Blackhawk Museum for our event. Proceeds from our show and raffle go to support the museum's Children's Education and Transportation Fund. The museum uses these funds to enrich the educational experience of many local school children.

You can sign up online at Hagerty's [motorsportreg.com](https://motorsportreg.com), go to the [All British Motor Show](#) website and hit the registration button there or use your phone camera to scan this QR code to go directly there. Should you have any questions or issues registering please send us an email to [info@moast.com](mailto:info@moast.com).



Please come join us and celebrate all things British! The show is always fun and I look forward to seeing you there.

Bruce Hurlburt  
ABMS Committee Chair





ESCA at K1 Speed  
July 25, 2023







### *SRHS Foundation 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Show & Shine*

**Santa Rosa High School Front Lawn**

**Saturday, October 7, 2023**

**11:00am to 3:00pm**

Entry Cost \$40.00 for Foundation Members & \$45.00 for non-members

Entry includes One lunch and One event t-shirt.

Call the Pandey Line at 707-571-7747 or go to our website at: [www.srhsf.org](http://www.srhsf.org)

For your entry form and instructions.

Lunch includes Hot Dog, chips, drink & a cookie

Cost per lunch \$5.00, drinks only, \$1.00

Come Tour the SRHS Museum at 1:00pm

Enter to WIN some fun RAFFLE items!

*"Once a Panther, Always a Panther"*



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The Alzheimer's Association**

**2019 Miss CN Queen  
Mrs. Vintage Lassie**



**BOULEVARD  
AUTOMOTIVE**



5,066 × 3,050



# ESCA 2023 Calendar

## SEPTEMBER

- 04 Bracket Drags
- 05** ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 06 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
- 10 Ferndale Concours
- 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
- 22** ESCA Bodega Marine Lab Tour
- 23** Track Masters Autocross at Sonoma Raceway
- 24 Track Masters Autocross at Sonoma Raceway

## OCTOBER

- 03 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 04 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
- 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
- 21 Cruisin North Car Show Petaluma

## November

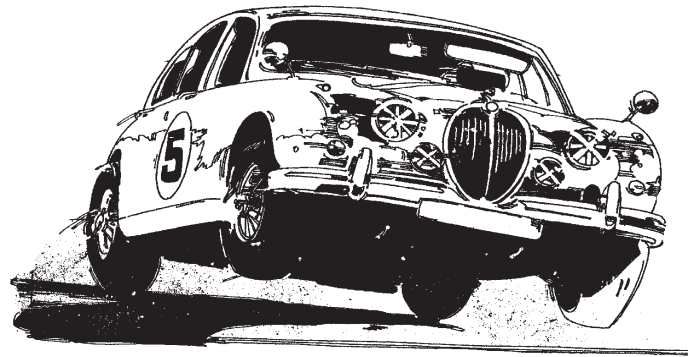
- 01 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
- 07** ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 15 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
- 18 Track Masters Autocross at Sonoma Raceway
- 19 Track Masters Autocross at Sonoma Raceway
- 21 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM

## 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**

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



For Bay Area Rallyes check out the :

**RALLYE CLUB WEBSITE INFORMATION**  
<http://www.therallyclub.org>  
**or Redwood Region PCA**  
<https://redwoodpca.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

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

## HAPPY SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS...

Benjamin Bettega  
 Marisa Castellano  
 Chuck Hammond SR.  
 Jerilyn Holm  
 Alex Ivakhnenko  
 Angelo Kljavin  
 Michael Mannion  
 John Schliemann  
 Julie Silk  
 Trevor Swallow

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





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
- 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 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)



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