

SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB NEWS



JULY 2004

VOLUME 10 NUMBER 6

THANK YOU, JT!

BY TOM SPRAGUE

Did you ever stop to think who does all the work behind the scenes to make it easy for you to get news about SDMC via e-mail or on the Web Page? Sort of like the gent behind the drapes in the Wizard of Oz, making wonderful things happen.

Well, since the club first began eight years ago, it has been mostly "JT Bob" Holland. He built the very first Web site and has been managing it ever since. For the past many years, he has also handled the Postmaster duties, taking over from its founder, Cindy Paloma.

Starting in July, JT gets a rest from these activities so he can concentrate more on his day job and his Miata racing.

JT is one of the outstanding race drivers in our club, winning the Autocross CSP title in 2000 and becoming the IS2 champion in 2001, 2002 and 2003. His '92 Red A package is a long way from stock, with things added like flywheel, clutch, suspension, rollbar, racing seat, shocks and springs, differential, etc.

He was not a gearhead to begin with, but learned by reading, checking the Internet for ideas, listening and watching others. It came together through diligence and hard work.

One of the first persons JT met in the Club was Voodoo Bob. Here is how Voodoo tells the story...

"When I first met JT in-person (in 1993, I think), I discovered that he had managed to cross-thread his Voodoo Knob. When I asked him why it was sitting so high, he said something like his typical "Looks good to me"...or, now that I think about it, more probably just 'Huh'?

"Anyway, he hadn't totally destroyed it, and I managed to get it re-started and threaded properly so it would seat all the way down and give him that patented low Voodoo shifting position. Hard to imagine that somebody that technically challenged has been such an outstanding Webmaster for the last eight years, isn't it?"

It helps that JT earned his electrical engineering degree with a minor in computer science from UCSD in 1987. He works during the day for a government ocean research unit, making sure all of their computer systems are up and running properly.

The JT in his handle and the N2 Tull on his license plate honor Jethro Tull, one of his early idols. In fact music was his thing before autos, as he was a standout clarinetist with the San Diego Youth Symphony which took him to the Philippines, Hong Kong and China. He later played tenor sax with a 40's style swing band, and still has a solid collection of music at home.

That home expanded with his marriage last year to Carol, and of course there was a Miata connection to that as well. This is the way JT puts it...

"I met Carol when I first started autocrossing. She's been autocrossing quite a few more years than I have been racing. She started with her 1989 Mustang and then went on to autocrossing with her current 1995 R package white Miata.

Then I found out she loved auto racing and vintage automobiles.

"So then I garnered the courage to ask her out. Needless to say, that led to a relationship, which led to marriage. We were married in April of 2003 and we had our first anniversary this year. We have four children: AJ, a black Labrador mix; Shelby, an Australian cattle dog; Mika, a love bird; and Piquet, a parakeet. If you've noticed, those names are after famous race car drivers. Have I found the perfect woman, or what?"

We would all agree with that.

JT has a 1998 Mazda B 2500 pickup for a daily driver, as "it can haul things the Miata can't and I don't care if it gets a ding or two."

Even though he won't be doing the Web Page or e-mail for us any more, you still will see his smiling face at our meetings and on the race course. Stop by and say hello. Just don't ask him to play the saxophone.

Taking over from JT as webmaster is Dan Garcia, and the new postmaster is Bob Klee-man.



Photo by Voodoo Bob Krueger



Download Instructions SDMC Membership List

Currently approximately 94% of our members have access to the Internet. This capability allows you, as a club member, access to Yahoo groups. What's so special about Yahoo Groups? This gives us access to all the SDMC email, photo catalogs, and list information. On this site we offer club members a membership list that includes, name (both member and SO), phone number (this field is blank if you request it), car year, car color, license plate, and home city (NOT address or zip). This information is available to members ONLY! To access this information you MUST acquire (FREE!) a Yahoo Group account. Once you have this account setup do this:

1. Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/> (on left, top of screen you will see sign in section, logon here with name and password) note; most browsers will allow you to save this location with your password and login name. Bookmark this location and everything will be automatic after this point in time.
2. In the upper left corner you will see a section that says "My Groups." Put your cursor on SDMC-LIST and single click the left mouse button.
3. You are now on our group site. You can get to email, photos and other sources. In this case, look in the upper left section and place your cursor over "Database" and single click.
4. You are now in the Database section and you will see a list of available club databases. Single click on the desired database (most current as of this instruction is "July 2003 SDMC Membership Roster.")
5. You are now in the database and you will see a list of all club members. To sort (alphabetize by last name), single click on the field labeled "Last Name." You can sort on any other field you desire.
6. To print; single click on "Printable Report." On your browser go to "File" (upper left corner) and single click. This will drop a pull down menu of file functions. Near the bottom of the drop down menu you will see "Print." Single click this command.
7. A print menu will pop up giving you access to your printer controls (this presupposes that you have a printer hooked up to your computer). Once your printer is configured to your liking, single click on the "OK" or "Print" button.
8. Voila! you now have 17 (or so) pages of the SDMC Membership Roster.

NEWSLETTER TEAM

EUNICE BAUMAN, Editor-in-Chief
newsletter@sandiegomiataclub.org

LAURIE WAID, Layout Editor
BRENDA KAY, Features Editor
MARY MARTIN, Membership Info
TOM SPRAGUE, Member Profiles
SCOTT LEWIS, Tech Editor
STEVE WAID, Events Editor
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BARRY BILLINGSLEY, Ads Editor
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ROBIN FAIRCLOTH, Proof Readers

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858-486-6771

13000 Danielson St., Suite G Poway, CA 92064
Fax 858-486-6779 signup7@aol.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!

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) 434-2007
P.O. Box 421506
San Diego CA 92142-1506

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Board

President
STEVE KENNISON
(858) 271-8498
president@sandiegomiataclub.org

Vice President
BRUCE LEWIS
(619) 447-0930
vicepresident@sandiegomiataclub.org

Secretary
SUE HINKLE
(760) 735-9456
secretary@sandiegomiataclub.org

Treasurer
ROZ SCOTT
(760) 789-3872
treasurer@sandiegomiataclub.org

Administrative Board

Membership
JUDY RYAN & MARY MARTIN
(619) 434-2007
membership@sandiegomiataclub.org

Events Coordinator
STEVE WAID
(760) 432-0727
events@sandiegomiataclub.org

Club E-mail Postmaster
BOB KLEEMAN
postmaster@sandiegomiataclub.org

Webmaster
DAN GARCIA
webmaster@sandiegomiataclub.org

Club Regalia
VERONICA DIDIER
regalia@sandiegomiataclub.org

Newsletter
EUNICE BAUMAN
(619) 449-4535
newsletter@sandiegomiataclub.org

To send e-mail
to all members of the board:
board@sandiegomiataclub.org

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. When possible, please e-mail your submissions to the newsletter editor. Submissions may 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.



SDMC JULY EVENTS: SEE PG 5 & 6 FOR COMPLETE DETAILS!

	Event	Date	Time?	Where to Meet?
	Cruisin' Grand Escondido	Friday, July 2nd	6 pm eat 7 pm cruise	Toms #23 Escondido (see page 5 for directions)
	Julian Classic Motoring Show at the Menghini Winery	Saturday, July 3rd	8 am	Costco/Ikea parking lot (see details on page 5)
	Miatas at the Fair	July 4th	10 am	See details on page 5
	Miatas at the Crest 4th of July Parade	July 4th	8 am	Pat and John Minnich's home in Crest (see details on page 5)
	SDMC Monthly Meeting	Thursday, July 22nd	6:00 pm	Boll Weevil Restaurant, Clairemont Mesa Blvd.
	10th Anniversary Twilight Run	Saturday, July 31st	Around 5 pm	Watch for details!

FROM THE SURF 'N SAFARI '04 HOME FRONT...—BY LES SMITH

When Mark Booth recently offered to oversee arrangements for rental Miatas during Surf 'N' Safari '04, he demonstrated the essential role club members are playing in the success of this event. He picked a task that he feels comfortable doing, has time for ... and that needs someone's attention.

"Surf 'N' Safari '99 was the best Miata event, regional or national, that Cathy and I have ever attended. Period!" Mark reflected. "We realize the hard work and long hours that the volunteers put in to make that event a smashing success.

"I think everyone wants Surf 'N' Safari '04 to equal, or even surpass, the '99 event. To achieve that goal, a strong dedicated team of volunteers is needed.

"A club like SDMC is just like life in general... what you get out of it grows stronger when you take the time to put something back into it," Mark added. "In other words, by volunteering to tackle a small portion of the Surf 'N' Safari workload, I believe that I will have a more rewarding and enjoyable SNS experience overall.

"What can get better than that?"

Surf 'N' Safari '04 – October 14-17 at Pala Mesa Resort in Fallbrook – has something for every club member: runs, food, celebrations, fellowship, fun events ... and a chance to pitch in and lend a hand. Whatever you like to do and however much time you can spare, there are tasks that match.

How can you get involved? First, register for Surf 'N' Safari '04. Go to the chapter web-site, click on the Surf 'N' Safari '04 link, and register. Click next on the Pala Mesa Resort link and make your room reservation.

Finally, contact Volunteer Coordinator Brenda Kay; she's collecting names and matching them up as committee chairs continue the planning and identify "people" needs. She's also waiting to hear from you, so get in touch: Brenda-KayCMC@hotmail.com



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—TO WRITE OR NOT TO WRITE

Well I don't know how I'm going to pull this off but here is my Heroic Effort. What on earth are you talking about Steve? Well I'm ashamed to admit that I completely zoned (a term I learned in Arizona during Cactus Cruz'n) on getting my article finished for the July issue of the newsletter. I have no real excuse (but I'm going to make up one anyway) for my fiasco but I thought I'd tell you my sad story and let you judge for yourself.

Once upon a time... ah maybe a little too unbelievable. How about: This is the absolute truth, I kid you not!

So there I was on the starting line at Monte Python Racing Circuit ready to start the 48-hour endurance race when my pit crew informed me that I had to write the July Newsletter President's Message. Since I was already committed to the race I had to come up with a unique way to finish the race as well as finish the article. Now you must realize that the race was on the 15 & 16 of June, which unfortunately straddled the newsletter cutoff date of midnight of the 15th. Being a man of iron (they don't call me Nails for nothing!) I had planned on running the entire 48 hours by myself. If I had counted on this setback I could have gotten some small talent person to fill in for me. Earlier in the week Michael Schumacher had begged me to partner with him for this event but I had explained to him that my brilliant driving would certainly have made him look much less the driver than he really was and I had no desire to make him look bad. As fate would have it I would have eaten my words but alas, Michael had decided to run some silly F1 race. So be it! Obviously I would have to conceive a plan to finish the race and still have ample time to write the article.

All of this was going through my head as I heard the announcer say ...Gentlemen, START your engines! With those words suddenly a brilliant plan formed in my mind. How do I finish the race and still have time to write the article? Simple! I merely have to drive fast enough to finish the 24 hours in only 12 hours, a true stroke of genius if I do say so myself (and I do).

The race started and as I accelerated through the gears of the mighty TiSE Miata. I could hear the engine singing a happy

tune of zoom, Zoom, ZOOM. Of course I had out-accelerated the Ferraris, Ford GT 40s, Shelby Cobra's and other inferior equipment being used by my competitors. The TiSE was truly a remarkable car capable of a top speed in excess of 186.282 KMPS. In fact the car was so fast that instead of paint (which would just peel off) I had the titanium body panels left in their original color. In addition to the 16" Quad caliper rotors with self-replacing pads for braking I also employed 2 war surplus JATO rocket packs (mounted in reverse naturally) to help slow down for the corners. My skilled pit crew had modified the JATO packs to fire in an asynchronous pulse mode to (i.e. fire one side or the other) not only help slow down but to provide phenomenal turn-in.

As the race progressed my master plan was working brilliantly (of course). The other cars were a blur as I repeatedly passed them time and time again. And then on the very last lap the horrible happened; somebody (obviously jealous of my superior TiSE Miata) threw a nail directly in my path. The timing of the dastardly deed was so perfect that even I was unable to avoid the impact of the 9-inch nail penetrating my right front tire. BANG! The air rushed out of my tire in an instant. Full JATO power and another set of brake pads brought the Mighty Miata to a dead stop. To make matters worse the pits were more than 4 miles away and I don't carry any tools with me. Thinking quickly I lifted the ultra-light TiSE up with my left hand and with my right unfastened my helmet and placed it under the axle as a jack. I then spun the lugnuts off with my fingers (I have very strong fingers..really!) and pulled the wheel. I didn't have a patch kit with me but looking around I spotted a section of asphalt that had some tar residue on the surface. I grabbed a piece and commenced to chew it to a regular tough consistency. When it was ready I popped the tire bead with my fingers (like I said I have strong fingers) and placed the chewed asphalt into the nail hole. I then put the tire back on the Mighty TiSE and inflated the tire with my lung power (I have strong lungs too). Quickly starting the TiSE I blasted off to finish the grueling 48-hour race in just over 24 hours! Alas, I was slightly over my time due to the dirty deed done to my tire by some dubious dummy. So I missed the deadline by seconds.

So that is my story of why I don't have an article for the newsletter and I'm sticking to it. I do promise that I will remember the President's Message for next month and not repeat the shameful moment. Hmmm, maybe I'll have the President of Vice write next month's article.

Yours truly (really, would I lie to you?),
Steve "Nails" Kennison
President, San Diego Miata Club



Cruisin' Grand**Friday, July 2****6PM eat,****7 PM Cruise**

Steve & Laurie

Waid 760-432-0727 or swaid@cox.net



Every Friday night from April through September, Escondido opens up Grand Avenue for cruising. On the first Friday of every month, San Diego Miata Club members meet at Tom's #23 at 6 pm to eat before leaving at 7 pm to cruise Grand. After taking Grand a couple of times we park and then walk Grand. You will see Hot Rods, Street Rods, Muscle Cars, Restorations, Motorcycles and more. A fun "Blast from the Past."

Tom's #23 is located on the Southwest corner of Centre City Parkway and 5th Street. Exit on Centre City Parkway from Interstate 15.


**Crest
4th of July
Parade
8:30 am
Minnich's
home**

We will be meeting by 8:30 am at the Minnich's home nearby to decorate the cars before proceeding to the "Horse Park" for the staging at around 9:30. Plan on experiencing some dirt parking and transition roads...after all, it is a rural area. The parade typically starts around 10 am and then there is a Fair and food and "Blue Grass" at Nancy Jane Park in the center of town. We can do anything impromptu after the parade. Eat, Drive, Eat.

Directions to the Minnich's home:

East on Interstate 8 to the Greenfield Drive turnoff. South on Greenfield to La Cresta Road, left on La Cresta Blvd (a hard left with orange cones out to mark the turn). Then a left turn onto La Cresta Heights and a Right onto Via La Cresta. The Minnich estate is at 825 Via La Cresta.

**Julian Classic Motoring Show
at the Menghini Winery**
Saturday, July 3, 2004**8 am**

Where to meet: Costco/Lowes/Ikea parking lot just east of Qualcomm Stadium off of Friars Road (between I-15 and the 163 free-ways). Look for Miatas near the Costco gas station (a good place to fill up). There is a McDonald's very close if you'd like to grab breakfast first.

A relaxed Fun Run in our trusty Miatas

Event Description (courtesy of an ad in the most recent BMW Club of San Diego's monthly newsletter):

Julian Independence Celebration Classic Automobile Show

The San Diego, California historic gold rush town of Julian will host its first annual "Julian Independence Celebration Classic Automobile Show" on July 3, 2004 at Julian's Menghini Winery. Select classic touring and vintage racing cars from the turn-of-the-century through 1970 are being invited to the show. This first-ever Julian Motoring Show is to benefit firefighters.

A highlight for participants will be a Saturday night "Great Gatsby Reception" at the Pine Hills Lodge. Participants and their guests are encouraged to wear 1920's era or white clothing for this dinner dance.

Owners of pre-1970 vintage race or classic touring cars, or Special Interest classic cars of any age, who would like to display their cars on Saturday, July 3, should request

Annual Twilight Run
July 31, 2004**Save the Date !****Watch for Details !**

an entry packet by contacting the Julian Classic Motoring Society at julianautoshow@netscape.net or by calling (760) 765-2072.

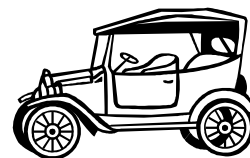
The public is invited to view the cars and meet with the owners at the grounds of the Menghini Winery from 10 AM to 4 PM on July 3rd. The classic automobile show and Sunday's July 4th. Independence Day Parade are FREE to spectators.

If you get lost: Menghini Winery: 1150 Julian Orchards Dr., Julian, CA 92036 (760) 765-2072

This is two miles north of Julian. Take either Farmer's Road from downtown or Wynola Road, east of Julian on Rt. 79 toward Santa Ysabel. Both lead to Julian Orchard Drive.

For more information: Please contact Jan Wagner, the run's organizer, via email at: jwagner2@san.rr.com

This will be the first time I've led a run so please help! I'm sure I've missed things to do. My plan is to enter the winery's address in my GPS and lead the run to Julian and the Winery. Bring radios and wear sunscreen.


**Cruise In to the Del Mar Fair
Sundays during the Fair run
July 4th**


Meet in the Albertson's Parking Lot (on Via de la Valle, just east of I-5) between 10:00 and 10:15 am. At 10:20, we caravan into the Fairgrounds with a police escort. Parking will be in a special viewing area on the famed Del Mar Racetrack. All passengers in the club cars are admitted to the Fair at no charge, and cars may leave at any time.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Making a difference Poker Run.

In memory of Devin Hock

Date: July 10, 2004

Time: 8:00am

Place: Country Inn and Suites

1405 Del Norte Road

Camarillo, CA

805-983-7171

Entree Fee: \$30.00



Hotels: \$85/night.

Call 805-983-7171 before 6-25-04 to reserve your room. Tell them you are with the Miata Club.

Packets include T-Shirt, maps, etc. Extra T-Shirts available at \$15.00 on order form. Don't hesitate to sign up early or miss out on this event.

Lunch: We are offering a box lunch "Quiznos" (\$10 each)

(1) The Traditional (roast beef, turkey, ham, cheddar, lettuce, tomato, red onion, black olives, ranch dressing)

(2) Mesquite Chicken with Bacon (chicken, bacon, cheddar, lettuce, tomato, red onion, ranch dressing)

(3) Philly Cheese steak (grilled steak, white cheddar cheese sauce, sautéed onions, & spices on a Philly roll)

The 6:30 Banquet:

At Ottavio's Italian Restaurant.

We will be ordering from a special menu. (\$17 each)

Awards Presentations

Raffle Prizes:

Whoever gets a royal flush wins a new MX5

Proceeds benefit the

"Devin Hock Memorial Fund"

Supporting childhood brain cancer research.

SAMOA Scrabble Scramble Fri-Sat, Sept 24th-25th, 2004

SAMOA is now taking registrations for the 2004 SAMOA Scrabble Scramble.

Don't miss your chance to participate in the Sept. 25th Scrabble Scramble.

Hurry! This event was a sell-out last year. Participation is limited to 44 cars and we expect to have lots of out-of-town Miata enthusiasts join us for the fun. Also, Mazda is sponsoring the awards dinner, making this rally one of the best deals around.

For more information and the registration form, go to:

<http://www.samoa.org/samoa4a.cfm?link=332>



SDMC Monthly Meeting

Thursday, July 22, 2004

6 PM at Boll Weevil

9330 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. SD

(858)571-6225

(meeting starts at 7 PM)

This event is the single best way to meet your fellow club members, ask questions, and share stories. Come eat and chat with your Miata friends, then get the scoop on what's happening with the Club at 7 PM

Don't miss the fun!!

Gilroy Garlic Festival

Date: July 23-25, 2004

(Fri-Sun)

Time: All Day (every day)

Place: Somewhere around
Simi Valley

Host: Dean Rudenauer

secretary@socalm.org

Enjoy a full day Friday of driving up the coast as we travel PCH on our way north to Gilroy and the 2004 Garlic Festival. We'll have dinner together on Friday night and stay at the Hilton Garden Inn in the middle of the action.

We'll hit the streets on Saturday for a full day of fun at the festival. On Saturday evening, we will meet for dinner again for show and tell on what we saw and bought. On Sunday we'll drive more great Miata roads on our way back home.

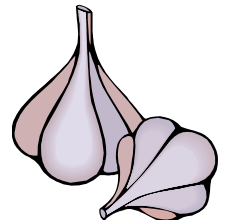
Accommodations: I

have reserved a block of 10 rooms for Friday and Saturday

night at the Hilton Garden Inn, the destination of choice for

this event. To make

a reservation, call 408-840-7000.



California AutoFest Saturday and Sunday, July 24th and 25th California Speedway in Fontana

Cost: \$65 for two if registered before July 4th...\$85 thereafter

Hotel: Hilton with a reduced rate of \$89 for Saturday Night

Caravan: Hook up with a large group of "Car Guys" at C&G Early Ford Parts in Escondido. Then meet Mazda enthusiasts at the Speedway.

What can you expect: Drive on the Speedway Track...and see over 4,000 fabulous cars, trucks, motorcycles and custom boats

- Take part in all the exciting activities
- Prizes & Trophies
- Charity auction-Silent auction benefiting the Make-A-Wish Foundation and the Loma Linda Ronald McDonald House
- Tech seminars
- NCCA tuner car judging
- Live bands
- Extreme stunt driver exhibition
- BMX exhibition □ Freestyle Motocross demos □ Fashion show (Brought to you by Broad Division)
- Gold Angels Motorcycle Drill Team

Visit the event website at www.californiaautofest.com . You register there.

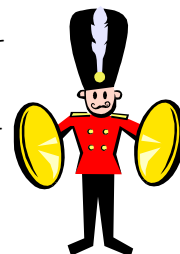
Hotel information is there. Club coordination is here.

THE 13TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CITY 2004 AUTOMOBILE HERITAGE DAY" SUNDAY, AUGUST 1ST, 2004

Time TBA, probably around 7:00 A.M., rendezvous point TBA)

Scott Langhoff, Coordinator

" I sure do miss going on runs with the gang, but between my impeded eyesight making is potentially hazardous for me to drive the Miata "spiritedly" on unfamiliar roads, and the demands of the weekend commitments of my job, I don't get to play much anymore. Wah! However, that doesn't stop me from coordinating and hosting "low impact" events, like Parades! I have a friend who is on this year's Committee for the aforementioned event. He thinks our Miatas would be a great addition to the Parade. Although primarily for Classic cars, 25 years old or older (1915 - 1979), they have a class for interesting "Later Model Vehicles" of show quality, which will be accepted if space allows. Of particular interest in the Parade and Show are the "G" class cars, which are 1949-1979 Restored Foreign Sports Cars (2-passenger cars designed for either street or competition), and the companion "J" class Restored American Sports Cars.



Anyone can participate in the Parade, but permission must be granted by the Entry Chairman to display a "Later Model Vehicle" in the show, for display purposes only (not competitive). Either way, there is a \$10 entry fee for the Parade and/or Show (\$15 after July 15th). HOWEVER, The SDMC Events Coordinator, Obi (Steve) Waid Kenobi, informs me that we have 10 free passes that have been sent to the Club for those interested in participating. "First come, first served"!

Entrants before July 15th will receive a dash plaque. Both the Parade and Show are open to the public for free, in case any of our members don't care to participate, but would like the opportunity to view some classic cars up close. Entry forms are available from me, either by fax or email. You can learn more about the event by visiting www.nationalcitychamber.org. Click on the "2004 Automobile Heritage Day" icon toward the bottom of the page. I'd prefer you'd register through me, as I am working with the Entry Chairman directly, and will protect your interests.

The Parade kicks off at 8:45 A.M. from 20th Street and Cleveland Avenue, just west of I-5. Vehicles entered for the Parade should arrive before 8:30 A.M. The Parade will enter Kimball Park (behind City Hall at National City Boulevard and Civic Center Drive) at 9:30 A.M. for the show. Vehicles not joining the Parade should proceed directly to Kimball Park before 9:30 A.M. The Show ends at 3:00 P.M. We may be offered an opportunity to transport Dignitaries (the Michelin Man?) in the Parade. I'll keep all participants advised via email.

Those who would care to arrive earlier could join us for a hearty breakfast at Mary J's Cafe, next to the starting line.

There will be music, food, and numerous vendors booths. T-shirts in sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL or XXXL are available for \$12 if ordered in advance before July 15, and \$15 the day of the event.

I can be reached at: Email: slanghoff@cox.net Office: (619) 400-5323 Res: (619) 470-7860 Cell: (619) 884-5917
Day of the event: Cellular or FRS radio, Channel 7 (no ctc).



UPCOMING EVENTS

**Raging Mazda's
Benefit Car Show**
August 14, 2004
8:00am – Registration
10:00am – Show starts
Raging Waters,
11 Raging Waters Dr.,
San Dimas ph 909-802-2200
Contact: Victoria Bakker
Victoria@ragingmazdas.org
714-809-2628
Registration: \$35.00 per entry

To Register and for more information go to www.ragingmazdas.org
Come on out and join us for a fun day in the sun at the largest water park in Southern California – Raging Waters! Each participant will receive a day pass to the water park, a picnic lunch “on the beach”, a goodie bag filled with all sorts of good stuff, the chance to win an award and much, much more!

There will be RC Car Races, vendors, all sorts of cool Mazdas to check out, and raffle drawings with prizes ranging the gambit of Mazda marques.

And who you ask is this that we are raising the money for? Well, have you ever had a friend who would do anything for you – no matter what it was? Have you ever had a friend who was in an accident and was seriously injured? Have you ever felt like you wanted to do something for that friend, but didn't know what? Well, now is your chance to be able to help a friend who has been willing to do anything for his friends and who was in an accident and is now paralyzed from the waist down. Jon Dotson has been a great friend of the Mazda community for many years and he needs our help.

Jon is a young 29 year old guy who has had his life changed for him in a way that cannot be fixed (at least not yet). It is our goal as his friends

to make sure that he can live as comfortable of a life as possible with as much independence as he can. To this end, Barbara Beach and her family are donating her beloved 1st Generation RX-7 to be retrofit so that Jon can drive with his hands and Jon's father is renovating his home so that Jon can have mobility and freedom.

Now, as some of you have noticed, this event is happening on the same day as Hal Jandorf's great Mr. Pinos run. Don't worry; you will still be able to participate in that run too. The Car Show will be getting out at about 4:00pm which gives you plenty of time to head up the hill and join Hal for a picnic and a night of star gazing.

You can register online or via mail. All the information that you need is online, so check us out and come out and join us for this great event that promises to be a whole lot of fun!

Yosemite by Moonlight **Date: August 27 –29, 2004** **Meeting Time: 11:00am**

Place: Flying J, Frazier Park
Host: Marna Wood
miatafun@earthlink.net
909-864-6271 h
909-732-5487 c

RSVP required as soon as possible. Hotel deadline is 7-27-04.

Description: Seeing El Capitan and Half Dome glowing in the light from a full moon is like seeing them for the first time. And being up on Glacier Point, looking down on Yosemite Valley and the twinkling campfires, this is what we will experience when we travel up to Oakhurst and enter Yosemite late at night.

We will drive up on Friday, have a leisurely day Saturday exploring the local hills, and then Saturday night we will drive into Yosemite after dinner.

The details for all of the activities are still being worked out. But if you want to join us, make your hotel reservations now. August is a popular time of the year at Yosemite and rooms will go fast.

Accommodations: The Shilo Inn. 40644 Highway 41, Oakhurst. Call 800-222-2244 and ask for the Miata Fun group booking. Room rates are \$95 per night. All rooms in the group booking are non-smoking rooms.

Directions: Take I-5 north, past Magic Mountain. Take the first exit past Gorman and turn left. Go under the freeway, you will see the Flying J on your left. Make sure you eat lunch before we continue north.



We all know the Miata effects each of us in magical, mystical ways.

For Helen Sharp, the car brought about a complete change after she purchased her 1995 Merlot M Edition in 2001. Her co-workers remarked shortly after she got the car “what a totally different person you are now.” Helen says the car and the SDMC have significantly impacted her life—“never before have I met so many really nice people in the same group. They are an awesome bunch.”

Not that Helen didn't have fun cars before. Her very first car was an MG, followed by an English Ford and later a Mercedes 450 SLC. In fact, during the first two years of her marriage, her husband had 24 cars. As the family grew, she drove the requisite four-door Pontiac and a nine-passenger wagon.

Only it wasn't a regular nine-passenger wagon. It was a 1976 Mercury, with a sun roof. No, they didn't have sun roofs in 1976, but Helen insisted she wanted one and had it

specially made for her car.

When it came time to get back to the sporty cars again, she liked the reliability and relatively leakproof roof of the Miata. She searched about on the net and drove a few at the dealers, but couldn't find the perfect match. Then she heard of this Merlot, being sold by J. Russ Sharp (no relation), who lived on Elena Street (which is one Spanish derivation of Helen). Since her husband's initials were also J.R. Sharp. “It quickly became apparent I was meant to have this car,” she recalls.

So she bought the car, and decided San Diego Miata Club might be a group with like-minded interests—even though “I am not a joiner.”

But she did sign up in March of 2002, and took part in five runs in the first two months! That was to continue to be the Miata Club pattern for this energetic grandmother. She continues to be part of every activity she can squeeze into the schedule.

The car came with a hardtop, but you seldom see Helen with anything but top down, enjoying the freedom and the breeze. Heading to one party last December it was quite wet, and she started out topless, but eventually had to give in and friends came running over to see her car for the first time with the top up.

Helen's Merlot is a daily driver, and is now at about the 100,000 mark. She simply loves to drive, and try new things. Helen says she would like to get into Autocrossing, but doesn't want to wear out her precious metal companion. And there seem to be plenty more roads to explore for Helen and her Merlot. When there is no formal club run, she tries to find another reason to get out in the breeze.

Helen's Miata does a whole lot more than just get her to and from work for her employment as a secretary in a medical group. It's a way of life, not just a way to move about on the streets and highways.



Photo by Wayne Knight



MIATAS IN CAR SHOWS...IT'S BEGINNING TO HAPPEN—BY STEVE WAID

I have a theory about car shows and Miatas. The theory is defined by two assumptive truths. 1) Car shows display cars that are not typically seen on the road. 2) Miata owners consider their cars to be cars to be driven and in many cases (not SDMC members) just a mode of transportation. These two “truths” result in two conditions that almost always exclude the Miata from being seen in car shows.

1. Car shows typically include only cars twenty five years old or older. The Miata ain't quite there yet.
2. Miata owners don't consider their cars as anything that anyone wants to see.

The theory, therefore, is that Miata owners/drivers do not choose to display their cars in Car Shows, when the opportunity arises, because they think that they are not worthy. We think that no one wants to see our cars.

That is changing. Firstly, there are people (I call them “car guys”) who like to see cars of all kinds and ages. By the way, before someone gets all upset, “car guys” is not gender specific in my lexicon. We are guys AND gals. I digress. And now there are Miataphiles that are finding out that displaying their cars in car shows is a fun and rewarding effort.

The 5th Annual Car Show on the Lawn is a car show organized by the Car Club Council of the San Diego Auto Museum. It is open to any car or motorcycle...no age restrictions. This show has increased in participation from about 85 cars in 2002, to 250 cars in 2003, and an estimate of over 400 this year. The show is held on the lawns of Balboa Park, in and around the trees with the cool breezes coming in off of the Pacific.

Because SDMC is recognized by the Council as the largest car club in San Diego, they created a Miata Class for judging with Coast Car Covers spon-

soring the Top Choice and Runner Up trophies. With relatively short notice to club members, we had 17 Miatas on display...many members who had never shown their cars before. Our cars were all displayed together and there was considerable interest by the public in knowing more about our cars. But a good portion of the fun at an event like this is getting to see all of the other cars that are shown by the hobbyists that make up the “car guys” community. With very little effort, you meet and enjoy car enthusiasts of all kinds. I talked to the GTO guys, the MG guys, Mustang guys, 1955 Buick guy, and so on. I think you get the idea.

Because SDMC has again this year participated in the car show at the San Diego County Fair, also organized by Car Club Council people, we are fast becoming recognized in the car club community as a club of “doers”. We knew we were, but now we have stretched our legs into an area that we have not really been active. (See my theory).

THE PRIZE! PHOTO BY MARK BOOTH



Recognition should go to all of those who have shown their cars in these recent San Diego car shows. Even though the judges awarded Mark and Cathy Booth (Top Choice) and Steve and Laurie Waid (Runner Up) the trophies at the Car Show on the Lawn, every Miata there showed the care and appreciation that we all have of our special cars. Any one of these could have won awards, and not one of us would have questioned that they were deserved.

So what is the message? People want to see our Miatas, and it is fun and rewarding to show them ours. Try it, you'll like it.





★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
 ★ **TOP CHOICE!** ★
 ★ **MARK & CATHY BOOTH** ★
 ★ **PHOTO** ★
 ★ BY VOODOO BOB KRUEGER ★
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



→
RUNNER UP
 STEVE & LAURIE
 WAID

ZOOM-ZOOM
 ART HAMILTON'S
 1999 SAPPHIRE 10AE
 AND
 BOB PFEIFER'S 2000
 MAHOGANY SE

PHOTOS BY
 VOODOO BOB
 KRUEGER



Two months ago, Larry Dennstedt wrote an article about smog issues with the Miata. I am here to share with you the experience I had during the month of June to get my 90 Miata ready for the smog test.

This is the first time I have had to smog my Miata since I purchased it in late July of 2002. As you may know, when a vehicle is sold in the State of California, the seller has the responsibility of making certain the vehicle passes the California emissions tests before a title can be transferred to another party. In my case, the Miata was tested within 60 days of my purchasing the car. This test report paperwork was submitted to DMV along with the transfer of ownership title to my name. The previous owner had paid the registration and smog test fees before deciding to sell the Miata. We both lucked out due to the fact the smog test was still valid for title transfer for a period of time after the Miata was sold.

I knew that during the month of June, I would be following Larry's instructions very carefully to ready my Miata for its first smog test with me. I surely would not have passed this strict test without making many adjustments and changes ahead of time because I have the timing advanced well beyond factory specs. So...Off to my driveway I go with a handfull of tools and parts.

First comes the oil and filter change. Easy enough to do. Now comes the spark plugs. I always take my time here to make sure I don't damage the wires. I set the gap to .040" and used "anti-seize" to coat the threads.

Next comes the timing of the engine. Hook up my jumper wire, connect the multi-meter for the tach reading, attach the timing light and fire up the car. Those of you who have done timing on the Miata know what steps to take here to advance or retard the timing with the use of a timing light and a multi-meter.

Now the timing is set to 8 degrees advanced and the RPM's are back to 850. The only thing left is to inspect my K&N air filter and clean the throttle body. Cool!! All done!

I am now waiting for the technician at the Arco Smog Pro location to plug my car into life support (DMV computer) and put it through the paces on the treadmill as well. The technician was a pretty big guy and I could imagine the look on my face as he plopped down into the drivers seat to run the engine up and missed a gear while shifting between first and second. Anyway...all of this took about 10 minutes while having the "sniffer" stuffed up the tail pipe to take the readings from the gases my Miata was emitting. No pun intended here. I was feeling pretty good about the changes I had made to the car in preparation for this day. The technician walked around the corner to remove the "sniffer" from the tailpipe, looked at me, and said "NADA".

To which I replied. What?... NADA what? In his best English accent, he tells me "it no passed". Noooooooo!!!!!!... I'm doomed!... I failed!... Am I a gross polluter? Should I grab my Miata and run? The answer to my problem was - call Larry.

At Dennstedt's auto repair, I show Larry and Rocky a copy of the printed test results showing the "NO(PPM)" numbers that show how badly my Miata had failed. The max output allowed numbers are 847ppm at 15mph, and 786 ppm at 25mph. Average output set by the state is 237ppm at 15mph, and 199ppm at 25mph. My Miata was putting out 1352ppm at 15mph, and 821ppm at 25mph. Ouch. Larry studied all of these numbers and suggested three things. Change the exhaust manifold sensor, the catalytic converter, and do a fuel injection service. With Larry and Rocky's help, the sensor was replaced and the fuel injection system was put through the paces. Looked like an I.V. drip going into my car. Cool!

Now I am at Ed Hansen's Muffler shop in Spring Valley to get the "cat" replaced. I can tell you one thing about Ed Hansen's. This place knows how to take care of its customers. I have had all of my current and past vehicles serviced at Ed's shop and I actually look forward to going there to have work done. Ed usually says hello to everyone he sees in the waiting room of the reception area. When I think of it, seems Ed Hansen and Larry Dennstedt went to the same school of "customer service" as they are genuine in what they say and do. Where was I? Oh yes...I handed my keys to Ed's wife, who was working behind the counter, and my Miata was pulled into the service bay. A short time later, I had the keys back in my hand cutting short the great conversation with Ed and his wife. I am a sucker for great bench racing conversation. Just ask my girlfriend Judy. Hi hun?!? So...I paid my bill, Said thank you very much, and headed to the same smog station for my free retest.

Continued on Page 13





DON'T MISS THE MOST MIATA-FUN YOU'VE EVER HAD!

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WWW.MIATACONNECTION.COM
BEFORE JULY 1— SAVE \$20**

\$150 FOR 4 FUN-PACKED MIATA DAYS.

Greet Miata friends from all over the world.

*First Class Miata driving events on San Diego Roads
Unsurpassed Vendor Mall*

Special Saturday entertainment by



Continued from Page 12



Once at the test station, the same technician took my keys, welcomed me back, and said he can tell it should pass because he could see the pride I had in taking good care of my Miata. I hoped he was right. This time when he pulled the "sniffer" from the tailpipe, he looked at me and again in his best English accent, said "BUENO!" I knew what that meant.

To finish this tech article about my smog test, I will now list the passing numbers after consulting Larry and Ed. These numbers are for my 1990 Miata. Max allowed at 15mph: 847ppm. Average: 237ppm. My Miata: 11ppm. Max allowed at 25mph: 786ppm. Average: 199ppm. My Miata: 5ppm
Thanks guys!

- Scott Lewis
SDMC Tech Editor



NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest members
(since last newsletter): (13)

Earl ("Sam") Cade
Winifred ("Wink")
Escondido
2003 Splash Green

Nicholas Cota
Noah Radant
San Diego
1996 Starlight Mica

Robert George
Carlsbad
1994 White

Jan Hart
Jamul
1997 Red

Calvin Hicks
San Diego
2003 Midnight Blue

Mark Laythorpe
Vista
2000 Twilight

Daniel Moceri
Joann Moceri
El Cajon
2004 Titanium

William Murphy
Sherrie Ford
Santee
1991 White

Louis Nunes Jr.
Jill Marie Nunes
Murrieta
2000 Mahogany

Peter Payne
Linda Payne
San Diego
2004 Black

Kenny Reyes
Vista
2003

Paul Rolzin
San Diego
2003 Silver

Barbara Thompson
El Cajon
2001 Red

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

As of June 17, 2004, there are
333 memberships
(123 single, 210 dual)
and a total of 543 members.

Memberships by Miata Color:

80 Red
54 White
34 Black
29 Silver
18 Emerald Green
11 BRG
12 Montego Blue
12 Yellow
11 Twilight Blue
11 Sapphire Blue
9 Mahogany
9 Mariner Blue
6 Marina Green
9 Titanium
7 Crystal Blue
5 Laguna Blue
5 Garnet
5 Midnight Blue
4 Starlight Blue
5 Strato Blue
2 Merlot
2 Splash Green
1 Evolution Orange
1 Laser Blue
1 Teal (custom)
9 Unreported



RENEWING MEMBERS (SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER)

Tom & Paula Anderson

Paul Buchsbaum
Diane Goodman

Jeri & Tom Engel

Geoff Fähring
Xavier Castillo

Bruce Furbush
Roseanne Meyerhoff

Brian Goodwin

Karyn & John Hendricks

Bruce Hill
Christine Hill

John & Dee Horsman

Dave & Pamela Hunt

Debbye & Bruce Lewis

Michele Palazzi

Bill Preston

Troy & Jeanne Ray

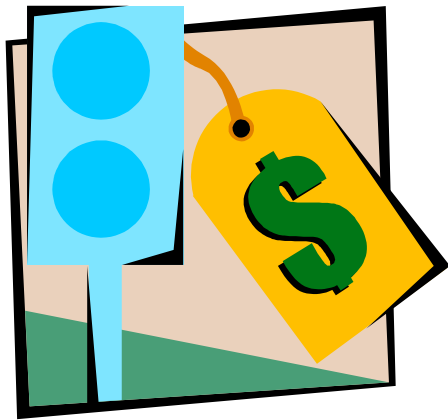
John & Barbara Templeton

Judy Ryan

BADGES?

*H*ave you wondered how 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 \$6.50 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@teamvoodoo.com.





Classified ad space is provided free of charge to **members only**. Ads must include your first and last name, telephone number, and e-mail address with each submission. Must agree with current club roster.

Send to:

newsletter@sandiegomiataclub.org

For Sale: 1999 Emerald Green with a Red Stripe, 61,000 miles \$10,000 OBO. Evenings: 760-796-7704 or email: rndramz@hotmail.com
Donna Ramsey

For Sale: 1990 White, base model Miata, AM/FM cassette, 5 speed, No A/C. New engine at 100,000 miles. Runs strong. Comes with Stylebar, tonneau cover, chassis braces and SDMC magnetics. Recently tuned with new timing belt and smogged. This car was responsible for 5 Dam Runs. Must sell as our other sports car must take its place in the garage. \$3200 OBO. Contact John & Joyce Richardson. 909-696-1892 or at miatajuan@hotmail.com

For Sale: '77 MGB Lots of extra parts, short block, Head, overdrive tranny, 60amp alternator, Intake/exhaust manifold. extra carburetors. New catalytic converter. and more. Car in running order, Recent smog, Compression 135 across. Lots of new parts John @ 760-789-8199 Stjohn55@sbcglobal.net

For Sale: 2001 silver Miata. MX-5 - 5 speed 43,000 miles. Great condition. Just off warranty. Need larger car. call (619) 449-5626 or e-mail foxlaw@cox.net

For Sale: 1994 MAZDA MIATA - 4 cyl, 5spd, ps, pb, ac, p/mirrors, stereo am/fm/cd, M - new tires, new paint (deep blue), w/tan leather. 95K, \$5350/OBO, Call Patrick (760) 753-5440 or rchvlvh@yahoo.com.

For Sale: Silver 90, original owner, loving care. Good top with glass window. New engine at 93,165. Just smogged. Ready to roll. Body smooth. 152,000 miles. \$2950. Tom Sprague, 858/566-2254, tspraguepr@aol.com.

For Sale: New and unused Blue and Black B&I Carbon fiber dash kit applicable to model years '90-'93. This kit is brand new, in the box, and is the best quality on the market. It's blue and black woven together, and it looks just insane in the light. Make a reasonable offer, and it is yours. Was \$370 new. I will take any reasonable offer, so come and get it. Email me for detailed pics. I would prefer a local buyer, yet if you want it shipped, I will do so, as long as you pay for the shipping costs, and it is expensive to ship a flat item like this one, at least \$30, so keep that in mind. Location: Cardiff. Michael Adcock (760) 436-8311, machmx5@adelphia.net

For Sale: 1992 Viscous Limited Slip Differential. Includes half-shafts and driveshaft, \$50. Racing Beat original 2-point Style Bar, \$20. For details, call Robert Holland at 858-541-0935 or email at jtbob@teamvoodoo.com

For Sale: 1990 Miata aluminum wheels very good condition - \$20 each. Leather steering with air bag in

excellent condition, make offer. Tom Tratar 619 501-2785 ttratar@cox.net

For Sale: 2003 Miata Shinsen 5-spd, titanium body, blue top, 5-yr/50kmile warranty; cruise, alloys,

AC,CD,PW,PL, Karr Alarm, Lojack; 6300miles. Beautiful car, like brand new. Job transfer, must sell. \$20k/obo. Judy Zarevich 619-282-2251 Mon-Fri 8am-6pm/858-484-6183 evenings and weekends. JZarevich@moderncontinental.com

For Sale: Jackson header for a 94 and Hi flow cat, also have 94 1.8 liter engine, transmission, body and mechanical parts from '90, '92, '94, 96 and a complete interior and top from a 99 10AE and various parts. Wally, (619) 232-2801 ext 313, 234-2858, or wallymiata@juno.com

For Sale: Parts from my '91 with 125K Miles, Strong Engine, 5-Speed Gear Box & Differential (With Prop Shaft & Axles) - Call for Details-Rick 619-702-8077 or e-mail maigaberzins@aol.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.



LOCAL BUSINESS DISCOUNTS

SD MIATA CLUB members receive a substantial discount on parts and labor. The club does not endorse any vendors. To receive your discount, simply present a current SDMC membership card at the time of your purchase or service.

Al & Ed's Auto Sound, Car alarms too!
3740 Rosecrans Street, San Diego (619) 682-3800
11608 Carmel Mtn. Road, San Diego (858) 675-2000
Discount: 14%

Alarm 2000, Residential & Commercial alarm installations & monitoring. Free equipment with 2-way voice & free professional installation. Waiver of \$69 connection fee to SDMC members. Pay only monthly monitoring. Contact: Buffy Hergenrader, buffy@iopener.net (619) 221-0948

Allen's Wrench, Mazda Master Technician
1620 Grand Avenue, San Marcos (760) 744-1192
Discount: 10% (except oil changes)

American Battery, Miata batteries & all other batteries
525 West Washington, Escondido (760) 746-8010
Discount: Fleet discount on all products
Contact: Jeff Hartmayer

Brakewerks.com, Axxis Ultimate, Cobalt Friction, Ferodo, Hawk, Pagid, and Performance Friction braking products. ATE brake fluids.
Ed Hannigan, ehannigan@adelphia.net (760) 473-4055
Discount: 15% on Axxis Ultimate products, special pricing on other products.

Bumper Express, Plastic Bumper Repair. Work done at the shop or a mobile truck will come to you.
9630 Black Mountain Road, Suite J, off Miramar Road.
Discount: 20%; Toll free (877) 228-6737
www.bumperexpress.com

Coast Car Covers, Inc., Car covers, cockpit covers
1229 Morena Blvd., San Diego (619) 275-7100
Discount: Wholesale price

Dent Man, Mobile, paintless dent removal
(800) 965-5475
Discount: 15%

Express Tire, Auto repair, tires.
12619 Poway Road, Poway, (858) 748-6330
Manager: David Dolan
Discount: 10% on parts and labor, including tires.

Good-Win Racing LLC, Miata performance products including shocks, springs, exhausts, light alloy wheels & everything from Racing Beat, Moss Motors, & Jackson Racing. www.good-win-racing.com
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Discount: Special Club Price on Everything

Just Dings Ltd., Just Dings Ltd. Mobile Paintless Dent Removal, 858-569-3464 Discount: 15%

Kesler Customs, Miata Chassis Braces, Adjustable Dead Pedals, Hide-a-way License Plate Brackets. Installation of after market parts, fabrication and light welding.
Ted Kesler, (619) 421-8472 Special Club Prices

Larry Dennstedt's Auto Repair
4283 41st Street, San Diego (619) 284-4911
Discount: 10% on labor

Leucadia Auto Body
1508 N. Coast Hwy., Leucadia (760) 634-1671
Discount: 10% on Parts and labor
Contact: Larry Sukay

Lutz Tire & Service, Alignment specialist, tires
2853 Market Street, San Diego (619) 232-2957
Discount: 10% on parts (tires not included)
Ask for Mike

Magnolia Auto Body, Restorations, body work
8500 Ablette Road, Santee (619) 562-7861
Discount: 10% on labor and parts; ask for T.J.

Porterfield Enterprises Ltd., Brake pads, rotors
1767 Placentia Ave., Costa Mesa (949) 548-4470
Discount: 15% off Porterfield & Hawk brake pads, \$10 off rotors, \$9 for Motul 600 brake fluid (1 pint).

Professional Car Care Products & Accessories
3582 Mount Acadia #E, San Diego (858) 279-5772
Discount: 25% on wash, wax, or complete detail
Owner: Eddy Belter

Rosin & Associates, Attorneys at law
Accidents, insurance issues, general civil law.
Discount: 10% on attorneys fees. No recovery, no fee. Contact: Anita D. Eoff-Rosin, (619) 543-9600

Smog Squad
3342 Rosecrans, San Diego (619) 223-8806
Discount: \$10 on smog tests
General Manager: Jose Munoz

Southern California Audio Labs, Home theater installs, home automation, audio/video design
soundz915@aol.com or (760) 788-0066
Discount: 20%. Contact: Scott Pike

Team Voodoo, Nearly-legendary shift knobs, brake grips, t-shirts, hats, floor mats, etc.
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tomiaata@cox.net (949) 366-0322
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Miramar (858) 530-1666
National City (619) 477-8790
Santee (619) 448-9140
Discount: Body Shop Pricing #CM6660

Twin Oaks UNOCAL 76, oil changes, mechanical
102 E. Carmel Street, San Marcos (760) 752-7600
Factory trained Mazda technician
Discount: 15% on parts and labor
Contact: Larry Sukay

WheelStore, Wheels, tires, suspension, alignment
208 S. Coast Hwy., Oceanside (760) 967-1336
Discount: Competitive tire discount
\$10 off alignments
Contact: Joe Jordan

Mazda Dealerships:

Bell Road Mazda
Phoenix (800) 765-5292
Discount: 20% off on Mazda parts/accessories
Ask for John Mardueno or Scott Moehn

Cush Mazda
Escondido (760) 737-3200
Discount: 15% on parts/labor (not including smog certification).

Westcott Mazda
National City (619) 474-1591
Discount: 10% on parts or labor

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Stamp

