



The newsletter of the San Diego Miata Club

Volume 18, Number 6

## Presidents Message

Hi,

Well, the heart of the car club season is upon us. From May to September car shows, parades and club events abound.

In June, we cruised Grand Avenue in Escondido, had a Tech Day at Rocky's, and supported Maryanne and Dennis Garon's Fiesta de Vino. The Fiesta was preceded by a scavenger hunt/car rally that was a lot of fun. It was a hot day, a really hot day, but the rally and the Fiesta were good times and over \$6,000 was raised to support Gregg's Goals, a 501c3 nonprofit charity that awards college scholarships to North County soccer players.

In July, we cruised Grand Avenue, participated in two 4th of July parades (Rancho Bernardo and Mira Mesa) and three of the club's favorite events: the 19th Annual Twilight Run, the SDMC picnic and the Main Street America car show.

Mark and Cathy Booth led the Twilight Run from Rancho San Diego to the top of Mt. Laguna and back. As usual, the event was well-attended; we even had a bat that tried to join us at Mt. Laguna Lodge. The summer picnic was a great success with almost 100 people registered. Ginny McLaughlin led us from Mazda of El Cajon to Pam and David Hunt's home where we were treated to a great BBQ picnic, fun and games, and socializing. The root beer floats at the end of the meal were a nice touch. Main Street America Car Show was another great event with 380 cars registered. SDMC won the Club Participation Award for the third year with approximately 30 cars registered. SDMC members won four individual trophies and the event raffle's \$1,000 grand prize.



Photo source:

[http://hagertyblog.blogspot.com/2009\\_08\\_01\\_archive.html](http://hagertyblog.blogspot.com/2009_08_01_archive.html)

In August, we have members attending the Flyin' Miata Summer Camp in Colorado, we'll cruise Grand Avenue, participate in the Moon Over Miatas run, and visit the Petersen Automotive Museum. There is something for everyone.

Take advantage of the car shows, parades, and club runs. They are opportunities to show off our cars and talk to people. Someone is sure to ask, "do they still make Miatas?" Others will tell you that their friend or brother or sister or he or she used to own a Miata and will remember how much fun it was driving the car. I especially enjoy putting a youngster behind the wheel and watch the kid twist the steering wheel left and right and madly shift through the gears as the child mentally charges down a back country road. You can see a grin on the face as they hang the rear end out in the corners and punch it when they hit a straight away. Yeah, it's called hooking the next generation.

Neal

## New Member Update

### WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

Carl & Katie Langston.....	San Diego.....	2013 Copper Red Mica
Christopher & Geraldine Bartleson .....	Chula Vista .....	2007 Copper Red Mica
Frank Gless .....	San Diego.....	2006 Galaxy Gray Mica
Melinda Smith & Jon Connor .....	Temecula.....	2004 Classic Red
Nima Abraham & Heather Johnson .....	San Diego.....	2008 Sunlight Silver Metallic
Brandon Behr & Karen Leon-Behr.....	Fallbrook .....	1992 Classic Red
Neal Brown .....	San Diego.....	1992 Classic Red
Dan & Stasia Curcio.....	San Diego.....	1994 White
Dennis & Faith Holt.....	Tucson.....	2008 True Red
Victor Korski .....	Julian .....	2002 Midnight Blue Mica
Jeffrey & Hillary Liber .....	San Diego.....	2008 Icy Blue Metallic
Susan & Mike Pasterkiewicz.....	San Diego.....	2001 British Racing Green
Carol Freeland.....	Del Mar .....	2001 Crystal Blue Metallic
Carlos & Kathia Zamora.....	San Diego.....	2007 Galaxy Gray Mica

### AND RECENT RENEWALS!

Ric Kaimimoku.....	San Diego.....	1990 Classic Red
David & Lila Nelson .....	Ramona .....	1990 Crystal White

Our numbers:  
**162 memberships**  
 (47 single, 115 dual) for a total of 277 members.

# Events Calendar

Date	Event	Time	Meeting Location	Point of Contact
Thursday, - Sunday, August 1-4	Flyin' Miata Summer Camp	All Day	Grand Junction, CO	Flyin' Miata, <a href="http://www.flyinmiata.com/news/openhouse13/index.php">http://www.flyinmiata.com/news/openhouse13/index.php</a> or  1-800-359-6957
Friday, August 2	Cruisin' Grand	6:00 – 8:30 PM	Tom's #23 Restaurant, 505 W. 5th Ave., Escondido, CA	Neal Mills, nealmills.aol.com
Tuesday, August 6	San Diego Association of Car Clubs Free Picnic and Membership Drive	Picnic at 6:00PM, short meeting at 7:00PM	Patio behind the Automotive Museum, 2080 Pan American Plaza, Balboa Park	Steve Waid, swaid@cox.net
Saturday, August 17	SDMC 10 <sup>th</sup> Annual Moon Over Miatas	Dinner 5:00PM  Run 7:30 – 11:30PM	Dinner – Nuevo Grill and Cantina, 1413 Main St., Ramona  Run – Dudley's Parking Lot, (Junction of Hwy 78 and Hwy 79)	Dawn Coats, K9sndj@yahoo.com
Thursday, August 22	SDMC Meeting	7:00 – 8:00 PM	Boll Weevil Restaurant in Kearny Mesa, 9330 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA 92123	Neal Mills, nealmills@aol.com
Sunday, August 25	Metrolink Ride to the Petersen Automotive Museum	8:15AM – 7:00PM	Depart Oceanside Transit Center, 235 Tremont St., Oceanside, CA  Petersen Automotive Museum – Los Angeles	Les Smith, lessmith@san.rr.com
Friday, September 6	Cruisin' Grand	6:00 – 8:30PM	Tom's #23 Restaurant, 505 W. 5 <sup>th</sup> Ave., Escondido, CA	Steve Waid, swaid@cox.net
Saturday – Sunday, September 21-22	Coronado Speed Festival	7:00AM – 5:00PM	Both days - At 7:00AM, meet at Tartine's, 1106 First St., Coronado, CA. At 8:00AM, caravan from Tartine's to the Speed Festival on NAS North Island	Steve Waid, swaid@cox.net
Thursday, September 26	SDMC Meeting	7:00 – 8:00PM	Boll Weevil Restaurant in Kearny Mesa, 9330 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA 92123	Neal Mills, nealmills@aol.com

# A Girl And Her Car

by Ginny McLaughlin

When is a car not just a car, but a whole new lease on life?

I've read many stories about different people and their cars or, in our case, the Miata. Stories like: What made them decide to choose their Miata, and where is their favorite roads they like to drive on?

The story about me and Marilyn Miata runs a bit different. With my long commute between home and work, I knew right off I wanted a smaller two-seater gray sports car that would be good on gas and fun to drive back and forth to work. I bought Marilyn as a birthday present for myself in May of 2009, and still enjoy every minute of her.

Three months after buying my Miata I was diagnosed with a large tumor on my ovary that was in the first stages of cancer, and was immediately hospitalized and prepped for surgery. After my surgery and being released to return home, I fell into a deep depression to where my family couldn't get me off of the sofa or out of my apartment. My daily routine consisted of going to and from work, and the occasional trip to the store.



Then one Saturday morning I met a man who was helping neighbors move out of their apartment. I watched him through my front room window walk back and forth by my car, while trying to get a peek of what I had under the cover. I finally got up and went outside and asked him if he really wanted to see what it was.

"YES," he exclaimed to me, and I proceeded to remove the cover from my baby.

The man was very excited to see that it was a Miata and started telling me all about what I had, and even answered several of my questions about it. After about 15 minutes of talking he asked me if I had ever heard of the San Diego Miata Club, and that he was a long-time member of it. I told him no and asked him for more information about it.



Later that night my daughter and I looked for the club online to see what it was all about, and after reading pretty much all of the newsletters my daughter decided that I needed to join because it would get me out of the apartment and back to having fun again. After two months of pushing me into it I finally gave in and joined. And to this day I'm glad I did!

Joining the San Diego Miata Club gave me a reason to get out and meet people and do something other than worrying about what's going to be on TV tonight. I'm happy to say that things have gone up from here! I'm now Autocrossing and driving in parades, and the number of Miata friends I have met over these last three years has grown from the USA to all over the world! And I owe it all to my little Miata! Who knew that owning a Miata could help change a person's whole outlook on life and show them that, YES, life is meant to be lived!

I still have a long rough road ahead of me, and one more surgery I have to face. But I'm not going to let it get me down. I have too many Miata events to look forward to! At one of our Club meetings I was talking to Daryled and Neal about Marilyn Miata, and how worried I was about what could happen to her if anything ever happened to me. Daryled looked right at me and said "Ginny, no one will ever love your car more than you." Now that I think about it he's absolutely right! Marilyn was there for me when I needed a good kick in the pants!

## 2013 Rancho Bernardo "Spirit of the Fourth" Parade



By Jeff and Jan Frederick

Four SDMC members gladly responded to a request from the community of Rancho Bernardo to participate in their "Spirit of the Fourth" parade. This has been an annual event in which SDMC has participated for several years.

Rancho Bernardo has always appreciated support from the San Diego Miata Club, and this year was no exception. SDMC drivers this year were Neal Mills, Rosa Romero, Ginny McLaughlin and Jeff Frederick.

We provided vehicles for three "Teacher of the Year" honorees as well as the "Student Representative to Poway Unified School District Board." All four were thrilled to ride in our patriotically-decorated Miatas. We received a great deal of applause for the VIPs who rode with us as well as many "Nice Car!" shout-outs by parade observers.

Can't wait 'til next year!

# Scavenger Rally – June 29th



On June 29 (a sizzling hot day), four brave teams ... the Eventors, the M&M's, the Tech Nerds, and a fourth possibly 'nameless group' ... of Miata drivers (nine cars) set out on a quest (better known as the Scavenger Hunt Rally) through the back roads of north San Diego County.

The Rally began at the former site of many SDMC events, the now-closed Dalton's parking lot. Steve Waid and the Garon's grandson, Cade, were there to greet the seekers, give them the rules and set them out on their quest.

At the start of the event, each team was given a packet with the route (pretty much correctly) laid out for them ... with stops along the way ... each with a clue they had to gather. The clues required the teammates to draw upon knowledge of popular culture, such as, the numeric name of a 2001 television series starring Kiefer Sutherland as well as the number of Everly Brothers.

More current skills were in order when the team had to take a digital photo of themselves in front of a vintage Helms truck and text it to Cade. Because no one in the Streeter team had arms long enough to get anything other than their faces a disqualification was in order due to the fact that no Helms truck was visible in the photo.

All teams had a good time on the rally, even indulging in a little competitive jockeying for position along the way. They arrived at the Wine Tasting Fundraiser ready to relax and have a few cold drinks, but their adventure wasn't over. The losing team, the M & Ms (Streeters) were awarded specially-crafted "plaques" proclaiming them to be "Clueless in North County," while the winners were awarded medals and tickets to the San Diego Auto Museum (which they donated back to the SDMC monthly meeting drawing).

Special thanks to Steve Waid and Cade Garon for helping this event work!

# Main Street America Car Show

by Neal Mills

The Main Street America Car Show is an annual charity event conducted by the Corvette Owner's Club of San Diego (COCSD) for the benefit of the San Diego Center for the Blind. This year's show was held July 28 at Embarcadero Park North, near Seaport Village and was a sell-out with 380 cars registered.

There were foreign and domestic cars from 1920s to the present ... muscle cars and street rods, low riders and custom cars, Corvettes and PT Cruisers, HHRs and

Thunderbirds ... and, of course, our favorite: Miatas. If you didn't find several cars to drool over, you just weren't looking. It was a gorgeous warm day. A little overcast in the morning with a blue sky in the afternoon. There was a breeze off the bay with lots of power and sail boats on the water.



SDMC made a great showing with over 30 cars and 50 members, in club regalia, participating. The Miatas were parked nearest to Sea Port Village so we were the first group of cars folks saw as they entered the park. We had 6 EZ-ups clustered together as our 'club house' with banners and the club flag proudly flying. There was nothing like it anywhere else in the car show. By the end of the day there was no one that was not aware of our presence and that SDMC was having a great time.

SDMC was also well represented when the trophies were presented. In the Miata Class, Laurie Waid took first place with her 2012 crystal white pearl mica PRHT and Carl Langston took second place with his 2013 copper red mica PRHT. In the 1973-2013 Foreign Class, Alan Kagan took first place with his 2003 Long Beach Blue Pearl NSX. In the 1997-2004 Corvette Class, Steve Waid took first place with his 2001 Millennium Yellow Corvette.

SDMC also won the Club Participation Trophy for the third year in a row. In addition, Christy Pluciennik won the raffle grand prize, a \$1000 Firestone tire certificate. Christy now has a decision to make. Tires for Autocross or tires for everyday use? What a dilemma.

Craig Moya, show chair, and COCSD did a wonderful job with the Main Street America Car Show. Seems every year's show is just a little bit better than the one before. I'm already looking forward to next year's show.

## New Member Bio – The Langstons



Carl and Katie Langston live in San Diego's Kensington neighborhood. They bought their 2013 Copper Red Mica this April at Bob Baker in Carlsbad. Color choice was intentional. Their MX-5 is used mainly on weekends and on trips, including Monterey in June and possibly the Northeast in fall.

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

Have been riding motorcycles for 40 years; felt it was time to start transitioning to four wheels, but still want the wind in my hair and bugs in my teeth!

Carl is retired from the U. S. Navy. Their other family members are a daughter Carrie, lives in Texas with her husband and four children. They also enjoy Motorcycles, golf, travel and reading.

**Previous sports cars:**

1958 Berkely (British), 1970 MGB, 1962 Corvette, and 1977 Corvette

**Favorite San Diego County road (so far):**

Mesa Grade

**Other comments that come to mind:**

Zoom! Zoom! Zoom!

# SDMC Officers



President  
Neal Mills



Vice - President  
Christy Pluciennk



Treasurer  
Laurie Wade



Secretary  
Rainer Mueller

## Executive Board

<b>President</b> - Neal Mills 858-536-1836	president@sandiegomiataclub.org
<b>Vice President</b> - Christy Pluciennk 858-201-8430	vicepresident@sandiegomiataclub.org
<b>Treasurer</b> - Laurie Waid 760-432-0727	treasurer@sandiegomiataclub.org
<b>Secretary</b> - Rainer Mueller 760-400-0900	secretary@sandiegomiataclub.org

## Administrative Board

<b>Membership</b> - Chris Jones	membership@sandiegomiataclub.org
<b>Events Coordinator</b> - Jan & Jeff Frederick 858.675.0607	2freds.sd@gmail.com
<b>Club E-Mail</b> - Bob Kleeman 619.501.9776	postmaster@sandiegomiataclub.org
<b>Webmaster</b> - Dan Garcia	webmaster@sandiegomiataclub.org
<b>Club Regalia</b> - Steve & Laurie Waid 760.432.0727	regalia@sandiegomiataclub.org
<b>Historian</b> - Elinor Shack 858.485.0278	mshack@san.rr.com
<b>Name Badges</b> - Dennis & Barb Sullivan 760.828.8424	denisullivan65@gmail.com

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## Contact SDMC

### The Web

[www.sandiegomiataclub.org](http://www.sandiegomiataclub.org)

### 24 Hour Voice Message

619-434-2007

### Mail

P.O. Box 261921  
San Diego, CA 92196

### 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.*

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## 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!

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## 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.

## August Monthly Meeting: **August 22, 2013**

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## 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.

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## 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. Dennis & Barb Sullivan handle 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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*Twists & Turns Printed By:*



# Member Discounts

**M**any 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](mailto: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%

**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](http://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](mailto:joe@knobmeister.com). 303-730-6060.

**Langka Corp.** Guaranteed paint chip and and restoration products. 800-945-4532. [www.langka.com](http://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).

**TJM Enterprises (formerly Magnolia Autobody).** Restorations, body work. 10027 Prospect Avenue, Santee. 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](http://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 El Cajon.** 619-590-3700. Discount: 20% on parts and labor. VIP Membership: 3 oil changes for \$19.95 with \$5 going to Rady's Children's Hospital.

**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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:davidstreeter@yahoo.com) Ads will run for four months unless canceled, and may be revised and resubmitted.

**San Diego Miata Club**  
**PO Box 180456**  
**Coronado CA 92178-0456**

