

FAST TIMES

April, 2005

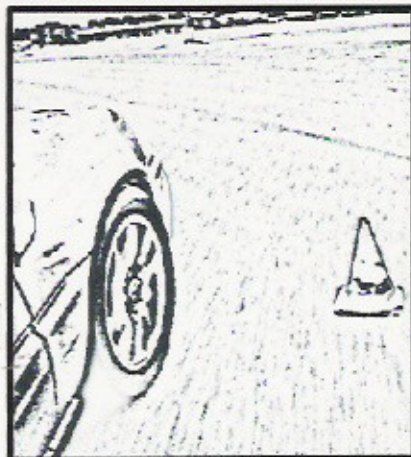
March Minutes

The March meeting was called to order by RE Ryan Coler. The minutes were approved as published in Fast Times. The Treasurers report was distributed.

Old Business: Char Schulz mentioned a donation to a cancer fund has not been made, and a fund should be chosen.

New Business: Scott Cranston, Competition Director, announced that the schedule is set for the season. Dennis McCollough discussed extending the first time entrant fee of \$10.00. He will design some sort of a discount card to be handed out to prospective first time entrants that would encourage them to participate in an event. Kurt Schulz volunteered to bring his barbecue equipment to events and cook lunch if the club would buy the supplies. Consensus of those at the meeting was to take Kurt up on his offer. Dwight Gilliland discussed need for more PR before events to increase participation and the necessity of an after function. Dwight noted the after function was used in years past to announce times, etc. and helped build the social aspects of the club. It was decided that an after function should be a regular part of the event day with the location being given at the drivers meeting.

(continued inside)



Yellowstone Region SCCA

P. O. Box 30956

Billings, MT 59107

EDITORS CORNER

The Evolution Performance Driving School agenda has been changed for this year in Billings. The 5/29 school, originally slated for Phase II, is now a Phase I. That means the 9/4 school, slated for Phase III, is now a Phase II. If you aren't familiar with EVO, check out their website at (www.autocross.com/evolution/).

\$100 deposits for the May school are now due. The total cost will be announced ASAP, but should be less than \$225. All EVO schools are advertized and open to anyone, out of state or in, and are limited to 12 drivers per event. Enrollment is on a first come, first served basis. There are only 4 or 5 slots remaining for the upcoming Phase I so, if you want to attend, you must get your deposit in immediately. This is something that, as a Solo II competitor, you just should NOT miss out on.

-Tammy McCollough

The 2005 schedule is looking great.
Check it out, here, in The Fast Times, or on our website.

The opinions expressed in Fast Times may not necessarily reflect those of the Yellowstone Region SCCA or SCCA.

YRSCCA SCHEDULE 2005

- Apr 17- MSUB College of Technology (formerly VoTech)
- May 15- Lewistown
- May 29- Evolution Performance Driving School Phase II (Skyview HS)
- May 30- Skyview
- June 12- MSUB College of Technology (formerly VoTech)
- June 19- Metra Park (upper parking lot)
- July 10- MSUB College of Technology (formerly VoTech)
- Aug 7- Lewistown
- Aug 20-21- EMS Facility (Helena) NorPac Divisional Solo II
- Aug 21- Black Otter Hill Climb
- Sept 4- EVO Phase III (at Skyview HS)
- Sept 5- Skyview

REMINDER: After the SCCA meeting on May 4 (8pm), there is a surprise party for Dennis McCollough's 50th birthday. This will be a complete & unexpected surprise to him so I hope you can make it. If you don't go to the meeting, it's ok. Just wait outside the meeting area (left), with the others, until the meeting ends.

Thanks to everyone who donated \$5 (and more sometimes) to his gift! A one week condo vacation in Las Vegas and round trip airfare has been purchased!! I am SO excited to see the look on his face when he opens the card signed by all his friends who bought it for him. Part of the gift I had in mind is for him to be reminded of how many friends he has and how blessed he is to have them.

Since money is still coming in, it goes to spending money for him (and only him-I paid my own portion and not a dime of his B-day money is touched by me). If you want to chip in and add your name to the card, just contact me. -Tammy McCollough

A teenager invites her date to meet her parents. He's tattooed, pierced, with spiked green hair. Dad says to the girl that the guy just isn't acceptable. "He looks like a trouble-maker and bad influence." The girl jumps to his defense and says "You're wrong, he's a great guy who never gets in trouble! Heck, he even does 40 hours of community service every week."

Classified Ads

This section is available for all SCCA members to advertise items for sale or in the want to buy section.

If interested, just contact the editor prior to the 15th of the month to get it into the following month's newsletter.

(continued Meeting Minutes from the front page)
The event chairman is to pick the function location and notify them. Dennis thought dash plaques would be nice to hand out to event participants. Ryan volunteered to look into the idea.

EVO School. Tammy McCollough stated that the phases of the EVO School must be done in order. The phase II scheduled would be open only to those that have taken phase I. It was decided that this would not allow many who want to take the school to participate. It was decided that the first scheduled EVO School would be a phase I and the second school a phase II.

Other: Ryan said he could put a forum area on the website for \$80.00 per year. It was decided to put this off for now.

Meeting adjourned.

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
TO
RYAN COLER
APRIL 15

*featured Member of the
Month*

This month begins a new tradition, to feature a Solo II competitor in the newsletter.

This month's lucky beneficiary is Ryan Coler.

Ryan says he has been competing for three years at local Solo II events. He was hooked the first time out, thanks to former Assistant RE, John Warg. He says his driving has greatly improved and he attributes it to guidance he's gotten from members with 20+ year of experience, watching others compete and, most importantly, seat time in his own car.

The highlight of Ryan's three years with YRSCCA, he says, was winning both the Grant Cameron and Dick Hager awards in 2004...after putting aside his first answer, that beating me was the highlight.

Ryan loves that this provides a safe and healthy outlet, in a controlled environment, for people with an aggressive driving streak. "It's safer than the streets and you don't have to dodge animals, people, or policemen", Ryan says.

His greatest hope, to newcomer and experienced alike, is that what is learned on the course spills over into daily driving. He understands that a lot of skill is involved in driving and that skill is honed in Solo II competition.

More EVO testimonials:

"Abandoning the Handbrake Turn" or "How I Learned to Love the Chicago Box"

I attended the Evolution Performance Driving School, Phase I, last year. Having autocrossed (SOLO II) on and off for the last 40 years, or so, I figured that I knew most everything. But, the car that I had been using all these years was a slow learner, not taking advantage of my vast knowledge. Not that I blamed the car; mind you. My wife has told me on many occasions that I am not a teacher but a short tempered lecturer. Time to bring in the professionals.

The "professionals," EVO School instructors, have earned their right to teach; years of track and solo experience and more than a few national champions among them. The schools are limited in size to allow plenty of one on one instruction and feedback.

The instructors set up a course that will contain the elements of a typical SOLO II. They set up a timing system that records how well the driver performed in each segment. These guys know the technique, the basic elements of how to drive a car quickly.

They don't need to know the quirks and strengths of the individual auto; they just strap themselves into a car they have never driven before and promptly beat the car owner's time. So quit spending endless dollars and hours screwing with your car and learn how to drive! If you want to learn (and learn quickly) the elements of good driving, taking the EVO School will get you there.

-Mark Richlen

Don't forget to plan for and invite all of your friends to join us for the Metra event, June 19.

This is an event that you do NOT want to miss!!

PHOTOS FROM EVO SCHOOL PHASE I 2004



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT

Instructor giving last minute instructions to a student.

Instructor talking through a run, telling a student what line to take and why.

Driver and student talking before a run.

YES, that IS smoke coming from the tires. See, EVO can even make a slow car look fast. Way to go, Mark!

Both instructors ready to answer a question from a student before a run.

Well, I've had a little time off to think about what to write in this column.

Unfortunately, I just couldn't think of too much to say. I'd like to offer a big pat on the back to Scott Cranston and Tammy McCollough for their contributions to our schedule and newsletter, accordingly.



I would like to remind everyone that our first event this year is coming up quickly (April 17th at the Vo-Tech). Hope to see lots of you there.

I would also like to remind you about the EVO driving schools. Folks, you just don't want to miss this!! You all saw the testimonials in the last newsletter. Wouldn't you like to be gushing about this experience too? Spaces are filling up quickly, so be sure to get your deposit in ASAP!!

As always, if you have questions or comments about the club or the website-feel free to call me or email me. -Ryan Coler

Preparing for Tech Inspections

- Make sure there are no leaks anywhere
- Have a clean trunk and interior (meaning NO loose materials floating around).
- Make sure battery is secure.
- Be sure all glass is in good condition.
- Have suitable tires with appropriate tread and no cording.
- Be certain that all safety restraints are in proper working condition and fasten securely.
- Nitrous bottles will need to be removed (aw shucks!).
- Catch can/fluid containment system, needs to be present.
- Hub caps/beauty rings need to be removed.
- Check for responsive brakes and steering.

Captain Snatch Block, abbreviated CSB (is that some kind of Honda?)

Here we are beginning a venue of fun and frolic slammed together by yours truly. Unfortunately, some of you think this year is going to be a cakewalk. Well, Martha Stewart, think again.

Do you remember the TV show Hogan's Heroes? You know, Klinger, Col. Klink and, of course, Hogan. Well it's over, unless... yup, meet your new Col. Klink. I pledge that we will not have any fun this summer unless everyone - that means YOU- gets involved with your responsibilities at the events. Need I go on?

Get ready! April 17 - MSUB College of Technology, is just around the pylon. Be prepared for tech and helmet inspections. Helmet requirements will not change this year. It is still the current and two immediately preceding Snell Foundation standards. A full pre-season refresher on technical and safety inspection standards is available on request. A partial list can be seen in the bottom corner at left.

Hey all, be ready for a fun gathering after each event this season. Dwight Gilliland has suggested that we gather together and have a "you-should-have-known-that-was-a-real-fire-hydrant" party.

If you show up to participate in a Solo II event AND(!) help clean up AFTER the event, maybe, just maybe, Klinger or Klink will buy you your beverage of choice. If you were particularly outstanding on that given Sunday, you may be recognized with some cheap token of appreciation, regardless that, in fact, you came out and used up your Grandmother's Honda (hubcaps removed, of course).

So, having been seen in your mirror, move over, I'm comin' through. [insertion by editor: But, Scott. In the mirror of my Honda, you are just a tiny little dot(lol).]

Scott Cranston
cranstonllc@hotmail.com



WEB SITES

-Yellowstone Region 108

www.yellowstonescca.com

-Southwest Montana Region (Pending)

www.swmtscca.org

-Eastern Idaho Sports Car Club

www.ida.net

-Big Sky Region (Missoula/Kalispell)

www.users.qwest.net/~sharpguy/

-Montana Region

www.geocities.com/montanascca/

-Northwest Hillclimb Association

<http://www.nhahillclimb.org/>

-McCullough Photography (SCCA event photos & more)

<http://www.gallery.com/mccolloughphoto/> (type exactly or get xxx site)

-Cars On Canvas

www.cars-on-canvas.com

Next Meeting:

April 6, 2005

at

Fuddruckers

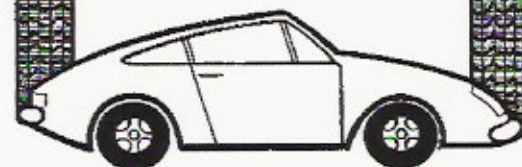
875 Main St

Billings

at

7:30pm.

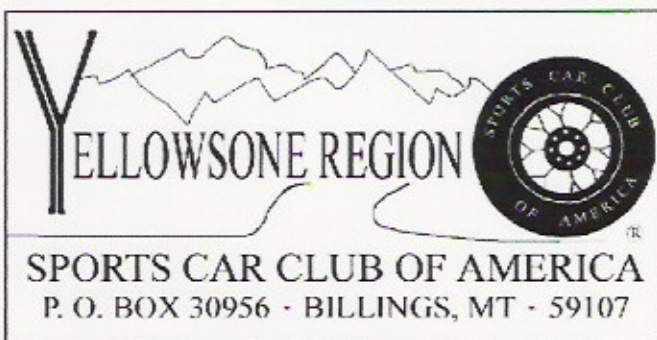
Hope to see you
there!



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

- *Did you know that a pickle will actually glow like a lightbulb, though not as brightly, when electricity is introduced into*

Fast Times



Dont forget to
tell your friends about
SCCA SOLO II

