

SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB NEWS



MAY 2005 VOLUME 5 NUMBER 11

(PAST) PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

The Election Folly's er Follies

On the 23rd of April, 2005, the members of the San Diego Miata Club elected new Executive Board members to a one year term of office. The mood was festive, the competition for office intense. Backroom deals were made and tires were smoked. All eyes were turned on the candidates as the fierce campaign for the coveted office of "President of the San Diego Miata Club" reached its zenith. The nominations were called out and the votes were cast. The candidates waited with cool detachment as the votes were counted. Only an expert member could detect the twitch in the cheek, the sweat on the upper lip and the uneven dilation of the eyeballs that indicated the true passion and excitement that each candidate was striving to suppress. The vote counters placed the name of the winning person in a sealed envelope and transported (with heavy security) it to the lame duck (or just lame) out-going President. The President took the envelope and seeing that it was securely fastened asked the membership for a letter opener. He was greeted by fourteen offers of buck knives, three pairs of scissors, and a universal wine bottle opener. After cutting his fingers three times (with the scissors) the President managed to open the envelope and slowly turned to the membership and announced "Who wrote this name, it doesn't make any sense! Oh, I see the problem, somebody put the name into the envelope upside-down. The winner and new President of the San Diego Miata Club is ...

SUE HINKLE

The meeting was then turned over to the new President who with a triumphant smile announced "Nominations for the office of Vice President are now open". Once again the candidates stepped forward to seek the office that was a mere gas pedal away from the Presidency. The secret ballots were cast, collected and counted in the time it takes for a Miata to go from 0 to 60 mph. The new President was handed the unsealed envelope and without further ado reached in, took out the paper and announced "Who keeps putting the paper in upside-down? The winner and new Vice President of the San Diego

MAY EVENTS: SEE INSIDE FOR COMPLETE DETAILS!

	Event	Date	Time?	Where to Meet?
	Cruisin' Grand Escondido	Friday, May 6th	6 pm eat 7 pm cruise 9 pm pie	Toms #23 Escondido (see inside for directions)
	Search for Madonna	Saturday-Monday, May 7-9th	7 am	McDonald's at I-5 and Oceanside Blvd.
	SDMC Monthly Meeting	Thursday, May 27th	6:00 pm	Boll Weevil Restaurant, Clairemont Mesa Blvd.



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.

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The SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB
has established a dedicated
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www.sandiegomiataclub.org
Dedicated 24-hour voice message line:
(619) 434-2007
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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!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Notice

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.



SCENES FROM THE 2005 ANNUAL MEETING



The President and his Vice



Mrs. President and her friend

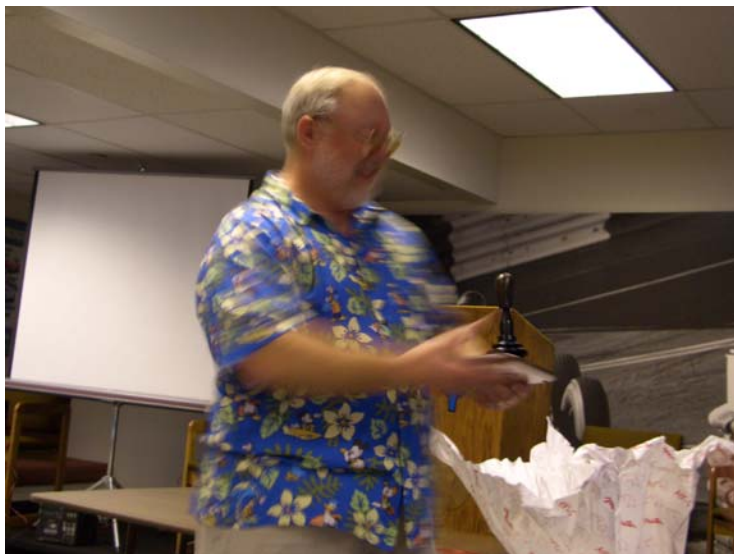


Yellow it is!

Photos by
Laurie Waid



Our new First Guy



Past, First and Current (Presidents, of course!)



Most of us have the newspaper thrown on our driveway by a myopic young lad with no arm, and we run out to locate it, (it's always under the last bush on the left), bring it in, sit in the easy chair, and see what's going on in the World, and what the editors have written to expand our store of knowledge. I think that we feel much the same way about our Club Newsletter, actually I enjoy it more than the regular paper! One big difference is that the regular paper has a fleet of newsmen, reporters, and photographers to get out each issue. The S.D.M.C. Newsletter has well it has us, the membership! That's right we are the reporters, photographers, and head contributors of our Newsletter! So with that in mind, if you have an idea for an article write it down and send it to the Newsletter. This could range from a run write up, tech article, after market accessories, safety, plug your upcoming run, to a Member Profile. The only qualifier is that it must pertain to Miata's, or the Club, sorry no articles about your Aunt Mildred's visit from Des Moines. So, the key to a bigger more interesting Newsletter is US! Don't be shy, I'm sure that there are a few budding Thoreaus or Hemingways out there, just waiting to be published.

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1—PREZ MESSAGE

Miata Club is ...

JERRY BOSTER.

In a very serious voice the President said, "I am going to open the nominations for a very important position but before I do I would like to dispel the rumors that I plan to double the salary of all Executive Board members (it's really only going up by 65%). Of course this very important job is that of Treasurer for the San Diego Miata Club. I would further like to add that whoever wins this position is cordially invited to have dinner with me every Saturday night. Oh and please bring the checkbook with you". The new President then opened the floor for nominations from the members for the office of Treasurer. In the time it takes a Mazdaspeed MX-5 to run the ¼ mile the members voted, turned in the votes, the votes committee counted the votes and handed the folded paper to the President. "Oh what happened to the envelope? Geeze! The name is upside-down again! The winner and new Treasurer of the San Diego Miata Club is ...

JAYSON BRENT.

And then we were down to the final nomination. "Whoever fills the job of Secretary MUST be able to place letters in envelopes RIGHTSIDE-UP!" said the President with delicate passion. The nominations for Secretary of the San Diego Miata Club are now open. For the last time the candidates stood up as they were nominated to serve in this office. In the time it takes to get a flat tire by following Nails to closely the votes were cast, counted and a paper was handed to the President. "Oh for crying out loud! There's no name on this paper! Oh, it's on the other side and it's still upside-down! The winner and new Secretary of the San Diego Miata Club is ...

BRENDA KAY.

And so another election process was over. Through all the tears and agony, through the pain and sorrow (and that was the winners!) we had finally elected a new Executive Board to lead us into the future. The final words of wisdom that I heard from the outgoing President summed it up for all of us when he said "Glad that's over, now let's eat!"



OUR FAVORITE RUNS—A MIATA WORD SEARCH

J U I R S T N T A N N F Y Y L
O Q X L U B D Q P S A F E T Y
T V W L N U T D X A I Z R D L
E D N A R G A S E M L Z W B I
S G B L I V N R O Z U O K N L
M C R C S P E E W S J F M L A
R B I P E D H W C V D T K A C
E E C T A C T M R T L K I P R
S M N E E O R E R H O F D K S
U W L N P N E H I G H L A N D
O F Y L A N G O I D A R B C M
C L E N I B X A O A O Z B I K
P S O G O K N I M K A O A L N
S G N O V L N C V W B T F V B
M E Q Y I W A E V N A Y W W F

BANNER
ENGINEER
LEADER
MESAGRANDE
PALOMAR
SWEEP

CBRADIO
FOOD
LILAC
MIATA
SAFETY
TOPLESS

COUSER
HIGHLAND
MAGNETICS
OLDJULIAN
SUNRISE
WYNOLA



EVENTS

Cruising' Grand Friday, May 6, 2005 6 PM

Steve and Laurie Waid
760-432-0727 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. Af-

ter 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."

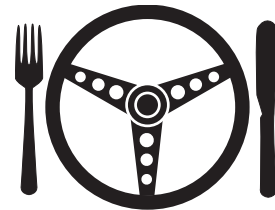
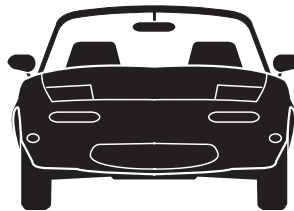
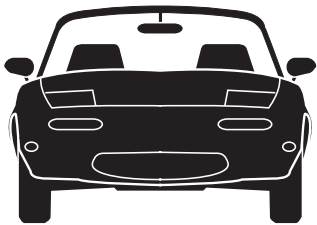
After cruisin' and walkin' Grand, we will drive the short distance to find ice cream. This will be a full evening of car fun for car people.

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

Monthly Meeting Thursday May 26, 2005

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!!



Search for Madonna 2005 May 7th through 9th

This is the 7th year in a row that the Search for Madonna has left San Diego and headed toward the fabulous Madonna Inn in San Luis Obispo. What are we searching for, you ask. Well...FUN, of course. The Madonna Inn becomes our headquarters as we drive, eat, explore, tour, and anything else that we can think of.

This year's Search has a few changes from previous editions. Saturday night will be a "free night" to do whatever you want. Several Searchers have previously shown an interest in taking the evening tour at Hearst Castle. Others will likely take advantage of either the restaurant at the Inn, or one of the many eateries on the California Central Coast. Morro Bay, Cambria, Moonstone Beach, and Old San Luis Obispo

are relatively close.

Saturday afternoon will include a fun run called the "Grand San Luis Obispo Tour" which gives everyone a two hour view of the area and some great roads.

Sunday morning will take us to the annual Morro Bay Car Show for a few hours before we head back to the Inn to meet up with our hosts from the area. Bill Findley will again lead us on a Sunday afternoon run that will go north this year. Our final destination, for dinner, will be Big Bad Bubba's BBQ in Paso Robles. After dinner we will head back to the Inn for our annual "room hopping." This is the time we spend touring each others selection of room from the 109 unique rooms that the Madonna Inn has to offer.

It is not too late to become a Searcher. All you have to do is go on-

line to the Madonna Inn's website at www.madonnainn.com and browse through the rooms. Pick out a few so that when you call Barbara in group reservations you can be prepared in case your selection is already reserved. Once you have reserved your room, email or call Steve Waid with your room name and room number, and who the Searchers in your party will be. Then sit back and wait.

If you want to take the Hearst Castle night tour go to www.hearstcastle.org and reserve for the tour. The date is Saturday, May 7th. Try for one of the later times so that you have time to eat after the Saturday afternoon run that ends about 5:30.

Steve Waid swaid@cox.net
(760) 432-0727





Miatas at the San Diego County Fair in Del Mar

June 12th, 19th, 26th, and July 3rd
10 am

Every Sunday during the run of the San Diego County Fair, SDMC members are welcomed to "Cruise in" on Sundays (June 12th, 19th, 26th, and July 3rd) as part of "*Classics Galore*". Meet in the Albertson's parking lot on the south side of

Via de la Valle, just east of I-5 at 10 am. At 10:20 am, we will caravan with a police escort through traffic and into the fairgrounds along with cars from other car clubs. All occupants of the club vehicles are admitted free to the fairgrounds, and of course parking is free as well. You may leave whenever you wish.

The parking/viewing area on the racetrack is well-groomed, slightly moist dirt; it is dirt but it is neither muddy nor dusty. Staff is on site asking the public to "look, but don't touch."

On Wednesday, June 15th, and Saturday, June 18th member volunteers will be showing their Miatas in the annual car show at the fair. These volunteers, by showing their cars, allow the rest of the membership to participate in the Cruise in. We will be recognizing these volunteers by name at a later date. Plan your visit to the fair now, and join other Miataphiles in this **Free Event** until you start to find something to eat, that is.

Arizona Weekender June 10th to June 12th Phoenix and Prescott Cactus Cruisin' - The Sequel

The Sahuaro Miata Club cordially invites you to join us for a weekend of great roads, great people and some of the nicest scenery in Arizona.

Last years Cactus Cruisin' was very successful and we look forward to doing it again in June. We are changing things up a little this year so that you, our California friends, can experience a different part of our great state and hopefully see some areas that you may not have before.

This year's event takes place June 10th. - 12th. We will head to Phoenix on Friday, the 10th where we will stay at the Chaparral Suites in Scottsdale for the evening. On Saturday morning, everyone will depart the Chaparral Suites and head north from Phoenix through Payson and up to the pines at Happy Jack Lodge for lunch. From Happy Jack it's on thru Jerome and finally to Prescott where everyone will check in at the Hampton Inn. Finally, that evening everyone will head to Downtown Prescott for a great buffet dinner at the historic



Hassayampa Inn.

Everyone will need to make their own reservations at the host hotels. Friday's host hotel is the Chaparral Suites on Scottsdale Rd. in Scottsdale, AZ. You can make your reservations there for the evening of June 10th by calling 1-800-528-1456. The Chaparral Suites is an all suite resort with very reasonable rates in June. A one bedroom suite should be \$79. They also have two bedrooms suites available with very good summer rates in case anyone wants to share a suite with others. You can access their website by going to www.chaparralsuites.com. We did not reserve a block of rooms at Chaparral Suites since June is not a busy season for Phoenix.

We have reserved a block of rooms at the Hampton Inn in Prescott for Saturday evening, the 11th. You can make your reservations there by calling (928) 443-5500. Be sure that you mention

that you are with the Sahuaro Miata Club group. The rate for the evening is \$105.

The Chaparral Suites has two restaurants on site for dinner on Friday evening as well as dozens of restaurants in the area. They also have a free "happy hour" reception with free beer and wine every evening, and a free hot breakfast in the morning. We are working to arrange some fun events at one of their pools for Friday evening as well.

Lunch on Saturday will take place at the Happy Jack Lodge in the cool pines of the Rim Country.

Dinner on Saturday evening will be buffet style at the Hassayampa Inn in Downtown Prescott. The Hassayampa was built in the '20s and is a beautifully restored hotel and conference center. It is located just two blocks from Prescott's famous Whiskey Row, so be sure to explore the downtown area after dinner. The buffet will cost everyone \$24 per person and that includes taxes and tip. There will also be a cash bar available. We will collect for dinner when we arrive at the Inn. You can check out the Inn by going to www.hassayampainn.com.

Make your reservations early and make plans to join us for Cactus Cruisin' - The Sequel.



Saturday, March 26th dawned bright and sunny after weeks of rain and gloom. On a day made for top down driving, approximately 25 SDMC members and support crew gathered at Larry Dennstedt's Auto Repair Shop to work on the fun driving cars that we love.

There are many SDMC Miata's now sporting new horns, brake rotors, painted calipers, suspension and brace upgrades, exhausts, flashing trunk brake lights, antenna work, engine cleaning, fewer dents (including the one in the hood, Sue).

Larry and Rocky opened up the donut boxes, garage, roll-aways and tool boxes to all the attending SDMC members regardless of skill level. Always gracious hosts, they shared their knowledge, tools, muscle, patience, and pro tricks. All day when anyone needed assistance by way of tool, minor parts or encouragement you would hear a call ring out "Larry", "Rocky" and help would be at hand. Multiple pizza orders were required as the hard working Miatafiles needed sustenance while completing all their projects.

Two wizards from DentTime in their "Got Ding" hats removed numerous dents from numerous Miatas and even one Miata support vehicle (Mike Faircloth's RR). Bruce Lewis painted calipers (man did he work hard and not even on his car), Scott Lewis installed at least three sets of new horns and Ted Kessler was handy as always working on tail lights, trunk locks and braces.

The tire-tuning lecture was also very informative, and certainly give us more to think about for autocrossing or even daily driving. Questions and discussion continued even after the presentation. All in all, to quote Leo, "Tech-day was FUN :-)"

- Jerry and Janice Boster

File photo from a previous tech day— who are those guys?

Other comments-

📁 Larry's, (and Rocky's), Tech Day was very cool ! You won't find many shops that will open their doors and tool boxes to a bunch of susedo mechanics and people with car fix-it needs. Tech Day is a great opportunity to help out, be helped, and to make friends. I made one- didn't I Kelley? She now has cool "car matching" calipers. Larry's shop isn't very big, but we stuffed it with all kinds of Miatas, getting all kinds of work done. It's a great opportunity to do that repair or install knowing that two very professional, and several unprofessional, mechanics are close at hand. Great job, guys. We and our cars thank you! - Bruce Lewis

📁 Wow, I would NEVER have guessed that working on a car could be SO much fun! I get it now! I went outside three times yesterday just to stand and stare at my new black, awesome-looking calipers and rotors!!! How can I EVER possibly thank you, Bruce and Rocky, for ALL your hard work?! There's no way I could have finished even ONE set without you two! Thank you, thank you, thank you!!! (Bruce, no whining about me working you like a dog. Your thorough instructions were what got me all fired up to try this in the first place!) And Larry: you're a heckuva pizza-orderer, dude! Just kidding. You are GENEROSITY embodied. I would have bet the farm (and lost) about there being any problem with a new battery. I've got SO much to learn. Thank you for putting all that together and all your support - not just with the cars, but about your philosophy of life, too... ;-)

As for the rest of you... HECKLERS! Any comedic success I ever experience will be THANKS TO YOU because I will know how to handle HECKLERS! I guess the combination of my accent and automatic transmission proved too irresistible to pass up, huh?! I haven't laughed so hard, so much - and been completely sober! - in... I can't remember when!!!

Seriously, everybody just offering encouragement and showing true interest in what was going on was very reassuring. I knew Bruce knew what he was doing, but I truly didn't know if I could do ANY of what I ended up doing. How gratifying, thanks bunches! Grateful to be in the absolute BEST Miata club,

- Kelley Raymond, 04 Black Automatic, with pretty black calipers and rotors



Sunday March 10th was like most Sundays, for most people. My parents were having breakfast and catching up with my sister after her big move back home, my boss was dutifully in Church, and my roommates were all in bed as people are apt to be on a Sunday morning. I, however, was not. Wild horses couldn't have dragged me to bed (though admittedly it nearly took them to get me out) as it was the morning of Steve and Laurie Waid's Puke-O-Rama – undoubtedly the premier of San Diego Miata Club events. With a chill in the air, and a dirty but cute little convertible with correct tire pressure and a newly installed CB antenna splitter – and most important a friendly co-pilot, I pulled out into the early Spring air.

A few miles to warm up the car, and a quick stop to top off with gas, then it was onward to Dalton's (who was hosting this event once again) in San Marcos to a veritable sea of Miatas and friendly faces. I will say I likely had the most shamefully dirty car there, but it was quite the retrospective for me, as last year's Puke was my first Miata Club run (was it only last year?) and I was a lot less lost but filled with anticipation. As always there were many cars of many colors on hand, and many faces from many places inside. Another famous Dalton's buffet breakfast and a good chance for me to catch up with some of the folks I've had the pleasure of meeting over the last year were both on the menu. I had a delightful little chat with Dean Rudenauer, the new SoCalm president, while Jana Lewis (my regular co-pilot who was on loan for the day to friend and fellow SDMC'er Leo Daily) collected some of the free water that was left out for us. Then it was time for us all to lend Steve an ear while he went over the run rules, showed off his Amazing Flaming Shorts (The AFS compliment the Amazing Flaming Car, Puke One, well, Amazingly!), and lastly introduce us to the run crew: Tom Thompson, Sue Hinkle, Steve Kennison, Bruce Lewis, Laurie Waid, Veronica Didier, Jerry and Janice Boster, Ted and Sue Kessler, and Dennis Garon. As usual, the group was split up into 5 smaller groups, alternating directions of travel to do a great loop around north-eastern San Diego. I had the fortune of being in Steve Kennison's group, where there was no trace of yellow bellies, or coincidentally, yellow cars! We were the second northbound group, and had around 12 cars.

The miles started to fly by, and we were waiting to get to the "good stuff", checking our radios, remembering that it's summer-time again and sunscreen is a must. We got into the first couple sets of twisties and the real reason we were out there once again became obvious – to have fun enjoying our little cars. There's nothing quite like watching the car in front of you negotiate a turn, and while part of you is almost jealous to see someone having so much fun, the other part of you is steeling yourself to follow suit! Coming up Palomar Mountain, there were the usual

throng of bikes there – giving us a rather unusual vertical wave. It didn't take long for someone to comment over the radio that was a sign to slow down – fearing danger ahead we all took heed – and a good thing we did, too, as some two miles later there was Smokey but no Bandit radaring the passersby.

Speaking of radios, my Jeff Anderson CB splitter performed marvelously, and I'd like to take a minute here to stress the importance of CB radios. They are not the obvious piece of safety equipment that roll bars and brakes might be, but time after time Steve-and-Dean's timely warnings would squawk out over the radio to beware of any of a number of hazards – a truck deciding to drive down the middle of a one lane road, deep and running water crossing the road, dirt in the turns, bicyclists ahead and on the right, or any of a number of potential calamities.

Watching the cars ahead of me, and those in my rear, I saw a STRONG correlation between those having scores of near misses (an unfortunate driver behind me lost traction on Wynola road and spun completely around, ending up in the oncoming traffic lane, perpendicular to the direction of travel – and this was specifically on a turn I slowed down for due to a warning on my radio moments before) and those who did not have radios.

I'm not trying to discourage anyone to have fun out there if you don't have a radio, but it is indeed a small investment and can save your life or at the very least some embarrassment. Enough with the soapbox.

Mark Booth was on hand with Cathy and with his trusty tripod snapping pictures from behind an unexpected curve while Cathy got a minute to relax in the shade and watch the cars go by. It's always a pleasant surprise to see Mark around a corner, though sometimes the surprise is less pleasant when you park your seemingly shiny car next to his immaculate beauty. Not to be outdone, Leo Daily was kind enough to film much of my journey as he mounted a digital video camera to his style bar, and even had the live feed playing on his in dash entertainment center – though any attempts for him to drive by such were thwarted by his ever watchful co-pilot.

The adventures continued as over my radio I heard Leo joking about his car overheating one year – when a glance at my own temperature gauge (newly linearized based on the directions found online) showed me I was hot under the collar. A few moments to make sure this wasn't going away, and I pulled off the road to let the car cool down. Again Leo and Jana were kind enough to stay with Doug (my friendly co-pilot) and myself, and quick reassurance to the sweep car to go on ahead left us a few moments to ourselves. Tuning on the A/C (with the heat on full) to engage the second cooling fan saw my temps down in short order, and we were back on the road. We had a lot of fun giving chase to the rest of the group, and aside from seeing a guy put a Harley through the paces well enough

to make keeping up a mild challenge, we somehow managed to pass the sweep car! Yes, we caught up with the middle of the group at a stop sign, a few cars having taken a wrong turn somewhere along the line. It was all good fun, and some of us rushed ahead to the next break zone to inspect our cars and empty our bladders.

While there I saw what I thought was almost an impossibility – another homebrew turboed Miata, belonging to Rob Tewksbury. Just having turboed mine I was having a grand old time swapping tips, tricks, and impressions when another Miata guy with a turbo on his 1.6 joined us. Now I didn't think you could sneak that many turbo miatas into such a small group and I figured out how he did it – he didn't! He just happened to be stopping in Julian for some pie, and I made a new friend. We'll have to see if Sean Cook becomes more well known to the group, but he DID join us for almost the rest of the run, though he was quite under the weather (having cut his trip of the day short to get some rest) he said he didn't notice he was sick for 100 miles of seat-time!

Well, with all those adventures, there was still one more in store – a real nasty guy on a Harley decided that it was his job to keep the entire group behind him. Oddly with a motor of equal displacement he still didn't have the power to keep us from passing, but it was a bit of a downer on an otherwise happy day. As always, everyone else we met was happy to see us, and there were many smiling children, honking horns and waving families as our cute little cars went by, and we all ended up the day at Dalton's once again to say our goodbyes, talk of the day, and count the bugs on our bumpers! As a bonus, Helen Sharp made it back to Daltons to reassure everyone that she was ok (although shaken up!) by her rollover. I'd heard whispers of the accident during the second pit stop, but no one knew who it happened to, only that everyone involved was ok. Of course all our best wishes are with you, Helen, and we hope you find another good car soon! I don't know as I write this, but I am assuming some words will be said on the subject during the coming times. As everyone knows by now I'm sure – a roll bar was instrumental in Helen's tragedy being restricted to her car and not her body – I'm VERY relieved to be writing of a close call and not a fatal accident.

So all's well that ends well and we're all excited and looking forward to next year's Puke. I can't imagine how much fun all you folks have who've been here for so long – one year's worth seems to be more fun than a man could deserve, and it's events like the Puke and folks like Steve and Laurie (last year I had the honor of starting out in her daffodil group!) who make the Miata club everything that it is! Note: If anyone has questions or comments about the day, the article, or any equipment mentioned here, drop me a line – AbefM@mad.scientist.com



PUKE—O—RAMA 2005



A motorcyclist stops to watch the parade.

Photo by Mark Booth



Dudleys is always a welcome stop. Photo by Amanda Britz

Dalton's Roadhouse in San Marcos is always willing to provide us with breakfast, lunch and/or dinner. We kept them busy on Puke Day.

Photo by Mark Booth



An interesting day today in Steve Waid's group, and a fascinating look into the future of Puke-a-rama. Not being the least bit suspicious, Steve hand-picked 13 of us to follow him around the highways of San Diego; actually, we were the leftovers after the other groups had been assembled.

Steve experimented with communication via ESP as a bold step beyond those pesky CB radios that are constantly plagued by mountainous terrain. (He did have a back-up plan in place by making sure sweep Dennis Garon had a CB. And Steve did keep his radio to listen as I and two other drivers in the group talked on ours.) Balderdash, I say, to all this ESP stuff, yet we played along.

During segment two, we scouted out a new road or two in the Boulder Creek area using a mock disaster-like scenario in which we actually took a wrong turn to add to the realism. Then, we very successfully practiced a maneuver being planned for Puke-a-rama 2006 that will commemorate the 200th anniversary of Lewis and Clark's Journey of Discovery. Here's what happened:

Steve and the first two drivers following

him broke away from the rest of us, just as Merriweather Lewis took an alternative route from the rest of the party for a short distance on the return portion of that historic trip; the rest of us Brave 11 pushed on -- literally, with the sage direction of Sweep One Dennis at the back of the pack -- back down the path we had just traveled. If we can find it again, don't be surprised if that road shows up as a Puke-a-rama route segment next year.

I know this is getting long, but there's more. We Brave 11 finally broke out of the wilderness onto Highway 79 at Lake Cuyamaca and headed toward Julian. Sensing imminent disaster, I stopped to check my tires at the Sunrise Highway intersection. The others press on, minus the Miata (hereafter referred to as the Shadow) that so faithfully followed me the entire trip ... followed shortly afterward by Steve and his two assistants. When Shadow and I finally caught up with the others, we experienced an almost hard to believe, sight: a 14-Miata run group with its yellow lead and sweep vehicles in the middle, but with the sweep ahead of the lead! Then, on Porter

Road, we all suddenly went back into our correct positions ever so smoothly. Quoting Napoleon Dynamite, "Sweet!"

It truly was an honor to have been a part of this behind-the-scenes look at the ongoing research and creativity that continue to make Puke-a-rama one of our club's premiere events. Just as we know Steve Waid, the Duke of Puke, will be back at the lead of a stellar run group one year from now, the other 13 of us know that we absolutely must arrange to be in any of the other four run groups ... you know, to make room for others to experience what we've just been through. Zoom-zoom.



Cruzin'
Photo by
Amanda Brit



Couser Canyon Road
always provides a thrill
for those who love
the twisties.

Photo by Mark Booth

A Chance to have fun and share...

Many of you are aware that on March 17, 2005, Gregg Garon, 35 year old son of SDMC members Dennis and Maryanne Garon, died very suddenly, leaving his wife Holly, and two sons, Cade, 9 and Keegan, now 4 as well as his parents, brother Colin and about a million friends, who loved Gregg for his zest for life and sense of humor. A golf tournament is being planned in memorial to Gregg and to raise funds for the Gregg Garon Family Foundation. This is a chance to help fellow Miata Club members while having a good time.

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 2005 Entry forms now being accepted.

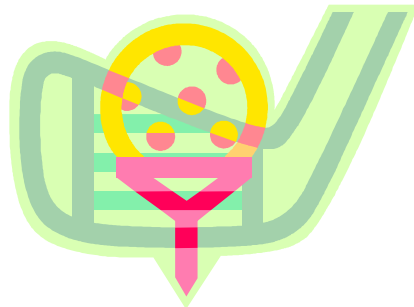
TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE:

12:00 Registration, putting contest, chipping contest

1:00 Shotgun start

5:00-7:00 Silent auction, cash bar, social

7:00-9:00 Mexican buffet and live auction



LOCATION: Lake San Marcos Resort & Country Club
1750 San Pablo Dr. Lake San Marcos, CA 92078

PRICE: \$150 includes green fees, box lunch, goodie bag and dinner.
\$30 for each additional dinner.

More information and applications can be obtained at <http://www.geocities.com/gregggaron/golf.html> or by calling Steve Waid at 760.432.0727.

Mazda Museum Tour by Linda Payne



While on vacation in Japan, I had the opportunity to tour the Mazda museum and factory in Hiroshima. The factory stretches some four miles along the Hiroshima River and comprises about 4 dozen buildings. We were driven by car to visit the corporate headquarters building, the design center, two different sub-assembly factories, an enormous building stuffed with completed cars ready to be shipped and finally the museum which is housed in the final assembly line building. We were not able to view the assembly line itself due to the fire last December. They said it should be reopened to the public next month and we should just kindly come back ^_^.

In lieu of seeing the living thing, they showed us a 15 minute video where we saw the most amazing robotic devices building the cars. The video also showed the QA process which was most impressive.

Did you know.. Mazda was founded in 1920 as a cork manufacturer. Moving into motorized vehicles, they produced a three-wheeled open-air pick-up truck in 1931. The first passenger vehicle produced by Mazda was released in 1960 (R360 coupe). Using their newly developed rotary engine, they built their first sports car, the Cosmos, released in 1960. In 1991 Mazda won the Le Mans 24 hour endurance race with the Mazda 787B, now on display in the museum. They are working on fuel cell and hydrogen engine cars for the future.

My son has a Roadster, which I drove on the 'other' side of the road, shifting with my left hand, and also a Mazda Bongo Friendee Mini-van. I didn't realize we were such a Mazda family.

Great News! From Judy Ryan...

I just wanted to let you all know, I am so excited!!!! As you all are aware, the new 2006 MX5 will be launched in a few months in Hawaii. Sue Hinkle had sent out an email a few weeks ago asking if anyone would lend there '99 M2 edition to Mazda Corp. Well, I responded and to make a long story short, after sending in pictures of my car (which looked perfect after Scott cleaned the engine for me..(Thanks Honey) Jeremy from Mazda emailed me today to say that my car looked so great that they selected it!. Mazda will pick my car up for transporting to Hawaii to sit beside the new 2006 MX5, along with an M1 edition and car #13 from 1989. They will have all three generations on display in Hawaii. In exchange for loaning my car, I will get a Mazda Speed to use for the two months that they will have mine. Just thought I would share this little story for you all.



SLVA CAH TAKES A VACATION-BY JIM AND LAURIE PATTON

C'mon Mom, c'mon Dad, it's Friday morning already, time to get going on this trip you've been talking about for weeks now. It's got to be something special, Dad spent almost a whole day detailing, checking tire pressure, fluid levels, making sure everything was just right. I'm ready to go. Where are you guys?

It's about time, geesh and I thought you two said we were getting an early start. Hey where is this Arizona place anyway? Didn't you take me there when I was real young? Kind of hot, flat and dry isn't it? I sure hope there are some twisties! At least you're starting off right – CA 78 through Julian and down Banner Grade out to Ocotillo Wells is always a cool ride. Wow, these bumps are fun too – glad the dune buggy guys got out of our way there at Glamis but hey, cough, cough, gasp, can we stop a minute so you can get the butterflies out of my radiator. And by the way, I'd like my windshield cleaned too, there are so many of them squished on me I can hardly breathe or see where I'm going!

Thanks Dad! So far this Arizona place is okay but when do we get to some fun roads? Riding on I-10 and even on AZ 60 is boooooorrrrrrinnng! Nice recovery Dad, AZ 71, 89 and 260 to Pinetop were super Miata roads. Twisties, hills, it doesn't get much better than this! What are those Elk things you and Mom were looking for, Extremely Large Kreatures? That's what they sound like – are there really places where animals as heavy as me walk on the sides of the roads? Where'd all these trees come from anyway? I

thought Arizona was covered in those saguaro cactus things. I guess I was looking too hard for coyotes chasing road runners around to see when they started growing trees out here. Wow, this place is really nice, lots of places for you guys to eat. I can't say I'm happy about being left alone under these pines trees when you go hiking, you know how I am about gooey sap on my paint but the clean crisp air sure is invigorating after all the California smog! Parking me next to the Flintstones car was quite humiliating though.

Thanks for taking me to see the Painted Desert, very cool colors. If you say those rocks were trees once, I guess I'll believe it. Sure looked like rocks to me though. But that's what I thought Arizona was all about – hot, flat ground, and rocks. The drive to Winslow was nice but why'd you make Mom drive by that corner to take a picture and sing that old song. Must be an old folks thing, I sure don't get it. Where are we going today? Wow, the Black Canyon Auto Tour! That's gonna be great – 13 miles of zooming around corners through the woods! Hey, wait a minute, this an awful slow Auto Tour and what's this with the dirt roads? Oh, I get it, more old Indian ruins, petroglyphs, pictographs and tourist stuff. No way you're fooling me with that again. Next time take a hike or a Jeep but leave me out of the dusty bumpy roads.

You sure got today right, Dad! Super roads, made just for me! Too bad that Lotus car club was going the other way, I'd have shown them something! Really



terrific looking cars though! AZ 60 through the Fort Apache Indian Reservation is a cool road. That Salt River is a long ways down from the road though. I still don't understand why the ancient Indian civilizations built those houses way up in the cliffs but going driving to see it all was a lot of fun! If you could get all the OTMs out of the way on AZ 88 and 188, those'd be really great roads to do a run on.

Aren't you guys tired yet? Where to today? Sedona, where's that? Someplace with more fun twisty roads I hope! Wow, these colors are even better than in the Painted Desert and the roads are fabulous for me. Waiting for you and Mom to get done looking for energy vortexes and shopping was even fun. Everyone was coming by to see what kind of car I was! I'm very glad you took my advice and left me behind when you went on the backcountry ride. After seeing the Jeeps pull out of the parking lot, I was sure I did not want any part of where you were going.

Driving around up here is better than a birthday any day! What a great idea you had to go back home through Jerome, AZ. AZ 89A was full of twisties, switchbacks, up and down hills, even some passing zones to get around the OTMs. I'm sure glad we ran into a little rain as we went past Alpine. Washed off lots of the bugs and dust from the trip. I'd have hated to show up home looking tired and grubby! Thanks for the trip! Where are we going next?



NEW MEMBERS

As of April 9th 2005 there are 288 memberships (106 single, 182 dual) and a total of 470 members.

Welcome to our newest members (since last newsletter): (6)

Herm Brehmer
San diego
1999 White

Byron Connolly
Oceanside
1999 twilight blue

Marc Daniels
La Jolla
1994 Black

Kris & Leslie Eager
San Diego
1996 White

Tim Hughes
Cardiff
2000 Mahogany

Alford Noriega
Vista
1993 White

Richard & Susan Platt
San Diego
2001 Emerald Mica

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Memberships by Miata Color:

75 Red
43 White
27 Black
21 Silver
14 Titanium
12 Montego Blue
9 Emerald Green
9 Yellow
9 Sapphire Blue
8 Mariner Blue
8 Mahogany
7 Twilight Blue
5 Crystal Blue
5 Midnight Blue
5 BRG
4 Starlight Blue
4 Laguna Blue
4 Strato Blue
3 Marina Green
3 Garnet
3 Merlot
2 Splash Green
1 Evolution Orange
1 Laser Blue
1 Black Cherry
3 Unreported

SDMC REGALIA MAKES A GREAT GIFT!

**SUPPORT YOUR CLUB AND
HAVE SOME GREAT CLUB
WEAR!**

T-SHIRTS,
HATS,
HOODED ZIP SWEATSHIRTS,
PINS,
PENS,
HAT CHUMS,
CARABINEER KEY CHAINS,
AND WINDOW CLINGS.

Pick up your SDMC Regalia at the monthly meeting or e-mail the Regalia Gals for special requests. Something new is coming: details to follow. Watch your e-mail!

Contact the Regalia Gals
VERONICA DIDIER & LINDA PAYNE
and SANDRA BOELTER.
regalia@sandiegomiataclub.org.



RENEWING MEMBERS (SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER):

Daryled & Carlan Bristol

David T. & Lori Bryan

Beverly & Jack Dostal

Darryl & Kathy Gomez

Michael Heinitz

Mary & Greg Herd

Scott Lewis & Judy Ryan

Abraham Mara & Jana Lewis

Anne S. Marshall

Kathie McClelland

David Messick

John & Pat Minnich

Joe & Diana Moore

Tom & Robin Paine

Bud & Judy Swartwood

Bruce & Lucy Thurston

Terye & Royce Van Sanford

Steve & Laurie Waid

BADGES?

Have 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.



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