

Fast Times



Sports Car Club of America - Yellowstone Region 108
<http://yellowstonescca.com>

Meeting Minutes — No December Meeting



Regional Officers:

- Regional Executive:**
Chris Brewer
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- Competition Chairman:**
Randy Roberts
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- Secretary/Treasurer:**
J. Reuss
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- Member-at-Large:**
Dwight Gilliland
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Midwinter Ramblings- By the Roving Regional Reporter

The fellow in the photo to the right of the masthead is the subject of the next "Member Profile." If you happen to run across that (retired) gentleman, tell him that you look forward to his bio and photos of past vehicles. The time and location of the Region's year-end party are still up in the air, but will likely be decided at Tuesday's membership meeting. With the due date of Chris' better half rapidly approaching, it was decided that alternate locations should be scouted. Stay tuned. In other

news, Friend-of-the-Region Lara Tallman's Nissan race team has added a 370X to its pair of Continental Tire ST-class Altimas. As you may recall, Lara's team won the season opener at Daytona last January (although *Autoweek* has apparently forgotten that fact!) The Montana SCCA Region has reportedly recruited sufficient manpower in the form of fresh board members to secure their ambitious schedule of events at Helena, Malmstrom, and other Great Falls sites. On the home front,

the Region turned a small profit in 2013 and added a significant number of new members. (Ironically, \$400 of that profit has been sent to the IRS with the Region's application for tax-exempt status.)

Last, the Region's timing trailer has been relocated to Randy Robert's shop where it will undergo some long-overdue maintenance/repairs prior to the 2014 season. Some "work days" will be scheduled shortly. Hopefully, "many hands will make light work."



What's Brewin'? — From the RE



Some of you may have seen the posting on the Region's Facebook page that Dave Kirk from Bozeman was selling his 2005 supercharged Lotus Elise. The car has served as the "covergirl" for the Region's Facebook page since its inception. I am happy to report that Dave sold the beautiful (and fast) car in less than two week's time, but sad to hear that the car is headed for Seattle. I was curious to know what Dave's plans were to replace the "Autocross Orange" Elise. For those of you who have

known Dave for a while will not be surprised to learn than the former Birkin owner is going back to a Super 7 clone. However, this time, Dave has settled on a "Westfield Mega S2000." The fiberglass-bodied English kit car looks like a modernized Super 7, but the real surprise is the 240 hp Honda S2000 motor. Using the unit from the S2000 means an already inline configuration (as opposed to transversely located units. Westfield is UK's largest kit car manufacturer, but they can also build it for you.



Randy's Ramblin's — From the Comp. Director



Following the news of a supercharger kit for the Honda CR-Z being developed by HPD (Honda Performance Development) in last month's issue, I noted with interest the article in the December 23rd issue of *Autoweek* concerning Honda's announcement that a family of turbocharged engines will join its lineup in the next few years.

Called VTEC Turbo, the initial offerings will include a 1.0-liter three-cylinder and two 4-cylinders in 1.5- and 2.0-liter displacements.

According to Honda, the 1.5-liter is capable of 202 hp and the 2.0-liter VTEC Turbo is expected to produce 280 hp! The engines will use direct gasoline injection, an electronic wastegate, a "high-tumble" intake port design (whatever that is) and the requisite idle stop system to boost fuel economy. The CVT transmission will remain the volume offering, but the company will also introduce an 8-speed dual-clutch transmission with a torque converter. Honda claims the converter will smooth initial acceleration.



The Finish Line — From the Webmaster



The good news is that the "team" bought me a new camera for Christmas. The really good news is that the camera has a (200mm) telephoto lens that which should enable me to take action shots from more than 10' off the racing line. The long lens will also allow me to take more candid "people pictures." (I can never figure out why such a good-looking group of people is so camera-shy!) I have made reservations to use my "3-car Combo" gift card at Exotics Racing on January 21st in Las Vegas. The race track is located immediately west of the NHRA drag strip and the NASCAR on the northeast edge of Las Vegas. Choosing the cars to drive proved to be the "hard" part. Anyway, I rose to the challenge and picked a Lamborghini Gallardo P550 (550hp V10), Ferrari F430F1 (490hp V8) and a Nissan GT-R (530hp turbo V6. I will get 5 racing laps with each car preceded by "discovery laps" in a Porsche Cayenne GTS to learn the course. (I think I may break down and pay \$79 for on-board video.)

With Dave Kirk's Elise having "gone the way of the buffalo," we need a new

"covergirl" for the Facebook page. One idea I had was using a photo of a car being driven by the winner of the Region's "Grant Cameron Most Improved Driver of the Year Award." The new winner will be announced at the Region's year-end party, so the timing would be perfect! Last, I have heard rumors that Joel Gruver has (also) taken the "Miata plunge" and will be campaigning the 4-banger roadster this upcoming season. Looking forward to seeing the new "ride," Joel!



Monthly Region Meeting
January 7, 2014
GH&R Law Firm
 175 N. 27th Street
 Suite 903
6:00 p.m.

Websites
 Yellowstone Region 108 (Billings)
yellowstonescca.com
 Southwest Montana Region (Bozeman)
swmtscca.com
 Montana Region (Great Falls)
mtscca.com
 Eastern Idaho Sports Car Club
eirscca.com
 Big Sky Region (Missoula/Kalispell)
bigskyregion.org
 Absaroka Region Porsche Club
abs.pca.org
 Maui SCCA
mauiscca.net