

Exotics at Redmond Town Center Blog Archive for 2018

October 18, 2018

If You Show Up on Saturday...

You will be a little disappointed. Where exotics once stood, you will see just about the same cars you saw at work on Friday. About the only exotic thing you will see possibly some pink windshield wipers or some wheels that we're not exactly factory. Even then, the mall doesn't open until later so chances are the lot will just be empty. The produce delivery guy will be dancing for joy, but that's about it. In case you missed the memo, we're done for the season.

Still, some will show up and be standing there thinking, "where the heck is everyone?" (you know you wouldn't use the word 'heck') The answer is we called our season ender last week you illiterate fool. This gives our volunteers one nice weekend off before the rains hit...or so they show in the forecast. Most will head to Leavenworth (not the prison) for some beer and polkas. You need beer for polkas. As Gary Larson once so insightfully illustrated, in heaven they hand out harps. In hell it's accordions.

I see they are forecasting a mild winter. In all my years living out here in Washington State, they never got it right even once. The weather folks mis-forecast our Saturdays a few times and that was just 48 hours before the event. There is about as much chance of them getting it right as there is Beyonce rocking a tuba.

The Farmers Almanac says it will be a teeth-chattering dare I say, nut-hugging cold winter. So we'll see who's right. I'll bet on the Almanac.

We're already planning our 10th anniversary celebration. We still can't get an aircraft carrier up Mill Creek, but we tried. Can you believe we made it ten years? I still can't get over it. We thought we'd survive a couple of seasons, have a few laughs and that would be it. We're now the oldest weekly event in the US. That says a lot.

October 13, 2018

We're all done folks! But...

Well, that's it for the season everyone! What a great turnout on our last day. We managed to squeeze 342 cars into our space and we still turned away twenty or more, not to mention those who drove by that couldn't get it. Sorry, but we can only take on so many BMWs before others have an aneurysm, given that our first priority is exotic and rare cars.

As usual, there were a few, dare I say, ass-hats on departure, given it was our last day. The gal in the yellow Porsche who fishtailed her way past me is not welcome back. She was already

warned, but nope, she thinks her fun should come at the expense of everyone else. Talk about self-absorbed!

By the way, in case you don't know what an ass-hat is exactly, it's sometimes referred to as an ass-gasket, or in some places, simply a free cowboy hat. It's that toilet protector you see in bathrooms that looks far more dangerous than the toilet itself. I'd rather poop in a field, but that's just me. Some will be offended by reading this, probably because they really thought it was a free cowboy hat.

Most of the ass-hats were driving up and down Bear Creek who didn't get in, but felt the need to just race around Redmond, which isn't all that thrilling for the rest of us. We have better things to do with our time.

So, we will keep posting here all winter. We always have something to say about something. Our opening day for 2019 will be April 6. It will be our 10th anniversary! We are planning to do something for it, so it will be big. Thank you all for a wonderful season. It was a terrific last day and one of our very best! Thank you all!

October 11, 2018

Come out, come out, come out!

Okay, get up out of bed Saturday morning and come down for our last E@RTC of the season. Come and say hello and good-bye all in one shot. It's going to be a beautiful Saturday morning of fun and great people and cars. This is really it, our last Saturday of the season and then we set in for a long winter. We're not going to have our opening day until, Saturday April 6! That's 24 Saturdays away! That's almost six months! Some of you could have kids by then!

Our last day is always a great turnout so don't miss it. Okay, miss it if you have typhoid, but otherwise don't miss it.

October 6, 2018

Saturday, October 13 is our last chance to hang out for the season...

Well, we're down to one more Saturday. Pull out the tissue. Get ready to start raking! I ran some stats. We had a total of 28 available Saturdays this season. Of those, we were "rained out" 41% of the time. This is a record for us. "Rained out" includes all days when we called it because the chance of rain was 30% or higher. Some of those Saturdays saw no rain at all, so blame the folks in the weather cave. We typically average around 20-22 decent Saturdays, but this year we only had just 16 events. It's hard to believe, but that's how it all worked out.

Traditionally, when we've been able to call it for our last Saturday, it's been one of our biggest days of the season, so next week if it doesn't rain, we will see a lot of cars. You won't want to miss it!

Again, there is America's Car Museum to get you through the winter. They have a lot of cool stuff going on all winter so make the drive down!

Don't forget to shop at Redmond Town Center! Hot Yoga and a movie! Not in that order, but you get the idea. Please come and support Redmond Town Center for all their support of us all season. Do all your Christmas shopping there, even if it means buying gram-gram a set of drums. It will give her something to do other than watch Oprah reruns. Lots of good food there too! No need to starve!

See you all next week unless it rains.

October 4, 2018

We're on For Our First Saturday Encore!

Wow! We're on two weeks in a row and it's October! How cool is that? Let's call it our first encore.

Just so we're clear, and so we don't get everyone's chronically unemployed uncle writing us for clarification, I'll repeat it again. If it rains next Saturday the 13th, we're done for the season. If it doesn't rain it will be our last Saturday of the season and everyone can just go home and rake. This means, there is all the possibility that this will be our last Saturday. Now, watch how many write me to explain what I just said...wrote.

This is a great time of year to go for a drive and take in the fall colors. It's fun to get that last drive in around the North Cascades over to Winthrop, then down to Leavenworth (not the prison) and home. It's that time when the squirrels are busy gathering up the nuts, irony is that cold does the same thing... moving on.

We then move into Thanksgiving, and holiday parties. You win that ugly sweater competition you didn't know you entered. It's sort of a free shot at your every-day wardrobe. Before we know it, it's going to be spring again. We'll all show up fatter, again, again.

Don't forget the museum! I'm talking about America's Car Museum in Tacoma. It's a great place to go and hang out, see your friends, and talk cars, all while staying warm and dry! The food in the cafe is very good. Seriously, it's surprisingly good! It's not the same prison-quality stuff you get on the ferry either.

This could be it folks! It could be your last Saturday to come see us, hang with us, talk about your spouse, car or doctor, or all three, or those yodeling lessons you won at the auction. Come out say you goodbyes, find a winter snuggle buddy or something. There is someone there for everyone. See you Saturday!

September 30, 2018

We're not yet done for the season! But, we're damn close...

This is that funky weather time when it's kathunkulous* to call it and the mornings start to get a lot colder and less pleasant to stand around and talk about cars, or your latest cleansing that kicked in at work. We don't like rain or extremely cold mornings. We tried it and it sucked. Everyone sort of hops around trying to warm up and it looks like a rave with crappy music. This past Saturday was a perfect morning for E@RTC. It was cool but not cold, cloudy but not dark and we were so full we had to start parking cars in center lines. It was a fun time!

Still, as we get closer to the end of our season, we don't want to forget all those who make this happen. Let's start with Redmond Town Center and Jessica Morgan for putting up with us all year. There mere mention of our names gives her a nervous tick, but she has all winter to recover. Just the word, "Nick" and she crushes whatever is in her hand. Thank you Jessica!

We can't end the season without thanking our amazing volunteers, the beloved Thugs who make it all happen and do a lot behind the scenes to keep it all together. What a great group of people. Yes, I know, I know... none of them are welcome at any typical petting zoo, but the flip sides is they all did an amazing job as they do every year! (Let's just say when our volunteers go to a petting zoo, the animals wash their hands.) Halloween is coming up and it's the one day they all get to sort of, "blend in."

Still, in spite of these shortcomings, and a list I can't mention here, they are wonderful people and some of the most generous people I know. They do it because they love to see everyone have a great time. That, and it knocks weeks off the parole card. I'm thrilled that they come out and do what they do so please thank them when you see them in one of our last Saturdays, if we get decent weather. Thanks to all of you! We are going to do something on their behalf.

We also have to thank those who bring out their stupendous cars to show every week. We can't exist without your participation. We also have to thank those who tried to get a yard pass and couldn't and we're relegated back to the basement to paint something. We know you tried, you did your damndest and have the sore jaw to prove it. We know we will see you someday! We also want to thank all of our enthusiastic spectators who come out to see these machines! We love it that you love it! We all love the same thing! Cool cars, interesting people, lots of laughs, a couple of gripes about something, and just some great times.

We hope to see you all next week!

*I made that word up but it sounds about right.

September 27, 2018

We're on for Saturday!

This could be it! Our final E@RTC. We may be able to squeak one more in if we get a nice Saturday but next week isn't looking so good and October is usually not great. It also starts to get damn cold in the morning so there is that too.

We will not have an official Classic and Collector car day but some may still come out. We're in the same side lots as always. Come out and see your friends while you can. Come see us! Apply for that yard pass right now. Do what you have to win that pass, even if you have to clean the basement or have dinner with the in-laws.

September 20, 2018

Damn it! Rained out AGAIN!

Can you believe it? We're rained out for the third week in a row! Don't worry, we won't forget your names or what you drive. We take a long winter off and still remember each other in spring, so it's not like our memories are so bad we're hiding our own Easter eggs.

We only have about three more Saturdays to go before we call it off for the season, so when we are back on, and I'm assuming one of these remaining Saturdays will be nice, we will have a massive turnout, and one almost as big as opening day. Everyone gets to say goodbye for the winter, shed a tear or two. (not really) This isn't like Dorothy climbing into the balloon basket for the flight back to Kansas or anything. It's just the last time we meet in a parking lot until spring. We crank up the music again on April 6...which will be our tenth anniversary party!

Still, once again when spring shows up, we're all fatter, like it or not. We all say stuff like "Oh, it's great to see you..." when we're really thinking, you should lay off the Ben & Jerry's. As usual, some will have new cars, new spouses, new relationships, new restraining orders from the last one and so on. It's always fun hearing about that rash you got rid of from that trip to Vietnam. Yup, we can't wait for that.

It will be a nice Saturday to stay home and think about that new rake you're going to need in a few weeks. See you next Saturday we hope!

September 13, 2018

Rained out again! Damn!

Yes, we're rained out again. Not Carolinas-rained-out, but rained out. This leaves only about four or five possible Saturdays in our tenth season remaining. It also means a lot more people will show up next Saturday because we've been rained out two Saturdays in a row. Some of you can't go that long without E@RTC and not get that nervous tick.

This Saturday was looking bad since last week and next Saturday is looking decent so far so we think if it holds up, it will bring out a lot of cars. You will want to be there for sure. Do the paperwork with your significant other right now so you're free next weekend.

We're already thinking about the opening day party for next season because it will be our ten year anniversary. It will probably be in the garage or something so it can be a rain or shine event. We're still thinking about it.

September 7, 2018

We're Rained-Out for Saturday, but Before You Get Your Undies in a Bunch...

This was a tough call this morning. I'm sitting here in the Poodle Dog Cafe in Tacoma looking at all the weather forecasts, six different to be exact, and they average over 30% chance of rain. Yeah, we know some show only 20% chance of rain, but they have all be trending up every six hours. I even climbed the peak of Mt. Rainier in the middle of the night to consult with the shivering emaciated guru who wasn't wearing enough clothes and he told me to go away, he was concentrating, but I got the message. I could see my house from there.

It seems like if you call yourself the Poodle anything, it's kind of obvious you're talking about a dog isn't it? The sign said, "Good Food" so that was reason enough to stop here. I don't know of a poodle cow. Poodle is kind of a unique name to a dog and I don't need "dog" as a qualifier. I don't exactly get it, but okay. The food's not bad actually... so far. Ask me in a few hours. It's very clean, I will say that!

The good news is that tomorrow morning you get to stay in bed with that special someone. You can think back to that crustacean you once almost married, or did... or are.

September 6, 2018

We don't know if we're on or off yet...

...the weather gods are arguing. We will post something in the morning after we get a little better read on what the weather folks are predicting. So far, they have been all over the map. Sorry to keep you hanging like this.

August 30, 2018

We are on for Saturday and Other Stuff

Well, the auction sure was fun. We got to see the back of Greg's head a lot, which wasn't going to auction. His car, in case you were stuck deep underground all week in a mine with nothing to eat but a Twinkie, did well. A few people were bidding it up while you were standing there in that cave with your mouth open trying to catch that drip from the ceiling, wondering what the final price was that night. The car sold for \$48,405,000!

Think about that for a moment. If he had that many Twinkies and put them end to end, that would stretch 2,979.4 miles, which in a straight line, would stretch from about Redmond Town Center to the Bahamas somewhere. It would be the dumbest thing to do with Twinkies ever, and it would take a very long time. Nobody would be impressed either. Some would even be mad about the line of Twinkies going through their yard.

We only have about six E@RTC Saturdays left so come on out! Don't miss this chance to see all the cool cars! This is your opportunity to make friends for the winter. Besides, you need someone to meet up with at Starbucks to hear you complain about getting fat, or how much you look forward to this winter and your promise to take up the luge.

Next Saturday, the 8th, in case you're from Fresno, is Classic Car Day! We have the Classic Car Club coming out, and we will see lots of interesting rolling sheet metal as we did last year. The folks from America's Car Museum and Club Auto are also coming up from Tacoma with some stuff so you don't want to miss that Saturday either.

Greg did get some other cool stuff over the last few weeks so he will be bringing out some cars none of you have seen before. Fair warning!

By the way, did you know that people who make up stats are 50% more likely to be wrong? Trust me, nobody from Fresno got that one.

See you all Saturday!

August 25, 2018

How To Watch The Auction Tonight Without Harming Yourself!

For those of you interested in watching the highest value car to ever go up for auction, and are in danger of wetting yourself with excitement, it will be live here at 5:30. On the page, off on the right side, you will see a link to watch live. For those of you who have Apple TV, we suggest using it as a separate display on the Apple Play tab on your browser's navigation. This way you can have the catalog open on one page and the auction on your Apple TV. How cool is that? This way you can personally fowl yourself from excitement in the privacy of your own home. For those of you on Windows machines, open two windows, sift one to a second monitor, or your TV if it has that feature. Greg's 250 GTO is #247 so it will take a while to get there. I'm guessing 90 minutes in, but don't bet on that.

Last night most of the cars were going for below the estimated range. Let's hope Greg's car is the big surprise of the night by going far above the expected range. We're cheering you on Greg!

August 24, 2018

We're off this Saturday, August 25!

I'm saying it again, we're off this Saturday, August 25. A lot of car people head down to Monterey for car week. Some of us, have to go auction off our \$50 million dollar car. Others stay home and clean up the garage and put little screws in jars or calk the tub. Whatever. For a few of us, we're going to get out and play and do something other than E@RTC on this Saturday morning. We will all be back next week, some with harrowing stories to tell about Monterey or their mom.

We see that we're about to come into a weather pattern of guessing what it's going to do once again. We can't wait for all that mail. This will be fun. We sometimes think they use a dartboard somewhere in the calculation. I picture a guy with piles of data screaming, "F***-IT!" and throwing a dart so he can go have lunch.

The folks at America's Car Museum will be joining us for upcoming Classic Car Day and more on that as we get closer. They have their big annual Gala that same night. You get to dust off that nice suit and go hang with some interesting people.

We don't yet have a link to RM's life auction or we'd put it here, but look around on YouTube at around 5:00 PM tonight and the same should be tomorrow night. Greg's car goes on the block tomorrow sometime after 5:30. Bidding will only last about five minutes. We don't expect a lot of yelling.

August 19, 2018

There is no E@RTC on the 25th! Read on...

We traditionally take the weekend of the Pebble Beach Classic off so that some of our volunteers can attend Monterey Car Week. We have a lot of people out as of Saturday and it gives our volunteers a badly needed weekend off while the weather is nice... but then again, it could be raining this coming Saturday anyway for all we know. It's too far off to tell, but either way, lets just called it rained out so those who are grumpy don't write us to complain. This also gives our volunteers the chance to catch up on their tweezing.

We still have people who use the old entrance so we're going to start sending you around the block. Do it twice and we're going to send you home to start all over again. You don't want Sean pinching your ear and telling you to knock it off either. So, be good and just go around the block like a decent human who has manners and stuff. We can tell the pros from the rookies from the entrance they use. Look like a pro. Make mom proud.

Oh, don't forget this coming Saturday is when Greg's 250 GTO goes up for auction in Monterey. The auction starts at 5:30 PM and we'll post where you can watch it online. We believe you can see it on YouTube live. We'll get the word out as soon as we know. If you know who will televise it, let us know. If you don't know, don't write us to tell us you don't know like you do about the weather sometimes. I've talked Greg into buying us all gum if it crosses \$100 million.

See you all on September 1!

August 16, 2018

Put Off the Liposuction

We're expecting another great Saturday and it's the week before the big migration down to Monterey for Car Week. For many E@RTC is the gathering point before driving down. Some are then driving along the coast while others head inland into scorched earth and black lung and a chance to run for their lives from a fire. Such fun!

If you were thinking about liposuction, put that off until winter when there is nothing better to do. Wait until it's dark and rainy out when nobody can see what you had done.

We still see new cars every week and it's always astonished us by how many cool cars are in this region. We have cars come from as far away as Montana to the east, and up from California and down from Canada. There are always surprises, even to us Parking Thugs who sometimes think we've seen just about everything. Once in a while we get someone from Fresno but they never have any idea where they are.

We also once again want to thank Redmond Town Center for putting up with us every Saturday. They are always wonderful in a wonderful sort of way. Thanks Jessica! We also want to thank our sponsors who ride along with us every season and also help get the cars out. And, we have to keep thanking our participants, spectators and our volunteers who all pitch in to make this a special thing every week. This is the very spirit of a real community event. It's the happiness the event brings to so many that has us doing it again and again.

August 9, 2018

We're Rained-out for Saturday! Time to Make a Casserole!

We'll, that time of year is on us when the weather begins to change... or so we think today. We're rained out for Saturday. For those of you new to E@RTC, we call it if the chance of rain is 30% or higher. It's higher. Nobody likes to stand in the rain, and regardless of what you read in the personals, nobody likes to walk in the rain either. Go try it and see who's there. Nobody! Those you see running have issues. Don't make eye contact.

They also predict scattered thunderstorms for Saturday. Getting struck by lightning isn't fun. It's a bit like getting tased except you smolder. It's not the lightning strike so much, it's everyone else laughing that's kind of hard to take, especially from the medics. Especially when it's the second time.

The good news is now you have time to make a casserole for someone. I remember that nasty tuna medley my gram-gram would make. I still remember it like it was yesterday or the day before. It wasn't yesterday. It was a long time ago and I still remember that God-awful smell as that bubbling blob of tuna and celery and potato chips came out of the oven. I was afraid to ever ask what was in it. Probably a lot of stuff on sale.

They serve casseroles at funerals because everyone is already upset and it's a chance to clean out the fridge. I see half the serving dishes empty and I'm reminded that people will eat just about anything. Someone could be gnawing on a chicken foot and I'm thinking, that's nothing, I survived a nasty tuna casserole once.

When was the last time you went into a nice restaurant and they said, "Tonight's casserole is..."? I remember that never happened. How hungry did you have to be to try someone's mystery casserole? Most people have to be fairly drunk or very desperate to borrow money from whoever made it.

We only have a possible ten remaining Saturdays until our season comes to an end. It's hard to believe how fast the season goes by before everyone goes off to hibernate for the winter, always to return fatter at E@RTC the next season. They always pretend like they look the same, but nope, all I see is how fat they look compared to the year before.

Last week's British Car Day was very fun and one of our bigger spectator car days of the season. People seemed to come from everywhere and we think it was a lot of vacationers from somewhere else, like Yelm. As usual, everyone was extremely nice. We always have that one or two who come in with some sense of entitlement, but overall, it was the usual great group and we love hosting them. I got to chat with a lot of regulars for once. It's always good to get the feedback.

As always, our volunteers are stupendous and we can't thank them enough. Many come from a long way away and do it every Saturday and without them, it would be impossible to hold the event. They give up a lot to make all this happen and we're thrilled to be working with such outstanding humans. They are the best! Please thank them next week when we're back to our normal routine.

We will see you all on the 18th!

August 4, 2018

Tonight is Cars and Cigars Night at America's Car Museum!

We forgot to mention that Tonight, Saturday, August 4 to be very specific, is Cars and Cigars Night at America's Car Museum in Tacoma. I've heard that a lot of tickets have already been sold however there are a few remaining, so if you're looking for something to do tonight this might be it. You can change the oil on the mower tomorrow. This is a good time to sneak out of the house and go have some fun.

It also helps support the museum so it's also a win there too. This has become an extremely popular event and so it's well worth it to head on down for some fun! Say "hi" to everyone for us while you're there.

August 3, 2018

Saturday, August 4 is British Car Day! (But all Nationalities are Welcome)

Saturday is our annual British Car Day, which is one of my personal favorites. I love it because the people are so nice and there is a such a huge variety of cars that show up. We sometimes forget all the cool stuff that comes out of the UK. Okay, so they don't have enough dentists, but that's a different topic.

Tomorrow we're going to see the new Rolls Royce Cullinan for the first time! This is that giant beast of an SUV that's not only gorgeous, it goes through mud, snow, rocks and stuff, yet flattens rodents with precision, all while riding in pure luxury.

This will be a day of amazing cars, people, and a lot of fun! Don't miss it. No excuses.

July 26, 2018

It's Going To Be...

Another nice weekend! We don't get a lot of these in a year, so come out and enjoy while you can before the rains start up and you're all depressed and need pills.

Some of the cars that came out for Italian Car day were spectacular! What a great Saturday and once again, we can't thank the volunteers enough. They all do such an amazing job so give them a spontaneous yet completely unexpected hug when you see them. Make it memorable. They like that.

It's hard to believe that we're already past the midpoint of our season by two weeks. We have another few weeks of warm Saturday mornings then it starts to cool off a bit. We're going to keep running well into October, just as we do every year. This weekend is also the Auto Angels Car Show so after E@RTC, head over there for some continued fun and it's for a terrific cause. It only happens once a year and they do great work.

We noticed a decline in people asking if their cars meet the criteria. We hate it when they ask if their cars are "worthy" as it's not at all how we think. Most of us came from humble car ownership and know what it's like to love something just because it starts and I'm not talking about your significant other either. We're an event with a theme and we'd die off in short order if we didn't have one. We write and talk about it all the time, yet some still want to take shots at us.

We also want to remind you that we have that new spiffy entrance on 168th Avenue NE and Bear Creek Parkway. Those who use it, look like pros. Those who don't, look like well... so look like a pro and come in on 168th and talk to Sean who's basically our own sorting hat. Oh he may look meek and mild and all that stuff, but he knows his poop about cars so don't mess with him. He knows exactly how many Pintos were made so don't even try.

Once again, thank you all for the support and all the fun you bring to the event each week. That's what it's all about. You can deal with the IRS audits or the annoying plumber and other depressing stuff later, so come and have a good time! You won't regret it. Unless you're wearing an ankle monitor or something and got caught outside the house. Then you're kind of screwed.

July 19, 2018

Saturday Is Italian Car Day So Grab a Cannoli and Come On Out!

This Saturday is Italian Car Day, one of our biggest days of the season! We will have lots of Ferraris, Lamborghinis, other cars with a disproportionate number of vowels in their names. No seriously, this is our biggest day all season next to opening day. Other brands are still welcome as usual. (It's just a theme, not an ordinance.) Oh, wear Italian shoes if you have them. It helps set the mood.

The weather is expected to be beautiful that day and we're expecting our biggest turnout of the season so this is one you don't want to miss, unless you're getting married, divorced, or are stuck in a hospital with tubes from falling off a roof or something, then just stay right where you are. Poor fella. The point is, come early!

Italian clothes are designed for men who can hide behind rope. That's none of us, in case you didn't notice, so you won't see us in the latest Italian fashion. For you men who want to buy Italian stuff, pick a size then go up about four Xs, and that's about right. For our really big guys, we have to go right to a size T for tent. In Italy it's Paul & Shark, here it's Paul & Whale. In this US, XXXX would be about a medium. I don't know how Italian men can remain that thin no matter what. Us normal folk just read a pasta box at a store and walk out fatter. Aw-jeeze, I just looked at the on-line Paul & Shark Catalog. I have fishing line thicker than those guys.

We had to say no to the 160' Benetti in Mill Creek because the water level is a little low this summer. Sorry everyone. We know you had your heart set on that one. Still, it's going to be a wonderful day of exciting cars, joy and laughter. See you Saturday!

July 12, 2018

It's Going To Be A Nice Saturday! No, Really!

For those of you who are new to E@RTC, or new to Redmond, or new to Washington, or new to the USA or even planet Earth, this is now officially summer in the Northwest. It lasts from now until late September...then there is that one day in October, when it's over like someone flipped a switch. That's when we stop and besides we're all sick of each other and want to go work on getting a little fatter all winter.

This Saturday is when it's warm enough for all those cars without a top or heat of any kind can come out to play without the owners showing up with chattering teeth. This means we see a lot of beautiful Shelby Cobras and other stuff like that. We do get a lot of tourists from all over the world who show up so it's a good place to practice your Swahili or Moldavian, even if it's just the accent. It's fun to see so many come out from so far away. Some might be fresh out of school, or prison. We don't judge.

We get more email than ever before and lately much of it has to do with people who want to set up booths to sell or promote something. The frequency of the request just keeps growing and

it's to sell everything from grandma's chainsaw art, to insurance and everything in between. It's almost always no. The reason I say, "almost" is because we do allow some non-profit car-related entities, such as America's Car Museum, or the Ferrari Club to set up a membership table. We are there to promote all things rare and exotic but if we got into real commercialization of our event it would be a lot less fun. We want E@RTC to feel like a backyard BBQ without the BBQ rather than a Chamber of Commerce trade fair. We get a million requests from charities who want your money and a kidney but we know you're already doing a lot.

We're also still getting a lot of requests to lower the bar on what gets in. We're just not going to do that. We only have so much space and we're wanting to keep true to your expectations for a great show.

Please come out and enjoy the beautiful warm, warm, warm, Saturday morning. We only get a few of these so don't blow it sleeping in, or doing something in your basement you could have done last winter.

July 5, 2018

Hope You Had a Wonderful 4th of July!

There are always fewer fingers on the 5th of July than the morning of the 4th. It's just a little factoid from us to you. If you're in that group, we're deeply sorry about your loss. Next time, don't wait so long to throw. Makes all those piano lessons kind of a waste of time.

This is now the official beginning of summer around here so we don't expect to get rained out until sometime around the end of September, right around the time we all start to get sick of each other and have heard the same story over and over again. You never know actually, but from here on in, it will be about twelve weeks of OMG it's hot out! We see some of the best cars from here on in as they get ready to head to Monterey during the second week in August.

We have more national press planning to come visit us and we never know when they are going to show up, so come out and be nice. You never know if the person next to you is someone important or an escaped felon...or both now that I think about it.

We get a lot of tourists this weekend too. They write to ask how often we have our weekly event. I tell them it's weekly and they ask, well which week. I don't know what to say. I tell them it's in the one they are in right now. I know, it's surprising how many people make it up from Fresno. Come on out this Saturday! Rake on Sunday instead.

June 28, 2018

Are We On Or Are We Off Or Are We On Or Are We Off????

As of Thursday early afternoon as I write this, I still don't know the answer. The most reliable source we use, Weather Underground, (not actually underground) says it will rain, but what do they really know? They only have degrees in this stuff plus all the fun gear. I wonder how they do with the ponies?

BTW, have you noticed? Greg's 250 GTO is just about everywhere in the news. Greg hasn't gone into hiding yet and will still be attending E@RTC. The car? Who knows. Would be nice to see it on last time. It will be missed. Again, if it hits \$100 million, gum for everyone!

Well, it looks like we're (I'll fill in something here as soon as I know) rained out for Saturday. It will be a good day to scrub the cat box, tweeze, or test fireworks on a friend. They will get over their anger eventually.

Speaking of 4th of July and fireworks, when I was a kid if it broke we went to some open field and blew it up. That was our fireworks. There was none of this permit stuff. It was all legal back then. You could walk into any hobby shop and buy everything you needed to put an entire town to sleep. Everyone's grandmother had dynamite laying around somewhere as it saved time digging. You can't do that anymore. About the only thing we couldn't buy as a kid was a nuclear warhead.

Now fireworks are timed to great music. Boom just isn't good enough. Now it's the sound track from Michael Jackson on Ice blaring over your radio.

Because we're rained out, expect next Saturday to be very busy. We get frantic fun weekends around the 4th. This would normally be the busier of the two weekends, but you never know.

We noticed the huge number of spectators that are showing up this season and we thank you all for coming out. That helps draw the cool cars.

Auto Angels is going to have their big show on July 28. It's a worthwhile event and a lot of cars from E@RTC will be heading over there after the show. More talk about it will follow in the coming weeks. Here is a link for all the details. "LINK"



Sorry for the rain out. We know someone will get their undies in a wad over this, but we have a lot of interests to balance. Sleep it off, you will feel better.

June 20, 2018 Breaking News!

I never understood the concept of "breaking" news. What's it "breaking" exactly? I've seen this for years, "Breaking news!" and everything in my house is just fine. So, if I just broke something, I'm sorry. Hope it wasn't expensive. Speaking of expensive... HERE IS BREAKING NEWS!

The big news is that one of the best friends we have at E@RTC, and someone who's been a terrific supporter of all things E@RTC is sending his magnificent Ferrari 250 GTO off to Monterey for auction. Rebecca Lindland was just here writing the story and you can find it here. No really, here. Most of you have seen the car on Ferrari Day and now get to see what happens in Monterey.

Greg said that if the car sells for \$100 million he's buying all of us gum. If it sells for less, we all have to share.

Rebecca Lindland was busy working on the story prior to coming to E@RTC and she worked tirelessly on it right up until it had to be submitted. She works her ass off and spent a lot of time getting every little detail exactly right. It's what great journalists do. She's well worth following. Not in the stalker sense, like don't go to her house or anything and drool on a window, but you know what I mean. Follow her online as there are not enough writers like her.

Thank you Rebecca for taking the time to come see us and writing such a great story. By the way, some of you only scared her a little, nothing a little therapy won't cure, or some pills.

The amount of email we get grows every week. Most of it has to do with car qualifications for E@RTC. It helps us a lot if you check our website first, then contact us if it's not clear. We will always answer every email, but sometimes we fall behind because of the volume, and often we're dividing and sending it out for a handful of volunteers to answer. It's a lot of email. It's not actually a handful. None of us are that small. One volunteer is more than a handful. Be patient, we will answer your email, and if we don't get back to you, then yell at us.

We're coming up on the longest day of the year. Imagine the beach burn you can work up on that day alone. Just think, Florida-quality beach jerky in just one day! Safety tip for the day, shed the rust, but don't combust!

June 14, 2018

We Have a Visitor!

Rebecca Lindland is visiting us from New York. Rebecca is with Kelly Bluebook and writes stories about all things automotive. She's here working on an important story that we can't talk about and wanted to come out to E@RTC and see you all in person. Rebecca is a real car girl and knows her stuff! Quiz her!

Rebecca's work appears in some of the most important business and automotive publications, including Forbes, Fortune, and others. This is the time to use one of your precious yard passes to come out and play.

The weather is looking great for Saturday so there are no excuses. Come out and have some fun. You can go back to bed later.

June 7, 2018

We're Rained Out for Saturday, June 9

Well, it was going to happen sooner or later. We're rained out for Saturday and we got lucky because it's not on German Car Day! So, stay in your jammies, watch a good movie or something or just snuggle with your dog, or sloth if you're into that kind of thing. Have you ever tried to walk a sloth? They are damn slow so don't think you will get much exercise. A walk around the block will take a week. It makes no difference how big your banana is either.

Even though we had a rainy first month, we've had a good run through May and into the first week in June. Summer around here doesn't usually start until the second week in July, so we're still ahead of the game.

By the way, the "BMW Heroes of Bavaria" exhibit at the ACM museum in Tacoma is getting extremely good reviews so there is something you can do on a rainy Saturday morning. Way better than snaking a drain, or visiting a relative you don't like.

I also like the cafe in the museum. It's far better than usual prison-quality museum food you find at other places. It's good enough to be its own destination! Seriously, I'm not kidding. The cafe is that good! No, seriously!

You could also do some actual shopping at Redmond Town Center. Go buy some hardware or a mattress pad, take in a movie or buy some soap and a guitar while you're at it. Hot yoga! We will see you all again next week, again, assuming it's not raining again.

May 31, 2018

Saturday Is German Car Day! Grab the Lederhosen and Something With Ruffles!

This Saturday is German Car Day! (Not everywhere, just at E@RTC.) Other exotic and rare cars are still welcome, it's just that we showcase those cars made in the land of beer, brats, accordions and bouncy music. In heaven they hand out harps, in hell it's accordions... and bagpipes when they run out. If you're really bad you get a didgeridoo or maybe toe symbols. I don't know really.

We're expecting a very large turnout so those of you showing cars need to study our new entrance very carefully and get there early. This means you. Yeah, you. I'm looking right at you so don't show up late and expect to get in. You won't. Even if you try and shove a few bucks our way or temp us with food. The new entrances has worked out extremely well so far this season and so we like to keep doing what works. Doing what doesn't work is called General Motors.

I don't want to have to remind a few people that show up with attitude, that we don't put up with much. No, seriously. We're here to have a good time and not deal with over-inflated egos, so please put those away until you're well outside Redmond city limits. We don't want to have to call your mother.

It's looking like the weather will be decent too, so it should be a wonderful day, assuming a few don't try and spoil it for everyone. Do you notice a theme here? It goes without saying that for those who behaved badly in the past, you're our guests and therefore we ask that you follow our direction for the most fun possible. We do this every Saturday so we have this kind of down.

We will always do our best to make everyone happy, except for those who try and ruin it, and you don't want to be sent directly to lot 9. Just getting to lot 9 will take up most of your day. It's a nice drive, but you'd be the only one showing and you'd have to deal with the weird guy who always wants to snuggle. Don't force us to send you to lot 9.

For the rest of you, thank you for all your support year after year. We'd all be a Turkish prison fighting over a ham sandwich without you.

See you all on Saturday!

May 24, 2018

We're on for Saturday and Next Week, June 2, is German Car Day

Wow, four weeks of E@RTC in a row in May! How fun is that! Way better than a hairy guy running naked through a wax factory. And, the cars keep getting better and better each season!

We get a lot more email than ever before and we're still getting a lot of questions about what qualifies to get in. We strongly recommend reading the "Criteria" page first before you email us. You may find answers right there and if not, then email us. No, you won't find an answer to why you got turned down on that hot date, or future lottery numbers, but you will find out if your car is a good fit for this weekly event.

German Car Day

June 2 is German Car Day and you know what that means. This of course, is in addition to this coming Saturday for those who can't seem to put together the Legos in their head that we're a weekly event and every so often we toss in a special theme, such as on June 2, German Car Day. German Car Day usually means a lot of yelling at someone. For those German cars who want to participate, it's the same criteria as always, except those machines built over there are given center row and around the side of the mall and into the main lot. Come practice your German! Find a sausage!

For those of you from the clubs, we suggest you stage your cars over by Bed Bath and Beyond and then form your row before you come in through our new entrance. This will reduce some of the yelling you always bring and we won't have to send you to Lot 9 in Moclips. You read that right. If you hear that you're heading to Lot 9, it's not a good thing... Ask those who routinely get sent to Lot 9. We don't tolerate the bad behavior that some try and bring in who ruin it for everyone else. They can just not show up and go get ice cream and sit in a park or something. The rest of us are going to have fun.

Also, as always, if you sent us email and you didn't get a response from us, try again. We do our best to answer every one. We get a lot of mail so it's a matter of sending it to the right person as it comes in. Please though, do us a huge favor and check the site first for answers to your questions. That helps cut down on our workload so we can put that time into other cool stuff.

May 17, 2018

Sneaky Sneaky

I'm writing and editing this as I voluntarily zing through the skies at 530 MPH in a tube that has wifi. Imagine that! Even with a few bumps, this is way better than a ride in the dryer.

You're not going to believe this, oh, but maybe you will. As our volunteers were busy helping us get cars parked, a couple of cars we already turned away, snuck in by moving cones on the back side of the lot when we were not watching that corner. While we're all looking out for you, someone is still making it about them. You wonder what their parenting was like, honestly. Bring your mom and dad, we want to meet them and see how you were not raised. Because of you, we now have to staff more volunteers just to watch that corner. How thoughtful!

I sometimes think we need a dedicated staff therapist or a scary priest for some of these self-centered individuals who still think this should all be about them. If you are a psychologist, and want to make a few bucks, come down to E@RTC and pass out a card or two to these self-absorbed humans who don't think they ever have to follow rules, or be accountable in any way. No, they seriously believe that rules are for other people. They are somehow privileged. None of us have the time to figure out what the hell is wrong with them. They probably buy their own trophies too, but I digress.

By the way, we have security footage of that side of the lot in case someone wants to press the issue. We've refrained from naming you, but we will, oh, and post the video.

Where is a nun with a good stiff ruler when you need one? You learn a thing or two about following rules if you ever had one of those levitating over you like I did as a kid. Man, I can still hear that wind-splitting ruler crack like it was yesterday. Sister Ray Nitschke could rip you right out of your shoes and hold you in the air with one arm and teach you the meaning of a good rule

as she ceremoniously mopped the floor with your ass. She could beat Chuck Norris silly while eating breakfast. She was so tough there is no such thing as a nun/Norris joke... well, except for NunChucks.

One problem we're starting to have that we've not seen in a while is cars covered in promotional messages, as sort of a rolling billboard for something automotive-related. We first saw that when we first began and we're going to have to start cracking down on that little problem again. The ONLY ones who we allow are those who are formal sponsors of our event, and even then we've limited our sponsorships so that they are consistent with our brand. Please do us a favor and make it about the car, not your business. Besides, it's kind of cheesy and you're not fooling anyone. You also end up looking like the only way you can afford the car is if you put stickers all over it. Hint; it's a wee bit tacky too. We don't mind a reasonable, tasteful sticker or windshield banner, but please keep it in check.

NOTE: Okay, if you're the peanut M&M car all stickered up, and you're handing out one pound bags, you're in. Forget everything I just said. We're all going to love your car as we munch M&Ms.

Look at it from our prospective- you've worked hard to earn the money to buy your nifty car, and you're constantly hit up for something as it is. Everyone and their long-lost cousins from Fresno is trying to sell you something, including, wheels, tinting, wrap, a new Flowbee, and you just want to be left the hell alone on a nice Saturday morning. About the last thing you want is someone to be shoving something at you so we pay close attention to this stuff. Yes, we allow automotive brand clubs to sell memberships on their theme days, or America's Car Museum to sell memberships to the museum, but that's a 501c3 charity and it's directly related to our show, meaning they support us too, and it's in the spirit of getting cool cars to the show. We also hand out very popular two for one ACM tickets to cars that get in... until we run out.

We do allow some dealers to bring out a few cars, but some in the car business are pushing it with products and services and we're starting to get a few complaints. We're not going to turn E@RTC into a car lot... wait, you know what we mean, car sales lot. Also, E@RTC isn't a place for you to come make a buck selling watches, eyewear, insurance, used glass eyes, or anything else like that. Our goal is to make it about the cars and the friends you make at E@RTC. It's about good conversation that doesn't end with a sales pitch. So, for those of you who complained; noted, we're all on the exact same sheet of paper.

We still get a lot of email asking how often we have our weekly event, even though "weekly" is plastered everywhere. What are we missing? We've tried just about everything to point out that there are weekly events and special events and yet we still get a few emails a week asking about our next event. We're open to suggestions. FOR THE LOVE OF GOD WE'RE A WEEKLY EVENT!

May 10, 2018

Two Saturdays In A Row!!! And Now In Our Regular Location

Can you believe it? Two Saturdays in a row of fabulous E@RTC! It's going to be a beautiful Saturday morning with temps in the 70s that day. We're still not ready to see those shiny white legs so hold off on that.

This will be our first Saturday in our normal location between BJs Restaurant and Ducati. We're still using the new spiffy entrance so don't forget, but we're back to having all the cars in one general location. The map to the new location is in last week's blog so just look further down on this page... no further down...further... until you see what looks like a map, then stop.

We received a lot of email about last week's opening day and, most were praising our volunteers and telling us how much fun they had. Our volunteers are some very dedicated people who do a lot each week to sustain our event. We can't thank them enough.

We had some email from those of you who shared your anger about those few who try and ruin it for everyone by their bad behavior on exit. We always get a few of those kids on opening day who just don't know how to self-manage. We know who they are, and have it on video. Just so you know, some are now banned for the season, while others will be asked to not show up for a while until the pitchforks, crudely painted signs and torches go away. Believe me, it's isn't just us volunteers who get upset at these self-absorbed rumbletooties, it's also our participants and spectators who don't want to see the event die. The only way some of you can make it right is if you bought everyone a puppy, and where are you going to get 2,000 puppies on short notice?

Okay, enough about that. We had a lot of fun last week and we plan to continue our rolling party all summer long... The weather is looking good for next week too. By the way, just as we thought and for the record, some of you did get fatter.

Heroes of Bavaria



America's Car Museum is doing something cool this coming Saturday night. They put together an amazing exhibit called "Heroes of Bavaria" with an opening celebration that begins at 5:00 PM and runs until 9:00PM. The event features the unveiling of 17 rare and historically significant BMW motorsports vehicles, plus artifacts and memorabilia displayed in ACM's remarkable Showcase Gallery. This is going to be very cool. Check out the link. This will be especially meaningful to all of you BMW fans.

Speaking of the Museum, the new CEO, Adam Langsbard will be coming out to join us in his 928, making him easier to spot. Please say hello and welcome him to the Northwest. He's new around here so show him a good time. Make him feel right at home, like his gram-gram put this whole thing together. Bring a casserole!

I've spent some time getting to know Adam since he began and he's got a real sense of how he wants to grow the stature of the museum. He's very dedicated to building a great car culture in the Northwest and we're lucky to have him up here.

Car Criteria

We've updated our car criteria page to up the bar just slightly. Dan has done a very good job of going through each brand to further clarify what makes it in. We beat the criteria topic to death all over our site so we don't need to hash it all here. We turned a lot of cars away last week that

did not fit the event. It kills us to turn any car away, but as it was, we still had to shut the gates with well over 100 cars sent to the spectator parking lot, many which were qualified to get in, just because we were full.

We are not a "Cars and Coffee" event and we never have been. Our target is exotic and rare cars, hence the name. Some showed their displeasure after not getting in by racing up and down Bear Creek, apparently demonstrating the muffler they bought, eventually resulting in Redmond PD showing off the new cars they bought through the proceeds from ticketing their ass.

Again, if your page doesn't cover it, we always do our best to get you an answer about what does and doesn't fit the event via email and we answer every one. Even among ourselves we have to discuss it at times. Sean does a great job sorting out the bar for the day and he couldn't be a nicer guy. We're all just doing our best to put on a great show and we hate to turn any car away.

Photo Page

Don't forget to check out the photo page with all the beautiful shots taken from last week's opening day. We have some amazingly talented photographers who share their work every year. See you all Saturday morning!

May 5, 2018

Thanks For a Terrific Opening Day... Except For Those... Read On...

Every season we start out with a few who show up and want to ruin the event for everyone else. I hate to post this, but we have a zero-tolerance policy on the matter and we're not backing down on this even a little.

These self-absorbed, highly narcissistic and remarkably immature individuals think they are impressing everyone when they do a burnout on exit. You're not impressing the adults in the room for sure, and you're demonstrating your inability to even consider the efforts of others who work so hard to put on this event. Nope, it's all about YOU! You're ruining the event for all of those who come out and for those who put in long hours to put on this great show, all unpaid, all volunteer. If you don't feel even a small amount of embarrassment, you're way too far from adulthood and definitely not welcome at E@RTC. Please don't come back. We don't want you at our event, ever. Go start your own and see how long you last. Learn to have some empathy for others.

We'd guess that 80% of the problem is modded cars, which is why we've placed limits on the show and plan to raise the bar even higher. You not only ruin it for everyone else, you also damage the reputation of the very group of car owners you're always begging us to allow in. You've proven our point.

Even those of you who stand on the tree lawn encouraging this behavior, you too are part of the problem and we plan to fix it. This is also why we're forcing cars to exit into Redmond and not onto Bear Creek. We just can't afford to let narcissistic individuals ruin for all of those who work so hard to make this event a success every week.

To the guy in the black GT-R who did a burnout after we spoke with you, you're definitely not welcome back. We know who you are, we have your plate number and we have you on video. It's going to Redmond PD for your next attempt at gaining entrance. You demonstrated that you're clearly not at a maturity level where you know instinctively how to behave at such an event. You're like the kid on a flight that every surrounding passenger wishes parenting required a license, just to birth you.

To the dude in the tired grey Maserati, not only are you not welcome back, your car sounds like sun-baked dog poop, so nice try. You're not allowed back either.

In spite of it sprinkling asshats here and there along Bear Creek, we had a wonderful show. As usual, thanks to all the volunteers who ran their asses off today to get that many cars into the show. Thanks to all the great car owners who came out and knew how to behave, and to all the spectators who come out to enjoy these cars.

We had an estimate 650 cars show up, with only around 500-550 getting in, even doubles stacked in rows. We did our best to get everyone in and we still turned away an estimated 100 cars or more. At one point we had almost 50 backed up at the entrance and we could only absorb another 13 before we had to close the gate.

For those of you who argue about our lowering the bar, this is why we can't do it. It's also in the lower end of car values where we have the most problems. We're going to come up with ways to reduce the number who get in and we may have to move to invitation only in some cases and in some classes of cars. We're considering every option to keep a few from damaging the event. We're serious about solving this problem that just a handful of you cause. For those of you who know these individuals who behave badly, let them know that their selfish behavior is taking away something that's important to you too.

May 3, 2018

We are ON for Cinco De Opening Day of E@RTC!

Yes, you read that right. We are ON for E@RTC! Not a little on, but fully and completely on, so we will have upwards of 600 cars show up this Saturday after our delayed..., delayed..., delayed..., delayed, Opening Day. Don't forget our new entrance! See the map below! Study the map carefully to avoid deep personal embarrassment and weeks of therapy!!!!

You know, some may not even get in because we only have so much room so come early. Come watch all the excitement as our volunteers all personally soil themselves trying to get that many cars into the right slots at the right time. It's poetic precision combined with some yelling.

We're giving out two for one passes to America's Car Museum to every car that comes in until we run out of passes. It's a wonderful museum and a great destination after the event!

This is going to be a thrilling day so don't miss it. It's well worth crawling out of your warm Snuggly to come see these beautifully polished machines on a Saturday morning.

Finally, you get to see how much fatter we all got over winter. Okay, some may need to lay off the roids, but that's a different post. You know who you are...

Speaking of fatter, Lunchbox Lab will also be opening for breakfast at RTC. You read that right. Come stuff yourself like it's your last meal! Look at this tempting ad they put together below. I'm not sure what I'm looking at exactly, but it looks good. Don't worry, you can then go sweat it off in hot yoga on the other side of the building.

BTW, if you do go to Lunchbox Lab, don't forget to pick up your toys at 11 as it's not cool to leave them strewn around the parking lot when the mall needs the spaces. Remember when mom screamed, "Pick up your damn toys or you're not going to prom!" No?



May 1, 2018

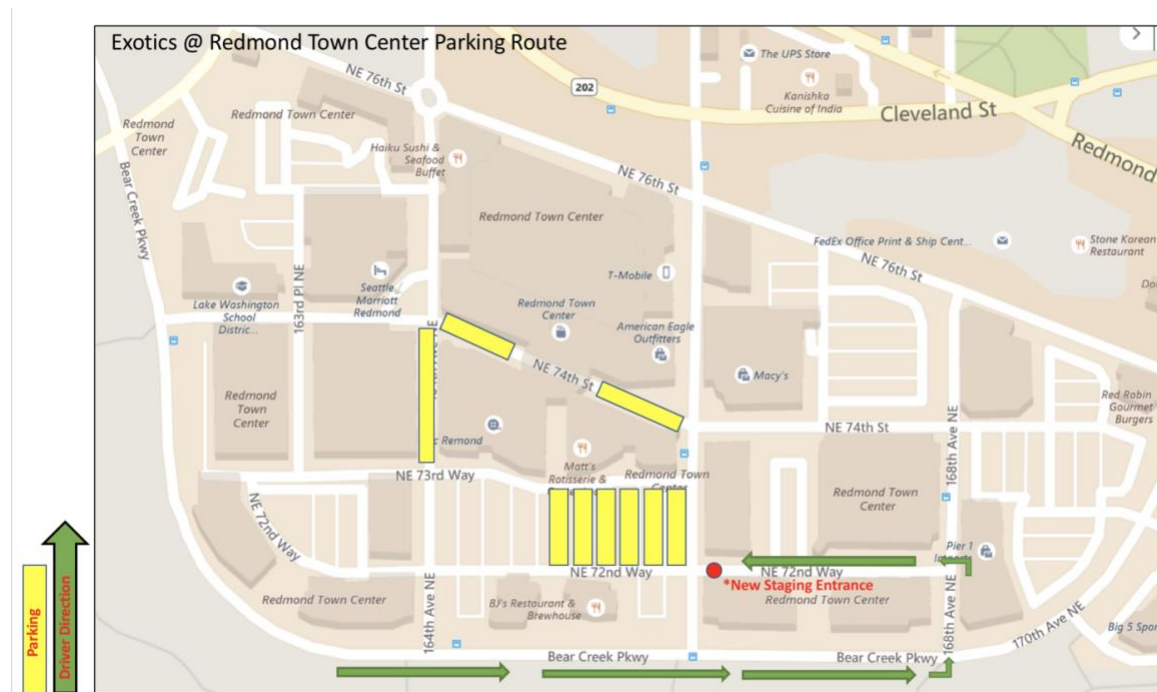
We have a new entrance! Please study the map as there will be a test!

Greetings E@RTC enthusiasts! We have a new entrance to E@RTC. If you're heading east, go one block further, if you're coming towards the west, it's one block sooner. If you're coming from the north, you can still get in the usual way but we'd prefer if you went around the block, Coming from the south, won't work, well, because there is no street.

So why the extra block to get in? We're trying to reduce the traffic on Bear Creek Parkway and we need more time to sort cars so we can move them into the lots much faster. This way we can talk to those who's cars are not right for the event without blocking all traffic. We think we can speed up the rate in which we move cars in.

We're expecting over 600 cars this opening weekend and so far the weather is holding so for those of you who have been stressing out, you can reduce your medication accordingly, but always with your doctor's advice.

Right now, as I write this, it's all looking very good. We don't expect big changes by Saturday, but... it has happened before, so wait until Thursday before you break out in a happy dance and show your friends your best moves.



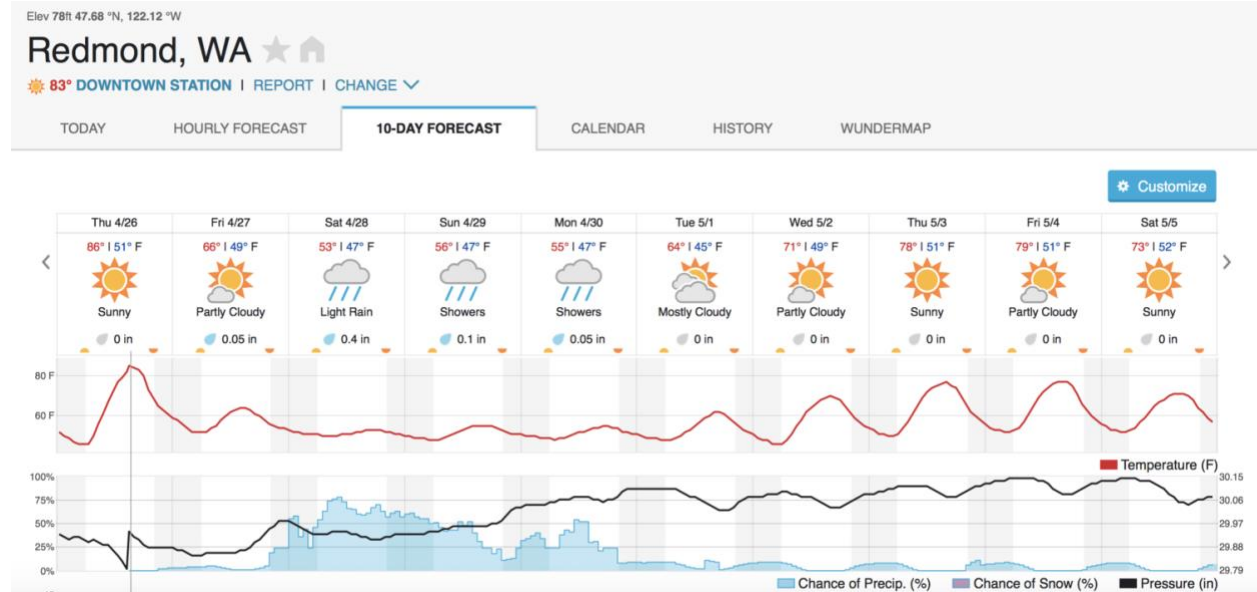
We've never been flooded with this much pre-season email about the event. We're getting a lot of email about car qualifications and we answer every one, so if we missed you somehow, please ping us again. We try and answer all email as fast as we can.

Stay turned for Thursday's final announcement for Saturday! Time to do some laundry.

April 26, 2018

Well, We Will Try Again Next Week... But Here Is How We Call It

Okay, so here is how we call the weather in detail. We start with checking WeatherUnderground. We look at the ten-day outlook that looks like this.



I'm writing this on Thursday afternoon, and this is how the weather looked ahead of time. When it's this high of a probability of rain, it rarely changes all that much by Saturday morning. As you can see, the chance of rain is near 75% for Saturday at around 8 AM. This is where we start, but we never stop there. We next look at the National Weather Service report's Scientific Forecast Discussion. Here is a screen shot of what that report looks like as of this Thursday afternoon.

Scientific Forecaster Discussion

[Return to Local Conditions & Forecast](#)

Without Abbreviations

With Abbreviations

fxus66 ksew 262143
afdsew

Area forecast discussion
National Weather Service Seattle Washington
243 PM PDT Thu Apr 26 2018

Synopsis...onshore flow will resume tonight, bringing stratus clouds inland. An upper level low will approach from the southwest on Friday with showers spreading to the area, mainly toward the evening. The upper level low will maintain a cool and wet air mass through this weekend. A ridge will bring drier weather toward the middle of next week.

&&

Short term...another sunny and dry day for the books. Most areas were in the 70s with a few low 80s too. Temps will rise a few more degrees this afternoon. Daily records will be close. So far Bellingham tied their record at 74. SeaTac hit 80 for the first time this season.

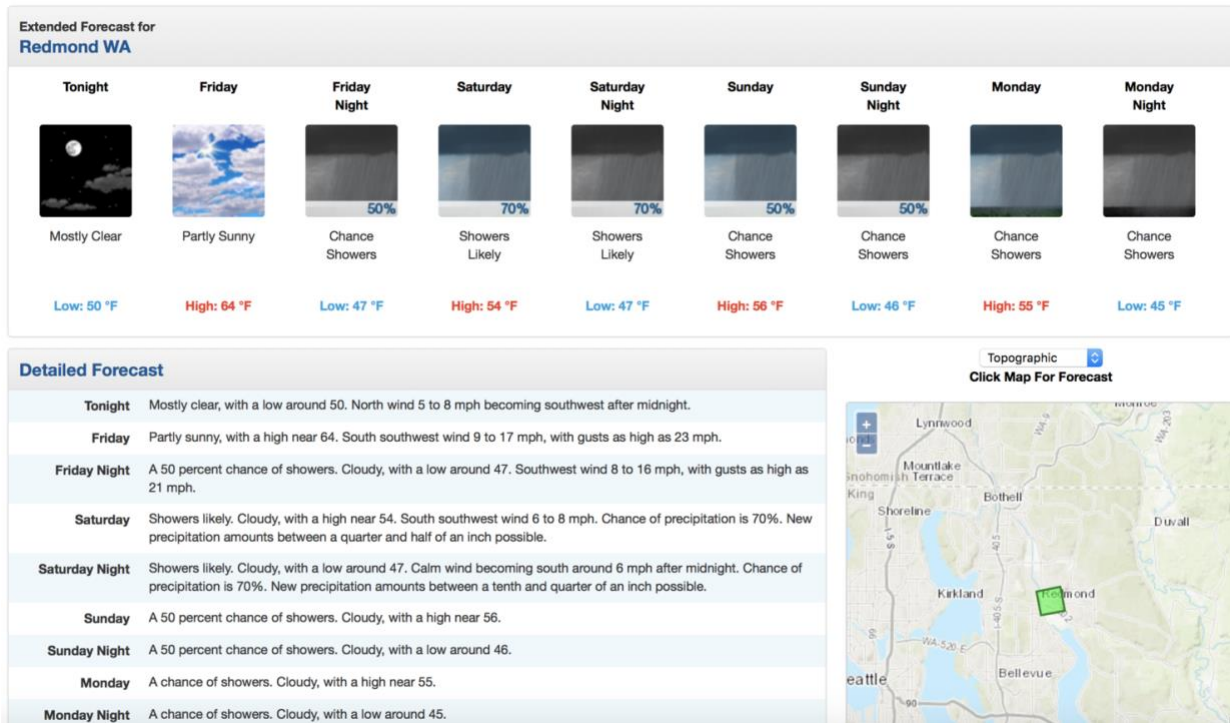
A flip to onshore flow will bring cooler marine air inland tonight, along with low level stratus clouds. Stratus clouds should make it into the interior by sunrise. Temperatures will be closer to normal with highs in the lower 60s. There's moisture wrapping around an upper level low that will spread north into western Washington Friday afternoon and evening for a chance of showers. The upper level low will slowly drift inland this weekend for additional showers and cooler conditions. Highs on Saturday and Sunday are a few degrees below normal with temperatures mainly in the mid 50s. Snow levels will lower to around 4500 feet in the mountains. 33

The paragraph we're looking for says something like this.

"A flip to onshore flow will bring cooler marine air inland tonight, along with low level stratus clouds. Stratus clouds should make it into the interior by sunrise. Temperatures will be closer to normal with highs in the lower 60s. There's moisture wrapping around an upper level low that will spread north into western Washington Friday afternoon and evening for a chance of showers. The upper level low will slowly drift inland this weekend for additional showers and cooler conditions. Highs on Saturday and Sunday are a few degrees below normal with temperatures mainly in

the mid 50s. Snow levels will lower to around 4500 feet in the mountains. 33 "

The 33 I believe means the author or office. Sometimes these paragraphs are vague and other times they are definitive. They sometimes will say something like, "The models disagree." and we don't think they are talking about a few women working for Victoria Secrets. They are talking about types of scenarios and when we read that, we hold off as long as we can, sometime into the next report before we call it. Still, we don't stop here. We then go to NOAA and see what they have posted, even though they are one in the same, but post the latest in anticipation of a change at different times.




We also check on weather.com who rely on their own meteorologists and often they will have a slightly different report. One doesn't lean in one direction more than the other and they are all looking at each other's work we guess.

The Weather Channel

Search: Show me the weather in... city, zip, or place **FIND ME**

85° Redmond, WA (98052) **ADD LOCATIONS**

Today Hourly 5 Day **10 Day** Weekend Monthly



IMPROVE YOUR INVENTOR MANAGEMENT
Learn how with our free eBook

Redmond, WA (98052) 10 Day Weather

3:47 pm PDT [Print](#)

DAY	DESCRIPTION	HIGH / LOW	PRECIP	WIND	HUMIDITY
TONIGHT APR 26	Mostly Clear	--/49°	0%	NNE 8 mph	58%
FRI APR 27	Partly Cloudy	65°/48°	10%	SSW 12 mph	70%
SAT APR 28	Light Rain	52°/46°	80%	SSW 7 mph	86%

From here, we then look at what the TV networks are reporting. King 5 is reporting this.

KING 5 NEWS

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Location: [Redmond, WA](#)

HOURLY FORECAST **10 DAY FORECAST**

THURSDAY APR 26	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Sunny 79°/49° 0% 8 MPH NW	63°/47° 10%	51°/46° 80%	55°/46° 60%	53°/45° 60%	62°/45° 20%	67°/48° 10%	73°/49° 10%	71°/49° 10%	69°/49° 10%

[Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)

Notice this is the report for Redmond and not Seattle? Believe it or not, the two have different rain patterns. In this case, Seattle shows a 20% lower chance of rain at the time I posted this example.

Here is what KOMO is reporting.

KOMONEWS.com 77° Search

NEWS WEATHER TRAFFIC SPORTS HEALTHWORKS TV RADIO LIVE REFINED SEND A TIP CIRCA WATCH LIVE

Seattle, WA Enter ZIP Code

77° Clear

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Showers	Showers	Showers	AM Clouds/PM Sun	Mostly Sunny
81° 51'	63° 49'	54° 48'	58° 48'	55° 47'	64° 46'	70° 50'
0%	10%	80%	60%	50%	10%	10%

Notice they are both reporting the same thing? This isn't always the case. Sometimes we have to average from all the networks and compare it to the big services. In this case, they are all reporting about the same. Even then sometimes they ALL get it wrong. Remember the Ferrari day that it rained all morning? That was not in the forecast.

Q13 FOX NEWS THIS MORNING LINKS SPORTS WMW PICK MY PET APPS SCHEDULE TRAFFIC WEATHER 77°

CURRENTLY 77°

HUMIDITY 25% PRESSURE 29.93 IN WIND NW AT 5MPH

TODAY LOW 51° HIGH 77° PRECIPITATION 0%

INTERACTIVE RADAR

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FRI 27	SAT 28	SUN 29	MON 30	TUE 1	WED 2	THU 3
Mostly Cloudy	Showers	Showers	Showers	AM Clouds/PM Sun	Mostly Sunny	Sunny
49° - 63°	48° - 54°	48° - 58°	47° - 55°	46° - 64°	50° - 70°	52° - 76°
Precip 10% Wind SSW at 14MPH	Precip 80% Wind SSW at 8MPH	Precip 60% Wind SSW at 8MPH	Precip 50% Wind SSW at 7MPH	Precip 10% Wind SW at 4MPH	Precip 10% Wind N at 8MPH	Precip 10% Wind WSW at 5MPH

We still keep looking... even though in this case we're convinced it's going to rain.

The screenshot shows the KIRO 7 website's weather page. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the KIRO 7 logo, social media icons for Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, and a Google Custom Search bar. Below the navigation bar, there are links for LIVE, WEATHER, NEWS, KIRO 7 APPS, JESSE JONES, SPORTS, TRAFFIC, and VIDEO. The main content area features a large weather card with a sun icon, a temperature of 77°, and the text 'Clear Feels like 77°'. To the left of the temperature is a photo of meteorologist Nick Allard. Below the photo are the 'ams' logo and social media icons for Twitter and Facebook. To the right of the temperature card is a video player titled 'KIRO 7 PinPoint Weather video for Thur. morning' and a button to 'Download the KIRO 7 PinPoint Weather App'. Below the video player are weather details: Wind N @ 9mph, Humidity 25%, Pressure 29.93in, and Dew Point 39°. Below these details is a 'Forecast by Meteorologist Nick Allard' section with a 'Share' icon. At the bottom, there's a 6-day forecast table:

THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
0%	40%	60%	30%	20%	
SUNNY	COOLING OFF	RAINY & BREEZY	SCATTERED SHOWERS	A FEW SHOWERS	A FEW SHOWERS
81° 54°	64° 53°	57° 52°	56° 49°	58° 48°	60° 47°

As you can see, this weather forecast is different from the others at 60% so we then have to average what the stations are reporting.

So, what about what your phone is telling you? Well, that's because if you have an iPhone, it comes from one source, weather.com. If you have an Android, it comes from Weather Underground, who is, by the way, our most reliable source, but NOBODY gets it right every time. We take both of those into consideration at the top.

If each report is very different, we just average them to come up with a number, or if we see a trend either towards better weather, or worse, we will hold off six hours and wait for the next report. Sometimes when it's close, we call get on a call and discuss it as a group.

Yes, we put this much effort into getting it right, and we do it every week, but sometimes they all STILL get it wrong, but most of the time, they are mostly right. We not in the biz. We just know how much trouble some have to go through to be a part of E@RTC so we take the time to do our best on the subject.

We get calls from transporters who are bringing cars in trailers. That's not cheap! We think about them and the cost to attend E@RTC, or burning up our volunteer time, or all the folks that come up from Portland, down from Vancouver, over from Spokane and we even have a group from Montana that drive all night to get to E@RTC. Some of these cars need temporary road permits, some require special fuels, etc., so it's not as easy as just a few guys standing around in a lot.

We want to make it worth their trip over. We also have volunteers we don't want to burn out by tying them up on a rained-out Saturday. RTC has security people to assign too. Yes, we have security at E@RTC. We also have people with hotels, reservations with Gram-Gram, or to have that pesky wart removed and don't want to cancel their appointment. The point is, we're doing all we can to get it right. We hope this all helps you understand that there is more to it than just a wet finger.

We will see each other one of these days. This gives you more time to get even fatter than the last time we saw you.

April 21, 2018

Meteorologists Outnumber Us This Season!

It's amazing how many meteorologists we have at E@RTC this season who possess the magic phone that does a better job than NOAA and all the other pros! We're stunned and amazed! We've written before about the accuracy of NOAA and we try and have fun with it, but it's always the same kids and rookies complaining again and again. Never mind the advanced degrees and cool gadgets the real guys have or how many concur with their conclusions who also have cool stuff. Somehow these kids know better and we should trust them. Nope, not going to happen. These kids always seem to know what's best for everyone at E@RTC anyway. But do they volunteer to help? Naaaah! That would mean actually doing something.

Do we sound a teeny bit cranky about this? You bet! We put up with it at the beginning of each season and it's always kids and newbies and those who think this is all about them who email us to complain about the weather mistakes someone else makes. Again, please call NOAA,

NWS, Weather Underground, weather dot com, KING, KIRO, KCPQ, KOMO, the cows in the field, the guy under the porch, and send back the Magic 8 Ball to express your deep dissatisfaction with the forecast. Not us.

We all get tired of the peanut gallery on this. I'm not going to rehash our history and the weather here because we've tried just about everything and are confident in our routine for the highest level of satisfaction possible or no money back. We can always tell the rookies and kids from the adults because they are the ones who complain the most as if our volunteers should be at the snap of their fingers and show up, should NOAA and the others get it wrong.

For those who wish to learn about us and how we think about this, keep reading.

E@RTC requires a lot of volunteers to put this event on each Saturday. It also requires RTC to staff up. These volunteers give up their early Saturday mornings to come out and help us put on a fantastic show and the season-long commitment is not trivial. We have equipment to move, lots to organize and it's a lot of behind the scenes work. (Notice those who complain the most don't lift a finger to help?) The **ONLY** time our volunteers get a Saturday off all season is when we're rained out. Sure each may take one or two Saturdays off, but they make a huge commitment to be there for you and we don't abuse it. (We actually consider others in what we do.) We need continuity of our volunteers and it's not easy and they deserve a lot of thanks.

We rely on NOAA, as we've said in other posts. We read what's called the National Weather Service Scientific Forecast Discussion and we check every source there is, but the NWS is continually the most reliable and the foundation that the others use in their forecast modeling. If the chance of rain is 30% or higher on the late Thursday afternoon before the event, we call it off so people can make other plans. The volunteers can go do something else and actually plan their weekend, RTC can release staff and not move benches, tables, etc.

Some participants and spectators have hotel reservations to cancel, some have complex logistics to get out of the way, including trailers, cars to move in their collections, and none of it is easy to coordinate. Some of these kids who complain have no idea how much work goes on behind the scenes because they are just spectators and don't have the logistics outside of crawling out of mom's basement. Some newbie in an old Ferrari trying to impress us, doesn't at all. It's just the opposite.

We also have to coordinate with Redmond Town Center and they too have costs in all this. So the less we're sending them running around on high probability of rainy days, the better we're all off. We still manage to get the same number of events in each season, somewhere between 20 and 21, year after, and it doesn't matter if we start in February or May. It rains about the same number of Saturdays. It's why we stopped beginning our season that early. It was damn cold too.

What makes our event so much fun is big turnout. Low turnout burns up volunteer time, money, etc., and people don't like to hang around where there are few spectators to participate in the

show. It's not the best way to have our opening day when we get so many really special cars. We don't want to risk opening day on a low turnout either.

We want a big show and we'll get one when the weather is better. There is a small pocket of rain right over my house as I write this... Bottom line is please be patient with us, there is far more to this event than just you.

We're Rained Out Again! What The...???

April 19, 2018

We're rained out. Sorry!

For those new to E@RTC, we're rained out if the chance of rain in the National Weather Service Area Forecast Discussion and summary shows a 30% chance of rain or higher on the Thursday afternoon's report. Why? Nobody wants to stand out in the rain, we end up with a poor showing and few people have a good time. Oh sure, there is that occasional tweaker but they have no idea where they are anyway and are just passing through on their way to Fresno. They probably wintered in Forks. I have no idea why.

We call it on the Thursday afternoon because too many people come a long way and have to make hotel reservations and this way they have time to cancel and still get their money back. Sometimes NOAA gets it wrong. Complain to them. We're not the ones on the roof with binoculars, a flag, and a cup.

We get a lot of email if we're "on" or "off" and we're just not answering it anymore because it burns up too much of our time when we post it everywhere on that Thursday afternoon. We get people who ask us early in the week if we're going to have E@RTC that Saturday and again, buddy, we're not the ones on the roof, with the binoculars, a flag, and a cup.

Then we get those who want to argue with us about the weather who claim to have their own binoculars, flag, and a cup, but it doesn't matter because the National Weather Service has professional grade binoculars, a flag, and a cup. We listen to them, even if they are wrong once in a while.

We get hate mail about two topics; is my car exotic enough, and the weather. We do our best to get them both right, so give us a break. We're sorry and we will try again next Saturday. See you then...If we're not rained out.

April 12, 2018

E@RTC Is Canceled Due To Predicted High Levels Of Atmospheric Dihydrogen-Monoxide

We have canceled E@RTC because the predicted levels of atmospheric dihydrogen-monoxide exceed acceptable levels in the region. As you all know, prolonged exposure can lead to physical discomfort, and may cause corrosion to some unprotected metal surfaces. Such exposure will eventually dissolve any known substance and we just can't take such risks. It is the leading cause of land erosion, so there is that.

While commonly used as a food additive, excessive amounts have been known to actually be harmful. Most people faced with such high levels simply remain indoors and limit their exposure as much as possible. Besides, we only have one volunteer who's actually certified to work in extremely dense levels of the substance while breathing specially blended gases to survive such environments. It's how he can afford a Lamborghini.

We will try again next weekend...which is already looking like it will have more acceptable levels.

Are You Canceled This Weekend??? Wut?

I don't know how to make the words blink on our banner. We're getting a lot of email about if we're on or off, even though we have a big green banner on our front page in case you missed it. You can also receive text messages by signing up on our contact page with the latest news if we're on or off. This way you just get a text message and don't have to email us. We also let you know on Facebook so you don't have to email us. Yet, in spite of all that, we will STILL get email asking the question. We don't want to just not answer, but come on!

Salish Lodge

I had a meeting with Chris Roberts about valet parking at Salish and their new policy. As you know, they get really slammed, especially after E@RTC when so many people run up there for lunch. Well, not, "slammed" in the physical sense, but in the very busy sense of the word for those of you visiting from Fresno. There is no way for the valets to take the time to have everyone self-park, etc., so they are now valet-only and they know what they are doing. Don't go bugging them to park your own car.

If you're going as a group, give the valet stand a call before you head up, at 425-831-6539. (I checked the number so you're not calling some gram-gram in Iowa.) Let them know ahead of time so they can get some cars moved, but you're still not parking yourself, so don't even ask, please. They have enough logistics to worry about. It's only under very rare circumstances where your car's value is seven figures or more, then it's worth a talk, but please call first.

They couldn't be a nicer bunch of guys, and they have been helping us since our first season, but the place has become a real madhouse on nice days and they are just trying to manage a lot of stuff all at once. Thanks again Chris for all you and your team does for us up there. It's still everyone's favorite place to take friends from out of town. They get especially busy after E@RTC, so call and let them know you're heading up if there is more than one of you.

We hope to see you all next week, assuming acceptable conditions.

April 4, 2018

We Are Rained Out For Opening Day!

Well, we're rained out for Saturday. It will be full-on squishy all day with squish continuing into the night. This means we're canceled for this one day!!!

Someone asked the question if this news means we have no opening day...I had to think about that one for a moment... No, it just means we wait a week and try again...and again...and again... until Mom Nature decides not to water on a Saturday morning. I think what they meant was is it less festive the next time around if we cancel. The answer is, it just increases our overall festiveness when it does happen. Festiveness goes up about 5% a week in anticipation until opening day happens.

For those of you new to E@RTC, we cancel if the Thursday's chance of rain for Saturday is 30% or more. This means, the weather folks, NOT us, occasionally get it wrong. We live with the shame.

Bring the BMW Heroes of Bavaria to ACM

The folks at America's Car Museum down in Tacoma who are always fooling around, have a very cool project in the works involving bringing an entire BMW Heroes of Bavaria collection of cars to the museum. They started an Indiegogo campaign and this is a good one. It's very cool stuff and it's a great way for the museum to pull the cars we all want to see. Please check out the page and do what you can to help get these cars out here. Let your BMW friends know about it. We know there are a lot of you out there. You can't all be cheap bastards.

I know we're all itching to get the season started. Maybe not itching exactly, but we're all eager for sure. It's going to be our biggest season ever judging by the substantial quality of email we're already receiving. Web traffic is way up, and so is the use of laundry soap. We have more dining choices this season. Some will take advantage of the Original, copy of the Pancake House, a place I love. The toasted coconut pancakes are worth stabbing your hand with a fork.

See you next week! (Yes, weather permitting... and that you did all your paperwork with the warden.)

March 31, 2018

One Week Countdown To Our First...Possible Rain Out?

It's not looking great for opening day on the 7th but if you're new to us, we don't make that call until the Thursday before the event. The reason we do it Thursday afternoon is because it gives people time to cancel hotel reservations and get their money back and stuff. It also gives people a window to not clean a car and instead go get a good waxing.

We will keep you posted as we get closer to Thursday. We're all excited to kick off our new season with all of you. We think it will be our biggest and best season to date! Can you believe we will be starting season ten?

See you all soon!

March 25, 2018

Less Than Two Weeks To Go!

We are getting a lot of email already about the upcoming season of E@RTC. Some are looking for hotels, others are looking for admission prices, even though it's free, and others want to know if their car is exotic enough. Nobody ever asks how to get to Fresno, ever. Hold up your hand if you're from Fresno. See, nobody admits they are from Fresno.

We are getting more volunteers who want to be volunteers and we're happy about that. We always needs lots of help each season, however that said, this is a lot of work and what's in it is the fun of hanging out with a bunch of guys who have a great time together and are there to see the joy in others who come out to see these marvelous machines. That makes it worth it for me.

We will be posting directions to our new entrance this season in our attempt to make it easier for cars to line up and get in. We're getting bigger and, well we need the elbow room.

Adam Langsbard who is the new CEO of America's Car Museum will be joining us on the 7th, assuming we're not rained out. Adam is new to the area, having taken on his role late in the year. Come out and say hi to Adam and introduce yourselves and give him a warm Northwest welcome...If there is such a thing. Well, at least there is at E@RTC. Adam is a great guy and we wish him all the success in the world in his new role. The museum will also be bringing a couple of cars as often as possible.

We have lots of surprises in the works for this season and one of the bigger changes is we've reduced theme days because it was just too much to manage and coordinate, so we made it

about nationality of cars; German, Italian...Trinidadian...no scratch that last one. They are all on our events page. More stuff will be added throughout the season.

Opening day always brings surprises so don't miss it. Some of us get shockingly fatter over the winter and that's always good for a laugh. For most of us, we just look a little older and can't remember names until we get home later that day or in the shower and look down and remember, Dick!

See you all on the 7th! More posts between now and then I promise.

March 19, 2018

Nineteen Days to Go!

Can you believe it? It's almost like we woke up from a coma but without all the tubes and "get well" balloons tied to our beds. It's hard to believe how fast this winter flew by and how much work there was to get ready for this new season of E@RTC. We didn't have time to hit the spa or nothing. It was all work, work, work... Some of us took advantage of the new yoga center at Redmond Town Center and can now tweeze our own backs, but so what. You want to know what we have planned this year. Well, it's bigger and better than ever.

We had our volunteer meeting to count who was still alive and to make sure everyone still liked each other. They did, so then we ate a lot of pizza and laughed about the highlights from 2017. We have a few new faces joining us this season and we will be looking for more volunteers to help us with all the fun stuff we have going on this year.

We will have an all new entrance this year as well. We didn't actually build anything, it's all the same asphalt and stuff, but we changed how you come in to make it easier to show up and be in line to get in. We had to make the change to keep the cars off Bear Creek so don't get mad as I think it will ultimately help you get parked even faster than before. We're always looking for ways to improve the event you've come to know and love.

It's long overdue that we give a shoutout to the valets up at Salish Lodge for their many years of support as it's always where some people go after E@RTC. Those guys have been very good to us going back years before Nick got dragged out the window of an LFA like a beached beluga giving birth. Thank you Chris and the others for all you do. The valets have always done an outstanding job for us and we much appreciate it. The food is also very good so there is that too.

Opening day is often close to our biggest day of the season so it's not one to ever miss. We're working on opening up even more space than ever before for your viewing enjoyment. The volunteers have been working on their pointing skills all winter and some even went so far as to attend drool management classes. Apparently, bad habits were ruining date night, but I digress.

I will be posting a lot more as we get closer so please keep checking back here for the latest news and information.

March 3, 2018

Gearing Up For Season Ten!

Can you believe it??? We've made it to ten seasons! Some of you couldn't drive when you first came out. Okay, some of you still can't, but most of you are now showing up and participating and we're thrilled to have you back again and again! Thank you for getting us this far! It means a lot to us.

Next Saturday is our volunteer kickoff meeting which will soon be followed by a volunteer drive for this upcoming season along with the usual assignments. The same cast of characters are all returning but we've gotten to be so big that we're now dividing roles to keep from burning any one volunteer to a crisp. By October we all look like George Hamilton without ever hitting a tanning bed or spending five minutes in the sun. We just kind of crisp out from the early mornings and long days.

As usual, we have a lot of surprises in the works. I'd write them all here, but then that wouldn't be much of a surprise. The season will again be improved with more sponsorships to help us bring you the best possible event.

All winter long we've been receiving requests to advertise other people's events, or somehow raise money for some other charity and we just can't do it. We have enough on our plate just running our event. We also have a lot of folks who want to somehow "partner" with us, for their financial gain, and that's just not something we can do. We only take limited sponsors for that reason. We're not out to be difficult, but it doesn't make sense to have volunteers to work to promote someone else's business.

We're also getting a lot of, "Is my car exotic enough?" questions before they look at the qualification page. The question is often overwhelming by volume and tenacity, especially when we get up to ten a day. If it's not spelled out on our list, then write us and we're happy to help, but we have way too many who know then answer based on the list who then want to argue with us.

Keep in mind, each season, our goal is to put on an event that people want to drive a great distance to see that's memorable. It often comes down to that test, do we think anyone would drive a long way to come see that car? After all these seasons, it's still annoying to have people argue with us when we're here to make the best possible show. Still, come out to the show, and if you're still unsure, ask one of the volunteers to look at your car and they can quickly tell you what works and what doesn't.

We've also been setting up plans all winter with the folks at America's Car Museum so stay tuned for that as well. We're down to just five weeks before our season begins so we're getting busy making sure everything is in place. We're excited to start another great year!

January 18, 2018

We Lost a Great One

We lost one of the great ones two days ago. I'm not exaggerating even a little. We got word that Tom Armstrong passed away after a brief illness. People use that term a lot; "great ones" when they say a few nice words about someone, but if you ever knew Tom he lived the term every day. He had a successful business career, he and Susan were avid racers and were well-known in classic car circles. It seemed like everyone connected to cars in the Northwest knew him somehow.

I only met Tom a few years ago. It was about the time he was handing over the Kirkland Concourse to America's Car Museum and we were still trying to decide what to do with our Stay-Cation event. Others kept telling me I need to meet Tom and when we finally met, almost the first words out of his mouth were, "How can I help?" Tom used those same four words numerous times when we met and it kind of underscored the giant impression he left on me.

As I've gotten older, I tend to spot those moments when I meet someone who's truly special and someone who lives the ideals we all wish we could reach. Tom made it look effortless. John Atzbach and I were talking about what a remarkably nice, giving, person he was and how he had this way of connecting with people by looking them straight in the eye as he talked. John commented, and I seconded the thought, that Tom was the kind of guy we both wished we were more like. He was our idea of the perfect gentleman. I never heard him brag about anything or put himself first and he was always thinking of others. He always asked how things were going with us at E@RTC, and after hearing our ideas would always say, "How can I help?"

I and the others who make up E@RTC feel extremely lucky to have spent what little time we had with him. I think those who got to know him over the years were far more fortunate. What passed through my mind when John and I were talking that morning, was the regret that I didn't know him better than I did. He was one of those people who made my mind race with questions about his life and how it all happened. I thought about it after and realized that my questions were the result of a wish to be more like him.

When we last spent a little time together, Tom talked like he had a keen awareness of his mortality. He still wanted to get as much done as he could and he wasn't going to slow down. Tom bridged the gap for us between E@RTC and America's Car Museum and set a great foundation for our future working together. He brokered that relationship that finally got us talking for the first time. It was through Tom that we met so many others. He opened a lot of

doors. This is a big loss for the car community and we can't thank Tom enough for all he's done. Our thoughts are with Susan and all of his family.