



VOLUME 5 NUMBER 9

SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB NEWS



SEPTEMBER 2000

A CHAPTER OF THE MIATA CLUB OF AMERICA

UPCOMING EVENTS



September 4 - Monday
MDA Telethon and Fun Run



September 8 - Friday
**SDMC Cruises Grand Ave.
Wheels 'n' Meals**



September 9 - Saturday
Cajon Speedway Train Races



September 16 - Saturday
Tech Day at Maiser Haus



September 21 - 25
Utah Fall Leaf Run



September 23 - Saturday
Autocross at the "Q"



September 28 - Thursday
**Monthly Meeting
and Quarterly Board Meeting**



October 7 - Saturday
SOCALM/SDMC Big Bear Run



October 14 - Saturday
1st Annual Surf'N'Versary



October 21- 22
**4th Annual Coronado Classic
Speed Festival**



December 9 - 11
SDMC/SOCALM Driving School



December 17 - Sunday
SDMC Holiday Party

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SURF'N'SAFARI – The Picnic

During October 7 – 10, 1999 the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB held its first regional event, SURF'N'SAFARI. If you were there you know that this was the best fun we ever had. Not only did it include all of us here in San Diego, but we had participants from around the world who came to share our kind of excitement.

The anniversary of this event is fast approaching, and we asked a group of members, led by JACK DiLUSTRO, to put together an anniversary event. They have put together something very special called, SURF'N'Versary.

The day will be reminiscent of a day at SURF'N'SAFARI. We will start out the day with a choice of two runs, followed by a picnic lunch, followed by another run, followed by dinner. I know, it sounds like a typical SDMC event day, drive-eat-drive-eat, but this will be a special celebration.

So mark your calendars for October 14th and get your RSVP's in NOW! This is going to be one FUN time! And yes, in case you have a burning question about SURF'N'SAFARI – The Sequel, well the same special group who is putting this event (SURF'N'Versary) together, Jack diLustro, JIM BROKAW, and SUE HINKLE, are also working on the details of the sequel for the future. I can't wait.

(For all the details on SURF'N'Versary, see the Future Events on Page 4)

Miata Club of America

Many of us are members of both the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB (SDMC) and the MIATA CLUB OF AMERICA (MCA). Some of us are aware of the national club but are not members. Others may not even be aware that a national Miata entity exists.

MCA was formed at almost the same time as the Miata was introduced. Its founder, Norman Garrett, had been a layout engineer on the Miata development project at Mazda Research of America in Irvine, California. It's president, Vince Tidwell, was Norman's college roommate. At the onset, MCA took on SDMC's friend and supporter, Barbara Beach, as its volunteer promotions director. Until several years ago, this was the ongoing situation, with these three people combining their efforts to produce MCA's primary product, *Miata Magazine*.

In 1997, the situation within MCA changed somewhat, as the rights to produce *Miata Magazine* were sold to Barbara, her husband Phil Wolfson, and their company Media-Source. Since then, Jay Lamm and then Alan Paradise have taken on the task of editing the magazine, still with a lot of input from Norm and Vince, and the primary responsibility for getting the magazine into our hands has fallen onto the shoulders of Barbara and Phil. Much about the look and feel of the magazine has changed, but the basic mission to provide useful information to Miata owners worldwide has remained the same.

Recently, a dispute has occurred that threatens to disrupt, if not the very existence of the

(Continued on page 2)



President's Message (Continued from page 1)
 magazine itself, certainly Barbara and Phil's ability to continue to publish it. Centered on issues of distribution rights and funding, this dispute between the owners of MCA and the publishers of *Miata Magazine* came to the attention of the online community of Miata.net, which is the Miata world's other best source of useful and timely information about our favorite car and not in any way affiliated with MCA. The dialogue has, of course, been hot and heavy, but no resolution to the dispute has yet been reached. Interested parties have taken sides, made proposals, and basically hashed over the issues until the forum thread was put in limbo by the owners of Miata.net pending some concrete development from the principals in the dispute. A large part of the dialogue addressed the fact that, unlike SDMC, MCA is a for-profit corporation and, historically, your membership money goes in and the only tangible benefit that comes back to you is the magazine. Although this has never been a secret, there are many Miata owners who would prefer to have a more democratic organization at the national level that would more actively support its membership with their dues money. Be that as it may, MCA has been sanctioned as the official national Miata club by Mazda, and it is what it is, at least for now.

If you are an MCA member and receive *Miata Magazine*, you can inform yourself on these issues by visiting Miata.net's forum at <http://www.miataforum.com> and reading the topic "The International Miata Club" by clicking on that subject title. There will be a pop-down menu at the top right of the page; select "view all topics" to gain access to all of the messages in this section. You need not be a registered forum user to read the various threads, but you must register to post replies to existing messages. Since this topic is currently closed to new input, messages may not be posted in any case, but the information is there if you care to bring yourself up-to-date on this issue while its ultimate resolution is still pending.

We will keep you posted on upcoming developments as they occur.

— ELLIOT

MISSION STATEMENT

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

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

Let's have fun driving our Miatas!

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STEF and TOM GOULD

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

Quarterly Board Meeting

The board of directors of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB will hold their quarterly meeting immediately following the regular Monthly Meeting on Thursday, September 28. This meeting is open to the entire membership.

Any SDMC member wishing to add a subject to the agenda or to have the board address an issue, please notify BARB TEMPLETON, club secretary, (760) 751-8636 or secretary@sandiegomiataclub.org

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NOTICES

The SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB is an official chapter of the MIATA CLUB OF AMERICA and a nonprofit organization.

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



UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

MDA Telethon and Fun Run

Date: Monday, September 4

Meeting Time: 7:30 a.m.

Meeting Place: K-Mart, Mission Valley

Hosts: PAM & DAVE HUNT

It's that time of the year for the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB to participate in the Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon. This year's telethon will be held at the KPBS Studio located on the campus of San Diego State University.

Dave and Pam Hunt will lead the group from the K-Mart parking lot in Mission Valley to the telethon site, where the Miatas will pass by the outside fishbowl. For all you camera hams, KUSI will have the outside cameras rolling as we pass by the fishbowl and will replay our Miata caravan while we are live on the phones.

The club is scheduled to man the pledge phones from 10 a.m. to 11:40 a.m. SDMC president ELLIOT SHEV, along with JACK and SUE HINKLE, will be presenting our check to MDA from the "Miles of Miatas" event held on August 26th. What better way to spend your Labor Day? Let's show our SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB spirit in supporting this great cause with a line of Miatas as far as the eye can see.

Immediately following the telethon, the Hunts will lead a fun run from the college to their home in Poway for a barbecue and pool party.

Directions to K-Mart: From I-15, exit on Friars Road west to Qualcomm Way. Turn left, then right on Rio San Diego Drive. From I-8, exit Texas Street/Qualcomm Way. Take Qualcomm Way to Rio San Diego Drive and turn left.

SDMC Cruises Grand Avenue - Wheels 'n' Meals

Date: Friday, September 8

Meeting Time: 6:15 p.m.

Meeting Place: Tom's Burgers

5th and Centre City Pkwy, Escondido
Join us for another night of cruising Miata style down Grand Avenue in Escondido. For those of you who missed it last month, and for those of you who had a good time, we have arranged for another cruising night in Escondido. Miatas will gather at Tom's Burgers. We will

then cruise Grand, Miata style, making as many trips up & down Grand Avenue as you would like. Miatas can park at the Wells Fargo Bank lot located on the corner of Escondido Blvd. and Valley Parkway.

Train Races

Place: Cajon Speedway

Date: Saturday, September 9

Time: 6:30 p.m.

If you have never seen the train races, you are in for a really exciting treat. After the main roundy-round races, they open up the water truck and get the dirt all muddy and slippery. Then they bring out the "trains," sets of three cars linked together, a driver in the front, a brakeman in the back. Up to ten trains (30 cars!) drive a figure-eight track. You can imagine it gets very precarious in the middle of the track. It is such a blast, and it's the last race of the season. Afterwards, we can walk around the pits and talk to the drivers. Parking is \$1, admission is generally \$9. There is typical stadium fare (pizza, hot dogs, nachos, cotton candy, sodas, beer) at typical stadium prices. Races start at 6:50 p.m.

Directions: Interstate 8 to El Cajon. Go north on Highway 67 one exit to Bradley. Go left 2 blocks to Wing Street. Go right 1 block to track entrance.

Tech Day at Maiser Haus

Date: Saturday, September 16

Time: 9 a.m. until ???

Place: Maiser Haus (Home of the MAISERS)
9520 Upland Street

Casa De Oro (Spring Valley)

Hosts: CHRIS & GREG MAISER

(619) 741-4734 or SoMental@aol.com

Do you have a Miata project to do? Perhaps (like me) it's time for a windshield? Or maybe you just want to hang out and socialize with some dirty-handed Miata-philis? Whatever the case, we'll be doing it all at the Maiser Haus in Casa de Oro. Windy (aka Snakebite) will be going "under the knife" for some minor mods—new end links, another sway bar upgrade, trunk light, little stuff like that. Two inside bays will be available, and three or four reasonably flat outdoor work spaces—there's parking for many more on the drive or lower yard. I've got an air

compressor, ramps, jack stands, and a small assortment of tools, so please bring tools, jacks, stands, and parts as needed for your individual projects. The more tools, the merrier!

I have spoken to JJ Windshields. We can get a group rate as they did up in the Evil Empire. **If you're interested in glass, please let me know AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, so that they can order enough for all of us.** They did 13 up north, can't we beat them at this as well? (The more we get, the better the price!) We'll have coffee, of course, and donuts if I wake up early enough to fetch them.

Directions: I-805 south/north to Highway 94 East. Stay on Hwy 94 through La Mesa. Watch carefully, as Hwy 94 east continues to the right where the 125 begins (near Spring Street). Exit from 94 at Kenwood. Take a right at the bottom of the ramp, and then an immediate left onto Dale Ave. After about 200 meters, take a right onto Kenora Drive, which will turn into Upland at the top of the hill. 200 meters on the right will be my driveway, I'm at the bottom of the drive, on the right.

Utah Fall Leaf Run 2000

Departure Date: Thursday, September 21

Meeting Time: 10 a.m.

Meeting Place: North County Fair
(under the big sign)

Run Coordinators:

LAUREN & ROBERT THOMPSON,
lrthomp@cts.com or (858) 488-3764.

Autocross

Date: Saturday, September 23

Time: 9 a.m.

Place: Qualcomm Stadium
Mission Valley

Monthly Meeting

Followed by Quarterly Board Meeting

Date: Thursday, September 28

Time: 6 p.m.

Place: Boll Weevil

9330 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. (at Ruffin Road), San Diego (858) 571-6225.

This event is the single best way to meet your fellow club members, ask questions, share stories, etc.

A quarterly board meeting immediately follows the membership meeting.

Don't miss the fun!



FUTURE EVENTS

SOCALM/SDMC Big Bear Run

October 7, 2000

Well gang, it's that time of the year when we mosey on up to Big Bear and Oktoberfest. We will be meeting at Denny's restaurant in San Bernardino, located at Orange Show Road and the 215 freeway. Meeting time is 9:30 a.m. and we will depart Denny's at 10 a.m. SHARP! Reservations have been made for a great Sunday lunch at Vintage Lakeside, 41066 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake.

Directions: From Los Angeles take the I-10 freeway east to the I-215 freeway east. As you exit the 10 freeway onto the 215 freeway, keep to the right and take the first exit (Orange Show). Denny's is on the left as you exit right.

From Orange County take the 55/57 freeways or the toll road to the 91 freeway east toward Riverside. After you pass Riverside the 91 freeway becomes the 215 freeway. As soon as you pass the 10 freeway you will exit onto Orange Show Road. Then right at the exit and left into Denny's.

From San Diego take the I-15 freeway north to the 215 freeway to San Bernardino. Go past the 10 freeway and exit onto Orange Show Road. Turn right off the exit, then left into Denny's.

Looking forward to seeing all of you and enjoying a nice day in the mountains.

Allan & Linda Pabian,

lindaalan_Pabian@yahoo.com or

(949) 552-6805 home, (714) 445-6652 work.

1st Annual Surf'N'Versary

Fun Run, Picnic, Wine Tasting

Saturday, October 14

Time: 10 a.m.

Place(s): There will be two simultaneous starting points. North County Fair (under the sign) and Albertson's/Target shopping center in Rancho San Diego at Hwy 94 and 54.

Coordinators: The BROKAWs, DiLUSTROS, HINKLES, and TEMPLETONS.

Run Leaders: Jim and Charlene Brokaw, STEVE and PAULA KENNISON, Jack and SUE DiLUSTRO.

Picnic Coordinators: Barb Templeton and Sue Hinkle

The 1st Anniversary of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB'S SURF 'N'SAFARI regional event will soon be here, and to celebrate in grand style, we have developed a fun filled-day to rival the good times had at SURF 'N'SAFARI.

The 1st Annual SURF 'N'Versary will start with two different fun runs leaving from North County and I-94 at 10 a.m. These runs will take us through some of the SURF 'N'SAFARI's memorable twisties and wind up at Old Poway Park for a catered picnic being put on for us by The Hamburger Factory. The cost of the picnic lunch is \$9, which includes cheeseburgers or chicken breast, soft drinks, chips, potato salad and condiments. You can pay the day of the event BUT I need RSVP's so we can tell the Hamburger Factory how many people are coming. The picnic will be at the north end of Old Poway Park on Midland Avenue.

Old Poway Park is also having "Band Day" at the park so we will have some entertainment as well.

Following the picnic, it's on to the second fun run of the day with a drive to the all new Belle Marie Winery near Deer Springs. Following wine tasting and the opportunity to buy early Thanksgiving and holiday wine gifts, we'll be off again on some more SURF 'N'SAFARI twisties to find a place to relax, have dinner/pie/ice cream, and share stories of the day's event. Then its back to San Diego, where we will split into two groups to head north or south.

More details will be forthcoming, but mark your calendars NOW for the 1st Annual SURF 'N'Versary fun run, picnic, fun run, wine tasting, fun run, eating, fun run...

Directions to meeting place(s): North County Fair mall, under the sign at the west end of the parking lot. I-15 exit Via Rancho Parkway. OR Albertson's/Target shopping lot in Rancho San Diego. Intersection of Highway 94 and Highway 54 (Jamacha Rd.)

Classic Speed Festival

October 21 - 22, 2000

Place: North Island Naval Air Station

Event Coordinator: STEF GOULD,
stef@miata.net

(See Article on Page 8 For Details)

Kooky Spooky Rallye II

October 29, 2000

MICHELLE & ED LANGMAID

Honeymoon Run

November 4, 2000

ANITA EOFF & SCOTT ROSIN

SDMC/SOCALM Driving School

December 9 - 11, 2000

What: 1, 2, or 3-day driving school.

Who: Any Miata club members or non-members who want to improve their performance driving skills.

Where: Danny McKeever's Fast Lane Racing School, Willow Springs Raceway, Rosamond, CA.

(See Article on Page 10 For Details)

SDMC Holiday Party

December 17, 2000

(See Article on Page 11 For Details)

AUTOCROSS AT THE "Q"



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

Saturday, September 23.....race day
Saturday, October 7.....race day
Saturday, October 21.....race day
Saturday, November 11.....practice day
Sunday, November 19.....race day
Saturday, December 2.....race day
Sunday, December 17.....practice day
Monday, January 1, 2001.....practice day

To confirm autocross information, call:

San Diego SCCA Hotlines (619) 441-1333

(800) 360-4454

Web page

www.sdr-solo2.com

Come participate or watch 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.



UPCOMING NATIONAL AND REGIONAL EVENTS

Fourth Annual Midwest Miata Challenge Hilliard High School - Hilliard, Ohio September 30, 2000

This is a Miata-only autocross event, first held in 1997. Last year it was hosted by the NW Ohio Chapter at the University of Toledo. The Buckeye Chapter regained the team trophy from the Northcoast Chapter. We are seeking revenge this year! Come on out and join us!

Contact: Rob Young, a90y@aol.com

Texas Miata Roundup

September 30 - October 1, 2000

The roundup will be held in the heart of the hill country, in Ingram, Texas (right between Fredericksburg and Kerrville). The weekend will be filled with overlapping drives—one "touristy" and one "die-hard." The events vary from early bird runs to antique runs to horseback riding. For more information, please feel free to contact Kim Hokanson at kim@mroadster.com

Backroads To Bavaria V

Leavenworth/Wenatchee, Washington

October 6-8, 2000

You are invited to attend the annual Backroads to Bavaria Fall Colors Tour hosted by John Hewitt of the Puget Sound Chapter of the MCA. This multi-chapter Pacific Northwest favorite event unites Miata friends old and new. Celebrate with a visit to the Bavarian Village of Leavenworth during the Washington State Autumn Leaf Festival. Twisty and curvacious roads will delight as you journey through the colorful valleys of the Cascade Mountains.

For more information or RSVP by 9/15/00,

Contact: John.Hewitt@msvl.wednet.edu,
or (425) 335-4129

Miatas in Paradise

Daytona Beach, Florida

October 24-27, 2000

MCA national event for the year 2000

The most famous beach in the world, the world-renowned Daytona Speedway, autocrossing, the Megafuncana, a first-class five-star hotel with each window facing the ocean, concourse d'elegance, vendors, Miata model contests, and a whole lot of Miatas!

Contact: Jenna (800) 832-3292 or
www.miata2000.com

NEW MEMBERS!

WELCOME to our newest members
(since last newsletter):

KURT & LYN GLASSSELL
San Diego
1999 Black Touring

CRAIG & JESSICA JULIAN
Escondido
1992 White

MYSSIE LAUER & DARREN ENGLISH
San Diego
1997 Red

FRED LERNER
Los Osos
2000 Emerald Green LS

JOEL OTSUKA & JULIE CURTISS
San Diego
1995 M (Merlot)

CATHIE WETTERLING
San Diego
1995 Montego Blue

Renewing members
(since last newsletter):

RON & REINA BOLLES
GALE CHAN

RAYMOND & BARBARA D'ARGENIO
IAN DACANAY

SUSAN & DON DRYSDALE

TOM & GINNY FOSTER

GORDON T. FROST, JR.

ED & MICHELLE LANGMAID

PAUL & ROBIN PRZYBYSZ

JIM SCHMEDAKE

GARY & ROSALIND SCOTT

MICHAEL & ELINOR SHACK

BOB & DARLENE SIMPSON

GENE & PINKIE STANLEY

GENAI & JAY STONEBURNER

LYNN & GAIL TRIMBLE

JAMIE E. ZUIEBACK

Recruiting Cards

We have new recruiting cards available. If you would like some, please see ELLIOT SHEV at any event.

Membership Statistics

As of August 21, 2000, there are 324 memberships (139 single, 185 dual) for a total of 509 members.

Memberships by Miata Color:

87	Red
50	White
41	Black
26	Emerald Green
25	Silver
15	Montego Blue
14	Sapphire Blue
12	Mariner Blue
11	Starlight Blue
9	BRG
8	Laguna Blue
8	Twilight Blue
7	Merlot
6	Marina Green
4	Yellow
3	Mahogany
2	Evolution Orange
1	Teal (custom)
1	Eggplant (custom)
9	Unreported *

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

Club Regalia

In true SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB style, we now have not one, but TWO members to handle the Club Regalia.

PAULA KENNISON and ROSALIND (ROZ) SCOTT have stepped up and taken over the duties from BARB SHEV.

Roz and Paula will be available by e-mail (regalia@sandiegomiataclub.org) to handle your fashion emergencies when you really NEED a new SDMC sweat-shirt or a pin to highlight your driving outfit. As usual, they will bring a sample of items to each Monthly Meeting at the Boll Weevil.





PHOTO: MARK BOOTH



San Diego Twilight Fun Run

August 5, 2000

Left - The view from the lead car. 82 Miatas back is a LONG WAY!

Below - Before the start of the migration, the usual BS session in the parking lot, while inside were food, videos, and the usual horsing around.



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH

A Sight to Behold

Having observed creatures of all sorts in their natural habitats for over thirty years, I was well aware that some of them exhibit certain behaviors only when congregating in large numbers. And among these, as I well knew, was the extraordinary Miata. And so it was that I came to travel the entire breadth of the Atlantic Ocean, crossing the North American continent to its southwestern corner in the hope of observing these gregarious creatures in one of nature's most spectacular displays – the Twilight Run.

We set up camp on Mount Laguna, namesake of the Laguna mountain range, hoping to witness the event. Just as the swallows return to Capistrano (a place on the California coast not far from the Llagunas) at about the same time each March, so, too, the Miata appear in these mountains in early to mid-August each year. There they rest and refresh themselves for something less than an hour, then move on, disappearing into the twilight. Exactly why the Miata exhibit this behavior remains a mystery.

We had arrived as August began and learned that the run had not yet occurred. And so we waited...and watched. Each day, several hours before sunset, we would position ourselves in the blind we had constructed near the path the Miata were known to travel. For four days there was nothing to report. But on the fifth, our patience was rewarded and our expectations exceeded.

First we heard the throaty song of the lead group as they headed over the mountains from the north. And presently, we saw them. Dozens of Miata began to congregate at one particular spot on the trail, forming into a characteristic "resting pack," positioned closely together and all facing in approximately the same direction, ready to sprint off at the first hint of a preda-



tor approaching. We counted at least eighty, though I think there may have been several more.

Their variety was spectacular. Colorations ranged from the dominant red, white and blue of the older Miata to several newer adaptations including various shades of blue, green, a sort of plum color, and two of a brownish-yellow hue. This last color may be a desert adaptation, for the Anza-Borrego lies just east of the Lagunas. Or it may be that these two were the offspring of a red and that rarest of all Miata, a sunburst yellow. For indeed, we saw just one such a rare specimen in the group before us.

Then, just as suddenly as they had arrived, after lingering for just a short while, the Miata were once again on the move. Their sound song faded as they headed south into the valley below, leaving an eerie silence in their wake.

Although science may never quite understand the purpose of the twilight run of the Miata, I felt privileged at least to have witnessed this one.

— Sir Nigel Conan Leif, RSBNG
(Real Smart British Nature Guy)
aka JOE KRAMER



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH



PHOTO: RAY ACEVEDO

Above - Looking forward from the rear. Hey, 82 Miatas is a LONG WAY from here too!

Below - The Miata in their characteristic "resting pack" formation at the Laguna Mountain lodge.



PHOTO: RAY ACEVEDO





PHOTO: STEVE WARD

The 4th annual Chrysler Classic Speed Festival will take place in Coronado on Saturday and Sunday, October 21 and 22.

Car enthusiasts will be taken on a journey through racing's history, with a field that includes Porsches, Ferraris, and Jaguars, plus such American favorites as Corvettes and Shelby Cobras.

This racing event is organized by the Historic Motor Sports Association (the folks who bring you the Monterey Historics). The purpose of the event is to encourage restoration, preservation and use of historic sports and racing cars—the cars are the stars in this event.

The Classic Speed Festival will be held

on the runways at the Naval Air Station on North Island, Coronado. The 1.6-mile track has eleven turns.

Similar to the Monterey Historics, the paddock area will be open to the public; there will be free grandstand seating and a vendor area. Food and drink sales will benefit Navy charities. Please buy your food and drinks from the vendors at the track!

The race groups last year were:

Pre-1941 sports and racing cars

'47-'55 sports and sports racing cars

'55-'60 sports and sports racing cars

'56-'62 GT cars

'63-'65 GT cars

'65-'71 FIA cars

Formula Junior

Trans-Am cars

My guess is that racing will follow last years schedule, which was: Gates open at 7 a.m. both days. On Saturday, practice for each group from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Opening ceremony at noon, followed by qualifying races from 1:30 until about 5:30 p.m. Sunday will follow the same schedule with practice in the morning and the races in the afternoon.

On Saturday evening, SDMC will arrange a no-host dinner for Miata club members at a restaurant in the nearby Gaslamp Quarter.

On Sunday, MIKE PAGE will once again coordinate an early morning breakfast and caravan to the races.

Information concerning the dinner and breakfast will be sent to you with your tickets and corral passes.

Order your tickets NOW!

General admission: one-day \$15, two-day \$22, at the gate price. Contact me to get the best possible ticket price. **Bring your checkbook and a stamped business-size envelope to the September Monthly Meeting.**

I must have your checks or cash by October 10 so that I can mail the tickets and parking corral passes to you before the event. The corral passes are *free*, please don't drive your OTM (Other Than Miata) and expect to park in the Car Club Corral.

— STEF GOULD

(619) 297-4272 or stef@miata.net

Dromo One Indoor Karting Event SOCALM vs SDMC

August 6, 2000

Thanks to my skilled teammates JEFF HOLLADAY, Ron Boss, and NEAL (fastest team lap, 26.29 seconds) HOWLAND we won the two-hour enduro at Dromo One by five-laps over the second place team.

Team SDMC completed 253 laps, averaging 28.66 seconds per lap—a full 14 laps ahead of the last place team.

Event organizer Robert Arrance's Team Sock Monkeys was second. Third place, seven laps behind Team SDMC at the finish, was team Soft Side Up.

Team Soft Side Up set the lowest lap of the event at 25.96 second. Awesome!

Lots of fun; I can't wait until we get to defend our championship at the second annual SOCALM vs SDMC Enduro.

— JON MARTINEZ



PHOTO: PAUL POLLOCK

Team SDMC (Center): Jeff Holladay, Jon Martinez, Neal Howland and Ron Boss, mount the center step in victory.



Six in a Row Do Go!

My thoughts on the ultimate Miata are two liters, turbo or supercharged, six speeds, and the M1 lighter body. Racing Beat informed me that they purchased a 6-speed from Mazda for \$3,500 so I thought this part of my ideal Miata would be a long time coming. But due to finding one at a much reduced price on E-bay I started by buying the 6-speed. I had read that it fits, but could find no one in the country who had actually installed one in an older Miata.

LARRY at DENNSTEDT's said just buy it and Rocky and I will find a way to make it work. I did, and they did, and I'm now driving it.

To make it work they modified my 5-speed shifter, put in a new starter (since I had one with 160,000 miles on it, that was not a painful purchase), and added a plate between engine and tranny.

Most people I talked to about the gear ratios thought the car would have a low, low 1st gear like a truck; however, in spite of the low, low first gear I like it. The higher the numeric ratio, the "lower" the gear, so a high numeric ratio would give you more off-the-line acceleration, but a lower top speed. The differential in a 1999 10AE is a 3.9:1 and the 1990 is a 4.3:1. This is only the differential ratio; to compare final drive ratios, one needs to combine that with the five or six gears in the transmission. First gear in a 1990 5-speed coupled with the 4.3:1 is 13.485. The 1999 10AE is 14.664. First gear with a 6-speed coupled with the 4.3:1 is 16.168. In second gear the original 5-speed is 8.1184 and the 10AE is 8.8491. My second gear is now 9.7567.

Sixth gear in my car is now 3.62 compared to 3.5 as it was stock, and 3.2877 in the 10AE.

So, what this all means is my top speed and mileage are nearly the same (I got 28.5 mpg on the total Monterey trip), but I have an awesome first and second gear.

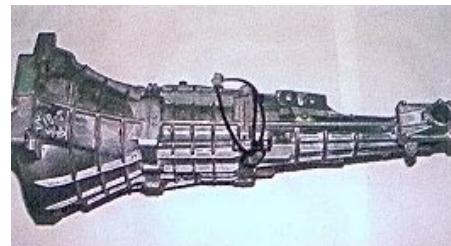
Another techy note is that the percentage of change from first to second and second to third etc., etc., is always identical with any gear ratio in the differential and the same transmission. For example, the 3.9:1, 4.1:1 and 4.3:1 and a 6-speed,

changes are 39, 27, 24, 20 and 16%.

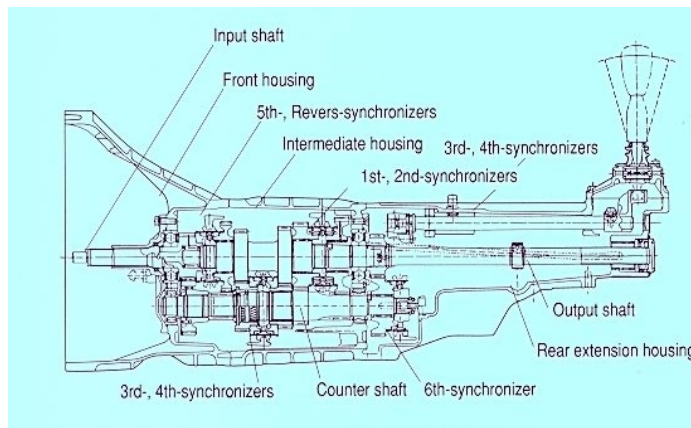
With a 5-speed they are 39, 29, 25, and 18%. Therefore, the 6-speed is nice, as you have four gear changes with close ratios.

If you were bored and skipped over the analytic "whys" ...the bottom line is I like it! Coupled with my new windshield, it makes my car new again!

— WALLY STEVENS



The 6-speed transmission from the 10AE and 2000LE are the same overall size as the standard Miata 5-speed transmission.



Are You Prepared?

So, there you are. You have a flat tire on your Miata; but not to worry, you have your compact spare tire, your jack, and your Mazda-supplied lug wrench. You're all set to change out your custom wheel, right? Not so fast! You just might not be able to use that factory lug wrench on your fancy wheels.

The problem is the lug wrench supplied by Mazda is designed for the factory wheels and lug nuts. Even then, it is rather marginal as a decent tool. When you try to use this wrench on aftermarket wheels, you might not be able to get it on the lug nut properly, or, if you do, you might round off the nut and make it nearly impossible to remove. This is NOT what you want to do on the side of the highway!

Before the next trip in your Miata, go to Sears and purchase a Craftsman 21 mm deep-well socket. In addition, obtain a ten-inch-long flex head breaker bar. Both the socket and breaker bar should be 3/8-inch drive. This combination is virtually the same size as the stock lug wrench (as you can see in the photo), but the deep-well socket will provide a much better fit on the lug nuts on your aftermarket wheels. In addition, the combination of the deep socket and the flexible head of the breaker bar will allow you to position the socket on the lug nut and still allow room to grip the bar, or even stand on it, should that much torque be necessary to remove the nut.

An added bonus of this setup is that it fits in the same bag in which the Mazda wrench was supplied, so there is no loss of trunk space. The cost is minimal at less than \$20, and the tools carry the Craftsman lifetime warranty.

— ANTHONY WILDE and VOODOO BOB KRUEGER



The socket & breaker bar (left) are the same overall length as the Mazda supplied lug wrench (right). Both fit the bag (center), but the socket is a much better tool when you have to remove a wheel on the road.

PHOTO: VOODOO BOB KRUEGER



SDMC/Socalm Driving School

Willow Springs Raceway

December 9-11, 2000

Danny McKeever's Fast Lane Racing School is one of the premier driving schools in the Western United States. Danny is the chief instructor for: SCCA/California Sports Car Club, Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach Pro/Celebrity Race, Denver Grand Prix Celebrity Race, Cleveland Grand Prix Celebrity Race, and the Driver's Connection Racing School. All of the instructors are racers and stunt drivers with extensive racing resumes.

The objective of the school is to familiarize you with the basic techniques of vehicle control. You will find out why certain things happen under certain conditions, and the proper procedures to use to maintain maximum control of the vehicle you are driving.

Your stay at the driving school will require maximum concentration and retention of the information you will receive. They take one step at a time, starting with the basics, and monitor your progress on an individual basis. What you learn at the school will stay with you the rest of your life. The information will serve you well whether you're on the race track or just doing your everyday driving.

Get ready to learn a great deal about vehicles, vehicle control, and yourself.

When: Saturday, December 9, Sunday, December 10, and Monday, December 11, 2000. Participants can sign up for 1, 2, or all 3 days.

The school will be limited to 32 participants. This event will sell out. **Participants are guaranteed a spot on a first paid, first served basis.**

Drivers will be grouped based on skill level and previous experience. Be-

ginners with beginners, advanced with advanced, so everyone can have fun!

Roll bars are not required on "The Streets of Willow." Roll bars are required for Monday on the big track.

The school has Toyota Celicas set up for racing and available for rental if you don't want to use your own car.

Have good tires, good brakes, and a full tank of gas when you show up. You will average more than a 100 miles of track time per day! Lunch will be provided on all 3 days.

Modern restroom facilities are provided. No outhouses, ladies!

Each participant will receive a driving school group photo and a certificate of completion.

Saturday and Sunday the training will be at "The Streets of Willow" race course and the adjacent skid pad. Monday's driving will be on the big track, Willow Springs Raceway, "The Fastest Track in the West."

One-day participants can choose either Saturday or Sunday. Saturday and Sunday will be the two-day package.

There will be approximately one instructor per 3-4 students.

Special SDMC/SOCALM group rates (less than half of the normal cost!)

1 day \$275.

2 days \$375.

3 days \$500.

A group hotel room rate will be arranged at the Essex House in Lancaster, approximately 20 minutes from the track. There will be a group dinner Saturday night.

Any questions, contact:

JON MARTINEZ

(949) 361-0838

jontronics@home.com

Toyo T1-S Now Available for 14-Inch Wheels

July 27, 2000

To all Miata enthusiasts and dealers, we have waited years for this day:

The 195/55R14 Toyo Proxes T1S, designed specifically for the Miata, is in our California warehouse.

The Toyo product code (in case your wholesaler or retailer doesn't have it) is: 250200.

As always, there is a 500 mile trial offer.

Yes, 5.5, 6.0, 6.5, and 7.0 inch are approved rim widths for this size.

If you have any difficulties obtaining these tires, or any Toyo's, call Toyo consumer relations at:

(800) 442-8696 (West Coast)

(888)444-8696 (East Coast)

Also, good news for 2001. Toyo will have 100% of the OE fitments of 195/50R15 on the 2001 Miata. Another tire manufacturer will have the other size.

Thank you,

— KEVIN LAKKIS

Toyo Tires

K&S Tire Has Moved!

Iwanted to inform the Miata Club members that K&S Tire has lost its lease and will not be conducting business at the Fir Street location any longer. However, I have moved to Lutz Tire & Service. The address of Lutz Tire is 2853 Market Street, near I-15.

Our telephone number will stay the same (619) 232-2957, and we will have the same services that have always been available to you in the past. We are looking forward to continued service of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB.

Thank You

— Mike Perrins

K&S Tire

(See Local Business Discounts on Page 12)



SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB Holiday Party!

Date: Sunday, December 17th

Time: 6 to 10 p.m.

Place: Harbor Inn, Naval Submarine Base in Point Loma, San Diego*

Price: \$27 per person

Menu: To Be Announced Later



The setting for the party this year is both breathing taking and tranquil...it is located at the very tip of Point Loma and the scenery from the dining room takes in a view of the San Diego Bay on one side and the harbor on the other. While I have not formally selected what we will be dining on, I can promise a wonderful holiday sit-down dinner...their food is delicious. It also has a huge parking lot that will allow for plenty of undisturbed parking. Plus, this year don't forget your dancing shoes!

Make sure your keys are in the ignition and your foot is on the accelerator, Don't be left in the dust. Reservations must be made and **paid for** by November 26th!

To participate in the gift exchange, you need to bring a wrapped Miata related or driving related gift (not to exceed \$25 in value). The idea is, you bring a gift and you take a gift home.

Don't be left out! Make your reservations today by mailing a check for \$27 per person. Send your check, made out to SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB, to – Mary Ann Wallner, 3432 Cameo Drive, Oceanside, CA 92056 and include for whom you are paying. Questions: Please call (760) 722-8375 or email to: mwallner@csusm.edu.

**Directions:* The Harbor Inn is conveniently located at the “very end” of Rosecrans Street in San Diego and can be reached from I-5 north or south or from the I-8 freeway. To pass through the guard posted at the entrance to the base, please identify yourself as part of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB.



PHOTO: VOODOO BOB KRUEGER

Next Month — Watch for a full report on the happenings from the Monterey Historic Automobile Races and Concorso Italiano.

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: Moss light kit for console (tan) \$20. Mazda bra for M1 black (brand new in box - used once) \$40. Miata Script grille (stainless steel) \$10.

Tom (949) 366-0322 or tomt3@home.com

For Sale: 1999 MIATA-one of a kind, better then new, perfect inside & out, black with two tone leather interior, 17" BBS wheels, style-bar with built in clear windscreen, \$12,000 in upgrades, a very special Miata, asking \$18,999 OBO. (I will sell parts).

Appearance side-sills for '99-2000 Miatas, black (can be repainted any color) \$200 OBO. Real Cobra (from England) racing gas filler cap, with custom adapter for Miata, \$150 OBO.

Dean (858) 587-1806 or ldnking@oclink.com

For Sale: Short throw shifter from the Dealer Alternative. Cost new was \$299 plus tax and shipping, yours for \$150. (Doesn't work on a six speed). High flow grill \$10.

Wally, (619) 232-2801 ext 313 or 234-2858.

For Sale: 14" OEM aluminum wheels from a '91 Miata W/tires. Only \$140 That's only \$35 each wheel what a deal! Get rid of those heavy steel anchors and buy these.

Alex (619)275-0819

For Sale: Canon A-1 35mm camera outfit. Canon A-1 body plus 24mm (f/2.8), and 50mm (f/1.4) Canon FD lenses. All lenses include leather cases. Canon Speedlite 199A flash with diffuser and case, lens hoods, filters, etc. Everything is in nearly-legendary condition.

Bob, (858) 486-4711 or voodoo@miata.net

For Sale: Men's 12-speed bike, call for details, \$40. Pac Bell Caller ID telephone, \$40 OBO. Front air dam from green '99 sport package, Make Offer.

Richard, (619) 286-2412 or rscherschel@home.com

For Sale: Racing Beat chrome style bar with custom fit tan tonneau cover. Fits '90-97 asking \$425. Must sell as a set.

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

For Sale: A set of 14-inch original equipment wheels from a '99 is looking for a good home. Attractive and easy to clean! \$400 OBO.

Rick, (760) 740-8595 or

communicator@home.com

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



Late-Breaking Special Update

If you read my President's Message in this issue of the newsletter, you will note that I told you I would keep you updated of new developments in regards to *Miata Magazine* and the MIATA CLUB OF AMERICA. Well, we didn't have to wait very long. Just as the newsletter was going to press, a couple of developments came about that I felt you should know about.

First, you can now get *Miata Magazine* by direct subscription. You do not have to "join" the MIATA CLUB OF AMERICA (MCA) now to get the magazine. The following is the post on MiataForum.com that announced this:

From: Gary Fischman

We did it! After years of pleading and negotiating, we've finally worked out an agreement to sell subscriptions to *Miata Magazine*!

Not only that, the cost is only \$19.95 per year (for US subscriptions). That's a big savings from the previous method of getting it - the one where you had to pay \$29 to a company called Miata Club of America that gave you little else besides the magazine.

Anyway, by subscribing through the link below, you'll also be helping support Miata.net since we're getting a small portion of the proceeds of each subscription.

Subscribe now and save!!

<https://secure.eunos.net/miata/shop/mmorder.html>

(MediaSource can also be contacted directly at (858) 675-2076 or by FAX (760) 631-1206.)

The reason for this soon became apparent as Barbara Beach, publisher of *Miata Magazine*, updated the MiataForum.com readers of the status of the MCA vs *Miata Magazine* dispute. Here, in its entirety, is her post:

From: Barbara Beach

29 August 2000

Dear Miata Enthusiasts,

As many already know, MCA has failed to remit funds necessary for operation of this magazine. They currently owe us over \$60,000. Despite this failure to remit funds we have completed issue number 4 of the *Miata Magazine* by going into significant debt to complete it. It is ready to mail.

Now, despite the fact that our contract with Norman reads that we shall have final editorial control ("MPG shall have final authority over the contents of any proposed issue"), Norman has refused to give us the shipping labels necessary to mail the magazine until we submit to his demands on magazine content—demands he is clearly not entitled to make under our contract. Norman has also attempted to prevent us from launching *Ragtops and Roadsters Magazine* and has had his Georgia attorney send us a cease and desist demand letter. These actions have forced us to employ a Miata enthusiast attorney to file suit against Norman, Vince and MCA for breach of contract, unfair business practices, etc. That suit is now pending in the Federal District Court for the Southern District of California.

Yesterday we sent a courtesy copy of the suit to Mazda and asked for their productive intervention in getting the magazine out and resolving the MCA problem (we would much rather have a working magazine than a lawsuit). We met with the customer relations folks from Mazda this morning. Mazda told us they would like to see a national club continue, we concur. We relayed what we know of the Miata community's dissatisfaction with the current club structure. We attempted to share what the Miata community has been asking for in terms of an elected board of representatives and a division of the financial "pie". We really don't think Mazda is fully aware of how many people really want a real Miata car club. People are asking us if the Miata Club is planning to do an alternate publication if they do not provide us the list. We honestly do not know.

We thank the Miata community for their support during this crisis. If you have previously paid for your magazine through MCA membership and want to make sure you get your magazine, please send us your mailing information, as the magazine does not maintain the database. We will make sure you get your copy of *Miata Magazine*. We will soon post a form for you to submit this information.

Always Miata Barb Beach

What does any of this mean to members of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB?

If you are a "member" of the MIATA CLUB OF AMERICA, you will not be receiving a copy of *Miata Magazine* because MCA will not release the mailing list to the printer. You could, of course, subscribe directly to *Miata Magazine* and then call MCA at (770) 205-8832 and cancel your "membership" and ask for a prorated refund. Should you desire to remain a member of MCA, please note in Barbara's post that if you send her your mailing information, SHE will be sure and get the magazine mailed to you.

If you are not a member of MCA, you can now directly subscribe to *Miata Magazine*, should you care to do so, and it is cheaper.

Since *Miata Magazine* was the only benefit of the MIATA CLUB OF AMERICA, it may well be time to begin to ask the question "how does the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB benefit from being a "chapter" of the MIATA CLUB OF AMERICA?" This issue will require discussion as we all move forward.

The current situation remains volatile and I will continue to keep you apprised of the situation as it develops.

— ELLIOT

