



# TWISTS & TURNS

The newsletter of the San Diego Miata Club

Volume 12 Number 10

October 2007

## A Miata's Ellis Island

Les Smith

If your MX5 were a person, its "Ellis Island" would be National City's Maritime Terminal. Mazda USA is a major player among the group of makes that import over 350,000 vehicles through this port annually. Thus, the site where many MX5s' tires first roll onto American soil was a natural destination for the Run to Begin All Runs on September 22.

A Pacific storm that conveniently stalled on its pass over San Diego County brought produced sporadic rain during many drivers' run out to Alpine. The Bread Basket restaurant reserved its banquet room for us,

staffed by a server named Linda who is the extremely proud and enthusiastic owner of an '07 Copper Red MX5 PRHT; "fully loaded" she reports.

Following breakfast, 15 vehicles departed for a 75-mile run over South Grade, Japatul Valley, upper Lyons Valley, Skyline Truck Train, lower Lyons Valley and Honey Springs Roads.

Our run along these various East County ridges allowed long distance visibility of isolated storms moving east. The earlier rain and an occasional light drizzle produced damp road surfaces, but no incidents.

The run's rest stop was the Pio Pico general store at the Thousand Trails campground on Otay Lakes Run. Clear skies and rising temperatures prompted most tops to go down



Linda Payne took this shot of these Mazda 3s newly-arrived from Japan. Storm clouds on San Diego bay drifted in and out throughout the afternoon but failed to dampen the excitement.

as we headed west for the final 20-mile run to National City. A special thanks to Rainer and Marianne Mueller for keeping the bunch together throughout the run in their sweep role.

Mazda USA staffers Doug Perkins and Mike Nalepa took my initial inquiry about a tour of the port operation and crafted an interesting afternoon for 40 club members and guests ...

What's Inside?	
Miatas Ellis Island	1, 6
Officers & Contacts	2
Membership Info	3
President's Message	4
Coming Events	4-5
Member Discounts	11
Classified Ads	11
Events Calendar	12

(Continued on page 6)

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Vice President



**GABE RIVERA**  
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**JACK HINKLE**  
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"@..." indicates that e-mail address ends in @sandiegomiataclub.org

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Harold Schwartz	858-271-0084	<i>president@...</i>
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	David Streeter	951-461-1722	<i>vicepresident@...</i>
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<b>TREASURER</b>	Jack Hinkle	760-735-9456	<i>treasurer@...</i>

*To send e-mail to all members of the Board*

*board@...*

## Administrative Board

<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	Jerry & Janice Boster	619-437-4465	<i>membership@...</i>
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The SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB is a California nonprofit corporation. *Twists & Turns* 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. When possible, please e-mail your submissions to the newsletter editor. Submissions may also be mailed to the club's post office box. Submission deadline is the 15th of each month. The Editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

## Contact SDMC

### On the web

[www.sandiegomiataclub.org](http://www.sandiegomiataclub.org)

### 24-hour voice message line

619-434-2007

### By mail

P.O. Box 180833  
Coronado CA 92178-0833

### Club e-mail

Most club communication is conducted via e-mail through a Yahoo Group named SDMC-List. A free Yahoo account is required. Follow these steps to join.

1. Go to <http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/SDMC-List> (capitalization matters!).
2. Click "Join This Group!"
3. If you have a Yahoo account, log in. If you do not, click "Sign Up" and follow the instructions.
4. After logging in, you will be returned to the SDMC-List "Join This Group" page.
5. In "Comment to Owner," state that you are an SDMC member.
6. Complete remaining selections, perform Word Verification, and click the "Join" button.
7. Your SDMC membership will be verified. The verification and approval process may take several days.

For more detailed instructions, see the club's website.

### Membership roster

The membership roster is available to SDMC members only. Follow these steps to access the roster.

1. Go to <http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/SDMC-List>.
2. Log in and click "Database"
3. Click on the most current table in the tables list
4. To print, click "Printable Report." The printed copy will be 15-20 pages.

For more detailed instructions and options, see the club's web site.

# Membership Information

## New Members

As of September 15, 2007 there are 249 memberships (86 single, 163 dual) and a total of 412 members.

Welcome to newest memberships – 2 (since last newsletter):

Thomas & Cheryl Duncan      Escondido      1993 White  
tomandcherie@cox.net

Larry Clapper & Gretchen Vik      San Diego      2001 Red  
lclapper@cox.net

## Monthly Meetings

Our monthly meetings are a great opportunity to meet your fellow club members, ask questions, and share stories. **Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month, except in November and December when we meet on the third Thursday.**

We meet at the Boll Weevil restaurant, 9330 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., in San Diego (between I-15 and SR 163). To contact the restaurant, call 858-571-6225.

Many members arrive around 6 p.m. to enjoy meals, snacks, or beverages while chatting with their Miata friends. The informal meeting starts at 7 p.m. We guarantee you'll have fun.

**This month's meeting date:**

**Thursday, October 25**

## Who's next?

If you would like to have your profile published in *Twists & Turns*, call Kelley Raymond at 619-846-3784 or send e-mail to [kray63@yahoo.com](mailto:kray63@yahoo.com).

To preview the list of questions Kelley uses to start her interviews, visit SDMC's web site ([www.sandiegomiataclub.org](http://www.sandiegomiataclub.org)), click the link "Club and Car Info," then the link "Member Profile Sheet."

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## Dues

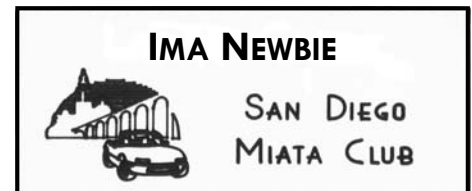
Dues are \$35 per calendar year, for either an individual or a dual membership (two members in the same household). Members who join the club in the first half of the calendar year (January through June) pay \$35 for their first year; those who join in the second half of the year pay \$20 for the remainder of the year.

## Badges

Have you noticed those engraved plastic name badges that other members wear? Would you like to get one?

Badges are available in colors to match your car. The cost is \$9 each for badges with safety-pin closures, or \$11 each for badges with magnetic fasteners. Prices include shipping to your home.

Sue Hinkle handles the ordering. Badge request forms are available at the Regalia table at monthly meetings and on the club's web site. All orders must be prepaid.



## Our Mission

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!**

## Coming Events

# CORONADO *SPEED FESTIVAL*



**Dates:** October 6th & 7th

**Time:** 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM (0800 to 1600)

Contact Steve Waid for Corral Passes (760.715.7850 or swaid@cox.net)

Staged on the runways and taxiways of **NAS North Island** with Navy aircraft and ships in the background, the **Coronado Classic Speed Festival** featured over 200 of the world's top racing machines from years gone by competing on a spectator-friendly

1.6 mile course. These vintage racecars are chosen to compete on the basis of their historical significance and certified authenticity. In addition to the racing action, you can tour Vendor Village, the **MeGUIAR's Car Club Corral** and the New Car Dealers Association Classic Car Collection

More info: <http://fleetweeksandiego.org/coronadospeedfestival/carshow.html> This link has a link to a registration form at the bottom of the page.

## The Prez Sez

### HAROLD SCHWARTZ, PRESIDENT

With my upcoming business trip to Massachusetts looming ahead of me I thought I would take a mini vacation and hit some of the back roads in Southern California.

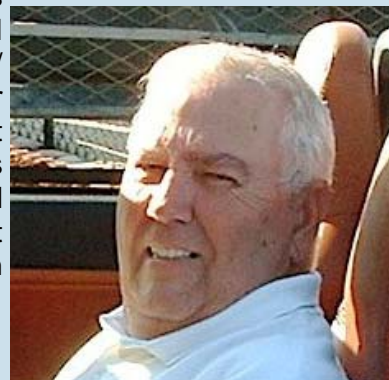
With the overnight bag stuffed in the trunk, Janet and I headed up I 15 towards the San Bernardino Mountains. We stopped for gas at the highway 138 exit and after a quick fill up of gas and a shot of Starbucks from our thermos we preceded east on 138. What an awesome drive. I finally found out where all those trains go after they climb Cajon pass. From there it is on to lake Silver Wood. Seeing as this was mid week the traffic was very light and the drivers were extremely courteous. Everyone pulled over and let us go by. We continued climbing up into the mountains and had an awesome view along the "Rim of the World" highway. We made our way around Lake Arrowhead and I was really surprised at the homes that lined the lake. Must be a lot of lottery winners up there. We then proceeded over to Big Bear Lake, this was more my style, boats to rent and fishing from the shore. We stopped for lunch at the Big Bear airport and had a really nice meal for a good price.

Then it's off to our next destination, Idyllwild. Down high way 38 and through Redlands and East on I 10 brought us to Highway 243 and back up into the mountains. Coming through Redlands I suggested that we might want to put the top up and

turn the A/C on, not wanting to admit that 110 degrees was hot I used the excuse that it was to protect the interior. Well Idyllwild was really nice but I didn't want to stay the night there as it was only 4:00 PM and we had plenty of daylight left along with cool temps there in the mountains.

I suggested we do the "Pines to Palms" run and head down to Palm Springs. My co pilot ok'd the idea so off we went down 243 to 74 and on into Desert Hot Springs, where we also had to "save the interior" again. (108 degrees). Found a really nice Best Western with a pool and had wonderful evening watching the stars as we cooled off. Friday morning was gorgeous as we left the room it was about 72 and clear as a bell. Had a nice breakfast there at the hotel (free) and off we went down highway 86 and Salton City. Somewhere along 86 I felt the need to again save the interior; so with top up and A/C roaring it was up S22 to Borrego Springs and home.

What a fun trip this was and easily could be a Saturday/Sunday run for someone to put together. The roads were spectacular and some of the best twisties in Southern California.



# Coming Events

## Scrabble for Scholarships

**Let's combine some Miata fun with an event that will benefit local youth!**

**When:** Nov 4—10 AM Start  
**Where:** Meet at Westfield North County  
**How Much:** \$40 per person, includes Scrabble entry, T shirt, Mexican buffet dinner, and contribution to the Scholarship Fund.

**Introduction:** The Garons and a committed group of friends and family are planning a fund-raising rally on Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2007, called “**Scrabble for Scholarships**”. To start out the fun, we will have a scrabble rally involving driving through some of San Diego’s lovely back country. At the end of the rally, we will meet for a Mexican food buffet to finish the Scrabble game and give out prizes! The money raised will provide college scholarships for local youth soccer players.

**Rally info:** The rally will start at 10 AM on Nov 4. Meeting place will be at the Westfield North County shopping mall on Via Del Rancho Pkwy (just past the Macaroni Grill restaurant). At the start of the rally, each participant is given the rally instructions and 2 Scrabble pieces. At each check-point, participants receive more game pieces. At the end of the rally, they are given a list of words scored using the Scrabble-game scoring system. The person able to make the highest point word or words will be the winner!

**Background:** This rally is to help fund college scholarships started by Dennis and Maryanne Garon in their son, Gregg’s name. As you may or may not know, Gregg died unexpectedly 2 years ago, at age 36. The Garons wanted to do something to honor his memory, and decided to start a small college scholarship. The scholarship is geared to-



wards soccer players, who best demonstrate having a lot of heart and love for the game (not necessarily the best athletes and NOT the ones who will be getting athletic scholarships).

The Garons have been involved in youth soccer since its inception in North County. Gregg played in the very first year of the Poway Soccer League, and continued in Penasquitos, when Dennis and Maryanne founded that league. Gregg loved soccer his whole life. In addition to playing, he followed local, US and international soccer – loved his Man U (England’s Manchester United for the uninitiated); he coached his brother’s team, his Mom’s team one year (!), his son when he began to play. It is hoped that these scholarships can be given annually to deserving players.

### Details:

**Cost:** \$40.00 per person, with one Scrabble entry per car (but all will receive t-shirt dinner, and contribute to the scholarship). This amount covers the t-shirt, the dinner and leaves about \$18.00 each towards the scholarship fund. Checks may be made out to Gregg Garon scholarship fund, and tax I.D. numbers are available on request.

**There will be lots of prizes and trophies awarded at the buffet. We are welcoming other car clubs and/or individual enthusiasts—anyone who wants to support this worthy cause, so spread the word and invite your friends!**

For further information, or to volunteer – donations or time: contact Maryanne Garon: 760-747-1115 or [dmgaron@cox.net](mailto:dmgaron@cox.net).

## Palms to Pines

### 3rd Annual run to Palm Springs

Saturday & Sunday, November 17 & 18  
9:30 AM

**Meeting Place:** North county Fair Mall parking lot, west side (west of Sears) under the big sign next to the frwy.

**Contact:** Chip Kushner 619-887-5916 [ckushner@ibchipster.com](mailto:ckushner@ibchipster.com)

Run to Palm Springs Saturday morning, lunch in Palm Springs and Car Show Saturday afternoon. Breakfast Sunday morning and return to San Diego at leisure. More details to come.



## Miata's Ellis Island

(Continued from page 1)

complete with a limo bus! Few groups outside the automotive industry are accommodated to this behind-the-scenes look at how vehicles are processed for distribution to dealers.

We piled into the bus and began a slow, leisurely cruise around the 137-acre site. Over 3,200 Mazdas had arrived the day before, helping form large blocks of vehicles throughout the property. Traffic at this site is two-way; Cadillacs bound for China, rental car fleets destined for Hawaii, and heavy construction machinery were also among the sights.

Workers were on overtime earlier in the day, moving vehicles through the terminal to rail car and trucks as the end of a fiscal quarter approached. However, their departure around noon allowed greater access than expected to a large building where appearance packages and other accessories are installed. Tour guide Mike Napela had arranged for every imported model and color to be parked in a row for hands-on, butt-in-the-seat inspection by the group. Nearby, we walked among lines of vehicles awaiting installation and other final processing before heading to dealers in California, Oregon, Arizona, Arizona and New Mexico.

The tour ended with additional cruise time around vehicle parking lots throughout the port area.

Overall, an experience that only we car people would enjoy.

Final stop or several: The Galley in the Chula Vista for a late lunch ... and a chance to rehash a great day's adventure.



Heresy, perhaps, to publish a picture of Porsches in Twist & Turns! Only about 20 of these 50-plus special edition Porsche Boxsters painted the pale orange color of a Dreamsicle remained by the time SDMC members and guests visited September 22. Protective material creates the look of snow on a bright San Diego day.

Photo by Les Smith



SDMC members and guests missed the boat ... literally! Over 3,200 Mazdas were unloaded the day before our visit, helping create a sea of vehicles at the port. This shot from September 15 catches a couple of Mazda 3s hitting American soil.

Photo by Les Smith



### Save the Dates!

## SDMC Holiday Party

Saturday, December 8th 6 to 10 PM  
Details to come!

## 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Christmas Cruise for Kids

Sunday, December 9th 7:30 am  
Contact: Mike Schwartz  
858-549-4344  
Details next month!



# Member Discounts

**M**any vendors offer discounts to Miata Club members. The club does not endorse these vendors, but lists them as a membership benefit. Some offers may require you to show a current SDMC membership card.

Businesses that wish to be listed must offer a discount from their normal retail prices to SDMC members. Listings are limited to five lines (about 30-35 words). Contact *newsletter@sandiegomiataclub.org* for more information.

## Automotive Services

**Allen's Wrench.** Mazda Master Technician. 1620 Grand Avenue, San Marcos. 760-744-1192. Discount: 10% (except oil changes).

**American Battery.** Miata batteries & all other batteries. 525 West Washington, Escondido. 760-746-8010. Contact: Jeff Hartmayer. Discount: Fleet discount on all products.

**Coast Car Covers, Inc.** Car covers, cockpit covers. 1229 Morena Blvd., San Diego. 619-275-7100. Discount: Wholesale price.

**Express Tire.** Auto repair, tires. 12619 Poway Road, Poway. 858-748-6330. Manager: David Dolan. Discount: 10% on parts and labor, including tires.

**Geri's Bazaar.** Custom deck bags, boot bags, travel bags. Maximize the space in your trunk. Contact: Geri Causarano. 828-400-1673. *www.geris-bazaar.com*. Substantial savings to club members.

**Good-Win Racing LLC.** Miata intakes, exhausts, shocks, springs, & goodies from Racing Beat, Moss, and more. *www.goodwin-racing.com*. 858-775-2810. Special club price on everything.

**Hawthorne Wholesale Tire.** Tires, wheels, brakes, and suspension. 877 Rancheros Dr., San Marcos. 760-746-6980. Discount: 10%

**Just Dings Ltd.** Mobile paintless dent removal. 858-569-3464. Discount: 15%

**Kesler Customs.** Miata chassis braces, adjustable dead pedals, hide-away license plate brackets. Installation of aftermarket parts, fabrication, light welding. Ted Kesler, 619-421-8472. Special club prices.

**Knobmeister Quality Images.** 3595 Gray Circle, Elbert, CO 80106-9652. Joe Portas, *joe@knobmeister.com*. 303-730-6060.

**Langka Corp.** Guaranteed paint chip and scratch repair system. Cleaning, detailing, and restoration products. 800-945-4532. *www.langka.com*. Discount: 30%.

**Larry Dennstedt's Auto Repair.** 4283 41st Street, San Diego. 619-284-4911. Discount: 10% on labor.

**Lutz Tire & Service.** Alignment specialist, tires. 2853 Market Street, San Diego. 619-234-3535. Ask for Mike. Discount: 10% on parts (tires not included).

**Magnolia Auto Body.** Restorations, body work. 476 West Main Street, El Cajon. 619-562-7861. Ask for T.J. Discount: 10% on labor and parts.

**Porterfield Enterprises Ltd.** Brake pads, rotors. 1767 Placentia Ave., Costa Mesa. 949-548-4470. Discount: 15% on Porterfield & Hawk brake pads; \$10 off rotors; \$9.25 for Motul 600 brake fluid (1 pint).

**Smog Squad.** 3342 Rosecrans, San Diego. 619-223-8806. General Manager: Jose Munoz. Discount: \$10 on smog tests.

**Thompson Automotive.** Cool accessories for our cool cars; oil filter relocation kits, gauge kits, air horns, brakes, Voodoo knobs, & MORE. *www.thompson-automotive.com*. 949-366-0322. Discount: 10%

**Tri-City Paint.** Professional detailing, products, paint, airbrushes, car covers. West Miramar Area: 858-909-2100; Santee, Mission Gorge: 619-448-9140. Discount: Body shop pricing #CM6660.

**WheelStore.** Wheels, tires, suspension, alignment. 208 S. Coast Hwy., Oceanside. 760-967-1336. Contact: Joe Jordan. Discount: Wholesale price on tires; \$10 off alignments.

**World Famous Car Wash.** Complete professional car care. Complete detail, hand wax, leather treatment, free shuttle service. 7215 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, San Diego. 858-495-9274. Discount: 10%

## Mazda Dealerships

**Chapman Mazda.** Phoenix. 877-684-5803. Ask for John Mardueno. Discount: 20% on Mazda parts and accessories.

**Mazda El Cajon.** 619-442-7050. Discount: 20% on Mazda parts; 10-20% on accessories.

**Mazda of Escondido.** 760-737-3200. Discount: 20% on most parts; 15% on labor (not including smog certification).

**Westcott Mazda.** National City. 619-474-1591. Discount: 25% on parts or labor (except oil changes).

## Other Services

**Alarm 2000.** Residential and commercial alarm installations and monitoring. Free equipment with 2-way voice & free install. Buffy Hergenrader, 619-221-0948. *buffy@iopener.net*. Discount: No connection fee.

**Coldwell Banker Real Estate.** David T. Bryan, Realtor. 619-334-4625. *david-bryan@coldwellbanker.com*. Free market analysis. No transaction fees for SDMC members or referrals!

**Linsco Private Ledger.** Fee-based planner. Wealth management, estate, retirement, and investment planning. Free consultation and 15% discount on all fees. Hernan Hooker, BCE. 619-542-0822.

**Rosin & Associates.** Attorneys at law. Accidents, insurance issues, general civil law. No recovery, no fee. Anita Rosin, *anita.rosin@rosinlaw.com*. 619-543-9600. Discount: 10% on attorneys fees.

## Classifieds

*\$2000*, 19,200 miles, all recalls performed, optional factory wind blocker, 2000 miles on Yokohama AVS-ES 100. 2nd owner for 3 years. Garaged, covered and NO RAIN - Wife says the extra red car has to go. \$18,500/OBO Rick Keach 619 702 8077

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Buying or selling your Miata or Miata accessories? You can do it for free on Miata-mart—the Miata for Sale web site, run by SDMC member Rainer Mueller. Check it out at *www.miatamart.com*.

Classified ad space is provided at no cost to SDMC members only. Ads must include first and last names, telephone number, and e-mail address, which must agree with current club roster.

Send ads to *newsletter@sandiegomiataclub.org*. Ads will run for four months unless canceled, and may be revised and resubmitted.

**SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB**  
**P.O. Box 180833**  
**Coronado, CA 92178-**

Postage

Address

## OCTOBER 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	1	2	3	4	5	6 CORONADO
7 CORONADO SPEED	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 T&T DEADLINE	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 MONTHLY MEETING	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## NOVEMBER 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4 SCRABBLE FOR SCHOLARSHIPS	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 MONTHLY MEETING	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

DATE	EVENT	TIME	MEET	CONTACT
Sat-Sun 10/6-7	Coronado Speed Festival and Car Show	All day Sat & Sun	To Be Announced	Steve Waid 760-432-0727
Thursday 10/25	Monthly Meeting	6 PM eat 7 PM Meeting	Boll Weevil 9330 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. San Diego (between I-15 & SR 163).	Any Board Member
Sunday 11/4	Scrabble for Scholarships	10 AM	Westfield North County (details pg. 5)	Maryanne Garon 760-747-1115
Thursday 11/15	Monthly Meeting 3rd Thurs due to Thanksgiving!	6:00 PM eat 7 PM Meeting	Boll Weevil 9330 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. San Diego (between I-15 & SR 163).	Any Board Member