



# PIT STOP



## November 2024

The Official Newsletter of *Empire Sports Car Association*  
Volume 61-15

### LAST ESCA Autocross of 2024

**November 2, 2024 Saturday**

Sonoma County Fairgrounds  
Brookwood Parking Lot

ESCA Members \$70      Guest Drivers \$ 80

**\*\* Save the Date\*\***

**Annual Christmas Lights Tour**

**December 14, 2024**

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

**November 5 & 19**

**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.

### Autocross News

Hello **ESCA**n's!

Here are the current 2024 **ESCA** Autocross Standings. We have one more event that will be worth two events, with morning being one "event" and afternoon the second.

Be sure to come out **November 2<sup>nd</sup>** and make up any points you might have missed!

FYI, we will have a total of 7 events this season, with one dropped event and a minimum of three events attended to qualify for a trophy.

If there are any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to me at [autocross@empiresportscar.org](mailto:autocross@empiresportscar.org) !

Thanks!

Charley Sawyer, **ESCA** AutoX Chair

**ESCA Annual Banquet**

**RSVP due 11-22-24**

See flyer on [page 3](#)

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## BEARD SPEAK AGAIN

By Bob Jenkins

November 2024



We are well into Fall and the end of 2024 is in sight, but we still have several fun events to go, starting with our **November 2<sup>nd</sup>** autocross. This event should be very interesting with several members from the Porsche club and from the Golden Gate Lotus Club joining us. This event is as you know a two points event with the morning course running different from the afternoon course, so you get points for each course. This will be Charley Sawyer's last autocross as Autocross Chairman, and Craig Hammond will take over from Charley as the 2025 AUTOCROSS CHAIRMAN.

The next fun event is our Annual Banquet and year-end meeting, on Saturday, **December 7<sup>th</sup>** at Cattlemens in Rohnert Park. It's party time and be sure and bring a **new unwrapped toy**, which we will deliver over to a fire house in Rohnert Park after the banquet is over.

A year ending fun event is our **Christmas Lights Tour**, which is already being worked on and save the date of 12-14-24!

At the first meeting in November the Nomination Committee will report the results and nominations will be open to the floor. Early information from the nomination committee shows that we will have several positions not spoken for, so if you have

the time to take an office, please step up. Nominations will close at the second meeting in November and ballots will be out soon after that meeting.



*Me, when I got the Z, notice the license plate~ Bob Jenkins*

Current **ESCA**  
Membership Total  
138

## September Go-Karting: Do You Even Lift?

By John Castellano

Not if I can help it. I've long said that it's all about tire temps. So when Johnny Schliemann, Gary Shannon, Steve Rossiter, Craig Hammond and I strapped in to duke it out in the Nitro Karts, I set out to get em hot. Practice to me means practice getting the tires hot by overdriving every corner and using the tires to scrub speed. No brakes. Qualifying means finding a clear spot to run, and driving like a maniac until they're hot, then getting a couple of clean, tidy laps to earn pole position.

In the Race, Gary was on the outside pole and tried to get around me, but Johnny gave me a shot and we all bottled up into Turn 1 like a bunch of motocrossers. Craig managed to get past Gary and Johnny for second. I had a good lead and started driving deeper and deeper into the turns before lifting. The tires started to grip even on the slippery west end of the track. Pretty soon I was floored for the entire track, flinging the kart slideways into Turn 1 to slow down.

It was big fun, but Craig was slowly reeling me in, and I had to curb my enthusiasm to keep the lead. I won the race, but Craig and Gary beat my fastest lap. Together we had the five top times of the day. Come on out next time! We shouldn't get to have all the fun.



*John Castellano on May 2023*



4619 Redwood Dr., Rohnert Park



# Saturday, Brunch, at 10:45AM December 7, 2024

- \* Annual Meeting
- \* Awards
- \* Toy Drive
- \* Installation of Officers
- \* Review of Year Events

Cost: \$25.00 per ESCA Member  
Guests will be \$25.00 per person.

*Please bring a new unwrapped toy*



Reservations **MUST be received by, November 22, 2024.**

- Please **1.** Contact **ESCA Secretary** and Pay at the Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> Mtg, **or,**  
**2.** pay on MSR at [msreg.com/BanquetESCA2024](https://msreg.com/BanquetESCA2024) (+ service fees) **or,**  
**3.** make checks\* payable to *ESCA* and mail to  
 P.O. Box 2242, Santa Rosa, CA 95405

\* if mailing check please notify the **ESCA Secretary**

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 25.00

Member/Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 25.00

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

How many? \_\_\_\_\_ Top Sirloin Steak

How many? \_\_\_\_\_ Herb Marinated Chicken

How many? \_\_\_\_\_ Teriyaki Chicken

How many? \_\_\_\_\_ Grilled Salmon

How many? \_\_\_\_\_ Pasta Ravioli

## September Autocross Review

By Michael Prescott

It was a dark and stormy night. A feeling of dread hung heavy in the air. Oh wait! Wrong story! It was a beautiful, crisp, cool Saturday morning. A feeling of excitement and anticipation hung in the air. Time for Autocross number 5 of the season! There was quite the variety of vehicles, several new members and a few folks from the Porsche club. 36 cars in all. The course was challenging but fun with a couple of bothersome 270's (you can blame me for those:)), some zig zagging and a long fast stretch making for a very competitive day. Speaking of Porsches...The top 3 times of the day were all Porsches. With Michael Cardozo's beautiful GT4 taking the top spot with a blistering 52.850 narrowly beating out Grady



Carter's Boxster S and Roy Peterka's GT3 by less than 3/10 of a second! And Charley Sawyer was hot on their heels finishing 4th 0.365 seconds behind them. Fun fact: 3.095 seconds was all that separated the top ten cars! Thank you to everyone for coming out and helping with the set up and break down. Overall it was a fun day with a nice breeze and very pleasant temperatures. This Fairgrounds spot is proving to be a fantastic racing venue. **November 2<sup>nd</sup>** is the last event of the season AND a double points event so make sure you come out for what will be an amazing day!

More Photos can be seen at:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/6ePNbjBQ92mY5smA8>



continued in [next column](#)

## Empire Sports Car Association Year End Championship Points

(Qualifying Events: 3, dropped events: 1)

Event #	Event Name
1	AutoX#1      2024-03-24
2	AutoX #2      2024-05-18
3	AutoX #3      2024-06-01
4	AutoX #4      2024-07-27
5	AutoX #5      2024-09-28

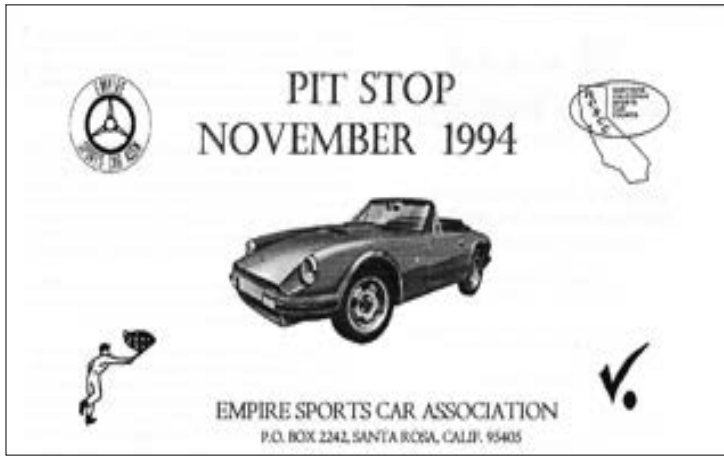
	Pos.	Driver	Total Points	Points W/Drops	E-1	E-2	E-3	E-4	E-5
<b>GTC-R - 'GTC-R'</b>									
	1T	John Schliemann	390	390	100		100	100	90
<b>GTA-S - 'GTA-S'</b>									
	1T	Rich Bishop	490	400	100	100	100	90	100
	2T	Michael Prescott	360	360	90	90	90		90
	3	Tamara Woolever	330	330	85	85	80		80
	4	Chuck Banks	250	250		80	85	85	
	5	Dan Woolever	235	235	75		75		85
<b>GTB-S - 'GTB-S'</b>									
	1T	Thomas Buggia	485	405	90	105	105	105	80
	2T	Michael Cardozo	355	355	70	90	90		105
	3T	Brent Werder	405	335	80	80	85	90	70
	4	Martin Johns	340	290	75	85	55	75	50
	5	Vincent Cortese	260	260	55	75	70		60
	6	Blain Hendrix	245	245	85		75	85	
	7	Bruce Bentz	200	200		65	65	70	
	8	Julie Silk	140	140	60			60	20
	9	Robert Hayes	120	120	45		45		30
<b>GTC-S - 'GTC-S'</b>									
	1T	John Castellano	455	375	90	80	85	100	100
	2T	Alex Ivakhnenko	290	290	100	90	100		
	3	Christopher Brazell	245	245	75			85	85
	4	Ed Biglin	215	215	65			75	75
	5	Ken Silk	190	190	65			65	60
<b>X - 'X'</b>									
	1T	Charley Sawyer	395	395	105		100	90	100
	2	Guy Southern	470	380	90	100	90	100	90
	3	Nikki Southern	265	265	85	90	85	5	

See ESCA website: <https://www.empiresportscar.org/results>

### Autocross Helmet Requirement

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





## Thirty Years Ago in Pit Stop November 1994

By Bob Jenkins

In a BEARD SPEAK article the Chairman talked about an [ESCA](#) autocross where he spent a couple of hours taking pictures, before heading out to a BMW autocross at the old Naval Air Station where [ESCA](#) used to run in the 60's. The course was very high speed and had about 32 drivers.

There was an [ESCA](#) BY-LAWS CHANGE article which stated a person could become a member after 2 consecutive meeting or 3 consecutive events at a Board meeting with his sponsor.

A SEASONS GREETINGS flyer stated [ESCA](#)'s Annual Party and Installation of Officers would be held on December 17<sup>th</sup> at the Oakmont Inn and the dress was dressy casual to dressy.

An OCTOBER AUTOCROSS article by John Gardner talked about the 27 drivers and 7 non-drivers who worked [ESCA](#)'s last autocross of the year. Frank Jurin in his Rotus took TTOD, followed by Joe Masters in his Nissan Sentra, Carl Balsillie in his Formula Vee, and Barbara McCrory in her Porsche.

A SHORT & SWEET CHARITY RALLYE article by the Beard stated the event would start from the Albert F. Biella School in Santa Rosa and the entry fee would be 5 cans of food which was to go to charity.

An OCTOBER BARNSTORMER RALLYE TAKES OFF by Mike Bryant & Nancy Linder stated their first ever event would start and finish from the Petaluma Airport in Petaluma. First in Expert went to Gary & Terry O'Connor.

A SEPTEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup> CLUB AUTOCROSS article stated the 5 lap enduro autocross kept the drivers on their toes. A total of 59 people attended the event and 26 drove. Ian Cook had the best time on his first try with a 3.15.717 in his Spec Racer. Barbara McCrory took TTOD in 3.13.706 in her Porsche.

The 1994 [ESCA](#) Board was Chairman Bob Jenkins, Vice Chairman Karen Larson, Secretary Linda Jurin, Treasurer Ted Larson, Ex-Officio Curtis Askim.

The last page was an [ESCA](#) membership list with 77 names, of which 14 are still members.

[ESCA](#) was meeting at the Round Table Pizza at 421 Stony Point Road in Santa Rosa.



## ESCA 2024 & 2025 Calendar

### November

- 02** 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  
**14** ESCA Lights Tour  
 07-08 Lemons at Sonoma Raceway

### January 2025

- 01** Happy New Year  
**07** ESCA Regular Meeting In Person & ZOOM  
**21** 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.*

## Autocross Reminders . . . .

- ▶ Registration link will be in your email by 10-22-24
- ▶ 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

### 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**

### \* Things Self-Tech Inspector Should Look at \*

- ▶ Empty all loose items from your Car, inc. 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

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)

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"

Happy November Birthdays

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

*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!*

Service Specialists



Parts Distributors

CHUCK'S BRAKE & WHEEL SERVICE, INC.

TONY CHIESA.....STEVE CHIESA

707-542-6012  
707-542-6013 (FAX)  
chucksbrake@sbcglobal.net

540 Barham Ave  
P.O. Box 1771  
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

For Bay Area Rallyes check out the :

**RALLYE CLUB WEBSITE INFORMATION**  
<http://www.therallyeclub.org>  
**REDWOOD REGION PCA**  
<https://redwoodpca.org>

2004 Bodega Avenue, Petaluma CA 94952



Kurt Klein  
Marty Nygaard  
Tel: (707) 762-0272  
E-mail: the.garage.petaluma@gmail.com

BMW  
MERCEDES  
VOLKSWAGEN  
VOLVO

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

4th Sunday of the Month

Penngrove 10070 Main St 9am

MACHADO BURGERS CAR SHOWS

406 Larkfield Center Santa Rosa  
Every Sunday 11am – 2pm  
Every Friday 4 pm – 7 pm

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www.hammondautowerks.com



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- ✔ mercedes-benz
- ✔ bmw
- ✔ smart
- ✔ audi/vw



Get in touch with us:

- 707.538.4325
- M-F 8am-5pm
- facebook.com/hammondautowerks