



TWISTS & TURNS



The San Diego Miata Club News Letter

Volume 21, Number 9

Storm Game Recap

JON CONNOR



On a beautiful, "Wacky Weenie Wednesday" members of the San Diego Miata Club gathered at the "Tower" in legendary Temecula to begin a run back to Mayberry, or was it Lake Elsinore?

We mounted up our trusty steeds (or Miatas) and wended our way through the bucolic environs of Temecula, Murrietta, Wildomar and Lake Elsinore along Historic Route 395.

In just a few short minutes we found ourselves at The Diamond, the retro-style baseball stadium that is home to the Lake Elsinore Storm. Although the Storm players were unable to reward us with a victory, a good time was had by all as we feasted on the all-you-can-eat hot dogs.

A top down summer night, baseball and hot dogs, what a great way to spend a summer evening. ■



Rear View Mirror

GENE STREETER

When you read this, Surf 'N Safari will be only a week or two away ... our welcome mat is out. There's a reason why we only do this every five years – it's a lot of work. Planning meetings by the SNS Steering Committee and Fun Team; just monthly to start at one year out, gradually accelerating to once every two weeks or less. Respective Chairmen, Neal Mills and Steve Waid, are likely responsible for the deforestation of an acre of trees in printing the meeting minutes and



image by Greg Lee, Summer Camp, entering Colorado Nat'l Monument

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Sometimes You Just Can't DO IT ALL!



STEVE WAID

There have been many times in the past where I have tried to do it all. Years ago now, after our kids were out of the house, and we became “empty nesters”, Laurie and I went to Disney World on our own...no kids. I had done all of my homework, and gotten us tickets to shows, and admission to all of the different parks...there are even more now. On day two, after spending all day at Epcot Center, we went back to the hotel to change so we could go to the “Whoop de do Review” at 11 pm. Once we got to the hotel, my smokin’ hot wife sat down and said, “are you trying to kill me?” Needless to say, I still have not seen the “Whoop de do Review”.

This kind of thing still happens. This past week was one of those stretches. Surf ‘N’ Safari 2015 is keeping me very busy. To start, there was an SNS committee meeting out our house on Tuesday, but I also had a monthly SCAT meeting at the same time. Because I had missed the last 2 SCAT meetings, I went and missed the SNS meeting. However, I was able to see my granddaughter, Peyton, play Volleyball for Scripps Ranch High School on my way to the SCAT meeting.

Wednesday allowed both of us to go and watch our other granddaughter play Volleyball for Escondido Charter High School. Earlier, Laurie was trying to put the finishing touches on the SNS program while I was working on editing some of the SNS run directions.

Thursday brought on some SNS banking and accounting for me, while Laurie continues on making changes to the SNS program. Then it is time to go get the flamed car and clean it up some, because this is the night that SDMC has been invited to show our cars at the Encinitas Cruise-in. We get to the Cruise-in a little before 5 pm and spend the rest of the evening with SDMC friends; eating, looking at cars, and just “hanging out”. A very pleasant time.

Friday, we are forced to miss a volleyball game, because we are headed to Grossmont Center in La Mesa to watch the Cat-illacs (the band that will be performing at SNS at the Saturday night party.) There are 8 other SDMC members that are able to join us at the spur of the moment. It was a really pleasant and relaxed time.

Saturday is a very special day. It is Rick Kagamaster’s Memorial and Celebration of Life. Again we tried to do it all. And, this time we did. Laurie drove separately so that she could get some ice and deliver drinks. I drove the sweep car separately, so I could forget to get gas. After a very moving formal Celebration of Life we got into the things that Rick would have loved. There was a BBQ reception right there at North Coast Calvary Chapel, with many of the church people helping with the BBQ. After the food, we started off on the run to Palomar Mountain. By the way, did I mention it was hot? After the run ended we went back to the church to retrieve the other car, but we were home a little after 6.

Sunday, we were up at O dark hundred so we could meet up with more SDMC members at Tartine’s for breakfast before we headed into the Coronado Speed Festival. We took two cars so that the “SDMC Hospitality Suite” could be constructed in the Car Club Corral. As always, we looked great. Did I mention that it was hot? This was also an Autocross day, but I chose to go to the Speed Festival. You can’t do it all!

Anyway, for the first time in the 18 years of going to the Coronado Speed Festival, I did not stay through the

last race of the day. I must be getting old. I just drove home to crash.

All of this said, all of you, no matter what, cannot do it all. With work, for those of you that still do that kind of thing, and family, and health, and who knows what else, other stuff, a technical term, gets in the way.

Sometimes the club calendar creates a situation when you have to make a choice. In early June, we had two events scheduled on the same day. There was the re-run of the Lords' "Punxatawney Phil/Hearts and Marmots Run, versus the Friends of Steve McQueen's Car Show. Because Steve and I have so much in common, except for him being dead and I'm not, I chose to go to Chino Hills for the car show.

We also had the Flyin' Miata Summer Camp conflicting with the annual Twilight Run. Stuff happens!

But anyway, I will continue to try to do it all. Watch me, if I can stay vertical. ■

Welcome to our newest members...

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Judy & Tom Fincher | Ramona | 2013 Copper Red Mica |
| Simon Prickett | San Diego | 1995 White |
| Joy Brinker | Solana Beach | 2016 Soul Red (LE) |
| Jim & Gabby Davies | San Diego | 2001 Classic Red |
| James Pennington & Susan Fantle | San Diego | 2006 Brilliant Black |
| John Uphouse | Chula Vista | Sold it! Looking for another. |
| Daniel Kidd & Ping Hu | San Diego | 2011 Liquid Silver Metallic |

...and Welcome Back to:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| Patricia Hurley & Donna Powell | Oceanside | 2002 Midnight Blue Mica |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|

163 memberships (47 single, 116 dual) for a total of 279 members. ■

agendas; and for much of my social life over that timeframe. I've attended both group's meetings in an effort to keep members' best interests at heart.

My level of commitment isn't remotely unique among the collection of committee members. I was reminded, recently, that the registration process and reception/check-in at the event is being handled by a couple who no longer even own a Miata. I acknowledge and appreciate the efforts of Steve and Paula Kennison almost as much as they seem to enjoy being part of this edition of Surf 'N Safari. It brings back memories of bygone events and deepens their connection to their chosen enthusiast club.

"It's All My Fault"

Not since a gaggle of us Route 66 tourers interacted with waiter "Tommy" at the Mid-Point Café in Adrian, Texas, has this phrase been uttered so sincerely. It's possible that Tommy's slow Texas drawl added greater emphasis; it was very endearing. When was the last time you heard an elected official, let alone a sitting president, utter those same words? One possible answer to my rhetorical question is the claim President Harry S. Truman made through much of his presidency:



It *is* all my fault...that Twists 'N Turns editions have been released a little later than usual this month and the last few. Don't blame our hard-working editor, Jon Dingee. My traditional work responsibilities are still interfering with my SDMC pursuits. Where I hear about work/life balance, I'm not yet achieving it. I easily get behind helping to fill the pages of our typical 12-page production effort. I'm okay with shouldering the responsibility, but it could be better shared with a few more of you submitting run reviews, tech tips, even an occasional letter to the editor. There's a lot of talent in this organization, some of it even in the area of written communications.

"What Happens at Summer Camp, Stays at Summer Camp" - the photo essay

Summer Camp, 2015 is now history, a fond memory for the most part. A little "licking of wounds" for a few of us. I couldn't resist putting my own spin on the marketing slogan designed to jump-start Las Vegas's appeal as the adult entertainment Mecca. I used it in last month's column explaining it would apply to Summer Camp *unless* something really noteworthy happened. Guess what?

There was the unfortunate travel incident for club members Chuck and Diane Graham. The real story is this: the Miatas being towed were slightly damaged, still very drivable. Competitors that they are, they ditched their heavily-damaged tow vehicle and trailer in St. George, Utah and struck out for Grand Junction, Colorado, in their "street-legal" track cars. We met up at the Sonic Drive-in, as the photos attest.

Despite considerable improvement, I couldn't get any closer than 3.5 seconds to Chuck's best result; my progress was cut short by an off-track excursion that bent two of my wheels. Fellow 'Speedster Greg Lee (notably absent this year, along with Steve Waid and Dan Garcia) is disarmingly philosophical on that subject: "I paid for the entire track, I'm going to use it! The dirt and grass are free."



Daryled Bristol "mugging" for the camera. That's Carlan trying to distance herself. Judy Hunt, Bill "Bowzer" Bennett, and Diane Graham round out the bench. Chuck Graham was found wandering the parking lot.

Sandy Bagnall visits her old Mazdaspeed and new owners John & Suzie Conn, while Wally Stevens (seated) allows interested on-lookers to size-up his new ND.



Apart from the "other" tradition, your author has a habit of parking near dumpsters ... it's a long story.



"Representing" SDMC in Grand Junction Don't tell Daryled his magnetics are crooked.



Despite his determined look, Bill Bennett was soon dubbed "Capt. Slow." I like his color-coordinated helmet and 3-point harness.



Tech Day seminars went all day Saturday at Flyin' Miata. Question: How many "summer campers" does it take to find the missing 200 lbs.?



Race recap at Saturday's banquet - I'm explaining to Chuck how I "punted" two alloy wheels going off-course

"Change of Venue"

I'm not referring to the legal term whereby attorneys seek to improve the odds an accused individual can receive a fair and impartial trial, although I may well be asking for this in the coming months. Rather, I'm hoping you saw the e-mail I circulated announcing a change of venue for our club's monthly meetings. If not, I hope you didn't arrive at the Boll Weevil on the designated Thursday to find most of the tables available and no "entertainment"; it's a relative term, OK? Reacting to numerous requests, your Board made a concerted effort to address our meeting needs – available parking, sufficient meeting room size, location, access, menu variety, and affordability; and these are just the primary considerations.

Just as I indicated at the outset, I decided the "buck stopped with me." I made the final decision to move our meeting to the Hamburger Factory, in Old Town Poway. The meeting and location details appear in the calendar section of this newsletter. I appreciate the effort and input many of you made in coming to

this significant change. Rosi Romero was tenacious in her search efforts, focusing on Clairemont Mesa and points South. My fellow Board members and I sampled menus and parking availability at other venues as well. I'm grateful for the wise counsel provided by Sue and Ted Kesler, and especially for the efforts of Pam and Dave Hunt.

Gaining a sense of our club history made this decision all the more momentous. While my SDMC involvement only spans ten years, I reviewed the first two newsletters conveniently archived on our website. (No lecture here, but there really *is* a wealth of valuable information available there. I'm appreciative of the effort that goes into this – thank you, Bob Kleeman and Dan Garcia.) Called "Meals & Wheels" early on, I learned that we have been meeting at the Boll Weevil since the very beginning of our club – over nineteen years. Whether I learn a sense of brevity in my presidential messages from founding President Mark Booth is another issue entirely. For the record, I observed a more diverse collection of members making newsletter article submissions. There's a dollar's worth of stopping power in that fact alone.

As part of my presidential legacy, I will have moved both the monthly meeting and the Holiday Party venues within a few months of each other. These are the sorts of decisions that define political careers in the larger context – Napoleon's Waterloo, Nixon's Watergate, Trump's dressing-down of a news commentator...you get the idea. You get to vote your approval (or not) in our Annual Meeting, November 14; for the record, former president Neal Mills moved the Annual Meeting to 4th Quarter as part of his legacy. Sometimes changes really do work out for the better.

In Memoriam ... "Life Is A Highway"

September 19th was set aside to honor the life of treasured SDMC member Rick Kagamaster – perennial friend and fun-seeker. If you were familiar with Rick or his exploits, he was a skillful Miata driver, and even more accomplished as a Gold Wing motorcycle pilot and instructor. Best of friends for many years, John Lord presided over his celebration of life, while family and friends from both enthusiast clubs participated in the reception and run that followed.

There's no question we felt a profound sense of loss, or that wife CJ and her family continue to deal with the vacuum he left. One of the few comforts in all of this is that he lost his life doing something he enjoyed as much as life itself – travelling the highways and byways. When it's my time, I would hope for a similar courtesy.

Rick taking on a curve on Palomar Mountain



John Lord caught Rick in the right seat, letting Neal enjoy the view behind the wheel of a "Launch Edition." Always the "giver," if Rick saw that you needed a smile, he would always give you one of his.

Living in Driver's Nirvana

Per the September, 2015 *Car & Driver* magazine released early August (Jon, they're an entire month ahead of us), their statistical analysis of America's largest cities suggests we're fortunate to live and play in a "driver's nirvana." Access to driver's roads (those with the Porsche Club of America's definition of curvature relative to straight segments; after all, they've been around a lot longer than us) concluded San Diego is, indeed, America's Finest City using their formula.

Every (U.S.) metropolitan area with more than a million residents was rated for its quality driving time according to a relatively complicated ratio/formula. While you're certainly welcome to read the actual article, here's the "Cliffs Notes" version. Younger members and/or those of us that didn't invest a small fortune in a college education may not relate to that metaphor.

Writing the way I do – using obscure references, national spelling bee vocabulary, and complex sentences is one of the few outlets I have for my four years of effort. Rarely dabbling in an illicit beer or glass of wine, I was otherwise a throwback from my generation's reputation for dabbling in other college-associated pursuits. Steve Taft, if you're out there and paying your usual attention, I used "dabbling" in last month's column as well. I just now cracked the book you loaned me – *The Joy of Lex*. Thinking the word misspelled, I can hear tongues beginning to wag right about now. But, I digress ... once again.

Carlan Bristol has suggested, politely, my columns are hard to read; she's not alone. My Dad asks that I use all the pictures I can. Even Editor Jon Dingee allows "a picture is worth a thousand words." Ratio correctly applied, my ramblings would be a lot shorter.

That said, here's the scoring methodology the researchers used: the nearest challenging road, divided by the time to access it, multiplied by the number of days of "decent" weather, and divided once again by the amount of traffic." Here's what the mathematical formula looks like, and for the benefit of Mason, Steve & Laurie Waid's grandson:

$$\frac{\text{Time to Access} \sqrt{\text{Nearest challenging road} \times \text{Number of good weather days}}}{\div \text{Volume of Traffic}}$$

Lost? Here's the bottom-line I was trying to share. San Diego scored 303 versus the city of Los Angeles, with a not-too-shabby 263 result. Think about it; LA has weather conditions not unlike ours, and its fair share of great driving roads, but it's typically a struggle to get to them. Once there, the volume of traffic can be heavier as well. Look at the bright side – we could be living in poor Miami, Florida, which could only manage a score of 13. For those of you thinking our weather conditions have been very similar to Florida's of late, at least we have much more interesting roads to travel.

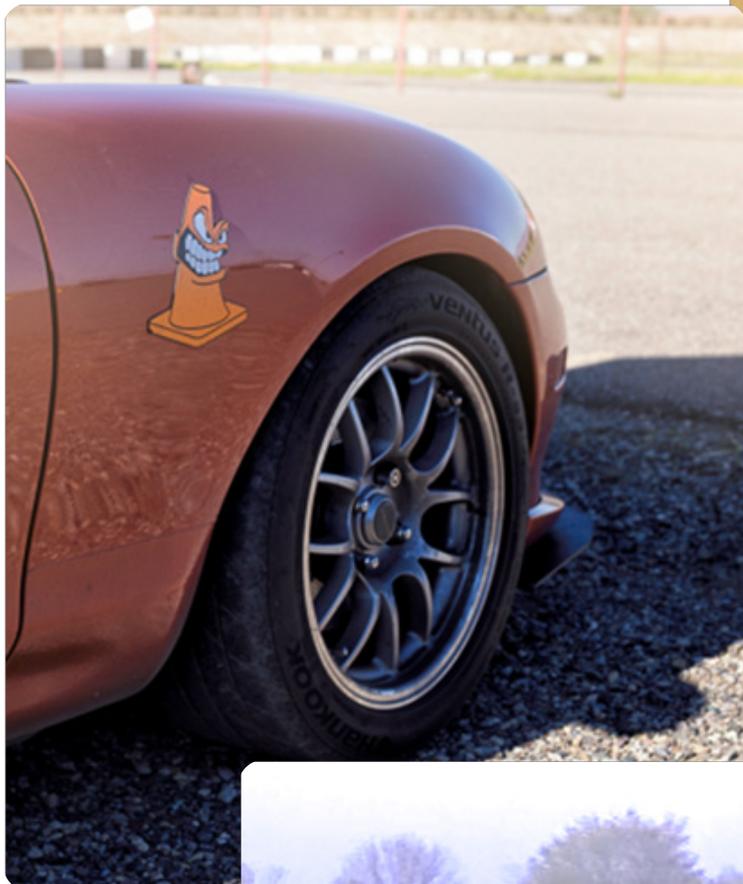
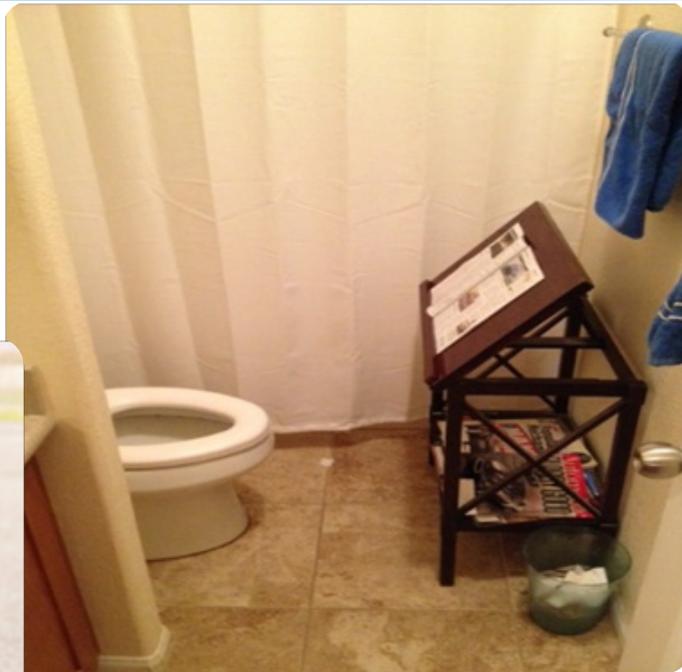
Shoulder Bolts



Priorities, revisited

Those of you astute and loyal eleven readers of Rear View Mirror, where Felix "Phil" Daoust has been re-signed as team captain, may remember my sharing *Car & Driver's* editorial concerns their magazine typically makes its way to the bathroom for readers' full appreciation. (If you're really interested, see my column in the July edition of *Twists 'N Turns*.) I submit the attached photo as proof positive that at least one of our members reads his automotive literature in the loo. Point of fact: the magazine on display is *Automobile*

magazine, not *Car & Driver*. No copy of *Twists 'N Turns* was in evidence, perhaps because it's a shorter read. Or perhaps, it's held in higher esteem. That said, I plan to re-butt the next critic that suggests I often resort to toilet humor.



For the auto-cross contingent of our club, this image needs no explanation.

Clever . . . indeed!



Those of you interested in a SkyActive diesel-powered Mazda 6, take heart. My son captured a photo of this "test mule" on the freeway headed to San Diego, thinly disguised as a security patrol vehicle that was magnetized and driven through Pep Boys – twice.

Stay classy, San Diego (Miata Club). Indeed! ■

A Brief Vehicular Account of my Friendship with Rick Kagamaster

JOHN LORD

I owned an MG Midget when Phyllis and I got married in 1975. We lived on Oahu, and there were no kids in the picture yet, so impractical was perfectly okay.

When Rick and I met in 1978, I was 22, and neither of us had a roadster. We were practical family guys, living in Navy housing. We had a Chevette, and he was driving something equally as horrendous and practical, as a family guy should when he's living on what the military calls "pay".

Eventually, we figured out a way to justify having a second car. For Rick, it was a Triumph Spitfire. For me, it was a newer MG Midget. By that time I was out of the Navy, making a little more money... We were then living in different parts of town, but found excuses for tinkering with our cars together, and 'test driving' them afterwards. It was Rick who introduced me to the concept of accelerating through a curve. He eventually traded his Triumph for a Fiat Spider.

Eventually, we both again surrendered to practicality, for a time at least. Once Phyllis and I moved our family to Southern Nevada, an MG without AC was definitely not practical!

Rick had a Goldwing before I did. His was a brand-new Goldwing GL1100 Interstate. But that was okay, because it was after a short ride on the back of his bike that Phyllis decided it might not be such a bad idea if I had one. Shortly thereafter I had one too, but mine was a well-used, relatively ancient 1976 GL1000, with aftermarket fairing and bags. It was a yellow monstrosity I dubbed the 'Screaming Yellow Zonker'. (That bike cured me of ever wanted to own a yellow vehicle ever again, by the way.) Rick and I still somehow managed to find frequent opportunities to ride together, even though we lived over 300 miles apart.

I soon upgraded to a used GL1100 Interstate myself, a burgundy beauty, and added an aftermarket CB so Rick and I could talk. It seemed a worthwhile investment, even though few of the other people I rode with had CBs... I let that beautiful bike go after a couple of years, when Phyllis and I got spooked about riding. That lasted about six months, and soon I was looking for another Goldwing. Found a low mileage beauty (another 1100 Interstate) for a steal of a price, and I rode that bike for over decade!

Soon after this, Rick was transferred to Japan. His Goldwing went away, because it would be too expensive to store. Upon his discharge from the Navy, there was no money for recreational toys as Rick had to invent a civilian career for himself so he could take care of his family.

Years passed, and heart attack and stroke later, the doctor practically ordered Rick to get back on a motorcycle. He got himself a new-fangled GL1500, and it was soon after that he connected with the Goldwing Road Riders Association. Phyllis and I were living in Portland at the time, and Rick managed to make a couple of trips up there on his 1500 so we could ride along the beautiful Columbia River Gorge together.

Rick and I admired the Miata from afar, even from its inception. It had all the earmarks of the British roadsters we'd known and loved, only without the mechanical and electrical headaches. But neither of us were in a position to do anything but want one at that point. Years later, Rick eventually added an NA Miata to his vehicular stable. It wasn't in the best shape, but it was enough for him to be hooked. He let me drive it, during yet another visit to Las Vegas, after we'd moved back there, and I was instantly hooked as well. But the time was not yet right for me. He used his NA well, and put many, many miles on it, including yet another trip to Oregon when we were home from England for the birth of our 3rd grandson.

While Phyllis and I lived in England from late 2001 through 2002, I finally got a Miata of my own - a silver NA. When Rick visited us in England, we made a trip to Scotland together. Since I couldn't get time off work, Rick also took care of finding someone to put a new top on my car for me!!!

When we moved back to the States in 2003, I bought a new 1800 Goldwing, and a reliable practical car for my bride, and a 1999 Miata for me... Rick's Miata was on its last legs by this time. Rocky probably could have breathed new life into it, but neither of us knew anything about him back then. Nevertheless, we still managed a run together up to Zion National Park. If we lived any closer together, we frequently told each other, we'd never get anything done around the house.

When Rick upgraded to a GL1800, he got an Illusion Blue beauty like mine... He no longer had a Miata at this point. By this time we'd moved back to San Diego. After Rick and I enjoyed a spirited ride in my Miata on fateful day in 2011, CJ saw the silly grin on Rick's face and said, "Oh, why don't you just go ahead and get one!" Or something very much like that. Rick began looking immediately, of course. I insisted that he could not get a green one, because people would talk...

Soon after he tracked down his 2000 SE "Merlot", he hooked up with SDMC. Since he was driving all the way down from Irvine to attend the monthly meetings, I couldn't very well justify not driving 3 miles to do the same...

Once I mentioned that I was toying with the idea of putting a run together for early 2015, it was a done deal as far as Rick was concerned. He clearly wanted Phyllis and I to get more involved with SDMC, and more acquainted with the membership. Putting together and executing the Punxatawney Phil Hearts and Marmots Run clearly did that and then some, and with the way it ended for Phyllis and I, became the stuff of SDMC legend. That run, and its conclusion, resulted in a deeper appreciation for SDMC and its membership!

I must admit that appreciation has deepened even more after the wonderful SDMC showing for the September 19 memorial service for Rick, even though there was competing event on the club calendar. Heartfelt thanks to all who came, to all who contributed refreshments, to all who joined in on the run. Thanks to Bloviater-in-Chief Steve Waid for his words at the memorial, and for Gene Streeter's remarks at the reception.

Phyllis and I are honored to be part of such a fine club. Thank you, Rick, for yet another good thing in our lives because of you. ■

SURF 'N' SAFARI

Schedule of Events



Thursday, October 8

City by Night Tour

See downtown San Diego like never before!

Thursday evening, after the dessert reception at the hotel, we will be taking a tour of San Diego that has never been done before. Not in a pedi-cab...not in a horse drawn carriage...but in your own top down Miata. This approximate 80 mile tour will take you from the hotel south and over San Diego harbor via the landmark Coronado Bay Bridge giving an overview of the harbor and city lighted in spectacular fashion. Drive along Harbor Drive with the city on one side and the harbor attractions on the other. Drive through the historic Gas Lamp district with its vitality and energy. Then it is into the serenity of Balboa Park at night. You will see the landmark California Tower and Laurel Street Bridge lighted for your enjoyment. You may even recognize that they are depicted in the San Diego Miata Club logo. In less than 2 hours you will see these things and more that promise to delight you, and build anticipation for seeing the same city in the day time too.



Friday, October 9

Step Back in Time

See historic Julian, Ca.

Take a step back in time to the days of Julian's beginning rooted in the 1870's gold rush. Get away from the hectic rush of city life... discover the charms of Julian.

Friday's Julian adventure will take you "from the coast to the mountains and back"! We will start out on local freeways progressing to a few of SDMC's favorite roads a world renowned bakery and a historic gold rush town with its famous Julian apple pies. You will have a little time on Main St., Julian to grab a quick lunch and browse some of the shops and maybe even find that "special souvenir"!

Our adventure will take about 5.5 hours, and we should have you back at the hotel to "freshen up" or maybe "take a nap", including our stop in Julian, well before the evening festivities begin. You will have covered 134 miles from the 'coast to the mountains and back.

Run to the Stars

Visit the World Famous 200" Hale Telescope and Observatory

Fewer runs are more anticipated by visitors to the San Diego area than the Mt. Palomar Run, and with good reason. It's a favorite destination for driving enthusiasts, bicyclists, sightseers, and motorcyclists as well. But since this run is on a Friday morning, we should have the mountain largely to ourselves.

Along the way, we'll whet our motoring appetite on the twists and turns of Lilac and Couser Canyon Roads. Atop Mt. Palomar, we'll take a little time to observe the famous Observatory, then head down the other side of the mountain for a delicious barbecue lunch near Lake Henshaw. The drive down also offers some breath-taking views toward the Pacific Ocean.

All this, and we'll be back at the hotel in plenty of time for the afternoon's activities.

Who Knew Run??

Yes, there is a beautiful rural rollercoaster like North County

You can be a part of the Miata faithful that just enjoys a good drive through an area of San Diego County that is usually missed by most travelers. North of the inland town of Fallbrook, home to the late Duke Snider for you baseball aficionados, is an area that features avocado and orange groves surrounding smaller estates and horse ranches. The roads that blanket the area resemble the rollercoaster thrills of twists, turns, ups, and downs while being covered by canopies of California Oak trees or colorful vines and flowers draped from rocks and fences.

This under 5 hour trip, including a stop at a local Fallbrook Café for lunch covers about 95 miles with several panoramic views of the valleys and the Pacific Ocean. Your Safari might even catch you spotting a llama along the way.

Miata Safari Hunt

Test your hunting skills while driving top down in your Miata

(Self Guided or gather some friends for a caravan Safari).

No Pith Helmet, binoculars, or weapons are required for this Safari. The self-guided, approximate 139 mile and 4 hour, tour is a fun way to spend Friday after breakfast. The Safari will take you from the hotel south along the San Diego coastline and then inland into the backcountry. Animals, in one form or another, can be found along the route by using written clues provided in the driving directions. How many animals can you find? We promise no animals will charge at you, but you and your co-pilot will get a charge out of this Miata Safari.

Borrego Springs Run

So You Think You've Seen It All

(Where Can I Find a Heavy Metal Dinosaur?)

Join us for the Friday run to the small desert town of Borrego Springs. On the way there and back we will journey through the three environments of San Diego County: Coast, Mountain and Desert over some twisty and fun roads.

We will drive through Borrego Springs to view the large outdoor metal sculptures of Ricardo Breceda. These range from Whimsical to Historic to Jurassic. For lunch we will dine at Borrego's 4 star desert oasis, La Casa del Zorro.

After Lunch we will come back via more curvy roads over and down the mountains to return to the Hotel. With our 8:30am departure time, we will cover the 195 miles in 6 hours & 45 minutes with breaks and lunch. This allows us to be back in plenty of time for the late afternoon's activities.

The Jewel of San Diego

See Balboa Park

Known as "The Jewel", it is nestled into the canyons and mesas just east of downtown San Diego and is one of the most famous, yet at the same time the most under-appreciated tourist spots in San Diego County. Celebrating the Centennial of the 1915 Panama California Exposition, Balboa Park is best known for the World Famous San Diego Zoo. But, it is so much more.

Being one of the most photographed locations of its kind, there is so much to see and do that even San Diegans don't know everything that sits inside its perimeter. The history that surrounds the establishment and continued development of the park reads more like a novel.

Larger and more diverse than New York's famed Central Park, this self guided run allows you as much time as you dare spend at one time and still return to Surf 'N' Safari central in time for the evening's festivities. Eating opportunities abound in the park, as do the various museums, exhibits, and photo opportunities. Pick up your tour package at the hospitality gazebo before leaving on your tour.

If you have 30 minutes you can watch this movie created for the Centennial...it might create a desire to see more of "The Jewel".

 *Saturday, October 10*



Surfin' San Diego Rally

Water, Water Everywhere but not a Drop to Drink!

When people come to San Diego they expect to see the beaches on the Pacific Ocean, Mission Bay, San Diego Bay, fountains, pools, and water everywhere. And yet, all of California is enduring an ongoing drought. Join us in wondering why we can't use that blue Pacific somehow.

Or enjoy seeing it all while driving your Miata throughout one of the most beautiful coastal cities in the world. You decide after following our rally directions which will take you to places that will inspire, confuse, and remind you of why you came to Surf N' Safari in the first place. Enjoy the music, the ocean, the history, and the beauty of "Americas Finest City" at your own pace. Somehow there will be a winner of this rally, but you will have to wait and see what that will actually mean.

 *Sunday, October 11*



"Rocky and Bullwinkle's" Open House and Free Lunch

or, there is such a thing as a Free Lunch!

So Brian Goodwin is not Bullwinkle Moose and Rocky Murphy is not Rocky the flying squirrel. But they are good friends, and their Miata inspired businesses share the same location and the same passion for MX5 Miatas. To "slam the door" on Surf N Safari 2015, we will be taking a short run through Mission Bay to the home of Good-Win Racing and Rocky's Miatomotive in Pacific Beach. Departure will be after the "Car Show" awards on Sunday morning. Brian will be cooking up one of his "nearly famous" barbeque lunches' as both he and Rocky invite you to their open house. Expect to see them both throughout Surf N Safari. Be sure and ask them what is "in store" when you visit.

There really is a FREE LUNCH! ■

Photos from Southwest Tour

JON & JANE DINGEE

One week, one 16 year old Miata, 2500 miles and a patient wife. Here are some photos from our recent Miata adventure.



Clockwise from top left. **1.** Jon on a trail in Bryce Canyon N.P. **2.** Miata parked on the edge of the Grand Canyon (actually, parked safely away from the edge.) **3.** Wilson's Arch in Southeastern Utah **4.** Camouflaged car in Grand Canyon N.P.

All photos by authors.

Do you want your miata adventure featured in a future Twists 'N Turns? Just send your photos along with descriptions to newsletter@sandiegomiataclub.org. ■

Upcoming Events

| Date | Event | Time | Meeting Location | Point of Contact |
|--|------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Thursday September 24 th | SDMC Monthly Meeting | 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm | Boll Weevil Restaurant, 9330 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA 92123 | Gene Streeter, gene.streeter.CZLI@statefarm.com |
| Saturday September 27 th | Rev'n Up for Down Syndrome | 8:00 am - 4:00 pm | Liberty Station San Diego | sandiegodownsyndrome.org (click Car Show Fundraiser in red box) \$25 registration (due by 9/24) |
| Saturday October 3 rd | Irwindale Speedway | 1:30 pm - 5:30 pm | Temecula Promenade parking lot | Jon Conner |
| Thursday October 8th - Sunday October 11 th | Surf 'N' Safari 2015 | All Weekend | Event Hotel: Hilton Garden Inn Carlsbad Beach, 6450 Carlsbad Boulevard, Carlsbad, CA 92011 | Lots more info at sandiegomiataclub.org |
| October 22 nd | SDMC Monthly Meeting | 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm | Boll Weevil Restaurant, 9330 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA 92123 | Gene Streeter, gene.streeter.CZLI@statefarm.com |
| Friday October 23 rd - Sunday October 25 th | Borrego Days Desert Festival | Fri: 5- 11pm Sat:11am - 10pm Sun:10am - 5pm | TBD | Info. available at borregospringschamber.com/ BorregoDays |

SDMC Officers



President
Gene Streeter



Vice - President
Jan Frederick



Treasurer
Laurie Waid



Secretary
Jon Connor

Executive Board

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| President - Gene Streeter 760-445-2860 | president@sandiegomiataclub.org |
| Vice President - Jan Frederick | vicepresident@sandiegomiataclub.org |
| Treasurer - Laurie Waid 760-432-0727 | treasurer@sandiegomiataclub.org |
| Secretary - Jon Connor 760-458-4503 | secretary@sandiegomiataclub.org |

Administrative Board

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Membership - Chris and Linda Jones | membership@sandiegomiataclub.org |
| Events Coordinator - Daryled Bristol 619-748-3953 | daryledb@aol.com |
| Club E-Mail - Bob Kleeman 619-501-9776 | postmaster@sandiegomiataclub.org |
| Webmaster - Dan Garcia | webmaster@sandiegomiataclub.org |
| Club Regalia - Steve & Laurie Waid 760-432-0727 | regalia@sandiegomiataclub.org |
| Historian - Elinor Shack 858-485-0278 | mshack@san.rr.com |

Twists & Turns Staff

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
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Contact SDMC

The Web

www.sandiegomiataclub.org

Mail

P.O. Box 261921
San Diego, CA 92196

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:

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.

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.

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!

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 on the third Thursday.** We meet at The Hamburger Factory Family Restaurant, 14122 Midland Road, Poway, CA 92064. To contact the restaurant, call (858) 486-4575. 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.

Next Monthly Meeting: **October 22nd**

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? You can now order them on-line from fellow Miata enthusiast, Joe Portas – the KnobMeister. The .pdf order form is available on our SDMC website. These popular magnetic badges are priced at \$6 each, plus shipping.

Member Discounts

Many 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 additional information.

Automotive Services

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

Auto Image Paintless dent repair, leather/vinyl/plastic repair, headlight restoration & paint touch up. Free estimates at your home or work. Contact Britt Colton. 619-244-2227. Discount: 10%

Dent Time: fast reasonable paintless dent removal. 800-420-DENT (3368). They come to your door, provided quick and professional service.

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

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%

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

Langka Corp. Guaranteed paint chip and restoration products. 800-945-4532. www.langka.com. Discount: 30%.

Rocky's Miatomotive 2951 Garnet Avenue, San Diego, CA 92109. 858-273-2547. 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).

TJM Enterprises (formerly Magnolia Autobody). Restorations, body work. 10027 Prospect Avenue, Santee. 619-562-7861. Ask for T.J. Discount: 10% on labor and parts.

Pitstop Autoglass Rock chip repairs free to SDCC Miata club members for club Miatas. Must show valid membership card. In-shop only. Non-Miatas save 25% off regular prices. 858-675-GLASS (4527)

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.

U Fix It Automotive. Open to anyone that wants to work on a car. 6 bays, 5 lifts, and tools, Rent by the hour, day or multi-day. Contact Joel Muoz, 760.544.6181. 10% SDMC discount.

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

Mazda of El Cajon. 619-590-3700. Discount: 20% on parts and labor. VIP Membership: 3 oil changes for \$19.95 with \$5 going to Rady's Children's Hospital.

Mazda of Escondido. 760-737-3200. Discount: 20% on most parts; 15% on labor (not including smog). For purchase, ask for Barb and receive free SDMC membership for 1 year!

Westcott Mazda. National City. 619-474-1591. Discount: 15% on parts or labor (except oil changes).

Other Services

David Bryan your friendly neighborhood REALTOR; Pacific Sotheby's International Realty. I sell garages with homes! I will provide SDMC members who buy or sell a home through me with a free 1-year home warranty. DAVID BRYAN 619.334.4625 DavidBrealtor@cox.net DRE#01009295

FIRST BRAND Inc. Web/Logo Designs and Development We are currently offering a 10% discount off our promotional packages listed on www.FIRSTBRANDinc.com or you can call us at 951-672-6677.

Classifieds

FOR SALE. 2008 Corvette Z-06 \$44,000 40,359 miles One owner Never damaged Serviced - By Rocky 6,000 miles on Edelbrock supercharger and duel plate clutch Warrantee by Edelbrock on Supercharger and drivetrain Carb legal and just passed smog 581 horsepower at the wheels, dyno sheet from Shelby American Call Wally - 619-203-2801 or email: wallymiata@gmail.com

FOR SALE. Complete Jackson racing cold air intake system.

All plastic is un damaged, no cracks. The aluminum intake is complete with extra hoses includes fasteners and wiring harness and a like new air filter. Fits 1994-1997 Miatas. Calif. street legal with sticker. New price is \$369.95 plus shipping and tax. My price is **\$185.00** CASH (no checks) Call 619-284-4911 Mon--Friday 8am --5pm

Parting out 2001 Miata. Crystal Blue.

Big brakes, 6 speed. High miles, open diff, Factory 16" wheels. Car is not damaged but well worn. Not drivable due to a bad u-joint. Clear title Contact Bill Knepper 619-733-7455

SALVAGE PARTS. Mainly 1990 to 2005 parts, at least 50 % off of cost new. Some 2006 and newer parts including tops, seats and trim.

wallymiata@gmail.com or 619-203-2801 Wally Stevens SOCALM & SDMC member.

San Diego Miata Club
PO Box 180456
Coronado CA 92178-0456

