



# AT SPEED

## *Emerald Empire Sports Car Club*

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November 20<sup>th</sup> 2013

### 2013 EESCC Club Officers

<b>President</b>	<b>Ruben Cruz</b> Email: <a href="mailto:President@eescc.org">President@eescc.org</a>
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<b>Chief of Timing</b>	<b>Tim Steck</b> Email: <a href="mailto:ChiefofTiming@eescc.org">ChiefofTiming@eescc.org</a>

### Upcoming EESCC Events

**Monthly Meeting:** Dec 4<sup>th</sup>  
**7:00 pm The Sizzler**  
**Postal Way and Gateway**

#### **Driving Blind** By Rae Heselbach

There have been many points in my life where I could have been described as driving blind, but never once had I actually done it. Well, until the blind autocross that is. For those of you who weren't there, here's my perspective.

So we all show up to a chilly and fog covered course, which of course, inspired many blind leading the blind jokes. However, the fog did lift on the course and we endeavored to set out. Now I say endeavored because somehow Jai and I ended up being first in the line up. Neither of us had any idea what the hell we were doing nor exactly what we'd gotten into. As the bag descended over my head I began to fight panic, nausea, and general thoughts of, WTF was I thinking?!?!?!"

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Nonetheless, when Bonnie whapped on the roof of the car to signal go, we were off. By "off" I mean toddling drunkenly around the course at maybe 5 miles an hour. My co-pilot commenced yelling, "left", "right", "MORE LEFT, STOP"! At an increasing volume as I was pretty sure I was driving in circles. Indeed I was driving in circles and apparently course workers were running in terror from my 5 mph onslaught.

After what seemed like at least 30 minutes of driving, we rolled through the finish and I took the bag off my head. At which point I see the Stecks, Dirty Burt, Bonnie and a host of other regulars (including our elusive president) practically rolling on the ground with laughter, tears streaming down faces, I seriously thought we'd need to call 911 at some point. I'm pretty sure Janelle fell off the stool she was laughing so hard. Not entirely sure how I felt about "causing" such amusement the next car plowed forward. And so began a day of the most ridiculous and fun thing I have ever done in a car.

Between watching our friends drive in circles, running from cars headed at improbable angles and yelling, "No, the other right" at least 12 times, it was a glorious day. Bonnie guided Alisha through what seemed the most impossibly clean run through the "Bonnie Box" for them to take the WW win.

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Burt's commentary was hysterical, inducing even more hilarity. And I have no frigging idea how Keith and Nathan pulled off such amazingly quick and clean laps. It was epic. At some point I did seem to go into a Zen like state and sort of trusted my navigator not to direct us into a ditch . . . sort of.

As icing on the cake, all the money raised went to charity. Really, there is no better way I can think of to raise money for a good cause. Thanks to all who came out and those who did all the work to put it together. Maybe next time I won't suck so much, but I know I'll leave laughing!

Post script: I know Bonnie mentioned our LeMons race; we ran a perfect race and won Class C, finishing 24<sup>th</sup> overall out of 198 cars. I have to say how much I enjoy our racing family and feel very thankful for all of the joy that you all bring into our lives!

**2013 Awards Banquet Highlights**  
By Bren Wamsley

What a fun evening we spent at Valley River Inn. We had 108 people attend this year. It began with a social hour with appetizers followed by a wonderful buffet and dessert table.

Lorin Wamsley provided an introduction to the evening events and Ruben Cruz followed with presenting sponsor and venue awards. A huge thank you to all our **Sponsors** and **Venues**.

Jeffrey Fields, our MC for the evening and his side kick Tanner Berg (Vanna White) presented trophy awards to our outstanding drivers. Our trophies this year were high quality, screen printed, and embroidered hoodies. Thank you Bonnie Mueller and Alicia Andrews for your work on these.

Alicia Andrews presented IROC and the top 5 drivers were: 5<sup>th</sup> place Ryan Wamsley, 4<sup>th</sup> Jason Braunberger, 3<sup>rd</sup> Nathan Allen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Doug Drouet, and 1<sup>st</sup> Jeremy Dey. Thank you Alicia for all the time you put into this presentation.

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Ruben Cruz provided a synopsis of what we have provided to our community this year. A total of \$2867 has been dispersed among Food for Lane County, Candlelighters, and the Oakridge Fire Department. We are in the process of selecting another charity who will receive part of the funds. Also, all proceeds from the Blind autocross are being given to the Guide Dogs Federation for the Blind. In addition, we are doing road cleanup 3 times a year on a 2 mile stretch of highway 99 in Goshen resulting in 129 man hours of labor for the adopt a road program.

Ruben also presented the “Gear of The Year” award to a very deserving individual, DaWayne Kerbs. Bonnie Mueller followed with a number of other special awards. The Where The Hell Am I (Compass) award was given to Virginia Owens, the Cone Killer to Jason Braunberger, and Most Improved Driver to Bryan Brown. Tim and Peggy Steck were recognized for all the work they did on the new timing system, Alicia Andrews was recognized for her extra efforts this year, Ruben Cruz for whatever the heck he did, and myself for the various behind the scenes activities. A special trophy with a sack over its head was given to Tim and Peggy Steck for organizing the Blind Autocross.

Bonnie Mueller provided the entertainment this year. Similar to the trivia game we played last year, she came up with Name That Tune. All of the music was related to cars. Several tables won the individual rounds and table 7 was the overall winning table; Lorin, Bren, and Ryan Wamsley, Danielle Zimmerman, Jeremy Bunker, and Dean and Bettina Higginson. It’s really nice being a winner. HA! Thank you Bonnie and Sean Mueller and Alicia for all the hours you put in to this project. We loved it! I’m looking forward to your “Scavenger Hunt” in January. For those who did not attend last year, it’s a **MUST DO** in 2014. I have never had so much fun and I’ve never had so much time pass so quickly.

Cat Rice in leather and helmet drove in on a black electric scooter all decked out with Oregon State beaver items and circled Jerry Braunberger’s table a number of times to the song “**Born To Be Wild**”. Jerry with big smiles didn’t know what the heck was up. Cat then presented the scooter to Jerry and sharing how much he is appreciated by the club. By the way, Cat Rice and Halli Williams came up with the idea months ago and many club members donated monies for this special award. **Ride on Jerry!**

It was now time for the door prize drawings. Our awesome MC Jeffrey Fields and his partner Tanner Berg drew tickets and distributed the gifts. We had a number of really nice door prizes. Several of our sponsors donated door prizes including; Diana Bray, Valley River Center, Bert Jacobson, All Rite Roofing, Lorin and Bren Wamsley, Lorin’s Home Team Real Estate Lending, and Aaron Ponciano, TireSport. Tyler Shepard took home the big one. Valley River Inn offered a “Date Night package” which included a Room, Dinner, Breakfast, and Regal tickets. Tyler, enjoy your special evening!

We give many thanks to Valley River Inn for hosting our event and providing such a nice door prize. I really enjoy working with Roxane Butler, Director of Catering, Valley River Inn. She is so fun and accommodates our needs in any way she can. Their servers were very attentive and welcoming to our group.

I have one more thank you and that is to David Mills. He has been providing a DVD with footage of our events for several years now. I do know the editing takes a lot of hours. Much appreciated David. You’re the best!

Ruben Cruz closed by thanking everyone for making EESCC such a great club. He also thanked the Banquet Committee (Bren, Lorin, Ryan Wamsley, Danielle Zimmerman, Jeffrey Fields, and himself) and the banquet presenters, Bonnie Mueller, Alicia Andrews, Jeffrey Fields, and Tanner Berg.