



# SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB NEWS



VOLUME 5 NUMBER 3

MARCH 2000

A CHAPTER OF THE MIATA CLUB OF AMERICA

## UPCOMING EVENTS



March 4 — Saturday  
**Where the Hell is  
Boulevard? Fun Run**



March 9 — Thursday  
**Wheels'n'Meals**  
The Brick Oven



March 11 — Saturday  
**Autocross at the "Q"**



March 19 — Sunday  
**Autocross at the "Q"**



March 23 — Thursday  
**Monthly Meeting**



March 25 — Saturday  
**Puke-O-Rama III**



March 26 — Sunday  
**Autocross at the "Q"**



April 1 — Saturday  
**SDMC Annual Meeting**  
Election of Executive Board



April 7 — Friday  
**McKamey Autocross School**



April 7 — 9  
**Autocross at the "Q"**  
**National Tour**



April 8 — 9  
**Palm Springs Shopping  
Getaway**

## UPDATE ON THE AUTOCROSS AFFILIATION PROPOSAL

Some concerns were raised about the autocross affiliation proposal in recent discussions via e-mail and at the January monthly meeting. The consensus of the board is that there is just not enough time before the annual meeting in April to fully address the concerns that have been raised about this issue and come to a satisfactory conclusion. Therefore, the board has decided not to place the autocross affiliation proposal on the agenda for the annual meeting. This means that there will be no proposed amendment to the bylaws concerning this proposal initiated by the board.

However, the board still feels an autocross affiliation would add to the fun factor of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB. Those who have expressed interest in creating a nonpartisan committee to study the issue further and present the findings to the club are encouraged to do so.

It is now evident that the results of such a study will be dealt with through the new board that will be elected April 1<sup>st</sup>, so autocross enthusiasts who are waiting for a club decision are encouraged to organize and form the "Whatever" autocross team as they see fit. Perhaps an affiliation can be achieved at a later date when all the data is in and there is more structure to the ideas presented recently. Regardless of the ultimate decision about the autocross team, there will be plenty of "fun factor" opportunities for the club in the future.

The board hopes that members will continue to bring forth ideas that they feel will help the club to experience even more and different kinds of fun.

Now, let's go have some FUN!

— STEVE WAID

## Calling All Candidates!

We will be publishing biographical profiles in the April newsletter for candidates seeking elected office at the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB annual meeting on April 1<sup>st</sup>. If you are interested in being considered for election, you are encouraged to submit a short (200-300 word) biographical profile. Include your name and a brief description of your qualifications, skills, desires, or goals as a member of the executive board.

This is an opportunity for potential nominees to let club members know about their desire to serve the membership. A biographical profile is *not* a requirement for nomination and election at the annual meeting.

Please send your profiles to the club post office box, or e-mail them directly to the editor ([nevadabob@miata.net](mailto:nevadabob@miata.net)). Only profiles received by March 15 will be included in a special early April edition of the newsletter.

—EDITOR



## 10 AE Registry

**K**erry James from the UK is trying to set up a definitive list of all the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition (10 AE) roadsters and their owners from around the world. He has asked me to spread the word amongst the clubs and mailing lists. Our aim is to eventually track down all the owners! Initially, the list is in the form of a Microsoft Network (MSN) Community and then, hopefully (depending on interest), a dedicated Web site.

The Community site is at the address below;

<http://communities.msn.co.uk/WorldWideMazdaMX510thAnniversaryOwners-Club>

If you're a 10 AE owner, please sign up!  
If you already have a Hotmail account you can sign in, otherwise you'll need to get an MSN Passport; but it's all very easy! Please add a Photo Album showing your car as well.

Thanks for your help and go sign up now!

Cheers,

—Tim Robinson

Co-Founder MX-5 Owners Club UK

## NEWS FLASH...

**I** have been waiting over three years to send this message.

After hundreds of phone calls and email requests for Toyo to build a 195/55R14 Miata tire, here it is:  
The 195/55R14 Proxes T1S should (note the use of the word "should") be available August 2000.

The tire is V-rated.

Price will be close to a 195/50R15 T1S.

Performance will be very close to the 195/50R15 T1S.

There will be a 500 mile trial offer (satisfaction guaranteed).

This tire has been developed specifically for the Miata.

—KEVIN LAKKIS

Toyo Tires

## AUTOCROSS AT THE "Q"



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

Saturday, March 11.....practice day

Sunday, March 19.....race day

Sunday, March 26.....practice day

Friday, April 7.....National Tour

Saturday, April 8....."

Sunday, April 9....."

Saturday, April 22.....race day

Saturday, May 6.....practice day

Sunday, May 7.....race day

Sunday, May 21.....race day

To confirm autocross information, call:

San Diego SCCA Hotlines (619) 441-1333

(800) 360-4454

Web page [www.sdr-solo2.com](http://www.sdr-solo2.com)

Rainer Mueller (760) 439-0067

John Godden (858) 538-6165

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

## Newsletter Team

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[nevadabob@miata.net](mailto:nevadabob@miata.net)

## NOTICES

The SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB is an official chapter of the MIATA CLUB OF AMERICA. We are a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to promote the enjoyment of — and enthusiasm for — the Mazda Miata.

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

Submissions to the newsletter are welcomed and encouraged. Did you just add a new accessory to your Miata? How about writing a review for the newsletter? Where possible, please e-mail your submissions to the newsletter editor. Submissions can also be 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](http://www.sandiegomiataclub.org)

The club has a members-only electronic mail list for those members with e-mail capability.

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

SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB

P.O. Box 23081

San Diego CA 92193

Note new club phone number & address!



## MEETING PLACES

### Where the Hell is Boulevard?

#### Fun Run

**Date:** Saturday, March 4

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Meeting place:** Walmart Parking Lot, Lake-side

**Run Leaders:** Gloria and Jeff Dodge  
(619) 443-7627

Up Old Highway 80 we will be making a stop at a place for the best candy in captivity; would you believe in BOULEVARD? The owner has graciously offered to allow us to tour the factory that has been operating since 1921. But don't eat too much candy, because we then head for The Burning Tree restaurant for a buffet lunch. Then on to check out the Old Tower, from which you can see to the Salton Sea and beyond. Followed by a cut up to the 1849 Great Southern Overland Stagecoach Route. Many twisties on the way AND, if you still have some left in you on the way back, we will cut through on Wynola Road then over to The Julian Pie Company for the usual pie and ice cream or whatever your little heart desires. PLEASE RSVP! as I must tell the nice man at The Burning Tree Restaurant about how many to expect.

*Directions to meeting place:* Take Interstate 8 East (past El Cajon) to the Los Coches Road offramp. Go up Los Coches Rd through the light at Camino Canada, then up the hill, and you will see the Walmart parking lot on the right. We will be on the east side (in back) forming up.

#### Wheels'n'Meals Social

**Date:** Thursday, March 9

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Place:** The Brick Oven

Historic Old Escondido

**Contact:** Sue & Jack Hinkle

(760) 735-3456 or sportscarr@aol.com

Your hosts, Jack and Sue Hinkle, have made arrangements with The Brick Oven Italian restaurant located in historic Old Escondido on Escondido Boulevard. Savor the taste of fine Italian food and spend the evening socializing with other Miata enthusiasts. You won't want to miss the first Wheels'n'Meals of the year, so mark your calendar for March 9<sup>th</sup>. We need to let the restaurant know how many to plan for, so let us know if you are coming.

*Directions:* Take Interstate 15 to the Ninth Avenue exit, go east to Escondido Blvd., turn right; the restaurant is the third building on the right.

### Monthly Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, March 23

**Time:** 6:00 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!*

#### Puke-O-Rama III

**Date:** Saturday, March 25

**Time:** Early lunch at Dalton's - 11 a.m.

Drivers meeting - 12:30 p.m.

First car out - 1 p.m.

**Meeting Place:** Parking lot of Dalton's Roadhouse.

**Run Leaders:** Laurie and Steve Waid

swaid@home.com or (760) 432-0727.

This will be the "new and improved" Puke-O-Rama. It will be the "drive the course independently if you choose, option available" Puke-O-Rama. The Puke-O-Rama will become an all-driver friendly event. You may choose to drive the course independently and just meet up with people at the pit stops, pal up with a couple of other independents, or if you like the idea of driving in a pack of Miatas, you can do that too. Just be on-time for the drivers meeting.

The mission of the Puke-O-Rama is to provide the venue that is most likely to make a passenger ill. This is done by driving as many of San Diego County's twistiest roads back-to-back. Highland Valley Road, Old Julian Highway, Wynola Road, Cuyamaca Highway, Engineers Road, Mesa Grande, and Couser Canyon will all be on the menu.

Speaking of eating, of course we will again start by loading up at Dalton's Roadhouse. Dalton's will open early for us, so if you want the early lunch be there at 11 a.m. sharp. We need to be done in time for the 12:30 drivers meeting.

*Directions:* One half mile north of Highway 78 on the west side of Nordahl Road, just west of I-15 and Highway 78 interchange in Escondido.

## UPCOMING NATIONAL AND REGIONAL EVENTS

March 18, 2000

#### St. Patrick's Day Poker Run

The 6<sup>th</sup> annual SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY MIATA CLUB St. Patrick's Day Poker Run — low-key, fun Miata driving event on some of the best "Miata roads" in Central California (the foothills of the Sierra Nevadas).

\$45 per car, includes lunch for two, participation in the run and dash plaque. Event T-shirts/\$12 each; awards dinner/\$15 per person. Clovis Cole Hotel, (559) 299-1547. Miata event rate: \$63 single/\$65 double.

[www.sjvmc.net](http://www.sjvmc.net) or

[RonBranam@worldnet.att.net](mailto:RonBranam@worldnet.att.net) or

Ron at (559) 323-5243

March 24-26, 2000 (*Note new date!*)

#### Fourth Annual

#### Miata Performance Driving School

Thunderhill Track in Willows, about an hour north of Sacramento — 2½ days of training and special events, all aimed at enabling you to become a safer driver, and also to help you get every ounce of performance out of your Miata. Register at:

[www.teammiata.com/thunderhill/school.htm](http://www.teammiata.com/thunderhill/school.htm) or call (925) 370-6485 for an information

packet and registration form.

Registration is \$325.

April 29-May 1, 2000

#### Bruges 2000

10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary European Miata gathering in Bruges, Belgium

[www.eunos.com/bruges](http://www.eunos.com/bruges)

Six SDMC members have made plans to join the European Miata community at the celebration; make plans to go along!

*SDMC Contact:* Ed and Michelle Langmaid  
(619) 278-1774 or [ed1@cari.net](mailto:ed1@cari.net)

June 1-4, 2000

#### South 2000

The MX5 PASSION CLUB meeting will take place in the South of France.

[www.multimania.com/mx5passion](http://www.multimania.com/mx5passion)

June 21, 2000 (*tentative date*)

#### Y2K 2 Alaska

The MIDNIGHT SUN MIATA CLUB invites Miata club members to Fairbanks, Alaska for the longest day of the year.

Contact: Don (907) 456-3103,

[donwookke@co.fairbanks.ak.us](mailto:donwookke@co.fairbanks.ak.us)

October 24-27, 2000

#### Miatas in Paradise

MCA national event for the year 2000

Daytona Beach, Florida

Contact: Jenna (800) 832-3292 or

[www.miata2000.com](http://www.miata2000.com)







PHOTO: LAURE WAID

Run leaders Sue and Jack DiLustro give instructions prior to the start of the run.



## Borrego Springs Picnic at the Circle Fun Run

February 5, 2000



PHOTO: JEFF DODGE



PHOTO: LAURE WAID

**T**wenty-five Miatas braved the early Saturday morning gloom and drizzle along the San Diego coast in search of a day in the sun. The first trip to Borrego Springs this century took place on a spectacularly beautiful Southern California day. Perfect topdown Miata weather, except for the guy in the yellow car with a hardtop in place!



PHOTO: JEFF DODGE



PHOTO: JEFF DODGE



## Manifestations of Miataphilia

**E**nthusiasm and downright passion for our Miatas run strong in this club. I have noticed that the enthusiasm and passion manifests itself in various ways. At the risk of political incorrectness, I herewith provide a summary of the various manifestations of *Miataphilia* that I have witnessed.

—GALE CHAN

### Trivvies

Know the VIN numbers of all Sunburst Yellows produced (and who the owners are).

### Blizzies

Won't put the top up unless there's a snowstorm.

### Decos

So many stripes and decals you don't know what color the Miata is.

### CTDLs (cheaper than divorce lawyers)

Both spouses have Miatas to avoid arguments over who gets to drive.

### JRs

Have every aftermarket product produced by Jackson Racing on their Miata, including the JR decal.

### White-glovers

California car duster surgically attached for convenience so Miata can be quickly dusted off.

### Tooters

Cannot resist tooting their air horns every time they drive their Miata (just to make sure the horns are still working).

### Talkies

Endlessly discuss the gamut of add-ons and mods but leave their Miata bone stock.

### Groupers (not to be confused with the fish)

Always arrive early so they don't have to park their Miatas with OTMs.

### Flashers, Winkers

Not unlike the Tooters, but they are visually, rather than aurally, oriented.

### The Unsuspecting Newbies

Think they are normal people until they find out otherwise after joining SDMC.

## MEMBER PROFILE



ERIC AND DIANE SEILO

(SDMC'S YOUNGEST DRIVING MEMBER AND HIS MOM)

**W**hen my twin brother, JACK DiLUSTRO, decided to buy a new '99 Miata, he asked my son ERIC (at that time age 15), if he wanted to buy his '90 Miata. Although Eric did not yet have his driver's license — or learner's permit for that matter — he immediately took his uncle up on his offer. Uncle Jack gave Eric the royal Miata treatment by sharing his enthusiasm for and knowledge of MX-5 ownership and by taking him on his first run — the Kooky, Spooky, Trick or Treat Car Rally. (Eric's new car, in the meantime, just graced our garage.)

By the time SURF'N'SAFARI arrived, Eric had his learner's permit but was restricted to driving with an adult. Thus, being the dedicated single mom that I am, I accompanied my son to San Diego, figuring that I could always go shopping with my sister-in-law, SUE DiLUSTRO, while Uncle Jack and Eric "ran the runs."

A funny thing happened, however, at SURF'N'SAFARI. There, on that beautifully warm weekend in October, amidst a bunch of friendly, fun-loving people, I decided I needed to change my life; and at that moment I discovered that I, too, wanted and needed "to Miata." So, I returned home, joined SDMC in both our names, and asked my son if I could borrow his Miata to join those fun San Diego people on future runs. Although I promised to pay Eric 31 cents a mile every time I used his car, he turned to his sister and sneered, "she wants to pay ME t-h-i-r-t-y o-n-e c-e-n-t-s a m-i-l-e" ... then snickered ... then answered "no!" (gratitude of a teenager).

So, I decided to get my own Miata and bought a '94 the first week of January, following a New Year's/New Millennium resolution to, as Timon would say in true Lion King/SURF'N'SAFARI tradition, "*Hakuna Miata*."

—DIANE SEILO

*To be included in our on-going series of Member Profiles, write a short (200-300 word) introduction and mail (or e-mail) it with a photo (your face should be large enough to be recognized) to the Club P.O. Box or give it to a board member at an event. — Your photo will be returned.*





## How Much Chrome Can You Go?

February 13, 2000



**B**RAINSTORM visited the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB during an all-day event at the SHEV'S residence (turned installation center) in Poway. For those of you who attended, you already know what a hoot it was.

The day started off with bagels and cream cheese with coffee. Those who were shopping ate and shopped; those who were having goodies installed also ate and shopped. There was no shortage of neat stuff to dress up your favorite friend.

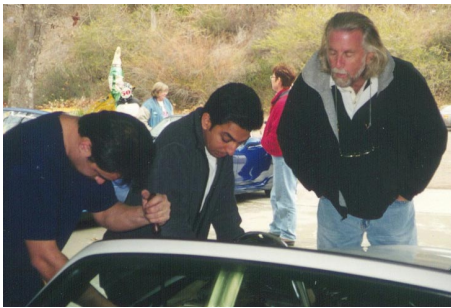


PHOTO: TOM SPRAGUE

The first appointment of the day, GENAI & JAY STONEBURNER'S white '99, with leather received a new chrome style bar with an interior-matching tan leather wrap, unique chrome engraved Voodoo knob, leather shift boot, leather brake handle boot, chrome vent rings and temperature control rings, chrome hand brake release button, and for the final touch, a remote oil filter kit. And, my friends, that was just the first car!

It was hard to pick the most popular item of the day, but I think it was shared by style bars, Monza style gas filler lids, and vent rings. Of course lunch was required for the crowd. We ordered about 8 pizzas from the best New York pizza place in San Diego, Gino's on Poway Road, located directly across from the DMV. If you know New York pizza and haven't been there, go. The sausage and pepper sandwich is "to-die-for!" Ask for Dennis, and New York is the accent you'll hear.

All told, there were about 50 cars that showed up for the fun throughout the day. I believe that about 8 style bars were installed and about 10 of those neat chrome gas filler caps. The most fun was the last car. This appointment was added as one of the earlier appointments was a no-show. Around 6 p.m., a new green 2000 LS showed up for the last appoint-

ment of the day. KEVIN WOMACK, the owner, was having a dual exhaust installed in his one week-old car. After showing him all the other neat stuff, he bought a Voodoo knob, gauge rings, vent rings, temperature control rings, a zippered hooded sweatshirt and two window cling-ons. I installed these for no charge. When I asked him how long he had been a member of the club, he told me he wasn't yet a member, but had an application with him. He joined! When I asked how he had heard about the event, he told me that he has been reading our newsletters on our Web site. Very cool! Thanks go to our great volunteers who maintain the web site and create the newsletter, past, present and future!

The evening ended with our 10 AE getting a face-lift with a set of new Sapphire blue gauge faces, three small gauge rings (to match the large ones from the factory), and some neat bright metal buttons on the center of the gauge needles. We upgraded the fog lights with ultra-white bulbs to match the headlights I did at SURF'N'SAFARI.

What a great day for all! The folks from BRAINSTORM: Roshan, Scott and Adan, had a great time with all of you. They will be back; time and date to be announced.

—ELLIOT SHEV

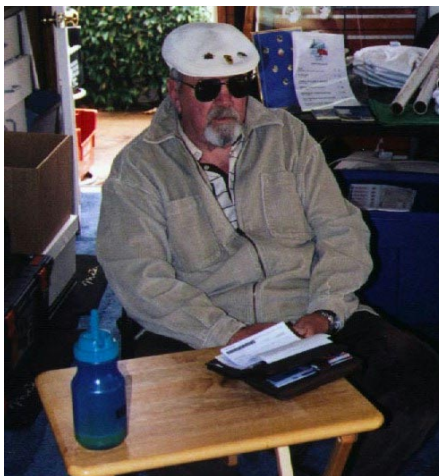


PHOTO: SAL

You can see Jeff Dodge's car having one of those neat filler caps installed in the photo (right) as well as Jeff writing the check. Come on Jeff, smile it wasn't that bad. After all you got a 10% discount on it, including the labor and you didn't pay the shipping!

## CLASSIFIED ADS

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

**For Sale:** 4 OEM steel rims in excellent shape from a 1990 base model Miata. \$100.

Richard Somerville (760) 753-5404 or [rsomerville@ucsd.edu](mailto:rsomerville@ucsd.edu)

**For Sale:** Simpson full face helmet, model RX-3, size 6 7/8. Nomex lining, both clear and tinted visors. \$65 or best offer.

Ken Tooker (619) 583-9020 [kntsd@hotmail.com](mailto:kntsd@hotmail.com)

**For Sale:** '90 with 13k miles on "new factory motor." New radiator, fuel pump and battery. New "stock" exhaust system. Pirelli tires. Red with hardtop, 113k miles. \$6000.

Pete (760) 749-3470.

**For Sale:** '97 M-edition (Marina Green). Has all the usual M goodies (leather, Nardi wood, premium sound system, a/c, etc.) and many extras, including ABS, factory remote alarm, real oil pressure indicator, front and rear skirts, luggage rack, free-flow air filter, and others. The car was purchased in Arizona, and driven in California. Very well maintained, with only 30k miles on the odometer. Photo can be e-mailed on request.

Asking \$16,795.

Mark Shusterman, [emshusterman@usa.net](mailto:emshusterman@usa.net) or (619) 200-7160.

**For Sale:** Nearly new 15" Racing Tires - Full set of (4) BFGoodrich Comp T/A R1 205/50-ZR15 plastic bagged and ready to go. \$180 OBO.

Greg (619) 584-7174.

**For Sale:** '95 M edition (Merlot) like new condition, synthetic oils, a/c, cruise control, am/fm cass/cd player. Koni shocks, stainless brake lines, real oil pressure gauge.

I still have many goodies that came off my Miata: Sebring supercharger, J&S knock sensor kit, hard top (painted Merlot), tan tonneau cover and chrome style bar, an almost-complete collection of *Miata Magazine*. Plus many other useful items all for 90-97 Miatas. Call anytime!

Ken (760) 753-1502 or [kene@ncimes.net](mailto:kene@ncimes.net).

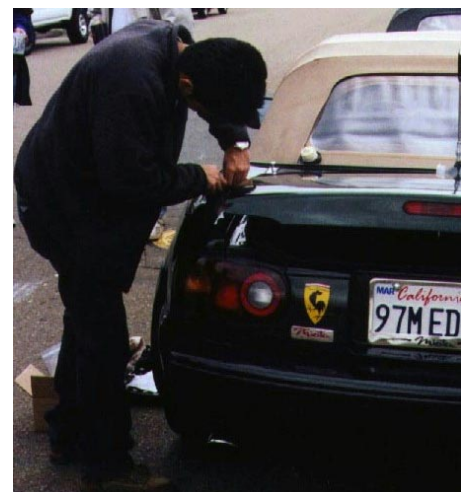


PHOTO: SAL





## SURF'N'SAFARI Goes International



The January 2000 issue of the Japanese-language magazine of the Eunós & Mazda Roadster Club, ROAD&STER, carried a 3-and-a-half-page layout on SURF'N'SAFARI.

SDMC members and guests, along with vendors, are featured in the story.

The pictures are great; I just wish I knew what they said. Anyone read Japanese?

The issue is No. 21 and can be found at Japanese-language bookstores, for *only* \$22 a copy.

—EDITOR







PHOTO: JAMIE VILLACORTIE

Left: Mazda's newest concept car, the RX-Evolv! A "next generation" sports car for the new millennium, the RX-Evolv is powered by a twin rotary engine which produces 270 hp and 0-60 times of 5 seconds. Not bad for a four-seater!

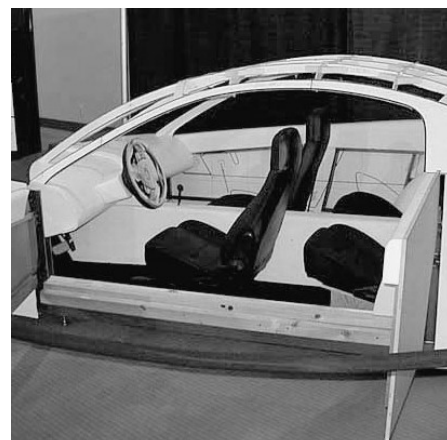


PHOTO: MARK BOOTH

The RX-Evolv seating. This full-size mock-up was built to see if the proposed seating design would work in the real world (it did). Yep...that's four Miata seats in there!

Below: The real world seating of the show car.



PHOTO: LAURIE WAND



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH

Our Friday morning volunteers, (left to right) members Kathy & Ken Roberts and Mike Page.



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH

## SDMC At the Auto Show

February 2-6, 2000

**M**azda North American Operations once again asked the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB if we would help out with this year's display at the San Diego International Auto Show. As usual, an enthusiastic group of members volunteered to talk with the public about the new Miata and to hype the SDMC for interested attendees. Along with the 2000-model cars, Mazda brought two of their concept cars: RX-Evolv (a 4-seater rotary-engine sports sedan that's in development for expected release in the 2003 model year.



This car, which made its debut at the Detroit Auto Show in January, drew lots of attention from the public, Mazda featured this concept in their main display on the second floor of the Convention Center), and the Mono-Posto (a single-seater endurance race car which made its debut at the November '99 SEMA show, was featured in many car magazines and mentioned by JACK GOSNEY in our December '99 newsletter, the Mono-Posto was featured in the Design Center area of the auto show). The Design Center also featured a room full of displays showing some of the sketches, life-size skeletal models, and small-scale clay models used in the development of the Miata and the RX-Evolv concept car by the Mazda design team.

I would like to thank all of the SDMC members who volunteered to help in the Mazda display—MARK BOOTH, JON BRAISTED, JACK DILUSTRO, GLORIA and JEFF DODGE, STEF and TOM GOULD, ART

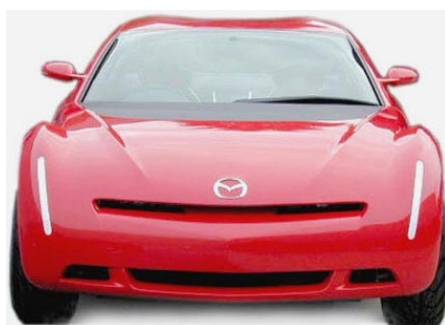
HAMILTON, SUE HINKLE, ROBERT HOLLAND, TED KESLER, CHARLIE KILGORE, BOBBY KLEEMAN, JOANNA and SCOTT LANGHOFF, ED LANGMAID, DIANE LONG, RANDY MAHEUX, ANNE MARSHALL, GLEN MURDOCH, MIKE PAGE, DIXIE RATH, KATHY AND KEN ROBERTS, RICHARD SCHERSCHER, BARB and ELLIOT SHEV, FRANK SHINE, WALLY STEVENS, BARB TEMPLETON, KEN TOOKER. More than one volunteer said "Sign me up for this every year!"—it truly is enjoyable to talk about Miatas!

The folks from Doner & Company (Mazda's ad agency) invited small groups of attendees to the show's Design Center area for brief and informal discussions on the RX-Evolv on Saturday. SDMC members also met and talked to Mazda executives and designers who were present at different times throughout the show.

If you missed the show, you can see the Mazda display on the Web. Mark Booth has posted a picture page on his site at

<http://members.home.net/markbooth/autoshow00.html>

—STEF GOULD





## Proposed Changes to Bylaws:

**T**he SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB board of directors is proposing changes to the existing club bylaws. The proposals are listed below. Accompanying this newsletter is a copy of the existing bylaws for your review so that you can see how the proposed changes fit into the context of the complete document. These proposals will be voted on by the membership at the annual meeting to be held April 1<sup>st</sup> at the San Diego Automotive Museum in Balboa Park. Each proposal will be voted on separately.

### Proposal 1

#### Article X. Dues and Expenditures

*Now reads:* Membership dues shall be in the amount of \$20.00 annually for either a dual or a single membership.

*Change to:* Membership dues shall be in the amount of \$25.00 annually for either a dual or a single membership.

**Reason:** Increased costs of newsletter production and distribution. Liability insurance was not originally a part of club costs.

### Proposal 2

#### Article VI. Meetings

*Now reads:* A membership meeting shall be held annually at a time and place determined by vote of the members.

*Change to:* A membership meeting shall be held annually, in April, at a time and place determined by the executive board.

**Reason:** More practical method of determining time and date of the annual meeting.

### Proposal 3

#### Article XII. Amendments of Revision of Bylaws

*Now reads:* These bylaws may be amended or revised at the annual or at a special meeting by a two-thirds vote of paid members. Bylaws amendments and revisions become effective upon approval by the membership.

*Change to:* These bylaws may be amended or revised by a two-thirds vote of paid memberships present at either the annual meeting, or at a special meeting as described in Article VI,B.

**Reason:** Clarifies the ambiguity of the original wording.

### Proposal 4

#### Article IX,B. Nominations, Elections, and Term of Office

*Now Reads:* Nominations are to be made at the annual membership meeting.

*Change to:* Nominations shall be made by mail-in ballots. The nominating ballots and a list of all members in good standing will be mailed to all members in January. The nominating ballots shall be returned to the Secretary by January 25<sup>th</sup>. The nominated members will be immediately notified by the Secretary. The nominee's acceptance deadline is February 15<sup>th</sup>. The nominees who accept will provide to the board a written acceptance and biography by February 15<sup>th</sup> for publication in the March newsletter.

#### Article IX,C. Nominations, Elections, and Term of Office

*Now Reads:* Election of officers shall take place at that meeting.

*Change to:* Elections shall occur by mail-in ballots. The election ballots will be mailed to all members with the March newsletter. Each ballot will be numbered to identify the validity of the ballot. The election ballots shall be returned to the Secretary by March 25<sup>th</sup>. Ballot counting shall take place at the annual membership meeting in April.

Summary of election schedule:

1<sup>st</sup> week of January: Nominating ballots mailed out with January newsletters.

January 25<sup>th</sup>: Deadline for returning nominating ballots.

February 1<sup>st</sup>: Nominees notified by Secretary.

February 15<sup>th</sup>: Deadline for acceptance of nominations and deadline for submission of nominees' biography for publication.

1<sup>st</sup> week of March: Nominees' biographies published and election ballots included in March newsletter.

March 25<sup>th</sup>: Deadline for returning election ballots.

Annual Meeting: Ballots counted and election results announced.

**Reason:** Promotes the participation of more members in the nominating and election process.

### Proposal 5

#### Article V,B. Executive Board

*Now Reads:* Purpose and function of the executive board shall be to make recommendations to the membership on club matters and shall review the membership list at each meeting.

*Change to:* The purpose and function of the executive board is to act in the interest of the membership in the conducting of club business and activities.

#### Article V,C. Executive Board

*New item:* In matters of routine day-to-day club business the executive board and its appointees are authorized to act on behalf of the general membership.

#### Article V,D. Executive Board

*New item:* In matters regarding expenditure of club funds in excess of \$500, a recommendation by the board for such expenditures shall be presented to the membership. This excludes publication and distribution of the newsletter, maintenance and updating of the club Web Page, and renewal of club insurance.

*Article V, E:* The executive board shall offer recommendations to the membership regarding all new club matters.

*Article V, F:* Recommendations shall be presented to the membership at any scheduled meeting. A simple majority vote of paid memberships present shall authorize board action.

**Reason:** Clarifies the level of authority that the membership grants the executive board and its appointees.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### McKamey Autocross School

Friday, April 7

**W**e once again have an opportunity for Miata club members to attend an autocross school put on by the best folks in the world to do this — the McKamey autocross folks.

I am now accepting registrations for Phase 1 and Phase 2 classes. The prerequisite for Phase 2 is having attended Phase 1.

**Date:** Friday, April 7, 2000 - all day

**Place:** Qualcomm Stadium

**Price:** Right now it's about \$220, but I'm working at getting it for less, especially if we get enough folks to have two Phase 1 schools.

If you are serious about autocrossing, I would highly recommend you attend one of these classes. Ask anyone who's ever attended about how much they learned and how their skill level improved. Quite frankly, I'm a walking (driving?) testimonial. Even if you never decide to autocross, attending the Phase 1 school will make you a much better street driver. I plan to have my 17-year-old daughter attend just for that reason.

Get your reservations in now to:

RAINER MUELLER  
MAINSTREET DATA  
1906-G Oceanside Blvd. #102  
Oceanside CA 92054  
voice: (760) 439-0067  
fax: (760) 439-0357  
e-mail: [mscl@dslnetworks.net](mailto:mscl@dslnetworks.net)

### Palm Springs Shopping Get-away

Saturday & Sunday, April 8 - 9

**W**e're off to Palm Springs for shopping and the Fabulous Palm Springs Follies. Our drive to Palm Springs will take us on great Miata roads through the mountains with a stop for shopping and lunch in Idledwild. The desert scenery will be at its peak during this time of the year, and the weather should be delightful. Sue Kesler, our route master, has put together a great drive for everyone with plenty of stops for eating, shopping, and relaxing. Of course, no Miata run would be complete without Barb Templeton's famous chocolate chip cookies.

Rooms have been reserved at the Chase

Hotel, located in downtown Palm Springs at a rate of \$89 per night, which includes continental breakfast. We've arranged a group dinner for Saturday evening and a trip to the showing of the Fabulous Palm Springs Follies, featuring Frankie Lane.

There will be plenty of time for sight-seeing, shopping, and relaxing on this getaway to Palm Springs. Rooms are booking up quickly and we need to purchase tickets for the Follies in advance. The deadline is March 11<sup>th</sup> for the Follies. Contact Sue Hinkle at (760) 735-9456 or Elinor Shack at (858) 485-0278 for more information on this event. Hope to see you there!

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Meeting Place:** Deer Springs Exit off Interstate 15; Park-n-Ride at the NE Corner

**Event Coordinators:** SUE HINKLE, SUE KESLER, ELINOR SHACK, and BARB TEMPLETON.

### The Flowerrun

Saturday, April 15

**T**he Flowermeister (WALLY STEVENS) will try to keep off of I-5, but we will parallel it and arrive at the flower fields at about 11. We will not have a reserved parking area, but by arriving before 12 we should be able to park in one area. The admission to the fields is \$4, and on that day they will have some music and events. The fields are at Palomar Airport Road east of I-5. We will lunch in the fields and walk around for an hour or two, or as long as you wish. More info later on how the run will wind-up.

**Time:** 9 a.m. Come earlier if you want to have breakfast

**Meeting Place:** Perry's Cafe, 4620 Pacific Highway( at Rosecrans).

Thomas Map 1268 F4

**Directions:** Take Pacific Hwy. from south; off I-5 at Seaworld Drive if you are coming from the north. It's on the north end of Old Town across from the trolley station.

**Contact:** [wallymiata@juno.com](mailto:wallymiata@juno.com) or (619) 232-2801 ext 313 or home, (619) 234-2858 or mobile (619) 203-2801.

### New Members!

Welcome to our newest members (since last newsletter):

**HERM BREHMER & SUZIE O'DELL**

San Diego

1999 White PEP

**DAVID & BETH ERNST**

San Diego

1991 Mariner Blue

**MARY & GREG HERD**

San Diego

1999 Emerald Green PEP

**JULIE & TED HOYT**

San Diego

2000 Red

**BILL & LINDA TALLIAN**

San Diego

1996 Black

**JEFFREY VANDERSIP**

San Diego

1997 M (Marina Green)

**KEVIN WOMACK**

San Diego

2000 Emerald Green LS

**CLAYTON & TRINI WONG**

San Diego

1993 Black C

Renewing members (since last newsletter):

**MICHAEL & ARLENE ADCOCK**

**BRIAN BOUSMAN**

**MATT BRAISTED**

**BOB & LIZ BROWN**

**THOMAS BUSCH-SORENSEN**

**SAL & GERI CAUSARANO**

**JEFF & GLORIA DODGE**

**BRUCE & CHRISTINE HILL**

**BILL & BARI HYDE**

**CHARLIE & LISA KILGORE**

**NICOLA REYNOLDS**

**JOHN ROBBINS**

**LAUREN & ROBERT THOMPSON**

As of February 24, 2000 there are 318 memberships consisting of 496 members (178 dual, 140 single).

Memberships by Miata Color:

88 Red  
50 White  
38 Black  
23 Emerald Green  
20 Montego Blue  
20 Silver  
13 Sapphire Blue  
11 Mariner Blue  
11 BRG  
11 Starlight Blue  
9 Laguna Blue  
8 Twilight Blue  
7 Merlot  
5 Marina Green  
4 Yellow  
10 Unreported





## A Look Toward Lap 5

Saturday, April 1, 2000 will be the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB's fourth annual meeting. The annual meeting is the kick off of the "fifth lap" for the club and will be when the membership will elect its executive board for the next year. As I complete my year as your president, I think that this is the time to share some of the observations that I have made regarding the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB.

From a statistical standpoint, the club is comprised of approximately 320 memberships and 500 members. Our monthly meetings draw about 90 to 100 people each month and would, therefore, represent about 60 to 65 memberships. Approximately 90 members attended our Holiday Party. We have a reported 70% of our 320 memberships represented on the club e-mail list. Our driving events usually have 30 to 50 cars participating. Why bore me with statistics, you ask? Well, I think that this data is important when looking at the club as a whole and attempting to determine how any executive board should try to best serve the members as regards achieving our club goal. HAVING FUN!

SDMC has consistently gotten bigger each lap since its start in early 1996. Each succeeding lap has brought in more members and more opportunities for fun. But let's look at some other interesting dynamics of the club. Using some of the statistics mentioned above, I would note some interesting demographics:

- 100% of the memberships receive the monthly newsletter.
- 70% of the memberships have access to the club e-mail announcements (and since some 87% of our memberships have e-mail addresses, we could assume that that percentage of our members have access to our Web site).
- 20% of the memberships attend the monthly meetings.
- 10 to 15% normally attend driving events or fun runs.

One of the keys to success in any attempt to create and maintain the FUN environment that the club expects is effective communication. The spontaneity of the membership requires timely communication, and yet the size and diversity of the membership limits timeliness. Although 100% of the members receive the newsletter, it arrives only once each month;

yet for many it remains their primary source of communication from the club. At the same time, only 10 to 15% hear the communication that is the most current—the news shared at an event. Although the e-mail list provides timely information to about 70% of the membership, that still leaves some 30% out of the loop. Despite this, e-mail is routinely used for a large proportion of the total communication about club announcements and information.

As your current board reviewed the various fun opportunities and items of club business that came along throughout the past year, several questions were always asked:

1. Does this opportunity meet the test for inclusion as a club function (is it FUN)?
2. Is this significant enough to ask the club membership for its opinion?
3. If only 20% of the membership responds, does that mean the other 80% doesn't care?
4. If a majority of the 20% is in favor of a significant issue does that mean that the majority of the total membership would be in favor? Does it matter?
5. Is this a decision that the board should make on its own as representatives of the club?

I can tell you that many decisions are fairly easy to make. The reason for that is that either the decision regards such a routine matter that it could reasonably be expected to be made with little or no fanfare, or the issue is so trivial that a decision in any manner will have little effect on the membership's ability to have fun. However, more significant issues cause a great deal of discussion among the board members regarding the best way to proceed. Given the limitations of each of our means of communication, how best do you get the word out? Does this decision require the participation of the entire membership or not? Answering these questions responsibly has always been the challenge.

You will find outlined in this newsletter some proposed changes to the club's bylaws that this board has submitted for your approval. We believe that these are refinements to a document that expresses the goals and desires of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB. We hope that, among other things, these changes will help future boards to answer the above questions. Our desire is to make the sailing as smooth as possible for the leadership teams that will take us all through Lap 5 and beyond.

Because the club and the board are made

up of individuals from all walks of life and various backgrounds, we always have diverse perspectives and points of view. This diversity I have found to be very enlightening. This is why I believe that the continued influx of "new blood" to the club and its board is very healthy. I think that there are many ways to accomplish the goals of the club and thereby meet the purpose statement in the bylaws. As we approach the upcoming elections, I am excited to see who will be your next president. I'm sure he or she will bring enthusiasm, another perspective, and different ideas to the club's leadership team.

—STEVE WAID

## Time to Clean Out The Garage!

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

**Saturday, March 18**

Balboa Park (Parking lot at Park Blvd. & Presidents Way)

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Saturday, April 15**

Patrick Henry High School

6702 Wandermere Drive

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

They will accept a maximum of 10 gallons of used oil (Please transport in a sealable container), antifreeze, oil filters, and automotive batteries.

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

—EDITOR

