



October 2017

Rear View Mirror

by Gene Streeter

Tales from the (Presidential) Crypt

Scary to think the final quarter of 2017 is upon us, and the Halloween holiday in particular. Even before the end of October, we'll be subjected to Thanksgiving-themed advertising and the Christmas holiday retail push to hasten our progress to the end of the year, a finish line of sorts. Personally, this has been a pretty good year – good health, mostly productive, and with some interesting events thrown in for good measure. Many of you have played a significant role in that last category. But I still have to ask “where has the time gone, and why so quickly?”

The answer (and you thought this was just another rhetorical question...) forces me to come to grips with the pace of modern life and how my “working from home” blurs the distinctions between work and leisure. Where W.C Fields once postulated “work is the curse of the drinking classes,” I have to concede he wasn't far off the mark. Though not much of a drinker (“Arnold Palmer, please”), work definitely gets in the way of my fun. I've missed many, or most, Cruisin' Grand get-togethers approving timecards or performing a host of other sordid responsibilities. Mid-week “Geezer Runs” and Friday K1 Speed practice sessions are additional examples.

The other answer, and the more logical one, is simply this. Think back to when you were a teenager, waiting to turn sixteen and finally being able to drive an automobile (legally). Each and every calendar year took “forever” to pass as we inched toward our learners' permits and our sixteenth birthday. There's a mathematical reason for that. Just compare the fractions that represent one year out of 15 in our young lives versus one year out of 60: 1/15 vs. 1/60. Same number of calendar days, but each of those years represents a vastly different percentage of our life



experiences to date. I have to remind myself how this works; the pages of time will always feel like they're turning faster (becoming a smaller fraction) with advancing age.

Enough of the Mister Rogers explanations, let's explore another common myth. That of the “red convertible” representing a mid-life crisis. An attempt to recapture or re-ignite a “funner” version of ourselves, what with the financial responsibilities of raising children, a mortgage, college tuitions, an escape from station wagons, mini-vans, what have you. In my case, I intend to own and enjoy one well into retirement. Many of you have been setting a good example for the rest of us to follow. Thank you for that.

“Runnin' With the Devil ...”

What we lacked in volume, the runs in September made up for it in duration, taking “overnight” to new heights in the Grand Canyon North Rim and Devil's Highway runs. Decidedly not air travel, there were two extended tours on the events calendar now overseen by Events Guy Bill Bennett. You may have enjoyed one, or both – the Grand Canyon – North Rim

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Tour orchestrated by the Van Hook's - Jackie and Bob, or the Devil's Highway Run offered by the Sahuaro Miata Club based in Phoenix. I don't have any verified numbers for our participation.

Spawned by thoughts of Grand Canyon vistas, my first thought for a naming convention was a reference to a magazine that has always prided itself on displaying the natural beauty of the American Southwest - Arizona Highways. More in keeping with the Halloween theme, I thought better of something so bland, even after confirming the magazine is still in publication. More in keeping with the theme, I conjured up a distant memory of a Van Halen rock classic - "Runnin' With the Devil."

Judging by the SDMC Club List posts, the Van Hooks orchestrated a memorable tour of the Grand Canyon and many places of interest getting there and back, covering six days in all. I've not been to the North Rim; it will be one of those bucket list items I attack down the road. Since Jackie and Bob have committed to an article on the event, I'll tread lightly on that desert tour.

The Devil's in the Details

When I was first contacted by Sahuaro Miata Club's Vice President and Events Coordinator (note the dual responsibilities) about our participation in their 7th Annual Devil's Highway Run, I explained that several of us would be running the Devil's Highway (AZ 191) on our return trip from Flyin' Miata's Summer Camp, in Southwest Colorado. You might recall reading about



Photo by Sandy Bagnall

that particular adventure in the August edition of *Twists 'N Turns*; there were two separate tales. I'm certain that those of you who "did it twice" with our sister Arizona club have your own stories to tell.

We'll have to compare notes, because my schedule took me to equally far-away Ely, Nevada for the 30th

running of the Silver State Classic Challenge in the midst of both those events. Being a time/distance rally, it wasn't so much about the "twisties" as it was timing precision. You may have seen a few of the Facebook posts about Wally Stevens and me contesting for another podium finish.

And "contest" was all we were able to do. You should have seen the look on our faces when we read the official list of entrants for the fall, 2017 running of this storied event; scanning our class roster, we read the name "Tom King" and went ashen. You see, Tom has won most of the possible speed classes and set his sights on ours - the 115 MPH. Between his experience and his complement of electronics gear, Tom shattered the previous course record. How's this for accuracy? At the end of the 90-mile run down Nevada's Highway 318, his time variance was 0.0001 seconds from the target. Put another way, his NSX was less than 2" from absolute perfection.

Aside from the required equipment being installed well in advance, preparation for the event included installation of sponsor decals and our assigned race numbers. I was doing just that when a neighboring Corvette owner spotted my Miata next to Wally's Z06. "Is that a Mazdaspeed? They're awesome! I love those cars." And that wasn't the only such incident. One of our fellow racers made a mildly disparaging comment about Miatas (possibly mine) that was immediately met with more positive versions. Another Corvette racer weighed in without hesitation. "They're great cars ... durable, and quick. I raced them for nearly a dozen years."

"I Love This Car ..."

Those of you attending last year's Holiday Party were (hopefully) entertained by Barb and Dennis Sullivan's SDMC rendition of Toby Keith's "I Love This Bar." The words were, ahem, updated to reference our favorite sports car in lieu of the intended words of a country western drinking song. I think most of you will agree the two activities (motoring and drinking) do not mix well together. Those of you with musical sensibilities might also suggest singing be excluded from both activities.

One way to test someone's "love" for a motor vehicle is probe just how much they are willing to spend in its acquisition.

Wayne Carini, the white-haired and mustachioed host of *Chasing Classic Cars*, acquired this car in hopes the answer would be significantly higher than what he paid for it, and what it brought when the gavel

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THE MOTORCAR OFFERED

Miatas are drivers' cars and most were well driven. This unusual example has covered less than 7000 miles and has been lovingly cared for by its original owner. The Miata was adorned with every accessory one could find for a Miata including a super charger kit that dials the fun up a few notches.

One would be hard pressed to find a lower mileage and better kept Miata than this one. The white paint is in fine shape as is the dark grey cloth interior. As you would expect the car runs superbly and feels like a new machine.

No doubt a future collectible the interest in first series Miata has already become apparent. The chance to get one of the nicest of this iconic sports car should not be missed.



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pounded it "sold." The Bonham's Auction catalog estimate of value was between \$15-20K. In his road test of the vehicle, Wayne confessed he had never actually driven one previously, that it was a "lotta fun," the after-market supercharger ratcheted-up that fun, but its large sales volume and color were both likely to moderate its value. Once up on the auction block, the answer came rather quickly, hammering for \$15,000 U.S. Adding the buyer's premium, the new owner paid the grand sum of \$16,500. Take a peek at the rest of the details if you're interested. <https://www.bonhams.com/auctions/23850/lot/119/?category=list&length=10&page=5>

Trick or Treat

My apologies, but I always get wrapped up in a theme (at least he didn't say "mummified" - Ed.). Where I've been describing the home stretch, the cusp of the holiday season, there's still plenty to do in this calendar year. Our upcoming run events include a long-overdue Ferris Bueller's Day Off, in addition to run-prolific Jon Connor's offerings, the fertile minds of Ed Grant & Chloe Oswald, and the de-railed (pun intended) mind of Les Smith. You'll want to pay attention to our events summary

Not so fast. There's the Holiday Party, moved to December 9 to better align with the traditional season of celebration and not be a bookend to the San Marcos Holiday parade. Last, but not least, there's our Annual Meeting in November ... stay tuned for the actual date. Apart from the marginal entertainment I bring to the (head) table, we'll be electing our Board of Directors for 2018. Those of you so inclined, or recruited, to contest for a Board position – please submit your candidate statement for next month's newsletter.

Put things in their proper perspective, drive that mid-life crisis car, and do something that scares you every day, San Diego Miata Club.



Grand (Canyon) Adventures in Miataland

By Bob Van Hook and Jackie Eder-Van Hook

DOn September 8, 12 people in 6 Miatas took off on a 6-day, 1,500+ mile adventure to the North Rim of the Grand Canyon (NRGC). Our goals were to safely make it there and back, stay off the Interstate highways as much as possible, eat well, and have fun with our Miata friends. We did all of that and much more.

We only planned one other Miata trip, served as sweep once, joined two multi-day (MRLS 25, Cambria) trips, and participated in about 30 local runs. We didn't have a lot to go on about planning such a 6-day trip. When in doubt, take the advice Jackie's dad used to give, "Fake 'til you make it." With that in mind, we went boldly forward, laughing at ourselves, which encourages others to go along just to see what happens. Along the Miata way, we learned four important things about our trip – planning, places, palates, and partnerships.

Planning. Planning our first long-distance, multi-day run was daunting -- so much to figure out and things to consider. We created detailed plans for routes, meals, lodging, sights, and "fascinating facts" along the way. While the planning was important, we learned that executing a longer trip is a balance between a well-laid plan and flexibility. Nearly everything went as planned or close to it, and yet we still found closed roads, discovered restaurants that didn't measure up, and timing that we misjudged. There was even one time in Jerome, AZ when the group simply rebelled. So, our plans morphed. A plan that can't be changed is a "rule," and too many rules don't contribute to "fun."

Places. We started our Grand Adventure from D'Carlo's in Ramona, through the mountains to Palm Desert, Twentynine Palms (note the missing hyphen, one of many "fascinating facts"), Amboy, Searchlight, and stopped for our first night at the Hoover Dam Lodge. A little gambling at the casino and a hole-in-the-wall barbeque place capped a pretty hard, long day of driving.

We began Day Two with a tour of Hoover Dam and learned that Ken Hurd is a dam enthusiast, no really! Between Ken and Daryled Bristol we learned a lot about dams and water. From the dam, we headed north on Lakeshore/Northshore Drive through Overton, Nevada. The first of several "oh sh_t" moments of "turn, turn right now", "oh wait, don't turn", "TURN!". We were glad that there were only five cars

following us. After a fine Mexican lunch at Ricardo's in St. George, Utah, we took the slow route through the unexpectedly beautiful Snow Canyon State Park, and continued on the blue highways to Cedar City where we spent the night. Who knew that Cedar City could have such a great pizza place as Centro Woodfired Pizza?

Day Three brought us beautiful skies and near-perfect temperatures as we climbed up the mountains, through beautiful Cedar Breaks National Monument, then on to Panguitch, Utah, where we got a little taste of fall colors as the shimmering or quaking aspens had begun to change their leaves to a golden yellow. In the afternoon, we stopped in Kanab to visit the Little Hollywood Museum and Chuckwagon Dinner for an unexpected skit performed by French tourists and a movie. We don't want to spoil the fun, so let's just say, if you time it right, this place is a fun stop.

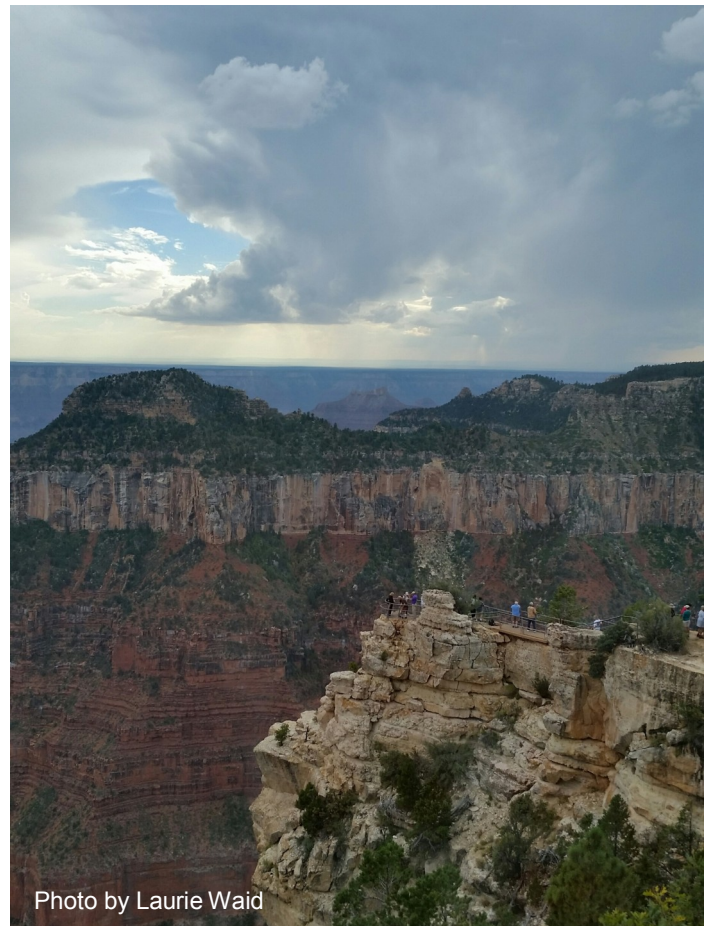


Photo by Laurie Waid

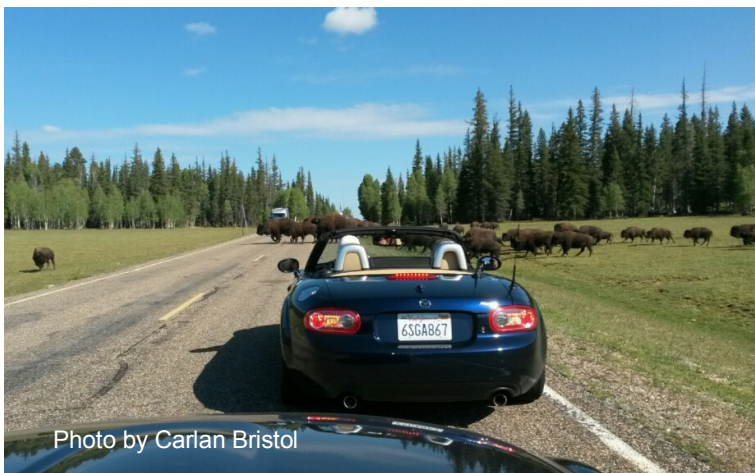
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Finally, we approached the mid-point of our trip the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. What more is there to say about the Canyon beyond spectacular? The temperatures were perfect, the sunset and sunrise were remarkable, and our companions were kind, caring, and fun. No one was giddier with excitement than Grace Mills. Watching her reminded us to really stop and appreciate the splendor around us.



As we departed the North Rim on Day Four, we were treated with a herd of Bison on either side of the road and one particularly formidable bull standing in the middle, crosswise on the two-lane road acting as a crossing guard. Carlan Bristol snapped a cool pic. Thanks to Stacy and Ken Hurd who *actually* attended the evening ranger program, we learned that the House Rock Bison herd was part of a conservation effort by a former buffalo skinner. He cross-bred the herd with cattle, but later abandoned the project. The herd, which predominately lives in the Park now totals some 400-600 bison or would that be beefalo?"



Now back to the bull in the road. We stopped our cars and watched the bison. Every time an OTM would inch towards the bull, he'd stare the driver down. Instinctively, Jackie rolled up her window, yeah on her rag top. After a time and in response to some invisible signal, half the herd ran across the road. Jackie started inching forward before the last bison crossed. She was convinced that she was getting the evil eye. It was, as if, the two-bison crossing guard was saying, "You have GOT to be kidding. Don't you see that we are crossing here?" While notoriously bad tempered, the bison shared the road with us that day; no tourists were gored or Miatas rammed.

Once the bison gave way, we drove on through the Vermillion Cliffs and Marble Canyon. Lunch on the Navajo Reservation at Cameron Trading Post hit the



spot. While this is a tourist bus destination, the "Navajo Tacos" were worth it. We continued to make a loop to Wukapi and Sunset Crater National Monuments on our way to Flagstaff for the night.

From Flagstaff, we went south on Highway 89-A through Oak Creek Canyon, Sedona, and Cottonwood. Our stop in Jerome was a test in flexibility and patience. It is a cool little town, but not very accessible for people with limited mobility – after hours of driving our Miatas in the hot sun, we were all feeling a little mobility challenged. We went on to the Gold Hill Mine Museum, but found it a little wanting. A better name might have been a vehicle graveyard. However, George Watson did rescue a tortoise who flipped over while trying to escape his enclosure. We thought George was a hero.

We drove some very nice twisties into Prescott for a terrific lunch at El Gato Azul and a little shopping. (Prescott, by the way, is pronounced Pres-kit, like biscuit, in case you are ever talking to the Waides.) The

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twisties south of Prescott are excellent, too. It was driving down these twisting roads nearly a year ago gave us the idea for the run. We overnighted in Wickensburg where Laurie and Steve Waid became fast friends with "Pat", the Best Western front desk clerk who related her story about the tragic 2015 Yarnell, Arizona fire that killed 19 Prescott firefighters, members of the Granite Mountain Hotshots, and destroyed a lot of homes in her neighborhood.

One of the joys of having Steve Waid on the trip was the he has never met a stranger. He talks to everyone, especially the blue-haired old ladies. Because of his extroversion, we got to know people like Pat a lot better.



Photo by Laurie Waid

Thirteen of us shared our last supper at the Bar 7 Rancho. Larry Lloyd, an SDMCer living in Prescott, joined us for dinner. We were happy to have his company, making it an inter-club event.

There's not much to say about the drive back through the desert through Brawley. It's hot, flat, and agricultural. But lunch in Julian at the Rongbranch was a treat. First time that NONE of us ordered pie.

Every place we went had its own beauty, and we were constantly reminded that we live in a stunningly beautiful country and we are grateful to be able to enjoy it with adventurous and kind souls with our tops down.

People. The scenery is the scenery and the food the food, but it's the people that make the trip. We were fortunate to have five Miatas, four of whom were experienced SDMC drivers and navigators. Their experience enhanced our enjoyment of the trip and deepened our friendship and respect for them and the car. As Daryled Bristol said in a posting, SDMC "Members from all walks of life come together to en-

joy these little under powered "sports cars". We probably cover every economic strata of western civilization, political, religious, and other interest you can possibly name and we meld into one heck of a cohesive group of adults playing with kids' toys and loving it." Like us, George and Elsa Watson are relatively new to the club and the car.

Palates. We confess that we may have gotten a little carried away in planning the meals on this trip -- okay Bob got carried away. As much as Steve loves people, Bob loves good food (and beer). We learned that not everyone likes food as spicy as Bob (duh). True to the adage that "SDMC is an eating club with a driving problem", we ate very well. It was not lost on us that Bob's pit stops often included places for pie. Some of the best places looked a little scary -- like Andrea's Charbroiled Burgers or Fox Barbeque -- but ugliness, like beauty, is only skin deep. The food was terrific. Bob even managed to arrange a beer tasting for those who imbibe. The Grand Canyon North Rim Lodge has a monopoly on food, lodging, and views. They tried hard to make you not regret having no choice of where to eat by paying attention to detail and having good food. Bob heartily recommends the huevos rancheros.

Partnerships. Good things happen when people work together. We had six couples who left on the 6-day trip, and we all came home married, and that is a win, all by itself. Everyone contributed to this trip. We are grateful to Ken Hurd for his help in teaching Bob how to use Garmin's BaseCamp software. We were very lucky to have the Waid's as Sweep for the trip -- no one got lost. We received expert coaching from the Bristols and the Mills and the good cheer and flexibility of George and Elsa Watson, who fit right in.

Jackie and Bob are married; we are Miata partners, too. We share the driving, navigating, and planning, which can be fun and challenging when both have strong personalities and opinions. This can lead to the Bob and Jackie show. Neal Mills thinks we need to be a two-Miata family. But really, what fun would that be! We love to laugh, have fun, travel, eat, experience new things, and share it with wonderful people and each other.

Carlan Bristol remarked, *the North Rim Run was probably the longest, most relaxing, entertaining, informative event she could have hoped for. It was like when we were just kids and great days stretched into forever and yet seemed to end all too soon.* We agree wholeheartedly. This trip, as they say, is in the books, but it already has us wondering where our next Miata-land Adventure will take us?

Hunt for Picnic Location Delivers Tropical Splendor!

By Les Smith with Photos by Mark Booth

San Diego Miata Club members previewed Hawaii's newly-forming island Lo'ihī during their Summer Picnic at the home of David and Pamela Hunt in August. And our Super Hosts delivered on all you should expect of a tropical Hawaiian paradise -- including Spam -- in, of all places, Poway!

David and Pam continue to demonstrate their resilience to the forces of Nature that have wracked their little island during rainy seasons the past two years. Last year's "new and improved" is again "new and improved" in what is undoubtedly a Five-Star site. It was unanimously enjoyed by San Diego's premiere hard-driving, harder-eating car crowd. I doubt if the upscale la-de-da Ferrari and Porsche "*eleganti*" have feasted lately on such exquisite cuisine as the picnic's roasted boar!

Then there were the hula dancers, each smartly (and rapidly) dressed by a quartet of women working with the barest of materials and cocoanut bras. Once garbed, they gracefully swayed, as best five men could, to the soft tropical winds. The aquatic antics of Our Little Mermaid Rosie brought balance to the day, along with hula hoop-passing and Pam's other island-themed games and entertainment.

Particularly attractive was the \$10 club-member price for the one-day package that included food and drink, poolside and cabana seating scattered throughout



the resort, access to pool and games area, lively entertainment and trademark SDMC fellowship. Over 85 members attended, with some late-departing folks thinking the package included over-

night accommodations.

On behalf of your grateful SDMC friends, "mahalo nui loa Pam and David; hana hou." Thank you very much; let's do it again!

(For Steve Waid and other interested parties, Lo'ihī is a seamount that may become the next island in the Hawaiian archipelago. It is expected to break the Pacific Ocean surface between 10,000 and 100,000 years from present. This underwater volcano is off the southeast coast of Hawaii (the Big Island) and appears to be growing at about 1.2 inches a year. Rising about 10,100 feet above the ocean floor, it still is about 3,100 feet below the ocean surface. Scientists attribute formation of the island chain to volcanic material spewing from a "hot spot" in Earth's mantle that is continuously shifting due to plate tectonics.)



Zoom Zoom! A Beginner's Perspective of a Run

By Lynn Nolan

I was a new member of the San Diego Miata Club and my first run on May 1, 2016 was "Run Around the Hills", with run leaders Lonnie and Kaye Kerns. We departed Jamacha Rd. and Hwy 94 and enjoyed the twists, turns, hills, flatlands and scenic beauty for 114.7 miles. It was an exhilarating experience! It was my baptism into the challenging and seductive "sport" of runs! As a teenager, I had planned on becoming a professional race car driver however my parents informed me that they were not paying for 4 years of college so that I could drive race cars. So, for me, my first run combined the adventure of driving and the dreams I once had.

I have driven many more runs since that time and every run is as distinctive and exciting as my first run. A run is more than just a group of Miatas driving in a caravan. It's so much more than time, distance and motion! My physics professor would explain the runs as displacement-- a vector representing a change in position, velocity, speed and distance. To determine the displacement of an object, identify the change in position between the starting and end point. If my physics professor *went* on a run he would explain it as lots of fun! My fellow drivers take to the road with wild abandon but for me to be successful in displacement, I conquer the twists and turns with steely determination and steadfast focus. I envision an imaginary towrope linking my car to the Miata in front of me.

The displacement process is what makes a run a run. And each run has its own personality with its foundation being meticulous planning that is selflessly done by several SDMC members. It evolves from concept to creation.

SDMC members arrive in their SDMC attire. They speak another language--the "language of the runs." It is quite unique-- sweep, queue up spot, OTM, magnetics, comfort stop, navigator and CBs (seriously? like the "truckers" use?!). But above all, the extraordinary participants--drivers and their navigators--in the run are the most impressive. The Miatas assemble at the meeting place--all models and colors--each reflective of the driver's style. The coveted set of magnetics is presented to leaders on their first run. Those who have been awarded magnetics proudly display them on their Miata. From the very minute of my first run, it was my goal to lead a run! I was able to achieve that goal in June, 2017 with Run to the Rainbow.

On the runs there is a synergy and sense of excitement in the air. Everyone is encouraging. Although from the moment we begin to roll everyone looks out for the other drivers, there seems to be a slight edge of competitiveness as cars often vie for position. The sweep makes sure that no one is left behind. (After the Angeles Crest run I was one of the 4-5 cars that headed back to the 15 along the Crest. Concerned that I was driving a bit too slow, I told Gene, the sweep, that he should go ahead with the other drivers. Despite my insistence, he would hear nothing of it--testimony to his commitment).

At either a midpoint or the end of the run, the group rolls into a restaurant specifically chosen where the food is delicious. There's a spirit of camaraderie created in part by the sense of accomplishment and fulfillment from another great run. The restaurants are not run of the mill franchise locations but rather places that have generous portions, great food and reasonable prices. Oh, and by the way, the restaurant must survive the arrival of 30-50 hungry people at the same time!

You may have heard the expression that it's not the destination that's important, it's the journey. No truer words could be spoken of a run.

I have more driving skills to learn, lots of practice still is needed and many more runs to do both! Although I did not become a professional race car driver, I sure feel like one when I drive a run! What a feeling! Zoom zoom!



Behind the Wheel

By Lynn Nolan

Name: Paul Alaimo

Miata year, model and color: 2016 Club, Meteor Grey Mica

SDMC member since: January 2017

I grew up in (city, state): I lived in Cleveland, OH until I was 15, then moved with my family to Tampa, FL

Name of College/University (if attended): Loyola University Chicago (BA, Philosophy); California Western School of Law (JD)

Occupation/s: Attorney. My practice is devoted exclusively to Family Law.

If I could have done anything in life it would have been to: I wish I had done a study abroad program during undergrad, or found some other opportunity to live abroad. Who knows, it may still happen.

Favorite:

Restaurants



I love heading to TJ for street tacos. Locally, I live in little Italy so am constantly inundated with new favorites. Raki Raki has great Ramen. Civico 1845 is great for Italian food. Crack Shack has phenomenal fried chicken and good drinks. For something more fancy, George's at the Cove is phenomenal.

Food I grew up eating my grandpa's home-cooked Italian food, so Italian food is comfort food for me.

Movies



I'm not a huge movie buff, but Pulp Fiction, Tombstone, Godfather, and Fight Club are all favorites.

Music

Mostly alternative rock. Modest Mouse, Kings of Leon, and Cake to name a few.



Hobbies and leisure activities:



I spend lots of time taking my dog on long walks around the city. I also love to travel, and have learned lots of 'tricks' to plan every aspect of a trip on points and miles. I stop short of saying I travel for free, but there is no way I could



travel the way I do without figuring out how to maximize value from these programs.

Something most people don't know about me:



I was involved in theater growing up. I performed in lots of plays, and some musicals. For the musicals, the director would tell me 'you can be in the ensemble on stage, but do NOT sing.' That's all you need to know about my singing ability.



Paul and his sister Stephanie
at Mt. Laguna Lodge, July 2017

Events for October

By Bill Bennett

October looks to be fun month with a wide variety of events for you to enjoy. We will finish September with a trip to the Petersen Museum using a broad range of non-Miata (heck, non-automobile) modes of transportation to get us up to the Petersen Museum and you won't even have to take your CB radio. The Petersen is always fun and they rotate the displays regularly so even if you've been before, there will be a lot of stuff you probably haven't seen before. Les Smith will host this trip.

On October 7, Ed & Chloe are going to take us on a run going backwards on a bunch of roads that are really great going forwards, and probably even more fun going the other way. But not to worry, we won't be doing the trip in reverse. Lunch will be held at Richie's Real American Diner in Temecula which I'm told will be a real treat.

The club "hot shoes" will be competing with the Corvette Owners Club of San Diego and possibly some other clubs on the 13th and 21st of October. Practice is on the 13th and then the serious racing is on the 21st. I hope you guys kick some Major Butt !

Also on the 21st, Steve and Laurie will take us on a City by Night Tour that will be an encore of the run that was held for the last Surf N' Safari. It starts with a picnic in Balboa Park and a mellow tour of some of San Diego's beautiful vistas.

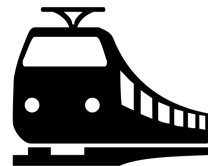
We'll finish off the month with a run led by Jon Connor and Melinda Smith going out and about in North County and maybe even getting into South Riverside County. The run is "Costume Optional" and its rumored that there will be numerous people driving their cars topless. Yeh, I know, a lot corny and old, but I just couldn't resist.

I hope that as we get into the month there will be some members that will volunteer for some spontaneous mid-week "geezer runs" for lunch. This is a particularly good way to lead a run and get a little experience without having the stress of having a set of "Magnetics" on the line.

You may have noticed a different look to the website-calendar. The pictures more-closely resemble the announced event. I'd like to thank Mark Booth for

providing me with pictures that will be used to represent the announced activity. Thanks, Mark !

Petersen Museum via the Metrolink Sept 30, 2017



You may want to peruse the Petersen Automotive Museum online store prior to our trip there **Saturday, September 30**; your search begins at <https://petersen.org/>. You can preview and purchase a number of items ranging from die cast models to apparel to pedal cars available in the museum's store. The 1986 Fleetwood Bounder RV from Breaking Bad caught my attention; its 1:64 scale size should fit nicely on my model railroad club's layout at Grossmont Center.

Several people who are going on our trip have purchased tickets (\$20 in addition to entry fee) for that day's 12:30 pm Vault Tour. I have no idea how many spaces remain; best to purchase online soon so as not to be disappointed once all spaces are reserved. Use the URL above and go to Tickets.

Trip details:

Arrive at Oceanside Transit Center (235 S. Tremont) **at 7:30 AM** to be safe so you have adequate time to purchase your \$10 Metrolink Weekend Day Pass from one of several vending machines. NOTE: Weekend Day Passes purchased using mobile devices CANNOT be used for the subway and bus portions of our trip. Only physical tickets dispensed by vending machines include this feature. Train departs at 8:15 am and we will likely select a car other than a Quiet Car toward the front of the train.

Transfer to Purple Line subway at Union Station and ride to Western Avenue & Wilshire (west end of that line). Come up to street and complete trip on 720 bus to Wilshire & Fairfax. Museum is directly across Wilshire from the bus stop.

Restaurant at museum is full wait service and probably pricey. There are a usually a string of food trucks a couple of blocks east on Wilshire near La Brea Tar Pits and other restaurants in the area.

Our return trip should have us back in Oceanside at 6:55 pm.

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POC Les Smith
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Flip-Flop Run October 7, 2017

This is a new fun run on some familiar twisty roads in South Riverside County but seeing them from directions you haven't seen them before (hence the 'Flip-Flop'). We'll meet-up at the Temecula Walmart east parking lot off of Hwy 79 **at 9:00 AM** with the driver's meeting at 9:15a nd departure at 9:30 AM. After all of the driving fun, we'll get to Richie's Real American Diner in Temecula on Temecula Parkway around noon for a scrumptious lunch.

POC Ed Grant & Chloe
951-491-9470
no.3biged@outlook.com

K1 Speed Practice Session October 13, 2017



SDMC members are encouraged to join COCSD for a K1 Speed session of practice and fun. The sessions are usually held on the second Friday of the month **at 11 am**.

Please check the COCSD events page for updated information: COCSD

Meeting Location: K1 Speed, 1709 Main St, San Diego, CA 92113

K1 Speed Racing Session October 21, 2017



SDMC members are encouraged to join COCSD for a K1 Speed session of practice and fun. The sessions are usually held on the third Saturday of the month at 10 am.

Please check the COCSD events page for updated information: COCSD

Meeting Location: K1 Speed, 1709 Main St, San Diego, CA 92113

City by Night Tour October 21, 2017

City by Night Tour is Saturday, October 21st. We will start the picnic **at 5**



PM in Balboa Park. The location of the picnic will be adjacent to the parking lot on the northwest corner of Presidents Way and Park Blvd. near the recently closed Hall of Champions. We plan to have the club flag up so that people will be able to find the exact location when they arrive.

Bring a picnic dinner to suit your palate and chairs or blankets to make yourself comfortable (obviously must fit in the trunk of a Miata.) Sunset is at 6:08 PM, and this is still before the time change which is November 5th. We will have a drivers meeting and plan to leave as soon as it becomes completely dark. It would defeat the purpose of the City by Night if we left before dark. This is the basic plan.

The run is only about 45 miles long, and will be fairly slow, as it is about seeing more than driving.

POC Steve and Laurie Waid
swaid@cox.net
760-715-7850

Miata Monster Mash – “Driving Miss Daisy Redux” October 28, 2017



Arrive 10:45AM,

Drivers' Meeting 11:00AM,

Departure 11:30AM

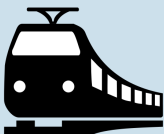





Location: Park & Ride Lot, Hwy 76 and Old Hwy 395

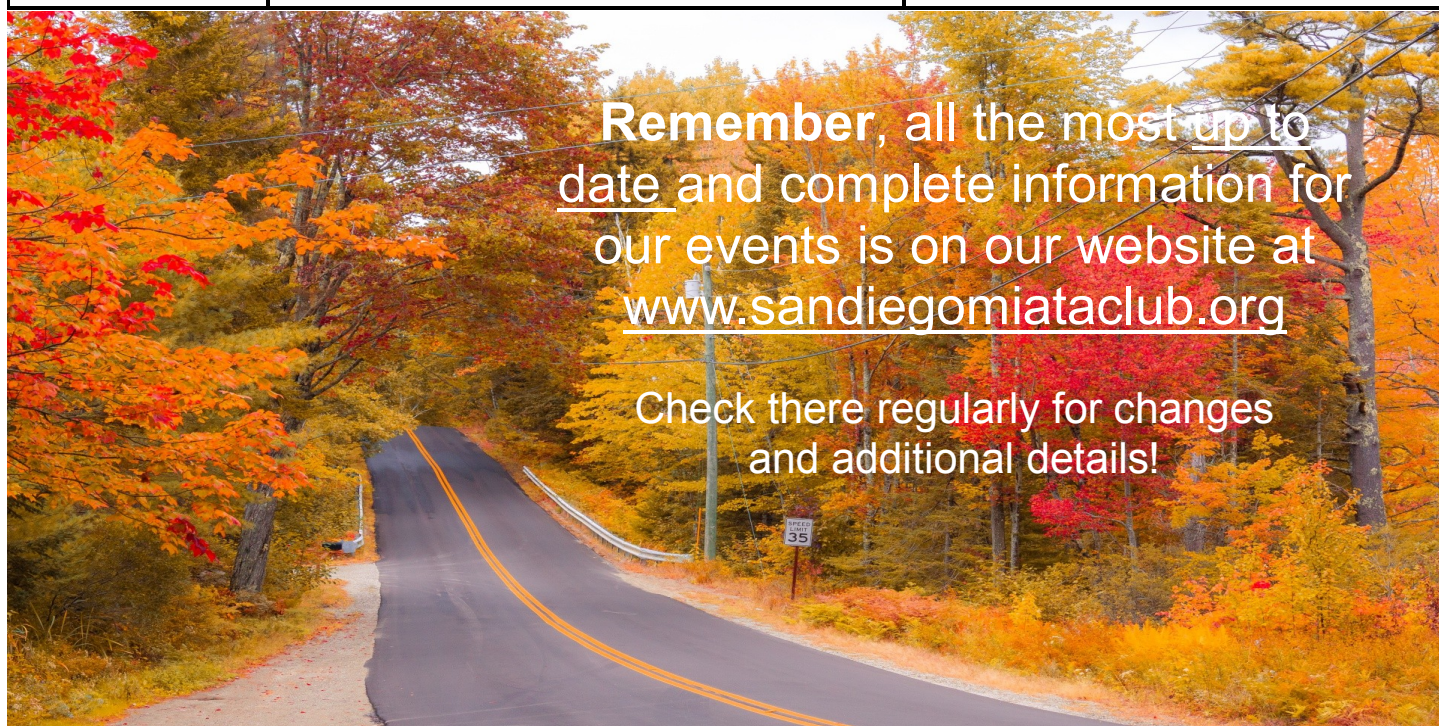
POC: Jon Connor, jcsuperstarusa@netscape.net/
Melinda Smith, ms1628@verizon.net

Get your best Ghost and Goblin mind set and get ready for a fun fall/Halloween run. **Costumes - if you dare!**

The run starts out driving on Old Hwy 395. It's over the Rainbow Bridge, then off into Valley Center and some great canyon driving. We'll enjoy great twisties and some wonderful views of North County. We will then drive Hwy 76 to Dudley's (cannot pass up the wonderful bread) and then continue on to Mom's Pies, Wynola location, located before Julian. Yes, there really is a Mom! The apple pie is wonderful, not to mention the apple cider. A great way to experience a bit of fall in California.

October Events Calendar

| | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | |
| SATURDAY SEPT 30 | RUN TO PETERSEN MUSEUM |  |
| SATURDAY OCT 7 | FLIP FLOP RUN |  |
| FRIDAY OCT 13 | K-1 SPEED PRACTICE |  |
| SATURDAY OCT 21 | K-1 SPEED PRACTICE |  |
| SATURDAY OCT 21 | SAN DIEGO CITY BY NIGHT TOUR |  |
| SATURDAY OCT 28 | MIATA MONSTER MASH DRIVING MISS DAISY REPRISE |  |
| <p>TIME? LOCATION ? WHO TO CONTACT?</p> <p>SEE PAGE 10 AND 11 FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION!</p> | | |



Remember, all the most up to date and complete information for our events is on our website at www.sandiegomiataclub.org

Check there regularly for changes and additional details!

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 we meet on the third Thursday.

We meet at the Old Hamburger Factory Family Restaurant, 14122 Midland Road, Poway 92064 To contact the restaurant, call (858) 486-4575.

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.

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? You can now order them on-line from fellow Miata enthusiast, Joe Portas – the KnobMeister. The .pdf order form is available on our SDMC website. These popular magnetic badges are priced at \$6 each, plus shipping.

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Tom Matano

SDMC Officers



Gene Streeter
President



Jon Connor
Vice President



Dennis Sullivan
Treasurer



David Bryan
Secretary

Executive Board

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
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| Vice President — Jon Connor | | vicepresident@sandiegomiataclub.org |
| Treasurer—Dennis Sullivan | | treasurer@sandiegomiataclub.org |
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| Past President—Neal Mills | | Nealmills@aim.com |

Administrative Board

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Membership—Chris & Linda Jones | membership@sandiegomiataclub.org |
| Events Coordinator—Bill Bennett | events@sandiegomiataclub.org |
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| Webmaster—Dan Garcia | webmaster@sandiegomaitaclub.org |
| Club Regalia—Ken & Stacey Hurd | regalia@sandiegomiataclub.org |
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Twists N Turns Staff

| | |
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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.

Contact

The Web

www.sandiegomiataclub.org

Mail

San Diego Miata Club

P.O. Box 180456

Coronado, CA 92178-0456

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.



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 (30-35 words). Contact newsletter@sandiegomiataclub.org for additional information.

Automotive Services

American Battery. Miata batteries and all other batteries. 525 W. Washington Escondido, 760.746.8010. Contact Jeff Hartmayer. 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 93368). They come to your door, provide quick and professional service.

Express Tire. Auto repair, tires. 12619 Poway Rd., Poway. 858.748.6330. Manager Dick Dolan. Discount 10% on parts & labor incl. tires.

Geri's Bazaar—custom Miata luggage made to fit your specific Miata. Free embroidery to SDMC members. WWW.SHOPGERI-BAZAAR.COM or phone 843.754.8815

Good-Win Racing LLC. Miata intakes, exhausts, shocks, springs & goodies from Racing Beat, Moss & more. Www.goodwin-racing.com Special club pricing on RoadsterSports Items only. 858.775.2810.

Hawthorne Wholesale Tire. Tires, wheels, brakes & suspension. 877 Rancheros Dr, San Marcos. Discount. 10% 760.746.6980.

Knobmeister Quality Images. 3595 Gray Cir. Elbert CO 80106-9652. Joe Portas, joe@knobmeister.com . 303.730.6060.

Langka Corp. Guaranteed paint chip and restoration products. 800.945.4532. www.langka.com Discount. 30%.

Rocky's Miata Motive 2951 Garnet Ave. San Diego 92109 858.273.2547. Discount: 10% on labor.

Lutz Tire & Service Alignment specialist, tires. 2853 Market St San Diego 619.234.3535. Ask for Mike. Discount. 10% on parts (tires not included).

TJM Enterprises (formerly Magnolia Auto

body) Restorations, body work. 10027 Prospect Ave. Santee. 619.562.7861. Ask for TJ. Discount: 10% on labor & parts.

Pitstop Autoglass. Rock chip repairs free to SDMC members. Must show membership card. In-shop only. 858.675.GLASS (4527)

Porterfield Enterprises Brake pads, rotors. 1767 Placentia Ave Costa Mesa 949.548.4470. Discount: 15% on Porterfield & Hawke brake pads, \$10 off rotors, \$9.25 per pt of Motul 600 brake fluid.

Smart Car Care Store—SDMC members received 10% discount. 2260 Main St., Suite 3, Chula Vista 91911 619.575.9274 or 1217 Simpson Way, Escondido, 92029 760.871.8000 smartcarcareproducts.com

Stuart Terry Auto. Specializing in Miata A/C problems, recommended by Rocky's Miata Motive. 4858 El Cajon Blvd. SD 92115. 619.287.9626. Ask for Stuart, 10% discount on parts & labor to \$50

Thompson Automotive. Cool Miata accessories, oil filter relocation kits, gauge kits, air horns, brakes, Voodoo knobs & MORE Discount: 10% 949.366.0322. www.thompson-automotive.com

Tri-City Paint. Professional detailing, products, paint, airbrushes, car covers. West Miramar: 858.909.2100, Santee: 619.448.9140. Discount: body shop price #CM6660.

World Famous Car Wash. Complete professional car care, detail, hand wax, leather treatment. Free shuttle service. 7215 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. SD 858.495.2974. 10% discount.

Mazda Dealerships

Mazda of El Cajon. 619.590.3700. Discount 10% on parts & labor. VIP Membership: 3 oil changes for \$19.95 with \$5 going to Rady's Childrens Hospital.

Mazda of Escondido. 760.737.3200. Discount: 20% on most parts; 15% on labor (except smog). For purchase, ask for Barb and get free SDMC membership for 1 year.

Westcott Mazda. National City. Discount 15% on parts exclusive of oil changes. 619.474.1591.

Other Services

David Bryan, your friendly neighborhood REALTOR; Pacific Sotheby's International Realty. I sell garages with homes! SDMC members who buy or sell a home through me receive a 1 year free home warranty. 619.334.4325. DavidBrealtor@cox.net. DRE#01009295.

SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB
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Postage

Address

