



AT SPEED

Emerald Empire Sports Car Club

P.O. Box 1204, Eugene, Oregon 97440

Email: President@eescc.org

WWW.EESCC.ORG

Aug 12th, 2016

2016 EESCC Club Officers

President	Robert Jacobson Email: President@eescc.org
Vice President	Hope Mueller Email: VicePresident@eescc.org
Treasurer	Jim Mueller Email: Treasurer@eescc.org
Secretary	Bren Wamsley Email: Secretary@eescc.org
Chief of Registration	Bonnie Mueller Email: Registrar@eescc.org
Chief Safety Steward	Chris Pokorny Email: SafetySteward@eescc.org
Chief of Timing	Tim Steck Email: ChiefofTiming@eescc.org

Upcoming EESCC Events

Monthly Meeting	7:00 PM Sept 7th The Sizzler, Springfield OR
Road Cleanup	9:00 AM August 20th Superior Tire Goshen
Events 7&8	Sept 24th & 25th Bald Knob Lumber Creswell OR <i>See Flyer Online</i>
Year End Banquet	6:00 PM October 22nd <i>See Information enclosed and online</i>

Willamette Pass *By Jim Mueller*

A lot of us really look forward to this event. It is a lovely place on top of a pass at a Ski Area. What's not to love. This year we had two really fun courses put together by Bert Jacobson and Jerry Braunberger. It just worked!

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Steve Wynne was very impressive in his STP Mustang, taking top PAX both days. Nathan Korstad was unbeatable in the shifter kart. As always CP drivers provided some of the best competition, but it was hard to tell that the course was designed by CP drivers as cones were flying everywhere. John Montgomery was amazing setting up cones in the Chicago box before finish.

Turnout was a little larger than the previous year, but was still a little light. Those of you who weren't there are missing the most fun autocross weekend of the year.

The Many Faces of Denial

By Ryan Rink

This weekend the EESCC will be gathered at Willamette Pass for an autocross event, but it will be even more meaningful for me. After seven years of racing autocross, I have convinced my best friend and little brother to race with me! I have tried relentlessly over the last seven years to convince

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my friends to start racing, but I was completely unsuccessful until now. After years of watching and encouraging me to race, they are finally going to join in the fun.

From the moment I discovered autocross, even before I had seen my first event, I was trying to convince my friends to race with me. We are all car enthusiasts and in theory would all enjoy racing autocross, but they always had excuses for why they couldn't race. At first I accepted their reasons not to race at face value, but after a couple seasons I began to question why no one would join me. After all, autocross is relatively inexpensive, very safe, and a great way to show off your car and improve your skills.

My first event was in September of 2008. I was 18 years old, and by the time I turned 21 I had given up asking my close friends to race. Instead I focused on the more affluent and enthusiastic car people I met through Facebook or work. These were the people who always had a story about their incredible car and driving skills, and autocross would have been a great way to see who has the better car setup or who was a better driver while being safe and responsible. But no matter what I tried the answer was always, in one form or another, no.

Over the last seven years I have identified the three main reasons people give for not racing. The first, and probably most prevalent, is that autocross is too expensive. This excuse drives me crazy. Autocross is very affordable, and most people who give this excuse obviously have enough disposable income. They are regularly buying fancy cosmetics for their car or going out to eat multiple times a week. Blaming the cost is the easiest way out for people who are not willing to stand behind their stories in a setting where everyone is on equal ground.

The second type of denial comes in the form of people saying that their cars are not ready. "Once I get this part I can race..." or "Well I have to upgrade this thing because my car can't perform without it..." or "This thing is wrong with my car so there is no way it will pass

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inspection.” These excuses are made even more frustrating by the fact that most of the people using them were minutes earlier telling a story about their back roads corner carving session that happened less than a week ago. It’s another easy excuse for people who don’t understand or don’t yet appreciate autocross.

The third form of rejection is based around the way autocross is constructed. “I hate the idea of racing around cones” or “I would be willing to race on a track, but I don’t want to race around a parking lot.” These answers are so common, and were the only responses my little brother ever gave. It took a lot of convincing and an alcohol-induced promise to get him to agree to try it, but I am so thrilled that he is!

I am trying to encourage other people my age to join the sport, and I really don’t understand why it has been so hard. At work, with my friends, at car meets, and on social media I try to spread the gospel of affordable, safe racing to car enthusiasts. If we can’t get the next generation interested in the sport, who is going to take the reigns and carry the tradition into the future? Our area has a large and vibrant car culture, so there is a demographic to tap into. As a club we need to figure out how to encourage young people to get involved. I don’t have the answer, but you can count on the fact that my little brother, my best friend, and I will all be out there spreading the word and inviting more young people to join our sport.

2016 Year-End Awards Banquet
“50th Anniversary”
By Bren Wamsley

Save The Date! The 2016 Year-End Awards Banquet is fast approaching. It’s a great time to celebrate the year’s events and to commiserate with your racing family. Most of the evening is celebrating YOU!

Continued on next column

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We will be returning to Valley River Inn Saturday evening, October 22nd 6:00 pm. It will be buffet style and entertainment provided. Informational and registration forms are included in this July newsletter. You are able to register on-line via our website, www.eescc.org. There will be lots of prizes including a \$50.00 cash door prize. Register early to avoid a late registration fee.

Take Note: The Pinewood Derby is returning this year. Past car entry’s are not allowed (the Hershey Bars are taking a rest). Purchase your Boy Scout kit and be a cash winner in one of 2 classes; standard or modified. There will be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each class.

Valley River Inn is happy to extend a rate of \$89.00 per night to the Emerald Empire Sports Car Club Year End Awards Banquet attendees for a deluxe guestroom. The \$89.00 per night is offered for the nights of 10/21, 10/22, and 10/23. To take advantage of this special rate, call the Valley River Inn reservations line at 1-800-543-8266 or the hotel at 541-743-1000 and identify yourself as being with the Emerald Empire Sports Car Club Group. Reservations must be booked by September 21st to receive this rate.

It’s the best time you’ll have not behind the wheel. ☺ Look forward to seeing you there.