



PIT STOP



NOVEMBER 2023

The Official Newsletter of *Empire Sports Car Association*

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

Volume 60-11



ESCA AUTOCROSS Saturday, November 4, 2023

- \$80 per Driver, members only
- Register on MSR only (contact Secretary for the link)
- Decibel limit is 95
- Set up will start at 7:00 am
- Gate will open at 9:00 am-closes at 10 am
- No food or water on site - please bring your own
- Have Driver's License & ESCA card out before gate
- Bring all forms (they will be sent to by email)
- Remember to bring colored tape for car #

Autocross News

Hello ESCAns,

It's been a long time coming, but we finally have an Autocross event lined up for **November 4th**!

Thank you everyone for your patience while we worked on finding a venue to hold our events. I'm glad we have been having go-kart and tour events in the meantime, but I'm sure quite a few of you are ready to get back out on the Autocross course.

We are going to be trying out the SONOMA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS parking lot as a potential venue for next year's Autocross season. This will be a fun-run no points member only (or any last year member who wants to renew) event. The cost is \$80.

I'm really excited to try out this new venue and see how it plays out. I hope to see everyone there to help make for a successful event! Sign up at MSR. If you need the link, contact out Secretary. Thanks!

Charley Sawyer
Autocross Chair

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BEARD SPEAK AGAIN

By Bob Jenkins



Well after much hunting and misses, it would appear that we have found a new autocross site and it is in Santa Rosa. While not near as big as our old airport site, it should be a fun venue. The site has only been used twice before, once by the local Corvette club in the 80's and once by the Mini club in 1997. If all goes well with our **November 4th** event, we will try and select some dates for 2024.

Be sure and mark Sunday, **December 10th** on your calendar and send in your reservation for another end of year **ESCA** meeting, party, banquet, installation of officers and toy collection tour to a fire house. We will again be going to Cattlemens, but this time to the one in Rohnert Park. (See [page 3](#) of this issue.)

Save the following Saturday night, **December 16th** for the **ANNUAL LIGHTS TOUR**, led by Lorie and Chuck Banks.

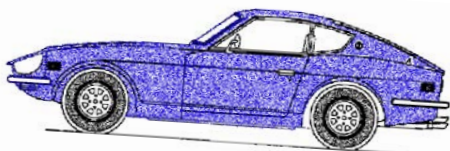
We have had a lot of car show flyers in PIT STOP lately by local high schools and some of our members have been attending. I did not enter but did checkout the Santa Rosa High Schools Car Show, which was held on the lawn in front of the main entrance on Mendocino Avenue and it was a great if small venue. I took some pictures which you can check out at the site below.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/5DyqWLa7DVJMqYwa7>

I was looking through my latest issue of Road & Track and came across an article of the 1981 Formula One race in Las Vegas, NV and it reminded me of the tour by **ESCA** members to that event. See article and pictures on [page 9](#) of this PIT STOP.

Election season is now open and we will be taking nominations at the meetings. Nominations will be closed at the second meeting in November, and the Secretary will e-mail the ballot to eligible members who will have 5 days to vote.

Stay safe out there and have a Happy Thanksgiving.



ESCA Meetings are In-Person/ZOOM
November 7 & 21

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.

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

Current **ESCA**

Membership Total

123





4619 Redwood Dr., Rohnert Park



Sunday Brunch, at 11:00AM December 10, 2023

*** Annual Meeting * Toy Drive**
*** Installation of Officers * Review of Year Events**

Cost: \$20.00 per ESCA Member
Guests will be \$20.00 per person.



*Please bring
a new
unwrapped toy*



Reservations **MUST be received by, December 3, 2023.**

- Please **1.** Pay at a November Meeting, **or,**
2. pay on MSR at msreg.com/ESCAbanquet2023 (service fee) **or,**
3. make checks* payable to **ESCA** and mail to
P.O. Box 2242, Santa Rosa, CA 95405

* if mailing check please send **ESCA Secretary** an email letting her know.

Member Name: _____ \$ 20.00

Member/Guest Name: _____ \$ 20.00

Total \$ _____



September Go-Kart

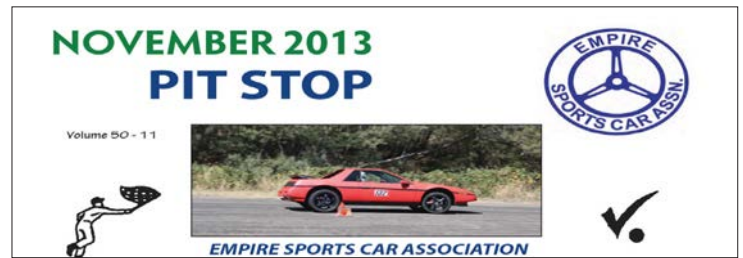
By Steve Rossiter

The September 26th event was our 9th of the year with a turnout of 7 drivers. Qualifying turned into the Steve 'n Johns show with Steve Rossiter taking pole position (21.542) followed by Steve Habkirk (22.147), John Schliemann (22.596), John Castellano (22.700), Martin Johns (22.772), Michael Bundy (23.459) and David Love (24.231). The final results were Steve R. (avg. lap time of 22.169) followed by John C., John S., Steve H., Michael B, and Martin J.



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September Go-Kart

continued from [page 4](#)10 Years Ago in Pit Stop
November 2013

By Bob Jenkins

The cover car picture was Chuck Banks Pontiac Fiero, along with a Winter Karting Series article, an [ESCA](#) Club Charity Rallye, and a list of 8 new members, of which Lorie Banks and Bruce Sexauer are still members.

Inside was a column by the Chairman called Fast Times in which he talked about the club's September and October autocrosses, and the fact that we would now have a month to month contract with the airport from April to November because of construction that was going to happen at the site.

A full-page banquet flyer showed the event would be held at the Quail Inn in Oakmont.

There was a notice of the passing of [ESCA](#) Charter Member Dan Peterson.

A September autocross article called 2-day Autocross Part 1: MAD SAT by Josh Davies, talked about the rain, lots of rain and lack of drivers. The rain finally moved on and the results showed 43 drivers ran with Ace Robey taking TTOD in his BMWZ4, followed by Guy Southern and Bill Gemini.

A 2-Day Autocross Part 2: Beyond Sunderdome article also written by Josh Davies talked about the second day which had much better weather and the same track as Saturday but run in the reverse direction, with Top Time on street tires going to Alex Ivakhnenko in a Maita, with results showing 47 drivers and TTOD going to Mark Mervich Van Diemen RF90, followed by Guy Southern in his Corvette and Ace Robey in his BMW Z4.

An October autocross article called Southern Discomfort by Guy Southern talked but the nice fall weather and 75 drivers and 8 runs. TTOD went to Bill Gemini in his Stalker for the fourth time of the year.

The current [ESCA](#) membership total was 311 and [ESCA](#) was meeting at the Round Table Pizza at 1791 Marlow Road in Santa Rosa.

The 2013 [ESCA](#) Board was John Schliemann Chairman, Art Battles Vice-Chairman, Marci Jenkins Secretary, Claudia Quinlivan Treasurer, and Steve Rossiter Ex-Officio.



Marine Lab Tour

by Michael Bundy

The day was a bit smoky due to the fires up north but overall it was a very pleasant day for a drive to our coast. Eighteen of us met at Cafe Mocha but unfortunately Bob Wichtowski and Carol Fisher had to drop out due to car problems that surfaced just as they arrived at the starting point. Nick Doyle was kind



enough to transport them home so they could deal with the trouble but he still managed to meet up with us on the way. Traffic was a bit heavy around the Airport but thinned out nicely as we progressed. The Wholer bridge was the only challenge but a very kind lady waited as we all passed over it together. The smoky skies cleared as we got closer to the coast making for spectacular views as we headed south.

Once at the Lab we waited a bit as the last tour finished, then we were introduced to Roger our docent for the tour and given an overall history and mission of the lab. He discussed

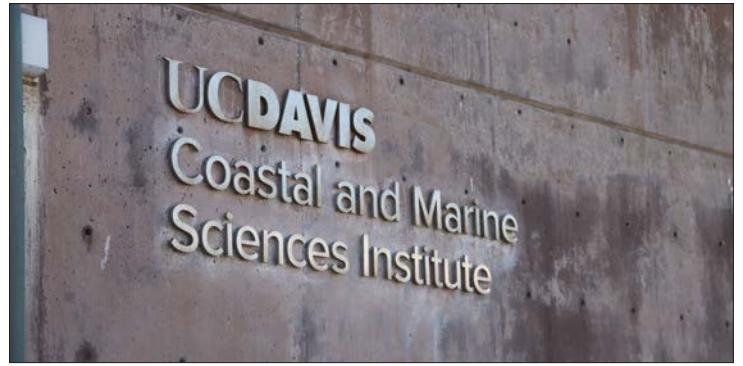
Continued on [page 7](#)

Marine Lab Tour

Continued on [page 6](#)

the challenges they are dealing with regarding the warming ocean, loss of kelp, and the die off of several important species. The tour took us outside to view horseshoe cove and to areas where reconstructed whale skeletons hung about then out to the tide pool. Lastly back inside to view the areas where the studies take place.

Overall it was very educational and I urge everyone that couldn't make it take time and visit. The lab conducts tours on Fridays. It's best to visit their web site and follow the link to tours, you can schedule a tour and book a time through Eventbrite.



Continued on [page 8](#)

Marine Lab Tour

Continued from [page 7](#)

ESCA Members on the Marine Lab Tour.

Michael & Diana Bundy

Bob & Marci Jenkins

Martin & Brenda Johns

Bob Wichtowski & Liz Fisher

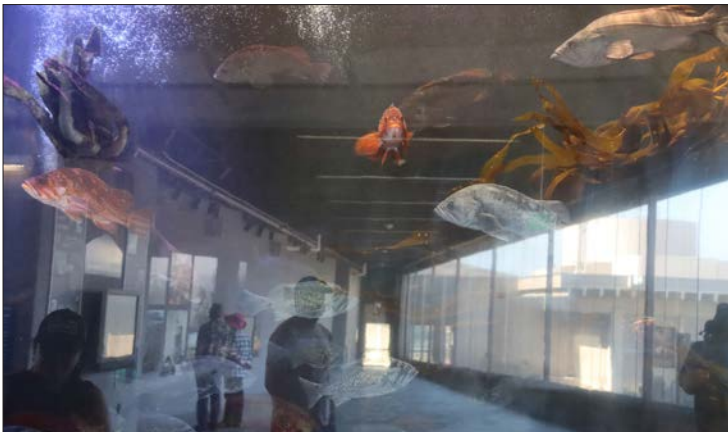
Bob & Carol Blick

Ed & Mary Biglin

Blain & Karen Hendrix

Derek & Emily Dillenberg

Brianna Wick & Nicholas Doyle





Tour to the First Formula One Grand Prix in Las Vegas

By Bob the Beard

A six day adventure by [ESCA](#) members, Bill Diekmann, Steve Mannion, and Bob the Beard was written about in the November 1981 PIT STOP. The article was entitled, Las Vegas Grand Prix Tour. The '77 BMW 320i Turbo was driven by Bill Diekmann.

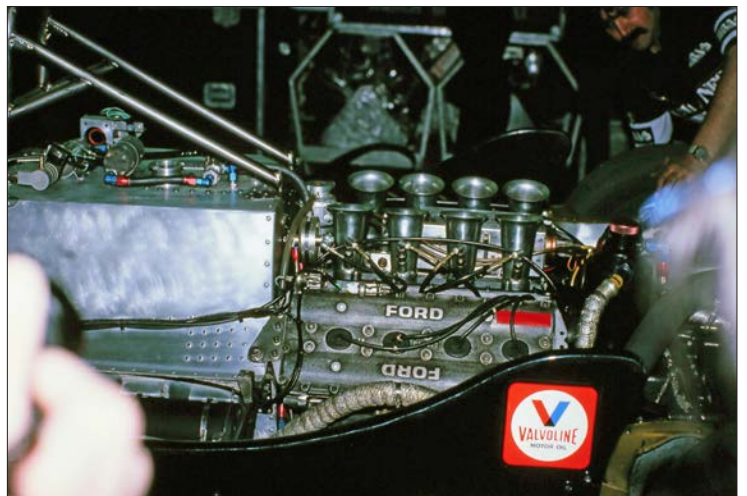
The BMW ran well to LV, 10 and a half hours there, and 9 and a half hours home. Bill took on a Ferrari 308 on Highway 5 on the way.

The just finished track had some problems inc. when the wind blew it put sand on the track and in the engines.

The grandstands were mostly empty most days for practice of the F1 and support race of Can Am cars, so we sat where we wanted.

This race started late, but Alain Jones ran off and led from start to finish, and Nelson Piquet came in 5th. At the end of the all of the races, Nelson becomes F1 Champion for 1981.

When not at the track the [ESCA](#)ns spent a lot of time at the race headquarters, as there was an hour and a half between practices on the track. The headquarters were at the Caesars Palace, because they wanted people to go gamble, we guessed.



ESCA 2023 Calendar

November

- 01 Sonoma Raceway Drags & Drift
- 04 **ESCA Autocross in Santa Rosa**
- 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**
- ELECTION NIGHT RESULTS**
- 10 **ESCA Annual Meeting & Banquet**
- 16 **ESCA Lights Tour**

January

- 01 Happy New Year
- 02 **ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM**

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>

REDWOOD REGION PCA
<https://redwoodpca.org>



HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS...

Ron Cox
 Erica Early
 Isaac Hastings
 Marci Jenkins
 Ross Liberty
 Dan Mannion
 Keith Miller
 Gary O'Connor
 Karen Perlis
 Tory Reed
 Alan Veach

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



Machado Burgers

406 Larkfield Shopping Center

Santa Rosa, Ca

Car Shows on Fridays 4 to 7 pm

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

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



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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"