

Fast Times



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

Meeting Minutes—May Meeting

The monthly membership meeting of the Yellowstone Region SCCA was called to order by Regional Executive **Chris Brewer** on Sunday, April 26, 2015, at 7:20 a.m., at the Western Empire Emporium restaurant on King Avenue West in Billings. Meetings will be held immediately prior to season events.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: A motion was MS&P to accept without addition or correction the minutes of the April 2015 meeting as published in the April 2015 issue of *Fast Times*.

Treasurer's Report: Secretary/Treasurer **J. Reuss** reported the current checkbook balance and noted that all bills have been paid. J. reported that consistent with most years, SCCA has increased sanction and insurance fees for 2015. However, those in attendance reiterated the desire to keep entry fees at \$25 (members) and \$35 (non-members). A motion was MS&P to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Old Business: Yellowstone Drag Strip has provided confirmation for the two (2) events the Region has planned at the facility this season (5/17 and 8/9). J. and Chief of Timing, **Dean Johnson**, reported that the timing trailer had been cleaned out, restocked, and is "good to go" for the 2015 season.

New Business: J. reported that he had been in contact with the Glass Reunion Corvette Club to firm up plans for our joint event on May 24th. This year, we will be teching all the Corvettes on Sunday morning just prior to the event. Each of the Corvettes will get three timed runs, so they should be done before noon. Entry fees will be waived for regular and weekend members who work at the event in the morning.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:35 a.m.

Regional Officers:

Regional Executive:

Chris Brewer

region-exec@yellowstonescca.com

Competition Chairman:

Tucker Stewart

comp-chair@yellowstonescca.com

Secretary/Treasurer:

J. Reuss

sec-treas@yellowstonescca.com

Member-at-Large:

Steve Gruver

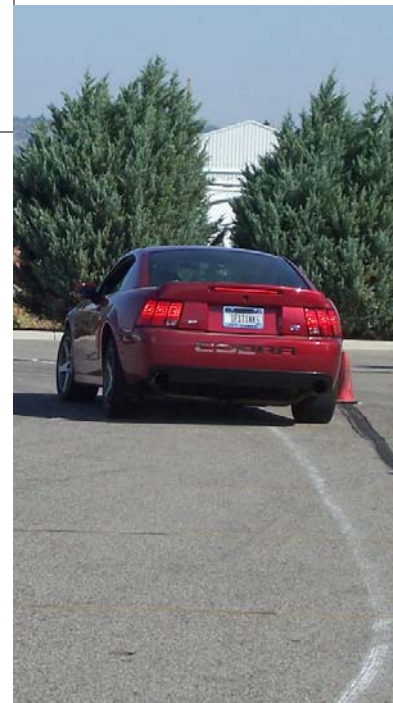
member-at-large@yellowstonescca.com

The Art of Racing in the Rain - by the Roving Regional Reporter

(No one was "racing in the rain" at the Region's first 2015 event at Food Services, but I thought that the title of Garth Stein's 2008 best seller was nonetheless appropriate for this article.) The weather looked so threatening at the start of the event, the Region delayed registration. However, approximately 20 hardy drivers were eager to kick off the season, so kick off the season they did! A series of mechanical and other problems put a few cars "on the trailer." **Woody Jensen's** CRX ap-

peared to have lost the "other" front axle, **Keith Francis** lost battery power in his 1995 Dwarf (Legends car), and **Seth Buckman** attempted to recreate the 1974 Dylan classic, "Tangled Up In Blue." However, 16 drivers actually posted times (although **Nate Sayler's** initial DNF confused the timing software which didn't report any of his times). I am not sure what you call a group of Miatas—gaggle(?), flock(?), herd(?)—but we sure had a mess of them! **Dean Johnson, Chris Brewer, and Tucker Stewart**

filled the top three spots most of the morning with their Miatas while 4th, 5th, and 6th places were occupied by **Steve Gruver** in his C4 Corvette, **James Reuss** in his 350Z Nissan, and **Jarek Peila** in his Subaru BRZ. However, right before lunch, **Orry Boettger** showed up with his new VW Golf R and literally stole the show by posting fast time of day on his first run! First-timers **Michael Ros** and **Nate Sayler** in their beautiful orange Camaros were definite crowd pleasers!



What's Brewin'? — From the Regional Executive



After finishing breakfast and prior to heading over to the Food Services site, **Dean Johnson** commented that the weather didn't look all that bad and perhaps the (gloomy) forecasts were in error. *Wikipedia* defines a "sucker hole" as "a short spate of good weather that 'suckers' sailors into leaving port just in time for a storm to resume at full force." Although morning temperatures barely reached 40 degrees, the lack of precipitation created a sense of optimism when we broke for lunch. Unfortunately, about

halfway through lunch, the heavens opened up. Weather radar on smartphones revealed that the "sucker hole" had passed and the rain was there to stay. In retrospect, commencing the event in clear violation of the Region's 50-50 rule was a probably a mistake. However, hopefully the (soggy) entrants will join the Region at the event on May 24th and enjoy free runs all afternoon to make up for the rain-shortened season opener! The Region will also host lunch on that day. C.B.



Race Notes — From the Competition Chair



I was told that **Orry Boettger's** new VW Golf R was delivered with 140 treadwear tires. Some of the previous rules for "Street Tire classes" allowed sub-200 treadwear tires if the car was delivered from the manufacturer with OEM tires of at least 140 treadwear. Checking the 2015 SCCA Solo Rules, I note under 13.3(C)(1) "Any tire which is OE on a car eligible for Street Category may be used on that car in Regional Solo events. OE tires must meet all requirements of Section 13.3 to be eligible for National Solo events."

So it appears that Orry can legally run in Street class in regional events, but if he enters National Solo events, he would likely be moved up to a Street Touring class. Interestingly, the new 650 HP Z06 Corvette's Michelin Sport Cup 2 tires carry a treadwear rating of 80 and the Pirelli tires on the new Z28 Camaro (505 HP 427 CID) have a treadwear rating of only 60! I am certain that those big sticky tires come at a hefty price, but as they say, if you have to ask, you probably can't afford it. T.S.



The Finish Line — From the Webmaster



I found a very interesting bit of trivia in the May issue of *Racer* magazine. Most racing buffs know that Jim Clark's (and Lotus') foray into Indy Car racing in the early sixties was a watershed event. However, the following makes it even more astounding: Clark's rookie test at Indy in 1962 was accomplished with a completely unadapted 1.5-liter Coventry Climax V-8 Formula 1 Lotus 25 with 186 hp! Clark's 4-lap average speed was 143 MPH—only 7 MPH slower than Parnelli Jones' 1962 500 pole time! If

you weren't at the season-opening event at FSA, you missed Chris Brewer's cool matte blue paint job on his formerly green Miata. Speaking of cool cars, Mark Francis' son, Keith, bought a used Legends car over this winter and debuted same at FSA. The car is powered by a 1,000 cc superbike engine and shows potential of being a killer autocross machine! Unfortunately, Ben Caudill's MGB did not make its debut at FSA, but perhaps it will be ready for Yellowstone Drag Strip. I am keeping my fingers crossed!



2015 YRSCCA Solo Schedule

Date	Location
April 26th	Food Services
May 17th	Yellowstone Drag
May 24th	Rimrock Truck
June 7th	Skyview H.S.
June 28th	Food Services
July 12th	Skyview H.S.
August 9th	Yellowstone Drag
August 23rd	Skyview H.S.
Sept. 13th	Food Services

Monthly Region Meeting
May 24, 2015
Breakfast meeting prior to Corvette event. Location and time TBA.

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