

Fast Times



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

Meeting Minutes—December Meeting

The monthly membership meeting of the Yellowstone Region SCCA was called to order by Regional Executive Chris Brewer on Tuesday, December 6, 2011, at 6:06 p.m., in the GH&R Law Firm conference room.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: A motion was MS&P to accept without addition or correction the minutes of the October 2011 meeting as published in the November issue of *Fast Times*. (There was no November meeting.)

Treasurer's Report: Secretary/Treasurer J. Reuss reported the current checkbook balance, noted that no bills were outstanding, and indicated that the usual "donation" had been sent to Skyview H.S. for lot use. It was noted that the freezing of entry fees in 2011 and the providing of various discounts such as for rookies and members of other local car clubs resulted in the Region showing a net loss for the 2011 season.

Old Business: The specific date and location for a year-end social event for the Region will be established shortly and J. will email the information to everyone on the newsletter mailing list.

New Business: The Region's 2011 officers were re-elected for 2012 by acclamation. It was decided to reinstate the Region's two annual awards: the "Dick Hager Memorial Member of the Year Award" and the "Grant Cameron Most Improved Driver of the Year" award. Voting will take place at the January meeting.

A motion was MS&P to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Regional Officers:

Regional Executive:

Chris Brewer

region-exec@yellowstonescca.com

Competition Chairman:

Randy Roberts

comp-chair@yellowstonescca.com

Secretary/Treasurer:

J. Reuss

sec-treas@yellowstonescca.com

Membership Chairman:

Vacant

member-chair@yellowstonescca.com

Member-at-Large:

Dwight Gilliland

member-at-large@yellowstonescca.com

Member Profiles—by the Roving Regional Reporter

As noted in the previous issue, the long-delayed "Member Profile" feature is rolling out for 2012.

Our first profile is of member James W. "Jim" Coons. We all have witnessed Jim's prowess with his black "Subie" and have noted his frequent position at (or very near) the top of the results page. However, now we can learn "the rest of the story."

Jim is a retired architect whose passion for cars started when he was growing up in Great Falls

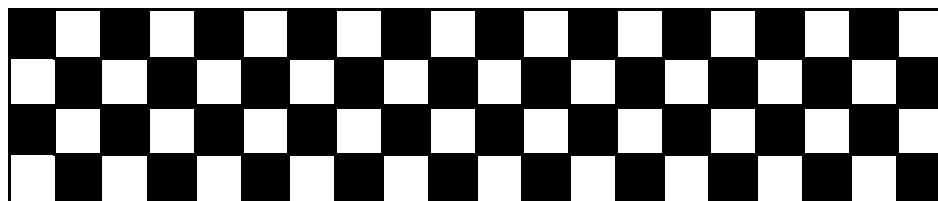
where many of the nice cars in town were owned by airmen stationed at Malmstrom AFB. In addition to his black 2004 Subaru STi, Jim also owns a 1964 E-Type Jaguar (that he bought in 1967 after saving money from a two summers fighting forest fires on a hotshot crew), a 2005 Mini convertible, and a 1972 365 Ferrari GTC/4.

Jim has come a long way from his first cars—a 1954 Ford coupe and a 1957 Ford Fairlane—that he and his brother used to chase jackrabbits with shotguns in the

wheat fields north of Great Falls.

Jim's SCCA debut occurred in 2004 when he bought the STi, but he regrets not have gotten involved earlier.

For Jim's full "Profile," check the Region's website and click on "Membership Profiles." (Jim uploaded to Skydrive some beautiful photos of his "rides" which I intend to download as soon as he revises the "sharing" information so they can be downloaded and the posted on the Region's website.)
 J.



What's Brewin'? — From the RE



I hope to see you all at the Region's Year-End Party. For those of you not familiar with "2324 Azalea," it is directly south of the Highlands Country Club and across the street from the "Fortin Mansion." At the next couple of meetings, the 2012 events calendar will be the primary focus of discussion. As you know, we lost the GM Petroleum site last year, so any new leads would be welcomed. You may or may not have heard, but the Yellowstone Drag Strip was sold at auction on December 8th to a buyer identified in the *Billings Gazette* as

Brett McKinney. We have no word yet of whether the site will be available for Region events. Cal Craner from the Eastern Idaho Region has proposed to schedule a couple of joint events in Montana and Idaho involving his Region, our Region and perhaps Bozeman. Because of the travel involved, they would probably be two-day events. Helena would be an obvious choice for the Montana event because Bozeman already schedules events up there. Wouldn't MetraPark be great for that? C.B.



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



What do the folks at the SCCA Solo Events Board do during the off-season? Change rule, that's what. The 2012 Solo Rules are not yet available on the SCCA website, but I picked up a few notable changes from the recent issue of *SportsCar*: In 2012, jack stand(s) need to be in place if someone is underneath a car that is jacked up; In Stock class, changes are now allowed to either front or rear swaybars, but not both; Street Touring and Street Prepared will get major upgrades with ASP moved to SSP and the

old BSP split between ASP and BSP; F125 is a thing of the past, and will now be called KM (Kart Modified) (Doug, I expect a full briefing at the next meeting). The "Rules Proposals for 2012" can be viewed under the "Downloads" section of the SCCA website. Keep an eye on that page for the appearance of a link to 2012 Solo Rule (draft) which deletes the "draft" reference fairly close to the start of the season. Don't forget, it's each participant's responsibility to know their car's proper class and associated rules. R.R.



The Finish Line — From the Webmaster



I am pleased to report that SCCA has accepted my request to be upgraded to Solo Safety Steward Instructor. Kurt Schulz' retirement from SCCA a couple years back left us without an instructor. As a result, the ranks of SSSs have slimmed quite a bit. At the present time, the Region is "skating pretty thin" with only two SSSs. Anyone interested in becoming an SSS should let me know.

ever sold (serial number #005) which will cross the block at RM Auction's Arizona event on January 20th. Presale estimates have the car selling at \$450,000 to \$650,000. The oldest production 1953 Corvette, #003, sold for \$1,080,000 at Barrett-Jackson's Scottsdale sale 6 years ago. The jalopnik site has some incredible content. The video featuring a 1500 horsepower twin-turbo Corvette is worth watching more than once. Also, I hate to ruin the ending, but the Bugatti Veyron is bested in a 1/4 drag race by the Nissan GT-R. Wow, what a website/"time burner." J.

In the November issue, I shared various leads I had accumulated regarding the next generation (C7) Corvette. Chris Brewer called recently with the most credible information (and images) yet. Chris uncovered the three images appearing on the upper-right side of this page on a website by the name of "jalopnik.com." Redesigns always invite comparisons, so I have provided the two additional images which seem to invoke similar styling schemes. The upper image is the new Nissan GT-R and the lower is a rendering of upcoming Acura NSX (not mid-engine anymore). You be the judge! As with most re-makes, they take a little time to "grow on you," but the new Vette looks pretty good right out of the box.

The photo on bottom is of the third Corvette



Monthly Region Meeting
January 3, 2012
GH&R Law Firm
 10 N. 27th Street
 Suite 100
 6:00 p.m.

Websites
Yellowstone Region 108 (Billings)
yellowstonescca.com
Southwest Montana Region (Bozeman)
swmtssca.com
Montana Region (Great Falls)
mtssca.com
Eastern Idaho Sports Car Club
eisccax.com
Big Sky Region (Missoula/Kalispell)
bigskyregion.org
Absaroka Region Porsche Club
vista.pca.org/abs/index.html