

Fast Times



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

Meeting Minutes—June Meeting (No May Meeting)

The monthly membership meeting of the Yellowstone Region SCCA was called to order by Competition Chairman Chris Brewer on June 2, 2010, at 6:30 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 April 2010 meeting as published in the May 2010 issue of *Fast Times*.

Treasurer's Report: Sec./Treas. J. Reuss announced the current bank balance and reported that there were no deposits or withdrawals in May. A Motion was MS&P to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Old Business: It was decided to "shelf" the idea of an event at Lewistown that would be sponsored solely by the Region. The Region does not presently have enough human resources to conduct an event at that venue. However, efforts by the Region to secure larger sites will continue.

New Business: Scott Cranston is looking into storing the timing trailer at GM Petroleum during the autocross season. The amount of hauling miles (and time) would be reduced significantly. However, it was decided that if the trailer is stored at GM, the timing system and computer would be stored elsewhere. J. provided an update on his efforts to determine if the Region was ever officially granted tax exempt status by state and federal taxing authorities.

A motion was MS&P to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:05 p.m.

Regional Officers:

- Regional Executive:**
Scott Cranston
 region-exec@yellowstonescca.com
- Asst. Regional Executive:**
Dwight Gilliland
 asst-region-exec@yellowstonescca.com
- Competition Chairman:**
Chris Brewer
 comp-chair@yellowstonescca.com
- Secretary/Treasurer:**
J. Reuss
 sec-treas@yellowstonescca.com
- Membership Chairman:**
Reese Newman
 member-chair@yellowstonescca.com
- Member-at-Large:**
Vacant

Hullabaloo on the Hill—by the Rovin' Regional Reporter

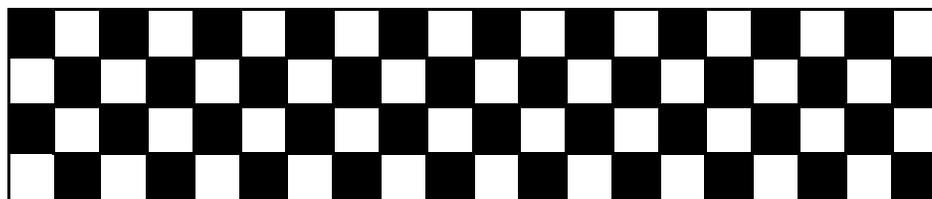
The Region "took to the hill" (Skyview) for its first solo event for 2010. Our very own Dave Marble—the handsome man pictured at the right—posted fast time of day honors based on "raw" time. Konrad Czezel placed first based on PAX time. Chris Brewer placed second based on both "raw" time and PAX time. Dean Johnson, Krissy Martin, and Kaitlin Reuss tucked in behind the front three. 22 Entrants took (at least) 8 runs putting the Region's new timing system to the test. Chris Brewer's course was long and challenging with most run times over one

minute. Rain clouds looked ominous, but other than a brief shower over the noon break, the course stayed dry. There were a number of interesting matchups: the Minis of Dave Marble and Chris Brewer; the Miatas of Dean Johnson, Tim Starns, and Mark Vargas; and the Mustangs of Jerry Tillinger, Mike Dailey, Gary Glasgow, Monte Steffan. Al Merkel debuted his Nissan 300 ZX and eked out a win against Reese Newman driving a 280 ZX Turbo that is owned by her "boy toy." (Reese provided the only real threat to the new timing system as she went sideways

through the start-finish area.) Randy Roberts, fresh off a Saturday trip to the Lewistown D.R.I.V.E. facility, debuted the VW Cabriolet formerly owned by Kurt Schulz. Randy was beginning to sort out the 1600cc "beast" when an oil leak put the car on the trailer. Randy reported that he has been having fun sorting out the "Kurtisms" in the vehicle. The newest member of the Region, Louis Samoville, showed some real promise with his Mercury Tracer. (Louis has posted a video of one of his runs on YouTube—a link is on the photos page for Skyview.) The



astute reader likely furled his brow when they noted the name "Tim Starns" in the same sentence as "Miata." No, Tim did not sell his Alfa, he merely added another nice car to his "stable." J.





Cranston's Corner — From the RE

At the first event of 2010, rust and cobwebs slowed the usually well-oiled autocross "machine" known as the Yellowstone Region. Only 10 entry forms in the registration materials didn't help things either. However, the event got underway at approximately 9:30 a.m. and there was plenty of time for all drivers to get 8 runs.

I think that registration and course setup will proceed significantly faster at the next event. The new timing system has survived its shakedown and the "friendly confines" of GM

Petroleum will not require the use of every cone owned by the Region.

For those of you who did not see Jeff Dahmert's article in the June *SportsCar*, national membership is up by 300 members so far in 2010. Mr. Dahmert believes that the slow decline in membership over the past few years might be ending. On the "home front," membership is down by a handful, but well within the usual fluctuations from season-to-season. However, new members are always welcome! SC (Sent from my BlackBerry Smartphone.)



The Finish Line — From the Webmaster

The rollout of the new timing system at the Skyview event pulled off with only a few hiccups. The AXWare System software delivered (pretty much) as promised. As is often the case with computer programs, "user error" is usually the culprit when problems develop. Things can also get interesting when 4 or 5 individuals are using (and learning) the program at the same time. However, everyone got up to speed quickly and there were only a few glitches during the event. If you haven't visited the website to view the Skyview results, I recommend that you take a

few minutes to do so. The tables on the results page are generated by the timing software in a matter of seconds. The information is printed in "HTML" format and can be copied to the website in just a few minutes. Assembling results pages previously took the better part of an hour—build various spreadsheets, enter car numbers, entrants, times, PAX factors, and then upload same. I had long since given up attempting that exercise on the night of the event. However, with the new system, uploading the results on the evening of an event is relatively easy. The tables generated by timing

software are easily editable if a mistake is noted, but it is often just as easy to go back to the timing data, make corrections as needed, and reprint the results tables. Entering drivers into the timing software proved to be a simple task. As I mentioned in a prior newsletter, the Region purchased a feature called a "membership module" with the software. This feature allows a master membership database to be merged into each event. Members of that database who register at an event are marked "registered." When registration is closed, a simple click of the mouse deletes all the non-registered entries. However, late entries are easily added "on the fly."

2010 YRSCCA Solo Schedule	
Date	Location
May 1-2	GM (cancelled)
May 15-16	Lewistown (with PCA)
May 30	Skyview H.S.
June 13	GM Petroleum
June 27	RAG Truck Center
July 11	Skyview
July 24-25	Lewistown (with PCA)
Aug. 8	RAG Truck Center
Aug. 21-22	GM Petroleum
Sept. 5	Skyview
Sept. 18-19	Lewistown (with PCA)

Monthly Region Meeting
July 7, 2009
GH&R Law Firm
 10 N. 27th Street
 Suite 100
6:30 p.m.

Websites
Yellowstone Region 108 yellowstonescca.com
Southwest Montana Region 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