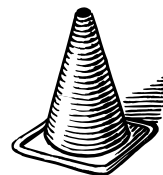


# Fast Times



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

## Meeting Minutes—Oct. and Nov. Meetings

As indicated on the Website, there will not be regular monthly meetings in October or November. Because of scheduling conflicts among the officers, the first Wednesdays in October and November did not work. The principal issue before the Board that needs to be resolved before year-end is the final selection of the new timing system. Accordingly, it was agreed that either a special meeting would be scheduled sometime in November, or the December regular meeting would be devoted to the timing system issue. (As of the publication of this newsletter, December 2nd is the most likely scenario.) The Board needs to devote a block of time to this topic due to the significant cost of a new system. Decisions such as whether to use wireless components have a huge impact on cost as do the choices of software and peripheral options. Under any scenario, the purchase will surely lessen the Region's bank balance!

With the year-end, the election of officers for 2010 also becomes an issue. As indicated in a previous issue, the position of Membership Chairman needs to be filled. Rumor has it that Jerod Staebler may be looking for someone to replace him as Competition Chairman—but we hope not!



## Regional Officers:

- Regional Executive:**  
Scott Cranston  
 region-exec@yellowstonescca.com
- Asst. Regional Executive:**  
Chris Brewer  
 asst-region-exec@yellowstonescca.com
- Competition Chairman:**  
Jerod Staebler  
 comp-chair@yellowstonescca.com
- Secretary/Treasurer:**  
J. Reuss  
 sec-treas@yellowstonescca.com
- Membership Chairman:**  
Vacant  
 member-chair@yellowstonescca.com
- Member-at-Large:**  
Dwight Gilliland

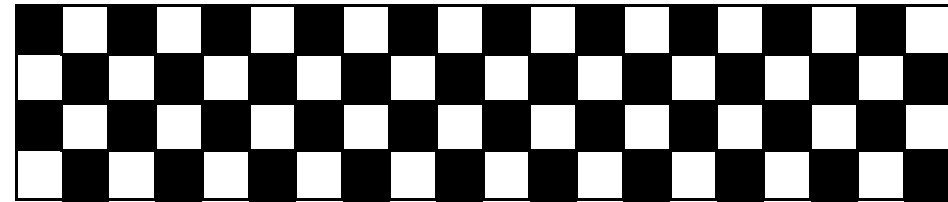
## GM III- by the Rovin' Regional Reporter

No. that isn't the new name of the newly-discharged-from-bankruptcy automobile manufacturer, it was the third event at GM Petroleum for the 2009 season. The 2009 season started in April at GM and ended in September at the same place. Although the morning was cool and drivers in the first run group complained about no traction, the sun soon warmed the asphalt and 22 drivers enjoyed 11 runs each. R.J. Matthew's STI beat the field by nearly 1-1/2 seconds. (I measured the temps of his slicks after his third run and they were a smoking' 152 degrees—not bad

for a cool autumn day!) Nels Jensen debuted his "new" ride at #2 overall, and Dave Marble placed third. Al Merkel and Scott Cranston struggled with traction problems in morning. (Al also struggled with going through the course in the right direction!) Krissy Martin "dusted" Randy Roberts in the "Battle of the Rexes." Dean Johnson's new MR-X so "dialed-in" that the Region may need to move him up a class or two next year! Christian Jackson and his beautiful silver Lancer showed real improvement over their first event three weeks earlier. Jerry

Tillinger took advantage of reduced entry fees offered to members of other Billings car clubs and burned a few miles off the rear tires of his beautiful 427 Roush Mustang. Nick Johnson was able to beat Joe Bonini's Mustang even though the Mini lacked 5th gear. Second-timer Brent Hergenraeder came within 0.2 seconds of beating Bonini. Jackie Bell eliminated all the mosquitoes from the site when power steering fluid squirted onto the exhaust manifold of the Torino. (Jeff took the Eclipse to Gillette for the day.) Newcomers Daniel Lee in a 240SX and Frank Jasper in an

Audi 80 had an enjoyable day and made some real progress over the day. George Berry and his 1971 Toyota Celica ended up in last place, but not for lack of trying. George struggled with a variety of mechanical issues that he couldn't get sorted out. James Reuss beat the Newsletter Editor by 0.32 seconds. The Webmaster took a few runs at the end of the day, but it was obvious that he needed a nap after eating too much birthday cake. Although GM is the smallest site the Region uses, it always seems to leave the drivers with big smiles on their faces. Chris Brewer set an excellent and challenging course (again) that took some time to find the "fast line." On behalf of all in attendance, thanks Chris!! J.





**Cranston's Corner — From the RE**

As I write this month's installment of "Cranston's Corner," there is snow on the ground and the 90+ degree temperatures of the Mustang Meet seem like a distant memory. Notwithstanding, my sincere thanks go out to all the members and participants who made the 2009 season a resounding success. Every event (except one) was profitable and we will soon have a shiny new timing system to show for it. The old Accucros system served us well over the years, but the MS-DOS-based system cannot be used on post-Windows 98 computers. Furthermore, with

the advent of the USB port, laptops on which Windows 98 will run are lacking in enough serial ports to run peripherals. Accordingly, the Region decided to modernize and purchase a modern system. The hope at this point is that our "Race America" time display will be compatible and that we can replace the track-feed printer with something more state-of-the-art. If you are interested, please attend the special meeting regarding the new system. (Thanks, Jay, for surrounding my column with beautiful 'Stangs!) SC Sent from my BlackBerry Smartphone.



**The Finish Line — From the Webmaster**

I was not able to get my ducks in a row and attend the October 3rd event at Hailey, ID, but when I checked the weather reports showing a high temperature of 36 degrees, I felt a little better. Looking at the Snake River Region website, I noted that 32 cars took 5 runs each during the one-day event at the airport. The blurbs on the website said the site was huge and the 70-90 second range of the times attested to that fact. Oh well, there's always next year. The 2009 Yellowstone Region season seemed to whiz past, but that is usually the case with summers in gen-

eral. The average two-events-per-month schedule seems to work out well and left time for other summer activities. Reese Newman texted to inform me that she was getting her head shaved live on Jackie Bell's morning K-Bear radio show. After the "shearing" was complete, Reese admitted that her head wasn't exactly shaved, but it sure felt like it. To prove that she hadn't really changed, Reese sent me a photo of another orphaned Audi that she was thinking of adding to her "stable." However, Reese and her "boy toy" recently purchased a house of their own and I presume the racing

budget has been trimmed somewhat. On a totally unrelated note, I have started a new feature on the homepage called "Do You Know Your Solo Rules." The plan is to change the question twice a month. I have tried to select solo rules that are either interesting or "frequently asked." Last, I have undertaken a mission to determine in what class(es) my yellow Chevy and the "\$300 Civic" truly belong. In doing so, I sure ran across some interesting rules. Please stay tuned for the next edition of Fast Times where it will be revealed why the "\$300 Civic" is not a Street Modified (SM) car and the yellow Chevy is not a Super Stock (SS) car. Interesting stuff. J.

**Errata — Times 2!**

I have been deluged by e-mails pointing out a glaring mistake in the September "The Finish Line." The article made mention of a Lotus Elise formerly owned by Dennis McCollough." It was correctly pointed out that Dennis has owned a Lotus Europa and a Lotus Elan, but never a Lotus Elise. Those astute readers are correct. Soon-to-be new member Louis Samoville also e-mailed to note that his last name was not Saunovich as reported in the IMM Autocross results. Louis' entry form was illegible and someone entered the name as Saunovich in the timing software, so Saunovich it became. Sorry!

**Monthly Region Meeting  
December 2, 2009  
GH&R Law Firm  
10 N. 27th St, Suite  
100  
6:30 p.m.**

**Websites**  
**Yellowstone Region 108**  
[yellowstonescca.com](http://yellowstonescca.com)  
**Southwest Montana Region**  
[swmtssca.com](http://swmtssca.com)  
**Montana Region (Great Falls)**  
[mtssca.com](http://mtssca.com)  
**Eastern Idaho Sports Car Club**  
[eisccax.com](http://eisccax.com)  
**Big Sky Region (Missoula/Kalispell)**  
[bigskyregion.org](http://bigskyregion.org)  
**Absaroka Region Porsche Club**  
[vista.pca.org/abs/index.html](http://vista.pca.org/abs/index.html)