

Yellowstone Region P. O. Box 30956

P. O. Box 30956 Billings, Mt. 59107

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

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

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**Newsletter Staff** 

# **Guidelines Discussion At February Meeting**

The guidelines listed in this newsletter will be discussed at the February meeting. If you have anything to offer, please come and let yourself be heard. See you at the meeting February 5th at Elmer's on Central.

### **MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting of 12-4-02 called to order by RE Mark Richlen.

Motion to accept the minutes as in the last Fast Times seconded and passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Balance in the checkbook is \$2492.84. Motion to party it all away by Dennis McCollough is nearly passed.
OLD BUSINESS

Mark Brown gave news of the ground breaking at the Intermountain Raceway Park near Acton, MT. He says that they would be more than happy to have us come out and play. Look to the future for how that all develops.

See the Fast Times for directions to get to Mark Richlen's house for the Christmas party. Someone noted that the web site is down again, and someone mentioned that they would look into it. Dennis did say he would talk to Ryan McDonald about it.

It was suggested that our club get into more of the "politics" of the people that make sites possible. Examples are Black Otter Trail, Bright and Beautiful, etc. We should let it be known that we are interested in more that just messing with cars (on their sites).

Tammy Gallant updated or actually sent thank you plaques to Lowes, the Armory, Cord Mitchell, and the Metra. Thank you to Tammy!

Jeff Hauck is really looking into a display board (electronic, of course). More reports later.

**CONTINUED ON PG 2** 

# From your RE



First of all; if you skipped the Slip n' Slide Solo on the 19<sup>th</sup> you missed out on a really fun event. What started out as a crazy laugh at yourself and everybody else in the morning session while driving on snow turned into a serious competition during the afternoon as the asphalt was exposed (although under water). Kurt Schulz brought his stove and a pot of really great minestrone. Check elsewhere in Fast Times for a write up of the event.

On to serious biz. At the January meeting a somewhat lively discussion ensued concerning rules for this year. The discussion centered on consistent rules for conducting our events including number of cars per driver and pit areas secured from general public. This led to a discussion about it being time to review our event guidelines. Prior to our meetings in February and March please take a look at the Solo II rules, note that certain items are mandatory especially concerning safety, vehicle condition and waivers; many others are left to the discretion of the Region. Included in Fast Times is the guidelines written some years ago; beside a reiteration of the Solo II rules, there are club rules that clearly address some issues that the writers deemed important for the smooth running of events. con't on pg. 2

### **MORE MINUTES**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

We decided that the National Convention, now in Kansas, is too expensive for what we would get out of it to subsidize a representative. The money will be better spent elsewhere. So, no one from here, at least with club help, will be at the convention.

Char Schulz sent out a plea to those present for "award" ideas for the party fun.

Comp chair Tammy Gallant says that some sites for next year are already firm: Skyview, and Lewistown which has been contacted. She is also working again on the Lockwood site.

A winter event or two at Cord Mitchell's site are in the planning stages.

Since there was no more New Business, it was motioned, seconded, and passed to adjourn the meeting.

Thank you to all who attended.

### Ken Decker

### **JANUARY 2003 MEETING**

MEETING OF 1-8-03 called to order by ARE Mark Richlen.

There was no Fast Times for December, so no minutes were available. They will appear in this months FT.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The balance in the checkbook is \$2088.99. (A furtive glance toward Dennis M. was noted). OLD BUSINESS

The web site is still down or down again. This is a concern.

Dennis McCollough reports that a winter event at the Homes America site is on for the 19th of January. Labels are requested to mail a card to those in the club who may be able to make the event (mostly Billings drivers). An event will also be tried in February or March.

Jeff H. is continuing the display board route. All is possible, with a cost of around \$1300-1500.00

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There were some heated exchanges on the business of more than one car per driver. It is of course known that an entry fee per car is always collected. The problem seems to be that it may not be ok per the By-Laws. Also, there is the perception that one who drives all the time doesn't work the course and also has the competitive advantage of being out on the course more. The opinion that for our purposes (no points competition, etc.) this should really be no big deal was noted. At any rate, a protest was lodged by Jeff Hauck. It will be looked into and talked about at future meetings.

In fact, Mark suggested that our procedural rules be the subject of one meeting every year before the season starts, say in March or April. This would be a great help.

Jeff also requested that we have better control on the pit and parking areas at our events. No one could argue that that is not a very good idea. There certainly have been some problems.

### More from the RE

Think back on the season at the controversies that appeared during our events, if you think they should be addressed in our guidelines bring them to the February meeting. Have your suggestions sorted out and in sentence form as you would have them appear in the guidelines. I would like to see a discussion at the Feb. meeting and simple up or down vote on the proposed guidelines at the March meeting if possible, if not, we can finish in April, but no later.

I do not think that it is necessary for our guidelines to restate the rules appearing in the SCCA Solo II rules unless a particular emphasis is thought needed. Maybe the guidelines would contain a checklist of things to do before an event; insurance request, toilets, and etc. This would help the more novice or forgetful among us to chair an event.

Other things to consider may include pit speeds, course work requirement for participants. One of the discussions that has occurred several times this past year and again at the January event is driving techniques that seem to have more to do with lighting up the tires and spinning than with a desire to improve times. Is spinning a car almost every run and sometimes several times per run appropriate driver behavior? If the entrant pays his money and is not endangering course workers, the public or the facility, do we care? Is this a judgment call dependent on the event and the proximity of spectators or workers? Lots of things to discuss.

In the Solo II rules are mandatory sections for the conduct of national events; we can adopt or adapt some of these into our guidelines. Another thing to consider; are guidelines the same as rules? We need to consider what will be made a rule and what will be optional, left to the discretion of the event chair. We need to do some homework here, so again please read the Solo II rules and the current guidelines; collect your thoughts prior to the meetings. Anyway, just like fences make good neighbors, rules known in advance and consistently applied make good competitors and smooth running events.

Mark Richlen

Tammy reported that the plaques that she distributed were very well received. She got quite the royal treatment at the Metra. This is a good example of "getting into the politics" of our sponsors that was mentioned in the last meeting. There are many other ways, as well. But thanks to Tammy for those contacts and support.

The meeting was adjourned by Mark Richlen. Thank you.

Ken Decker

### Slip Sliding Away Autocross

At first, Andy, Tammy & Dennis didn't think anyone was going to show up. But six other hardy souls did. The parking lot was total snow & ice covered and about 15 pylons had been set up in a course. It was decided to split into two groups, The Slippers and The Sliders. For awhile during the morning runs before it started to thaw, Kurt had top time, with a 4 wheel drive pickup. It was hard to tell the "Slippers" from the "Sliders". Everyone was doing a lot of both. Keeping warm and laughing at everyone was the rule of the day. Then it started to thaw.....instead of acting like a bunch of 12 year olds having fun in the snow....the race faces came out and the race was on. Kurt parked the 4WD, mud & snow tires are not made for autocrossing, and everyone started autocrossing. We ended up with eleven autocrossers by days end. The results are below.

Thanks to Kurt & Char for the minestrone soup, hot chocolate, tea, coffee, & cake. It helped keep the cold at bay. What a fun day, if you missed it you missed a great time to dial your car in on ice. Thank you to Andy Pirami and Dennis & Tammy McCollough for a great event. Thanks again to Cord Mitchell for the use of his lot.

### AM BEST TIMES

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Dennis McCollough: 43.67 Cord Mitchell: 48.15 Jeff Hauck: 45.96 Steve Carlson: 47.21 Kurt Schultz: 48.93 Tammy McCollough: 50.16 Richard Moen: 52.68 Andy Pirami: 52.89 Mark Richlen: 55.56

### PM BEST TIMES

Tammy McCollough: 34.11 Dennis McCollough: 34.29 Luke Bonner: 34.92 Andy Pirami: 35.15 Cord Mitchell: 35.58 Josh Whitcomb: 37.66 Jeff Hauck: 37.69 Richard Moen: 37.80 Steve Carlson: 38.49 Mark Richlen: 38.88



### SAFETY SAFETY SAFETY

The weather we're having is unbelievable. It snows, it melts, it rains, its freezes, it's cold, it's hot, it's cold again. Many of the drivers have lost some of their driving skills and some never had any, and we all find it hard to deal with the ever changing road conditions. Keep your eyes peeled and stay safe, save your racing for the events.

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# EASTERN IDAHO SPORTS CAR CLUB

Officers - President Cal Craner 208-529-4999; Vice President Larry Hull 208-522-8439; Treasurer, Dave Krekel 208-524-1012 Next Meeting—The next meeting will be February 2003 at Melina's in Blackfoot. The meeting starts at 7:30 pm. The food is good, the company is OK and if you want to make a difference in how our club works, this is the place to do it.

### Comp Chair Tammy McCollough

Well, I am excited about this season. I am really looking forward not only to the racing, but to setting up events that I hope all will enjoy.

I have spent quite some time, recently, reading the rule book and the bylaws to familiarize myself with the "ins and outs" of the club. My greatest pleasure, however, was combing through 16+ years of the "Fast Times". It sure sounds like there were some great times at some awesome events in the past. There was an air of thorough enjoyment (and mischief) in those old newsletters. I sure hope there will be a lot more of both in this upcoming season and for many to come.

One of the best ways for this to happen is for all competitors to remember a few basic rules and guidelines. First, this is supposed to be fun. That means for competitors, family, and spectators alike. Second, there should be good sportsmanship displayed at all times. Just remember, we are being watched at these things. Not only by spectators and other competitors, but by our families. Many times there are children and young adults present at an event and it is our responsibility to set a good example for them. So please, lets not let rivalry get mean and nasty, lets not use bad language or stomp around and create a scene for others to see. Lets not wear inappropriate clothing that casts a negative shadow on an event or our organization. Lets not get into loud arguments at an event or do anything that embarrasses us (as competitors or the club in general) where there are spectators, potential members, or young family members present. Remember, we are our own best advertisement for new members.

So, with that said, lets have a great season and lots of fun with many pucker marks in the upholstery, lots of great runs, no accidents/incidents...and God, please let me beat Dennis this year!

Tammy McCollough, Comp Chair 406-861-2268 classicchevygal@aol.com

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Feb 6-9 National Meeting - Kansas
City, Kan.
Westin Crown Center

### Christmas Tarty

The Christmas party was held at the home of Mark & Delia Richlen on Dec. 14th. It was well attended and enjoyed by all. We had everything from chips & dips to pate, sushi & snails. There was plenty of bench racing, you know the would of's and should of's. We all oohed and auhed Mark's remodeling job on the kitchen/dining room. It was nice evening and those of you who could not make it missed a great time. Thank you to Mark & Delia for hosting the party and setting the festive mood.

We had a few awards to give out. Flaques were given to Ken Decker for Member of the Year and Driver of the Year for 2001. Marty Westland also received a plaque for Member of the Year 2001.

The recipient of the Dick Hager, Spirit of the Sport, Memorial Award 2002 was Mark Richlen presented by Donna Dinsmore. Mark has been a real stabilizer in the club this last year. The Grant Cameron, Driver of the Year, Memorial Award 2002 was given to Mike Moore, Miles City, the Driver of the Subaru WRX. Mike took direction from several club member over the year and improved each time he raced.

A web master award was given to Rick Borsheim for keeping our web site up-to-date all year, he did a nice job, so we gave him a Spider Man on a plaque. Seana Cadwell was given a Picture of the Year Award for all the neat pictures she provided for the web site. We wanted to give her an Oscar, but there's something about copyright infringement.

Tammy McCollough was given a Land Yacht Captain award complete with a captains hat for autocrossing a land yacht and doing well. Dwight Gilliland was given a Autocross Guide Dog award, seems he has trouble finding the course, especially the ones he sets up. We also gave him a white cane  $\mathcal L$  sunglasses incase the guide dog didn't work, we felt that maybe a boy scout would come along  $\mathcal L$  help him find the course. We have one for Jim Arnett, but he wasn't present to receive it....so we'll keep it until we see Jim, then let you in on the award.

Thanks to all the good cooks that brought their favorite snacks to share and everyone that came to enjoy the camaraderie. Good food, good company, good hosts, great party!

Jim it won't do you any good to hide.....we know where you live!!

### **FOR SALE**

VW Cabriolet, current GP Road Racing log book, VW Rabbit Sedan, road racing log book; double axle single car trailer. All goes for \$5000. Call Kurt Schulz 259-2621 or 252-2426 for details

## **FOR SALE**

Datsun 510. old #71, looking for a new driver. \$1500 OBO - This car is fully race prepared, built by Dennis McCollough, and only driven by a little old man on Sundays. Call Bob Grummett 322-4615 for details.







Thank you Cord Mitchell from Dent Works for giving us use of your parking lot for autocrossing.



New Annual	Dues	In Effect	
	Nat'l	Regn	Tot
Regular Member	\$55.00	\$15.00	\$70.00
Spouse	15.00	5.00	20.00
Family	85.00	20.00	105.00
Speed Freakz	25.00	5.00	30.00
SP-Competition	45.00	5.00	50.00

Southwest Montana Region (pending) http://bozemanscca.ma.cx

WANTED - P.R. volunteer for Yellowstone Region - Call Mark Richlen, 248-3473.

When changing your address, please use membership@scca.org, include your membership number with your new address or contact SCCA, P. O. Box 19400, Topeka, Ks. 66619-0400.

Toll Free 1-800-770-2055

### WEB SITE

We have been experiencing some problems with our web site. Ryan has had trouble with his server and is working on the problem. I know it's frustrating, but it seems that a lot of people are experiencing many of the same problems. According to the news many servers all over the world have had and are having problems because of viruses. So hang in there, be patient and it will hopefully work out. I just tried the web site and was unable to see it, and just three days ago had no problem.

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# AUTOCROSS FEBRUARY 23, 2003 UNDERPASS AVENUE

(TAKE SOUTH BILLINGS BLVD. EXIT, TURN TOWARD BILLINGS, GO TO T-INTERSECTION TURN RIGHT, YOU WILL FIND US ON THE RIGHT BEFORE YOU REACH THE RENO CLUB, THOSE OF YOU IN BILLINGS GO TO 6TH & CENTRAL, GO UNDER THE UNDERPASS, THRU THE LIGHT, AROUND THE CURVE, PAST THE RENO CLUB AND WE WILL BE THERE ON THE LEFT)

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Registration at 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. 1st car out by 10:00 a.m. \$12.00 - members \$20.00 - non-members

We will autocross in any weather, under any conditions. Be a Boy Scout and be prepared!

Thanks to Cord Mitchell for the use of the site.

# SCHEDULE

Feb. 5th

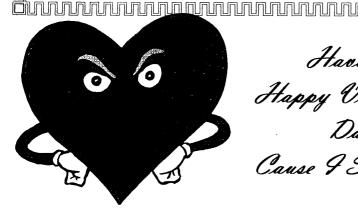
Meeting - Elmer's, 2455 Central

Feb 23rd

Autocross - Overpass Avenue Site

Memorial Day & Labor Day have been confirmed at Skyview High School - May 26th & September 1st - Mark your calendar.

Anyone that has a possibility of a racing venue, please contact the competition chairmen. Tami McCollough for Billings 252-9687 & Joe Evers for Bozeman 585~8447.



The FEBRUARY 2003 meeting will be held on Feb. 5th at Elmer's, 2455 CENTRAL AVENUE, Billings, at 7:30 P.M. See you there.

WEB Sites

Yellowstone Region 108

Yellowstone SCCA.org

Southwest Montana Region (Pending)

http://bozemanscca.ma.cx

http://homepage.mac.com/mtcossie/swmtscca/

Montana Region (Great Falls)

edwardaustin2000@yahoo.com or

edwardaustin@yahoo.com

Eastern Idaho Sports Car Club

http://www.ida.net/users/lewisr/eiscc1.html

Big Sky Region (Missoula/Kalispell)

www.users.qwest.net/~sharpguy/

Northwest Hillclimb Association

http://users.bitsmart.net/rainbowtees/nha.html

Magic City Speedway (Billings)

http://www.magiccityspeedway.com/body\_index.html

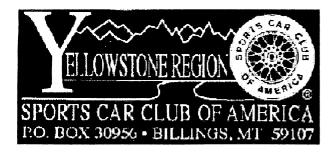
Ryan McDonald

streetracer.org

Cars On Canvas

www.cars-on-canvas.com

### **FAST TIMES**







Inside This Issue:

February 5th- Meeting Elmer's, 2455 Central Ave. 7:30 p.m.

February 23rd - Autocross - Underpass Ave. - next to the Reno Club

Mark Kichlen U103 1140 Patriot Billings, Mt. 59105