



# PIT STOP



## JANUARY 2024

The Official Newsletter of *Empire Sports Car Association*

Volume 61-1



Toy drop off at Fire Station in Rohnert Park. Article on [page 3](#)

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## BEARD SPEAK AGAIN

By Bob Jenkins



### January 2024

Hope everyone enjoyed the holidays.

We ended 2023 with good turn-outs for the final meeting (33 people) and 10 cars and 22 people for the Christmas Lights tour and what a great light show it was. Some of the roads were even newly paved and the finish at the Los Molcajetes Mexican Restaurant had great food.

So now are you ready for another year of great events? Well, it starts with members signing up to be Committee Chairs, and Autocross Chairs and Tour Leaders and it all starts at the first meeting on **Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>** at the Marlow Round Table Pizza Parlor or by ZOOM.

As you know Charley Sawyer our Autocross Chairman has applied for a set of dates at the fairgrounds, but as of this writing we have not heard back on which dates we may get for 2024.

Work on the route of the **57<sup>th</sup> Annual April Fools Rallye** is well under way and we have applied for use of the start location.

Oh, yes, 2024 dues are now due and you can pay in person at a meeting, by U.S. Mail or by MSR, see the "ESCA Dues are Due" article in this Pit Stop for more information.

To keep us busy besides getting our cars ready for warmer weather we will continue to have **Go-Kart** events in Rohnert Park.



### ESCA Go – Karters

Due to the Holidays we did not have a Karting event in December.

Our next event will be held on **January 23rd at 6:30p**

Please let me know if you'll be able to attend.

Craig Hammond

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

**ESCA Meetings are In-Person/ZOOM**

**January 2**

**7:00 p.m.**

Round Table Pizza, 1791 Marlow Rd, Santa Rosa

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



### ESCA DUES ARE 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/2024ESCAMembership](https://msreg.com/2024ESCAMembership)

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.

Current **ESCA**

Membership Total

**124**

**PLEASE WELCOME**

**NEW MEMBER ....**

Steve Ring

Miata



ONE LONG TABLE OF **ESCA**ns

## Last Meeting of the Year

by Marci & Bob Jenkins

It was a cold and clear Sunday morning on December 10th when just before the 11am start time, 33 members and guests started arriving at the Cattlemens in Rohnert Park for **ESCA**'s final meeting and banquet of 2023.

Inside, the room was ready for us with one long table, and with the heat up high to fend off the cold. Marci Jenkins set up the sign-in sheet as Lu Kistner put small candy canes at each place setting, with John Schliemann placing raffle tickets with the candy canes, for a drawing of the four **ESCA** prizes.

The Beard passed around a picture frame of the year's events to groups of members. This was the photo frame that we had at **ESCA**'s 60th Birthday Party this summer, but, with new photos – only the events of 2023 were on it. Members



## 2024 **ESCA** Board

L-R: Bob Blick *Ex-Officio*, Marci Jenkins *Secretary*, John Schliemann *Vice-Chairman*, Bob Jenkins *Chairman*  
(Claudia Quinlivan *Treasurer* was not present)



Jacinda &amp; Martin Franusich



Karen and David Larsen



Linda &amp; Frank Jurin

enjoyed these memories.

The toy table for the kids filled up with all sorts of great toys. There was a scooter, two large stuffed animals, games, toy cars, a football, and many other great toys.

People were getting acquainted with old friends they had not seen in a while and meeting new people.

Some people were in the bar getting refreshments when

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## Last Meeting of the Year

continued from [page 3](#)



*Joy & Michael Prescott*



*Kevan Jurin*



*Michael Bryant and Gerry Mugele*



*John Schliemann and Annette Spohr*



*Martin & Brenda Johns*



*Gary Shannon and Lori Fladseth*

photos were taken. Consequently we have no photo of Mary and Ed Biglin.

Soon, the waitress was confirming orders. The food starting arriving, and things got quiet.

After the meal, the Beard opened the meeting and had

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## Last Meeting of the Year

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*Marci Jenkins and Lu Kistner*



**ESCA Toy Donations**



*Gerry & Lilly Mugele*



*Brianna Wick and Nick Doyle*



**ESCA Banner**



*Bob & Carol Blick*

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everyone introduce themselves and then went through the regular meeting with reports from Autocross, Rallye, and Tour, and then came the installation of the 2024 officers



## Last Meeting of the Year

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*Craig Hammond & Kathleen Brady*



*Bruce Benz*



*Tamara & Dan Woolever*

present, Chairman Bob Jenkins, Vice-Chairman John Schliemann, Secretary Marci Jenkins, and Ex-Officio Bob



*Charley Sawyer and John Schliemann*

Blick, the Treasurer Claudia Quinlivan was not present and will be installed at the first meeting in January.

John Schliemann then conducted the drawings for the four gas cards. The meeting was then closed.

After more talking, the toys were all packed up and loaded into John Schliemann's large truck, and he lead several cars on a tour to the Rohnert Park Fire Department Station Number 3, which is co-located with the Rohnert Park Police Department. We unloaded the toys in front of a police car and took some pictures. Thus, we ended the [ESCA](#) banquet for 2023.



### Toy Drop Off location

Our 2023 Toy donations went to the Rohnert Park Fire Department. The Rohnert Park Fire Station 3 was co-located with the Rohnert Park Police Department on Labath Avenue.

[ESCA](#) toys were well received by the Department.

**Thank you ESCANs!**





## Speed Secrets

By John Castellano

There were new faces at K1 Speed this month. Steve Rossiter brought his work-friend Diego Franco-Barragan who was fast from the get-go. [ESCA](#) veteran Gary OConner and [ESCA](#) hotshoe Nick Doyle came out to play. Nick's GF Brianna and Marisa Castellano came to spectate with Craig Hammond who was out-of-action with shoulder issues.

The winner of a night of Electric Kart racing gets the dubious prize of writing the article for the PIT STOP. I'm laying out all the secrets I've learned so more people get to write articles. First, keep it floored and use the front tires as brakes to get the tires hot and sticky, especially in the first few



laps of Qualifying, in the first few turns of the track.

Then before the "W", do the "Merrilees Bounce" off the outside wall to slow down and redirect the kart. Shorten your line by pushing the inside wall out of the way. It's soft. Don't slide wide or you'll kill exit speed onto the main straight. On exit, nudge that inside wall again—it's even softer.

You do have to use the bumper to pass here. During the Main, you have to take a defensive line to avoid being dive bombed. For example on the podium I asked Johnny Schlieman how he got past Rossiter to take third. He said Steve went wide and left the door open. When I asked Steve for his view, he said Johnny failed to mention that he put Steve in the wall.

Gary Shannon was fast all night finishing second, .033 sec. back with Johnny right behind. O'Conner was fourth. Rossiter got PIT Maneuvered back to fifth right ahead of Diego. Martin Johns won the tie-breaker with Nick for seventh. All of us made the Top Time of Day list—nice driving gents. It's a blast so if you're fast, come on out and show your stuff. I'm looking at you, Joe Masters. Let's rumble!





# Christmas Lights Tour 2023

by Lorie and Chuck Banks

We began this year's tour at the Rancho Montecito shopping center in Rincon Valley. There were ten cars and 20 people. The crowd included Bob and Marci Jenkins, Isaac Hastings, Steve Ring, Guy and Nikki Southern, Donnie, Amber and Tyler Bamberg and Amanda, Joe and Claudette Masters, Nick Doyle and Brianna Wick, Mark Burchill and Mel Konrad, Karen Larsen, Lu Kistner, and Lorie and I.

We were all full of Christmas cheer. Bob ran the driver's meeting while Lorie and I waited in our car because of a recent COVID exposure. Once the driver's meeting was over, we all saddled up and hit the road. Nine cars were together as we completed the first mile. One car, (driver unnamed), had missed a turn and was doing laps around the block. After much effort with our radios, we reconnected and were all back together. I'm sure the Christmas spirit was especially strong in that car ;- ).

Lorie and I wanted to find some new areas that we hadn't used on a tour before. We found a neighborhood north of Mark West Springs Road in Larkfield that had some nice displays clustered together. We proceeded up to Windsor where we found the motherlode. The folks up there put on a wonderful example of Christmas spirit.

When Lorie and I put this tour together we tried to work in a few things. We looked for "over the top displays", "many displays grouped together" and "good roads". We also tried to connect areas in interesting ways. Windsor had all of this in spades and was just too good to pass up.

Once we left Windsor, we made a quick stop at the Russian River Brewery for a bio break then headed to Slusser Road to let our eyes recover from all the lights in Windsor. You can't do a Christmas Lights tour without going through Coffey Park. They have always put on excellent displays and they continue the tradition after the 2017 fires. Stout folks!! If your limited on time and want to be immersed in Christmas lights spend some time in Windsor and Coffee Park, you won't be disappointed.

We needed to give our eyes another rest so we headed up Mark West Springs Road to Riebli Road Toward the end of Riebli Road you drop in and out of a steep valley. There's one property at the bottom that puts on a spectacular light display



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## Christmas Lights Tour 2023

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and it's choreographed to music! The display runs for about three weeks before Christmas. If you go a couple of weeks before Christmas you can park and watch the show. Closer to Christmas your unlikely to get one of the "few" spots.

After this display it was a short drive on Wallace Road to the restaurant where a few folks decided to grab some vittles. Admittedly, Lorie and I would have liked to hung out with everyone but it wasn't meant to be this time. At the time of this writing, we are thankfully, doing well.

Can't wait to see what Charlie is cooking up for the autocross season.

Till then, hope everyone has a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Chuck and Lorie



Happy New Year to all !

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## THIS & THAT for the 2024 ESCA Board

**Chairman:** This will be Bob Jenkins 23<sup>rd</sup> time as Chairman and 38<sup>th</sup> year as a Board member. He has been Vice Chairman 4 times, Ex-Officio 8 times, Secretary twice, and Treasurer once. Bob is one of only two members who have held all 5 Board positions, the other is Ted Dunlap.

**Vice Chairman:** This is John Schliemann's 4<sup>th</sup> time as Vice-Chairman and 11<sup>th</sup> time as a Board Member. He has also been Chairman 4 times, and 3 times as Ex-Officio.

**Secretary:** This will be Marci Jenkins' 22<sup>nd</sup> time as a Board Member and 20<sup>th</sup> time as Secretary. She has also been Chairman once and Treasurer once.

**Treasurer:** Claudia Quinlivan is breaking her own record for consecutive service to the club; marking the 28<sup>th</sup> time in a row she has been a Board Member. She was Secretary her first year on the Board and has been Treasurer the last 27 years. Claudia has been on the Board every year she has been eligible.

**Ex-Officio:** This will be Bob Blick first time as EX-Officio and second time as a Board Member, his other time on the Board was as Vice-Chairman.

### Christmas Lights Tour 2023

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## ESCA Tentative Autocross Dates

Our AutoCross Chair, Charley Sawyer has requested the following dates from the Sonoma County Fairgrounds.

To allow for flexibility he has included our 2nd choice dates for April through October of 2024.

(Marci Jenkins, Secretary)

Secondary Dates are in ( )

March 24

April 20 (April 27)

May 18 (May 11)

June 15 (June 22)

July 20 (July 13)

August 24 (August 17)

September 21 (September 14)

October 19 Dual Point Event (October 12)





## ESCA 2024 Calendar

### January

- 01 Happy New Year  
 02 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM  
 16 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM  
 23 6:30pm ESCA Go-Kart at K 1 Speed

### February

- 06 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM  
 20 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM

### March

### April

- 07 ESCA 57th Annual April Fools Rallye

### June

- 08-09 Toyota/Save Mart 350 NASCAR  
 21-23 Firestone Grand Prix of Monterey

### August

- 14-17 Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion  
 24 Ferrari Challenge North America

*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>

American Autocross Series  
<https://americanautocross.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)

## HAPPY JANUARY BIRTHDAYS...

Silas Boden

Tanner Cook

Robert Isaacs

Martin Johns

Linda Jurin

Bohdan Lechnowsky

Rosemary Lechnowsky

Lynn Miller

Gerry Mugele

Terry O'Connor

Debbie Siedentopf

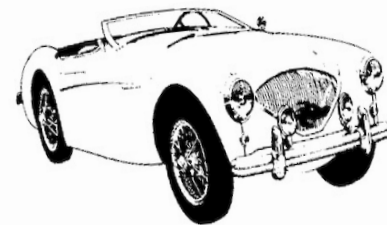
*If you're not listed — it's because the Editor does not have your month of birth. And you're wished a Happy Birthday!*

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



## Autocross Helmet Requirement

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



## 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
- Machado Burgers
- 406 Larkfield Center Santa Rosa
- Car Shows on Fridays 4 to 7 pm



## 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"