

Email: President@eescc.org

# IT SPEEI

## Emerald Empire Sports Car Club

P.O. Box 1204, Eugene, Oregon 97440

WWW.EESCC.ORG

May 9, 2012

## **2012 EESCC Club Officers**

**President Ruben Cruz** 

Email: President@eescc.org

**Vice-President** Alicia Andrews Email: VicePresident@eescc.org

Jim Mueller

**Treasurer** 

Email: Treasurer@eescc.org Secretary **Bren Wamsley** 

Email: Secretary@eescc.org

**Bonnie Mueller Chief of Registration** 

Email: Registrar@eescc.org

**Bill Randleman Chief Safety Steward** 

Email: SafetySteward@eescc.org

**Chief of Timing Tim Steck** 

Email: ChiefofTiming@eescc.org

## **Upcoming EESCC Events**

**Monthly Meeting:** June 6th

> 7:00 pm Hole in the Wall Barbeque 1807 Olympic, Springfield

June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Events 3 & 4

**Old Guaranty RV I-5 Lot** 

See Enclosed Flyer

July 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> **Larison Rock Hillclimb** 

**Road 2102** 

Near Oakridge OR Flyer to Be Mailed Later

### **Barcoding a Big Success**

Events 1 and 2 are in the history books and the switchover to barcoding was a big success. Other than the time it took to get all the competitors their barcode, the new system was great. The drivers needed a little training in how to go from their grid spot to the scanners and to the start. Many of them used some unique paths!

Thank you Tim and Peggy for helping the club move forward. Now, hopefully everyone remembers to bring their cards for each event or they will need to pay \$5.00 to replace them!

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## 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Larison Rock Hillclimb

The hillclimb is rapidly approaching. I would encourage everyone in the club to become involved in one way or another. Things I need help with:

Are you an artist? Need immediate help with this years' t-shirt and trophy design. It needs to be special, as it is our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

Working the event. It is located on a forest service road outside of Oakridge. Fresh air, sunshine, birds, fast cars....what a setting for a fun weekend. We have work stations at different intervals up the course watching the progression of the cars as they race up the hill. If you can help us out (and are not driving the event) we will give you lunch for 1 day and lunch x 2 and a t-shirt for both days.

*Pre-hill clean up.* The date and time will be sent out, but it will be several weeks before the event. We go up and prep the hill by mowing, cutting branches, etc. Lunch will be provided.

Call Bonnie Mueller at 541-485-4341 if you can help in any way.

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# So When Do I Tell My Mom? Or "Oh God she's going to have a heart attack over this!"

By Rae Heselbach

Since it's the May newsletter, I thought I'd pay homage to my mom. And explain a little about my history as a speed junky (not THAT kind of speed). I've always loved to go fast, on skis, on a bike, on a horse, in a car . . . not so much, at least, not at first. In a recent conversation with my mom she told me how shocked she was when I started all this "car stuff". It took months of badgering and harassment by my parents before I eventually got my license at age 16. At one point during driving training I remember my mom, frustrated, getting out of the car, and I rolled up the windows and locked her out. I was done. I'm pretty sure my Dad took over driver training after that. Truthfully, I was totally content being shuttled around by other people and if they couldn't do it, I rode my bike (12, 16 miles one way, no problem!). It worked for me. Thinking back on it now, maybe my lack of enthusiasm stemmed from the gutless Subaru wagon we had. It was so bad we used to turn off the AC going uphill and called that the "turbo" button.

Later, my mom begrudgingly accepted my lifestyle as a horse owner, and then as a crazy Thoroughbred owner. She gladly bought me helmets and safety gear, after a few years. With all the obligatory, "I have a friend who . . ." stories that went along with it. After several years of not (to her knowledge) being injured, she came to accept my life as a horse owner. She even feeds the horses treats and helps clean stalls when she visits.

When I started autoXing, she was pretty cool with it. How much trouble could I get into in an empty parking lot full of cones?!? Well, by then the gods of auto sports had thoroughly ensnared me with all of their wiles and joys and I was totally hooked. I'd had several track days under my belt, upgraded to a higher performance car, and was generally an adrenaline junky. When I would talk to my mom about my weekend plans, I'd refer to a weekend of door-to-door crapcan racing as "playing with cars", just to spare her the worry and grief involved over my general health and well being.

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Chris & Sherry Allen

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Then the time came to finally tell her the truth. I had started a thread on the LeMons forum However, it took one errant post on facebook, and I got that call. You know, the one where she uses that Mom voice and asks, "SO what HAVE you been up to?" I finally came clean. She seemed ok with it.

Then while my parents were visiting for Thanksgiving, Jai and I started talking about the fun and carnage of crapcan racing and showing pictures to my Dad (who has been avidly supporting all this craziness, unbeknownst to Mom). My mom had to leave the room, I nearly made her cry.

Over time, she's become more accustomed to it all. She likes to hear about the safety gear we buy, and she says she wants to see a race (I'm not sure I'm ready for that yet). But I have to say, to my mom and all of you moms out there who support us, thanks and we love you!!! We know we don't make life easy for you, but we sure appreciate your love and support. Happy Mother's Day!!!! And safety first(ish).

### Message from Our Sponsor, Aaron Ponciano with TireSport

EESCC member pricing:

Free dismount if mounting a different tire on the same wheel.

\$5 per tire for mounting.

\$5 per tire for balancing.

\$10 for a mount and balance.

We are able to match TireRack prices including the cost of shipping but we are offering \$20 off the shipping cost. Other than saving money, one of the largest benefits to this is that the tires show up at TireSport so they don't have to pack them up and drive them here to have them installed.

Call Aaron at 541-654-5420 with questions.

#### **Eugene Autocrossers Are a Lucky Bunch**

Having just joined EESCC's "core membership" as the 2012 safety steward it occurred to me how lucky we are as autocross enthusiasts in Eugene.

It's a small miracle that an autocross race happens at all. For the Ice Breaker I witnessed around a hundred volunteer man hours on event day. How trailers are restocked and radio batteries recharged is still "magic." It made me feel a little guilty about three years, of showing up, paying my entry fees, and splitting after a half day. Many thanks to the people who make this happen now as well as those that have built the club over the years. EESCC offers twelve driving days per year. This is quite remarkable. It's been my experience that most volunteer organizations can only "pull-off" an event the size of an autocross race once or twice a year.

Even more remarkable is that there are more than half a dozen clubs in the Pacific Northwest running races. Within a 5 hour drive of Eugene one can participate in more than fifty days of driving this year!

The unfortunate thing for an autocrosser starting out with EESCC is that they've already experienced the best. I don't mean to cross anyone or marginalize the efforts of other clubs but EESCC really spoils us. Even SCCA National Tour events only equal EESCC.

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However, SCCA trades assigned grid stalls for required preregistration, three runs per day, and sponsor sticker pain in the decal. Personally, I think EESCC's tech runs smoother than National Tour's.

Emerald participants enjoy many luxuries including:

- A venue at Coburg second only to Packwood.
- Multiple registration lines with one of the shortest waits
- Course maps
- On site food vendors
- Fresh port a pots
- The best "on-time" record of any club in the PNW
- Complete online results posted by mid-week following an event
- One of the best tech lines in the sport
- A directed grid
- Organized support for novices
- Five runs on almost every event despite the largest fields short of National Tour
- Entry fees that are as low as any
- A treasury that allows donation to local charitable organizations
- A host of other little things like numbered workstations, radio microphones and announcer's PA.

EESCC is constantly looking for ways to improve. This year the "big deal" will be replacing run cards with bar codes. Be ready for a few pains at first but this promises to make registration, grid and timing more efficient so we can support even bigger fields without cutting runs. If you have something, even something small that you think would make the club or events better mention it or better, volunteer to do it. I bet you won't get turned down! Don't forget to mention to a grid, registration, tech or anybody at a broom both at home events and other clubs that you appreciate they went to the trouble of making the event happen. Hey OK, off the soapbox now. Let's race!

#### **Lost Silver Seiko Watch**

Luis Sandoval lost his watch at one of our autocrosses last year. If anyone has seen it, please contact Bren Wamsley.

EESCC 2012 Event Dates		
Event	Date	Location
Event 3 & 4	06/02-03/12	Guaranty RV, Coburg
Larison Rock Hillclimb	07/14-15/12	Oakridge
Event 5 & 6	08/11-12/12	Willamette Pass
Event 7 & 8	09/22-23/12	TBD
Banquet	11/10/12	Valley River Inn