

Fast Times

Volume 1 Issue 2

November 1999

If you don't Vote you can't complain

General Meeting 11-3-99

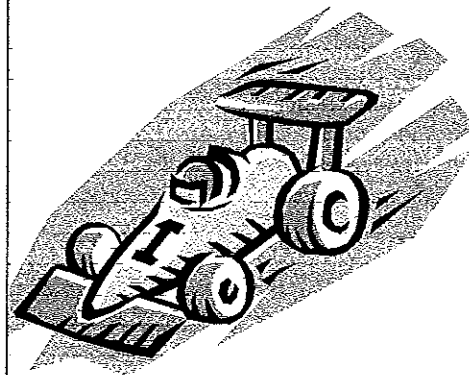
The first discussion was on identifying our event sites. The lot at Costco is no longer available since they built a gas station in the area that we used. Walmart is also building in the area we used. So that leaves us with the following sites:

Lockwood-
Skyveiw
Eagle
Columbus Airport
Lewistown

Again, if you know of any other possible locations please let one of the board members know.

The next matter of business was nominations for board members. On page 2 of this newsletter you will find your ballot for the election of the new officers.

You heard it here first! (unless you were at the meeting). Cary Devitt proposed that we start off the new season with an event on Saturday in early May (such as May 6th) that will include a car show, pre-tech and car classification for the autocrossers. The car show would give us a chance to get the club out in front of some other motor heads and start pushing such things as the Speed Freaks program for younger members. The next day we would open the 2000 season with a benefit race, which would possibly take place at Lockwood School. Jim Arnett will check with a local auto parts supplier about sponsoring the event on Saturday. (Jim contacted me prior to sending this off and the supplier is interested.)



Elections for the Millennium are upon us. Be at the next meeting on December 1st or get your Ballot in the mail.

A motion was made to purchase the upgrade to the timing software that keeps track of car/driver data which would help with registration.

NEW RECORD, at the least since I started counting. General meeting attendance reached an all time high. Thanks to all who attended: Kurt and Char Schultz, Jim and Marcie Arnett, Cary and Tonia Devitt, Ken Decker, Bobby Arnet, John Hailstone, and Randy Devitt.

The opinions expressed in this edition of Fast Times do not necessarily reflect those of the Yellowstone Region or of the Sports Car Club of America.



A Veiw From The Blind Eye

The Out-of-Towners

I just wanted to take a minute to say thanks to all the folks who drove hundreds of miles this last year to participate.

Chanda Hufford and Todd Braten, from Powell, should receive an award for the most press with the article about their autocrossing exploits that appeared in the Powell paper. It is always nice to see their smiling faces at the events.

Those of you who made it to the Columbus event couldn't have missed the high flying Honda 600 piloted by Marty Westland. As most folks were saying, "he just has too much fun." He is a good reminder of why we do this autocross stuff.

Then there is the always fast and incredibly consistent Norm Williams. And to think I used to be competitive with this guy. David Venema with the pretty BMW made it over a few times to show us how smooth an M5 can be. Now I am just doing this off the top of my pointy head and I can't fit that many names on the point. But I do know that the club has a rather large contingent from the Bozeman area. I think maybe you folks ought to get together at the Leafy Bean or Beany Leaf or what ever it is over a cappuccino and discuss what the club can do for you or what you can do for the club. Then let me, or one of the board members know. Remember we are always looking for sites. Anyway, thanks to all of you.

Sincerely,

▲ DEADCONE ▲

Official Ballot

Regional Executive:

Cary Devitt _____
Kurt Schultz _____
_____ (Write In)

Competition Chairman:

Jim Arnett _____
_____ (Write In)

Assistant Regional Executive:

Bobby Arnett _____
John Hailstone _____
_____ (Write In)

Secretary/Treasurer:

Ken Decker _____
_____ (Write In)

Voting Member's Name: _____

Voting Member's Number: _____

You must be a current member of the Yellowstone Region of the SCCA to vote.
Ballots will be available at the next General Meeting on Wednesday December 1, 1999.
If you are unable to attend the next meeting please send your ballot via any of the following:

Fax 406-656-8367

Email: rdevitt@aol.com

Mail: Randy Devitt
PO Box 22013
Billings, MT 59104

Mail-in Ballots must be received on or before December 1, 1999.
Again, you must include your name/number to be checked against our current membership roster.

Racing With the Great Falls Folks

I had a great time in Helena. I showed up about 8:30 a.m., about the second car there. The first was Steve Nutter from Great Falls. He brought all the cones, etc. to set up the course. Darrell Schamp and Roger Evans soon arrived with the timing gear and the rest of the stuff to make it happen. The biggest item to make a good race possible was a bunch of brooms! There were maybe a dozen. We got the hint. After the course was set up, we all grabbed brooms and got a good work out. Greg Painter then showed up with a blower and eventually walked the whole course with it. The course, by the way, was just about the same as Top Gun, except it was run in reverse, with the necessary changes. Since this was my first time in the area, I can't explain it any further.

The weather was chilly, but the wind wasn't blowing so it was OK. It did feel good to be in the car with the heat on. I remember the last event I was in I just wanted to get out of the car because it was so hot!

The procedure was to run one practice run and then four timed runs. We weren't in groups, so a driver could run all four runs as quickly as he could find a place in line. Most of us took some time, though. The place to spin was the "snake pit." If I remember correctly, there was one bad encounter with a curb straight on, but with a change of front tires and wheels, the car ran the rest of afternoon. To a "tyro" (look that up), it seemed like a lot of damage was done, but it turned out OK. When the timed runs were over, we did a few buck runs until the wind came up and blew over some of the timing devices.

Afterward, we went to Godfather's Pizza and had some food and drink and the results were read to all. I felt welcome and just a small part of the last race of the century. I'm still not used to that idea!

Here are the results of the Helena autocross as given to me by Roger Evans. I have transferred it from the handwritten copy he gave to me to take to Godfather's Pizza after the event I apologize if I have made mistakes or can't quite remember a make of car, etc.

FTD:

Matt Schaffer	Corvette	83.597
Loretta Kelly	Mustang	94.434

C/Sedan:

Jay Fassett	Contour	92.498
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B/Production:

Marc Lunday	RX7	96.293
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C/Production:

Bob Ridgely		90.903
John Jost	Subaru	92.464
Larry Akers	BMW	94.167
James Rowen		95.111
John Weinzetto	Honda	95.377

Prepared 1:

Ken Decker	Mustang	97.796
(alias "Ron" to the GF guys)		
Wes Hendrix	Camaro	99.518

Prepared 3:

Ben Roberts		99.078
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GT-1:

Matt Schaffer	Corvette	83.597
Mike Kelly	Mustang	89.353
Greg Painter	Corvette	90.194
Mike Woodhouse	Mustang	90.197
Loretta Kelly	Mustang	94.434
Steve Nutter	Maverick	96.647
S.J. Score	Mustang	DNS

GT-2:

Darrell Schamp	Capri	92.155
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GT-3:

Adam Pitt	Honda	84.890
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Thanks to both the Billings and Great Falls clubs for a fun and exciting first season. I can't wait for next year!

Ken Decker

(Editor's note: A special thanks to Ken for taking the time to write this article. You too can be infamous and get your views printed. Just get the articles to me).

Editor's Note

As I do the mailings of the newsletter, each month I get to ponder the demographics of the club. We are one of the largest regions geographically, yet with one of the smaller memberships. This past year the board has attempted to identify some of the problems and start working towards new memberships.

The older members can run an event from beginning to end almost single handedly. Of course this is not very much fun for this individual and they will eventually turn to something more fun like banging there head against a brick wall.

In the newsletter issues between now and the beginning of the season I hope to cover topics such as the schedule for the day of an event, a worker group work sheet, and even get into what it takes to set up the event.

 **DEAD CONE** 

YELLOWSTONE REGION 1999 Board of Directors

Region Executive

Cary Devitt
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406-855-8559
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Assistant R. E.

Bobby Arnett
715 S. 33rd St.
Billings, MT 59101
406-896-1547

Competition Chairman

Jim Arnett
703 S. 80th St. W.
Billings, MT 59106
406-652-9262

Secretary/Treasurer/Newsletter

Randy Devitt
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Billings, MT 59102
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SCEDULE OF EVENTS

12/1 General Meeting at
Brunos at 1002 1st Ave. N.

UNOFFICIAL:

5/6/00 Car Show
5/7/00 Lockwood Benifit
AutoCross
7/00 TOPGUN
8/00 Black Otter

This is my attempt at guessing what next year will bring. It has been said that it's too bad that one event conflicts with another region or chapters event. I'm hoping that we can work closer with the other regions to alleviate some of these problems.

Fast Times

Yellowstone Region
Sports Car Club of America
P.O. Box 30956
Billings, MT 59107

Inside This Issue:

Elections Ballot
