

Fast Times

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April 2000

Yellowstone Region
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The opinions expressed in this edition of Fast Times do not necessarily reflect those of the Yellowstone Region or of the Sports Car Club of America.

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Editor Notes:

You should take note of the "Member Status" that appears next to your address. If yours should read "guest" this indicates that you are not a member of Yellowstone Region. If you are participating I will continue to send you the Newsletter.

MEETING of APRIL 5TH

Minutes of SCCA-Yellowstone Region meeting of April 5, 2000:

Meeting called to order @ 7:34 PM at Bruno's. Motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting (as in Fast Times) seconded and passed.

Treasurer's report: Checkbook is current. All bills paid. Three bills presented and paid: \$25.00 for insurance and sanction fees ARCO-airport event; \$15.49 for boards for listing workers and event course as in last minutes, Fast Times; \$217.98 for a new canopy and table for registration, etc. at events. The bill for lettering the boards not yet received. The balance is \$1643.78.

Committee reports:

BMP: Status quo.

Car show: Show is at Bumper to Bumper, West End. Time: May 6 at 8:00 a.m. We will fall in with the rest of the clubs showing at the site. A flier will be mailed out with more info. Please be sure to read it for more precise information. Cary is planning on a "People's Choice" award. Volunteers are needed to tech, help with classing of cars, and Speed Freakz. So far we have Kurt for classing and Speed Freakz and Jim for tech. Assistants will be taken from the club ranks as necessary and possible. Please help out with your expertise in an area if asked. The race on the following day, May 7, starts at 10:00 a.m. Registration and tech closes at 9:30. If you didn't get your tech (including your helmet) at the car show, registration and tech opens at 8:00 a.m.

Rules Committee: The new boards with the worker assignments, etc. and a course outline were presented at the meeting. The worker positions and other necessary functions will be filled out and posted before any racing is commenced. Racers will do their share of working the course.

Wristbands will be handed out to all racers, passengers, and pit or controlled spectator areas after having signed the necessary waiver. If you have not signed the correct waiver and/or registered as necessary, you will not race or otherwise participate. Kurt will get the wristband, in two colors for members and non-members.

Cars that have been teched will get a green sticker, and helmets that have been teched will get a

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Notes from the RE

Here it is almost May and the Yellowstone Region is just about ready to go AutoXing. It sounds like Cary Devitt (and committee) have the car show well in hand. I just hope I can do as well with the AutoX part of the weekend. Speaking of the AutoX, I expect a large turnout. I wouldn't be surprised if we had our first 60 car event. I've heard of a lot of Neons coming, a bunch of hotrod Honda Civics, and a lot of DSMs. I'm also Emailing the Corvette club about the event.

In the latest copy of the RE News there is a breakdown on the membership of the club. Nationally we lost almost 1% in membership but Yellowstone was the highlight of the Rocky Mountain Division. We gained 5.33% in membership. Now that's only 4 members but we didn't lose any. I think one of the region goals for the year is to have a 20% membership gain. That's only 16 new bodies, IF we keep all the old ones. Come to the meetings-tell us what you want out of the region-get active, it's YOUR club and we need your help.

See you at the Races,

Kurt

YELLOWSTONE REGION



SHOW AND GO 2000!

MAY 6TH 2000 – SHOW
BUMPER TO BUMPER PARKING LOT
TIME: 8:AM LOCATION: 1809 KING AVE WEST

MAY 7TH 2000 – GO
LOCKWOOD SCHOOL PARKING LOT
TIME:8:AM LOCATION: 1932 US HWY 87 EAST

BUMPER TO BUMPER SHOW
SHOW OFF YOUR AUTO-CROSSER
+
2000 RACE SEASON TECH AND CAR CLASSING
SPEED FREAKZ INFORMATION BOOTH
PRE RACE REGISTRATION

PEOPLES CHOICE TROPHIES WILL BE AWARDED
FOR 1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD PLACE!!
ALL PAID ENTRYS WILL REICEVE A FREE DASH PLAQUE!
\$20 FEE WILL COVER BOTH SHOW AND RACE!!!!!!

LOCKWOOD COMMUNITY ED BENEFIT AUTOCROSS

BURN SOME RUBBER TO BENEFIT LOCKWOOD
SCHOOLS COMMUNITY ED PROGRAM!
ADDITIONAL TECH AND REGESTRATION
WILL BE HELD FROM 8:AM TO 9:30AM
AT THE LOT. RACE BEGINS AT 10:AM

PLEASE CALL (406)855-8559 OR (406)256-7994 TO RESERVE
YOUR SPACE FOR THE SHOW. REMEMBER SPACE IS VERY LIMITED!

WHAT TO EXPECT, but of course, we are always flexible

As much as everyone looks forward to the new season, there are a few of us that are looking towards May 7th with some trepidation. Will we have twelve competitors or sixty? Makes it a little hard to plan some things. All through last year we have made a number of changes and adjustments in an effort to streamline the events. I do feel we have made headway and I also know we can get a lot better.

I just completed the newsletter and also put together a new entry/tech sheet (which you now have a copy of on page four). Now since the last race of '99, we have been discussing some way to make the registration and tech process a little smoother. I, for one, was a proponent of going to an annual tech and a cursory tech at each autocross. But it was pointed out to me that we are required to tech each car at each event. So it was back to the old drawing board, or should I say, word processor. I went through our old form and removed some of the stuff that only pertained to either road racing or hillclimbs. Some items removed were in the tech sheet to aid in classing.

Not everyone will be able to make it to the Car Show. Of course you will miss out on pre-registration, getting some help classing your car and taking part in Jim's Safety Steward Class. So, I thought we might go for a practice ride to the first event.

Of course, you have already completed your own safety inspection on your car. No tires fell off and the engine is still holding all of its bodily fluids. Your car is built to run in the new Street Touring class to do battle with all of these Neons and Hondas coming out of the woodwork. So, you have done your part and you are on your way to Lockwood. You turn into the schools parking lot and ----- test your brakes, your horn, and maybe your blood pressure -----
THERE'S A LINE!

REGISTRATION

More than likely, you will see Ken Decker at the front of the line handing out the Entry/Tech sheets. He will be working with the first competitor in line. As the driver is filling out the top of the form, Ken will have the drivers and all spectators sign the appropriate waiver forms (Kurt is working on getting wristbands for proof of signature). Ken will check and put a sticker on your helmets to show that they are at least Snell85. **BE PREPARED TO SHOW YOUR DRIVERS LICENSE AND SCCA MEMBERSHIP CARD!** With these and the appropriate funds, Ken will initial the Entry part of your form and tell you to move to tech. ----- NOT ANOTHER LINE? ----

(A sidebar, if you will. CLASSING - We kind of avoid this because we don't have the manpower to have someone designated to do this. At least at this point (remember I'm the guy always looking for volunteers). By the book (SCCA), **"The driver is responsible for the correct determination of the car's class/category."** If you don't know, a good place to start is at SCCA's web site (www.scca.org). Check with other drivers with similar cars. Whatever it takes, you have to declare a class to be entered into the timing computer).

TECHNICAL INSPECTION

So you finally get to the head of the tech line. We'll say Jim takes your Entry form. You open your hood, he does his thing. You start your car, Jim finishes his checks. He initials the form and you are told to locate the work assignment board at the timing trailer and, you guessed it, **VOLUNTEER.**

At this point, hopefully the course is set up and you can be out walking it.

So, what's going on behind the scenes? Your entry form will be over at the timing trailer where your info is being entered. The Event Chairman or his Assistant will be making sure that all of the work assignments are designated and all competitors appear on the work board (if the number of competitors does not equal the number of workers - not a wheel turns). At 9:30 registration STOPS for the morning runs. At 9:40 Tech closes. Then we shoot for a driver's meeting at 9:45 and runs starting at 10:00.

Actually, I probably spent more time writing this than the whole process takes. So what's the problem? Any of the people who were involved in the above steps will tell you - an unusually high number of competitors wait until the last minute to finish registration.

Please do your part and don't be a SLUG during registration.

One last thought, keep in mind that the fees that you pay to race are used to mitigate the cost of the event. That is why we ALL have to work the events to pull them off.

Sincerely,



SOLO II ENTRY FORM



Event: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

SCCA #: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Drivers License #: _____

Phone: _____

Car Make: _____

Model: _____

Color: _____

Car Number: _____

Car Class: _____

Amount Paid: _____
Cash Check

Registrar: _____
(Insure Liability Release Signed)

TECHNICAL INSPECTION

(per National Solo Rules 3.3.3)

SAFETY EQUIPMENT

- Helmet – Snell 85 or Better
- Visor/goggles (open Cockpit)

VEHICLE EXTERIOR

- Car # properly Displayed
- Body panels secure
- Windows & windshield intact
- Hubcaps removed
- Fuel tank capped
- Neat and Clean

VEHICLE INTERIOR

- No loose objects in Interior
- No loose objects in Trunk
- Driver/Passenger seat secure
- Seat belt condition
- Seat belts secure

ENGINE COMPARTMENT

- No fluid leaks – Engine stopped
- Battery secure
- No loose wiring, hoses, etc.
- Throttle return action
- Firewall intact
- No fluid leaks – Engine running

SUSPENSION & RUNNING GEAR

- Steering linkage
- Wheel bearings tight
- Brake pedal pressure
- Wheels bent
- Wheels cracked
- Tires - no cord showing
- Tires - no cracks in tread or sidewall
- Lug nuts present and tight

APPROVED for competition by _____

(Continued from page 1)

sticker as well, which will be different for each event.

Old Business: The club helmet issue: Dave will donate a helmet to the club. The club should then have two helmets to loan. John Hailstone knows where to get Snell helmets for under \$100.00. Contact him if you need more information on this.

We need event chairmen for events five and on.

Cary will get the club trailer licensed as necessary.

New Business: There was much discussion about the Idaho portion of the Yellowstone Region. A bill was presented, as mentioned in the Treasurer's Report, for the insurance and sanction fees for their ARCO event in July of '99. The folks in Idaho, who are good people, basically run their own events as if they were their own region. It was agreed that they should form their own region, and relieve us of any liability when they use our charter without any control or oversight here. We have no idea what they are doing, unless and until we get a bill or such. Their membership fees go to our club, so we aren't out any funds unless something happens that would involve insurance claims, etc. We will get a dialogue going with them, and Kurt will talk to the National Office about the situation.

The Newsletter is a very important part of the club. Members should submit articles to Randy for possible publication in the Fast Times so that it is not just the secretary-treasurer and the editor whose voices are heard. Members do not necessarily have to author the articles, but submit things of interest to them and the membership written by others if necessary (with permission!). So, don't be bashful! Contribute to your newsletter!

A logo for the new canopy was discussed. Status is not known at this time.

The first race is coming up fast. It was brought up that maybe another meeting by the board and interested members was needed before the next regular meeting, which is just before the events of the weekend. We thought that things were moving along nicely and it would not be necessary.

We talked about giving out dash plaques for participating in each event, and it is a good idea. It was motioned and seconded to have 50 dash plaques readied for the Show and race. Further discussion will be needed to be sure that we can afford this for all events.

Motion to adjourn, seconded, and passed.

Thanks to all who attended.

Ken Decker

CONGRATULATIONS goes to our New Safety Steward Instructor JIM ARNETT

I am not sure that you all know that we have to have safety stewards at every event. Without them we cannot race. Currently we only have Jim, Dave Eberts, Dale Dinsmore (did you renew, Dale?), Marty Westland (a Bozeman type guy) and Kurt Schulz. Problem is that if the Safety Steward wants to race then there has to be another one at the event.

Now you may be wondering – How do I get to have the prestigious "S2" by my name on the SCCA Member Master File? Well here you go. Jim is going to put on a class. Part I of the class will take place at the Car Show and Part II will be done at the Autocross on Sunday. After that you need to work with the safety stewards at two more events. Then we send in the card and you are an S2 (Solo II Safety Steward).

So support your club and bring your common sense to Bumper to Bumper Car Show @ 1:00 p.m. on May 6th (approximately 45 minutes) and the practical instruction at the Lockwood Autocross at the lunch break (30 minutes).

I know I will be there just so I know who needs a rumor spread about them. Ah, the power of the press.

EXTRA, EXTRA, NEWSFLASH FROM BOZEMAN

The Autocross on May 28th has been confirmed via Jim Arnett. The event will be held at the Village Ice Garden parking lot. This is an ice skating rink located about 7 miles west of Bozeman at Four Corners.

Also in Bozeman, May 36 - May 29, will be the "29th Annual Big Sky Corvette Meet". So there should be a lot of the Veters around. They will be based out of the Holiday Inn and will have their own Autocross on Sunday at the Main Mall.



A View from the Blind Eye

you had 2 or 3 margaritas.

I looked back in the Fast Times to October. I had an article that indicated some of the areas that the club could use some help in. As one member said, "I just want to take this one thing and make it work this year." Just think if each one of us took a particular item and "just made it work." So as we head into the new season, you might look at an area of the club to help in. Don't be shy. Just remember – if you want to race, then you have to work, and there are only so many course worker jobs.

OK, so I took last month off – fire me – I dare you (OK, I'll pay you). Sometimes it's hard to pull stuff out of where the sun don't shine. I did write something as I was watching the new tractor pulls meets WWF (a.k.a. monstertrucks), but it was a lot better if

♠ DEADCONE ♠

SCHEDULE 2000

May 3 **General Meeting**
 7:30 pm@ Brunos

May 6 Car Show
 @ Bumper-to-Bumper

May 7 Autocross @ Lockwood

May 21 Autocross @ Skyview

May 28 Autocross@Bozeman
 Village Ice Gardens

June 4 Autocross @ Eagle

June 18 Autocross -- Lewistown

July 2 Autocross@ Columbus

July 15/16 Top Gun Autocross

July 16 ?? Autocross@ Lockwood

July 16 ?? Autocross@ Bozeman

July 30 ?? Autocross @ Eagle

Aug 13 Autocross @ Skyview

Aug. 19/20 Black Otter Hillclimb

Aug 27 ?? Autocross @ Columbus

Sept 3 ?? Autocross@Bozeman

Sept 8-15 Nat'ls -@ Topeka, Kan

Sept 10 Autocross -- Lewistown

Schedules for Neighboring Clubs
 can be found at the following WEB sites:

Montana Region (Great Falls)
<http://me.mygarage.com/scca.htm>

Eastern Idaho Sports Car Club
<http://www.ida.net/users/lewisr/eisccl1.htm>

Big Sky Region (Missoula/Kalispell)
<http://people.montana.com/~sharpguy/>

Northwest Hillclimb Association
<http://users.bitsmart.net/rainbowtees/nha.html>

Magic City Speedway (Billings)
http://www.magiccityspeedway.com/body_index.html

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Car Show Flyer
