



SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB NEWS

VOLUME 6 NUMBER 10

OCTOBER 2001

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

UPCOMING EVENTS



October 6 - Saturday
Big Bear Run
SOCALM/SDMC Joint Run



October 6 - 7
**McKeever's Fastlane
Racing School**
Streets of Willows



October 7 - Sunday
**San Diego British Car
Day and Picnic 2001**



October 20 - Saturday
Autocross at the "Q"



October 20 - 21
**5th Annual Chrysler Jeep
Classic Speed Festival**
Coronado

Cancelled



October 20 - Saturday
After the Races Dinner
Wheels'N'Meals



October 25 - Thursday
Monthly Meeting
And Quarterly Board Meeting



October 27 - Saturday
Graveyard Shifts Run



November 4 - Sunday
Twenty Questions Rally
SDAM Car Club Council



November 10 - Saturday
Veterans Day Parade



December 1 - Saturday
SDMC Holiday Party
San Diego Automotive Museum

Things We Take For Granted

In our normal everyday lives, we tend to never have enough time for all we want to do, never say all things we should or want to say, and take a whole lot for granted. I'm sure that as you read the first sentence, each person had something strike a chord inside. It's different for each of us, but, nonetheless, it's there; the things we take for granted. Then something happens that shakes us to our foundations, and we suddenly look around with new eyes. September has been that kind of month.

Since September 11th, many of us have had a chance to take a fresh look at some of the things we tend to take for granted. When was the last time we really thought about our firefighters as heroes? When was the last time we thought about our police officers as heroes? Certainly not when they are issuing us a ticket for not having a front plate! Well, I am sure that most of us, if not all of us, have been moved by recent events to look at these jobs in a fresh way, from a different perspective. How many stories have you heard over the past few weeks about the rescue workers going into harm's way to help someone else? How about the heroes of United Airline flight 93? People just like you, just like me. The stories relived for all of us by those who received the phone calls from these unlikely heroes are amazing, and heroes they are.

The group that we haven't heard about yet is our military. These will be the next unsung heroes who will put their lives on the line for us. Although they are always there, these folks will now be asked to go into harm's way to eliminate whatever it is that's out there trying to take away our way of life. So, please keep a special place for all our families, friends, and neighbors in the military. Don't take any of these people for granted; say "thanks" the next time you happen to meet. They just might be the ones who save your life, your way of life, and your country.

The spirit of our club is strong, is alive, is well, and can be felt at every event and by everyone who has experienced our club since I can remember. Why?, you may ask. I don't know. But, maybe it could be that we are a microcosm of this great country we live in. Just maybe we have found the same something to bring us together that our country found on September 11th, and we live it through our involvement with this club. I cannot remember a time when we, as a nation, have demonstrated a more centered, non-partisan, open display of patriotism and outpouring of public generosity and help for all who are directly affected by the terrorist acts of this past month.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of the families, friends, and victims of

9/11/01

(Continued on page 2)

GRAPHIC: TOM GOULD



President's Message (Continued from page 1)

last month's horrific tragedy. I hope that we can all remember what we stand for in America. I hope that each one of us, our club, our nation, will stand together, show our strength and resolve, become a better nation, and not forget September 11, 2001. We must remain strong until the war on terrorism is won.

As President Bush has asked us to do, we should try to carry on with our daily lives. It would be a victory for terrorism if we allow our lives to be changed out of fear. Those who lost friends and family on September 11th will find it harder to move on, but we all must try.

While trivial by comparison, the freedom and enjoyment of driving our Miatas is there as well. The security we have enjoyed in the past, and will hopefully enjoy in the future, has allowed us to pursue our version of happiness. The price of happiness was shared by everyone on September 11. Do we stop enjoying our cars? Do we stop living our lives? I hope not.

So, the next time you shift through the gears while on a run, the next time you enjoy the warm sun on your face as you drive your Miata with the top down, cherish that feeling of freedom. Don't take it for granted.

— ELLIOT



GRAPHIC: IAN KLEIN, IKLEIN@NYC.RR.COM

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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Copies by SEAN O'CONNOR
SIGN UP (858) 486-6771

Quarterly Board Meeting

The board of directors of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB will hold its quarterly meeting in conjunction with the regular Monthly Meeting on Thursday, October 25. 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 a specific issue, please notify JACK DILUSTRO, club secretary, (858) 484-2427 or secretary@sandiegomiataclub.org.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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NOTICES

The SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB is a non-profit California corporation. The *SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB NEWS* is the monthly newsletter of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB. Use of articles or stories by other Miata clubs is hereby granted, provided proper credit is given. Submissions to the newsletter are welcomed and encouraged. 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



Big Bear Run

A joint SOCALM/SDMC Run

Date: Saturday, October 6

Meeting Time: 9:15 a.m.

10 a.m. departure.

Meeting Place: Denny's, Orange

Show Road & I-215, San Bernardino.

Run Leaders: ALLAN & LINDA PABIAN

apabian@notes.freedom.com or

(949) 552-6805.

It's that time of the year when we mosey on up to Big Bear and Octoberfest. Reservations have been made for a great lunch at Vintage Lakeside, 41066 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. For those of you who were not there last year, it was GREAT!

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

Danny McKeever's Fastlane Racing School

Dates: October 6 - 7

Contact: Robert Arance,
(661) 295-8140 x490 or

roberta@uvdi.com

This high-performance driving school is open to drivers of all skill levels, from the novice who just wants to learn how to be a safer driver to the weekend racers who want to shave a few ticks off their lap times. You will be grouped according to your comfort level and track experience for maximum safety.

The cost for Saturday and/or Sunday is \$175 for the one-day school and \$350 for the two-day school.

Limited to a maximum of 30 drivers each day (two 15-car run groups). No roll over bar or racing belts required. Helmets and driving suits available for use. Teenagers are welcome with signed parental consent.



San Diego British Car Day and Picnic 2001

Date: Sunday, October 7

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

Place: Fairbrook Farms,
Bonsall, California

San Diego British Car Club Council and Home Town Buffet bring you the 22nd Annual San Diego British Car Day.

Our event seeks to foster camaraderie among Southern California British car enthusiasts. This is an "owners' car show." You will see everyday drivers, concours quality cars, and "beaters!" Please plan to drive your British car!

- PREREGISTRATION: \$10 per car (mailed before September 15).
- DAY OF SHOW: \$15 per vehicle
- WALK-IN VISITORS - \$2
- CHILDREN UNDER 15 - Free

REGISTRATION: 9 a.m.

SHOW: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

FOOD: You may bring your own picnic or purchase your lunch from Home Town Buffet!

VENDORS: Spaces \$35 - Contact John Barnard, evenings: 619-659-0253; day 619-461-1885

TROPHIES AND RECOGNITION: To be considered, please have your car in place by 11 a.m.
Cars Best Of Show - Popular vote
Best Of Marque - Popular vote
Long Distance - Vehicle driven (not towed) longest distance specifically for this event. Best "Beater" - The car most in need of restoration, must be running!

Also: Best Club Presentation. Best Classic Picnic. (Judging: 11:30 to Noon) "British Spirit Awards."

DIRECTIONS: Fairbrook Farms is located on Mission Road near State Highway 76, which connects with Interstates 5 and 15.

FROM I-5: At Oceanside, go east on



Highway 76 (Mission Avenue) about 12 miles. Turn left on Mission Road at the traffic light. The site is 1/4 mile on the left.

FROM I-15: 13 miles north of Escondido or 11 miles south of Temecula, go west on Highway 76 (Pala Road) 4-1/2 miles. Turn right on Mission Road at the traffic light. The site is 1/4 mile on the left.

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM AT:

www.sandiegobritishcarday.org.

Autocross

Date: Saturday, October 20

Time: 9 a.m.

Place: Qualcomm Stadium

Mission Valley, west lot,
TART championship event



After the Races Dinner

Wheels'N'Meals

The races were cancelled, but not the dinner!

Date: Saturday, October 20

Place: Buca di Beppo, 705 6th Ave.
(Northeast corner of 6th & G Street) Gaslamp Quarter, Downtown San Diego.

Join your fellow members for fun and casual dining in the Gaslamp. View their menu at www.bucadibeppo.com. We have secured covered parking in the garage at north side of Market between 6th and 7th in the first level of the basement. We pay whatever the going rate is that day, but we get to park in a nice place together.

Time: Social hour 5:30 p.m., Dinner at 6:30 p.m. (please do not be late)

Coordinator: WALLY STEVENS,

wallymiata@juno.com or

daytime: (619) 232-2801, ext 313,
home: (619) 234-2858



Upcoming Events (Continued on page 4)



Monthly Meeting

And Quarterly Board Meeting

Date: Thursday, October 25

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 will be held in conjunction with the membership meeting.

Don't miss the fun!

Graveyard Shifts Run

Date: Saturday, October 27

Meeting Time: 9 a.m.

Meeting Place: Tidepools viewpoint, Point Loma

Run Leaders: BRUCE & DEBBY LEWIS
(619) 447-0930



This run qualifies toward Mileage Award

What will we be doing? I guess you'll just have to come to find out.

Directions to Meeting Place: Rosecrans Street to Point Loma (past Shelter Island), right on Cañon to top of hill, left on Catalina, (this becomes Cabrillo Memorial Drive) and go through the guard booth at entrance to Navy facility. Go 2.3 miles and turn right on Cabrillo Road just before entrance to Cabrillo lighthouse. This turn is marked by a sign that says "Tide pools-U.S.C.G. Lighthouse—Sewage Treatment Plant" Go 0.9 miles down steep hill and around sharp right turn. take immediate left turn into tidepool parking lot and you are there.

FUTURE EVENTS

Twenty Questions Rally

SDAM Car Club Council

Date: Sunday, November 4

Meeting Time: 11 a.m.

Meeting Place: San Diego Automotive Museum, Balboa Park

Information: Angus Murdoch
(619) 460-3805



Join members of the MG, Triumph, Corvette, and other car clubs of the San Diego Automotive Museum's (SDAM) Car Club Council for a rally that's a little bit different. On registration, you will be given a list of twenty questions about San Diego landmarks located within easy driving distance of the park. You will have two hours to find the answers and return to the starting point, where a playing card will be given for each correct answer. Awards will be given for the best poker hands—the more correct answers, the more cards and a better chance to win. An all-you-can-eat barbecue behind the Automotive Museum will follow the rally.

Cost: \$10 per car for the rally, \$8 per person for the barbecue if you want to stay and eat. Bring a Thomas Guide, trust your knowledge of San Diego, or follow the oil drips left by the British cars—you're sure to learn something new about our city and meet enthusiasts of other marques.

Veterans Day Parade

Date: Saturday, November 10

Time: 11 a.m.

SDMC Coordinator: SCOTT LANGHOFF

marinerUSN@aol.com,

home (619) 470-7860

office: (619) 556-7405



With the theme "A Salute to Our Community Veterans," the 2001 edition of the Veterans Day Parade will be on Harbor Drive downtown, from Grape Street to Seaport Village. The parade is developing into a major event, with numerous floats and rolling displays, military vehicles, march-

ing bands, military and veterans units, military aircraft fly-overs, as well as clowns, "fun" stuff, food, and merchandise vendors. There will also be a "Battle of the Marching Bands" at Seaport Village following the parade. As always, there will be dignitaries, which is where the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB comes in! This is a perfect venue for us to demonstrate our community spirit and advertise the club. Dignitaries mentioned for expected participation this year are Ernest Borgnine, a WWII Navy vet and star of TV's "McHale's Navy," Astronaut Wally Schirra, Medal of Honor recipients, former POW's, and several other prominent veterans, as well as Mayor Dick Murphy.

You might recall that SDMC came to the rescue at the eleventh hour last year to help support the parade. A hardy half dozen or more members made repeat performances in the parade. This year, there won't be such surprises, as I'll coordinate our representation. We expect needing 30 - 40 convertibles collectively from all of the car clubs in San Diego. All of the dignitaries are fully aware of each driver's personal preferences as to seating in the vehicle (i.e., rear deck vs. passenger seat).

SDMC Holiday Party

Date: Saturday, December 1

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: San Diego Automotive Museum, Balboa Park

Contact: MARK & CATHY BOOTH
mbooth@cts.com, (619) 670-3789

Come and join the fun for the club's 5th annual Holiday Party! This year's party will take place among the beautiful cars on display at the San Diego Automotive Museum! Complete details and the necessary reservation form can be found as an insert in this issue of the SDMC News.

Please complete the form and mail it as soon as possible. **All reservations must be received by November 15.**



UPCOMING NATIONAL AND REGIONAL EVENTS

2002 Miata Performance Driving School

For the sixth year in a row, Thunderhill Sports Park in Northern California will be the site of the 2002 Miata Performance Driving School.



This year, as in the past, Miata owners from all over the country will converge on Thunderhill to learn how to get the most from their Miatas.

The 2002 school will be held March 22, 23, and 24 at the Sports Car Club of America's Thunderhill track in Willows just off Highway 5, about an hour north of Sacramento. The track has been the filming site for many car commercials, so you've probably seen it on TV. This course will teach Miata owners the basics of high-speed driving, equipment, human limitations, proper steering techniques, and a lot of other skills necessary for safe performance driving.

The weekend is packed with activities beginning on Friday with a dinner, followed by classroom-style lectures and training from SCCA instructors. Saturday morning the action turns to the track with some more instruction, both in and out of the Miata. Most of Saturday and Sunday will be spent on the track, with some time between sessions to talk to fellow Miata owners and see some of the latest Miata accessories. Saturday night the action goes inside with a huge dinner where students and instructors can talk about the day's activities. The entire goal of the weekend is to enable Miata owners to become better, more skillful drivers both on and off the track.

The class is limited to 80 students with 40+ instructors, making for a 2 to 1 instructor ratio, a ratio higher than driving schools costing thousands of dollars. There's nothing quite like

having a Sports Car Club of America instructor right next to you as you drive lap after lap on a race course, helping you to learn just what your and your Miata's capabilities are.

You can register via the Internet by going to the Miata Performance Driving School Web site at www.teammiata.com/thunderhill/school.htm. Fill out the online form, or download the PDF file, print it out, and send it in with your check. If you don't have Internet access, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Ken Freeze, Miata School, 1521 Ridgewood Dr., Martinez, CA., 94553 and a complete packet will be sent to you.

Come join us for a weekend of learning, while having a lot of fun, as you drive on the Thunderhill track with SCCA instructors and fellow Miata enthusiasts. At \$350, it's the best accessory you can add to your Miata and have fun while doing it!

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 event coming up:



Saturday, October 20

Montgomery High School
3250 Palm Ave. @ Hawaii Ave.
San Diego 92154

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.

This event, sponsored by the City of San Diego, is 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.

Miata

OWNERS CLUB

The Miata Owners Club (MOC), which is the new club sponsored by Mazda USA, has embarked on a journey. They have created an advisory council consisting of volunteers from around the country who belong to the MOC. The mandate for these people is to help create a better national organization. The council is divided into five regions. Western, Midwest, Gulf, Northeast, and Southeast.

MOC held elections this past month within each region to select one person to attend an all-day session at Mazda, in Irvine, to advise them as to what we want from a national club. I am proud to say that I was elected, with 40% of the votes, to represent our region.

This will be a big task for me. The meeting will be held October 26th. So I have from now until about a week prior to the meeting to collect data from all of you. I say that because I also need to collect data from 26 other Miata Clubs in the region, digest, question, and understand everyone's desires prior to heading off to Mazda.

Being the bashful, unassuming guy that I am, I want to be prepared to represent our region to the best of my ability. I need to represent everyone's opinions, and I need yours.

What do I need? I need to know what you would like to see in a national club, MOC, that would excite you to be a member and stay a member. Please send your e-mail to kingfish@teamvoodoo.com, with the subject of "MOC Advisory Committee," and snail mail to 14425 Trailwind Road, Poway, CA 92064.

As always, my sincere thanks for your input.

— ELLIOT





Carole and Wally showed their driving skills at the "SDMC at Autocross" event on September 8th. See page 10 for more details.

— CAROLE AND WALLY JEWELL

From Carole

I should have known when Wally and I married, over 35 years ago, that our life together would revolve around cars and everything related to them. We have had so many cars I lost track long ago!

We started in the sports car world by buying our first Porsche in 1963, and joining the Porsche Club of America. Over the years, and many Porsches, we became very involved in the club and enjoyed participating in monthly—events including rallying, poker runs, hare and hounds, and much, much more. We enjoyed the Porsche Club National Parade by traveling to Sun Valley and Colorado Springs. We started autocrossing in Holtville at the vacated bomber base and participated in parking lot slaloms.

The Porsche became very crowded when kids joined our family, so we slowly became interested in other family fun. We started sailing and off-roading with Jeeps and quads. When the kids moved into their own homes,

we rediscovered the fun of sports cars, this time wonderful Miatas.

We joined the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB about a year ago and have loved the wide array of events members have hosted. My favorites are the high-speed 'twisties' through San Diego's backcountry (specifically the Puke-O-Rama), the Getty Museum Tour, and now, time trials at Qualcomm. Miata people sure like to drive their cars!

From Wally

In 1975, we bought a Lotus Elan project car, but soon discovered the fiberglass was in such poor condition it could not be properly restored. So I sold the vehicle. I have always liked Lotus styling, so when the Miata was 'born' in 1990, and due to its resemblance to Lotus, I thought that someday I would like to have a Miata. We finally purchased a 1997 red Miata with 30k miles in May, 2000. (We never imagined the good-natured, color-related enthusiasm/rivalry in the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB!).

I am never happy with a stock car, so the first change I made was to upgrade the exhaust with a Borla cat-

back system. For safety I installed an Autopower roll bar. Now that we felt safer with a roll bar, our confidence level increased and I installed Koni shocks and Racing Beat springs and swaybars. Lutz Tire helped with the alignment. Now that the car is handling so well, I am researching ways to improve its horsepower.

We are looking forward to enjoying the forthcoming events and possibly getting our magnetics by sponsoring a club event.

To be included in our ongoing 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.

The 15 Best Things About Driving a Roadster, or Not.

15. Having to put the top up
14. Cows
13. 100-degree sun
12. Stopped under an underpass with pigeons.
11. Rain
10. Feeling like a teenager.
9. Smell of a bakery when on a diet.
8. Smell of night blooming jasmine.
7. Looking at the stars.
6. Twisty roads.
5. Strangers giving me a thumbs up.
4. A dream come true.
3. The smile on my Granddaughter's face.
2. The friends in SDMC.
1. Driving on a beautiful morning with God Bless America on the radio.

— DEE JOHNSON



New Members!

**WELCOME to our newest members
(since last newsletter):**

LINDA & BRENT ALLEN

Ramona
2000 SE (Mahogany)

BARBARA CALLAHAN

San Diego
1993 Red A

TOM CLARK

El Cajon
1992 Red B

SCOTT FULMER

San Diego
1991 Silver A

JASON GILL

Oceanside
1999 Emerald Green Leather

GLEN HAHN

Oceanside
1991 Red

VERMILLIA HILDRETH

Vista
1997 Black

RICK KEHOE

San Diego
2000 Silver

NADIA & RAAD KHALAF

El Cajon
2001 White LS

JANE M. LEE

San Diego
unreported

DIANE LESHAR & DOUGLAS DEANE

Alpine
2001 SE (British Racing Green)

DIANNE & BOB LOHNER

San Diego
2001 Crystal Blue

ERNEST MOORE

San Diego
1994 Black

CHERIE PARMENTIER

La Mesa
1997 M (Marina Green)

ED & MARKY PITTS

Oceanside
2001 Red LS
2001 Emerald Green LS

NICK & SHARON PONCE

Escondido
2001 Emerald Green

STEVE ROBBINS

San Diego
1991 White A

KEVIN STEVENS

San Diego
1993 White Base

Renewing Members

(since last newsletter):

STEVE & PAULA KENNISON

GARY & ROSALIND SCOTT

JERRY & JANICE BOSTER

RAYMOND & BARBARA D'ARGENIO

TOM & GINNY FOSTER

BOB & ANNICE KITTERER

DALE & LINDA LEE

ALFORD NORIEGA & PATTY DALTON

JOEL OTSUKA & JULIE CURTISS

AL & DORIS PIERCE

PAUL & FRANCIE POLLOCK

JIM & KAREN POWER

BOB & DARLENE SIMPSON

KEN & CARLA JEAN TOOKER

RALPH & CHRIS VASQUEZ

ROBIN & MICHAEL FAIRCLOTH

TAKASHI & KAREN YAMAMOTO

Membership Statistics

As of September 30, 2001, there are 355 memberships (147 single, 208 dual) for a total of 563 members.

Memberships by Miata Color:

96	Red
50	White
42	Black
35	Emerald Green
32	Silver
15	Montego Blue
13	Sapphire Blue
12	BRG
9	Marina Green
8	Mahogany
8	Mariner Blue
8	Starlight Blue
8	Twilight Blue
6	Crystal Blue
6	Laguna Blue
5	Merlot
5	Yellow
2	Evolution Orange
1	Midnight Blue
1	Eggplant (custom)
1	Teal (custom)
9	Unreported*

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

The following is the text of a letter sent to the New York area Miata clubs on behalf of all the members of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB.

September 18, 2001

Dear New York area Miata club members:

We the members of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB would like to offer our prayers and condolences to you, our fellow Miata enthusiasts in the New York area, at this most unfortunate time in history.

Many of us in the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB are from New York and still have friends and relatives living there. As we share the enjoyment of our unique sports car, we also share the pain, frustration, and anguish that has been placed upon your shoulders.

The diversity and strength of America is reflected in the makeup of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB, as I'm sure it is in the New York area Miata clubs. If we can be of any assistance to you, please let us know.

We pray your members and their families are well; that your spirits are intact and your resolve to overcome this adversity is heard by God and all members of our Miata community.

Please pass this message on to all other area clubs.

Sincerely,
Elliot L. Shev
President





PHOTO: WOODY WOODHOUSE

A pair of Ferrari Testa Rossas lead a group down the famed Corkscrew during one of the weekend's races.

 August 17 - 19
Monterey Historics
and Concorso Italiano



PHOTO: BARB & ELLIOT SHEV



PHOTO: GARY FISCHMAN

Robert "JT" Holland, Voodoo Bob Krueger, and Gary Fischman of Miata.net at the track.



PHOTO: WOODY WOODHOUSE

The 1991 Le Mans-winning Mazda 787B ran a few demonstration laps around the Mazda Raceway at Laguna Seca.



PHOTO: BARB & ELLIOT SHEV



PHOTO: BARB & ELLIOT SHEV

Leni Metro, Jack Gosney, and Art Hamilton enjoy the Friday dinner at Asilomar in Pacific Grove.

What a sight we were! 22 Miatas all lined up in double-row fashion, noses pointed toward that big white screen. Rows of folding chairs, between the rows of Miatas, filled with fun-loving Miata enthusiasts! Boom boxes every few feet to provide the ultimate in high fidelity drive-in (surround?) sound.

This was a fantastic event! If you missed this one, you missed a LOT of fun! Let's try to do it at least twice during the summer next year!

DUSTIN, VIKTORIA, DEBBYE and BRUCE. Thank you for a great afternoon/evening! The food was delicious, the roads were perfect (though the air was a bit pungent here and



August 25 - Saturday
Drive-In Movie Run

there) and the drive-in was delightful. Cathy and I had a great time!

Other patrons of the drive-in noticed we were having a great time. Back near the snack bar, several folks noticed my SDMC jacket and commented about what fun it looked like it would be to "do the drive-in" with a car club!

— MARK BOOTH



PHOTO: BRUCE & DEBBYE LEWIS





PHOTO: BARB & ELLIOT SHEV

Just as we did five years ago, SDMC members met in front of the San Diego Automotive Museum for a group photo early on Labor Day.



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH



September 3 - Monday
MDA Telethon, BBQ,
& Pool Party
SDMC Group Photo

Left— After the photo, Pam and Dave Hunt provided a tasty breakfast for everyone before heading for the day's main event, the MDA Telethon.

Right— KUSI-TV's Dave Scott and John Soderman receive the San Diego Miata Club donation, a check for \$10,000, from Sue Hinkle and Elliot Shev. The donations were raised during the SDMC "Miles of Miatas for MDA" run on August 4th.



PHOTO: MDA



PHOTO: BARB SHEV

Left— Lou and Ruth Stark pull up to the MDA Fishbowl to drop in part of their donation while the camera from KUSI-TV records the long line of Miatas waiting to take their turn.

Right— Dave Hunt grills while Pam finishes the rest of the meal inside the house. Once again, the Hunts opened their home to SDMC members after the telethon for a pool party.



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH

Below— San Diego Miata Club members man the phone bank during the MDA Telethon.



PHOTO: CATHY BOOTH



PHOTO: CATHY BOOTH



AUTOCROSS



September 8 - Saturday
SDMC at Autocross
Autocross at the "Q"

Never before had the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB attempted an event like the one successfully completed on September 8, 2001 at Qualcomm Stadium. This was our first attempt to actually encourage members to participate in a Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) Solo II event...also known as Autocross. With the help of the Datsun Competition Club of San Diego (DCCSD), the event coordinators, SDMC participated with 15 novice men, 6 novice women, and at least 12 other men and women drivers. Beyond those actually participating in the driving, there were another 30 to 40 members who came to cheer on the racers. And cheer they did!

The cheering began when DCCSD Event Chairman and SDMC member RON CHAPMAN helped make the entire event Miata club friendly. The course was designed to be a "Miata

Right— The "lavish" trophies were displayed throughout the day for the participants to drool over.



PHOTO: VOODOO BOB KRUEGER

course," which made it tight and quick. Members were allowed to register in advance at the August monthly meeting. Miata novices were scheduled to run in Group #5, separate from all other novices.

The day began early...actually it began the night before. SAL and GERI CAUSARANO drove their motorhome (a.k.a...the SDMC Hospitality Suite) to Qualcomm Stadium the night before and spent the night. Their day began at 5 a.m. because they wanted to be ready. As DCCSD began to lay out the course, Sal and Geri positioned the motorhome in the best viewing location. Then came the canopies to provide the shade that we didn't need until after 11 a.m.

BILL SHAEFFER established himself under the "SDMC Sign In" sign and began to perform the important job of Race Day Training Coordinator. Bill had the registration cards and helped people "hook up" with the SDMC volunteer instructors. The instructors helped guide people through the registration and car "teching" in the morning, and then in actual instruction in the afternoon. SDMC Club Registration and Results Chairman, gentleman JACK DILUSTRO, assisted by DENNIS DIDIER, tracked the happenings, by participant, all day long. This tracking led to the awards presented at the end of the day.

Speaking of the end of the day...as the last car of the day crossed the finish line, a throng of grateful and enthusiastic SDMC members streamed onto the course and picked up all of the cones as a demonstration of our



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH

Dennis Didier, Jack DiLustro, and Bill Shaeffer wait to help SDMC drivers with registration.

Wayne Johnson takes his turn on the course.



PHOTO: VOODOO BOB KRUEGER

appreciation to all of the work done by DCCSD. Ron Chapman told me later than many of the DCCSD members said, as they watched us "attack the cones," that "they should have us come more often."

Sal and Geri coordinated the meals that began with a continental breakfast, followed by a sandwich lunch, and ending with a catered BBQ dinner. The dinner, presented by Rick Hackley (you know him as Mr. Boll Weevil), offered hamburgers or chicken with salads and BBQ corn on the cob. Cake ended the day. With tables, chairs, and large canopies provided by Rick, all the club members were able to sit in comfort and enjoy their meal, while listening to the awards presentation. A great day was had by all.

— STEVE WAID

AUTOCROSS AT THE "Q"



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

Saturday, October 20.....championship
Sunday, November 11.....championship
Saturday, December 8.....practice
Sunday, December 9.....championship
Saturday, December 22.....practice

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 SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB members race at the autocross (timed event). To participate you need to register for a Solo2 card and number (\$15) and have a DOT approved helmet. Loaner helmets are available at the autocross.



Thanks must go to the following people, because this event was made successful by the work of many.

ROBERT "JT" HOLLAND – Conducted the 8:30 a.m. novice course walk.

LARRY DENNESTEDT – Conducted the 9 a.m. safety meeting and general autocross instruction.

BRIAN GOODWIN – Conducted the afternoon novice course walk.

VOODOO BOB KRUEGER – Event photographer.

Volunteer SDMC Instructors – JIM BROKAW, Robert "JT" Holland, STEVE KENNISON, HOWARD KUZMINSKI, RAINER MUELLER, ELLIOT SHEV, and STEVE WAID.



The course laid out by Ron Chapman proved to be challenging and quick.

PHOTO: TED TIMMONS

Awards presented were as follows:

Novice Men:

Top Time – MICHAEL REEVES
63.579 seconds.

2nd Place – ANTHONY WILDE 65.500

3rd Place – WALTER JEWELL 66.513

Novice Women:

Top Time – CAROL JEWELL 71.849

2nd Place – VERONICA DIDIER
74.619

3rd Place – PAULA KENNISON 78.076

Overall Men:

Top Time – Brian Goodwin 58.462

2nd Place – Robert "JT" Holland
58.729

3rd Place – Howard Kuzminski
59.025

Overall Women:

Top Time – SUE HINKLE 68.736

Other Awards given were as follows:

Rock 'n Roll Award, Staying in the lane in spite of himself – ERIC ABAD

DNF, DNF, DNF, (Did not Finish) – BARB SHEV

Best Wanna-Be Miata (Drove a Ford Focus) – TRA WOOD

Best Recovery on the turns – JIM SANDERS

DNF on the very last cone after holding her breath for 99 seconds – JULIE HOYT

DNF twice on the same run, especially after waving to the crowd – DEE JOHNSON

Most Improved Woman "Amen" – 109.90 to 78.9 – KAREN WOOD

Most Improved Man 96.4 to 72.4 – JIM SANDERS

Best time for the oldest, baldest, ugliest mustache, from East of the Mississippi and South of the Mason-Dixon Line – HERM BREHMER

Most confused and confusing during the day – STEVE WAID

Most annoying whistle, ornery DNF President – ELLIOT SHEV

(Continued on page 12)



PHOTO: VODOO BOB KRUEGER



PHOTO: VODOO BOB KRUEGER



PHOTO: VODOO BOB KRUEGER



PHOTO: VODOO BOB KRUEGER



The SDMC Hospitality Suite was the base camp for the day's activities.

PHOTO: VODOO BOB KRUEGER



PHOTO: VODOO BOB KRUEGER

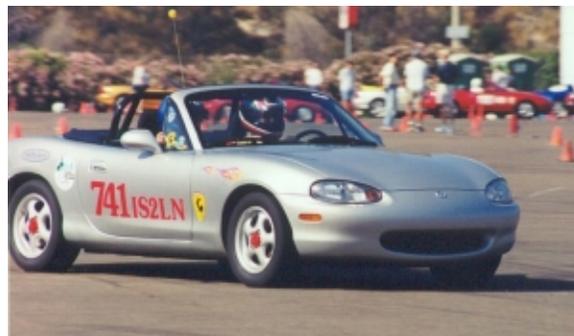


PHOTO: VODOO BOB KRUEGER

NOTE: Final results from the day's autocross were not available at press time. Complete results for all SDMC members who ran on September 8th will be published in the November issue of the San Diego Miata Club News.



Dee Johnson flies solo in her 2000 "gold".

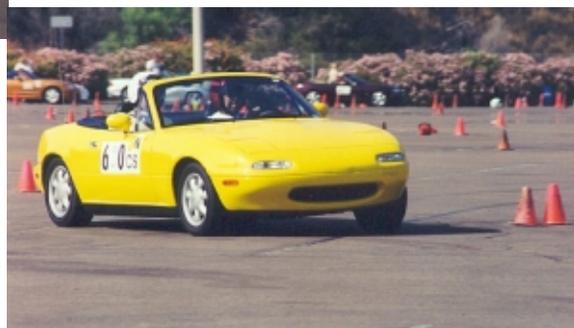


Paula Kennison shows she can run in the left seat.

Herm Brehmer on course.



Anthony Wilde works "Red Dwarf" through the course with Elliot Shev providing instruction.



Eric Abad goes through the slalom



Robert "JT" Holland coaches Carole Jewell around the course



PHOTOS: VOODOO BOB KRAEGER





PHOTO: MARK BOOTH

Above— Geri Causarano spent most of the day in her office (the motorhome) organizing meals for the SDMC members.

Below— Steve Waid leaves his office.



PHOTO: MARK BOOTH



PHOTO: VOODOO BOB KRUEGER

Rick and his crew from the Boll Weevil provided the fitting end to a fun-filled day with a hearty and tasty meal.

Spec Miata Racing

I'm happy to report that our Spec Miata gave a good showing at the SCCA Drivers' School at Firebird International Raceway on Saturday, September 8. This was our first big test for the car. Many thanks to those who helped us prepare the car. Everything worked flawlessly. We did Miata-dom proud by keeping up and battling with the best of them.

The day started at 7:30 a.m. and ended after five sessions on the track. The temperature was in the low 100s. Don't know how hot the track got. The school was conducted on the east track. This is a 1.25 mile course with eleven turns. Our run group had about twenty cars, mostly RX7s, one AC Cobra, a Super Stock GM somethingorother, a Cortina, a 5.0 Mustang, two Porches, two brand spankin' new Ford Foci and one Spec Miata.

The day started with "station wagon" sessions where instructors familiarized us with the course. The rest of the day consisted of alternating 30-minute run sessions and another station wagon session after lunch. Thirty minutes on the track and thirty minutes rest. The open-wheel cars ran while the closed-wheels rested. In all, we ran about 150 miles and drank



PHOTO: KEVIN HAYWOOD

about three gallons of water each. Passing was allowed and encouraged at all times. We were evaluated for our conduct on the course and adherence to the rules. The last run of the day was used to practice rolling starts. The group of 20 or so closed-wheel cars had three rolling starts. Door handle to door handle, two abreast into turn one! What a thrill. After the third start we had a five lap sprint and that wrapped up the day.

Our humble Spec Miata was very competitive. Early in the day no one paid any mind to the little Miata. After the second session there was considerably more attention to the car. Pass a few others on the inside under braking and they start to notice.

I learned a lot and had a great time. I'm looking forward to our next event. Thanks again to those who helped with an odd part here or there and to our growing number of sponsors.

— KEVIN HAYWOOD



PHOTO: VOODOO BOB KRUEGER

At the end of a long day, the tired group posed for a picture. Still smiling hours later while recalling the fun that was had.



What's Behind You is Only Part of the Story

Mirror, mirror on the windshield who brings me news, weather, and soothes the eyes. If you have an Electro-Chrom™ self-dimming rearview mirror with compass and temperature display from Serious Auto (www.seriousauto.com or (877)696-4282) you will have all these.

During our recent trip to Monterey for the Historic Automobile Races, the KENNISON'S, BARB, and myself had the pleasure of visiting Serious Auto Accessories in Soquel (Soquel is north of Monterey and next to Santa Cruz). Serious has a full supply of all the Miata goodies you could want. They also have an installation shop down the street where they can install anything you like. This is a very dangerous place to be. Barb found too many things to put on and in the car, but she didn't have any money. So, I bought her, you guessed it, an Electro-Chrom™ self-dimming rearview mirror with compass and temperature display.

Larry Cohen, fearless leader of Serious Auto, insisted on installing it for me. Yes, this is the first time someone has worked on my Miata, other than a trusted few. Well, this is a fairly straightforward installation. It does take a bit of time and patience, though.

You simply remove the old mirror (this is the easy part). You then need to remove the driver's side A pillar trim, the part on the side of the windshield. Then you remove the sun visor and the light. Next, you must remove the left side of the trim above the windshield. You can now install the harness that goes from the mirror, across the windshield and down the left side pillar ending under the dash.



Above—The mirror display in compass mode and in temperature mode—Below



Next, you must install the temperature sensor in the mouth of the car and run the wire along the inside (engine compartment) of the fender, leading up near the area where the throttle cable comes through the firewall. You will now punch a hole in the rubber and pass this wire through. Inside, the wires from the front are now joined to the wires from the mirror and power. That's it, you're done! Oops, you must put all the trim back in place.

What's neat is that this mirror will auto dim as lights shine on it a night—like that SUV behind you. It will also display the temperature in Celsius or Fahrenheit and help you find your direction with an electronic compass that is set for where you live.

We find this mirror to be well worth the \$199 it cost. Barb doesn't understand the cost part. She just likes it. Next time she is on a run driving Sapphire, just ask her the temperature or the direction. Just for the record, on the Back to the '50s run it was 100 in Ramona! I didn't know it got that hot on Pluto.

— ELLIOT

Right— Larry Cohen removes the A pillar trim from the Shev's 10 AE during the install.

Now, Where are You?

Need a first-kiss anniversary gift for your Miata? Looking for that meaningful but unsubstantial gift for the fellow office cube farmer? Thanksgiving place setting's incomplete without gifts for Aunt Nellie and Uncle Herbie? AAA hears your cry and answers with new laminated maps. Even the most parsimonious Miata owner will enjoy the \$4.95 (AAA members; \$7.95 others) maps AAA produces. The four laminated, colorful "Greatest Hits" maps related to Southern California are:

- Car Culture Landmarks-Southern California Greatest Hits Map
- Attractions-Southern California Greatest Hits Map
- Baja North Triangle Laminated Greatest Hits Map
- Route 66 Greatest Hits Laminated Map

Icons on the Car Culture Landmarks (CCL) map include: The Tail O' the Pup on North San Vicente at Wilshire in West Hollywood; the Wigwam Motel in San Bernardino; and the longest continuously—operated McDonald's (and museum) in Downey. The CCL map is divided into four sections: Serving the Car (selling and servicing the automobile); Built for Speed (attractions for the motorist including the giant object buildings); Car as Home (drive through dairies, drive-in restaurants and theaters); and Drive Right In (drive-in markets and retail businesses). Charioteers seeking more driving, eating, and sleeping can gather



PHOTOS: ELLIOT SHEV

the remaining maps and occupy themselves for several weeks seeking the destinations. The maps describe each structure's historical significance, date of erection, and interesting architectural details. The map points to the general location for each site, and you can easily maneuver to the other destinations. Each of the maps has features equally compelling as CCL, but impetuously labeling other areas in Southern California.

Lamination makes for durable and professional appearing maps. Owning several paper AAA maps, I find that the Greatest Hits series is more robust and sturdy.

The AAA on-line bookstore sells the maps, but the only the long-suffering will find them on-line. The easiest way to find the maps page is to go to AAA's site, search for "Bookstore," then browse the list or use the "Find" command in your browser and search for "Greatest Hits."

The Maps are available on-line and at AAA offices including 815 Date Street, San Diego. Other offices are in Del Mar, Sabre Springs, Chula Vista, Escondido, and Oceanside.

— WALT PENNINGTON

New Club Historian

DUSTIN LEWIS had volunteered to be the new SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB historian. Dustin will take over from ED & MICHELLE LANGMAID who were historian for the last two years.

Please congratulate Dustin and thank him for taking on this important function in the club.

— EDITOR

Membership Handbook

A new edition of the MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK is being prepared for distribution. The handbook is a valuable resource for every SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB member. It contains a plethora of club information, including the history of the SDMC, tips on how to plan fun runs, how (and why) to plan a tech day, and proper e-mail etiquette. The handbook also contains a MEMBERS BUSINESS DIRECTORY. We need your help to ensure the directories are up-to-date.



The MEMBERS BUSINESS DIRECTORY section of the handbook is set aside for members who may have a product or service that may be of interest to other club members. This listing is provided as a service to and for members at no charge. To have your business listed or your entry to be updated, please send information, using the following format, to membership@sandiegomiataclub.org or to the club post office box (address is on page 2 of this newsletter).

category of listing
business name
brief description of your business
your name, title
street address
phone, fax
e-mail and Web page address

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 mere \$6.50 each, including shipping to your home, from VICKY KRUEGER.

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.

See Vicky at a monthly meeting or e-mail her at vicky@teamwoodoo.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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

For Sale: 14 inch stock "turtle" wheels.

Tom, tspraguepr@aol.com or (858) 566-2254

For Sale: 1993 White "B" package. 69k miles. Jackson CAI, white Robbins top with matching boot cover, Wet Okole seat covers, Voodoo knob & brake handle, Oris Windstop. Spare set of wheels & mis-matched tires. Too many options to list! \$7,750 OBO.

Kathie, kmatacat@aol.com or (949) 644-1327

For Sale: 1999 Brilliant Black. Touring and appearance packages. A/C, OEM windblocker, Viper perimeter alarm, NEW Yokohama tires. 25k miles. Asking \$17,000.

Selling for my daughter.

Sal, (760) 787-0624 or wood-dust@home.com

For Sale: 1997 M Edition 5-Spd. Mariner Green with Tan Top and Tan Leather Interior - 46,000 miles. AM/FM/CASS/CD w/ Headrest Speakers. AC, PS, PB, PW, Cruise. Oris Windblocker, Strut Tower Brace, Grill Guard, New Rear Window. Garaged. Excellent condition - College expenses force reluctant sale. \$14,000

Michael, mjschoep@yahoo.com, (858) 451-9046

For Sale: 14 in. used Hoosier autocross tires, parts from my '90: shocks, springs, sway bars, bra/mask, soft top, passenger seat, OEM AM/FM/CD/Cass, entire A/C package (compressor, condenser, tubing, fan, etc.) door speakers, steel antenna, spare wheel, some carpet and trim.

Kevin, (858) 651-5167,

haywood@qualcomm.com

For Sale: Jackson cat-back exhaust. Like new, \$250. 1990 1.6-liter engine. This engine has 154K miles on it but runs well, \$250. Also misc. parts from same car. (leather steering wheel, license plate surround, etc.). I also have a starter, alternator, and misc. engine, suspension, and body parts including windshield, doors, mirrors, rear fenders, and bumper. All recently repainted (red); in good condition.

Wally (619) 232-2801 ext 313, 234-2858, or wallymiata@juno.com

Buying or selling your Miata or Miata accessories? You can do it for free on Miatamart—the MIATA FOR SALE Web site, run by SDMC member RAINER MUELLER. Check it out at www.miatamart.com

Vacation Getaways: Includes one week accommodations at a 5-star resort in places like Grand Caymans, Orlando, Kona Hawaii, Aruba, and the list goes on.

Michael (760) 436-8311 or mik_lyn@prodigy.net

