

TWISTS

&

TURNS



The newsletter of the San Diego Miata Club

Volume 17, Number 5

M Y C O N C E P T O F



First let me state that ALL motor sports are inherently dangerous. Autocross is no different. Any time you put an individual in a helmet into a car and tell them to go around a predetermined course as fast as they can, you are just asking for trouble.

Formula 1 drivers describe autocross as road racing that only lasts a minute on a course that you

have never driven and you will have to turn your steering wheel 400 times. Now to be clear, you do have the opportunity to drive the course at least three times to set your best time from start to finish. That is measured down to the one-thousandth of a second. Power counts, the faster you go the harder you need to stop to negotiate the next turn and then off again to the next turn. Within those 60 or so seconds that means you will be alternately under either hard acceleration or deceleration with skid pad side loads shifting at ridiculous repetitive rates.

One driver puts it in a context that all those that autocross drivers agree with. "These are 60 seconds that everything in the world that we know evaporates. No taxes, no spouse, no children, no parents, no bills, no job, no boss;" well, maybe you get the idea.

As a sport it is cheaper than golf, takes less time and in general is about as satisfying. You can spend very little or quite a lot and get the same rush. The rewards in a monetary sense are very rare, almost non-existent. You can drive your neighbor's station wagon or your 1954 Corvette. Pull off the freeway, empty the trunk and remove the hubcaps and drive like a demon or spend your children's inheritance for a mobile home a car trailer (enclosed preferably) eight full sets of tires in various stages of wear and drive for days to get to the next autocross seeking another wooden plaque or plastic trophy suitably engraved.

This is a sport that covers everything from eight year olds piloting five horsepower, single speed go-karts to 70-something year olds behind the wheel of a 600 horsepower Corvette. All drivers cover the same course; some are quicker than others. Top time of day is often reserved for the Modified cars or the 125 cc six-speed shifter karts attaining speeds of 80+ mph two inches off the ground.

The true results on any given day at autocross is whether your last attempt was better than your first; did you improve or did you fail? You are your own competition. Some days it is all I live for, some days I wish I had stayed in bed! ■

"You can drive your neighbor's station wagon or your 1954 Corvette."

Two Cents From Our President

it's a buck-fifty if you ask me



Well, another "Presidents Message," possibly the most trying part of the position. I seem to be able to gab incessantly, but when it comes to putting something down that others will read I don't want to scribble anything that can be repeated.

Does that make sense? Maybe not but after a dozen or so messages to the club I need inspiration, so I turn to the club calendar just to get an idea as to where we've been and where we are going. April was somewhat busy, Annual Meeting with elected officials (no change there), we are transitioning club volunteers, and some interesting activities coming.

May started off with the Miatas in Moab run to gather with other like-minded individuals and have about as good a time as is humanly possible. At the same time there will be a car show and Poker run in San Marcos, followed by the Ramona Rodeo Run, and All Aboard. Not overly busy but enough activities to keep us busy and maybe pick and choose something to get involved with. Then there will probably be another impromptu run (geezer gathering) midweek or weekend.

We had to bow out of Tierrasanta's Patriots Day Parade due to lack of participation; maybe we are trying too much? But as was pointed out to me: better no showing than a poor showing and the numbers just weren't there. We do need to support these community activities or we won't be invited back.

There will be a car show at MCRD again this year and if you have never been to this I can only encourage you to wash your car and come down to park on the grass, enjoy the other club participants. No, they generally don't drive as much as we do but they sure look great; and again, it is for the CORPS.

Main Street America is on the horizon and we need about 40 cars to show up or somewhere about 20% of the club. It cost \$25 for premium parking, a fantastic time with car people; and again, a worthy cause.

I know many of you don't feel that you have a "Show" car, but if I can wash and wax Baby Blue, with all her battle scars, and be proud of the old girl then there is no earthly reason that you don't participate. These are fun gatherings and they happen in your own back yard. There are limits to the total number of parking spaces so I urge you to get your entry in early or risk being turned away.

"When it comes to putting something down that others will read I don't want to scribble anything that can be repeated."

Sharpen your driving skills? Well now there is a worthwhile endeavor. July 1 there will be a Novice school held by the San Diego Region of the SCCA at Qualcomm Stadium parking lot. This is offered as a one-day event and I urge each and every driver to participate. If you haven't done this, it is a great training site to check both yourself and your ride to have an understanding of just exactly what you and your car are capable of doing. Cost is about \$70 and it will include lunch.

This is a full day of driving and learning in an environment that does not risk bodily harm unlike the freeways. There will be a flyer posted on the San Diego Region site about three to four weeks in advance. It is important to print the flyer and mail in your entry. If for some reason you are unable to attend your entry will probably be refunded as there are many people in standby at these schools. The internet site is www.sdr-scca.com/solo2/. Keep checking the schedule and when it changes color the flyer is available. These events are limited participation so don't miss out. ■

THE MATERS

The First Annual SDMC Academy Mater Awards

BEST PUBLIC or CHARITABLE EVENT



Miatas Show Off

by Steve and Laurie Waid

The Nominees: Main Street America by Steve and Laurie Waid; Patriot's Day Parade by Tierrasanta, Les and Dyanna Smith; Greatest Show on Turf by Steve Waid (in part); Miatas Show Off @ Dalton's by Steve and Laurie Waid; Del Mar Fair Car Show by Steve and Laurie Waid; Cruisin' Grand by Steve and Laurie Wade; Spirit of The 4th Parade and Fun Run by Jeff and Jan Frederick; SDMC Annual Picnic by Gypsy Wayne and Gordon Long; SDMA Picnic Annual Run by Rick and Diane Spurgeon; Holiday Parade of Lights Run and Desserts by Les and Dyanna Smith; San Marcos Holiday Parade by Steve and Laurie Waid; Run to Winetasting/Silent Auction for Scholarship Fund by Mike Votaw and MaryAnn Garon

BEST DRAMATIC SEQUEL



The Twilight Run 17

by Mark and Kathy Booth

The Nominees: Moon Over Miata by Chris Walters / Steve and Laurie Web; Mini Golf Tourney and Run by Les and Dyanna Smith; Ferris Bueller's Day Off III by Gene and Bonnie Steeter; New Year's Day Rose Run by Corbyons and Sharon Flemings; Debbie Does The Drive-in by Bruce and Debbie Lewis; and The Puke by Steve and Laurie Waid

BEST OVER NIGHT EVENT



Run To Death Valley

by Neal and Grace Mills

The Nominees: Oregon Trail by Tom and Marna Wood; 2012 Annual Coastal Cruise by Diane Foster; Run to Death Valley by Neal and Grace Mills; Laughlin Getaway by Bari Russell; Miata @ Mazda Raceway by Neal and Grace Mills

BEST NEW RUN or EVENT



T & T Halloween Run

by Justin Tacket and Samantha

The Nominees: Run to Death Valley by Neal and Grace Mills; Philly Frank's and Beyond by Alan Kagan and Jill Wilson; Dr. ColorChip by Quinn The Eskimo @ Rocky's MiataMotive; Adam's Polish Workshop by Alan Kagan; Bumper Doc Seminar by Steve Waid; OctoberFest / Run to Stone Brewery by Chris Malagui; Wisteria Candy Cottage Run by Daryled and Carlan Bristol; Tech Days and Rocky's MiataMotive.

BEST LIGHTING, GRAPHICS or MAKE-UP



Holiday Light Extravaganza

by Mary Clark and James

The Nominees: Twists and Treats Halloween Run by Greg and Mandie Lee; Rosa Romeo by Someone I'm Sure; Magnetics and Stick-ons by Steve and Laurie Waid; Stunning Preparation of an NB by Mark Booth.

BEST COMBO of CUISINE/SCENERY/DRIVING



Philly Frank's and Beyond

by Jill Wilson and Alan

The Nominees: Ferris Bueller's Day Off III by Gene and Bonnie Streeter; Twists and Turns Halloween Run by Justin Tackett and Samantha; The Rose Run by Ray Corbyons and Sharon Flemings; The Apple Pie Run by Diane Foster; OctoberFest / Run to Stone Brewery by Chris Malagui; Where Have All The Wildflowers Gone? Run by Diane Foster.

BEST MUSICAL SCORE or ADAPTATION



Ferris Bueller Soundtrack

by Kari and David Streeter

The Nominees: A Wonderful World by Gene and Louis Armstrong; Happy Birthday by Steve Waid; and Smoky The Bear by Sue Kesler.

Flyin' Miata

at Targa Newfoundland

Early in 2011, after the success of Surf N Safari 2010 and when our treasury was flush with cash, we voted to be a club sponsor for the Flyin' Miata entry to the Targa Newfoundland Rally in late August 2011. The thinking was to pay back Flyin' Miata for their continued support of Surf N Safari. They had attended all three Surf N Safaris as a vendor and participants, coming from Colorado each year and bringing cars for viewing and rides. We sent a \$500 donation in support.



At Laguna Seca, one of Flyin' Miata's Rally Cars was on display with "San Diego Miata Club" proudly displayed.

Editor's Note:

Flying Miata's web site notes that,

"In 2011, we fielded a two-car team. In the Open division, we entered the proven chassis of the Targa Miata powered by one of our V8 conversions. Nancy, our supercharged 2006 development car ran in the GT division."

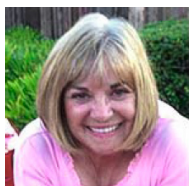
"The results were good: the V8 car was leading the division until a stock Miata relay caused the car to miss one stage on the fourth day. Even with a five-minute penalty, it came in third. The 2006 did equally well, running in first place for a few days and eventually winning the award for the best finish for a novice team.

"We also supported the Hammerhead racing team for the second year, and they finished fourth and seventh."

SDMC Officers



Daryled Bristol
President



Sue Hinkle
Vice - President



Gene Streeter
Treasurer



Dennis Garon
Secretary

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E-Mail

Most club communication is conducted via e-mail through a Yahoo Group named SDMC-List. A free Yahoo account is required. Follow these steps:

1. Go to <http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/SDMC-List> (capitalization matters!).
2. Click "Join This Group!"
3. If you have a Yahoo account, log in. If you do not, click "Sign Up" and follow the instructions.
4. After logging in, you will be returned to the SDMC-List "Join This Group" page.
5. In "Comment to Owner," state that you are an SDMC member.
6. Complete remaining selections, perform Word Verification, and click the "Join" button.
7. Your SDMC membership will be verified. The verification and approval process may take several days.

For more detailed instructions, see the club's website.

The SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB is a California nonprofit corporation. Twists & Turns 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. The Editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Our Mission

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!

Monthly Meetings

Our monthly meetings are a great opportunity to meet your fellow club members, ask questions, and share stories. **Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month, except in November and December when on the third Thursday.** We meet at the Boll Weevil restaurant, 9330 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., in San Diego (between I-15 and SR 163). To contact the restaurant, call 858-571-6225. Many members arrive around 6. p.m. to enjoy meals, snacks, or beverages while chatting with their Miata friends. The informal meeting starts at 7 p.m. We guarantee you'll have fun.

May Monthly Meeting: May 24th

Dues

Dues are \$35 per calendar year, for either an individual or a dual membership (two members in the same household). Members who join the club in the first half of the calendar year (January through June) pay \$35 for their first year; those who join in the second half of the year pay \$20 for the remainder of the year.

Badges

Have you noticed those engraved plastic name badges that other members wear? Would you like to get one? Badges are available in colors to match your car. The cost is \$10 each for badges with safety-pin closures, or \$14 each for badges with magnetic fasteners. Prices include shipping to your home. Sue Hinkle handles the ordering. Badge request forms are available at the Regalia table at monthly meetings and on the club's web site. All orders must be prepaid.

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Member Discounts

Many vendors offer discounts to Miata Club members. The club does not endorse these vendors, but lists them as a membership benefit. Some offers may require you to show a current SDMC membership card.

Businesses that wish to be listed must offer a discount from their normal retail prices to SDMC members. Listings are limited to five lines (about 30-35 words). Contact newsletter@sandiegomiataclub.org for additional information.

Automotive Services

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. Contact: Jeff Hartmayer. Discount: Fleet discount on all products.

Auto Image Paintless dent repair, leather/vinyl/plastic repair, headlight restoration & paint touch up. Free estimates at your home or work. Contact Britt Colton. 619-244-2227. Discount: 10%

Chemical Guys
8680 Miralani Dr. Suite 125, San Diego, CA 92126. 858-527-1566
www.ChemicalGuys.com
sdstore@chemicalguys.com
10% discount on products on top of internet prices.

Dent Time: fast reasonable paintless dent removal. 800-420-DENT (3368). They come to your door, provided quick and professional service.

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 intakes, exhausts, shocks, springs, & goodies from Racing Beat, Moss, and more. www.goodwin-racing.com. 858-775-2810. Special club price on everything.

Hawthorne Wholesale Tire. Tires, wheels, brakes, and suspension. 877 Rancheros Dr., San Marcos. 760-746-6980. Discount: 10%

Kesler Customs. Miata chassis braces, adjustable dead pedals, hide-away license plate brackets. Installation of aftermarket parts, fabrication, light welding. Ted Kesler, 619-421-8472. Special club prices.

Knobmeister Quality Images. 3595 Gray Circle, Elbert, CO 80106-9652. Joe Portas, joe@knobmeister.com. 303-730-6060.

Langka Corp. Guaranteed paint chip and and restoration products. 800-945-4532. www.langka.com. Discount: 30%.

Rocky's Miatomotive Balboa in Pacific Beach. 619-284-4911. Discount: 10% on labor.

Lutz Tire & Service. Alignment specialist, tires. 2853 Market Street, San Diego. 619-234-3535. Ask for Mike. Discount: 10% on parts (tires not included).

Magnolia Auto Body. Restorations, body work. 476 West Main Street, El Cajon. 619-562-7861. Ask for T.J. Discount: 10% on labor and parts.

Pitstop Autoglass Rock chip repairs free to SDCC Miata club members for club Miatas. Must show valid membership card. In-shop only. Non-Miatas save 25% off regular prices. 858-675-GLASS (4527)

Porterfield Enterprises Ltd. Brake pads, rotors. 1767 Placentia Ave., Costa Mesa. 949-548-4470. Discount: 15% on Porterfield & Hawk brake pads; \$10 off rotors; \$9.25 for Motul 600 brake fluid (1 pint).

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

Thompson Automotive. Cool accessories for our cool cars; oil filter relocation kits, gauge kits, air horns, brakes, Voodoo knobs, & MORE. www.thompson-automotive.com. 949-366-0322. Discount: 10%

Tri-City Paint. Professional detailing, products, paint, airbrushes, car covers. West Miramar Area: 858-909-2100; Santee, Mission Gorge: 619-448-9140. Discount: Body shop pricing #CM6660.

World Famous Car Wash. Complete professional car care. Complete detail, hand wax, leather treatment, free shuttle service. 7215 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, San Diego. 858-495-9274. Discount: 10%

Mazda Dealerships

Mazda of Escondido. 760-737-3200. Discount: 20% on most parts; 15% on labor (not including smog certification). For purchase, ask for Barb and receive free SDMC membership for 1 year!

Westcott Mazda. National City. 619-474-1591. Discount: 15% on parts or labor (except oil changes).

Other Services

David Bryan your friendly neighborhood REALTOR; Pacific Sotheby's International Realty. I sell garages with homes! I will provide SDMC members who buy or sell a home through me with a free 1-year home warranty. DAVID BRYAN 619.334.4625 DavidBrealtor@cox.net DRE#01009295

FIRST BRAND Inc. Web/Logo Designs and Development We are currently offering a 10% discount off our promotional packages listed on www.FIRSTBRANDinc.com or you can call us at 951-672-6677.

Rosin & Associates. Attorneys at law. Accidents, insurance issues, general civil law. No recovery, no fee. Anita Rosin, anita.rosin@rosinlaw.com. 619-543-9600.

Classifieds

SALVAGE PARTS

Mainly 1990 to 2005 parts, at least 50 % off of cost new. Some 2006 and newer parts including tops, seats and trim. wallymiata@gmail.com or 619-203-2801 Wally Stevens SOCALM & SDMC member.

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

Classified ad space is provided at no cost to SDMC members only. Ads must include first and last names, telephone number, and e-mail address, which must agree with current club roster. Send ads to davidstreeter@yahoo.com Ads will run for four months unless canceled, and may be revised and resubmitted.

San Diego Miata Club
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San Diego, CA 92196

New Member Bio

Vembra Holnage

Vembra Holnage lives in Olivenhain and is a Social Media Consultant specializing in helping others learn to build successful online conversations using social platforms such as Facebook/Twitter/LinkedIn. She and her husband David Holnagel are parents of Kianne (a UCSB/USD Law graduate) and McKenna (a CalPoly Slo) graduate; also mini schnauzers Milton & Lord Byron.

Hobbies and interests:

Cooking/Eating, Entertaining, Travel, Wine/Beer Tasting, Reading, Movies, Sports (avid college Basketball Fan- go AZTECS) Music, and so much more.....

Miata's year and color:

2011 Liquid Silver

Bought when/where:

Feb/2012- San Diego

What were you looking for in life that steered you into a Miata:

This is my second Miata and I love zipping around town.

Any previous sports cars:

1996 Miata

Extent of total driving that will involve the Miata:

Daily & Special weekend journeys.

Any driving scares in your Miata:

Almost daily. I am forced to drive most defensively at all times.

What have you enjoyed about club runs:

Have not yet attended my first but so look forward to it.

Favorite San Diego County road:

Rancho Santa Fe area

Add any other comments that come to mind:

Looking forward to fun, food, friendships with other enthusiasts.

Jack White

I purchased my Miata four months ago from a lady in Chula Vista. The poor car had been parked for at least a year, so I have a bit of restoration to do.

I grew up in the hills of Lakeside out in east county and have always loved driving.

I plan to use my Miata for road trips and perhaps even to try my hand at autocross.

I am a Fine Arts student at SDSU, and have a year left for my BFA. Working for a photography Studio while in school keeps me pretty busy but I have agreed to take over as the Newsletter Layout Editor for SDMC.

I look forward to going on runs and participating in the club!