



SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB NEWS



VOLUME 4 NUMBER 5

MAY 1999

A CHAPTER OF THE MIATA CLUB OF AMERICA

UPCOMING EVENTS



May 1—Saturday
SOCALM and Mazda present
Miatas Across America
Send-Off Party



May 2—Sunday
Autocross at the "Q"



May 15—Saturday
Rallye For the Cure
Benefiting the Leukemia Society



May 22—Saturday
Curve-O-Rama
Fun Run



May 27—Thursday
Monthly Meeting



May 29-30
Autocross at the "Q"



June 5—Saturday
Miata'n'Stuff
Swap Meet



June 6—Sunday
Miatas in the Philippine
Independence Parade



June 13—Sunday
Run to the Stars 3
Joint Run with SOCALM



June 19—Saturday
Custom & Classic
Car Show
Benefiting the Access Center



July 4—Saturday
4th of July Parade
Scripps Ranch

From the Editor

Like a Rock...

Every month I try to write something meaningful here for the membership to read. Sometimes I feel good about what I have written, other times it's like pulling teeth to get anything down on paper. Just ask STEF GOULD. Every month, she has to firmly but pleasantly remind me that the deadline has passed and I am the only one she is waiting for.

This month, I want to take this space to remind every member of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB how enormously indispensable Stef Gould is to this organization. The fact of the matter is, the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB would not function without Stephanie Gould. Plain and simple. She is the engine that keeps this machine going. Not only does she spend countless hours in front of her computer working on the newsletter, but she has also been the focal point for all of the planning and scheduling of events and runs. Stef has maintained a separate E-mail list for members who want only information on club runs and events. She has negotiated the best possible prices, and gotten freebies too, when the club needed to print membership and recruiting cards. The club merchandise— pins, static-cling decals, watches, shirts, and sweatshirts are products of many dedicated, and often thankless, hours of work by Stef and her husband Tom.

As a team, Stef and Tom have given us our identity with the wonderful club logo. Tom designed this logo in the first few months of the club's existence. Together they have worked with each member of every board elected to run the club, and have done so with the utmost professionalism. Consistently, as the club has taken on new projects, the amount of volunteer effort put forth by Stef, and ultimately Tom, has grown.

Thankfully, we now have several volunteers to take some of the burden from Stef. What is telling in all this is that it takes multiple people to handle SOME of the tasks that Stef has been shouldering alone so far. I personally want to thank these members

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH

The outgoing Board, on behalf of the club, presented Stef and Tom with gifts of appreciation at the Annual Meeting. From left to right: Voodoo Bob Krueger, Barb Shev, Tom and Stef Gould, Laurie Waid and Rainer Mueller.



SOCALM EVENTS

Pre-Anniversary Social

Date: Friday, April 30

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Motel 6, (949) 261-1515

1717 East Dyer Road, Irvine CA

Directions: I-405 to the 55, exit the 55 Freeway at Dyer Road East. Right onto Dyer, Left onto Pullman.

Coordinators: Jaime & Jeanne Villacorte, (714) 838-6208, jaimev@netcom.com

This very casual social is the evening before the Irvine event (*see opposite*). For late arrivals, we'll leave directions for where we'll be at the front desk.

Motel Cost: \$44.99, double: \$50.99. King rooms are blocked under MIATA.

Oranges, Ojai, and Ocean Run

Date: Saturday, May 15th

Time: Run will start at 10:30 a.m.

Place: Marie Callendars, Valencia.

Contact: Stan Widger, (661) 259-1480, SWidger@aol.com.

We will travel from Santa Clarita through the orange groves, over the hills, down to the Ojai Valley to the ocean at Carpenteria for lunch.

Krispy Kreme Fun Run

Date: Saturday, May 22, 1999

Time: 9:00 a.m. — meet at Krispy Kreme, 10:00 a.m. — Fun Run

Place: Krispy Kreme

(melt-in-your-mouth glazed donuts)
1801 W. Imperial Highway, La Habra

Contact: Jaime & Jeanne Villacorte, (714) 838-6208, jppandes@earthlink.net
Fun Run through the hills in La Habra Heights, and down through Carbon Canyon. The run will end at The Marketplace in Irvine.

Nixon Presidential Library: Presidential Classic Car Show

Date: Saturday, May 29, 1999

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Place: Borders Books and Music parking lot (Brea Plaza Shopping Center)

Contact: Jaime & Jeanne Villacorte, (714) 838-6208, jppandes@earthlink.net
Presidential politics, history, and classic cars. Please RSVP to Jeanne by May 22nd. General Admission: \$5.95 adults (>12), \$3.95 seniors (>62)

Socalm contacts:

President— K. Zack Broadbent, (714) 525-9065, racerzack@aol.com
Club E-mail list: socalm@avatar.com
Web site: socalm.org

AUTOCROSS AT THE "Q"



The following autocross events are *tentatively scheduled* to take place in the parking lot of the Qualcomm Stadium.

Sunday, May 2 race day

Saturday, May 29 practice day

Sunday, May 30 race day

There will be no autocross events at the "Q" during the months of June and July.

To confirm autocross information call:

San Diego SCCA Hotlines (619) 441-1333
(800) 360-4454

Web page www.sdr-solo2.com

Rainer Mueller (760) 439-0067

John Godden (619) 538-6165

Come participate or watch our club members race at the autocross (timed event). To participate you need to register for a Solo II card and number (\$15) and have a DOT approved helmet. Loaner helmets are available at the autocross.

In addition to the Board members and volunteers listed to the right, the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB has more volunteers who help the club by performing various functions:

Club Regalia

Barb Shev, (619) 679-0777,
mooncalf@aol.com

Club Historian

Diane Long, (619) 566-6973,
djaws@san.rr.com

Name Badges

Sue Hinkle, (760) 735-9456,
sportscarr@aol.com

So You Want to Go Online?

The SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB urges members to go online. The club maintains an impressive Web presence and a private, members-only E-mail list for exchange of information and up-dates of club activities.

Reprints of the club's informative two-part article are available from Stef Gould at club events.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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NOTICES

THE SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB is an official chapter of the MIATA CLUB OF AMERICA.

We are a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to promote the enjoyment of—and enthusiasm for—the Mazda Miata.

SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB NEWS is the monthly newsletter of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB. Use of articles or stories by other MCA chapters is hereby granted, provided proper credit is given.

Submissions to the newsletter are welcomed and encouraged. Did you just add a new accessory to your Miata? How about writing a review for the newsletter? Where possible, please E-mail your submissions to the newsletter editor. Submissions can also be faxed to the club's dedicated phone line or mailed to the club's post office box. Submission deadline is the 15th of each month. Editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Internet: THE SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB has established a dedicated World Wide Web Home Page at <http://www.sandiegomiataclub.org>. The club has a members-only electronic mail list for those members with E-mail capability.

Dedicated 24-hour voice/fax phone line:

(619) 670-7948

SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB

P.O. Box 2286
Spring Valley, CA 91979-2286



Meeting Places

"Miatas Across America"

Send-Off Party & Fun Run

SOCALM and Mazda's Joint Event
with *All of the California Miata Clubs!*

Date: Saturday, May 1

Time: 8:00 a.m. for food, 9:30 for the run

Place: Mazda R&D Center,
1421 Reynolds Ave, Irvine

Directions: I-405, exit at MacArthur and head North, away from John Wayne Airport. Turn Right at Red Hill Avenue. Turn Left immediately onto Reynolds Ave.

Coordinator: K. Zack Broadbent,
(714) 449-9280, racerzack@aol.com

There is no cost to attend the party at Mazda R&D. It's rumored that those in attendance will receive a special gift from Mazda!*

This is California's chance to celebrate the Miata's Ten Year Anniversary, and kickoff the "Miatas Across America" drive to the anniversary event in Texas.

8 a.m.—The day will start with breakfast provided by Mazda North American Operations. Expect to see many Mazda personnel in attendance, including Alan Childers, Jim Jordan, and surprise guests.

A 10th AE Miata will be on display along with full-scale clay models, the M Coupe, the M Speedster, and other concepts.

9:30 a.m.—A short presentation and driver's meeting. Fun Run (starts at 10), has 120 miles of just about every kind of road. Members headed to Texas can "break away" near the 91, 15, or 215. For those not headed to Texas, plan for a day of driving. *Make sure your Miata has a full tank of gas, bring sunscreen, and plenty of liquid to drink.* There will be restroom breaks and a lunch break (lunch options include fast food as well as a Chinese buffet, IHOP, and Sizzler).

3:30 p.m.—The run will end along the coast in southern Orange County at The Salt Creek Grill on PCH at Crown Valley Parkway. It's a little on the expensive side, but has very good food, drinks, and plenty of parking.

*Please RSVP to racerzack@aol.com, or Geri (760) 787-0624, wooddust@aol.com if you plan to attend the party.

Autocross at the "Q"

Date: Sunday, May 2

Time: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Place: Qualcomm Stadium, west lot.

Race Day— Come out and show support for our club's autocross racers.

Rallye For the Cure

Benefiting the Leukemia Society

Date: Saturday, May 15

Time: 9 a.m. (staggered start times)

Place: University Towne Centre parking lot, near Sears

Coordinators: Brenda Breen,
(619) 571-0267 or breen@usiu.edu;
Ken and Carla Tooker, (619) 583-9020
or kntsd@hotmail.com

This fun road rallye benefits the Leukemia Society. Each Miata *must* have a copilot to navigate the many curvy Miata roads. The rallye will end around 4 p.m. with dinner and prizes at a surprise destination. We will provide snacks at each pit stop, where you will drop off your old instructions and pick up new ones, we recommend that you pack a light lunch. (Fast food restaurants are located at the three pit stops.) *Please arrive with a full gas tank!* There are no gas stations (or bathroom facilities) at the rallye's start (there are restrooms at the three pit stops). The total rallye cost (including dinner for two) is \$25 per car. **To register, please print form on page 12 and snail-mail it with your check, by May 10th.**

More Curves Per Mile Than Ever Before!

Date: Saturday, May 22

Time: Pre-Run Lunch— 11:30 a.m.
Run Start— 1:00 p.m.

Place: Pre-Run Lunch— Dalton's Roadhouse, San Marcos. Highway 78, Nordahl exit. North on Nordahl about a quarter mile, Dalton's is on your left. *Note:* You have to go past it, and U-turn. Run Start Point— Just West of I-15 at Deer Springs Road exit (North of Escondido). Meet on the hill, at the end of the road, by the Texaco station.

Run Leaders: Laurie and Steve Waid,
(619) 673-4141, swaid2@san.rr.com

This run is for all of you who enjoy driving your Miata in the environment that it was designed for— turns, switchbacks, hills. This run will cover about 130 miles of the club's favorite roads. If you recognize Couser Canyon, Mesa Grande, Wynola Road, Engineers Road, Old Julian Highway, and Highland Valley Road, and it doesn't start the adrenaline flowing, then you either haven't driven them yet, or have already "assumed room temperature." Bring water to drink and a FULL TANK OF GAS— Don't confuse the two!

UPCOMING NATIONAL AND REGIONAL EVENTS

May 6-9, 1999

Miata World '99

Miata 10th Anniversary Celebration,
LONE STAR MIATA CLUB (Dallas/Ft. Worth)
Web site: www.Miata99.com
Toll free info: (877) MIATA 99

May 20-23, 1999

3rd Annual Gathering at Four Corners Vallecito Reservoir— Bayfield, Colorado

Once again clubs from all over the west will descend on the Four Corners area for a weekend of spontaneous fun!

Contact: Wanda, UTAH MIATA CLUB
Wahbates@compuserve.com

May 22-23, 1999

Laguna Seca Track Day

Monterey, CA

3rd annual event— limited to 50 Miatas
\$350 registration fee due by April 1st!
aaron@miata.net or (408) 738-3290
<http://members.aol.com/leanangle1/auto>

July 16-18, 1999

Cool Weekend on the Coast

Eureka, California

REDWOOD COAST MIATA CLUB presents a weekend of fun runs, autocrosses and rallies. Saturday dinner \$27. additional Registration \$45 per/car (one breakfast), Autocross \$10 per/driver (1st timers), \$15 others. Poker Rally \$5 per player
Contact: Austin at (707) 826-9006 or calife@clcrealty.com

July 30-August 1, 1999

3rd Annual Deal's Gap Run

The Gap, known for its extreme number of turns and switchbacks (318 in 11 mi.) is located in the mountains of North Carolina and Tennessee. This is largest "non-event" for Miata enthusiasts on the East coast! No registration fee.
www.dickson.net/doc/gap/index.shtml

August 27-29, 1999

Monterey Historic Races

This year the featured marque is Auto Union. Audi will bring the legendary Auto Union Grand Prix cars of the 30s along with its own racers like the fabulous Audi Quattros. That's, of course, in addition to the usual "Historics" fare, nearly 400 of the finest historic race cars to be found anywhere. In honor of the Historics 25th anniversary of the there will be a display of past Monterey Cup-winning cars.
www.laguna-seca.com/hist.htm



Monthly Meeting

Date: Thursday, May 27

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: Boll Weevil

9330 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.
(At Ruffin Rd.), San Diego
(619) 571-6225

This event is the single best way to meet your fellow club members, ask questions, share stories, etc. Don't miss the fun!

Autocross at the "Q"

Date: Saturday & Sunday, May 29–30

Time: 9:00 a.m.– 4 p.m.

Place: Qualcomm Stadium, west lot.

Saturday is a Practice Day, Sunday, a Race Day. Come out and show support for our club's autocross racers.

for helping the club by helping Stef. (See page 2.)

I actually started writing this prior to the annual membership meeting, held on April 17. At that meeting, I was very proud to see the recognition given to Stef and Tom Gould. For the past two years, former SDMC President Mark Booth has awarded them the President's Member of the Year award. Outgoing president Rainer Mueller continued this year with his own special award. He presented a framed poster of the '91 British Racing Green Special Edition, one of which, of course, they own. The outgoing board also presented Stef with a gold Miata necklace and Tom with a personalized and engraved pen set, in

BRG as well!

One of the best things to happen to me in my lifetime has been the friends that I have made as a result of buying a little sports car nine years ago. Since the formation of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB, the number of people that I hold dear has jumped tremendously. At the top of that group is a small number that I respect and admire. Stef and Tom Gould are right there on top.

I hope that each one of you has the opportunity to thank Stef and Tom for all they do, everyday, for this club. — Now if I can just get this in before the deadline!

Take care and have fun!

— ANTHONY WILDE

The Snakebite Saga

Having seen the recent article about tech days in the club newsletter, I proposed one.

I wanted to do my own shock replacement. While I was at it, I also planned to upgrade the springs to high rate 'racing' springs. Also in need of shock help, BONNIE AND MICHAEL VERNE provided a garage, while I bribed the experts with the promise of burgers.

The hosts' car went together without a hitch, but when we started to take apart Windy (my red '90) it started to get ugly. The shocks I'd purchased were

missing the hardware. Not just a few pieces, but *all* of it. Which turned out to NOT be such a big problem, after all. Stripped bolts (courtesy of Robert's Foreign Auto of Pacific Beach) from the previous shock replacement prevented us from getting my car completely apart. So the missing hardware presented no problem—we couldn't have used it if we'd had it!

But it gets even better. I limped my baby home, and got her up on jacks at my house. I ordered a replacement A-arm for my rear suspension, and club member BRIAN GOODWIN (Good-Win Racing) swapped my shocks for complete ones. When my parts arrived, STEF GOULD offered to come over and help me one evening. We changed out the A-arm without problem, but discovered that I was missing some important tools. It was late at night—I sent Stef home with my thanks.

That weekend, after buying and borrowing the requisite tools, I decided to dive into the job on my own. Got the parts out, got the shock assemblies apart, and UH-OH! Racing Beat had sent me mismatched springs. What else could possibly go wrong? I called VOODOO BOB KRUEGER for advice, since he'd been so helpful during our first run at the repair. He said on the phone that he'd never seen such a snakebit job—little was he to know, there was more to come.

The replacement springs arrived quickly (thanks again to Brian) the Orange Blossom Run was fast approaching—I really wanted to go on that run! At this point, my car had been apart, sitting for a month, and I was beginning to feel desperate. I sent out a plaintive plea for help—without any advance notice 'JT' HOLLAND, Voodoo Bob, his wife VICKY, TOM and STEF GOULD, and BARB and ELLIOT SHEV came over on a wet and rainy Thursday night to help me put my car back together. These people hardly knew me, yet were willing to come over to help. The rear shocks went into the car, without difficulty this time.

Because my garage is too small to work on both ends of the Miata, we had to start the car to turn it around—dead battery. Into the rain, they pushed me down the alley in a futile attempt to bump start it. Failing at this, I tried jumper cables. Blinded by the subsequent actinic glare (which also fried the main fuse) we dragged Windy back up the alley to the garage. I was really ready to throw in the towel at this point, but



PHOTO: DIANE LONG

Greg and Elliot at work during "phase one" of the snakebite saga.

VBob and JT insisted that we push on. I scrambled off to the auto parts store for a replacement fuse, my wife CHRIS ordered pizza for the gang. (You've got to have food at any event with this group—I think it's even in the bylaws!)

Well, we finally got the front shocks in, the battery was charged, and I was able to go on Barb and Elliot Shev's Orange Blossom Run, after all!

(Pictures of that event are available online at: <http://members.home.net/maiser/obr.html>)

I cannot thank enough the wonderful people who have been so helpful and supportive in getting my Miata together. People who, not so very long ago, were complete strangers. We are all truly blessed to have such people in this club. Thanks, you guys! I'm grateful to be part of this group.

— GREG MAISER





PHOTO: WOODY WOODHOUSE, DIGITAL TRICKERY: TOM GOULD

Blue Angels Air Show

March 13, 1999

Brrrr! It was cold at O-dark-thirty as our hardy band gathered in Mission Valley for a run over the mountains to what we hoped would be warmer temperatures in the desert. Despite the ear chilling temperature, most Miatas chose to run topless



and run leader STEF GOULD had us on the freeway toward El Centro just as the sun was peeking over the horizon. A hundred miles of straight Interstate driving is not your typical SDMC run but we were scheduled to be on the base by 8:30 a.m. so the twisties would have to wait for another day. After a rest stop at Jacumba, we headed down the mountain and into blessed warmth of the Imperial Valley. Counting a few stragglers picked up along the way and Kris Sanders of SOCALM, who joined us at the final queue-up point, 26 Miatas drove onto NAF El Centro. Thanks to SKIP LOWDER, who had arranged VIP treatment for our group, we were waved onto the field and parked on pavement behind the main grandstand along with a couple of motorcycle clubs whose members expressed interest in our cars as we examined their machines.

Jackets were quickly shed as temperatures rose into the eighties and we all headed for the planes on static display. Military aircraft of every vintage were present at El Centro and seeing them close up brought back a lot of memories for the veterans among us. WWII planes with big piston engines seemed to be the favorites for the older guys and the younger crowd naturally

gravitated toward the latest F-14, F-15, F-16, and Harrier Jump Jet. My personal choice had to be the B-17 flown in by the Confederate Air Force, an organization that preserves old warbirds in flying condition. Their Flying Fortress is all polished aluminum and my hat's off to the volunteers who can keep that huge airplane as spotless as MARK BOOTH'S Miata while flying to airshows across the country.

There was an extensive vendor area offering art, models, aviation and military memorabilia for the souvenir hunter as well as a variety of food stands where we had lunch before heading to the grandstand to watch the planes in action. The flying demonstrations offered something for every taste, from tiny biplanes doing aerial gymnastics that seemed to defy the laws of physics to awesome displays of the latest jet fighters' capabilities. We were also treated to the lovely sound of two Rolls-Royce Merlin-powered Mustangs, while a Bearcat, Tigercat, Skyraider, and T6 provided radial engine fans with their favorite music.

El Centro is the winter home of the Navy's Flight Demonstration Team, The Blue Angels, and the Blues annually begin their season with the El Centro show. This was the highlight of the air-show and the Angels thrilled us for nearly an hour with their precision maneuvers in tight formation. Watching the FA-18 Hornets maintain a scant three feet separation while looping

and rolling inverted at speeds of nearly five hundred miles an hour gave everyone a new appreciation for the cream of the crop in Naval Aviation.

Leaving the airshow, our convoy headed back over the mountains toward San Diego and was treated to one final aerial display. A dozen or so paragliders were taking advantage of the late afternoon wind and soaring their brightly colored canopies in ridge lift just north of the freeway. We waved a greeting and realized that it was getting hungry out, so about half the Miatas split off at Alpine for an early supper. This had been a long day but all present agreed that the El Centro Airshow run should be a regular on the calendar. Thanks to the Navy for a great show, and to Skip for getting us the great parking— my sunscreen and desert hat are ready for next year.

—WOODY WOODHOUSE



PHOTO: WOODY WOODHOUSE



PHOTO: STEVE WAD'S CAMERA



SDMC Parade and the Auto Show

April 1, 1999

The media called it an April fools joke on San Diego— over 0.50 inches of rain in some parts of the county after several clear and sunny days. A strange day to have a parade, but this is the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB— a little rain doesn't stop us from having fun!

So thirteen, mostly top-down, Miatas were waiting in the parking lot of the Auto Museum to join Mazda Corporation in a short parade to the Auto Show.

Given that we were standing under threatening skies, it was a nice surprise



to see ART HAMILTON arrive with his brand new 10th Anniversary Miata— what a car. Art gave us

top up-down demonstrations (is it raining?), while MARK BOOTH ran back and forth between wiping the rain spots off his car and taking digital photographs.

After plying us with juice and muffins Mazda Corporation Western Regional Sales Manager Dave Pyle told us that the local news would be following the parade to highlight the introduction of the 10th AE. Sure enough, a TV van pulled up, looked for good vantage points, and we ended up with a spot on the evening news.

The parade route took us through downtown San Diego, along the harbor, past the Star of India, Seaport Village,



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH

and in front of the Convention Center. With instructions to attract attention, we all took the opportunity to show off our air horns. This caused several bystanders to comment: "Look, they're all the same. Is this a club?"

We finished with a flourish— lining up to drive past the Convention Center entrance, on TV with horns blaring!

And the rain? Well of course it stopped, just long enough to allow the parade to go through, then it poured. Must have been that Z3 model I burned as an offering to the Japanese rain god. Thanks to everyone for turning up on a workday in the rain. What great people there are in the SDMC!

Auto Show

After the parade and throughout the weekend, SDMC members gave of their time to staff the SDMC table at the San Diego International Auto Show. This was in response to a kind invitation from Mazda to share their space at the show. We have done this in the past and it's a lot of fun, with all sorts of questions about Miatas and the club asked by show visitors. My personal favorite was "Do you have two sets of golf clubs, so I can try out the trunk?"

Basically, we answered questions, gave out club literature to interesting(ed!) people, and generally spent a few hours talking about our favorite car. Given that we were doing this surrounded by a Black PEP, a Silver T, an Emerald Green LE, and the Sapphire Blue 10th Anniversary Miata, it turned out to be a pretty good way to have fun *out of the driving seat* and it was FREE!

This year, in addition to the normal fare, the auto show organizers gave us an insight into the design process. Mazda had a whole room dedicated to the Miata's development, with styling sketches, another 10th AE, and a particularly interesting Miata pedal car!

Of course the LaForza display had the Monster Miata, which was a great place to send the muscle-car guys when they started to question the standing quarter-mile time of the standard Miata.

If you did not volunteer this year, put the auto show on your calendar for next year— it's a blast. To those who volun-



PHOTO: TOM GOULD





PHOTO: TOM GOULD



PHOTO: TOM GOULD



PHOTO: DIANE LONG

teered: MARK BOOTH, PHIL DAoust, STEF GOULD, ART HAMILTON, JACK & SUE HINKLE, ROBERT HOLLAND, JOHN MARTINEZ & JUDY POWELL, SCOTT & JOANNA LANGHOFF, ED & MICHELLE LANGMAID, DIANE LONG, DIANA PAGE, BARB & ELLIOT SHEV, FRANK SHINE, LOU STARK, MIKE THOMAS, STEVE & LAURIE WAID, ANTHONY WILDE, and WOODY WOODHOUSE—
Thank you once again!

— MIKE PAGE

Upcoming Event

June 6 is the day the San Diego Filipino community will celebrate the 101st anniversary of the Philippines' independence from Spain. A parade through downtown San Diego will be followed by a fair with entertainment and over 100 booths centering around the County Administration building at the waterfront.

This is the first year the event's organizers have invited multicultural groups to be a part of their celebration. The SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB (along with the North County Corvette Club, Antique Automobile Club, and the Al Bahr Band) has been invited to be a unit in the parade and to carry dignitaries, as seated passengers— not on our deck lids. It is our plan to make a rolling Philippine flag (red, white and blue stripes with a yellow star in the middle) surrounded by other colors of Miatas.

SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB drivers participating in the parade will be treated to a Filipino lunch! *To be part of this community event, please RSVP to Geri Causarano as soon as possible at (760) 787-0624 or wooddust@aol.com.*

Spring Is Here—

It's Time to Clean Out Your Garage!

If you've been saving the oil drained out of your Miata (or OTM) now is a good time to recycle it. The City of San Diego has two collection events in May:

Saturday May 15

Qualcomm Stadium (parking lot, section J) 9 a.m. – 1p.m.

Saturday May 22

Montgomery High School, 3250 Palm Ave. (at Hawaii Ave.) 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

They will accept a maximum of 10 gallons of used oil (*Please transport in a sealable container*), antifreeze, oil

filters, and automotive batteries.

The May 22 event is also for household hazardous waste, such as pesticides, paints, pool chemicals and solvents. These events, sponsored by the City of San Diego, are open ONLY to residents of the city.

For more information, call — (619) 235-2105 for the used oil program or (619) 235-2105 for the household hazardous waste program. If you are not in the City of San Diego, please contact your city's environmental affairs department or the county agency for similar events in your area. Most auto parts stores and repair shops will also accept used oil for recycling.

—ANTHONY WILDE



Orange Blossom Run II

Sit Back and Smell the Flowers

April 3, 1999

It was a beautiful, warm, sunny San Diego day as a group of...wait a minute, that's the way this article *should* start. If memory serves me well—it was a bit cold, a bit overcast and not a typical San Diego day at all. Despite the weather, 24 Miata faithfuls, including two 10th Anniversary Editions, showed up for a fun day together.

We met at North County Fair, driving through Escondido (through a few mud holes I found) on our way to smell the flowers. The traffic was very light, which made it easy for us to stay together.

Much to my disappointment, the cold weather had delayed the blossoms. As cold as it was, there was no chance of waiting around to smell the oranges.

Next, a rest stop for food, fuel, and relief. Continuing on our route, we made our way through Temecula—amazing, still no traffic! After we stopped—signed and traffic-lighted our way through town we queued up prior to our journey over Ortega Highway. Oh no—we're behind a Neon following something even smaller!

Fortunately, they bailed at the BBQ motorcycle stop. From there on it was clear sailing all the way into Dana Point. We found that we had the park all to ourselves—I guess at 20 below zero, most folks stay home. Some of us thought that, while the driving was great fun, even if the weather wasn't the best,

the cool air and gale force winds were a bit much for a picnic.

Those of us who find eating a significant part of a Miata run stayed and pleaded with Steve Waid to talk the Sun Gods into clearing the sky and warming things up. The sun came out, but it was still cold. Most of us left for destinations unknown at about 2:30, and those of us

who still hadn't had enough followed Steve for a home run. (Hey, I like that.) We all made it before the rain came.

So, until next year on Orange Blossom III, take care and I will try to pick the right date this time. By the way, I drove through the valley on Sunday, the 18th, and did it smell GREAT!
—ELLIOT SHEV



PHOTO: LEWIS BERGER



PHOTO: JEFF DODGE



PHOTO: ED LANGMAID



PHOTO: GREG MAISER



Racing Beat Open House

April 10, 1999

It was very nice of the Weather Gods to clear away the winter storms for our trek up RACING BEAT and their open house event in the warm spring sun. Eight Miatas made the long journey up to Anaheim for the start of the festivities. I never did a count, but there were quite



a few other Miatas there to partake of the food and drink, as well as to take advantage of the 10% discount

on all their merchandise. There was a large gathering from SOCALM, as well as a few from VROOM and even a couple of Miatas from Arizona.

RACING BEAT has two buildings, one for testing and manufacturing, and the other for sales. Around 10 a.m., we walked over to the R&D shop to look at their work-in-progress parts, watch a rotary engine run on their engine dyno, and view the current offerings from



PHOTO: TOM WOOD

Art Hamilton's 10th AE on the front lawn at Racing Beat's Open House.

K&N, Yokohama, and Tokiko.

After loading up on venter brochures, we wandered back to the main office building to eat our fill of hamburgers and hotdogs while doing the usual perusal of the Miatas assembled in the parking lot. One of the best ways to see how the parts work and look is to view what has been done to someone else's car.

After lunch, many of us went into the sales office and took advantage of the

discount RACING BEAT was offering, and bought some of their parts. Hmm, I wouldn't be surprised if a "Tech Day" pops up sometime in the not so distant future!

So now, after our credit cards had taken a severe beating, a few of us drove over to Steelhead Brewery in Irvine (no thanks to my very close, but not-quite-so-accurate directions), so that we could relax and enjoy the camaraderie that we Miata folks have grown accustomed to over the years.

I want to personally thank RACING BEAT for inviting us to their shop for the open house, and to all the staff for their hospitality as well as their generosity of food and drink. I also want to thank K&N, Tokiko, and Yokohama for putting up displays of their products. If RACING BEAT holds another such event in the not-so-distant future, I strongly recommend you set aside that day!

—ROBERT "JTBOB" HOLLAND

Annual Meeting Hijinx

The sun was shining on the picnic; the Automotive Museum made the perfect venue; Rainer approved his official portrait; and members carb-loaded after and before impromptu runs.



PHOTO: TOM GOULD



PHOTO: TOM GOULD



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH





Member Profile

BRENDA BREEN

I bought my 1994 Black Miata a year and half ago, and I have absolutely loved it ever since! It's my first convertible and sports car. I rented a convertible when I went to Hawaii for vacation 2½ years ago, it was then that I decided my next car would be a convertible.

I am a marathon runner and I was training for my 3rd marathon with hopes of qualifying for the 1998 Boston Marathon. I qualified with a strong finish in

the 1997 Marine Corps Marathon— I was going to Boston! I bought my Miata immediately afterward as a gift to myself for qualifying! Running in the Boston marathon was a dream come true for me and truly an awesome experience. I have run a total of five marathons so far, with the most recent being the '99 Los Angeles Marathon. I am now training for the '99 San Francisco and New York City

Marathons. In 2000 I plan to run Chicago, possibly Paris, and of course the San Diego Rock'n'Roll marathon (which benefits the Leukemia Society).

When I decided to run marathons, I joined the San Diego Track Club and Leukemia Team in Training. Running my first marathon was a personal goal; however, raising money for children who have been diagnosed with leukemia, and knowing I could contribute to make a difference in someone else's life made my experience most rewarding. I have been involved with the Leukemia

Society of America for close to three years now, both as a fund-raising participant/runner and as a mentor.

"Rallye for the Cure," scheduled for May 15th, will be my first go at organizing an event for the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB, the proceeds from this event will go directly to the Leukemia Society of America. The route for the rallye includes many Miata-type roads and I guarantee it will be a lot of fun!

My Miata has been so much fun, and participating in the club events has been most enjoyable. I found out about the Miata Club at the auto show last year where I met Mark Booth and Voodoo Bob. They told me all about the club and invited me to join in on a run to check it out. I did and then I joined! This club is a lot of fun and has wonderful people in it.

As for my profession, I am a Director of Administrative Information Systems at USIU. I am a Christian, own a town home, and have a sheltie named "Shelby." I am a health and exercise enthusiast, enjoy golf, theatre, hiking, and, of course, driving my Miata. I look forward in joining you all on many Miata events to come.

—BRENDA

New Members!

New members since the last newsletter:

Jason Bondad & Joan Paje

San Diego
1999 Emerald Green

Hal Clark

Palm Springs
1996 Red A

Vickie & Dan Clemons

San Diego
1999 Twilight Blue Leather

Eric French

Chula Vista
1994 Red B

Bruce Furbush & Roseanne Meyerhoff

Escondido
1993 Red B

Howard & Dorothy Glaesner

La Mesa
1994 M (Montego Blue)

Marci Holcomb

San Diego
1999 Silver PEP

John & Dee Horsman

El Cajon
1999 10th AE (Sapphire Blue)

Gordon A. Long

El Cajon
1999 10th AE (Sapphire Blue)

Anne S. Marshall

Santee
1999 10th AE (Sapphire Blue)

Linda Parks

Ramona
1993 Mariner Blue

Ken & Melissa Platt

San Diego
1999 Emerald Green Leather

Kate Provine-Barnard & Rick Barnard

El Cajon
1999 Emerald Green Leather

Carole & Mike Readey

San Diego
1992 Red

Kenneth & Kathy Roberts

San Diego
1999 Emerald Green Leather

Mike Sannes

Jamul
1997 Montego Blue

Greg Snowden

Santee
1999 Red Leather

Brenda Sonneborn

Oceanside
1999 10th AE (Sapphire Blue)

Tom & Debbie Tice

El Cajon
1999 10th AE (Sapphire Blue)

The following members have renewed since the last newsletter:

Jay & Deanna Atherton

Vicki & Vince Franano

Jeff & Jeanette Holladay

Rich Karpp

Diane Long

David Moore

Cathy & Jim Phillips

Donna & Rick Ramsey

Larry Read & Elizabeth Norris

Rosalind Smith

Tom & Dona Thompson



President's Message

After the annual meeting on Saturday, Laurie and I went on an impromptu run led by MIKE and ELEANOR SHACK.

They led us over the Coronado Bay Bridge through Coronado and out The Strand to Imperial Beach. There, the six Miatas stopped for ice cream, and then hurried back to Hillcrest so that we could eat with about 30 other Miata enthusiasts. After dinner, MARK BOOTH led a night run into Southeast County. I had been President for less than a day, had participated in two of three Miata events and didn't have to do a thing other than enjoy myself.

This is an example of why I wanted to be your President. It is so easy to be the supposed leader of an organization when the members make the organization successful. I have very little to do other than stay out of the way and ensure that our club continues to achieve its goals. The SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB has an understandable mission. **To promote the enjoyment of, and enthusiasm for, one of the worlds's most exciting sports cars—the Mazda Miata.** This is what I pledge to do as well.

My wife LAURIE and I have been members of SDMC since March of 1997. Laurie served as your Club Treasurer last year. We own a 1990, classic WHITE that has received the benefits of several aftermarket goodies. TRAVL LT, aka San Diego Miata ONE, has 133,000 miles, is my daily driver, rain or sun, loves to autocross and drive the twisties, and responds to all of my demands without a squawk, or a squeak. As most of you know, our Miatas are tough little cars,

The new Board from left: Voodoo Bob Krueger (vice president), Elliot Shev (treasurer), Steve Waid (president), and Sal Causarano (secretary).



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH

not cute little cars. No car of mine would be "cute." Notably, this is the second year in a row that "San Diego Miata ONE" has been white. I, however, will not be shaving my head, as Rainer did before me.

I would like to introduce to you the other officers that were elected for the 1999/2000 term. "Nearly-legendary" VOODOO BOB KRUEGER is the only returning officer as he repeats as Vice President. He and his wife, "Mama Voodoo" VICKY, are Charter Members of SDMC and were members of SOCALM from the moment that they first acquired their '91, some kind of blue [Mariner], I think, A package. Bob and Vicky have been some of the most active members the club has had, and even after recent surgery, Bob doesn't look like he will slow down.

ELLIOT SHEV, our new Treasurer, brings a "can do" attitude to everything regarding a Miata after he has stated adamantly, "that will never work," or "I'm busy that day." He and his wife BARBARA (last year's Secretary) have probably hosted more tech days, impromptu BBQ's, and social gatherings than anyone in the club. They have *two* Miatas. One is a '94, some kind of blue [Laguna], with white racing stripes (Named Kingfish) and one of those new, some kind of blue, 10th AE Miatas

(Named Sapphire). The Shevs have been members of SDMC since August of '96.

Our new Secretary, SAL CAUSARANO, is the strong silent type. Around his wife, GERI, that is the only tack to be taken. Sal and Geri became members in February of '98 and have already demonstrated their joy and enthusiasm for SDMC and the Miata by buying a second one. Geri's is a '94, some kind of blue [Montego], and Sal's '93 is one of those "dime a dozen" red ones.

These enthusiastic leaders that you have chosen stand at your ready...and yet...it is YOU who have proven to be the force that drives the juggernaut we call the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB. So, as the year progresses from here, I cannot wait to see what events, ideas, and fun you have planned for me. *I am expecting great things from you.*

—STEVE WAID

There are now 295 memberships consisting of 448 members.

Memberships by Miata Color:

- 101 Red
- 54 White
- 34 Black
- 17 Montego Blue
- 15 Silver
- 14 Emerald Green
- 12 Mariner Blue
- 11 Laguna Blue
- 9 BRG
- 7 Sapphire Blue
- 6 Merlot
- 6 Twilight Blue
- 5 Starlight Blue
- 5 Marina Green
- 2 Yellow
- 1 Hunter Green
- 3 Unreported



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH

