

Fast Times



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

Meeting Minutes—April Meeting

The monthly membership meeting of the Yellowstone Region SCCA was called to order by Regional Executive Chris Brewer on Tuesday, April 3, 2012, at 6:02 p.m., in the GH&R Law Firm conference room. The attendance of prospective Region member Howard Gray was noted.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: A motion was MS&P to accept without addition or correction the minutes of the March 2012 meeting as published in the March-April issue of *Fast Times*.

Treasurer's Report: Secretary/Treasurer J. Reuss reported the current checkbook balance and noted that no bills were outstanding. J. reported the results of his research on entry fees charged by neighboring Regions. After some discussion, it was decided that the entry fees for 2012 would change to: \$25 SCCA members; \$35 Non-Members; and \$20 for (true) "First-Timers."

Old Business: A discussion was held regarding the initial (erroneous) announcement that the Region would have five (2) two-day events in 2012. In fact, the only two-day event planned at present is the 1st Yellowstone Drag Strip event (June 16-17). Depending on numbers at the first event, consideration will be given to making the second event a two-day event. J. will pick a date in May to hold a Solo Safety Steward training class.

New Business: Chris is putting together course designer assignments for the upcoming season which will be circulated by email. Appointees will be free to exchange events with others or to add co-designers. However, the chief designer must be known by the Friday preceding an event. A motion was MS&P to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:45 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

Member profile #4 features long-time member Dwight Gilliland.

Dwight's introduction to sports cars came when he was 4 or 5 years old, living in California. A college student who was renting a room from his family would occasionally take him for a ride in his MG TD. Ten years later in Billings, MT, he was racing off-road in a dune buggy he had built. Two members of the local sports car club came to an off-road meeting to invite members to an auto-

cross. Two weeks after that, Dwight got his driver's license, lowered his car, and took his first turn around a pylon. Life has not been "normal" since.

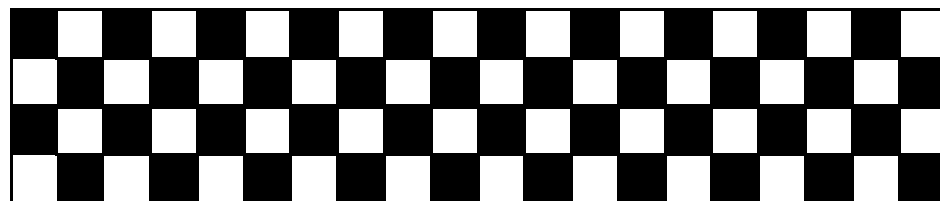
Another ten years and he was still autocrossing all over Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, and South Dakota in everything from a Bugeye Sprite to a Lamborghini. He soon graduated to road racing in cars ranging from a Caldwell Formula Ford to a McLaren-Match Can-Am.

After many years of listing

"Holiday Inn" as his permanent address, Billings, MT, called him back home.

His second attempt at building a dedicated autocross car resulted in the "Avenger" which has taken him to two 4ths, a 5th, and a 10th at SCCA Solo Nationals, and resulted in a National Championship for his wife, Kristi. He also has set new overall records at various events sanctioned by the Northwest Hillclimb Association.

Dwight and his wife are currently driving a Lotus Elan, Subaru WRX, and a dog sled.



What's Brewin'? — From the RE



I am sorry to report that we jumped the gun a bit on scheduling five 2-days events. Unfortunately, the ambitious schedule did not work with the owners of the event sites, so we are back to only one 2-day event for 2012,—June 16 and 17 at Yellowstone Drag Strip. Sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Our intrepid Solo Safety Instructor has scheduled a training session for prospective SSSs on Wednesday, May 16, 2012, starting at 6:00 p.m. J. promises that we

will finish by 7:30 if everyone does their homework. Contact J. for pre-class handouts, etc.

Based on the amount of emails the Region has been getting, we are expecting good numbers for the season opener tomorrow at Rimrock Auto. As with all early-season events, bring warm clothes, dress in layers, and don't forget the umbrella. I trust that all Region members and non-member "regulars" will make the new attendees feel at home. C.B.



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



No, the photo at the upper right is not my son Jake, but "kart fever" has clearly settled in at the Roberts household. Jake and I recently acquired a "junior" kart from another Jake—Jake Brown of Red Lodge. Older members will remember Jake Brown gracing the pages of *SportsCar* after participating at an autocross event at Metra at the age of 8! Jake Roberts is eager to follow in Jake Brown's footsteps. (My guess is that Jake will be whining for a shifter kart by the time 1-year-old brother Riley is big enough the

drive the junior kart.) Speaking of karts, Chief of Timing, Doug Hills, has upgraded his shifter kart from the original 85cc powerplant to a full 125cc. We eagerly await the debut of Doug's beefed-up ride. Back on the home front, my better half has advised me that since she provided the bulk of childcare during her 2011, autocross season, she looked forward to participating in many more events in 2012. Even with the probability of less driving time, it will be great to have the whole family participating. R.R.



The Finish Line — From the Webmaster



I have been getting quite a bit of positive feedback on the "Member Profile" feature. Based on birthdates, my profile comes next, with Brent Hergenraeder to follow. Keep in mind that I would be happy to add photos or additional information to any existing profiles.

Ever on the lookout for "project" cars, I spotted the beauty on the right when I was at the Kahului airport picking up the Newsletter Editor. I got the impression that the Mercedes-Benz 560SL had been there for some

time and that the airport authorities wouldn't mind if you towed it away. The 560SL is the culmination of the R108 chassis, a model run that lasted for 18 years, beginning in 1972 with the US introduction of the 350SL. The 560 was built from 1986 through 1989 and the price increased over that time period from \$48,200 to \$64,230. Production numbers were inversely proportional to the increase in price. The all-alloy 5.6 liter V-8 purportedly felt more muscular than the 227hp/279 ft/lb output figures suggest. The 3,700 pound car is still popular today due to its good looks.



2012 YRSCCA Solo Schedule	
Date	Location
May 6	Rimrock Auto
May 27	Skyview H.S.
June 3	Food Service
June 16-17	Yellowstone Drag
July 1	Skyview H.S.
July 15	Yellowstone Drag
August 12	Food Service
Sept. 2	Skyview H.S.
Sept. 23	Rimrock Auto

Monthly Region Meeting
June 5, 2012
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) swmtscsa.com
Montana Region (Great Falls) mtscsa.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