

Fast Times



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

Meeting Minutes—August Meeting

The monthly membership meeting of the Yellowstone Region SCCA was called to order by Regional Executive Chris Brewer on Tuesday, August 5, 2014, at 6:10 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 July 2014 meeting as published in the July 2014 issue of *Fast Times*.

Treasurer's Report: Secretary/Treasurer J. Reuss reported the current checkbook balance and noted that all bills have been paid. The cost related to the recent purchase of new tires for the timing trailer was discussed.

Old Business: Member-at-Large Steve Gruver reported that the church is no longer holding services at Skyview, so the last Skyview date, August 31, 2014, is a "go." Replacement of the tires on the timing trailer was discussed, as was the repair of the spare tire. Consideration will now be given to permanently mounting the spare somewhere on the trailer.

New Business: Chief of Timing Dean Johnson is hoping to find the gremlin in the sending unit of our timing light system before the event this Sunday. A discussion was held proposing (and it was pretty much decided) that monthly Region meetings during months when we had events would be held at the breakfast prior to the event. Accordingly, the September meeting may be moved to the morning of the FSA event on September 14th.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 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

Member-at-Large:

Steve Gruver

member-at-large@yellowstonescca.com

Newsletter Editor/

Webmaster: (see photo below)

YDS 2014 Part Deux- by the Roving Regional Reporter

The second event for 2014 at "The Strip" set a Region record for the total amount of runs at an event (231) and the most per driver (16.5). FTD was a day-long battle between **Chris Brewer's** Miata, **Dean Johnson's** MX-5, and **Steve Gruver's** C5 Corvette. In the end, Chris edged Dean by 0.042 seconds and Steve was 0.578 seconds behind Dean. **Ryan Zahn's** beautiful black Acura (with race tires) finished 4th overall followed by **Jim Coons** in his (green?) Subaru and **Woody "Woodman" Jen-**

sen in his vintage CRX. **Varek Piela** debuted his 2014 Subaru BRZ and just (by 0.022 seconds) edged **James Reuss** in his 350Z. **Joel Gruver's** Miata rounded out the top 10. **Jackie Bell** and her Eclipse led the ladies, followed by **Pat Reuss** (Abarth), **Amy Lamparelli** (Fiesta), and **Jenny Cooke** (Mini). Interesting results in the PAX scoring included **Ben Caudill's** 3rd place finish and **Jackie Bell's** 5th place finish.

Dean Johnson set the course based on a recent Helena

event. Rather than marking corners in the "usual" autocross fashion, cars were directed through groupings of six cones—three in a row approximately 12' apart. Each group was connected by a straight line. It took a little getting used to, but everyone was soon having fun. A double timing light setup was used, but one sending unit would occasionally "freak out." It was previously thought that the problem was with the switch on the unit, but it was determined that the loose connection is somewhere else.



What's Brewin'?' — From the RE



I received a call on Wednesday that some new recruits had parked their cars in the wrong place at the Amory and left for a 3-week training camp! Fortunately, we have been able to move the event to Food Services of America. Thanks (again), Jeff! On an unrelated note, three recent flat tires on the timing trailer and the spontaneous explosion of a tire accelerated the tire-replacement timeline. The trailer is now sporting 4 new Firestone tires and the spare has also been updated with a tire much

newer than the 90s-vintage "skins" that had heretofore faithfully served the Region. On another unrelated note, the recent problems with the timing system has been tracked down to a loose connection in one of the timing lights. Chief of Timing Dean Johnson is disassembling the unit to determine if he can locate the loose or bad connection. If nothing obvious is noted, the Region will replace the unit ASAP. Thanks to all the drivers and workers who have been so patient at the last few events! C.B.



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



Former Region member **Mark Richlin** recently provided a bit of Region trivia. Prior to the club becoming affiliated with the SCCA, it was known as the Sports Car Club of Montana (SCCM—generally referred to as "Scum"—no kidding!) Sometime in the late 70s, SCCM held events at an abandoned kart track west of the airport called the "Flying Saucer." Mark recalled a member by the name of Steve Anton competing in a Toyota station wagon. Steve got off the track and rolled the wagon. No one was

injured. Mark provided the Google Earth image to the right of the "ghost" track as it exists today. Over the years, many auto-cross events have been run at kart tracks. One of the nicer events currently run on a kart track is in Hilo on the Big Island of Hawaii. On a kart track, to keep things from getting too far out of hand dropping a tire off the track usually equals a DNF. (No, Geysers Park in Billings would not be an option because the bridge would turn coupes and sedans into "drop-tops.") R.R.



The Finish Line — From the Webmaster



On Wednesday, I received the long-awaited email from my ace Honda mechanic, **Dennis McCollough** that indicated "J., it's looking like the Civic is finally done. We can go no further without a road test or a race test." Wasting no time, I retrieved the car and made plans to deliver same to Bozeman to have a custom hood fabricated. I was starting to worry a bit after I received the following email from Dennis about a week ago: "**Ryan (Zahn)** took the Civic for a drive around the neighborhood, decided to quit

on the Jeep Comanche project he has been talking about and go for a K swap in his Acura. He thinks first gear is a waste of time, the tires just spin at full throttle, second is almost as bad. In other words, that car flat out scoots!" The last step prior to "a race test" will be having the new nose section fitted and painted. Parts continue to dribble in (and costs continue to rise) on the "Old Yaller" transmission project. Perhaps it's my imagination, but it seems like **Jim Coons** can get parts for his Ferrari quicker!



2014 YRSCCA Solo Schedule

Date	Location
May 11th	Food Services
May 25th	Skyview H.S.
June 15th	Yellowstone Drag
June 22nd	Armory
July 6th	Cancelled
July 27th	Yellowstone Drag
August 10th	Armory
August 31st	Skyview H.S.
Sept. 14th	Food Services
September 28th	TBA

Monthly Region Meeting
September 14, 2014
(at breakfast prior to event on that date- location TBA)
6:00 a.m.

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
 mauiacca.net