

# Fast Times



Sports Car Club of America -  
Yellowstone Region 108

## Meeting Minutes—June Meeting

The monthly membership meeting of the Yellowstone Region SCCA was called to order by Regional Executive Chris Brewer on Tuesday, June 7, 2011, at 6:00 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 May 2011 meeting as published in the June 2011 issue of *Fast Times*.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sec./Treas. J. Reuss announced the current bank balance. A discussion was held regarding port-a-potty costs. Member-at-Large Dwight Gilliland will make some phone calls for competing prices and the possibility of a season-long rental will be investigated. J. identified the outstanding bills and noted a small profit on the YDS event. A Motion was MS&P to accept the Treasurer's Report.

**Old Business:** Competition Chairman Randy Roberts indicated that he would order one medium and one large loaner helmet. Chief of Tech Dean Johnson and Randy will follow through on an annual tech inspection procedure.

**New Business:** J. and Chief of Timing Doug Hills reported progress on achieving stability with the timing system and noted that bugs with registration networking were getting worked out. Doug indicated that he would look into maximizing the amount of time that run times appear on the display. A discussion was held about increasing social interaction between members and new(er) entrants. The schedule for the upcoming two-day GM Petroleum event was established.

A motion was MS&P to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:50 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

## “‘til the cows come home” - by the Rovin' Regional Reporter

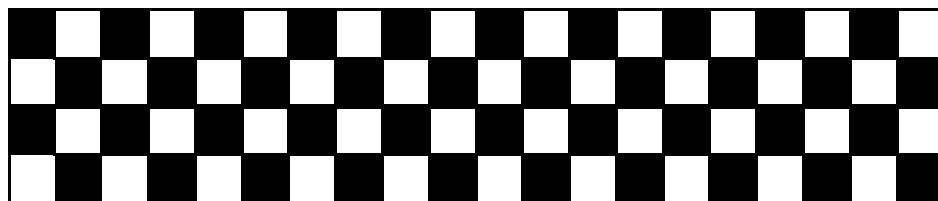
Although GM Petroleum is the smallest venue on the Region's calendar, it never ceases to be big on fun. The numbers were on the light side—15 drivers on Saturday and 17 on Sunday—but more runs for everyone (an average of 12 per driver each day) was the payoff. There were three “Guests of Honor” on Saturday evening competing for the most miles traveled to the event: Ron Ronchetto brought his “surviving” BMW from Wise River, MT; Dave Bartenhagen brought his BMW 2002 from Williston, ND; and Steve Gruver brought his beautiful red C4

Corvette all the way from New London, WI! Saturday night was billed as a “test and tune,” so times didn't count as much as fun and collegiality. Nevertheless, there was some pretty intense competition with 7 drivers being separated by only 1 second! R.J. Matthews edged out Doug Hill's card for FTD honors. Matt Walsh's Fiat—sporting a beautiful blue paint job, finished third overall. James Reuss was fourth and led 7 drivers who all had 40-second times. Pizza was delivered about 8:00 p.m. and folks ran until well after dark. Sunday morning was a bit on the

damp side, so the event started later than scheduled. The Region welcomed Tom Agnew from Big Timber, MT, with his Porsche Cayman S and Stephanie Haider from Billings with her beautiful red Porsche 911. About mid-morning, we had a visit from Angela Douglas from KTVQ; she featured autocross/solo on the “Angela's Adventures” series on Q2. (If you didn't see the feature live on the following Sunday, click the link on the Region's website to view the video.) Dwight Gilliland's Avenger “took no prisoners” on Sunday with FTD. Matthews and Hills took 2nd



and 3rd on Sunday. Scott Cranston's Porsche GT3 took 4th overall and was the first of 7 drivers who all had 38-second times. (The 2-second increase in times on Sunday was interesting because the course was not reversed on the second day of the event like it was last year.) Drivers take note—Gilliland's Avenger is for sale; however, if you are much taller than Dwight or Chris Brewer, you may not fit in it. Overall, GM was a blast!



YELLOWSTONE REGION  
SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AMERICA

## What's Brewin'? — From the RE



An interesting occurrence resulted in two "true" rookies attending the evening session at GM Petroleum. While Dave Bartenhagen from Williston, ND, was navigating his way to the event, he happened upon a young driver in a BMW who was driving somewhat "aggressively." Dave waved him to the side of the road. The young man thought he was going to get "chewed out," but instead, Dave suggested that he enter the GM event and avoid problems with Billings' Finest. A short time later, the BMW driver (and his co-pilot who rounded

up a Ford Escort to drive) showed up at GM, entered the event, and enjoyed a ticket-free evening. Experienced drivers accompanied the two on their first runs, but then they were on their own. It was fun to watch the skills of the young drivers improve as the night wore on. While I don't know whether I would have Dave's moxie in waving the driver over, the concept sure made sense. It might be a good idea to keep an eye out for young drivers in similar circumstances! C.B. (Sent from my iPhone)



## Randy's Ramblin's



After spending the last year promoting SCCA events on various state and local car club forums, I have come to the conclusion they are hobbled by a lot of bad publicity that has been generated over the years. If you are receiving this newsletter, you have obviously decided to become involved in our events. The key to finding new people is getting them to try it instead of listening to people who did not like something at an event they attended. As the competition chairman, I would greatly appreciate input

on new ways to draw positive attention to our sport. Although the weather has played a part in the lower attendance this year, we could really use a few more drivers. It is great for everyone to get twelve runs and be home early for dinner, but I think it would be worth a few less runs to bring in some new people. We are on the right path with the involvement of the KTVQ crew at the last event. If anyone has a good idea to recruit members, or drivers, please pass along your thoughts at the next race. R.R.



## The Finish Line — From the Webmaster



It was great to see Steve Gruver at the GM event on Fathers' Day weekend. For those of you who haven't heard the story, Steve, his wife Joanne, and his son, Joel, had been very active members of the Region until four years ago when employment opportunities drew the family to New London, WI. Although the Gruver family has lived in many different locations across the country, Steve says that that Billings felt the most like "home." Steve resumed employment with his former employer in Billings and set about looking for new "digs." As luck would have it, Dwight

Gilliland's father recently vacated the house that Dwight built for him in Emerald Hills. The Gruvers previously lived in Emerald Hills, so it was a perfect match. We are looking forward to seeing more of the Gruvers. (Steve reiterated his oft-heard mantra—"I'll do anything the club asks me to do, but I won't be an officer." ) Fair enough, Steve! FYI—I heard Steve added another Corvette or two to his stable and now has three or four. Joel is reportedly working on his second Mini Cooper since leaving Billings (something about a fight with a guardrail... ) J.



### 2011 YRSCCA Solo Schedule

Date	Location
April 17	Rimrock Auto
May 1	Food Service
May 29	Skyview H.S.
June 5	Yellowstone Drag
June 19	GM (Fathers' Day)
<b>July 10</b>	<b>Skyview H.S.</b>
<b>July 31</b>	<b>Yellowstone Drag</b>
<b>Aug. 13-14</b>	<b>GM Petroleum</b>
<b>Aug. 28</b>	<b>Food Service</b>
<b>Sept. 4</b>	<b>Skyview H.S.</b>
<b>Sept. 25</b>	<b>Rimrock Auto</b>

### Monthly Region Meeting

July 5, 2011

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)  
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