

TWISTS & TURNS



The newsletter of the San Diego Miata Club

Volume 17, Number 10

2012 SPECIALTY EQUIPMENT MARKETING ASSOCIATION (SEMA) SHOW

by Jeff Frederick

The annual SEMA Show occurred in Las Vegas October 30 to November 2. SEMA is a convention where people who design, market and sell aftermarket auto parts get together to network, exchange ideas, and establish new business relationships.

Although this show is not open to the general public, a few SDMC members attended the event, thanks to Alan Kagan. Those who attended were Jack White, Jon Dingee, Alan, Jill Wilson, Jeff and Jan Frederick, and Dell Pound.

So, how did these people gain admission to the show? You will have to talk to Alan about that. (Jack White and Jon Dingee got tickets through Jacks work)



Jack and Jon off Zzyx rd on the way to SEMA. (The only SDMC miata that made the trek, as well as the best looking car out of SD due to the lack of a certain NSX.)



Mazda Speed MX-5 Super 25 Concept, built as an endurance racer instead of a turbocharged powerhouse like its predecessor.

We were overwhelmed by what we saw at the show. There were 2,100 exhibiting companies; 1,500 custom cars, trucks and motorcycles with unbelievable paint schemes and wheels; and over 1,800 new automotive products that were just developed in the past year.

The show was so large it had to be held in the Las Vegas Convention Center, which consists of many buildings. One building, alone, was for just wheels, tires and exhaust systems. Track courses were also set up outside of the Convention



Dell Pound Jan and Jeff Frederick and Alan Kagan pause while viewing one of the countless vendor exhibits at the SEMA Convention in Las Vegas.

Center for those show attendees who wanted to ride in high performance cars.

SEMA also highlighted many automotive celebrities such as Indy Car Driver Dario Franchitti, NHRA Drag Racers Don Prudhomme and John Force, and Ryan Friedlinghaus from the "West Coast Customs" television show, to name a few. Chip Foose and his "Overhaulin'" crew were also there and were restoring a car over the course of the show.

Fortunately for us, this year's SEMA Show occurred over Halloween. Consequently, we spent that night downtown on Fremont Street. Fremont Street on Halloween night is a

real treat (no trick) and the perfect place to people watch. Fortunately, SDMC "Weather Girl", Jill Wilson, had her camera with her. She took many great photos of people in costumes who stopped and posed for her. Las Vegas is always a show of interesting people, but there is nothing like Fremont Street on Halloween night.

Also, another evening, while strolling Las Vegas Boulevard, we unexpectedly came across the filming of the movie Hangover III. The filming involved a scene where a cast member parachutes out of a helo, flies through the Bellagio Hotel fountains, and lands on Las Vegas Blvd. So, if you see the movie Hangover III, look for some SDMC members in the crowd in front of the Bellagio Hotel.

The next SEMA show will occur November 5-8, 2013. Do yourself a favor, talk to Alan Kagan about what you have to do to attend that show. This, folks, is a real car show. It should not be missed.

Ferris Beuller's Abili

Dear Mr. Beuller,

I am continuing to investigate the highly-suspect information you provided regarding your absence from school last month prior to making my decision. Ms. Peterson, Mr. Frye and a number of other culprits (yes, culprits) who joined you that day are mute, offering very little information to corroborate your account. I must insist that you submit an account that supports the validity of your initial explanation. I will be sharing it with others, so spelling counts. This had better be good.

Quite concerned,

Edward Rooney, Dean of Students
Shermer High School
Shermer, Illinois

Principal Rooney,

It's clear you don't trust me to provide you with legitimate medical excuses for my frequent absences from school. I don't know that you will fully understand or appreciate what I am about to share in my continued defense. I am actually more concerned with the well-being of my dearest friends, Cameron Frye and Sloane Peterson.

Despite the apparent trappings of success and wealth, Cameron's family and upbringing suggests a substantial void. His father's pristine Ferrari is enshrined in its garage, fearing the elements and fingerprints, rather than enjoying it for the driving experience it promises to deliver.



A near endless string of Miatas fill the alley beside Allan Taylors restoration facility.

While Cameron is a good student with acceptable attendance, he is an insecure and unhappy young man. He's often depressed and largely unable to appreciate the beauty that surrounds him.



A wall of tools used in the restoration of pre-WWII French vehicles on which Alan Taylors shop specializes.

I planned our latest day off to help Cameron get a better grip on life. You should appreciate the fact that I paid attention in my Latin class – *carpe diem* is part of my vocabulary and mindset.

*Please note the role of Cameron was aptly played by Wally Stevens in this fourth running of Ferris Bueller's Day Off. Wally has the toys, but not Cameron's insecurity and depression; he's unassuming and suffers from modesty, if anything.

Beautiful Sloane is simply bored by high school. The classic beauty, she's composed and wise beyond her years. She's only attracted to me because I provide alternatives to the country club dating pool. I'm spontaneous and clever, even charming on occasion – none of those qualities are

taught as part of our high school curriculum. Sloane would simply never be seen in your K-car (assuming you were able to recover it from the towing impound lot) or walking with you - Doberman-chewed shoes and slacks just aren't *de rigueur*.

*Much like the cinematic Sloane she portrayed, Barb Shev can help empty your wallet and bank account in real life. Yes, she likes jewelry, but she's expert in satisfying your automotive fantasies as well. She doesn't



Gene Streeter, AKA Ferri Beuller briefs fellow truants about the days adventures.

relate to K-cars any better than Sloane. Barb has a shorter, simpler mantra than most of us: "life's too short to drink cheap wine in boring cars."

If these personality observations aren't sufficient to excuse my absence, how about the particulars of last month's alleged truancy?

I gathered up 45 of my friends (you would unfairly brand them as culprits and co-conspirators) and 29 colorful Miatas at our perennial host, Mazda of Escondido. I regaled the crowd with my announcements -- even a trophy presentation -- while everyone noshed on gourmet bagels and pastries. You might be flattered to know the trophy was even named after you. I was practicing my public speaking and organizational skills.

We swarmed a local auto restoration facility, where some of the finest and most valuable classic automobiles were made available for our inspection. We interacted with modern artisans and truly knowledgeable automotive enthusiasts. We marveled at the "in progress" coachwork on a Type 57 Bugatti -- how about the fenders that took over three months of craftsmanship to reproduce? Each? I was studying both art history and the applied sciences of mechanical engineering, metallurgy, and color.

As a precursor to Halloween, the Pumpkin Patch at Bates Nut Farm was swarming with hundreds of elementary school students -- buying pumpkins, navigating the straw maze, and enjoying a hayride. Personal chefs prepared our lunch and bolstered the Optimist Club coffers for the benefit of local charities. I was accomplishing my sociology homework and studying agricultural science at the very same time. You encourage community service and multi-tasking, don't you, Principal Rooney?

We toured one of the county's finest and best-loved bakeries, in rural Santa Ysabel. Going behind-the-scenes at Dudley's Bakery satisfied my intellectual curiosity and augmented my command of home economics. Getting there, driving top-down, allowed us to appreciate the topography of East County and the civil engineering efforts required for such scenic roads as Mesa Grande. Did I mention that meteorology even played a part in our travel plans?



Many of the Ferris Beuller's Day Off truants corralled at Bate's Nut Farm or is it Nates Butt Farm for a group mug shot.

Lastly, we visited a historic castle in nearby Ramona. Many of my fellow, alleged, hooky-players were unaware of the ten castles that dot our county. Amy Strong Castle (aka Mt. Woodson Castle) is a genuine piece of our San Diego history and evolution. Attempts to visit two more on our day off were thwarted by location and schedule. I believe I deserve extra credit for my architecture class and my on-going study of the social elite.

On the advice of my guidance counselor, I'm amassing practical knowledge and even the life skills not readily available in a public school education. My parents remain proud of my efforts to share my positive outlook on life with those less-inclined. My sister Jeanie (known as Shawna in some circles) is even coming around to my point of view. Rest assured, I will continue my efforts to stop and smell the roses...you can hold me back but you cannot hold me down.

"Life goes by pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it."

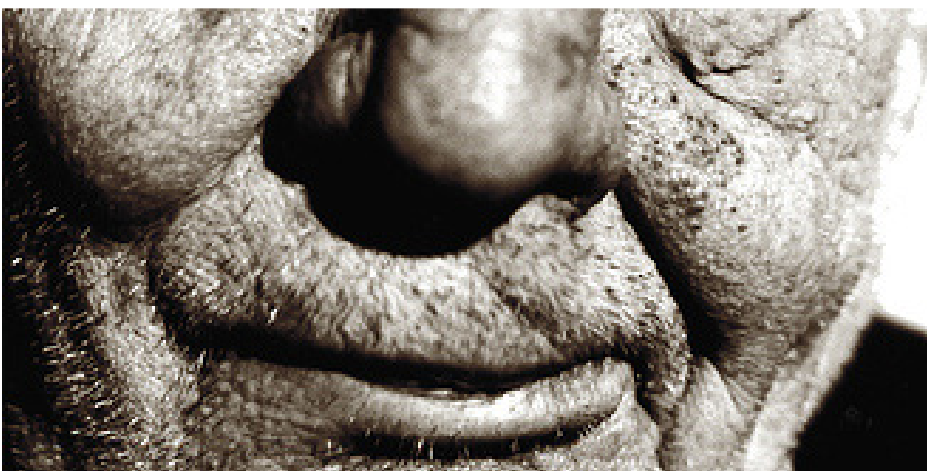
- Ferris



The Bueller truants went backstage at Dudley's Bakery for a tour of kitchen and production areas.

President's Mumbles

Here it is November already! Yes, Thanksgiving is just around the corner and the carols are already playing in the malls. The holiday season is on and what a fantastic time we are having: new runs, old runs with new members.



Weather is cooling down and the fall colors are out in all their glory; take a little time out to enjoy the countryside. And even though people say we lack "Seasons" here in San Diego, a short drive away with the top down and fall will be just like it is on the other coast. Enjoy.

NEW MEMBERS

Chris and Veronica Thompson own two Miatas: a 1999 Twilight Blue Mica base Sport model with lots of modifications for autocross and track use, and a 2008 Galaxy Grey Metallic PRHT Grand Touring which is also highly modified with a full STR race package for autocross.

The Thompsons live in Spring Valley and share their home with two daughters, two dogs, a cat and a fish; he is a construction inspector and trades off driving both vehicles to work. Veronica enjoys sewing, gardening and going to cowboy concerts. Chris rides mountain bikes and autocrosses their two Miatas, and trades off driving both vehicles to work.

The Thompsons bought the '99 from a nice lady in San Diego and the '08 was found at Toyota Carlsbad; both were advertised on Craig's List.

Were the color choices intentional?

"I loved the Galaxy Grey car at first sight," Chris notes. "I bought the '99 because it is a '99 and the price was right. Not really that crazy about the Twilight Blue."

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

"I wanted a bargain race car," Chris said.

Previous sports cars:

1967 Porsche 912

Extent of total driving that will involve the Miatas:

"Both my Miatas take turns getting me to work. I race one or the other most every weekend as I am also a member of SCCA, PCA, BMW clubs."

Favorite San Diego County road (so far):

"Any roads are fine early Saturday and Sunday morning."



Passengers donned matching SDMC jackets while waiting in the cool shade to enter the parade route.



Several SDMC members dressed for the Halloween theme Twist and Turns Run Photo by Rosa Romero.



December/January 2012 Events

By Events Director Neal Mills

Date	Event	Time	Meeting Location	Point of Contact
Saturday & Sunday November 17 & 18	Planes, Trains and Automobiles	All Day, Both Days	McDonalds, Oceanside, CA	Gene Streeter, gene.streeter.CZLI@statefarm.com
Saturday, December 1	Annual Holiday Party	6 – 11 PM	Butcher Shop Restaurant 5255 Kearny Villa Road, San Diego, CA	Sue Hinkle, sportscarr@sbcglobal.net
Sunday, December 2	San Marcos Holiday Parade	10 AM – 2 PM	Parking lot adjacent to the old Dalton's Roadhouse nearer to the Burger King in San Marcos (Just North of Highway 78 on Nordahl)	Steve Waid, swaid@cox.net
Saturday, December 8	Tech Day	9 AM – 3PM	Rocky's Miatomotive, 2951 Garnet Avenue Pacific Beach, CA	Rocky Murphy, rockysmiata@yahoo.com
Sunday, December 16	Dessert Buffet & Holiday	4 – 9 PM	Les & Dyanna Smith's home 11164 Zapata Avenue in Mira Mesa	Les & Dyanna Smith, lessmith@san.rr.com
Tuesday, January 1	Rose Run	TBD	TBD	Rosi Romero, makeway2@cox.net

Membership update through November 1, 2012

Provided by Chris and Linda Jones
SDMC Membership as of 8/31/2012

New Members

Dietrick Lamade, San Diego, 2005 Titanium Gray Matallic

George Kallas, San Diego, 1999 Emerald Mica

Candy Herzbrun & Dave Munkres, San Diego, 2012 Copper Red Mica

Chris & Veronica Thompson, Spring Valley, 1999 Twilight Blue Mica & 2008 Galaxy Gray Mica

164 memberships

(50 single, 114 dual)

total of **278 members**

2013 MEMBERSHIP: It's time to start thinking about renewing your membership for 2013. The membership renewal form is available on the SDMC website [For Members > Renewal Application], and Chris and Linda will have blank forms at the monthly meetings.

PREVIOUS (August 1, 2012)
Membership update since 8/31/2012:

New Members

David & Gwen Plank, Vista, 2010 Black

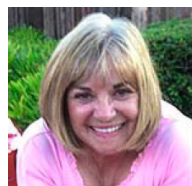
April Moyer, Santee, 1992 Mariner Blue

SDMC had 160 memberships (48 single, 112 dual) for a total of 272 members by that date.

SDMC Officers



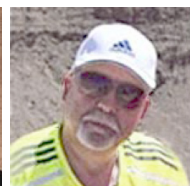
Daryled Bristol
President



Sue Hinkle
Vice - President



Gene Streeter
Treasurer



Dennis Garon
Secretary

Executive Board

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Treasurer - Gene Streeter
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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.

October Monthly Meeting: **October 25**

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 2951 Garnet Avenue, San Diego, CA 92109. 858-273-2547. 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.

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 \$9.95 for three months 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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