



VOLUME 5 NUMBER 10

UPCOMING EVENTS



October 7 - Saturday
Autocross at the "Q"



October 7 - Saturday
SOCALM/SDMC Big Bear Run



October 8 - Sunday
MIATA MAGAZINE PARTY



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



October 21 - Saturday
Autocross at the "Q"



October 21- 22
4th Annual Coronado Classic
Speed Festival



October 26 - Thursday
Monthly Meeting



October 29 - Sunday
Kooky Survivor Rallye



November 4 - Saturday
Post Honeymoon Run



December 9 - 11
SDMC/SOCALM Driving School



December 17 - Sunday
SDMC Holiday Party

SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB NEWS

OCTOBER 2000

FROM THE EDITOR

Mister Roberts and the Miata Club of America

It's funny how sometimes real life seems to imitate the fantasy world of the movies. One night while aimlessly surfing the 100-plus cable channels, I happened upon one of my all-time favorite films, *Mister Roberts*. This 1955 classic starred James Cagney, Henry Fonda, William Powell, and a very young Jack Lemmon.

The plot of the film revolves around a U.S. Navy cargo ship in the Pacific during the final months of World War II. Day in and day out, the crew of this less than glamorous, yet very essential, ship deliver cargo to far-flung outposts of the Pacific. They are nowhere near any of the fighting. The central character is the ship's executive officer, Mister Roberts (played by Henry Fonda). Roberts is one of those likeable guys who is always trying to do whatever he can to help the rest of the crew. He happily allows the men to work on deck without shirts, in direct violation of a standing order from the Captain. Mister Roberts dearly wants to be transferred to a destroyer so he can contribute to the war effort. He submits a request for transfer once a week, and the Captain denies it each time.

The Captain (played by James Cagney) is a bitter, miserable man. A sailor in the Merchant Marine before the outbreak of war, he seems to have only one joy in life, to make the lives of every man on his ship miserable. He harbors a secret goal of achieving the rank of Commodore, and he intends to do that by working his crew relentlessly, and taking credit for their accomplishments, to win favor with the Admiral. The Admiral is the only central character in the film who never appears on screen. We know only that the Admiral has awarded a scrawny palm tree to the ship in recognition of record tonnage in cargo moved. This award is the dearest possession of the Captain, so he displays it proudly on the bridge. The crew see the palm tree as a symbol of the tyranny of the Captain. Mister Roberts dryly observes, "I looked down from our bridge and saw our captain's palm tree! Our trophy for superior achievement! The Admiral John J. Finchley award for delivering more toothpaste and toilet paper than any other Navy cargo ship in the safe area of the Pacific."

Ensign Pulver is the interesting character in this film. He seems to have no ambition in life outside sleep and pleasurable pursuits. After being on board the ship for fourteen months, he has never met the captain. He makes grand plans to torment the captain, but the sight of the man causes him to run the other way.

Last month in this newsletter, the President's Message had background information on the current dispute between the publisher of *Miata Magazine*, Barbara Beach, and the Miata Club of America. As is pointed out in that article, MCA has not reimbursed *Miata Magazine* for the last few issues mailed to MCA members. This sizeable bill has the potential to put *Miata Magazine* out of business. Miata Club of America, a privately-held corporation, has since withheld the mailing list for the latest issue of the magazine, and will not deliver it unless their demands for editorial changes are met. As a result, the latest issue has been held up, since *Miata Magazine* does not have the mailing list for MCA members. Barb has since begun to accept direct subscriptions to *Miata Magazine*, with-

(Continued on page 2)



out the requirement of membership in MCA.

During all of this, Mazda has stood by and just told the parties involved to work it out. There are rumors that Mazda is about to give a new, even more lucrative contract to Miata Club of America. This contract would most likely leave *Miata Magazine* on the outside, with only the dedicated direct subscribers, advertisers, and enthusiasts to keep it afloat. The magazine might be made available on newsstands, but that can be very expensive, and there might not be a market for it.

How does any of this relate back to a forty-five year-old movie? Well, after a while the characters in the film start to resemble the players in the *Miata Magazine* v. Miata Club of America situation.

First, you have Barbara Beach and *Miata Magazine* as Mister Roberts. No single person has done more to promote the Miata Club of America, Mazda, and *Miata Magazine* (even before she bought it from MCA) than Barbara. She, along with Lyn Vogel, formed the first Miata club that was rolled into MCA and subsequently became SOCALM (from which the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB grew). A perfect casting, if I do say so.

Second, the tyrannical captain could only be played by the owners of the Miata Club of America. Either one (Vince or Norman) easily fits the role of a self-serving captain in charge of a tiny ship. Taking credit for the hard work of others would not seem to be a stretch either.

Ensign Pulver is not cast easily. Really, this character is made up of many Miata owners, and even enthusiasts, who don't want to get involved. They just want to get their magazines; don't rock the boat, and everything will work out just fine. Oh, some of them grouse about the situation, and some have even written letters to MCA to express their frustration. But, many just want to give them one more chance to make everything right.

The other character that can be cast from this slate is that of Admiral John J. Finchley. You recall he is the character we never see, but he is the reason for all of the actions that happen on board the ship. Mazda Corporation easily fits the

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!

bill here. They are non-existent in the dispute, except to say "don't rock the boat." The palm tree could easily be considered the contract Mazda has with Miata Club of America.

With all this frustration, it is no wonder I try to forget it by channel surfing. When I began to watch Mister Roberts once again, I realized that this movie is considered to be a comedy, but it is really a sad story.

Eventually, Mister Roberts gets transferred off to a destroyer. He thinks that he finally can contribute and do something with his life. Shortly after his transfer, Ensign Pulver gets a letter from a friend on the ship to which Mister Roberts went. He writes that Mister Roberts was killed before he got the chance to make good on his plans.

The final scene is one that is intended for laughter, but I almost cried. After Pulver hears of the death of Mister Roberts, the Captain announces there will be no movie that night. Enraged, Pulver storms to the bridge, rips the pathetic palm tree from its container and tosses it into the sea. Bursting into the Captain's cabin, he shouts "Captain, it is I, Ensign Pulver, and I want you to know that I just threw your stinkin' palm tree overboard. Now what's all this crud about no movie to-night?"

Wouldn't it be nice if life imitated art just once more? But this time *before* Mr. Roberts goes to his death.

— ANTHONY WILDE

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NOTICES

The SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB is 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 OCTOBER

Autocross

Date: Saturday, October 7

Time: 9 a.m.

Place: Qualcomm Stadium
Mission Valley

Socalm/SDMC Big Bear Run

Date: Saturday, October 7

Well gang, it's that time of the year when we mosey on up to Big Bear and Octoberfest. 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 lunch at Vintage Lakeside, 41066 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake.

Directions: 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.

Miata Magazine Throws a Party

Date: Sunday, October 8

Time: Noon until ??

Place: Casa Beach/Wolfson
1315 Buena Vista Drive, Vista

Host: Barbara Beach

RSVP: miatabb@aol.com
or (760) 631-1202

Phil Wolfson, Barb's husband, is turning 50 and Barb has invited everyone to come and help them celebrate. Please RSVP so she can be sure to have enough food for everyone.

Directions: I-5 to Highway 78 east OR I-15 to Highway 78 west. Exit 78 on Mar Vista and go south. Turn left onto Buena Vista Drive. You will go past 1315 Buena Vista (it will be well marked) to the lower gate. Right turn into the horse pasture (BE CAREFUL OF THE BUMP). Park in the horse pasture and follow the marked path up to the house.

1st Annual Surf'N'Versary

Fun Run, Picnic, Wine Tasting

Date: Saturday October 14

Time: 10 a.m.

Place: 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: diLUSTROS,

TEMPLETONS, HINKLES, BROKAW'S

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 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 we 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 Road.

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

Following the picnic it is 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 to the Roadhouse restaurant in Ramona to have dinner/dessert or refreshments. It's your choice.

You will have the flexibility to pick and choose what events you would like to do or DO IT ALL! The day's events will include drives on some of San Diego County's greatest twisty roads such as

Couser Canyon, Old Julian Highway, Highland Valley, Lilac, Mesa Grande, Bandy Canyon, Old Castle roads and more.

Directions to meeting place: 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 parking lot in Rancho San Diego. Intersection of Highway 94 and Highway 54 (Jamacha Rd.).

Please RSVP to Jack or Sue diLustro, (858) 484-2427 or jdilustro@hotmail.com

Autocross

Date: Saturday, October 21

Time: 9 a.m.

Place: Qualcomm Stadium
Mission Valley

Classic Speed Festival, Coronado

Date: October 21-22

Coordinator: STEF GOULD,

(619) 298-8605 or stef@miata.net

In the spirit of the famed Monterey weekend, the Chrysler Classic Speed Festival will treat the San Diego area to an historic automotive weekend at the North Island Naval Air Station in Coronado.

The Chrysler Classic returns for its fourth year in Coronado. Under the direction of HMSA and patterned after the world-renowned Monterey Historic Automobile Races, the Classic will feature some of the world's premier race cars, from pre-World War II sports and racing cars to historic Trans-Ams. Marques such as Aston Martin, Jaguar, Ferrari, Lotus, Porsche, and Shelby, along with some fine Detroit iron, will take to the track.

Tickets are \$15 advance, \$22 at the gate for two-day admission. (One-day admission is \$10 advance, \$15 at the gate).

E-mail Stef to get in on a special group ticket purchase by Wednesday, October 4. To reserve your Corral Pass for parking in the Miata section of the special car-club corral close to the action, you should contact Stef by October 4.

After-the-Races Dinner

Date: Saturday, October 21

Time: approximately 5 p.m.

Place: Kenny B's, corner of 6th and E,
Gaslamp Quarter, San Diego

October Events (Continued on page 4)



October Events (Continued from page 3)

Coordinator: Wally Stevens,
daytime: (619) 232-2801, ext 313,
wallymiata@juno.com

We've arranged to have the whole mezzanine section of Kenny B's reserved just for us. Their specialty is award-winning Bar-B-Q ribs. They have salads and other stuff for vegetarians, too. Park in Horton Plaza (two blocks west)—three hours free if you shop there before or after dinner.

Before-the-Races Breakfast

Date: Sunday, October 22

Time: 7 a.m.

Place: Perry's Cafe, 4620 Pacific Hwy,
San Diego, (619) 291-7121

Coordinator: Mike Page,
(619) 656-8266, mike_sd@yahoo.com

Directions: From South on I-5 take Pacific Highway exit North, under the 8 freeway and Perry's is on the left. From North on I-5 take Sea World Drive exit west, turn left (east) at first intersection onto Pacific Highway, stay on it over the Friars Road intersection and look for Perry's on the right.

Monthly Meeting

Date: Thursday, October 26

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.

Don't miss the fun!

Kooky Survivor Rally

Date: Sunday, October 29

Time: 9 a.m. SHARP! You won't want to miss a thing, or your tribe's departure.

Run Leaders: CHARLIE & LISA KILGORE

Start Location: View Cafe,
Rancho Bernardo.

This is a rally that will test your survivor driving skills. Singles will also have a great time. Once you leave the start, there is no turning back and no directions. Just kidding! We can't tell you how long the run will last, and we expect only one to survive. Scared? You shouldn't be. Bribes will go a long way. Got grubs?

Things to Bring: A CB tuned to channel 13, A VERY GOOD MAP, water, tennis shoes or good walking shoes, chair, towel

and sun screen, pen, calculator, chips or a dessert to share at a BBQ. A first aid kit might be useful.

RSVP: Please send reservation to Michelle Langmaid at ed1@cari.net with name, car color, and license plate number so that we can form tribes and plan for food.

Directions to start: I-15 to Rancho Bernardo Road. Go west. Turn south on West Bernardo Drive (first stop light after the exit). Go up the hill. Turn right at 16550 West Bernardo Drive. Follow the road, way, way back until you find the View Cafe.

Got Zoom?

zoom ----- T-Shirts
Zoom ----- Sweatshirts
ZOOM --- Pins & Decals!

ZOOM, ZOOM, ZOOM! Get your SDMC Regalia directly from the Regalia Gals (ROZ & PAULA) at the upcoming monthly meeting.

Zoom on down and pick up a few great club items to show off your enthusiasm for the incredible Mazda Miata, and the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB.

Got special sizes, items you want? Call or e-mail ROZ or PAULA and let them know and they will personally hand deliver the items to you at the meeting. ROZ SCOTT & PAULA KENNISON (760) 789-3872 or (858) 271-8498
regalia@sandiegomiataclub.org

Badges?

Have you been wondering where to get those nifty engraved plastic name badges that have been turning up on members at the latest events? They are available for a mere \$6 each, including shipping to your home, from VICKY KRUEGER.

Either see Vicky at a monthly meeting or phone her at (858) 486-4711. You will need to give her cash up front, as the badges need to be paid for in advance. Lots of colors are available to match your Miata.

Remember the Web Site — A Great Place for News

Reading this newsletter is obviously one of the highlights of your day.

But please remember there is another very neat way to learn about the happenings of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB.

That is our very own Web page. And to make it easy to remember, the path to get there is www.sandiegomiataclub.org. Put that in your browser (and bookmark it in favorite places) and you have a direct path to all of the latest news—and in color no less!

Please know that the Web site looks much neater with photos of Miatas. So, we are always looking for more photos of members with their cars. Like yours, for example. Send the picture along (either electronically or in print form) to webmaster@sandiegomiataclub.org.

Technical note: When you open the Web page, you will be asked for Java or Non-Java. This has nothing to do with drinking coffee while browsing. If you don't know what that means, click on Non-Java. The other route is for folks with Java-enabled browsers.

— TOM SPRAGUE

AUTOCROSS AT THE "Q"



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

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.



FUTURE EVENTS

Post-Honeymoon Run

Saturday, November 4

Time: 10 a.m.

Run Leaders: ANITA & SCOTT ROSIN

Starting Location: Kit Carson Park,
Escondido

After party and lunch at a surprise location. Lunch cost, about \$7-9 per person.

Directions to Starting Location: I-15 to Via Rancho Parkway exit, head east. Continue on Via Rancho approximately 1/2 mile to Kit Carson park. Take the first left into the park.

Search for Madonna Reunion & 2001 Kick Off

November 12, 2000

This will be our first Search for Madonna Reunion coupled with the announcement and kick off for the Search for Madonna 2001.

This event is planned as a reunion for those who went on the Search for Madonna in 1999 or 2000. Searchers will bring photos, videos, souvenirs and stories to share with all attendees. The event will also be the announcement of the dates and details of The Search for Madonna 2001, therefore this event is also for those who would like to consider being one of the searchers in 2001. The event is also for those with nothing better to do, but who enjoy spending time with people that are having a good time.

Food will be present. We are not sure at this time whether it will be a potluck or a "put something in the kitty" menu. Exact starting time will be announced, but probably mid-afternoon.

What is the Search for Madonna?

It is a weekend of driving, eating, socializing, and the unplanned. SDMC, SO-CALM, and VROOM members drive to the Madonna Inn in San Luis Obispo, which becomes the center for a long weekend on the Central California Coast. There is a car show, room jumping, fun runs, eating, a banquet, wineries, and surprises. To get a real flavor of what has become a more like a regional event, come to this event.

Where: The Waid's palatial estate.

1772 David Drive

Escondido, (760) 432-0727

Directions: I-15 to El Norte Parkway. West on El Norte Parkway to Nutmeg Street. Right on Nutmeg Street to Country Club Drive. Left on Country Club Drive to Gary Lane. Right on Gary Lane to David Drive. Left on David Drive to 1772 on the right.

What to expect: Videos running, photos passing, stories embellished, laughing out loud, food and drink consumed, & NEW ideas for The Search for Madonna 2001. FUN FUN FUN – ZOOM ZOOM

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. 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.

When: Saturday, December 9, Sunday, December 10, and Monday, December 11, 2000. Participants can sign up for one, two, or all three 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. Beginners 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.

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 three days.

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."

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

SDMC Holiday Party

When: Sunday, December 17, 2000

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

Reservations must be made and **paid for** by November 26th!

(See Article on Page 15 For Details)

UPCOMING NATIONAL AND REGIONAL EVENTS

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,

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, auto-crossing, the Megafuncana, a first-class five-star hotel with each window facing the ocean, concours 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):**

JERRY & JANICE BOSTER
Coronado
1993 Red

GERMAINE & ROY CARIOLA
San Diego
1999 Emerald Green

KAREN CASE
Vista
1997 Black

ROBIN & MICHAEL FAIRCLOTH
Ramona
2000 Black LS

BOB & ANNICE KITTERER
Solana Beach
2000 SE (Mahogany)

KEVIN LEACH
San Diego
1997 M (Marina Green)

LYLE & TAFFY MELTON
San Diego
2000 White

DONALD W. MILLS JR
Chula Vista
2000 SE (Mahogany)

GEORGE & ROSALEE MOLDOVAN
Carlsbad
1999 Red

RICHARD & NANCY STAUDE
San Diego
2000 Emerald Green LS

KAREN & TRA WOOD
Ramona
2000 SE (Mahogany)

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SKIP & SALLY ELMORE

BRIAN GOODWIN

JACK GOSNEY

ED & MARIE GROSS

JACK & SUE HINKLE

NEAL HOWLAND

CHRIS KHOURI

DAVID & BETH LEVY

MARIE MCINTIRE & KEN CORN

DAVID & DAWN MILNE

ALFORD NORIEGA, JR.

CATHY & JIM PHILLIPS

TAKASHI & KAREN YAMAMOTO

Recruiting Cards

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

Membership Statistics

As of September 25, 2000, there are 327 memberships (137 single, 190 dual) for a total of 517 members.

Memberships by Miata Color:

89	Red
49	White
43	Black
28	Emerald Green
25	Silver
15	Montego Blue
14	Sapphire Blue
11	Starlight Blue
10	Mariner Blue
8	Laguna Blue
8	Twilight Blue
7	Merlot
6	BRG
6	Mahogany
6	Marina Green
5	Yellow
2	Evolution Orange
1	Eggplant (custom)
1	Teal (custom)
8	Unreported *

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

Elsewhere in Miataland

Here is a review of some of the other Miata club newsletters that have arrived in the club mail bag.

According the Roadster Review from Delaware Valley, there is a list of Miata license plates on the Web at www.panix.com/~jaimev/plates.html. If you want to add your plate to the list, fill out the on-line web form. The list includes plates from all states and several other countries. This list is maintained by SOCALM member Jaime Villacorte.

The August issue of SOCALM's Reward lists several car washing tips that are used on show cars. For example, use processed water, wash car separately from tires and rims, terry cloth towels work better than a chamois; using a clay bar is easy and the results are great, and a two step pre-cleaner and wax produces amazing results compared to one-step products.

Desert Trails, from the Sahuaro chapter in Arizona, had two articles of particular interest. A member discovered a Pennzoil product, Roadside Rescue, is available to carry as an emergency fuel. It's denatured gasoline packed in a leak-resistant container. Available at discount stores and auto parts dealers, it's about \$15. Information about the product is available at www.rescue.pennzoil.com.

The other article is a description of a trip through part of Organ Pipe National Monument that was not a good Miata experience. The author cautions that it's best not to set out on an unknown road that is more suitable to a four-wheel drive or off-road vehicle. They found themselves on a gravel road that was tough going and left the car very dirty.
— LOIS MARTIN





ANITA EOFF & SCOTT ROSIN

Many of you know us as the couple whose relationship blossomed during the past year's Miata Club events. You were there with us on our first date at the '99 Scripps Ranch 4th of July Parade, and virtually every significant and fun thing we have done since (yes, really)! It was so exciting for us to announce our engagement to the club because you have all been such a big part of our first memories together. In anticipation of our upcoming wedding in October, we would like to tell you a little more about each other, and invite you all to join us at our (post-) Honeymoon Run on November 4, 2000. (Yes, Art, there will be cake and ice cream!)

SCOTT ALAN ROSIN was born in Aurora, Illinois, a town outside Chicago, in 1958. He grew up in typical Midwest fashion in nearby Bolingbrook, with his younger sister, Mindy. One of Scott's favorite childhood memories is of playing "telethon" with his cousins in his grandparents' basement (a dream come true thanks to the Miata Club). As the son of a police officer (you may recall the murder mystery guest star), Scott's every attempt at causing trouble as a teenager was foiled! Scott enlisted in the Navy in the 70's, trained as a quartermaster, and was stationed in sunny San Diego. Soon afterward, his close-knit family relocated to San Diego to be near him. Even though he had been the chief deputy sheriff of DuPage County, Scott's dad was required to go through the San Diego Police Academy, and holds the distinction of being the oldest candidate ever to graduate from S.D.'s basic police training.

When Scott's stint with the Navy ended, he embarked on his second career as a chef. Working all the way up from

dishwasher and short order cook at various restaurants (including a Boll Weevil) to pastry chef at the five diamond Rancho Bernardo Inn, Scott has an amazing repertoire of recipes. Sadly, nowadays he only talks food and rarely cooks anymore, and then not without great fanfare and dirtying of large quantities of dishes, countertops, and floor space.

Bored with cooking, (and, I suspect, more than a little delirious from waking up at the crack of dawn), Scott began tinkering with his roommate's computer. He ultimately taught himself how to program, and for the past ten years has been perfecting his third career, computer software development. Scott has just landed a great new job with Union Bank of California where he will write the software that helps the tellers open new accounts.

Ever changing, Scott is still preparing for his next career as a race car driver! Love of racing led him to autocross practice in his little green Geo Metro. The Miata Club members he met there showed such enthusiasm that Scott went in search of a Miata, found the Silver Siberian, and the rest, as they say, is history.

I admire Scott most for his trust in the Lord, his spontaneity, his unabashed silliness, his unwavering honesty, his ability to listen without judging, and because he steadies me.

— ANITA



There are few people in this world capable of doing the things Anita has accomplished. Her intelligence, curiosity, and faith in God were evident at an early age and have grown steadily with her, shaping her into a woman of uncommon strength and wisdom.

Born in Downey, CA, Anita spent the first seven years of her life in Artesia. Her family moved to Chino where she lived until she graduated from high school and went on to college, ultimately moving to San Diego in April of 1999.

I really don't want this to be just a bor-

ing biographical treatise. Anita is someone whom I love deeply and I want to express to you what it is that makes me love her so much.

She put herself through college and law school. And while that in and of itself is not so remarkable, what is incredible is that she did so while supporting herself with a full time job so she would not lose the house she had purchased. She tells me tales of late nights rattling around her empty house haunted by the stress of maintaining her job and her status in the top 5% of her class in law school. That takes strength.

Her strength amazes me. Sometime after graduating from La Verne College of Law, she heard the Lord call her to San Diego. She owned a home near San Bernardino. Her friends lived there. Her family was nearby. But her faith gave her the strength to leave it all behind.

She found a job in a small law firm, which did not work out. Instead of feeling defeated and returning to Chino, she applied for a job at the firm where I was employed. She was hired and in short order we met. But then, almost as quickly, she left the new firm. It's now evident that our meeting was the greatest purpose in those early months Anita spent in San Diego.

Again, Anita's strength and faith allowed her to take a step most of us would not dare take. She started her own law firm. Working from home at first, the business grew quickly and she soon opened offices in the Clairemont area.

So, you see, what I have found in Anita Eoff is someone whose intelligence, honesty, love, and faith in God is to be held on to and cherished. And, believe me, I intend to never let go.

— SCOTT

To be included in our on-going series of Member Profiles, write a short (200-300 word) introduction and e-mail it to, newsletter@sandiegomiataclub.org. You can also mail it to the Club P.O. Box. Please include a photo, we want to be able see your face. — Your photo will be returned.

— EDITOR



MEMBER PROFILE

FRANK SHINE and STEPHEN DELONGE joined the SAN DIEGO MIATA Club in February of 1997, shortly after purchasing a 1994 White C package Miata.

That same month, Frank and Steve were able to attend their first run, the Valentine's Day Run to Inspiration Point.

Regular fixtures at most runs and events thereafter, Frank and Steve (when he could get off work) easily became friends with the ever-growing membership of SDMC. Realizing that e-mail was the prevalent means of communication in the young club, Frank would take every opportunity to offer free e-mail software to everyone who wanted it, prior to every run and event.

MIATAS AT THE RANCH was the event that established the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB as an energetic, enthusiastic group that wanted to have fun. Frank and Steve were part of that group.

In August of '97 they hosted a pool party at their beautiful canyon home. So much fun was had an invitation was extended to everyone for the following year.

The most unique name for a run that I have heard to-date was Frank and Steve's "Old Rusty Trucks & Other Oddities Fun Run." Held in early May of '98, this was an interesting run to the southeastern edge of San Diego county.

Since Steve is rather tall and long-legged, Frank usually drove the Miata, especially on longer trips. On CATHY and MARK BOOTH'S Twilight Run in August of this year, Frank was noticeably weakened by the chemotherapy he was undergoing. Frank was able to make the run, this time with Steve doing the driving. As everyone who was there knows, it was a memorable run in many ways. Now it is memorable as the last time many of us had a chance to encounter Frank's indomitable spirit and infectious smile.

We each have our own memories when someone leaves us. Thankfully, we have common memories to share and smile about when we remember our not-so-longtime companion.

— ANTHONY WILDE



PHOTO: JASON MOORHEAD

FRANK SHINE

March 21, 1955 - September 14, 2000

I have had a wonderful 45 years on this planet in this life, which was not my first, and won't be my last incarnation. I have the best relationship I could ever imagine, a great place to call home, and have done pretty much everything I ever wanted to do. Some of my best experiences have been with this club, and with you, my friends. Because of our little cars, we met and got to know and enjoy each other, and the places I've seen, and the camaraderie I've experienced have been priceless gifts from all of you. I cannot emphasize enough how each of you has changed my life for the better!

Steve has always been and will continue to be my rock and my protector, the best partner and friend I have ever had. We have spent our 6 1/2 years together planning to live out our years together in our wonderful home. However, that reality has changed. Steve will need every bit of moral support and compassion you may wish to offer, now and in the future. I ask that you keep him in your mind, and your hearts.

— FRANK SHINE

(e-mail message, July, 2000)



PHOTO: ED LANGMAID

The Rusty Truck Run was a popular event in May of '98.



PHOTO: ED LANGMAID

Frank left the driving to Steve on the Twilight Run in August.





President Elliot presents the order of the SDMC Magnetics to DAVE HUNT for a job well done. Pam was off organizing the breakfast feast!



After leaving the television studio, it was time for some twisties!

SUE KESSLER tries out the super-cool slide into the Hunt's pool.



No, that's not Emeril. It's Dave Hunt grillin' up some more food for a hungry pack of Miata crazies. BAM!



What a Way to Spend a Holiday!

After the hugely successful "Miles of Miatas for MDA" fundraiser on August 26, SDMC members turned out in force to show their support at the Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon. The day's events, organized and led by PAM & DAVE HUNT, started with a mini-run from Mission Valley to the MDA Fishbowl at KPBS Studios on the SDSU Campus. Once we were past the KUSI cameras and parked, Pam & Dave treated participants to an INCREDIBLE breakfast feast! Then, it was inside for phone training and our turn at staffing the pledge lines. Following our successful stint on the phones, the Hunts presented us each with wonderful goodie bags, complete with water and snacks so we could eat WHILE we drove! Then, it was off on a beautiful 62 mile fun run—via many roads CATHY and I had never been on—to the Hunt's home in Poway. And what a fantastic home it is! A HUGE pool (complete with a slide) and patio area making it the perfect "party home." Pam and Dave capped the day's festivities with a delicious BBQ meal that was truly first class. An incredible SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB day. Thank you Pam & Dave.

— MARK BOOTH

Over 40 SDMC members got up VERY early on a holiday Monday morning to get down to the studio. Several on-air segments featured the line of Miatas driving by the Fishbowl to drop donations in for MDA.



MDA Telethon and Fun Run

September 4, 2000



Laura Buxton of KUSI, interviews SUE HINKLE and SDMC president ELLIOT SHEV during an on-air segment of the MDA Telethon while SDMC members answer the telephones in the background. Elliot and Sue presented a check for \$10,000 to MDA that was raised by SDMC members.



Co-leader of the run, PAM HUNT keeps checking her list to be sure everything was done. Pam, it was great! RELAX!



Miatas in Monterey

The 27th Annual Monterey Historic Automobile Races & Concorso Italiano.

August 18-20, 2000

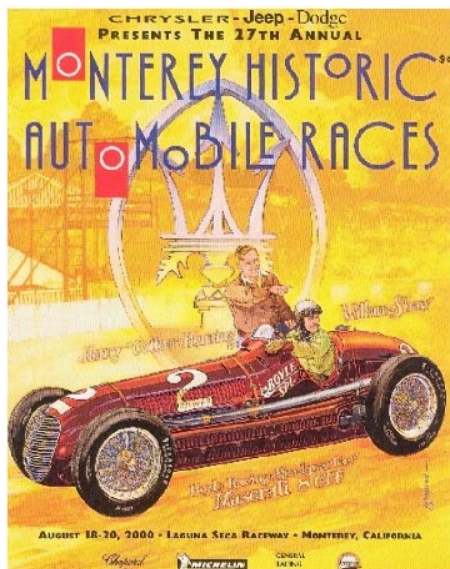


PHOTO: VOODOO BOB KRUEGER

A Maserati 300S on the track

For the 10th year, Miatas descended on Laguna Seca Raceway for the Historic Automobile Races.

Barbara Beach of *Miata Magazine* organized the weekend's events once again. Over 100 Miatas were in the parking corral on Saturday to enjoy the racing and the events at the Miata tent. The corral drew quite a bit of notice from the neighboring Ferrari tent. The Ferrari owners paid special attention to the preponderance of Pollo Rampantes on the Miatas.

Mazda brought the Miata mono posto show car for display. Simpson Design brought their new Manta Ray conversion to show as well.

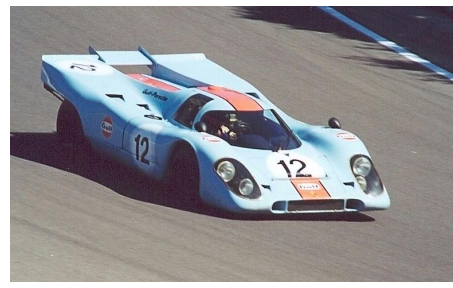


PHOTO: VOODOO BOB KRUEGER

Above— A Porsche 917K at the bottom of the Corkscrew during the last race of the weekend.

Below— A Ferrari 512F leads a Cobra roadster and a Lola.



PHOTO: VOODOO BOB KRUEGER

Syd Silverman's Lister Maserati



PHOTO: GENE STANLEY

A Maserati graces the Concorso

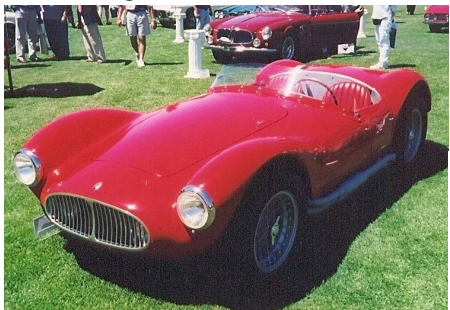


PHOTO: GENE STANLEY

Below— Ferrari 250GT Lusso



PHOTO: GENE STANLEY



PHOTO: GENE STANLEY

On Friday, August 18, the Concorso Italiano was held at Quail Lodge in Carmel Valley. For the first time in the history of the Concorso, there was a parking corral for Japanese-built cars. The Mazda Miata and Acura NSX corrals shared the honors. This milestone was organized by none other than Barbara Beach, publisher of *Miata Magazine*.



PHOTO: GENE STANLEY





PHOTO: VOODOO BOB KRUEGER

The Incredible Jowett Jupiter. Would you believe these actually ran at Le Mans?

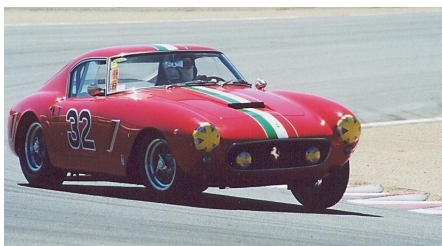


PHOTO: VOODOO BOB KRUEGER

Above- A Ferrari 250 SWB lapped the track slightly faster than the Crosley Hot Shot—below.



PHOTO: VOODOO BOB KRUEGER

Tech Day in the Sun...

Outdone by the Evil Empire?! Since the windshield replacement group was smaller than anticipated (only four cars needed new glass) I guess that just means that we have fewer tail-gaters than they do!

About a dozen cars graced my driveway, a few of which have never before been to any club event. There was more talking than tech-ing, however, and a little bit of eating, as there must always be! The day was nice and sunny, though a little warmer than I'd anticipated. The various projects that we DID work on included shock tower bracing, various sway bar goodies, and antenna splitter adjusting.

I have to confess—Snakebite was back. Fortunately, this time the bite wasn't too bad. As I worked on MY car, critical parts were missing from my Racing Beat sway bar end-links. From a sealed bag—I might add! When the bolt holes wouldn't align in the front while installing my sway bar bracket reinforcement kit, it was less of a problem—THAT could be worked around (by using the old swaybar instead of the one I planned to use). But I want everyone to know that my trunk light kit went in without any difficulties whatsoever! Didn't even blow a fuse!

We look forward to hosting another tech day later this fall, after the sun has had time to drop a little further south.

— GREG MAISER



PHOTO: ANTHONY WILDE

Left— Greg made sure everyone could find Maiser-Haus, down a 7% driveway!

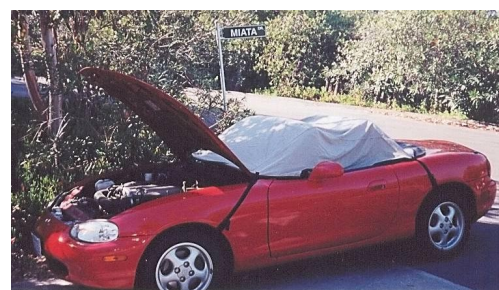


PHOTO: DIANE LONG

Right— Gale Chan tried to be sure her car stayed nice and cool. Note the street sign.

SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB Jackets

The jackets in the picture belong to club members JACK GOSNEY and LENI METRO. These guys consistently win just about every car show they enter. Part of their winning style is their cool embroidered club jackets. To dress like a winner you can order a jacket for yourself from two club approved embroidery shops. You can choose the car color, interior color, the color of the word MIATA, and the color of the stitching used for your name. All logo words except "Miata" are in logo blue. Contact the Regalia Gals (Paula and Roz) for a SDMC Order form for either vendor.



Above— JACK GOSNEY and LENI METRO participated in the Jackson Racing Battle 2000 car show.

Beeds Embroidery

**13248A Poway Road, Poway
(858) 748-0415, beedsemb@pacbell.net**

\$140 (single) or \$125 (in a group of 6)
(Port Authority w/ front, back logo and name)
Jacket, same as above with leather sleeves
\$160 (single) or \$145 (in a group of 6)

All jackets - XXL plus \$3, XXXLG plus \$4, and XXXXLG plus \$5

TCB Embroidery

**8924 Carlton Hills Blvd., Santee
(619) 562-2320, FAX (619) 562-3510**

\$155 (single)
(Port Authority w/ front, back logo and name)





The Brainstorm Classic Fuel Lid is a beautiful piece when installed. Unfortunately, the weight of the lid makes it difficult to open .

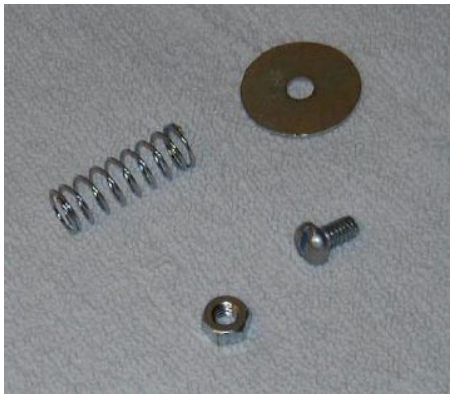


Figure 1— Here are the parts required to make your BSP classic fuel lid POP open.



Figure 2— Notch the flat washer for the spring attachment.



Figure 3— Attach the washer/spring assembly to the lid.

Brainstorm Classic Fuel Lid Fix

Recently I made a small modification to my Brainstorm Classic Fuel Lid. The reason the fix was necessary is that Brainstorm changed the base metal of the lid to brass. The lid looks good when chromed, but it weighs a *lot*. As a result, the small metal plate that comes with the lid and acts as the spring mechanism is not stout enough to “pop” up the brass lid when released.

I was told of a fix that Matt Tucker had come up with at www.myrealm.org/miata/gaslidfix.html for my very problem. The only negative was that the Web page didn't have specifics on the spring I should use, so I had to guess when I went to Home Depot for the necessary parts.

Basically you need a 1/4" fender washer (about 1.5" in diameter), 1/4" x 1/2" round head screw/nut (small baggie comes with 4 or 5 pair and are hanging from posts), and springs (Handyman Springs SP-9706 - 1/2" x 1-1/2" x .041-Figure 1). Take apart the lid so you can work on the metal plate. The instructions say to cut the spring in half, but I kept the whole spring and flattened the metal plate. With the metal plate now flat, drill a 1/4" hole at the other end to resemble the hole already in the plate.

Use a Dremel with a cutting wheel to notch out a rectangular slice in the washer (Figure 2). Now you will need to back-twist the spring to expand it's inner diameter (so that you can fit the 1/4" nut inside the spring). Now put the 1/4" screw through the new hole in the metal plate, slide one coil at the end of the spring over the washer into the notch (the notch allows the inner diameter of the spring to hover over the hole in the washer), and push the screw and plate combo into the washer so that the metal plate and washer trap one spring coil between them. Now push in the 1/4" nut between a spring coil and attach to the screw and tighten (Figure 3).

Re-attach the metal plate to the lid, adjust the fit so the spring contacts only the top of the gas cap, and close. Now when you lift up the fuel lid release lever, the Brainstorm Classic Fuel Lid will pop up (“sproing” sounds are optional).

— ROBERT “JT” HOLLAND



The fully assembled lid now has sufficient spring to open far enough to be useful when the cockpit lever is pulled.

Front License Plates— Another View

Not wanting to rekindle the acrimony of the recent e-mails about the efficacy of the red light camera patrol, but thought this might be of some interest.

I was assigned the task of introducing San Diego Police Chief David Bejarano at a civic dinner in September, so had ample time to chat with him. I told him some sports car drivers were not in full support of the cameras which take pictures of cars going through yellow-red lights. He said that since the lights were installed, injury and fatal accidents in those intersections have gone down by 50%. They don't have records on non-injury accidents, since many are unreported and are not investigated. But one could assume there has been a substantial reduction in non-injury accidents as well.

Food for thought.

— TOM SPRAGUE
Silver 90

PHOTOS: VOODOO BOB KRUEGER



Time to Clean Out The Garage!

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

Saturday, October 21

Mission Bay South Shores
Parking Lot—East of Sea World Drive
Sea World Drive & South Shores Park

Saturday, November 18

School of Creative & Performing Arts
2425 Dusk Drive
Between Alta View Dr. Parkside Ave.

Collection events are from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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

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

— EDITOR

Keep Up the Pressure

A problem that we've been seeing a lot of lately is bad radiator caps. One symptom would be hearing a sound like a coffee percolator when you shut down. If the cap does not hold pressure, you will get localized boiling and blow coolant off into the overflow tank, causing overheating. This is particularly critical on turbo and supercharged cars, which are obviously putting more heat into their cooling systems. The caps are easily checked with a radiator cap tester, which nobody has at home. The caps are cheap enough that you should just plan on replacing yours every year or so, even the one our '99 was bad in less than a year from new. NAPA sells a "Stant" cap (part #703-1406) with a higher pressure rating than stock for about \$8.95, or we carry them if you can't find them locally.

—Bill Cardell
Flyin' Miata

1995 Miata Owners Take Note

The following is part of a letter sent by Mazda to registered owners of 1995 Miatas. It concerns a voluntary service program to replace the air bag computer. The affected vehicles are at risk of air bag deployment for minor undercarriage impacts. If you own a 1995 Miata that was manufactured during the affected time period (check the sticker inside the driver's door), you should have received this letter. If you did not, you should contact the Mazda Customer Assistance Center at the phone number listed below.

— EDITOR

1995 Miata SAS Control Module (Special Service Program-SSP40)

Dear Mazda Owner:

Mazda Motor Corp. has decided to conduct a Special Service Program to replace the Sophisticated Airbag System (SAS) Control Module on 1995 Miata vehicles produced during July 1, 1994 to June 30, 1995.

What is the Problem?

The air bag system on your Mazda was designed to provide maximum protection to occupants of the front seats. However, Mazda has determined that on these vehicles, there is an increased risk of air bag deployment in a frontal low speed or minor undercarriage impact.

What will Mazda do?

To reduce the possibility of unnecessary deployments, your Mazda dealer will replace the SAS Control Module with a modified unit at no cost to you. This repair should take approximately two (2) hours to complete; however, it may take longer depending on the service workload at your dealership.

What should you do?

Please make an appointment with any authorized Mazda dealer to have your vehicle's SAS Control Module replaced. You do not need to bring this notice to the dealer but it may assist the check-in process.

What if you have already paid for repairs to the Sophisticated Airbag System?

If you have already paid for repairs or replacement of the SAS Control Module as a result of a frontal low speed or a minor undercarriage impact, you may be eligible for reimbursement of reasonable repair expenses based upon Mazda's repair standards. Please complete the enclosed "Reimbursement Application Form", including the necessary documentation, and mail it to us in the pre-addressed envelope provided, allowing 6-8 weeks for processing.

Where is the closest Mazda Dealer?

To locate your nearest Mazda dealer, visit our website and try our on-line dealer locator at www.mazdausa.com/locate.asp or consult your local yellow pages.

Moved or no longer own a Mazda?

If you have moved or no longer own your Mazda vehicle, it is customary for the current owner of record to be responsible for completing the enclosed "Change of Address/Ownership" prepaid postcard, so that we may update our records. Your cooperation and timely response would be greatly appreciated.

Still have questions?

If you have any questions regarding this campaign, please contact our Customer Assistance Center at (800) 222-5500.

Your safety is a priority for Mazda. We actively work to improve our products and search for solutions to improve your ownership experience. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this program may have caused you.

Sincerely,
Mazda North American Operations



FLYIN' MIATA OPEN HOUSE WITH TURBO

In August, the call of the wild beckoned us to head to beautiful Grand Junction, Colorado for Dealer Alternative's 3rd Annual Open House.

We jumped into our white '91 Miata and traveled across the Mojave Desert through Baker, California, where the temperature was 115 degrees. Fortunately, this was a quick stop and soon we were on our way to cooler temperatures.

To begin with, we spent several days touring and hiking some of the national and state parks in Southern Utah; stopping off at Zion, Cedar Breaks, Bryce Canyon, Kodachrome, Grand Staircase-Escalante, Capitol Reef, and Arches. Gorgeous scenery, great weather, twisties, and awesome nightly thunderstorms.

We arrived in Grand Junction on Thursday, August 17, and settled into the hotel with over 65 turboed, supercharged, and normally-aspirated Miatas and their drivers from California, Utah, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, Colorado, Minnesota, and North Carolina. Jon put his car (143 rear wheel horsepower) on the dyno to measure the horsepower while I toured Dealer Alt's headquarters. Later we spent the evening with some new Miata friends sampling the fine Colorado cuisine. Our waitress entertained us when she poured our after-dinner coffee from behind her back!

On Friday, August 18, all the Miatas converged on The Dealer Alternative for more dyno tests and an interesting demonstration of car care products by Meguiar's. Toby Weir Jones became the Dyno King when his FM II-1/2 Miata was tested at 271 rwhp!

That afternoon 40 Miata drivers boarded a chartered bus for a wine tasting tour. We visited five wineries, sampling the vintages and touring the cellars. Good thing we didn't drive! That evening 100 of us gathered for a wonderful banquet dinner at Grand Junction's Convention Center. Our hosts, Bill and Teri Cardell, announced that they are changing the name of Dealer Alternative and, henceforth, they will be known as Flyin' Miata! The Cardells presented each of the attendees with colorful mouse pads and Joe Portas' engraved crystal coffee mugs that

depicted the new company name and logo, We Make Miatas Fly!

This Miata event was really big news for Grand Junction and Palisades! The local TV station covered the story on both the 5 p.m. and 11 p.m. newscasts. Also, the disc jockeys on the local radio stations were talking about the event the entire weekend. Everywhere we went people stopped us to talk about Miatas!

Saturday morning, August 19, 55 Miatas, drivers, passengers, and three dogs lined up on the sunny main streets of Palisades, Colorado for the annual Peach Festival Parade. Teri, Bill, and Turbo led us down the parade route, in back of Model T's and crepe-papered floats (and safely in front of the horses), though the picturesque streets of this story-book town. Hundreds of townsfolk lined the parade route, cheering madly for all the cute, colorful cars. Cherub-faced children in polka dot dresses and overalls scrambled for the candy that we threw from the car, women giggled, and old men laughed out loud to see all the rag-tops!

Jon and I had festooned our Miata with Team Voodoo stickers and SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB magnetics and throughout the parade we heard people exclaim, Wow!, San Diego..., Oh, look, SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB..., Awesome, Voodoo Man..., For goodness sakes, all the way from San Diego..., and, on and on! Next year more SDMC members should attend this great event! After the parade, all 55 Miatas parked at a local school and the townspeople flocked over to gawk at the Miatas. Some of us toured the Peach Festival for fresh cobbler and smoothies, and, of course, to purchase a souvenir T-shirt!



That afternoon we gathered at Flyin' Miata for a fabulous barbecue and shopping at Joe and Mary Portas' Quality Images tent. I insisted that we drive from the hotel to the barbecue with the top down and Jon said, "I don't know, it looks like



rain," and I said, "Naw, we can make it!" Just one block from Bill and Teri's, the sky opened up with a huge afternoon thunderstorm and we—and the open car—were drenched! We tore into the gravel parking lot and ran for cover! What a riot it was scrambling to put the top up! Talk about a wet T-shirt contest! Just 1/2 hour later the sun was out and the car was dry!

In the evening we all headed to the 4,993-foot elevation Western Colorado Dragway to drag race our Miatas. The general public was invited to watch and to cheer us on. Up against OTMs with nitrous oxide and big V-8 engines, the Miatas held their own! I had the pleasure of handing out all the time slips to the drivers and the nitrous oxide driver said to me, "Man, those Miatas are fast cars!" The best time by a Miata, an FM Turbo, was 14.1 seconds on the quarter-mile track. Jon's best time was 15.9 seconds.

Sunday, August 20th, the weekend was over too soon. We met for a farewell breakfast at the Convention Center and thanked the Cardells for an unforgettable time. There is talk about an even bigger event (maybe a national) next year! After breakfast, Jon and I met up with 14 other Miatas for a planned two-day run through Western Colorado, led by Bob (240-hp) Zahradnik, a resident of Durango. We headed down US 550, along the Million Dollar Highway, past Silverton, to Durango. Three mountain passes climb to 11,000 feet and this road is the most avalanche-prone paved road in North America. I wondered what all those white crosses and flowers were for! Gee! I thought it was from being in a caravan that exceeded the 120 mph mark! Jon asked me how the scenery was and I said, "What scenery?!" My eyes were closed the entire time! By the way, Colorado highways do not have guard rails.

We stopped, thank goodness, at Molas Pass, with an average visibility of 140

miles, to take in the scenery. We also stopped briefly at the Purgatory ski area before heading into Durango. We had a great dinner near the famous Silverton-Durango Railroad Depot and strolled through the streets window shopping. The next day Jon and I bid farewell to the group as they went their separate ways towards New Mexico, Texas, Utah, or back to Grand Junction.

After returning to Silverton for lunch, and a much slower drive on the Million Dollar Highway, Jon and I spent a few days traveling back to California, stopping for a day at Mesa Verde National Monument to survey the terrible fire damage and marvel at the untouched cliff dwellings. We continued on home via Four Corners, a mild 85 degrees at noon, and Lake Havasu, where it was 100-plus degrees at 5 p.m.! Thanks again to the staff at Flyin' Miata and Teri, Bill, and Turbo Cardell for a great weekend!

— JUDY POWELL & JON MARTINEZ



Above— Bill Cardell tests a Miata on the Dynojet dynamometer.

Below- Mules and Miatas.



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: '91, Red, 109K, new rear window, Tokico shocks, 4 pt. roll bar (not installed), great condition, very well cared for: \$5,000. Natalia (619) 287-7582.

Vacation Getaways: Includes one week accommodation and rental car, from Palm Springs to Aruba, starting at \$125 on up. Michael at (760) 436-8311 or

MIK_LYN@prodigy.net

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 than 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.

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 \$125. (Doesn't work on a six speed). High flow grill \$10. Jackson Header; Cost new \$449 plus tax and shipping. About 20k miles on it; Came off a 1990 car, so it fits '90 to '93. Yours for \$190. 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! OBO.

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. Both lenses include leather cases. Canon Speedlite 199A flash with diffuser and case, lens hoods, filters, etc. Everything 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: A set of 14-inch original equipment wheels from a '99 is looking for a good home. Pick your price!

Rick, (760) 740-8595 or

communicator@home.com

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 breathtaking 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. Please mail your check to – Mary Ann Wallner, 3432 Cameo Drive, Oceanside, CA 92056 and include for whom you are paying. Questions: 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.





SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB

P.O. Box 23081

San Diego CA 92193

(619) 582-2448

www.sandiegomiataclub.org

September 29, 2000

Vince Tidwell
Norman Garrett
Miata Club of America
6850 Shiloh Road East, Suite D
Alpharetta, GA 30023

Dear Sirs,

This letter is to officially inform Miata Club of America (MCA) that the San Diego Miata Club (SDMC), 517 members strong, is now an independent, non-profit car club with no ties to or affiliation with MCA.

This past Thursday evening, September 28, 2000, at a general membership meeting of the San Diego Miata Club, a motion to sever our club's relationship with MCA was put to the floor for a vote. With about one third of our 327 voting memberships present, the motion carried nearly unanimously.

This comes about as a result of no benefits and virtually no communications from MCA for the nearly five years of our existence. The total refusal to support our regional event, Surf'N'Safari, last year, after promoting the support of regional events at Miata World '99, reinforced our belief that MCA exists for the benefit of its leaders and not its membership.

Vince's recent posting on the forum that he is going to appoint regional directors is a total shock to us. SDMC was among the four largest clubs associated with MCA and, as the president of SDMC, I have received no communication about this action, nor have I been advised of the plans for or the goals of this new program. SDMC finds this to be totally unacceptable.

MCA is a for-profit business. Thus, you have two potentially opposing goals, serving your membership and making money for the shareholders—yourselves. We believe that the crux of the problem is that you are only realizing one of the goals, making money for the shareholders. Therefore, the San Diego Miata Club can no longer support MCA and will work diligently to help organize a new non-profit club to lead the local chapters and enthusiasts into the new millennium.

Sincerely,

Elliot L. Shev
President, San Diego Miata Club

CC: Mazda North American Operations

