

SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB NEWS



JULY 2002

VOLUME 7 NUMBER 7

UPCOMING EVENTS



July 4 - Thursday
Scripps Ranch 4th of July
Parade



July 4 - Thursday
4th of July BBQ and Pool
Party. Fireworks Too!



July 5 - Friday
Cruisin' Grand
Wheels'N'Meals



July 6 - Saturday
Autocross at the "Q"



Saturday - July 13
Brainstorm Tech Day in San
Diego II



July 19 - 21
Weekend with the
Sahuaro Miata Club



July 25 - Thursday
Monthly Meeting



July 27 - Saturday
8th Annual Twilight Run



August 10 - Saturday
6th Annual Miles of Miatas
for MDA



August 17 - Saturday
Run to the Getty Museum



Sunday - December 15
SDMC Holiday Party

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We Are Family

Sister Sledge sings the lyrics, but this article is not about the song. This article is about an observation that I have encountered as a member of SDMC.

Having been associated with the Navy for the last 31½ years in an active duty and civilian capacity, I can honestly state that the Navy/Marine Corps are a "family" and in most cases, "take care of their own." I am certain that many of our military SDMC members will attest to the above observation.

Over the last four years, I have seen this same "family" atmosphere resident in the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB. My most recent encounter occurred on one of our scheduled monthly impromptu runs. The run included a brisk drive up Mt. Palomar. As many of us have experienced, this can move the temperature gauge to the right even on the coldest day. As we approached the intersection of S6 and S7 near the summit, one member's Miata began to overheat; ultimately, the radiator gave out. A few of our members stayed with the disappointed and concerned member and ultimately escorted him back down the mountain and stayed with him until AAA arrived. Some may look at this as a simple and kind act of human nature. I am from New York—I have seen cars on the side of the road stripped to the bare frame while the owner left to make a phone call for help—you be the judge.

While we are on the subject of the AAA card, I can personally attest to the fact that the AAA card is probably the second-most valuable friend to have by your side—besides an SDMC member. Why is it that the mind realizes that you have left your keys in the car right AFTER you have locked and slammed the door? Trust me, it is less embarrassing to call the AAA person to *skillfully* get into your car than to have others stare as you cuss and fuss trying to break into your own car.

But I digress...

This next "experience" was gleaned from an e-mail sent to the list a while ago. You may remember it. One of our members went into a store and SDMC happen to come up as a topic of discussion with another customer in the store. That customer happened to be driving an RV on a road that SDMC was using on a fun run that same day. Seeing many Miatas behind them, The RV pulled over to let them pass. Well, the RV'er was amazed at how many "Miata people" waved, beeped, and shouted "Thank you."

I have personally seen us doing this to not only RV's but cars and trucks as

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President's Message (Continued from page 1)

well. It is a great advertisement for SDMC and the courtesy it displays. Having been an RV'er for some years, I can honestly state that I have experienced very few waves and beeps and thank-you's, but more often than not have been the recipient of obscene gestures and verbal shouts of abuse when I pull over to let others pass. Who ever said that RV'ing was a pleasant experience? Perhaps I should try it with 30 or 40 club members behind me—just kidding!

I have noticed us help one another many, many times in many different fashions—via e-mail, or at tech days or meetings, or on a fun run or event.

I have noticed us extend common road courtesy to others—fellow members or perfect strangers. It's the right thing to do. Remember the movie "Pay It Forward"?

It is heartwarming to know that you are associated with a wealth of friendly, helpful, and caring members. We are a "FAMILY." Sometimes we may take on the appearance of a gang to the most casual observer, but more times than not we are there to take care of our own and others as well.

Take care of each other out there!

— "Your Pal" SAL

MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the club is to promote the enjoyment of, and enthusiasm for, one of the world's most exciting sports cars — the Mazda Miata.

Owning and driving a Miata is one of life's great pleasures, and adding the company and camaraderie of like-minded enthusiasts only enhances the experience. Won't you join the fun as we enjoy the beauty of San Diego County from the seat of a very special little roadster?

Let's have fun driving our Miatas!

NEWSLETTER TEAM

ANTHONY "NEVADABOB" WILDE - Editor

newsletter@sandiegomiataclub.org

VOODOO BOB KRUEGER

voodoo@miata.net

DIANE LONG

djaws@san.rr.com

TOM SPRAGUE

tspraguepr@aol.com

Copies by SEAN O'CONNOR

SIGN UP (858) 486-6771

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Board

President

SAL CAUSARANO

(760) 787-0624

president@sandiegomiataclub.org

Vice President

STEVE KENNISON

(858) 271-8498

vicepresident@sandiegomiataclub.org

Secretary

VERONICA DIDIER

(619) 421-8024

secretary@sandiegomiataclub.org

Treasurer

JIM BROKAW

(619) 421-2110

treasurer@sandiegomiataclub.org

Administrative Board

Membership

DAVE MARTIN & GALE CHAN

(619) 582-2448 or (858) 492-9227

membership@sandiegomiataclub.org

Events Coordinator

STEVE WAID

(760) 432-0727

events@sandiegomiataclub.org

Club E-mail Postmaster/Webmaster

ROBERT "JTBOB" HOLLAND

(858) 549-4011

webmaster@sandiegomiataclub.org

Club Regalia

PAULA KENNISON & ROSALIND SCOTT

(858) 271-8498 or (760) 789-3872

regalia@sandiegomiataclub.org

Newsletter

ANTHONY "NEVADABOB" WILDE

(858) 693-8095

newsletter@sandiegomiataclub.org

To send e-mail to all members of the board:

board@sandiegomiataclub.org

NOTICES

The SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB is a non-profit California corporation. The *SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB NEWS* is the monthly newsletter of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB. Use of articles or stories by other Miata clubs is hereby granted, provided proper credit is given. Submissions to the newsletter are welcomed and encouraged. Where possible, please e-mail your submissions to the newsletter editor. Submissions can also be mailed to the club's post office box.

Submission deadline is the 15th of each month.

Editor reserves the right to edit all submissions

The SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB has established a dedicated World Wide Web Home Page at:

www.sandiegomiataclub.org

Dedicated 24-hour voice message line: (619) 582-2448

SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB

P.O. Box 23081

San Diego CA 92193



PHOTO: CHARLENE & JIM BROKAW

Geri does her version of the Miata wave.



Scripps Ranch 4th of July Parade

Date: Thursday, July 4

Meeting Time: 7 a.m.

Place: 9945 Cummins Place, Scripps Ranch

Coordinator: DIANE LONG,

(858) 566-6973 or djaws@san.rr.com

The Scripps Ranch 4th of July Parade is a small community parade where *almost* anything goes. There are the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts, bands, the lawn-mower drill team, local dignitaries, etc. It is a basic home town, have fun parade. We will be defending our first place for car clubs that we have won the last three years.

The parade starts at 10 a.m., so we will be meeting between 7 and 8 a.m. to decorate our Miatas. We have some club decorations, but please bring some more, if you can, to share. We will leave for our parade position no later than 9 a.m., **so coming early is important**. The street to the meeting place will be closed off at 8:45 a.m. The parade will end about 11 a.m.

Directions: I-15 to Pomerado/Miramar Road exit. East on Pomerado. Left onto Scripps Ranch Blvd., right onto Red Rock and right on Cummins Place.

4th of July BBQ & Pool Party, Fireworks Too!

Date: Thursday, July 4

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: The home of BARB & ELLIOT SHEV, 14425 Trailwind Road, Poway, 92064

RSVP: Elliot, kingfish@teamvoodoo.com or (858) 679-0777.

After the parade everyone will want to cool off, so Barb and Elliot have once again opened their home to the club to enjoy. Their home overlooks Poway High School and the fireworks are spectacular from there.

*****RSVP is required*****

This is a BYOB event. We all split the



cost of the food, which should be around \$10 per person.

Directions: I-15 to Rancho Bernardo Road and go East (Rancho Bernardo Road becomes Espola Road). Turn left on Trailwind Road and look for Miatas. Their house is several blocks up the hill on the right. Watch your speed...25 mph!

Cruisin' Grand Wheels'N'Meals



Date: Friday, July 5

Meeting Time: 6 p.m. to eat,

Leave for cruisin' at 7 p.m.

Meeting Place: Tom's #23 on the Southwest corner of 5th Ave. and Centre City Pkwy., Escondido.

Cruisin' Grand in Escondido started earlier this year. Beginning with the first Friday in April, every Friday night through September is the time to go to see hot rods, street rods, vintage cars, muscle cars, music, and on the first Friday of each month...Miatas.

Autocross

Dates: Saturday, July 6

Time: 9 a.m.

Place: Qualcomm Stadium Mission Valley, southeast lot. DCCSD championship.



Brainstorm Tech Day in San Diego II

Date: Saturday, July 13

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

Place: The SHEV home, 14425 Trailwind Road, Poway
Same directions from the 4th of July BBQ above.

Contact: Brainstorm (www.miata.org) for pre-orders and installation appointments. (800) 779-3223, (310) 815-9825, Fax (310) 815-9854.

Brainstorm is coming back to San Diego for a Tech Day. It has been over two years since they have been here, so go to www.miata.org and start deciding what goodies you might



want. One of the popular items is the remote oil filter, which makes changing your oil really easy. Brainstorm exhaust systems are always popular, and there will be special pricing.

SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB specials

Parts with installation:

1. BSP Shortbar-polished stainless steel: reg. \$299 + \$110 installation=\$409. SDMC price: \$370 installed.
2. BSP Windblocker-vinyl: reg. \$240 + \$27.50 installation = \$267.50. SDMC price: \$230 installed.
3. BSP Low Profile Headlight Kit: reg. \$335 + \$110 installation=\$445. SDMC price: \$399.99 installed.
4. BSP Short Shifter Kit (5spd & 6spd): reg. \$150 + \$55 installation=\$205. SDMC price: \$180 installed.
5. Colored gauge faces (no needle repaint): reg. \$135 + \$110 installation=\$245. SDMC price: \$199.99 installed.
6. Vintage gauge rings: reg. \$89 + \$82.50 installation=\$171.50. SDMC price: \$150 installed.
7. BSP leather shift boots: reg. \$45 + \$27.50 installation=\$72.50. SDMC price: \$60 installed.
8. Chrome Shifter Surrounds: reg. \$95 + \$55 installation=\$150. SDMC price: \$110 installed.

Parts specials (no installation):

1. Leather shift boots, brake boots, seatbelt sleeves: 10% off.
2. Interior metal parts: 15% off.
3. Shocks, springs, sway bars, strut braces: 10% off.
4. Sport grills (powder coated): reg. \$89.95, SDMC price \$75.
5. BSP 4-into-1 headers (1990-2000): 10% off.
6. BSP Spare Relocation Exhaust:

Upcoming Events (Continued on page 4)



July Events (Continued from page 3)

reg. \$395, SDMC price \$350.

7. BSP 4pc. Big brake kits: reg. \$1280, SDMC price \$1150.

A Weekend with the Sahuaro Miata Club

Dates: July 19, 20, 21

Some parts of the weekend will qualify toward mileage award.



The SAHAURO MIATA CLUB from Arizona will be coming to San Diego County the weekend of July 19th, 20th and 21st. Their request is that they be shown the San Diego roads. They are more interested in driving than sightseeing. Therefore we have planned a weekend that will meet their desires. They will be staying at the Best Western in Escondido just off El Norte Parkway and Interstate 15.

Friday, July 19: Some of the Sahuaro members will have arrived, so we will be doing a traditional Cruisin' Grand evening, meeting at Tom's #23 for dinner at 6 p.m. At 7 we will go cruise for a while and then park in the Wells Fargo parking lot on Escondido Blvd to walk Grand. Ice cream will surely be a part of the evening.

Saturday, July 20: Meet at Tom's #23 for breakfast at 9 a.m. Leave for a morning run in the North County at 10 a.m. We will end up in Julian for lunch and visiting. No specific eating location...people will be on their own. At 1:30 p.m. we will assemble in the Julian High School parking lot, just east of town. We will leave at 2 p.m. for the afternoon run that will end at Bob's by the Bay in Chula Vista about 5 p.m. DENNIS DIDIER has arranged for a separate area from 5 to 7:30.

Sunday, July 21: We will meet at 9 a.m. at the Marie Calendar's in Escondido for their brunch. We leave at 10 a.m. for a run that will take the Sahuaro members east, where we will send them on their way home. The run will end at or near the Desert Tower at about noon.

SDMC members are invited and en-

couraged to join any or all of these activities.

Monthly Meeting

Date: Thursday, July 25

Time: 6 p.m.

Place: Boll Weevil

9330 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.
(at Ruffin Road), San Diego
(858) 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!

8th Annual Twilight Run

Date: Saturday, July 27

Time: 3 p.m. for late lunch, drivers meeting at 4:45 p.m.

Meeting Place: Boll Weevil, 3637 Avocado Blvd., La Mesa

Run Leaders: MARK & CATHY BOOTH, (619) 670-3789 (home), (619) 990-5520 (cell), mbooth@cts.com

This run qualifies toward mileage award.

For this, the 8th annual running of the Twilight Fun Run, we again return to the original starting location and the first year's run route (a new Boll Weevil has replaced the Pizza Hut).

This is a very *leisurely* ride along some of San Diego's most scenic East County roads. What makes this one different is that we do it during the late afternoon/early evening hours. That special twilight period when the hot summer day slowly gives way to a comfortable summer evening.

Arrive at 3 p.m. for a late lunch (there are no eating stops planned along the run route). The drivers meeting will start at 4:45 p.m. The run will finish back near the starting point at approximately 8:45 p.m.

Directions to Meeting Place: I-805 south to Highway 94 east. Continue on Highway 94 into La Mesa. (Watch those signs carefully; Highway 94 east merges off to the right near the Spring

Street exit.) Stay on Highway 94 east and exit at Avocado Blvd. Turn left at the stop sign at the end of the ramp. Proceed over the highway and make a right turn into the Rancho San Diego Village Shopping Center. The Boll Weevil is straight ahead.

FUTURE EVENTS

6TH Annual "Miles of Miatas For MDA"

Date: Saturday, August 10th

Meeting Time: 9 a.m.

Meeting Location: Boll Weevil
9300 Clairmont Mesa Blvd.
(at Ruffin Road), San Diego
(858) 571-6225

It's that time of year when SDMC members have fun driving for charity in the 6th annual "Miles of Miatas for MDA." JACK and SUE HINKLE are planning a full day of fun-filled activities for club members to participate in our fundraising efforts for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Each year club members show up with big hearts in support of this annual event and each year SDMC has exceeded the previous year's total. Last year's event raised over \$12,000 and, with 600 members, we are hoping to exceed that this year.

"Miles of Miatas for MDA" will begin with registration hosted by our favorite meeting place, the Boll Weevil Restaurant. Members can turn in their sponsor sheets, buy raffle tickets, and sign up for the 50/50 drawing.

Of course the fun will begin as we wind our way over 100 miles of great San Diego County roads with stops along the way. The run will conclude at Bel Marie Winery located off Deer Springs road for wine tasting, delicious Santa Maria-style BBQ, fundraising awards and "Miles of Miatas" raffle.

How can we do this? Members ask family, friends, co-workers, etc. to sponsor them for the run on the sponsor sheet included in the newsletter.



The more sponsors each member solicits the more dollars we raise for MDA. Last year our top fundraiser raised over \$1,500. One forward thinking member has already raised \$1,000. Who will be our top fundraiser this year?

Participants will receive two event T-shirts for raising over \$100 and a raffle ticket for every \$50 raised. Additional raffle tickets can be purchased at \$1 each or 15 for \$10. Cost of the BBQ dinner will be \$13 per person. The Hinkles need payment for the BBQ dinner by no later than August 1st; checks can be mailed to 733 S. Kalmia St., Escondido, CA 92025.

This is an event you won't want to miss, so mark your calendars for Saturday August 1. Plan to join the Hinkles and other SDMC members for the 6th annual "Miles of Miata for MDA." With the support and enthusiasm of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB and its membership, we can make a difference.

It will be a ZOOM ZOOM Day for MDA. Please RSVP to Jack and Sue via email (sportscarr@aol.com) or at (760) 735-9456.

Run to the Getty Museum



Date: Saturday, August 17

Meeting Times: 7:15 a.m. – McDonald's, 8:30 a.m. at Sport Mart

Meeting Places: McDonald's at I-5 and Oceanside Blvd. And Sport Mart at Magnolia/Warner Avenue in Orange County.

Leaders: RANDY & SUE PATTERSON (760) 63-0109 or rpatters1@cox.net

The Getty Museum is truly a wondrous place. Don't miss out. For those who have been before you know that there is no better way to visit the museum than with a group of friendly Miataphiles.

The route will be same as the in the past, with the same sort of run plan. If it ain't broke don't fix it. We will be leaving from McDonald's, located at

I-5 and Oceanside Boulevard, at 7:15 a.m. From there we will be traveling north to meet up with our friends in SOCALM. We will meet at the Sport Mart located on the west side of I-405 in the parking lot at Magnolia Street and Warner Avenue, exiting Fountain Valley/Huntington Beach at 8:15, departing at 8:30. This should put us at the museum at 10 a.m. to enter as a group.

There are several options for eating at the Getty. Once again the picnic tables will be available if you wish to bring your own food. The picnic tables are open to anyone who wishes to use them (they no longer reserve them). In addition, there are a variety of restaurants at the museum to choose from.

Upon arrival you are free to explore the museum as long as you wish.

Please RSVP if you are going to attend, as there are only 50 openings.

Debbye Does The Drive-In

Run to the Movies

Date: Saturday, August 24

Details in the August issue of the San Diego Miata Club News.



Edelbrock Tour

Date: Saturday, October 19

Place: Edelbrock factory and museum in Torrance, California.

Contact: ROBIN & MIKE

FAIRCLOTH, HawkinLady@aol.com

The Edelbrocks have been making performance parts since the 1950's. The name is synonymous with "going fast." It is likely that we will be able to see Vic and Camee Edelbrock racing at the Coronado Speed Festival the weekend before.

The Edelbrock tours are from 10 a.m. to approximately 1 p.m. starting with Camee Edelbrock or Vic Edelbrock talking about the history of the company. Then the tour guides split the tour into groups and you drive to their manufacturing plant; then come back to see the shock building, ex-

haust building, and their distribution center, all in Torrance. The tours are a lot of walking; then back to the museum for lunch and a goodie bag.

There also is an Edelbrock Sportswear room where they sell clothing.

This is a rare opportunity, and we will be limited to 120 people. SOCALM has been invited to participate as well...after all, it is in their backyard.

Please make reservations with Robin Faircloth. Even though there appears to be plenty of time, you don't want to be left out. Make plans and reservations today.

3rd Bi-Annual Hearst Castle/ San Simeon Run

Dates: November 8 – 10

Meeting Time 9 a.m.



Drivers Meeting 9:30 a.m.

Meeting Place: Madonna Inn Parking Lot, San Luis Obispo, CA

Contacts: BARI RUSSELL,

barirussell@earthlink.net

(949) 588-1531 or (714) 856-9890

BILL HYDE, wwhyde@earthlink.net

(714) 525-5831 or (714) 225-1319

Mark your calendars, because you don't want to miss this Miata adventure that tours one of the world's most famous mansions, set in California's most beautiful region! Even more exciting, we get to ZOOM ZOOM on some of the best Miata roads in the country! Bill has assured me there will be ample potty stops this year!

Room Booking:

SOCALM Miata Club Group Reservations: (800) 544-4866 (Sean)

Motels: Nov. 8 - Motel 6 San Luis Obispo South, Property 1373, Reservation Number 131713

Nov. 9 – Motel 6 San Simeon, Property 1212, Reservation Number 131002

I have blocked 20 rooms at both properties—all queen beds and all non-smoking. You need to request smoking rooms and ask them to be added to our group. In San Luis we

Future Events (Continued on page 8)





— BILL and BILLYE PRESTON

The next time someone suggests that your Miata is too small for long distance travel, you can just chuckle a bit and tell them about some of your own joyous voyages. Or refer them to BILL and BILLYE PRESTON.

You probably have seen the Prestons at some of our events—even though they live in Ft. Worth, Texas. They are members of our club, and consistently would win the award for most distance traveled. They are also members of the Windy City (Illinois), Lone Star (Dallas/Ft Worth, Texas) and Tejas (Austin, Texas) clubs. Miatas and family are big parts of their collective lives.

Billye and Bill travel quite a bit in their work. When that requires them to travel west, they simply see what fun things SDMC and other clubs along the way have scheduled, and that determines the route and schedule.

And they do drive quite a bit. Their 1999 Classic Red LS has more than 125,000 miles on it. It also has Hard Dog roll bar, FM dual exhaust, RB intake, RB header, Koni shocks, GPS, and a Valentine One. The GPS is especially helpful for trips to new territory.

Some trips take them away from

home for four or five weeks at a stretch. This obviously requires some imaginative packing. Billye is happy to offer suggestions to those who face similar challenges. One proven ploy is a “send dirty clothes home and buy new ones” process. It seems to work quite well.

Family life is centered on Billye’s two grown daughters and Bill’s 13-year-old son. And of course Miatas.

This is the third Miata for the Prestons. The first was a Red `90, bought by Bill to impress Billye. It took seven years, but the concept worked. That car was sold in 1992 to help finance a new business, but then a Red `95 LS joined the family. That one came about with the influence of San Diego members JOHN and BARB TEMPLETON, who were with the Windy City Miata Club at the time. That car turned 100,000 miles before being traded for the `99.

You may note all the Miatas have been red. Bill says the phrase “the little red sports car” tells it all. But all of his cars the last 20 years have been red.

Billye recently bought a blue Chrysler, but we can forgive her because it is indeed a convertible.

— TOM SPRAGUE

To be included in our ongoing series of Member Profiles, write a short (200-400 word) summary and e-mail it to:

newsletter@sandiegomiataclub.org

You can also mail it to the Club P.O. Box. Please include a photo. We want to be able see your face. — Your photo will be returned.

ZOOM Racing Polo Shirts

New regalia has arrived! For the months of June, July, and August the Regalia Gals will be offering Zoom Racing Polo Shirts. These sporty shirts will come in several different colors with embroidered SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB logo. The collar and cuffs display a black & white checkered (Racing Flag) pattern with two small red stripes. The color choices are; Red/w black logo, Blue/w black logo, Light Gray/w black logo, Yellow/w black logo, Purple/w black logo, White/w red logo, Black/w red logo. These fine Zoom Racing Polo Shirts will be available in sizes medium, large, X-large and 2X-large.

The new Zoom Racing Polo Shirts made their debut at the June SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB meeting. The Regalia Gals showed sample shirts available in all the colors and sizes for viewing pleasure. This allows club members to preview this fine collection of Zoom shirts so they can order exactly what they require. These shirts are a limited edition and will be sold by order ONLY! Order forms will be supplied by the Regalia Gals. All orders must be paid for in advance. Prices will range from \$26 (M-XL) to \$28 (2XL).

If you have any questions please call/email your friendly Regalia Gals, ROZ and PAULA.

(858) 271-8498 or (760) 789-3872

regalia@sandiegomiataclub.org



New Members!

WELCOME to our newest members
(since last newsletter):

TOM BOST
San Diego
1991 White

REBECCA CABIGAO & IDA FRIEMUTH
San Diego
1995 White

ROBERT & BARBARA CLARKE
El Cajon
1996 M (Starlight Blue)

BILL JONES
Oceanside
2002 White

LES & SANDY MERRILL
Ramona
2002 SE (Titanium)

BUD PHILLIPS
San Diego
2001 Crystal Blue

LARRY RATHBUN & JOANN YESKO
San Marcos
2001 Black

DIANE S. SMITH
1990 Black

GEORGE & EILEEN STEINER
San Diego
1993 Black

DAVID & ELLEN WEIMER
Poway
1993 Red

Renewing Members
(since last newsletter):

KEN & BARBARA BARTON
DELMAR & CHRYSelda CALAHAN
JACK & SUE diLUSTRO
JOE & DIANE GARRISON
VALARIE GOODKIN
STEF & TOM GOULD
ARTHUR L. HAMILTON
BRUCE & LEIGH HARMER
JOHN & DEE HORSMAN
DAVE & PAMELA HUNT
TONY & MARIA IGAR
CYNTHIA S. JONES
RICH KARPP
BOB & VICKY KRUEGER
STEVE LAMB
LENI & DONNA METRO
GREG ORTH
MICHELE PALAZZI
DENNIS PECK
GARY PEIFFER
MICHAEL REAVES
LOIS A. RICHARDS
RICHARD SCHERSCHEL
TOM SPRAGUE
JOHN & BARBARA TEMPLETON
ANTHONY WILDE
WOODY & MAGGI WOODHOUSE

Membership Statistics

As of June 23, 2002, there are 386 memberships (157 single, 229 dual) for a total of 615 members.

Memberships by Miata Color:

100 **Red**
56 **White**
41 **Black**
37 **Silver**
26 **Emerald Green**
20 **Montego Blue**
16 **Yellow**
15 **BRG**
12 **Sapphire Blue**
11 **Twilight Blue**
9 **Crystal Blue**
9 **Mahogany**
9 **Mariner Blue**
8 **Marina Green**
7 **Laguna Blue**
6 **Merlot**
6 **Starlight Blue**
5 **Midnight Blue**
3 **Titanium**
2 **Evolution Orange**
1 **Laser Blue**
1 **Teal (custom)**
5 **Unreported***

* Unreported means a member does not have a Miata at this time.

**The Phones Are In!**

Thanks to the donations from both SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB and SOCALM members, your no-longer-needed wireless phones are being reprogrammed to serve as emergency lifelines (911 usage only) to potential victims of domestic violence. Our phone contributions may just be responsible for saving the life of at least one of the 5,000-plus victims beaten and abused every day. Our tally? In addition to 54 individual phone donations, I "hooked up" two companies with the Call to Protect foundation for direct corporate donations of 50+ phones each. Way to go SOCALM and SDMC!

— DIANA CARMEL

Just how many cell phones can you fit in a Miata trunk? Diana Carmel found you can fit enough to do a lot of good.



Future Events (Continued from page 5)

have (10) 1-bed rooms and (10) 2-beds. The rates are quoted to how many **people** in the room, not beds! The rooms in San Luis Obispo, including tax, are \$50.59 for a single and \$57.19 for a double. At San Simeon we also have 20 rooms—all double queens. The rates are: \$61.03 for a single and \$71.93 for a double. AARP members bring your cards for 10% off. When you call for reservations please ask for Sean, but any one in Group Reservations can help you. You *must* tell them the reservation is under SOCALM, and give the property number, and the reservation number. Please contact Bari Russell when you have made your reservations or if you have any problems.

**San Diego Miata Club
Holiday Party**

Date: Sunday, December 15

Location: San Vicente Inn (San Diego Country Estates), 24157 San Vicente Road, Ramona, CA 92065

Hosts: MIKE & ROBIN FAIRCLOTH,
(760) 789-5171 or
hawkinlady@aol.com

Dinner will be served buffet style. Once summer is over, there will be more information to relay regarding cost, menu, directions, etc.



**UPCOMING REGIONAL
AND NATIONAL EVENTS**

Flyin' Miata Open House

Date: August 15-19

Location: Flyin' Miata,
331 South 13th Street,
Grand Junction, CO

Every year, Miata enthusiasts from all over descend on Western Colorado for the annual FM Open House. It's a chance to meet the folks at FM and other Miata nuts, take in the great roads and scenery, get your car dyno tested, and even be in a parade.

This year, we've rented the local kart track for both karting and Miata fun—it's great for people with really

short attention spans. We're also having a bit of a special event when Dan Pedroza (of MRoad) gets married to his fiancée Dani!

If you're interested in joining us, please fill out the pre-registration form. There's no commitment, but we'll use these numbers to gauge interest and set the prices. Please don't fill it out if you know you won't be coming.

www.flyinmiata.com/news/openhouse02/default.asp

Accommodations: Hawthorn Suites,
225 Main Street, Grand Junction,
CO (800) 922-3883 or (970) 242-2525

View their rooms! www.hawthorn.com
General room info: 25 rooms (20 single studios and 5 double studios) have been blocked off for "Flyin' Miata." The block of rooms is reserved from Thursday night, August 15th to Sunday morning August 18th. All of the rooms have one queen-size bed, one queen sofa sleeper, refrigerator, microwave, TV, Internet access, and two phone lines. Non-smoking and smoking rooms are available. Pets are allowed, but the hotel requires notice at the time you make your reservation if you plan to bring a pet. Two bedroom suites are available. The room rate is \$79 for the single studios and \$89 for the double studios. The rooms are reserved until July 15th.

Please call to make your individual reservations and refer to Flyin' Miata.

The Greater Cincinnati Miata Club's Midwest Miata Gathering

Dates: September 7 - 9

Place: Cincinnati, Ohio

The first Gathering was held in 1999 as a prototype to an event with a different format from the established national and regional events. It was envisioned as a loosely structured event with minimal costs other than those elected by each individual participant. There is no registration fee nor are there any charges for events

put on by the members of GCMC. There is an admission charge to the park where the event is held (\$3 will cover the whole weekend) and some activities (like the dyno Session) have charges related to what the service provider requires. Participants are, of course, required to provide for their own food and lodging...but even there, there are club members who would host guests if given some warning.

Events have included seminars (free), drives (free), car competitions of various sorts (free), dyno sessions (a charge by dyno operator), nights at an electronic playground like Dave & Busters (fees according to the games played), general enthusiasts BS sessions, group dining out (you order what *you* want), R/C races, autocross competitions (usually SCCA or similar with their fees applying), gymkhanas (free-low pressure autocross like events), raffles (free - last year we had tickets to U.S. Grand Prix)...and just about anything the group wants. If we know you're going to be there, we can plan more!

While there is no fee, registering helps the organizers know how far to stick their necks out and bust their buns for the guests coming. The Gathering has grown each year and is sure to do so again this year. It's a good time on low bucks with no limit to the activities available.

Additional information and directions are available at:

www.miatagathering.net

2002 National Miata Event

When: September 19-22, 2002

Where: Hilton, Washington Dulles Airport City, Herndon, VA

Take the scenic routes to the Nation's Capital for the 2002 National Miata Event hosted by Mazda Sports car Club of Washington D.C. and sponsored by the MIATA OWNERS CLUB. Miata. Event check out the event web site at www.mscw.com/Miata2002 or phone (703) 278-8005.



May 25, 2002 Autocross Results

Congratulations to the following SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB members on their performance at the Solo2 championship event. The event was sponsored by the Southern California Autocross Team (SCAT), and held at Qualcomm Stadium.

Class	Driver	Car	Place
CS	DENNIS DIDIER	Miata	6th
CS	JOHN HILTON	Miata	8th
HS	RON CHAPMAN	Civic	2nd
IS2	KEVIN HAYWOOD	Miata	1st
IS2	JOHN "JD" LIMA	Miata	2nd
IS2	MICHAEL HEINITZ	Miata	3rd
IS2	ROBERT "JT" HOLLAND	Miata	5th
IS2	RAINER MUELLER	Miata	6th
IS2	ELLIOT SHEV	Miata	7th
IS2	ED PITTS	Miata	8th
IS2	STEVE WAID	Miata	10th
IS2	STEVE KENNISON	Miata	12th
IS2	FEDERICO ABAD	Miata	15th
IS2L	BARBARA SHEV	Miata	1st
IS2L	VERONICA DIDIER	Miata	3rd
SU	HOWARD KUZMINSKI	Miata	6th
SU	WALLY STEVENS	Miata	14th
SU	JAMES SANDERS	Miata	15th
CSP	MARA CALER	CRX	3rd
M1(BM)	LARRY DENNSTEDT	Aardvark	1st



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

Saturday, July 6.....championship

The schedule for the second half of the year was not available at press time.

To confirm autocross information, call:

San Diego SCCA Hotlines (619) 441-1333

(800) 360-4454

Web page www.sdr-solo2.com

Come participate or watch SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB members race at the autocross (timed event). To participate you need to register for a Solo2 card and number (\$15) and have a DOT approved helmet. Loaner helmets are available at the autocross.

SPEC MIATA RACING

Mazdaspeed Cup at Laguna Seca

On Sunday, June 9, the Mazdaspeed Cup series made a stop at the Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca, near Monterey.

Seventy Mazda Miatas took to the track during the fifteen laps of the race, which ran prior to the marquee CART race that day. This was the largest number of cars to ever start a race at Laguna Seca.

Ken Dobson of Carmel Valley, CA led the race from start to finish with Barry Hartzel of Monterey taking second. SDMC member DAVID LEVY completed all laps to finish 49th.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SPECMIATAWEST.COM

Above— 70 Miatas stop between turns 9 and 10 at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca for an outstanding photo.

See www.specmiatawest.com for more information.



Left— San Diego Miata Club member David Levy (car #4) is part of a three Miata sandwich down the straight at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca.



Stranded

I had planned to spend Saturday and Sunday of Memorial Day weekend at Spring Mountain Motorsports Park with a group of guys—mainly Corvette and Honda S2000 owners. The track, designed by owner Rupert Bragg-Smith (and underwritten by GM), is a very technical road track designed for teaching high performance driving. It's located in Pahrump, Nevada, which is about 50 miles north of Las Vegas on the south-eastern edge of Death Valley.

Coming off the track after my third session, I noticed I was running very rough, and stalled twice as I came into the paddock area. I started up and it sounded like it wasn't running on all cylinders. I thought to myself: no problem, I have an extra set of wires! I installed a new set of Magnecor wires—that didn't help!

No "check engine" light came on to help me diagnose the problem and I felt very lost. Luckily, starting up the Miata and having it die started to attract attention. A BMW driver came over and suggested that maybe I had a fouled plug. OK—I've got a set of plugs with me (but forgot to pack the

spark plug socket). I ran around the pits with my spark plugs to see if anyone had a socket that would fit. Bingo! I borrowed one from a Cobra owner and went back to the hotel so my Miata could cool off before I pulled the plugs.

A few hours later (It's very hot in Pahrump and the engine took a long time to cool down) I removed the plugs. They were covered with soot. I put in new plugs, started up—still missing! I pulled one of the new plugs—very sooty!

Why am I running so rich? Robert (5.0 liter Mustang owner) stopped by on the way back to his hotel to see how I was making out. I shoved my Enthusiasts Manual at him. He skimmed the engine trouble-shooting chapter (it offered no help) and asked me to start removing pieces. The first thing to do was remove the Jackson CAI unit. He looked into the air flow meter (AFM) and said: "Why is this open? Is it usually open?" (damned if I could remember.) I stuck my small fingers in it, found the vane, and could close it. So he had me start up the engine while he held the vane closed—it ran great, then he gradually let it fall open—ugly! It took Robert a total of 30 minutes to diagnose...a

broken clock spring in a sealed part of the AFM. By this time it was about 7:30 p.m. Robert walked over to the local auto parts store and they said they could get me the part by Thursday.

I called my husband, TOM, and told him I needed an air flow meter! I also asked him to call MARK BOOTH and ask him to post a "Help, stranded near Las Vegas, need AFM" e-mail on Miata.net. We netted advice on how to repair the AFM electronics and re-align the spring (as far as I know no one has ever had their AFM spring break). Flyin' Miata's Bill Cardell's advice was to simply replace the entire unit.

Sunday, with nothing to do but get rides from other drivers, I opened the sealed part of the AFM with my pocket knife, and sure enough you could see the broken spring under the electronics! Robert and I discussed ways of repairing it and decided that if we were in the middle of a South American jungle it would be worth trying to repair it, but all in all it would be better to replace the unit.

Tom called WALLY STEVENS (SDMC's very own used Miata part source) to see if he had one and he did! I asked Tom to FedEx the part (FedEx being closed on Memorial Day Monday meant I would not get the part until Wednesday), but he insisted on bringing it to me. He wanted to drive behind me to make sure I didn't get stuck on the edge of Death Valley on 60 miles of empty, empty road to Baker, home of the world's biggest thermometer.

Tom drove it out. I installed it and then Tom followed me home. I'm pretty lucky it happened at the track, among friends, instead of on the way there or on the way home!

— STEF GOULD



Left— Stef Gould gets a little help from her friends to try and get her BRG going again.



Left— The Miata of the Tech Day host, Wes Tewksbury, stands ready to receive all new adjustable shocks.



Above— Michael Heinitz works on the rear brakes.

PHOTOS: JD LIMA

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ad space is provided free of charge to **members only**. Please include your name, telephone number, and e-mail address (if applicable) with each submission.

For Sale: Complete leather package interior from a '96 with 33,000 miles on it. Seats were covered with slip covers and are like new. Includes carpeting, door panels and tan trim pieces, \$900. Montego Blue body parts from doors back, perfect condition. Aftermarket alloy wheels, 14-inch with good tires, \$150. Also have starter, alternator, compressor and misc. engine, suspension, and body parts including doors, mirrors, rear fenders, lights, and various interior and body parts.
Wally, (619) 232-2801 ext 313, 234-2858, or wallymiata@juno.com

For Sale: For serious amateur astronomers, one of the world's finest small telescopes. Questar Duplex 3.5, with Maksutov optics featuring a Pyrex mirror with broadband and low reflective coatings. Original leatherette/velvet carrying case and unused table tripod. Built-in 1.6X Barlow and finder. The following accessories are included: Televue eyepiece adapter and five Televue Plössl eyepieces - 40mm, 26mm, 19mm wide field, 15mm, and 10.5mm; Canon extension tube coupling set with Canon FD adapter; Lumicon UHC and four color filters; Accutrack Mini-drive w/12 VDC to 120 VAC inverter; Halliburton-style accessory case w/ foam cut to hold all accessories.
VBob. (858) 486-4711 or voodoo@miata.net

For Sale: 1994 Miata, M-Edition, 108K miles, runs great. Salvage title. \$4999.
Tony, (619) 303-5036

For Sale: Montego Blue hard top by SNUG-Top. Excellent, new condition. Includes rear window defroster, dome light and all wiring to hook them up (we never got around to installing the wiring on our '96).
\$1250 OBO.
Karen, (619)220-8331, kgoyette@cts.com

For Sale: Closeout on Miata wrapping paper.
\$3 per roll.
Geri, geris-bazaar@cox.net, (760) 787-0624

For Sale: Trunk lid lift kits - fits all year Miatas. Factory blowout! \$20 each for San Diego folks that will pick-up or meet me, \$30 each to ship in US. No tax. Very simple installation! Lifts trunk lid automatically when the lever or key are used! Especially great for those with wings or luggage racks!
David, (760) 476-8754 david.levy@airprime.com

For Sale: 1996 White Miata, black interior. Great condition with just over 50K miles. AM/FM/CASS. Asking \$7200.
Lary or Vicky, (619) 303-8996.

For Sale: 2000 Itasca Sundancer motorhome. 30 foot, C-Class, E-450 Triton V10, queen island bed, tan interior, Onan generator, slide-out, fully equipped, RV cover, many, many extras. Includes campground membership worth \$3000. Excellent condition, 4800 miles. MUST SACRIFICE. \$58,000.
Sal (760) 787-0624 or wood-dust@cox.net

Buying or selling your Miata or Miata accessories? You can do it for *free* on Miatamart—the MIATA FOR SALE Web site, run by SDMC member RAINER MUELLER. Check it out at www.miatamart.com

The Car I Loved the Most?

Have a story about your "Favorite Car?" You have a chance to win one of 10 prizes of \$100 each by telling Parade magazine about it in 100 words or less. Entries must be post-marked by midnight, July 15, and sent to:

The Car I Loved the Most

c/o Parade
P.O. Box 5099, Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163-5099

Enter online at:

www.parade.com/special

Include name, address, and daytime phone number.

