



PIT STOP



May 2025

The Official Newsletter of *Empire Sports Car Association*

Volume 62-5

ESCA Autocross May 11, 2025

Sonoma County Fairgrounds
Registration for full and 1/2 day
opens by May 1st - check your email!



ESCA Meeting May 6, 2025 7:00 p.m.

ESCA Meetings are In-Person/ZOOM

This is the only meeting in May!

Round Table Pizza, 1791 Marlow Rd, Santa Rosa

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

22nd Annual Oakmont Car Show
Saturday, May 24, 2025
10AM-1PM
6633 Oakmont Drive
Santa Rosa, CA



To enter your car please register at:
carshowpro.com/event/2332
Car registration fee is \$15.00 payable only at the show.

Tour to Oakmont Car Show on [page 9](#)

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Robert's Roundtable 2025



Hello, **ESCA**ns! Hope you're enjoying your Spring so far. After more than a month off, **Autocross** returns on **May 11th**! Consider this your reminder to check your vehicle's wear and maintenance items now, so you can address any concerns before the event.

Later in the month we have the **Oakmont Car Show** to look forward to as well. **ESCA** will be getting a group together to attend on **May 24th**, from **10AM-1PM**. Keep an eye on your email for more details as we get closer to the event.

At this **month's meeting**, I'll be going over the results of the **survey** and discussing some trends that I saw, as well as some insights from comments that were submitted. Don't worry, everything you said is still anonymous, and I won't be sharing responses word-for-word, but hopefully this will be a good opportunity to discuss what people are excited about this year, and how **ESCA** can better engage its members in activities.

See you all on Tuesday,

Robert

Current **ESCA Membership Total**

149

PLEASE WELCOME

NEW MEMBERS

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Dmitry Gurtovoy | Mazda Miata |
| Emerson Philpot | Porsche 911 Turbo |
| Patricia Jeffrey | Porsche 911 Turbo |
| Doug Moug | Mazda Miata |

Welcome to May

By Craig Hammond, Autocross Chairman

May is a great month for Motor Sports.

With The Indy 500 on May 25th, NASCAR's Coca-Cola 600 on May 25th, F1 has Monaco also on May 25th

We get to kick off May with our first Mother's Day Autocross on **May 11th** at SONOMA COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS.

So no need to buy a plane ticket to France or take a train to North Carolina or even a long hot car ride to Indiana.

Pack up the Mom in your life get her a one day membership (if she's not already a member), grab a picnic basket and steering wheel and come play with **ESCA** all day or 1/2 day!

Hope to see you (and your Mom) out there.

Date line March 25th 2025
Time 7 pm

By Craig Hammond

A bunch of wanna be racing ACE's all gather at NITRO INDOOR RACEWAY in Rohnert park where we can live out our dream.

We ran the traditional practice, quilli (qualifying), then it all cumulated with a standing start race to the end

Due to the size of our crowd (11 in all) we broke up in to 2 groups for practice and quilli but for the race we were all in one group.

John Castellano qualified in first place, Gary Shannon second and myself in third, with all our fellow racers behind, we ran the clockwise direction. John C had a bit of an issue at the beginning of the bout that opened the door for Gary and I to make quick work of him. Gary and I battled it out for a few laps when Gary went wide in to turn 5 that allowed me to slip by him on the inside and we collided coming out of 5 with Gary getting the short end of the stick (rubbing is racing right). I was able to hold off Gary then after John got by Gary I was able to hold John off for the win.

My prize for my hard fought win ??????

Well, your reading it I won the opportunity to rack my brain for details and write this article

My apologies to everyone I left out of this article, as I said previously, "I had to rack my brain", and being a child of the 80's I don't have a lot of brain left.

Thanks to all who turned out !!!

CARRILLO

Car Show



SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025 8AM – 3PM

Maria Carrillo High School

6975 Montecito Blvd, Santa Rosa

Free to the public / \$25 per car spot

Sign up using the QR code here >>

For more information, please contact:

pumagarage2@gmail.com

Benefit for Maria Carrillo Auto Shop



People Watching at the Autocross



April Fools Rallye No More!!

By Bob the Beard

March 30, 2025 would have been the date of [ESCA's 58TH ANNUAL APRIL FOOLS RALLYE](#) and it was a good thing it did not happen because it rained most of the day. But, the real reason the RALLYE did not happen, was because Bob the Beard has retired. Bob would like to **THANK** all the people who worked the rallies and made his job easier. Bob retires with a total of 123 rallies as rallymaster.

Bob ran the very first APRIL FOOLS RALLYE in 1965 and has been rallymaster for all the rest, which could be some kind of a record.

The first APRIL FOOLS RALLYE had a total of 39 cars and the last had a total of 17 cars. The biggest turn-out was 98 cars in 1967.

The APRIL FOOLS RALLYE was a 20-time winner of the "RALLYE OF THE YEAR" award presented by the NORTHERN CALIFORNIA SPORTS CAR COUNCIL (NCSCC) of which [ESCA](#) was a member until the Council went out of business in 2006.

The RALLYE was able to give a total of **\$12,075** to CANINE COMPANIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE from 2000 to 2024. The RALLYE had a great run and was always a favorite with the people who ran because of the friendly workers and scenic route. Another big draw for the Expert Rallyist was getting first over-all on the RALLYE and getting their names on the big perpetual trophy - maybe that's what kept the Expert Rallyists returning each year. The winners are listed on the [ESCA](#) website.



Rallye of the Year Award



*April Fools Rallye
First Over-All Winners*

ESCA April Fools Rallye

Thank You Letter

Well APRIL FOOL'S DAY is here (and almost gone) and we have not been to, nor are we scheduled to be in Santa Rosa. So, I guess, the rumors of your retirement were not overly exaggerated.

I went back through my rallye trinkets and could find proof of my attendance at the APRIL FOOL'S RALLYE in 1969 (would have been #5 by my count.) I thought it might have been earlier but couldn't find a plaque for anything earlier. Perhaps my partner at the time absconded with it. I noticed that at that time you weren't putting the yearly number on the plaques yet.

As I was wandering through my "stuff" (I have too much) I got to thinking about some of our fellow competitors and friends who have already made it to the final checkpoint:

Charles "Straight as Possible" Seeley. I mean, really, four in a row on a MOUNTAIN'S NEAR ('67 or '68 I think.)

John "Protest" Steele. His use of the moniker "protest" used to scare young, inexperienced rallyemasters when they saw that on the score sheet.

Bill "ClassX" Simpson. Just gone way too soon.

I want to thank, you, Marcie, Frank, Linda and the entire [ESCA](#) community for nearly 60 years of Fun, Challenges, and, yes, Frustrations. Please thank all of them for me.

Thanks again,

Alan "Red Baron" Brandt

PS. If you now need to get rid of the red and while "snoopy" sign, you could send it up here and I will add it to the funeral pyre I am constructing for my rallye clipboards and assorted equipment.



Editor: Here is Alan Brandt at the finish checkpoint in his jeep that he drove down from Oregon in the later years to run the APRIL FOOLS RALLYE. Alan took first over-all 14 times with several different partners, starting in 1969.

Where ESCA Has Held Autocrosses (1965-2025)

By Bob Jenkins

At a past meeting, I had another one of those conversations with some guests and new members about where **ESCA** has held autocrosses over the years. So I guess it is time for another **ESCA** autocross history article.

ESCA's first autocross was held in 1965 at the OLD NAVAL AIR STATION off Finley Avenue by Sebastopol Road in Santa Rosa. A site we used off and on for many years. It was later to be called the SANTA ROSA AIR CENTER. Most of the pavement at this site is gone, but there is still a lot of pavement.

In 1966 we held an event in the front parking lot of CODDINGTON in the northeast corner. Also, that year we held our first open event at Cotati Raceway in Cotati, which had an entrance off Redwood Road. The site was built as a Naval Airfield for WWII. We held many events at the Cotati site through 1971. COTATI RACEWAY is now gone. Also in 1971 we started running events in the back parking lot of CODDINGTON, and ran there through 1976.

In 1977 we started running at the SONOMA COUNTY AIRPORT on a regular basis, but we ran a few events at the SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE (2 events) in the parking lot North of Elliot Avenue, and at the SANTA ROSA VETS BUILDING Parking Lot (3 events).

In 1997, after we lost the airport because the EPA came in to clean up the airport site, we moved to the PETALUMA FAIRGROUNDS' front parking lot (park & ride lot). We ran at Petaluma through 2001, after which we gave up the site because they moved a building onto the site and there was no longer room to run events.

In 2002 we moved back to the SONOMA COUNTY AIRPORT, where we ran through 2018.

In 2019 we started running in Ukiah at a site provided by **ESCA** member, Ross Liberty, where we ran until the middle of 2022.

We started running at the UKIAH FAIRGROUNDS RACE TRACK from the end of 2021 to the end of 2022.

At the end of 2023 we ran one autocross at the SONOMA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS and have been running there ever since.

We also held several autocrosses at out-of-area sites, (one each) including FREMONT RACEWAY in Fremont California (1966), MARIN DODGE in San Rafael (1969), plus one at the shopping center parking lot off McDowell Ave in Petaluma

(1972). We put on many events, including autox at SQUAW VALLEY and BOREAL RIDGE (up in the Sierras) for a three day event called SPORTS CAR OLYMPICS (SCO) which was sponsored by the Northern California Sports Car Council (NCSCC), from 1962 - 2005. (NCSCC went of business in 2006.)

Not an **ESCA** event, but one we put on for the Volvo Club and in which we were allowed to run, was in a parking lot off Fountain Grove Parkway on Round Barn Blvd. The event was shut down in the afternoon after neighbors up the hill complained.

There are several great web sites about COTATI RACEWAY and the OLD NAVAL AIR STATION.

I do not have any photos of Cotati Raceway events



The Old Naval Air Station as it looked in 1965, the pavement and hanger in this area are both gone.



The Old Naval Air Station as it looked in the 1990s and still does today but with lots of weeds. This area is East of the photo above.



We only ran once at Marin Dodge in San Rafael, as they had to move cars.



This is the Coddington rear parking lot in 1971, where the Post Office is today. This is a rare photo of Bob Jenkins autocrossing in Santa Rosa.

Photos of Some of the Places ESCA has Autocrossed



CODDINGTON rear parking with what could be Frank Jurin driving a Ferrari Dino belonging to one of Charlie Schultz sons.



CODDINGTON rear parking lot with the second or third **ESCA** trailer.



The PLAZA NORTH CENTER in Petaluma with Frank Jurin on the mike, sorry but there are no photos of autocrossing cars, but I think there are movies.



Open Autocross at SANTA ROSA VETERANS MEMORIAL building we used the west side of the parking lot in 1986



Open Autocross at SANTA ROSA VETERANS MEMORIAL building we used the west side of the parking lot in 1986.



SONOMA COUNTY AIRPORT (SCA) with the berm up.



SONOMA COUNTY AIRPORT with the berm down so you could see the airport buildings at an open event.



Last autocross at SONOMA COUNTY AIRPORT before the berm came down.

continued on [page 8](#)

Photos of Some of the Places ESCA has Autocrossed



The PETALUMA PARK & RIDE out side the Petaluma Fairgrounds.



A Ferrari at the PETALUMA PARK & RIDE next to the skateboard track.



Pregrid at the Ross LIBERTY site in Ukiah.



John Schliemann at the Ross LIBERTY site in Ukiah.



Line up on the UKIAH FAIRGROUND track 2021.



Martin Franusich on the UKIAH FAIRGROUND track 2022.



Brent Werder at the SONOMA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS 2025.



Bob Jenkins in his 240Z at SPORTS CAR OLYMPICS at Squaw Valley.

continued on [page 9](#)

Photos of Some of the Places ESCA has Autocrossed



Blain Hendrix in his Austin Healy 3000 at the SPORTS CAR OLYMPICS at Boreal Ridge in the 80's.



The SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE parking lot off Elliot Ave. The car on course was previously owed by Marci Jenkins.



The SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE parking lot off Elliot Ave, with Frank Jurin in his Lotus Europa.



Marci Jenkins' kit car at the Airport.

Tour to Oakmont Car Show - May 24, 2025

On **SATURDAY, MAY 24**, we'll take a scenic tour to the **OAKMONT CAR SHOW**. The show runs from **10 AM to 1PM** in the **MAIN BERGER CENTER** parking lot in Oakmont and features an amazing variety of cars from the very early 1900's through the 20th century, along with live music, hot dogs and burgers.

We'll leave from a bemusing Burmese place, **Tan's Donuts** on Santa Rosa's west side at 2550 GUERNEVILLE RD at 9:30AM. The tour will take a nostalgic swing past our old Autocross site behind Santa Rosa Airport, then cross to the west side of Highway 101 and wander through the winding roads in the hills above Rincon Valley, ending up in Oakmont at around 10:30AM. We'll have to find parking on the streets around the Berger.

Here's the map link and directions:

https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1WEjYA733GEALoeRF2xm4o_PYXXmz2dw&usp=sharing

Start - 2550 Guerneville Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95401, USA

Head west toward Guerneville Rd

Turn right onto W Oak Cir

Turn right at the 1st cross street onto Guerneville Rd

Turn left onto Fulton Rd Pass by Taco Bell (on the left)

Turn left onto River Rd

Turn right onto Laughlin Rd

Turn left to stay on Laughlin Rd

Keep right to stay on Laughlin Rd

Turn right onto Slusser Rd

Turn right onto Windsor Rd

Turn right onto Shiloh Rd past Windsor GC cross over to the east side of 101, past Shiloh Regional Park

Turn right onto Faught Rd

Turn left onto Old Redwood Hwy

Turn left onto Mark West Springs Rd

Turn right onto Riebli Rd

Turn right onto Wallace Rd

Turn left onto Badger Rd

Turn right onto Calistoga Rd

Turn left onto Monte Verde Dr

Turn right onto St Francis Rd

Turn left onto Escalero Rd

Turn right onto Monte Verde Dr

Turn right onto San Ramon Way

Turn left onto Mountain Hawk Dr

Turn left onto Brigadoon Way

Turn left onto Scotland Dr

Turn right onto Los Alamos Rd

Turn left onto CA-12 EPass by 7-Eleven (on the left in 0.4 mi)

Turn right onto Oakmont Dr

Turn left onto White Oak Dr

Oakmont Central Complex, Santa Rosa, CA 95409, USA

Stay well, Ed Biglin

David Love Classic Car Races at
Sonoma Raceway



Gerry Mugele in his TR 4 on a parade lap



Part of the Triumph club





“Gentlemen’s Gas and Grub” Car Show

By Chuck Banks

When I found out our church was planning a car show I was super interested. Turns out this was going to be the first event of this kind for Santa Rosa Bible Church. The event was christened the “Gentlemen’s Gas and Grub” car show and the word went out.

We were all surprised by the number of folks that had cars tucked away. So the event date was picked and planning started. As the original date was interrupted by mother nature we were a little disappointed. This turned out to be a good thing. The back-up date was April 12th and it was a perfect day!!!

Cars started rolling in around about 9:30. Jason, the event lead, set up a mid-engine row because there were “10” mid-engine cars scheduled to attend. There were three Pontiac Fieros, four Detomaso Panthers, two C-8 corvettes and a beautiful 1964 Ford GT replica. The new GT owner (two weeks) told me about the car. It had been built to a very high standard using many period parts. Every bit of it appeared to be the real deal and the high performance 289 had that special lumpy note and a scary fast rev. This is a local car (Petaluma) and should be at a number of upcoming shows.

There was a wide variety of other cars including a Viper, Edsel Wagon, a camper van and a vintage Fire Truck! A 1931 Devaux was the oldest and a 2025 Corvette was the newest.



There was even a Nascar racer and a Funny car! The police contributed their SWAT rig and a police car with lowrider hydraulics! Who woulda thought.

The total cars were around 50 for the event and around 150 folks.

A complimentary lunch of hot dogs, potato salad, chips and even a cookie was served at noon. Plenty of drinks were also available. During lunch, the winners of the scavenger hunt were announced and they each received their prizes

Everyone had a good time and asked if there would be another show next year, it looks like that’s the plan. So keep your eye out around this time next year. You never know what else will be in the parking lot.



ESCA & Other 2025 Calendar

May

- 03** Carrillo Car Show (see flyer)
- 06** ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 11** ESCA Autocross
- 24** Oakmont Car Show
- 27** 7 pm Go-Kart at Nito City

June

- 03** ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 07** RSCC Two Seat Car Showw Samoa
- 06-08** Velocity Invitational at Sonoma Raceway
- 14** ESCA Autocross
- 15** Father's Day Car Show
- 24** 7 pm Go-Kart at Nito City

July

- 01** ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 12** ESCA Autocross
- 13** Toyota Save Mart 350 NACAR Sonoma
- 20-21** RSCC Korbel Hillclimb at Korbel
- 22** 7 pm Go-Kart at Nito City

August

- 05** ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 09-10** RSCC Autocross (weather dependent) at Samoa
- 16** ESCA Autocross
- 26** 7 pm Go-Kart at Nito City

September

- 02** ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 13-14** RSCC Autocross (weather dependent) at Samoa
- 23** 7 pm Go-Kart at Nito City

October

- 07** ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 03-05** CSRG Charity Challenge
- 25** ESCA Autocross
- 28** 7 pm Go-Kart at Nito City

November

- 01** ESCA Autocross
- 04** ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 22-23** 24 Hours of Lemons
- 25** 7 pm Go-Kart at Nito City

December

- 02** ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 07** ESCA Annual Meeting & Banquet

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

Autocross Helmet Requirement

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

Redwood Sports Car Club

Redwood runs their autocross' at Samoa Dragstrip on a
Saturday & Sunday of the same weekend.

They also run a HillClimb at Korbel.

Their web site is <http://www.rsccl.net/>
more information is on their FACEBOOK PAGE



For Bay Area Rallyes check out the :

RALLYE CLUB WEBSITE INFORMATION

<http://www.therallyclub.org>

REDWOOD REGION PCA

<https://redwoodpca.org>

ESCA Member Profiles Wanted

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

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" |

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

Happy May Birthdays

Rich Bishop
Duke Ferris
Martin Franusich
Darrin Holm
Alan Jung
Christine Kljavin
Benjamin Mo
Emerson Philpot
Blaine Pope
Charley Sawyer
Eric Siedentopf
Charlie Smith
Mike Taboryski
Dan Woolever

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



Cars & Coffee - All FREE events

- 1st Sunday of the Month 8 am - 10 am
- Montecito Shopping Center Santa Rosa
- Marin county- 132 Vintage way, Novato
- 6:30 - 10:00

2nd Sunday of the Month

- Coddington Parking Lot Santa Rosa
- Petaluma at 389 S McDowell Blvd

4th Sunday of the Month

Penngrove 10070 Main St 9am

Last Sunday of the Month 8 am – 10 am

- Rohnert Park at 459 Rohnert Park Expressway
- Machado Burgers
- 406 Larkfield Center Santa Rosa
- Car Shows every Fridays 4 to 7 pm
- Every Sunday 11am - 2pm

EMPIRE SPORTS CAR ASSOCIATION (ESCA)

P.O. BOX 2242

SANTA ROSA, CA 95405

www.empiresportscar.org @empiresportscar



2025 ESCA BOARD

| | | | |
|---------------|-------------------|----------------|--|
| CHAIRMAN | ROBER HAYES | (858) 472-9434 | chairman@empiresportscar.org |
| VICE-CHAIRMAN | BOB JENKINS | (707) 546-6867 | thebeard@sonic.net |
| SECRETARY | MARCI JENKINS | (707) 546-6867 | secretary@empiresportscar.org |
| TREASURER | JOHN SCHLIEMANN | (707) 328-1737 | ratfinkauto@yahoo.com |
| EX-OFFICIO | CLAUDIA QUINLIVAN | (707) 688-2546 | claudiaquinlivan@sbcglobal.net |

2025 COMMITTEE HEADS

| | | | |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| AUTOCROSS | CRAIG HAMMOND | ***** | autocross@empiresportscar.org |
| ENTERTAINMENT | OPEN | | |
| HISTORIAN | FRANK JURIN | (707) 544-7262 | |
| INSURANCE | MARCI JENKINS | (707) 546-6867 | thebeard@sonic.net |
| PIT STOP | MARCI JENKINS | (707) 546-6867 | thebeard@sonic.net |
| PUBLICITY | MARCI JENKINS | (707) 546-6867 | thebeard@sonic.net |
| RALLYE | OPEN | | |
| TOUR | OPEN | | |
| WEB MASTER | TREVOR SWALLOW | (707) 481-9300 | design@2ndzenith.com |

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EMPIRE SPORTS CAR ASSOCIATION (ESCA)

ESCA was formed on August 3, 1963 as a non-charitable, domestic nonprofit corporation. Our purpose is to: encourage, present, participate in sports car events and exhibitions; to encourage safe and sportsmanlike conduct on public roads; to exchange technical information on engine performance and handling; and to meet other sports car enthusiasts.

