



SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB NEWS



VOLUME 5 NUMBER 5

MAY 2000

A CHAPTER OF THE MIATA CLUB OF AMERICA

UPCOMING EVENTS



May 6 — Saturday
Ken's Miata Garage Sale
(See Classified Ad on Page 4)



May 6 — Saturday
Garden Fair Car Show



May 6 — 8
Search for Madonna II



May 6 — 7
Autocross at the "Q"



May 20 — Saturday
**SOCALM—Best of the Bunch
Charity Car Show**



May 20 — Saturday
**Allen's Wrench
5th Annual Rock & Blues Festival**



May 21 — Sunday
Autocross at the "Q"



May 25 — Thursday
Monthly Meeting



May 27 — Saturday
Dam Run II



June 10 — Saturday
**Run To The Getty Museum
& Brainstorm Open House**



June 30 — Friday
**Miatas Go To Camp
SDMC at the MDA VIP Day**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

OKINAWA, Japan — This first report from your president comes from the home of Miata manufacturing, and some really cool aftermarket add-ons, Japan. BARB and I are here to witness the birth of the newest addition to our family, our granddaughter. She arrived on schedule at 8:15 a.m., April 12, 2000, weighing in at 6 pounds, 11 ounces and measuring 18.5 inches. All are doing well and will leave the hospital on April 15 (long before you read this, but the newsletter deadline is April 15th!).

As the first order of business as your new president, I would like to congratulate the other elected members to the board and thank our retiring board members. Retiring from the board are VOODOO BOB KRUEGER and STEVE WAID. Newly elected board members are SAL CAUSARANO, vice-president; MIKE SHACK, treasurer; and BARB TEMPLETON, secretary.

Voodoo Bob is one of the founding members of the SDMC. He, with the help of Mama Voodoo (also known as VICKY), has been very active in helping form the club from the beginning. He has held the jobs of name badge organizer, membership dude, and for the past two years, vice-president. Thanks, VBob, for all your hard work, and we look forward to your future support as a participating member.

Steve Waid, whose favorite color is yellow, has served the club this past year as president. LAURIE, his wife and real owner of the yellow car, has also been an active supporter of the club, having served on the board as treasurer two years ago. I would like to thank them both for all their hard work, and for helping to make SURF'N'SAFARI a smashing success.

Sal is returning to the board after serving as secretary last year. Having served on last year's board as treasurer, I know the hard work Sal extended to the club last year, and at this time I want to thank him for his efforts. I look forward to serving with him again this year. Sal and his wife GERI own two Miatas, a 1994 M Edition Montego blue, and a 1993...yes, red. Living in Ramona gives them lots of seat time to enjoy their cars.

Mike Shack and his wife ELINOR have been members for two years. Mike's first and only Miata is a...yes, red 1999. Mike is a long time sports car enthusiast and is currently active in the MG club. He also owns a beautiful 1950 MG-TD, which he restored. He has also recruited other MG folks into the Miata world, proving to them that you can own a great, fun-to-drive sports car that works! Mike brings with him a lot of car club experience that will help us bring new events and activities to the club. Mike is a neurologist, so if your car gets on your nerves, call him.

Barb Templeton and Wrong Way, also known as JOHN, moved here from the Chicago area, where they were active in the Windy City chapter and John served as president. Barb served on the SURF'N'SAFARI committee, first as a member and then as a co-chair for the event. Barb has a...yes, red 1993. I look forward to having Barb as our

(Continued on page 2)



President's Message (Continued from page 1)

new scribe. She is really excited about continuing to be a contributor to the club.

Since we, Barb (Shev, the First One) and myself, have two blue cars, it looks like a tie between red and blue for the board this year. If one were to count only one car per family, and if that were to be the primary car of the board member, then I reluctantly concede that red rules. Therefore, I caved in and bought a red Eunos Roadster while in Japan, an S-Special edition. What makes this one unique is the fact that it is not left drive, nor right drive, it is center drive! Look for it at the next event—way cool.

Now for a little business. Not all the members of the club have access to e-mail, and some that do choose not to be on the club e-mail list. Whatever the reason, there is a lot of information that passes through cyberspace every day. Some of this information I believe is valuable to all club members. In order to provide you with a digest, albeit edited, of the past month's e-mail ramblings from around the world, the board has decided to add a new section to our already great newsletter. This section will be written by MARK BOOTH, our first president and Miataophile extraordinaire. Mark will scour the "big list," Miata Net, the Miata Forum, etc., looking for information that will be of interest to all of us. Thanks, Mark, for taking on this newly-created job for the club.

Another source of news and information is contained in the monthly newsletters we receive from other clubs. LOIS MARTIN has accepted the job of reviewing all the incoming newsletters and providing the club with a monthly, or as-required, summary look into what the other clubs are doing. Lois has a lot of experience in newsletter writing and editing. Thanks, Lois, for helping to make our newsletter even better with your new column. Look for both of these additions in upcoming newsletters. I can't wait!

Until next month, keep the tops down and the sunshine on your face! See you all at the next event.

— ELLIOT SHEV

AUTOCROSS AT THE "Q"



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

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

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.

Web Page & E-Mail Updates

After a couple months of uncertainty, the club Web page is now back up and fully up-to-date. We have moved to a new host that will increase the reliability and access speed, at a lower cost.



In addition, the new host allows us some club e-mail addresses. In the column to the right, please notice the e-mail address for each of the various board functions. There is also an address for sending a message to all board members at once:

board@sandiegomiataclub.org

— ROBERT "JT" HOLLAND

Webmaster/Postmaster

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SIGN UP (858) 486-6771

Original design & graphics by

STEF and TOM GOULD

Folding, labeling, stamping performed by members of the board, newsletter team, and anybody else we can get.

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NOTICES

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

The 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. Where possible, please e-mail your submissions to the newsletter editor. Submissions can also be mailed to the club's post office box.

Submission deadline is the 15th of each month.

Editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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

www.sandiegomiataclub.org

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

SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB

P.O. Box 23081

San Diego CA 92193



MEETING PLACES

Garden Fair Car Show

Date: Saturday, May 6

Time: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Place: Parking lot in front of the San Diego Automotive Museum in Balboa Park.

The show, presented by the San Diego Car Club Council, will feature vehicles from local clubs: Packards International, Corvette Owner's Club, Early Ford V8 Club, Vintage Chevrolet Club, Horseless Carriage Club, Austin-Healey Club, Pierce Arrow Society and Classic Thunderbirds. The SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB is a member of the council, and SDMC members are invited to participate or just come and look!

For information, call (619) 231-2886.

The Search for Madonna II

Date: May 6 -- 8

Meeting Date: Saturday, May 6th

Meeting Time: Leaving promptly at 7 a.m. Be there early.

Meeting Place: Oceanside McDonalds, east side of I-5 at Oceanside Blvd.

Coordinators: LAURIE and STEVE WAID
swaid@home.com or (760) 432-0727

The second trip to the home of VROOM, San Luis Obispo, and the World Famous Madonna Inn. A weekend visit to the sights and roads of the Central Coast of California.

SOCALM — Best of the Bunch Charity Car Show

Date: Saturday, May 20

Time: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Place: Joe MacPherson Mazda in the Tustin Auto Center @ the I-5 and Tustin Ranch Road in Tustin

Show Chairman: Barry Rosenberg
marketing@socalm.org or (949) 768-3505

The show will feature exhibits showing the history of the Miata from concept sketches to models at various stages of development. Also on the premises will be the new Mono-Posto concept car along with other unique Miata prototypes. Sister Miata clubs VROOM (Vandenberg Regional Owners Of Miatas) and SDMC (The SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB) are invited to participate. Any Miata club member is welcome to enter their car in each of five categories:

1. "Judges' Choice" Best Overall Category: The Best of the "Best of the Bunch"
2. "Best Performance Package"

3. "Best Appearance Package"

4. "Most Unique"

5. "Best Showroom Stock" from each of the past 11 model years

The \$25 entrance fee is waived for Miata club members. One raffle ticket will be given per entrant and more tickets may be purchased by anyone throughout the day for the many prizes given out each hour. There will be a variety of Miata aftermarket product vendors as well as food and raffles for valuable prizes. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to charity. Spectators are welcome to attend to view the show for free; however, a small donation would be appreciated.

For an entry form, call the 24-hour toll-free SOCALM information hotline (877) 211-6146 and leave a message with a mailing address, see our website www.socalm.org or contact the show chairman.

Allen's Wrench

5th Annual Rock & Blues Festival

Date: Saturday, May 20

Time: 2:00 p.m. until ??

Place: Allen's Wrench, 1620 Grand Ave. San Marcos

Contact: Dennis Allen (760) 744-1192
A Mazda Master Technician, Dennis has invited SDMC to attend this event, where he invites several 60's and 70's Rock Bands and Blues Bands to come play in

See Meeting Places (Continued on page 4)

UPCOMING NATIONAL AND REGIONAL EVENTS

South 2000

June 1-4, 2000

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

www.multimania.com/mx5passion

3rd Annual Cool Weekend on the Coast

June 16-18, 2000

Eureka, California

Beat the summer heat! Visit the cool, green, gorgeous Northern California coast. Drive through majestic redwoods, along the Pacific, and through beautiful villages on the most scenic roads a topless Miata can find in California. But do it with a bunch of other Miata nuts! Events include driving tours, autocross, awards banquet, a poker run. Entry is limited! Make your plans now by visiting our website at

www.humboldt1.com/~beagle/Miata.html
or E-Mail Austin at calife@crealty.com

Y2K 2 Alaska

June 17, 2000 (tentative date)

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

Mazda MX-5 Manx Millennium Experience, Isle of Man

June 29-July 3, 2000

For information, call 08457-585833 or visit

www.steam.packet.com

Miatas in Paradise

October 24-27, 2000

MCA national event for the year 2000

Daytona Beach, Florida

Contact: Jenna (800) 832-3292 or

www.miata2000.com



August 18-20, 2000

27th ANNUAL MONTEREY HISTORIC AUTOMOTIVE RACES

A Special Event Sponsored by Mazda and Miata Magazine



Featuring Maserati

Miata Events All Weekend Long!

Friday — Miatas at Concorso Italiano

Tickets for 2 and VIP Miata Corral Parking \$75/car
(First Japanese car corral in the concours history!)
Box Lunch provided by Tarpy's — \$15 per person
Dinner at Tarpy's Roadhouse — \$35 per person

Ticket Ordering Deadline is June 25 for Friday events and July 25 for Saturday events
For questions or an order form e-mail miatabb@aol.com or phone Andrea Beach at (760) 631-1205

\$70 ticket package

for Saturday August 19 will include:

- Saturday Race Ticket
- Miata-only Parking Corral Pass
- Breakfast, Lunch and Refreshments all day long in the Miata Tent
- Plus goodies!

Order all tickets from
Barbara Beach
1315 Buena Vista Drive
Vista, CA 92083

Saturday — Miatas at Laguna Seca (see above)

Miata Banquet at Asilomar by the Sea
full dinner, no host bar — \$40 per person
Dance to the music of our own Larry Read!



Meeting Places (Continued from page 3)

the lot at his shop. The band list is not final yet, but two bands already on the schedule are The Bill McGee Blues Band and the Jim King Blues Band. There will be a \$4.25 BBQ that includes hamburger, salad, etc. and a drink. Hot dogs for kids. People can come and go as they please...no cost other than food.

Monthly Meeting

Date: Thursday, May 25

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!

Dam Run II

Date: Saturday, May 27

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Rosa's Cantina,
Downtown Temecula

Contact: Joyce & John Richardson

jrmmedia@pe.net or (909) 696-1892

The run will start in the center of Old Town Temecula at Rosa's Cantina. We'll meet for breakfast at 9 a.m., with a drivers meeting at 9:45. First car out will be at 10 a.m. We'll head out through the back country of Temecula and drive through the twisties in Sage. We'll take a quick 20 minute bathroom stop at the reservoir visitors center. From there we'll head over to the dam overlook, where you'll see the most awesome sight...water...and lots of it. After a group photo, we'll head out to a surprise lunch location in nearby Hemet. This year we'll head out north after lunch and visit two other dams. The run will end up at a new winery just outside of the main wine country in Temecula. Their specialty...almond champagne. We'll also have another contest this year. This year's specialty...three dams for the price of one. I'll post directions and other info on a web site soon.

Mazda Recalls 1999 Miatas

A problem with the fuel filler on 1999 Miatas has prompted a recall by Mazda. The following information was obtained by SDMC member JAIME VILLACORTE from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) web site, www.nhtsa.gov.

NHTSA states that manufacturers are required to mail a recall notice to all purchasers, owners and dealers when a safety defect or noncompliance with federal safety standards is found. The agency urges owners to wait until they receive notification from Mazda before contacting their dealers to schedule the repair work.

— EDITOR

Mazda (North America), Incorporated

Models: Mazda Miata

Year: 1999

Number Involved: 22,000

Dates of Manufacture: November 1997 - November 1998

Defect: On certain passenger cars, the non-return valve installed at the lower end of the fuel filler pipe can stick due to insufficient clearance between the valve case and the valve shutter combined with the material properties of the fuel hose between the filler pipe and the fuel tank. This can cause a "hard to refuel" condition, and in some instances, a "fuel spit back" during refueling.

Remedy: Dealers will replace the non-return valve with a modified valve. The manufacturer has reported that owner notification will begin during April 2000. Owners who do not receive the free remedy within a reasonable time should contact Mazda at 1-800-222-5500.



[NHTSA Recall No. 00V032/Mazda Recall No. 88004]

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.

Garage Sale: Saturday, May 6th I will have a Miata Garage Sale at my home in Encinitas. We will start at 10 a.m. and go until we drop. Lots of things from KEN & PHIL's collection of good Miata stuff. Come on over to find what you have been looking for. 1017 Stratford Drive, just a few blocks west of I-5. **Directions:** Get off at Santa Fe drive in Encinitas. Go toward the west (ocean) about 4 blocks. Turn right onto Stratford drive go 1/4 mile. We welcome others to join in and bring any Miata stuff they want to sell.
Ken, (760) 753-1502 or kene@nctimes.net

For Sale: I installed a Borla exhaust on my car for less than 200 miles. A little too loud for my tastes. I want a little bit more like stock. Paid \$275 + tax. My loss = your gain. \$225.

Jeremy, jeremywo@hotmail.com or (760) 632-7848.

For Sale: Front air dam from green '99 sport package, Make Offer. NGK spark plug wires, new, still in box, \$20. Trunk storage pouch, goes across back of trunk for storage, like new, \$20.

Richard, (619) 286-2412 or miatazeke@aol.com

Free: 4 OEM steel rims in excellent shape from a '90 base model. Get them out of my garage!

Richard, (760) 753-5404 or rsomerville@ucsd.edu

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. Reduced to \$5500.
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. Reduced to \$16,595.

Mark, 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. Price reduced to \$150. Last chance; for less than this I'd just as soon keep them! 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. \$12,500.

Ken, (760) 753-1502 or kene@nctimes.net



SURF'N'SAFARI II

"The Sequel" Gets Under Way

At the annual meeting, held April 1, 2000, the membership present voted for the board to move forward and organize Surf'N'Safari II. A meeting of the board was held on April 2nd to discuss how best to move ahead with this objective. It was decided that a committee would be formed to chair the event. Three people have accepted the positions of co-chairs for this event.

It is my pleasure to announce that JIM BROKAW, JACK DiLUSTRO, and SUE HINKLE will be the co-chairs of Surf'N'Safari II. The first order of business will be to decide on the date and to secure a venue. As these two items are mutually dependent, we can not announce anything more at this time.

Keep watching your newsletter for late-breaking news about SNS II "The Sequel" and let our co-chairs know if you are available to work on a sub-committee.

— ELLIOT SHEV

JIM BROKAW
(619) 421-2110

j.brokaw@worldnet.att.net

JACK DiLUSTRO
(858) 484-2427

jdilustro@hotmail.com

SUE HINKLE
(760) 735-9456

sportscarr@aol.com

Wanted — Club Regalia Person

Volunteer needed to take over the tasks involved with the sale of club merchandise (T-shirts, sweat shirts, static cling decals, club logo pins, etc.). The volunteer would be responsible for the inventory of club merchandise and make it readily available to members who would like to purchase items. Interaction with vendors would be necessary when placing orders to replenish the inventory on an as needed basis.

If interested, contact ELLIOT at (858) 679-0777 or cranial@aol.com.

MEMBER PROFILE



KEVIN WOMACK

Iwanted a fun car, something to motivate me to go out on the weekends and drive just for the fun of it. The problem was, I wasn't sure how a car could continue to be fun, if left to my own devices. Luckily, being a Web surfer with a lot of practice, I read through many online discussions on the merits and features of various cars. The Miata stood out as the most config-

urable car, with the most options in the class, a true modern classic. I was surprised to find that there was a large and active car club for this car in my area. Just the main page of the Web site states what I was looking for: "Getting around San Diego County *according to Miata*." That legend and map really says a lot about the group, the car and the potential for fun. So, basically, I was sold on buying a Miata by the club map and Web site.

I bought the car on Saturday, February 5, the same day as a Borrego Springs run I read about in the newsletter, and with that information and a printout of the club map, I went on my own run on Sunday along the same path. Also in the newsletter were details on a "Brainstorm weekend" at a club member's house the next weekend. Not really knowing what I was doing, I figured out who Brainstorm was, got in as an alternate for the last timeslot of the day at 5 p.m., and had a few things put on the new car to give it a personal touch.

Some people in the club seem surprised that someone can find out everything they need to know about the car, the club, and so on, just by using the club Web site. Believe it! I found my car, a car club for it (or vice versa), and a customization session offering instant personality for my new car, and just as importantly, new friends, all just by web surfing a little bit.

Oh, other stuff: I'm single, 38, live near UTC, work at Qualcomm as an engineer, have 2 cats, 1st convertible, 3rd small car (others: B210, CRX), have lived in San Diego 1.5 years, California native (mostly Orange County), grandparents homesteaded in San Diego (Harbison Canyon).

— KEVIN WOMACK

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.

IN MEMORIAM

DWIGHT A. FISHER

May 25, 1932-March 21, 2000

One of the charter members of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB, DWIGHT FISHER passed away on Tuesday, March 21, after a long illness. Dwight and wife of 47 years, JOANN, were easily recognized on the fun runs driving their 1990 Red A package with fuzzy dice dangling from the rear view mirror. They always wore matching outfits at club events. Dwight and JoAnn were part of the group that took the MIATAS AT THE RANCH event by storm in 1997 and established SDMC as a club known for having FUN. Born in Kansas, Dwight moved to California in 1940 and worked at Rohr Industries for 30 years as an engineer.



Puke-O-Rama III

March 25, 2000



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH

March 25th dawned with overcast and fog throughout most of San Diego County.

But God knew that this would not be what would be good for Puke-O-Rama 2000. So God made the sun come forth and wash away the clouds, and He



looked at what He had done and said, "This is good." From that point on God left it to us mortals to make Puke-O-

Rama 2000 the "best puke yet." By 11:30 the parking lot at Dalton's Roadhouse was looking like a complete Miata infestation. General Manager Fred Magana of Dalton's had plenty of servers and cooks working and the food was already starting to be served. We never had time to count how many ate at Dalton's, but it would be safe to assume that somewhere between 50 and 75 took time to enjoy their 'Merican cuisine.

The new and improved Puke-O-Rama 2000 was planned so that all driving styles were accommodated for those who came to experience "more curves per mile than ever before...guaranteed." As the Official Puke-O-Rama Commemorative Souvenir Barf Bags were passed out, the Miata count was 65.

The first order of business at the drivers meeting was to determine the desires of the participants. Roughly one

Right — Always a popular spot with the ladies, especially on this run, the first pit stop at the La Jolla Indian Reservation Trading Post.



PHOTO: CINDY PALOMA

quarter wanted to cruise the course and enjoy the beautiful views offered by the back country of San Diego County. The rest wanted to concentrate on the curves and handling attributes of our favorite driving machine. We separated into four almost equal groups and left Dalton's at intervals, allowing room between groups.

The first group out was led by me (It's my run...I get to be first), with DENNIS GARON driving as sweep car. ELLIOT SHEV led group two with co-pilot SAL CAUSARANO, assisted by JACK and SUE HINKLE as sweep. Next out, JACK and SUE (Jack's Saturday wife) DI-LUSTRO led group three, while JON MARTINEZ put his new engine through its paces as sweep car. (Note: By running sweep in the third group, Jon was responsible for the official "Barf Bags Used" count. There were five.) Lastly, the Daffodil Group left. It was so named because of the Daffodils that were blooming in the Julian area and the matching color (YELLOW) of the lead car driven by the lovely First Babe, LAURIE WAID, with co-pilot DR. MARYANNE GARON (you never know when you might need a doctor), MARK

and CATHY BOOTH, in one of those reds, followed the Daffodil Group. As Mark and Cathy left the parking lot we had over 65 Miatas stretched out over about 25 miles in four distinct groups.

The route took us north to Gopher Canyon, where we turned east toward the twists and turns along the rim of Couser Canyon. As our stomachs began to settle down; we tightened up the groups and headed further east on Highway 76 with our first pit stop about 25 miles away. After a few minutes of pitting at the La Jolla Indian Reservation Trading Post, the groups headed east again past Lake Henshaw looking for the turn onto Mesa Grande Road. The "twisties" of Mesa Grande offered some of the most beautiful country of the day. I had even made the effort to ask that all livestock along the way be facing us as we went by. Jack diLustro noted during a pre-run that the view of livestock, when they are facing away, is not as desirable as when they are facing us. This kind of "attention to detail" is what makes the Puke-O-Rama a must do event.

The groups were teased as we passed through Santa Ysabel and did not stop at Dudley's or the Julian Pie Factory. That was a stop we would make later.

Wynola Road was next on the menu, and although it is only three plus miles it offered the Miatas some real seat of the pants driving experiences. As we slowed to go through Julian, stomachs got a chance to settle down again. The Daffodils were all around



us, and the tourists of Julian couldn't help but notice the constant flow of Miatas going through the little town. Heading toward Lake Cuyamaca and the turn onto Engineer Road, the leaders tightened the groups up so that they could stay together through the twisties soon to come. Engineer Road and Eagle Peak Road offered very tight turns and switchbacks shaded by trees, while continually changing elevations unsettled the strongest of stomachs. Remember, the mission of Puke-O-Rama 2000 was to offer a driving venue that would most likely make the passenger ill. This stretch of road is where the "more curves per mile guarantee" was validated.

The much-anticipated stop at Santa Ysabel gave all of us a chance to stretch our legs as well as the opportunity to buy bread, pastries, and pies. With only 16.2 miles left before we would stop for dinner, most everyone was cautious about ordering anything to eat. Could the twisties just completed have contributed to the caution? Maybe!

After the break the groups headed toward Old Julian Highway for the last length of curvaceous asphalt. As we passed the chicken ranch and the smell of chicken "poop" filled the air, one could only wonder if this was the fitting end for Puke-O-Rama 2000. It certainly added to the ambience of the moment.

Having completed over four hours of the twistiest roads San Diego County had to offer, Broncos Steak House was looking real good to everyone. Miatas continued to arrive as each of the groups completed its run. The Daffodil Group's arrival signaled that everyone had made it to the end safely. It is important to note at this point that next year's Official Puke-O-Rama 2001 Commemorative Souvenir Barf Bags will need to be strengthened. Reports received at the end of the run stated that the Puke-O-Rama 2000 version failed under continued use.

Broncos Steak House provided everyone with a BBQ buffet that fits well into the SDMC style of eating. Good 'Merican food, lots of it, and cheap...a good value. I think that Broncos Steak



PHOTO: CINDY PALOMA

House, with its more than adequate paved parking, will stay on the club's eating destination list along with Dalton's Roadhouse.

As people began to head for home, there were, as always, a few that just didn't want the fun to end. A "Pie Run" was quickly put together and a smaller group of about 8 Miatas headed into Poway for pie. (Helpful hint: There is almost always a "Pie Run" after an event, so if you're interested, just hang around.) While scaring away other customers at the Coco's in Poway, Cathy Booth demonstrated her "hanging a spoon from the end of your nose" talent that only she has perfected...even though many others have tried. This looks like an SDMC board position to me. I nominate Cathy...do I hear a second?

When the First Babe and I arrived home to our palatial estate in Escondido, we were dog-tired, our stomachs were full, and we sported big smiles. These were the indicators that Puke-O-Rama 2000 had been a great success. Just pass the Zantac.

— STEVE WAID



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH


Steve Waid savors the fare at Broncos Steak House.

Aftermarket Goodies

Chrome Windshield Washers

The stock windshield washer jets on the Miata are not the first things that come to mind when you think about adding

some brightwork to your car. Just two little pieces of black plastic sitting on the hood, who cares? Well, if you do care,

 and go to the aftermarket, you can purchase a couple of different types of chrome replacements for the innocuous Mazda units.

One set comes from K.G. Works of Japan. These beauties look very similar to the stock units, but are nice and shiny. Be prepared, as they also will cost you around \$40 a set from the vendor who imports them to the U.S. That is cheaper than you can get them directly from K.G.

Another former Axis power is where you find another replacement. From Germany you can get a stunning set of stainless steel washer jets from I.L. Products. These will stun you with their price too...about \$80 a set. Most aftermarket Miata vendors carry these.

My favorite comes from a car line that is the forerunner of the Miata, MG. The chrome washer jets from the MGB-GT are just the right size for the holes in the Miata hood, but they feature a much different look. More like a chrome bolt head sticking up, these items are a steal at \$15 a set. Moss Motors, one of the premier Miata aftermarket vendors, has been selling replacement parts for British cars for decades. After perusing their MG catalog a few years ago, I noticed the windshield washer jets for the MGB-GT would fit the bill on the Miata. From the MG catalog, order two of part # 361-250. You might need some extra tubing to make the connection under the hood, but the install is pretty simple and costs less than replacing just one of the stock Mazda jets.

— ANTHONY WILDE

Moss Motors, Ltd.
(800) 667-7872
www.mossmotors.com





PHOTO: MARK BOOTH

SDMC Annual Meeting
April 1, 2000

It's reds, and blues, and greens, and yellows, and black, and white,
and silver, and more red thrown in for good measure.
It's driving with the wind in your hair and the sun on your face
— ahh, what a pleasure.

It's eating and driving and driving and eating,
It's looking forward to that next wheels'n' meals meeting.

It's techie talk, it's car talk, it's buying those goodies that make our
machines so much better.

It's reading all the pages of that wonderful newsletter.

It's seeing the amazement on so many faces
As we drive our cars through so many places.

It's a regional event, a national event, an impromptu event
— we participate.

It's helping people young and old and those less fortunate.

It's knowing that the things we do and the funds we gather
Can possibly change a life for the better.

It's leading, and sweeping, and being in the middle;
It's making these little cars look and run like a finely-tuned fiddle.

It's caring, and sharing, and friendships that grow;
It's believing in something

— something 300 members have come to know.

Next time you're driving that curve or sitting in a pub,
Remember it's NOT just a car club.

— SAL CAUSARANO
April 2000



PHOTO: KEN ROBERTS

**The SDMC Y2K board of directors —
Barb Templeton, Elliot Shev, Sal Causarano, Mike Shack.**



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH

**The now traditional Lap Cake, once again designed, very taste-
fully, by Tom Gould. It signifies four years since 11 people formed
the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB, which has now grown to over 500
members who just want to have FUN!**

**Voodoo Bob presents the grand prize in the raffle to Rosalind Scott.
All of the raffle proceeds, totaling \$330, were presented to the San
Diego Automotive Museum.**



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH

**Recognized for their hard work on SURF'N'SAFARI, Barb Templeton
and Sue Hinkle (co-chair babes) are joined by the originator of the
event, Lou Stark.**



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH



**ANNUAL MEETING
MINUTES
APRIL 1, 2000**

The meeting convened at 1:10 p.m. with STEVE WAID's opening remarks.

SAL CAUSARANO read the minutes from the quarterly meeting that was held on February 24, 2000.

ELLIOT SHEV read the Treasurer's report. Club member JON MARTINEZ asked questions relative to last years' merchandise figures.

BOB KRUEGER, Elliot Shev and Sal Causarano presented outgoing president Steve Waid with gift.

Steve – The end of Lap Four. He reflected on all the events that happened this past year. ANTHONY WILDE showed videos of the 4th of July parade and SURF'N'SAFARI.

Steve and LAURIE WAID presented gifts to SUE HINKLE, LOU STARK and BARB TEMPLETON for their efforts during SURF'N'SAFARI.

Steve also recognized the appointed board members, Anthony Wilde, ROBERT HOLLAND, GERI CAUSARANO, BARB SHEV, MARK BOOTH, STEF GOULD, GALE CHAN and DAVE MARTIN. Gifts were also given to these members.

Steve explained the bylaws Amendments. Steve presented the Amendments and the voting process began.

Proposal 1 & 2 passed

Proposal 3 failed

Discussions continued regarding proposal 4 & 5.

Proposal 4 did not pass

Proposal 5 passed

Steve Waid explained the process for election of Board Officers.

Elliot Shev and Sue Hinkle were nominated for President and the motion was seconded.

There was a call for other nominees. Nominations for President were closed.

Elliot Shev was voted into office as President.

JEFF DODGE and Sal Causarano were nominated for Vice President and the motion was seconded. There was a call for other nominees. Nominations for Vice President were closed. Sal Causarano was voted into office as Vice President.

MICHAEL SHACK, JIM BROKAW and Sue Hinkle were nominated for Treasurer. Sue Hinkle declined. There was a call for other nominees. Nominations for Treasurer were closed.

Michael Shack was voted into office as Treasurer.

Barbara Templeton and Jim Brokaw were nominated for Secretary. There was a call for other nominees. Nominations for Secretary were closed.

Barbara Templeton was voted into office as Secretary.

A vote was taken to organize another regional event. The vote passed. It was decided the regional event would occur in 2001.

A raffle was conducted. All proceeds were being donated to the San Diego Automotive Museum.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Templeton
Secretary



For Safety's Sake

SUE and I, like most members of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB, enjoy driving our Miata on some of the greatest roads in San Diego County. Having the tach approach the red-line and the engine whining in second gear as we round tight corners, with the wind blowing in our hair, feels terrific. We are privileged to know great people, drive great roads, enjoy great food and swap great stories with one another.

This leads me to the reason for this article. We may all have supreme confidence in our driving capabilities, and feel quite comfortable in the handling performance of our Miatas, but it is the unknown factors and situations, over which we have absolutely no control, that can present serious consequences for us as individuals or as a club.

Recently, during and after the Puke-O-Rama Fun Run, two situations occurred that made me realize how fortunate Sue and I are to be telling this story. As I rounded an upgrade curve on Mesa Grande Road, I saw an old red car, with a beat up front end, approaching from the opposite direction. I was still in second gear, RPM's revving, when suddenly the oncoming car made a left turn immediately in front of me. I had just enough time to hit the brakes and swerve to avoid a near head-on collision. I didn't even have time to think or say "Oh S___!" My Miata continued to skid off the road and slide on the gravel toward an embankment and large rock before stopping. Fortunately, the Miatas following were allowing significant distance between cars and, by the grace of God, there was no accident, injuries, or damage. I could have all the confidence in the world in my driving capabilities, but had that lady turned left just a split second later, or had I reacted a fraction of a second slower, it could have been a disaster that resulted in serious injury or worse to me, Sue, the oncoming occupants, and the folks in the following Miatas.

Later that evening, as dusk was settling, we were heading West along the two lane portion of Highway 78, just a couple of miles East of the Wild Animal Park, when I waited for a passing opportunity.

There was a nice long straight passing zone with no oncoming traffic when I judged my passing distance, looked in my mirrors, put on my turn signal and moved into the left lane to pass three cars. All was going well as I passed the first two cars. There was still no oncoming traffic as I measured my passing distance and elected to continue to pass the third vehicle. As I became even with the car I was now passing, my accelerator pedal fell to the floorboard, my RPM's dropped to 850 and I lost all power and momentum. I said to Sue, "I think the accelerator cable just snapped." This was right after I screamed "Oh, S___!" but was able to continue past the car that was on my right. I put on my emergency signals and said a prayer that I could get back into the right lane before any oncoming traffic appeared, and that the cars I just passed did not run into our rear end before we could find a place to maneuver the car off the road.

The accelerator cable and the cable adjuster that are connected to a bracket on the intake manifold, on the passenger side of the engine, had disengaged from the bracket. The bracket is designed with a horseshoe slot and two rubber grommets that slide into this slot with locking nuts on either side. Unfortunately, the cable

can slide out of this slotted bracket. This is what happened to us. Once out of the supporting bracket, the cable went slack and the gas pedal fell to the floor. I was left with a perfectly purring engine and flashbacks of a Keystone Cops movie where the steering wheel comes off in the driver's hand. The difference was I was frantically trying to pump a gas pedal that was lying dead on the floor. It didn't help.

As we drive our cars and push them a bit harder than normal, we need to take a moment and do a visual inspection of our cars including this very important cable and adjuster. Make sure the rubber grommets are fully seated in the bracket slot and that the nuts are securely tightened. This situation may never happen to anyone else, but it did happen to us, at a disastrous time. We were on a two lane road, at dusk, passing other cars. For the second time in just a few hours, I found myself in a serious situation. We were extremely fortunate, but we need to pause and remember that events can happen that are beyond our control. In the future, I'll remind myself that drivers can do crazy things (me included), that unbelievable mechanical situations can occur to any of us, at any time, and that we, as SDMC drivers, should drive responsibly, at all times, for Safety's Sake.

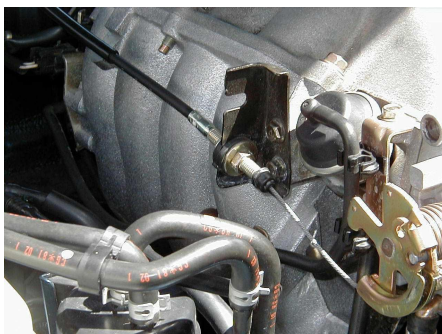
— JACK DILUSTRO

Membership Statistics

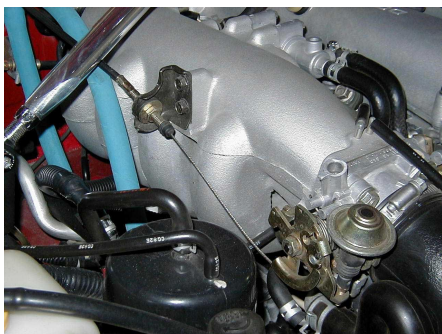
As of April 26, 2000, there are 323 memberships consisting of 505 members (141 single, 182 dual).

Memberships by Miata Color:

- 87 Red
- 49 White
- 40 Black
- 24 Emerald Green
- 18 Montego Blue
- 24 Silver
- 13 Sapphire Blue
- 11 Mariner Blue
- 11 BRG
- 11 Starlight Blue
- 9 Laguna Blue
- 8 Twilight Blue
- 7 Merlot
- 7 Marina Green
- 4 Yellow
- 1 Evolution Orange
- 11 Unreported



Above — On a '99, the throttle cable bracket is slightly different from earlier cars. Below — The throttle cable bracket on a '92, this should be similar on all '90 -'97 Miatas.



PHOTOS: MARK BOOTH



PALM SPRINGS SHOPPING GETAWAY

April 8-9, 2000

Those of you who missed this one missed "One hell of a time." We started our adventure with a stop in Idyllwild.

The weather couldn't have been better. We took time to shop, eat, and enjoy the fresh mountain air. Along the rest of the way to Palm Springs we met up with a



couple of red Ferraris going to the car show who didn't pay much attention to the double yellow lines when passing our Miata convoy.

We dropped down into the desert and realized how hot it can get in an open car. Most of us hadn't had the good sense to change to shorts while in the mountains. To say the least, it got pretty warm.

Heading into downtown P.S. we found Mardi Gras instead. This was the first week of spring break; we didn't see Connie Stevens or Troy Donohue, but all the rest of the old gang were in town. There was a Woody in front of our restaurant that I could have taken home in a heartbeat.

The Chase Hotel (interesting name for a car club stay) was just a block off of Palm Canyon Drive with a great pool and lots of shade. SUE HINKLE'S advance reservations saved the day; the town was packed. Dinner was at Las Casuelas - can you spell Margaritas? A great Mexican place. Again, reservations were the ticket.

The rest of the evening was the usual girl stuff — shopping, people watching, and gambling, followed up with chocolate chip cookies in the lobby. Sue & Barb found the cookie bar closed when they returned, umm, er, ahh, later. Yes that's when it was, later.

Sunday morning was continental breakfast in the lounge, more shopping (great bargains), a quick look in at the car show and off for home.

We're planning another weekend at the end of October, in time for some early Christmas shopping. Watch the newsletter.

Your Palm Springs reporter

— SUE KESLER

Yes, There is a Clutch Adjustment

The Miata clutch is hydraulically actuated, rather than directly linked, by a cable or rod, to the clutch disk. When you press the clutch pedal, the fluid in the hydraulic clutch master cylinder is pressurized and pushes the slave cylinder (down on the side of the transmission) out to mechanically move the clutch away from the spinning flywheel of the engine and disengage the transmission.



Some Miata owners have reported trouble getting into reverse, or it seems like the friction point (where the clutch engages) is right on the carpet. Since the clutch system is hydraulic, other than bleeding the system, most people think there is no adjustment to the clutch.

Actually, there is!

The fix is simple and takes about ten minutes. The clutch pedal under the dash has an adjustable push rod going through the firewall and into the clutch master cylinder. Simply back off the jam nut at the clevis and rotate the push rod until the pedal freeplay is out (gone). THEN rotate back in until there is slight visual perception of pedal movement when pushing the pedal with your finger, about 1/16 inch. Hint: while rotating the push rod, push the pedal often with your finger so you will feel the freeplay change. When finished, reset the jam nut and retest for freeplay.

Secondly: If this does not provide enough pedal travel to release the clutch. Check and see if there is enough thread remaining on the push rod to adjust it longer in length, BUT you will then have to adjust the clutch pedal bump stop shorter, which will raise the pedal higher from the carpet. Then adjust the freeplay as described above. All of this will provide you with a longer pedal stroke and also more clutch release. Please don't go hog-wild with this; you can go too far. ALWAYS maintain some perceptible freeplay.

— LARRY DENNSTEDT

ONE MEMBER'S OPINION

I've been taking my '90 to Brainstorm here in LA for a while now and have been happier with their service than anywhere else I've taken the Miata in the last 10 years. In fact, happier with them than ANYWHERE I've taken ANY car in the last 30 years. Roshan and Adan have outdone themselves this time, though. I had the Miata in for work this last week on two different days for LOTS of work. I'm signed up for Laguna Seca next week and wanted to have it ready (after waiting until the last minute for work I knew was needed). It turns out I probably won't be able make it to the track this time but Roshan prepped the car to be track-ready anyway, doing more work than was planned and doing it all during a very busy time for them. He and Adan were there until an hour or two after closing each night to get the work done rather than telling me it would have to wait. And his charges, in my opinion, are always quite reasonable for both parts and labor. There's no extra work done and they look out for your wallet as well as your car.

Let's see -- owner and tech always accessible, get the work done right the first time, guarantee everything, go way out of their way to get you in and get the work done, are fair on the price and still manage to be sincerely friendly and helpful all the time. Is there a catch here? Not that I've found.

I am not affiliated with Brainstorm in any way except as a customer, and I gain nothing from your doing business there except the satisfaction I get from giving a little back to them. Miatas are all they do and I believe they deserve our support.

— MIKE SIMMONS

Brainstorm
(310) 815-9825

Near I-10 on La Cienaga in West Los Angeles

UPCOMING EVENTS

Run to the Getty Museum and Brainstorm Open House

Saturday, June 10

Please mark your calendars for a special trip on June 10, 2000 to see one of the great masterpieces of art right here in our own back yard. Not only are the contents of this museum a treasure, the setting, the building, the landscape and the view are equally amazing and a treasure as well.

If you missed this trip the last two years, here is your chance to experience this phenomenal place, and if you did it before, plan to join us again; it's worth it, as you know! We have been given 50 automobile reservations by the Getty Museum. The normal parking fee of \$5 will be waived since we are a nonprofit organization. These reservations were made a year ago, and they are hard to get! Also, we have reserved picnic tables for lunch at 1:00 p.m. You can pack a lunch and enjoy some friendly Miata talk or eat in one of the restaurants. Check it out on the web at

www.getty.edu/museum and then RSVP, as space is limited to the first 50 cars. RSVP to (858) 679-0777 or moooncalif@aol.com.

Now for the SPECIAL event. We have all been invited back, by the owners, Roshan and Dali, to Brainstorm for cocktails and munchies after the Getty. For those who would like to visit Brainstorm and see what specials are in store for us there, we will caravan over at about 4:30 p.m. They are very close to the museum.

—BARB and ELLIOT SHEV

Miatas Go To Camp

Friday, June 30

The SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB is recognized as one of the top fundraisers for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Our annual event "Miles of Miata's for MDA" raised well over \$10,000 last year, and president STEVE WAID made the check presentation during the Jerry Lewis Telethon while members manned the Telethon pledge phones. All the dol-

lars the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB raises stay right here in San Diego and assists in sending over 100 kids afflicted with MDA to summer camp for an entire week.

Our club once again has been invited to attend VIP Day, which will be held at Camp Cuyamaca on Friday, June 30th. VIP's are given a tour of the camp, have time to view some of the camp activities, and will be provided lunch. A visit to the camp is an uplifting experience and members will have the opportunity to meet many of the kids, camp counselors, other VIP's, and the movers and shakers of the MDA Association.

SUE and JACK HINKLE will lead a run to Camp Cuyamaca which will depart from the MDA office located at 8525 Gibbs Dr. From I-15 exit Aero Drive, continue past Montgomery Field, and turn right on Glen Curtis; next right is Gibbs, next right is the MDA parking lot. We are planning to arrive at the camp by 11:30 a.m. and will depart from the parking lot at 10:00 a.m. Although this event is on a Friday, we hope that you can plan to join us for this great experience at MDA Summer Camp.

Fall Leaf Run 2000

Sunday, September 24

This will be a joint event with the UTAH MIATA CLUB in Provo, Utah. It will be a *minimum* five day event including travel days. We attended this event last year and had a great time --the leaves were spectacular. There are a few differences in running in Utah. We encountered sheep & cattle right on the highways. Plus we had a couple of low level water crossings.

We will leave San Diego on Thursday, September 21 and begin the return on Monday, September 25.

If you are interested in attending this event please contact:

LAUREN or ROBERT THOMPSON
lthomp@mylineup.com or (858) 488-3764.

It's a Dream

The tag line is "Get in, be moved" and I was. Is your "Dream Car" your Miata? Well, for me it is what I call "my attainable dream car" which is very different from "my 'true' dream car" which happens to be an Original Shelby Cobra with a 427 engine painted Mahogany Mica! Let me tell you about my recent experience with Mazda's 2000 Special Edition Mahogany Mica Miata.

Mazda needed the use of a '95 Miata as research for an upcoming air-bag recall. I contacted Alan Childers of Mazda, who put me in touch with Darrel Chin, who works in Product Support. Darrel told me that they needed the use of a '95 Miata to research the best and quickest way to replace the module that operates the air-bag. So, I thought for a minute...the work needs to be done one way or the other, so why not a Mazda professional who knows a lot about the car and will treat it like his own. I told Darrel "I have a Miata you may use AND I have a second car I can use while you have my car." Then, as I was trying to sort out the details of how to make the transfer, he said, "We do have a loaner car we can let you use." I hesitated, a bit worried it might be some "family type car" - you know, the kind that holds more than two people. Darrel then said, "Well, it's a MIATA!" My attention perked up a bit. I said, "a Miata?" He said, "It's the new Special Edition." I said "You mean it's the Mahogany!?" Darrel said "Yes, that's the one." I thought I was dreaming, dreaming one of those really good dreams you don't want to wake up from. I said, "WHEN DO YOU WANT ME TO DROP IT OFF?"

A side note to this is that originally, I was to drop it off on Monday, April 3rd but I asked to have it for the preceding weekend so I could take it to the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB'S



Annual meeting on Saturday and to SOCALM's quarterly meeting on Sunday to show it off. Mazda's Western Region was kind enough to allow me this privilege.

When I arrived at their offices in Irvine I didn't see the car at first. I met with Darrel and we went to his office and I signed the normal paperwork and then he showed me where they would keep my car and explained a bit further about what they would be doing with my car for the week. We went outside to get the loaner car, and when I first saw it all I could think was how gorgeous it looked. But there was something terribly wrong, the top was up - can't have that on a Miata! Darrel helped me put the top down and the boot on, which is how it stayed for the next week.

As I sat in it, I couldn't believe it! I was sitting in this beautiful new car, fresh and clean with that new car smell. Some of you probably remember that smell... isn't it wonderful? The drivers' seat feels so comfortable, the light color so refreshing, that Nardi wheel and shift knob so inviting... it was like a dream, a wonderful dream. The Mahogany wood steering wheel alone did it for me. It felt awesome. The way it

fit in the groove of my hand was so comfortable and the Mahogany wood shift knob, very much like one of SOCALM member Ralph Alder's hand-crafted wooden knobs - smooth as silk. The detail of the instrumentation on the dash is very fresh; white faces and chrome trim around the speedometer and tachometer. Mazda added another nice improvement; in the upper left corner is a small indicator light to let you know the cruise control is on. I had a kick figuring out the trip odometer. I kept seeing 300 something, then it hit me, that's the actual mileage on the car. Wow! I had to hold down the button to clear out the trip meter. *Sadly*, they are still using that dummy gauge for oil and not a real oil pressure gauge like in the older Miatas (the down side to shared parts with other models). It is my understanding that adding a sending unit will turn it into a pressure gauge. For me, I'd pay the extra money for a new Miata with a REAL gauge, but I leave that debate up to the more technically-minded members.

Driving this beautiful Mahogany was such a blast! The only thing more fun might be a Shelby Cobra, but then again, maybe not. This new Miata is



PHOTOS: MARK BOOTH

The lightest color of any Miata interior yet is called Parchment.

the best. The six-speed transmission is an E-Ticket ride. For obvious reasons the shift ratio and torque is so much different than my own Miatas ('93 & '95). It takes off like a little rocket and before you know it you're in sixth gear. It easily glides from gear to gear. In fact, I adored driving this car so much I put almost 900 miles on it in one week. Needless to say, I drove this car everywhere. It handled the curves wonderfully, even the freeways with that awful LA traffic were fun.

By far, one of the best things about driving the Mahogany Mica Miata was the stares I received. People everywhere would crane their necks to get a peek as I drove by them. One man at Balboa Park in San Diego said "Nice ride," and I replied, "Thanks!"

So if you're yearning for a "NEW ride", the 2000 Special Edition Mahogany Mica Miata is a must-see. The car looks and rides like a dream and, most importantly, drives like a dream. I loved every second I had in that beautiful car and I'm ready to trade my two for that one. I guess I should have known I'd love it this much because last year at the '99 launch, I asked Tom Matano when Mazda would come out with another color like the Merlot and he just smiled. They really did a super job with the design of this car and I consider myself very lucky to have had the privilege of driving it for a week.

— KATHIE MCCLELLAND



Bylaws of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB

(As amended, April 1, 2000)

Article I. Name

The name of this organization shall be SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB.

Article II. Purpose

The purpose of this club shall be to promote goodwill for the mutual benefit of club members and to provide social and recreational activities to preserve the Mazda Miata automobile.

Article III. Membership and Qualifications

A member must be not less than 16 years of age, and hold a valid drivers license.

A. A dual membership shall consist of a household.

B. A single membership shall consist of a single person.

Article IV. Officers and Duties

The elected officers shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary and shall represent the membership in all official matters.

A. The President shall preside at all membership and executive board meetings; shall enforce these bylaws; can sign checks and contracts; shall vote only in the event of a tie and shall be responsible for carrying out the decisions of the membership.

B. The Vice-President shall preside in the absence of the President.

C. The Treasurer shall sign checks, collect all dues and other monies from any and all sources; shall keep books of accounts and make a financial report at club meetings; shall further make an annual financial report showing all income and disbursements at the last meeting of his or her term.

D. The Secretary shall keep the minutes and records of the membership and executive board meetings; shall maintain a record of attendance for all meetings; shall furnish each member with a copy of these bylaws and their amendments as they occur; at the last meeting of his or her term, shall turn over the minutes and records of the past year for the club files.

Article V. Executive Board

The executive board shall consist of the elected officers.

A. No member of the executive board shall hold more than one office.

B. 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.

C. 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.

D. 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.

E. The executive board shall offer recommendations to the membership regarding all new club matters.

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

Article VI. Meetings

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

A. A special board meeting may be called by a two-thirds vote of the executive board.

B. A special meeting must be called by the President upon presentation of a petition signed by at least fifty (50) percent of the members.

C. The executive board shall meet quarterly at a time and place determined by the board. Executive board meetings shall be open and announced to the membership in advance.

Article VII. Appointments

The President, subject to the approval of the elected officers, shall make appointments as deemed necessary.

Article VIII. Quorums

A quorum shall consist of the members present at a scheduled meeting.

Article IX. Nominations, Elections, and Term of Office

A. Only members paid up in good standing shall be eligible for election or appointment as officers.

B. Nominations are to be made at the annual membership meeting.

C. Election of officers shall take place at that meeting.

D. All elected and appointed officers shall hold office for one fiscal year.

E. All elected officers must be residents of the County of San Diego.

Article X. Dues and Expenditures

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

B. Dues are due and payable to the treasurer on the annual anniversary of a member's joining the club.

Article XI. Authority

Any matters not included in these bylaws are to be determined by Roberts Rules of Order of the California Corporate Commission.

Article XII. Amendments of Revision of Bylaws

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.



Club Business From The President's Point Of View

There are issues that come up that I would like to bring to the attention of the entire membership.

Since only about 70% of the membership receive club e-mail, the newsletter is really the only way to get information to all the members. So here is my first attempt.

I would like to discuss the new by-laws, of which this newsletter contains a copy. I would like to thank those who attended the annual meeting and voted for these changes. As our club grows, this document will likely require additional changes to allow the elected officers of the club to conduct club business.

One of the issues that I feel strongly about did not pass. It's not that I feel strongly about the words that failed to win approval, I feel strongly about the issue. This is the issue of voting for officers. One viewpoint could be to let it be as it is. Members who show up at the annual meeting get to vote, those who don't, or can't, don't get to vote. On the other hand, providing a method for all members to vote (one vote per membership) would clearly be more representative of the clubs' sentiments. This is what was attempted at the annual meeting with this change to the bylaws. The majority of the voting memberships present voted in favor of the proposed change, but the two-thirds majority required for approval was not achieved. Those members who voted against the change apparently preferred the current method or did not like the wording of the proposed change.

I would like to solicit your thoughts and ideas on this subject. Please snail mail, 14425 Trailwind Road, Poway, CA 92064, or e-mail, cranial@aol.com, these to me. I am also available for discussion by phone at

(858) 679-0777, evenings please. As soon as I have your ideas I will inform you on the consensus.

One more thought, our mission statement. The purpose of the club is to promote the enjoyment of, and enthusiasm for, one of the world's most exciting sports cars – the Mazda Miata. That's it!

So let's not let the size of our great club get in the way of our mission. The goal of the board is to please all the members; however, I know that there will be times that this doesn't happen. It is hard to please over 500 people all the time. All I ask is that those who have a concern, an idea, or a problem address the issues to the board so we can see what can be done. Thanks for your time.

— ELLIOT SHEV

Newsletter Index Now On-Line

You are sure you have read about that subject before in the newsletter, but when? You could leaf through every copy looking for it, but then you just start reading them and never finish what you were doing. Now there is an easier way!

Member JOHN UPHOUSE realized that this need existed and did something about it. He indexed every article, in every issue of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB NEWS from May 1996 to April 2000.

This index has been uploaded to the club Web page for instant access. Go to the Newsletter section on the SDMC web page and click on the index by month and the index by event.

If you don't have a copy of the particular issue, you can download a copy right from the web page as well. All issues since 1998 are in PDF (Portable Document Format) which allows you to view and print the newsletter just as it was printed, except in COLOR.

New Members!

Welcome to our newest members (since last newsletter):

DAVID & DEBBIE ALLEN
Escondido
1997 M (Marina Green)
MARA CALER & RON CHAPMAN
Poway
1999 Silver Sport
MERWAN CHEHAB
San Diego
1990 Red B
LESLIE GETTINGS
San Diego
1999 Emerald Green
MAGGIE & ALF HOPE
San Diego
1994 Black
DEE & WAYNE JOHNSON
San Diego
2000 Evolution Orange
WEN KULIK
Rancho Palos Verdes
1991 Silver B
BOB MAGHAN
Fallbrook
1997 Black
JOHN MASTON
San Diego
1992 White B
MICHELE PALAZZI
San Diego
1994 Red
NICHOLAS SANDIN
San Diego
1999 Black

Renewing members (since last newsletter):

TOM ANDERSON
BRENDA BREEN
ROBERT L. CLARKE
VICKIE & DAN CLEMONS
BRUCE FURBUSH
ROSEANNE MEYERHOFF
JEANETTE & JEFF HOLLADAY
JOHN & DEE HORSMAN
DAVE & PAMELA HUNT
RICH KARPP
JOHN D. LIMA & CAROLYN THOMAS
ANNE S. MARSHALL
RICK MOORE
ROBERT OLSSON
JIM PIERCE & ABBEY CHAMBERLAIN
DONNA & RICK RAMSEY
LARRY READ & ELIZABETH NORRIS
RANDY & SUSAN RHODES
SCOTT SCHROEDER
DAVID & ISOBEL SHAPIRO
BRENDA SONNEBORN
MARK & DIANNA SORTINO
TOM & DONA THOMPSON
STEVE & LAURIE WAID
JEREMY WONG

