

PIT STOP





The Official Newsletter of Empire Sports Car Association Volume 61-7



Review of June 1st AutoX

By Charley Sawyer, Autoxcross Chair Hello ESCAn's!

We had our third autocross event for the 2024 season on June 1st to welcome in the summer! As we get more familiar with the venue, leveraging all of the space in a fun but safe way is our ongoing challenge. As the course designer, I tried to use some of the space near the jockey club and it worked out fairly well. We had to move some of the temporary fencing and fine tune the turn in the "new" area. Naturally, some other course adjustments had to be made to clarify the course a bit more, but overall, I think everyone was happy with how the course turned out. We look to continue and use more of the

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ESCA July, 27, 2024 Autocross, Saturday

Sonoma County Fairgrounds

Brookwood Parking Lot

ESCA Members \$70 Guest Drivers \$80



What's Inside...

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BEARD SPEAK AGAIN

By Bob Jenkins



Welcome to what looks to be a HOT and hopefully FUN Summer.

Starting off on July 14 with a tour by Marci Jenkins to

Starting off on July 14 with a tour by Marci Jenkins to Marin County to Pt. Reyes Station for lunch and the Heidrun Meadery. Then on July 27 we have an ESCA autocross. Next on August 10th we have the 61st ESCA Birthday Picnic at the same Oakmont location as last year, followed by an ESCA Autocross on August 17th, is that hot and fun enough for you?

As things are not happening with Tours, when Gerry Mugele suggested we head down to Tiburon on June 15th, I said yes. The trip down in Gerry's 30-year old Land Rover seemed the correct thing to do as Land Rover was the Feathered Car at the show. The show location on the bay was a great location for a car show and great for taking pictures. The selection of cars was very nice with mostly foreign cars. A surprise for me was meeting former **ESCA** member Steve Thomasson, who was also down checking out the show. See Gerry's article and pictures on page 9.

And, if you want to see some great video by Alex Ivakhnenko of the 3-24 autocross, go to the **ESCA** Facebook page.

By the way there is a Regular **ESCA** Meeting on the first and third Tuesday of each month and you should be getting a notice and link to the ZOOM meeting if you can't make the regular meeting and these meeting are only about one hour long.

Hope to see you at a meeting or event soon.

Coming soon an **ESCA** Instagram Page done thanks to Monique Sawyer. Thank You Monique.



ESCA Meetings are In-Person/ZOOM

July 2 & 16

7:00 p.m.

Round Table Pizza, 1791 Marlow Rd, Santa Rosa

The link for our ZOOM meeting will be sent the weekend before the meeting.

ESCA Autocross Date Changes for the Fairgrounds

The ESCA dates for the rest of 2024 are now:

Saturday, July 27, 2024
Saturday, August 17, 2024
Saturday, September 28, 2024
Saturday, November 02, 2024

** SAUE THE DATE **

Saturday, August 10, 2024

11 am. - 3 pm.

ESCA's 61st Birthday Picnic The location will be the same as last year at the

West Picnic Area in Oakmont, in Santa Rosa We'll celebrate 50 years in ESCA

for two current members.

See flyer on **page 10**

Autocross Helmet Requirement

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

Tribute to Chuck Hammond



Chuck driving Rosie the Trolley for ESCA's 2010 Christmas Lights Tour (all Tour photo by Bob Jenkins)

My Father

Written by Craig

Unfortunately my father (Chuck Hammond) lost his battle with vascular dementia on June 5 $^{\rm th}$.

Chuck was born September $12^{th}\,1940$ on a farm in the midwest and worked at a GM dealership in the late 50's.

He re-located with his wife, Janet, and 4 kids to Santa Rosa in 1966, where he went to work as a mechanic for the Sonoma County Sheriff's office. He progressed into a management position for the County before he transferred to the City of Santa Rosa as Equipment Supervisor, overseeing everything from the Howarth Park train to fire trucks and every piece of city equipment in-between.

As Equipment supervisor, he embraced and implemented alternate fuel and electric vehicles. He was among the first in the country to implement these types of vehicles in to a City Fleet program and received multiple awards for his efforts.

The award he cherished the most was the Clean Air ENVY award he received from the American Lung Association in 1999.

He first joined **ESCA** with my brother and me in the early 80's with Terry Larson as our sponsor.

My dad and I rejoined in the early 2000's and have continued as **ESCA** members ever since.

Before his illness and Covid I would pick him up every 1st and 3rd Tuesday for **ESCA** meetings at RoundTable.

Dad and I used the travel time to and from these meetings to catchup. More often than not our conversations would take an automotive turn (go figure).

Chuck was a father of seven, grandfather of 12 and great grandfather of 12.

He will be missed by all.

Chuck receiving award at the Maria Carillo High School Car Show

> (photo by Craig Hammond)





ESCA's Christmas Lights Tour 2009

We hope Chuck knew how much we appreciated the three years of Rosie the Trolley Tours!

~ ESCA

ESCA's Christmas Lights Tour 2008





Review of June 1st AutoX

continued from front page

available space, along with better defining the pit and grid areas as well.

Some members were thinking this would be a 60+ second course, but we proved that theory wrong rapidly! There was a tight contest for the top three times of the day, but Tom Buggia in his MR2 came out on top with a scorching 40.449. Alex Ivankhnenko in his Miata was nipping at Tom's tail with a 40.607. Rounding out third and less than a tenth of a second behind Alex was Michael Cardozo in his GT4 with a





6-1-2024 ESCA Autocross Photos https://photos.app.goo.gl/hmmVjBK5EaaH3iRe8







40.695. Regardless of where people were with their times, I saw numerous smiles throughout the day.

I want to get back into some habits that **ESCA** used to do in the past, namely better/smoother check-in and tech, worker station pre assignment to name a few. We'll be sure to fill everyone in before the next event about any changes.

Originally we did not have another event until September 29th. Thankfully we were able to secure two more dates in July and August, to replace the rainout in May and the cancelled event on June 30th. I look forward to seeing everyone on July 27th!

Until then, take care and stay cool!

continued on page 5

June, 2024 Autocross Results

Row#	Pos.	Class	#	Driver	Car Model	Raw Time	Diff.	From 1st
1	1	GTB-S	0	Thomas Buggia	1991 Toyota Mr2 turbo	40.449	0.000	0.000
2	1	GTC-S	34	Alex Ivakhnenko	2007 Mazda Mx5	40.607	0.158	0.158
3	2	GTB-S	90	Michael Cardozo	2022 Porsche GT4	40.695	0.088	0.246
4	3	GTB-S	95	Brent Werder	2003 Nissan 350z	41.559	0.864	1.110
5	2	GTC-S	7	Jonathan Teeter	2003 Honda s2000	41.578	0.019	1.129
6	1	GTA-S	240	Rich Bishop	2017 BMW M240ix	41.829	0.251	1.380
7	4	GTB-S	30	Daniel Lassen	2015 Ford Focus ST	42.039	0.210	1.590
8	2	GTA-S	153	Michael Prescott	2013 Ford Mustang 5.0	42.167	0.128	1.718
9	1	X	135	Charley Sawyer	2022 Exomotive Exocet R	42.264	0.097	1.815
10	3	GTC-S	3	John Castellano	1960 Volkswagen Bug	42.550	0.286	2.101
11	1	GTA-R	505	Martin Franusich	1990 Chevrolet Corvette	43.057	0.507	2.608
12	5	GTB-S	2	Blain Hendrix	2007 Porsche Cayman	43.085	0.028	2.636
13	4	GTC-S	421	Nicholas Doyle	1989 Nissan 240sx	44.234	1.149	3.785
14	6	GTB-S	33	Vincent Cortese	2007 Porsche Cayman S	44.574	0.340	4.125
15	7	GTB-S	129	Bruce Bentz	2009 Porsche Boxster	44.705	0.131	4.256
16	3	GTA-S	32	Chuck Banks	1988 Pontiac Fiero	44.812	0.107	4.363
17	2	X	-11	Guy Southern	1973 Datsun 240Z	44.886	0.074	4.437
18	8	GTB-S	85	Sam Brabo	2001 BMW Z3	44.993	0.107	4.544
19	4	GTA-S	109	Tamara Woolever	2019 Chevrolet Camaro	45.118	0.125	4.669
20	9	GTB-S	14	Martin Johns	2011 BMW 128i convertibl	45.273	0.155	4.824
21	1	GTC-R	9	John Schliemann	1995 Mazda Miata	45.711	0.438	5.262
22	5	GTC-S	82	Alan Veach	Mazda 2008 MX5	45.940	0.229	5.491
23	5	GTA-S	189	Dan Woolever	2019 Chevrolet Camaro	46.176	0.236	5.727
24	6	GTC-S	777	Justin Stanford	2006 Mazda MX-5 Miata	46.669	0.493	6.220
25	1	GTB-R	17	Ryan Haugh	2015 Ford Fiesta	46.775	0.106	6.326
26	7	GTC-S	47	Richard Lake	1999 Honda Civic ex	47.081	0.306	6.632
27	10	GTB-S	788	Gary Shannon	2007 BMW M Coupe	47.132	0.051	6.683
28	8	GTC-S	717	Todd Stanford	2006 Mazda MX-5 Miata	47.391	0.259	6.942
29	3	X	76	Nikki Southern	2002 Chevrolet Corvette	50.833	3.442	10.384
30	11	GTB-S	105	Robert Hayes	2017 Fiat 124 Spider Abarth	51.660	0.827	11.211
31	12	GTB-S	111	David Lesser	BMW 430i	67.697	16.037	27.248
32	9	GTC-S	5150	Michael (Mike) Heyniger	Mazda Miatta	DNF		

* Things Self-Tech Inspector Should Looks at *

- ► Empty all loose items from your Car, including the Trunk
- ► Remove wheel covers or Hub Caps
- ► Helmet must be Snell Approved 2010 or newer.
- ► (Snell 2000 & 2005 are not allowed)
- ► Safety equipment is installed correctly and does not have any excess movement
- ► Seat Belts present & secure: Two-strap shoulder harnesses shall not be worn in open automobiles, which are not equipped with roll bars.
- ► Roll bars are REQUIRED in all purpose-built competition cars and any
- ► other open cockpit AUTOMOBILES using racing (non-D.O.T. approved) tires
- ► Tight steering wheel
- ► Firm brake pedal
- ▶ No side-to-side Wheel bearing movement
- ► Lug Nuts all are present and tight
- ► Tires, have good tread depth with no bulges, cuts or cords
- ► Ensure the battery is properly tied down
- ► Engine and all other fluid caps are present and secure
- ➤ Engine hoses, wires, and belts are in good shape and free of cracks. Numbers are in place and meet specifications

Autocross Reminders....

- ▶ Registration link will be in your email by **7-17-24**
- ► Guest(s) welcome and must be registered on MSR.
- ► Check your MotorsportReg account and update if needed
- ▶ Dues must be paid before you can register!
- ► Site opens at 8:00 A.M.
- ► Gate closes at 9:15 A. M.
- ► All drivers must be 16 or older.
- ▶ New Drivers Course walk at 9:15 A.M.
- ► Mandatory Drivers Meeting at 9:40 A. M.
- ▶ Bring Safety Form and Self Tech Form
- ► At the Autocross Remember:
- ► Have Driver License & **ESCA** Card out before the gate.
- ► No Drugs, Smoking, or Alcohol or dogs allowed on site.
- ► No drifting allowed
- ▶ Bring contrasting colored tape for car number
- ▶ Decibel limit is 95 No car warm-ups before 10 A.M.
- ► Helmets MUST be Snell Approved 2010 or newer
- ► Must sign-up for Worker Position at Check-In
- ► No food or water on site please bring your own
- ► If leaving early see Charley Sawyer or event chair
- ▶ Drive slowly and quietly to and from site



PACIFIC COAST AIR MUSEUM Wheels & Wings September 21, 2024 8am-2pm Mail-In Registration Forms must be received on or before September 18, 2024 Registration Fee: \$25.00 per entry, includes 2 General Admission Wristbands Want to park next to your favorite museum aircraft? Additional \$10.00 donation while aircraft are available Registration Is Available the morning of in the Pre-Staging Lot Registration Is Available online at PCAM website until September 20, 2024 Entrance to pre-staging lot is located at 3780 FLIGHTLINE DRIVE, ALL CARS must check-in *NOTE** at pre-staging area to receive wristbands. You will NOT be allowed in without your wristbands. Reminder to Car Clubs: A separate entry form must be submitted for each car entered Find out more at http://pecificcoastairmuseum.org/events/wheels-wings-car-show Please Print Clearly Check One: a Check First Name Last Name Mailing Address State





Brisbane Marina

400 Sierra Point Parkway Brisbane, CA

10 A.M. - 2 P.M.



Long Ago in Pit Stop July 1964

By Bob Jenkins

This PIT STOP was a two-page affair with articles on the front page and a full page calendar on the second.

An untitled article stated Marin GT was putting on a slow speed autocross on July 4^{th} at Hamilton Air Force Base and Napa Valley Checkpointers were putting on a rally on July 5^{th} starting from the Napa Bowl called Li'l Ole Winemakers Vintage '64 and besides trophies each winner got a fifth of wine.

Another article stated thanks to C&D Touring Society (Clock & Dial) a new club in Santa Rosa, **ESCA** had added two club participation trophies to its collection of awards. This because 7 of the 30 cars on one event and 9 of 18 cars on a second event were full of **ESCA** members.

Another article talked about and the results from **ESCA**'s Hare & Hound Time-Distance Rally as given by Larry Mac. First went to Frank Demostene VW, second was Bob Jenkins Volvo, third Ron Nord TR 3, fourth Dan Peterson Porsche, fifth Ian Cook Midget, sixth Bob Guyton Yamaha, seventh Frank Granada Porsche and 8th Don Eaton TR 4.

Another article talked about **ESCA**'s open rallye called Rally of the August Moon Rallymastered by Bob Jenkins, stated the workers would run the rallye as a group before the event to look for problems. The start would be from the Big "G" Supermarket in Sausalito, with the finish at Pinky's Pizza in San Rafael.

The final article stated Jim Delapp having won third place in sedan class at the Cobb Mountain Hillclimb had decided to hang up his racing goggles and sell his Italian racing red Lancia sedan for \$752. And the Mac Donald household has an over abundance of kittens free to anyone.

On the calendar were SCCA Races at Cotati, rallies by Modesto 99ers, Alpine TC, Sorry Safari, El Dorado TC, and Redliners. Autocrosses by Competition SCC and NCCA. **ESCA** was holding their meetings at the El Rancho on Santa Rosa Avenue where Costco is today. Below the calendar it was stated that more information could be obtained from the S.F. Chronicle, The Press Democrat, and the S.F. Examiner.

ESCA KARTING

By: Gary Shannon

What started out to be a monthly winter event to supplant the autocross off season has turned out to be a regular monthly occurrence. At least that is the way it looks to be heading. Now that it appears we are on track for a regular autocross season, we continue with the monthly karting. The attendance has been a little lower than in the past but the competition and fun factor has not changed.

Our May outing was full of friendly competition as evidenced by results of our feature race. Only 0.285 seconds separating first and last best lap times. As luck would have it, I happened to draw Kart #1 (random selection by N.C). This kart is the fastest of the lot based on the consensus of Nitro City Staff and as demonstrated by Blain Hendrix time of 21.748 on the practice session. From the start of the race, I managed to keep ahead of the bumping and hounding from John Castellano for the win.

ESCA's presence at Nitro City has appeared to garnish some respect from the staff resulting in a more personalized service. Lately our monthly Tuesday night events have been run as a "Special Event" where the facility is closed to the public. We run our 12 lap session with breaks as needed to rest, foregoing the waits for other karting customers. Nitro City staff are quite generous with sharing their driving tricks as well as kart specifics like gearing and tire types.

We would love to see you at our next event. If you are at all interested, come out and join in the fun. We usually run on the last Tuesday of the month. Guests are welcome. Special thanks to Craig Hammond for organizing these events.

Racer	Avg.	Best Lap	Gap	PTS
1 Gary Shannon	22.274	21.835		1916 (+62)
2 John Casrellano	22.856	21.911	1L	2058 (+17)
3 Blain Hendrix	22.887	22.148	1L	1341 (+37)
4 Craig Hammond	23.735	22.335	1L	1577 (+2)
5 John Schliemann	23.695	22.183	1L	1537 (-21)
6 Steve Rossiter	23.813	22.120	1L	1710 (-67)

* * Cancelled * *

Korbel Hillclimb July 20 - 21, 2024

Tiburon Car Show

By Gerry Mugele

Went to the Tiburon Car Show today... Land Rover was the featured marque. Not a particularly well organized event but some interesting specimens on display.

I learned a lot more about the Alfa 6C than I really wanted to know but still... Surprisingly few pretentious overpriced Italian cars because they claimed to be only showing pre '75 stuff. There were some significant post '75 examples however.

A fellow I didn't get to meet was there with a very freshly restored '57 Series I SWB. Pretty impressive. I hope it gets to see some trails at some point in its future. Jeremy Ainsworth was there in a prominent position with his very welled traveled 109. He's a Scotsman who now lives in Calistoga and was part of the first attempt to cross the Darien Gap in a vehicle in 1970. That's a fun one because it was organized by Rover to show off their new Range Rover. The point was to have the Range Rover *Photos in this column by Gerry Mugele*





be the first 'motorcar' to do it. They had two Range Rovers I think and a support crew of a half dozen proper Land Rovers. Short version: almost all of the Land Rovers made it, the Range Rovers didn't.

Photos in this column by Bob Jenkins





Anyway, a gorgeous day on the edge of the bay and a lot of people took car photos with SF looking especially scenic in the background.

I guess I should confess: my favorite was a '62 Lotus Elite. I just hafta admire those even knowing that they don't come in my size. This one was a sort of Bronze green with a silver top

and most astounding is that the paint is original! Yeah, cracked and scratched somewhat but not distractingly so.







ESCA 2024 Calendar

July

02	ESCA R	egular	Meeting	In 1	Person	& 7. 0	OM
<u>U4</u>		guiai	Miccuing	TII .	CISOII	Q ZO	CIVI

- 14 ESCA Back Roads Tour
- **16 ESCA** Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 20-21 RSCC Korbel Hillclimb -Cancelled
- 27 ESCA Autocross Saturday

August

- **ESCA** Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- **10** ESCA Birthday Picnic at Oakmont
- 10-11 RSCC Autocross at Samoa Dragstrip
- 17 ESCA Autocross Saturday
- 14-17 Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion
- **20 ESCA** Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 24 Ferrari Challenge North America

September

- 03 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 14-15 RSCC Autocross at Samoa Dragstrip
- 17 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 28 ESCA Autocross Saturday

October

- 01 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 05 <u>CANCELLED</u> ESCA Autocross Saturday
- 12-13 RSCC Autocross at Samoa Dragstrip
- 15 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM

November

- <u>02</u> ESCA Autocross Saturday
- 05 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- 19 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM

December

- 03 ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM
- **07 ESCA** Annual Banquet
- 07-08 Lemons at Sonoma Raceway

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



Please let the ESCA Secretary know!

It is in the **ESCA** Constitutional By-Laws

"Members of **ESCA** shall immediately notify the Secretary of any change of address or change of phone number or e-mail address".

If you do not let the Secretary know, you probably will not get your monthly **PIT STOP**, or be notified of events.

Current ESCA Membership Total

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

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

For Bay Area Rallyes check out the:

RALLYE CLUB WEBSITE INFORMATION

http://www.therallyeclub.org

REDWOOD REGION PCA

https://redwoodpca.org

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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Happy July Birthdays

Tom Buggia

Suzy Fitzgerald

Jacinda Franusich

Mel Konrad

Claudia Quinlivan Gary Shannon

Robert Wichtowski

9f 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!

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

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 Coddingtown 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