

# Fast Times



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

## Meeting Minutes — (August Meeting is on 8/9/15)



### 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



## Graduation Day- by the Roving Regional Reporter

What turned out to be the Region's last event at Skyview High School on July 12t ended up as one of its best! 29 drivers averaged 6 runs each on the long (70-80 second) course. When the smoke cleared, it was **James Papallo** in his F125 kart on top. The first "door slammer" was **Nathan Witt** from Great Falls whose Honda S2000 nudged past **John Bonner's** 2015 Corvette Z06 by .003 seconds! Two of the Region's "Three Mazda Amigos," **Tucker Stewart** and **Dean Johnson**, placed 4th and

5th. In sixth place was newlywed **Luke Bonner** driving his blushing bride's (nee **Rachel Sitzman's**) new pride and joy—a 2015 Hennessy HPE 700 Camaro ZL1! (To say the least, the Hennessy is a whole lotta car!) Regulars **Randy Roberts**, **Chris Brewer**, and **Jim Arnett** (in Roberts' CRX) placed 7th, 8th, and 9th. Recently retired—from the workforce, not the rubber kind—**Steve Gruver** rounded out the top ten with his C4 Corvette.

Other notable battles were

**Kaitlin Reuss** in her old man's Chevy edging out husband **Jerod Staebler's** Camaro, and **Riley Kelly's** Shelby GT500 besting **James Reuss' Nissan 350Z** by .697 seconds.

On PAX scoring, **Witt**, **Stewart**, **Bonner**, **Brewer**, and **Gruver** backed up their raw times. The **James Reuss-Riley Kelly** order was reversed on PAX scoring with **Reuss** on top. The always stylishly manicured **Jackie Bell** placed a very respectable 13th!



## What's Brewin'? — From the Regional Executive



On the national front, the 2016 SCCA convention will return to the South Point Hotel, Casino and Spa, in Las Vegas, NV on Jan. 21-23. See you there?

On the local front, the Region recently received a “one-two punch” that necessitated the cancellation of our last two events for the season. The Region’s use of event sites has always depended on the generosity of property owners and the tolerance of their neighbors. However, since we are guests, there are no guarantees that we will contin-

ue to be welcome. The Board will be meeting shortly to develop a plan to seek new sites for next season, and SCCA has a good amount of information that will help us move forward. If you are aware of any potential sites, please contact a board member. Unless you have a personal relationship with the property owner, it is better to have one or more Region officers meet with the owner to discuss a specific plan, rather than simply knocking on doors and asking if SCCA can race on their lot. C.B.



## Race Notes — From the Competition Chair



The August edition of *SportsCar* contains some information about tires that bears noting. First, feedback on the new 200 treadware street tires has been hugely favorable. The initial concern was that attempting to wean drivers off DOT R-compound autocross tires would cause uproarious complaints (likely coupled with gnashing of teeth). Oddly, the opposite is true. Former R-comp drivers are embracing the new tires! They are finding that the grip levels are not dramatically lower than the R-

compounds, they are about 20% cheaper, and they offer a longer lifespan! Second, a technical article in the issue offered some advice about tire pressures for your solo car. After a few runs, use a probe pyrometer (or a Harbor Freight infrared heat sensor if you are cheap) to test tire temperatures across the face of your tires. The outside should be the hottest. If the middle or inside is the hottest, decrease pressure until the inside to outside spread is no more than 50 degrees, but ideally no more than 20 degrees.



## The Finish Line — From the Webmaster



The autocross at the 44th Black Hills Corvette Classic in Spearfish, SD, was (again) kind to me, but either the “Old Yaller Chevy” or I (probably both) seem to be getting slower. The time for my first place finish (out of 9) in the C5 class would have placed me 3rd (out of 19) in the C6 class and 5th (out of 9) in the C7 class. Interestingly, FTD was logged by a C6 that was 2.157 seconds faster than I. As you might expect, Z06s led each of their respective classes. They did not offer bracket racing

this year at the drag race segment held at the 1/8-mile Sturgis Drag Strip, but the Team Owner brought home a 3rd place trophy! Unless you have been living in a cave, you have heard about the next (4th)-generation Mazda MX-5 introduced in 2015 as a 2016 model. It’s hard to believe the first Miata debuted 26 years ago in 1989 as a 1990 model with a base price of \$13,800. The current base price is \$29,420. The car boasts 155-hp vis-à-vis the original 116-hp. Weight has increased by only 150 pounds!



### 2015 YRSCCA Solo Schedule

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

**Monthly Region Meeting**  
**August 9, 2015**  
**Breakfast meeting prior to YDS event.**  
**Downtown Perkins**  
**at 6:30 a.m.**

- Websites**
- Yellowstone Region 108 (Billings) [yellowstonescca.com](http://yellowstonescca.com)
  - Southwest Montana Region (Bozeman) [swmtscca.com](http://swmtscca.com)
  - Montana Region (Great Falls) [mtscca.com](http://mtscca.com)
  - Eastern Idaho Sports Car Club [eirscca.com](http://eirscca.com)
  - Big Sky Region (Missoula/Kalispell) [bigskyregion.org](http://bigskyregion.org)
  - Absaroka Region Porsche Club [abs.pca.org](http://abs.pca.org)
  - Maui SCCA [mauiscca.net](http://mauiscca.net)