

Fast Times



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

Meeting Minutes—September Meeting

The monthly membership meeting of the Yellowstone Region SCCA was called to order by Regional Executive Chris Brewer on Tuesday, September 6, 2011, at 6:07 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 August 2011 meeting. (The minutes will be published in the September issue of *Fast Times*.)

Treasurer's Report: Sec./Treas. J. Reuss announced the current bank balance and briefly reviewed expenditures by the Region over the past month. A Motion was MS&P to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Old Business: There was no old business to discuss. New Business: J. reported that the old printer he donated to the club could not be repaired, so a new printer has been purchased. It was decided to print times at the end of each heat rather than using a worker to write down times on a dry-erase board. J. is purchasing a corkboard that can be hung on the timing trailer during events onto which the times can be thumbtacked. It was also decided that a longer cable will be obtained for the timing display so that drivers will have immediate access to their times following runs. Some sort of support assembly will be constructed with existing or new parts. J. will be looking into upgrading our sidewalk signs and also preparing an informational panel for spectators and prospective entrants to learn about event participation. It was also decided that an awning or other structure to provide shade near the timing trailer would be beneficial. All these projects sounded like things that could be accomplished over the winter,

A motion was MS&P to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:32 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

Rimrock Truck Center II- by the R.E.

The last event for 2011 started out on the chilly side, but the weather and competition soon heated up. With motorcycle training done for the year, we were able to use the front and back lots of the site. Randy Roberts designed the front course and Steve Gruver designed the back. The two sections were connected and we were good to go. With the long course, entrants were treated to 9 runs averaging approximately 1:15.

After breaking a shock mount at Skyview, I was hesitant to race

the Mini, so Dwight Gilliland was kind enough to let me co-drive his Lotus Elan—which I only spun once! (I didn't hit any light poles though!)

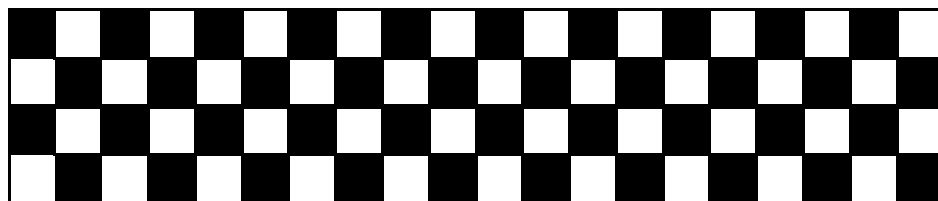
"Roberts Racing" was out in full force with no less than four drivers contending with a variety of vehicles from the Roberts "stable." Newcomers Nate Wiggins and Ryan Wood did a nice job in one of Randy's (many) CRXs. R.J. Matthews capped the season with another FTD. Randy Roberts placed second with "Kurt's Cabriolet." Dustin

Park's Mazdaspeed 3 squeezed out Nels Jensen's Toyota Corolla for the upset of the day. Nel's dad, Woody, had a nice day and showed continued improvement. Father-son Steve and Joel Gruver duked it out with Joel and his HS Mini Clubman ultimately besting the old man's 1968 Vette. (I have heard rumors that Joanne is giving Joel driving lessons!) On the PAX side of scoring, R.J., took top honors, followed by Dustin and then Joel Gruver.

With the driver for the team hauler out of town for the weekend,



James Reuss was left to fend for himself. James determined on the night before the event that only 3 of the 4 racing tires for his Integra would still hold air. Deciding not to use the space-saver spare in conjunction with the 3 good tires, he relegated himself to street rubber. Complaining that the suspension on his Acura was a bit spongier than the \$300 Civic, he nonetheless was able to beat Woody Jensen's CRX.



What's Brewin'? — From the RE



The 2011 season is now “in the books” and let me be the first to declare it a success! Initial reports put our overall attendance numbers about even with last year, although our bank account didn't grow significantly because of our decision to keep entry fees low. A special thanks goes out to our Chief of Timing, Doug Hills, who really has “dialed-in” the new timing system. Registration can now be handled “on-the-fly” and the software is configured so that even someone like myself can jump in the timer's chair and keep an event rolling.

Event delays to iron out timing problems are a pain in everyone's butts, so Doug's hard work and dedication are a real benefit to competitors and spectators alike. Again, thanks, Doug! Last, I would like to thank Kaitlin for sending me the photo she took in Las Vegas of the Bumblebee Camaro from the movie Transformers 2. (Check the Region's website for a 3-D video clip of “Action-Figure Kaitlin” performing next to the Special Edition Camaro.) C.B. (Sent from my iPhone)



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



During the 2011 season, the Region was blessed with (mostly) good weather, good venues, and great course designs. At many events we had multiple experienced course designers sharing insights to produce interesting and challenging courses. As with all “artistes,” egos occasionally got in the way, but in the long run, things worked out for everyone's benefit. Also, the old adage proved true that “many hands make light work.” For 2012, we will be adding a “points system” for events. The Board has

decided that this would be a good way to recognize drivers through the use of year-end trophies or other awards. The points will be tallied as part of the new timing software. As most of you are aware, we often have only one or two cars per class making awarding trophies somewhat of a fool's errand. However, I believe that trophies are a good thing in the sport of autocross and that using a points system seems like the best way to reward drivers who consistently attend events and contribute to the sport. R.R.



The Finish Line — From the Webmaster



(Since I was AWOL from the Rimrock II event, the only photos I have for this edition of *Fast Times* are ones that I took at the Barrett-Jackson auction in Las Vegas.) When I was at the B-J last year, I knew that there were several “Ride-’N-Drive” events being held in the parking lot of the Mandalay Bay Convention Center. However, we didn't have time to investigate. This year, the #2 son and I checked out the Ride-’N-Drives on Friday morning while the Team Owner and the “real” Newsletter Editor were checking out the outlet malls. I would characterize the GM and Ford Ride-’N-Drives as more of a bait-and-switch.” The “bait” at the Ford display was row after row of modified Mustangs, 525 HP Shelby GT350s, and 800 HP Shelby GT500 Super Snakes. GM's display featured a 580 HP Camaro ZL1 and a variety of other high-HP Corvettes, Camaros, and CTSV Cadillacs. Adding to the allure was the sound of 6 ZR1 Corvettes from the Ron Fellows Driving School in nearby Pahrump, NV, hot-lapping a huge autocross course. All fired up, you are eager to take a breathalyzer test—Jack Daniels was dispensing free samples at the auction—give GM (or Ford) reps every bit of personal information you possess, and wait in long lines to get “rewarded” by driving a

Buick, Cruze, Focus, Volt (or similar piece of crap) in a slow, single file through the lamest excuse for a course I have ever seen. Then to another long line to get a “ride” in a ZR1 Corvette or a race-prepared Mustang. (The 640 HP ZR1 did have pretty good grunt, though!) However, the “Porsche Driving Experience” was the real deal. Show them your license and jump into a 911, Boxster, or Cayman (with a Porsche rep in the passenger seat) for two hot laps, followed by one lap when you switch seats with the Porsche rep. Then, get back in the (short) line and do it again! J.



Monthly Region Meeting
October 4, 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)
swmtsscca.com
Montana Region (Great Falls)
mtsscca.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