

Fast Times



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

Meeting Minutes—December Meeting

The monthly membership meeting of the Yellowstone Region SCCA was called to order by Regional Executive **Chris Brewer** on Tuesday, December 1, 2015, at 6:00 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 October 2015 meeting as published in the October 2015 issue of *Fast Times*.

Treasurer's Report: Secretary/Treasurer **J. Reuss** reported the current checkbook balance and noted that all bills have been paid. A motion was MS&P to accept the Treasurer's Report. J. noted that the Region made money at most events this year and had no major expenditures. As a result, the Region's reserves have been restored to a more "comfortable" level.

Old Business: There was no old business to discuss.

New Business: **Chris Brewer** announced that he was resigning his position as Regional Executive effective the end of his current term. The resignation was reluctantly accepted by the board, however, it was noted that Chris faithfully served the Region as R.E. for 5 years, longer than any other R.E. since the Region was affiliated with the SCCA in 1986. J. provided a brief demonstration of the new website that has been created with the assistance of **Pat Whitmore** of **Pat Whitmore Creative Capital**. The new site will (hopefully) be rolled out in the next month or two. A discussion was held regarding the procedure to be followed with regard to locating new sites for events. It was reported that membership numbers for the Region were the highest in the past 15 years.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Regional Officers:

Regional Executive:

Chris Brewer

region-exec@yellowstonescca.com

Competition Chairman:

Tucker Stewart

comp-chair@yellowstonescca.com

Secretary/Treasurer:

J. Reuss

sec-treas@yellowstonescca.com

Member-at-Large:

Steve Gruver



Off Season—by the Roving Regional Reporter

For most automobile enthusiasts, during the offseason, when it gets too cold to work in the garage, the only things left are TV, the Internet, and print media. The month of December is probably the worst. The Rolex 24 and Barrett-Jackson Scottsdale are (seemingly) a year away. Most SCCA Regions have not updated their websites since competition ended in September, and money is being diverted from important things like car parts to Christmas presents. Unless you are a football fan,

December TV is a yawner. Mecum reruns are tempting, but there are only so many times you can hear "...and the bid goes on..." YouTube videos of 1000+ hp [fill in the blank] races/crashes/explosions,..., can kill time when you are really bored. Beyond that, you are pretty much left with *Auto* (not really) *week* and SCCA's rag, *SportsCar*. I noted in the January edition of *SportsCar* the former Region Member **Lara Tallman's** Pirelli World Challenge Touring Car won 7 out of

18 races in 2015. Unfortunately, Lara's lead driver, **Vesko Kosarov**, only finished 4th overall in the Driver's Championship. The photo at right captures our (new) fearless leader doing what he likes best—sharing his thoughts on his latest build. **Dean Johnson** is unquestionably an "autocrosser's autocrosser." Dean has resurrected his tubed-framed "MYT13B" and is making it better than ever. Watch for it during 2016. Thank, Dean for stepping up! You will be a great R.E.! J.



What's Brewin'? — From the Regional Executive



Wow, that was a fast five years! When I assumed the position of Regional Executive from **Scott Cranston** in January of 2011, I had no idea I would stay at the helm this long! However, I am turning the leadership of the Region over to a very capable and experienced member, **Dean Johnson**. Dean has been with the Region since (nearly) the beginning and is the currently the unofficial club historian. Dean has most often served as Competition Chair, but most recently as the Chief of Timing. Dean has

also served as tech inspector and "unofficial" Safety Steward. In fact, there are few jobs that Dean hasn't performed for the Region. As I turn the reins over to Dean, I am confident that the Region will continue to improve like it has over the past 5 years. Membership is at an all-time high, the Region is on solid financial footing, and we have promising leads for new event sites. With that, the final edition of What's Brewin' is "in the books," I say "thank you" for letting me serve as R.E.! C.B.



Race Notes — From the Competition Chair



2015 was a great season with some really great competition. The Region has long been toying with the idea of season-long championship, but has never been able to agree on the right formula. This past season I experimented with an unofficial championship based on PAX rankings. Each event, a driver who placed 1st would receive 10 points, second place would receive 8, third 6 points, and so on. I included members and non-members, but drivers needed to attend at least 3 of 5 events. Here are the results:

5th—**John Bonner** (8 points), 4th—**Luke Bonner** (12 points), 3rd—**Dean Johnson** (13 points), 2nd—**Chris Brewer** (28 points), 1st <TIE> **Orry Boettger** and **Tucker Stewart** (30 points). With some tweaking, this formula could be the basis for a Regional championship. On an unrelated note, it's going to be difficult to fill **Chris Brewer's** shoes. Chris has been the R.E. longer than I have been autocrossing. He has taught me so much about the sport and his efforts have been greatly appreciated! Thanks, Chris! T.S.



The Finish Line — From the Webmaster



As I indicated previously, the third time—and third bumper—was a charm and the \$300 Civic now has a new "nose." Thanks to **Mike Card** for the great match on the paint and the installation. It is unclear at this point if the new VSS (Vehicle Speed Sensor) solved the VTEC engagement problem, but all resources are now focused on the last piece of the puzzle—the hood. Less exciting progress was made this winter by installing an E-Track tie-down system in the team's trailer. I was lucky to have never had a seri-

ous problem with the el-cheapo 1" ratcheting tie-downs I have used for many years, but I figured my luck might be running out. The galvanized E-Track and 2" ratchet straps create a great (and flexible) system to hold the Civic solidly in place. In other good news, the Region has a new logo! The Club has needed a multi-color logo for quite some time to use on t-shirts, trophies, and signage. In December, the Board accepted the three-color logo design at the lower left. I think it will serve the Region well! J.



Monthly Region Meeting
January 5, 2016
GH&R Law Firm
 175 N. 27th Street
 Suite 903
 6:00 p.m.

Websites
 Yellowstone Region 108 (Billings) yellowstonescca.com
 Southwest Montana Region (Bozeman) swmtssca.com
 Montana Region (Great Falls) mtssca.com
 Eastern Idaho Sports Car Club eirscca.com
 Big Sky Region (Missoula/Kalispell) bigskyregion.com
 Absaroka Region Porsche Club abs.pca.org
 Maui SCCA mauiscca.net