



June 2020



Rear View
Mirror
June, 2020
By Gene Streeter

Self-Quarantine Diary - Final Edition

Perhaps "Stay-at-Home" diary is a better description. I tried to expand upon the idea found floating about on the internet. At the risk of it being a moot point in the waning days of May (an old boss of mine confused the phrase with "mute" point ... ahem), I offer this extension of my earlier posts.

Day 31 – now May 1, it's also Les Smith's drive-by birthday celebration in Mira Mesa. On my way, I used my Baofeng radio to broadcast the appropriate distress message – "May Day! May Day! May Day!"



Not only is Events Chair Steve Norris an efficient run leader, he also knows how to pick a shaded parking space in preparation for our special "Happy Birthday, Les" impromptu drive-by.



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Photo Directory

By Dan Garcia

It is funny how things come about. I was sitting in my computer room one day contemplating submitting an article for the newsletter about, yes you guessed it, the directory feature of our mail service. You see, I was and still am rather bored with the "Stay-at-Home" orders we are all under. Then I received an email from Steve Norris asking if there could be a member's only directory added to the website. A directory with addresses and other such information. After going back and forth a few times we came up with a plan, and Steve submitted it to the board, and they all think it is a good idea. Wow, something to do! Thank you Steve.

A quote from Steve Norris:

With board approval, Dan [Garcia] has implemented my suggestion to allow members to publish their mailing (snail mail) address for other members to see. It will not be accessible to the public so you should feel comfortable about putting it out there.

The main reason I wanted to do this is so we can send each other Holiday cards. I still love that old holiday tradition and want to send cards to people I've become good friends with in this club.

This is completely optional.

Steve Norris

One of the features of our new email service provider is a directory that is accessible for members who choose to participate by creating and sharing a profile. It is not actually called a photo directory, but I prefer that name because pictures of ourselves can be added to the profile. Steve and I envision the photo directory as a means to further enhance communications with each other, to associate a face with a name and to allow those who get pleasure in sending greeting cards to do so. We truly hope that many of you choose to participate and share your profile in the photo directory. The directory is completely optional, only you can create your profile and choose to share it in the directory. This cannot be overridden by the owners of the service.

OK, enough of promoting the idea.

As alluded to in the preceding paragraphs, the directory is a feature of our email provider groups.io. This meant that the members only directory Steve asked for already existed, but not on our website. So, all that needed to be done was to provide a link to the directory within the site. And, of course, a tutorial on how to create your profile needed to be written.

The link to the photo directory can be found in the "For Members" section of the website. There you will find the link along with another link for the tutorial. You can also get to the directory by signing -on your account via the link on the home page of the website. Navigate to the Directory button in the left side navigation bar. The Photo Directory is visible only to members who have created a profile and shared it to the group. This is a feature of groups.io, not the SDMC postmaster.

T&T

Photo Directory

By Dan Garcia



How to create your profile:

Go to https://groups.io/g/SDMC-mail and sign-in.

Find the left navigation bar and choose "Subscriptions".

Click the "GROUP PROFILE" button.

Click the "EDIT GROUP PROFILE button.

The top data entry is the Profile Photo. Please add a photo from you own device picture folder. There is a browser that will take you there. Remember this picture is so people can recognize you, so please choose one that shows your face.

Ignore the User Name field.

The Display name field should already be set when you first established your account.

Set the Profile Privacy to "Other members of your group".

The next section allows you to enter information about yourself. It is a mini word processor. Suggest:

- a. Cell numbers
- b. Miata year, color and Special Version
- c. Modifications to your Miata

You can enter your home address in the "LOCATION" field.

If you have a web site, then add it in the "WEBSITE" field.

Save your updates by clicking the blue "Update Group Profile" button.

Remember, if you do not create a profile, you will not be able to access the directory

American Graffiti Cruise 2020

Tonight was Ramona's "American Graffiti Cruise", which honored 2020 Grads of Ramona's High Schools. For over an hour, I stood outside, watching all the cool rides festooned in Bulldog regalia, American Flags, and lots of good old-fashioned American spirit by riders and spectators alike. Just what the doctor ordered!!!! And lo and behold, the last entry in the parade was SDMC! They saved the best for last. You guys looked and sounded great; as usual!!! Made me proud. Thanks for joining us in our little burg for a hot time in the ol' town tonight. (It doesn't take much up here). You guys are the best!

Cheers,

Phil Daoust '96 RHD "Briata"

T&T

Photos by your author. Sixteen SDMC vehicles turned out to celebrate Les's birthday and entertain his Mira Mesa neighbors in the process.



Porsche pilot & SDMC member in good standing, Steve Kennison was overheard to say "I'm getting lift at any speed above 20 MPH. Silly rabbit, Miata is always the answer!

Day 32 – call me crazy, but the "distance learning" and stay-at-home approaches should ease

future teacher salary negotiations.

Day 33 – feeling crafty, I made a toilet papier-mache model of Mission San Antonio from photos I took on SDMC's pre-pandemic version of the Coastal Cruise. I used a month's supply of drier lint to weave the decorative Mexican-style blankets to scale.

Day 34 – sorted and organized our collection of fast food condiments in the fridge. Anyone know the atomic half-life of a catsup packet?

Day 35 – wondering out loud (a common behavior) if we'll be able to practice "social distancing" once we return en masse to the highways

Day 36 – on a hunch, I took an advance on my promised stimulus check to invest in cruise lines, airlines, and Sears stock.

Day 37 – re-decorating my home office to emulate CBS news anchor Anthony Mason's work-from-home library set and its artwork. I opted for more contemporary art classics, such as "dogs playing poker" and a striking velvet Elvis.

Day 38 - "going Hollywood," I'm toying with the idea of buying a local DeLorean on Offer Up and the optional flux capacitor https://www.oreillyauto.com/flux-500.html

Day 39 - cause for celebration, our local Chinese food emporium finally reopens, but for take-out only. Conspicuously absent from the menu – Wuhan Noodles.

Day 40 – negotiated a trade on eBay – my treasured Dr. Anthony Fauci bobblehead (see Day 19) for just four pounds of assorted beef.

RVM, from previous page

Day 41 – casinos still closed; my wife is now betting on which neighbor's yard will be desecrated by the roving neighbor dog. I bark out Clint Eastwood's movie line - "Get off my lawn."

Day 42 – sort of a Twilight Zone moment, a Bakersfield service station sign beckoned me in for \$1.99 per gallon gasoline. (No joke!) When attendant Kevin Harvick (NASCAR - #4) asked to check under the hood, I was even more impressed. (Psych!)

Day 43 – consoled homeschooling neighbor attempting to restore order in her "classroom" after one of her charges called in a bomb theat.

Day 44 - joined a picket line with neighborhood youngsters demanding an end to distance learning and the reopening of actual classrooms. And while you're at it, have the cafeteria begin serving Salisbury steak and lima beans ... please.

Day 45 – drove to Nordstrom's for designer face wear and a wardrobe that fits, DMV for an expired license renewal, then to the beach; all on bargain gasoline. Life *is* getting better.

Stimulus Package- Miata Style

Many of you may have seen the recent Wheel of Fortune segments that featured a new RF Miata as

the grand prize. Even more ironic, the back-to-back shows were produced in a ... wait for it ... "Surf and Safari" theme. While I somehow missed both, esteemed member Wally Stevens (and Sandy, and Patti) not only saw the show (now a COVID-19 diversion favorite) but captured the image below. Thanks for sharing, Wally

You'll have to look closely at the big screen to the right to see the "Surfin' Safari" theme spelled out. Photo courtesy of Wally Stevens and little Patti.



Add This to Your Bucket List

Just to be clear ... we're not talking take-out buckets of Colonel Sanders, here. The notion that "you need food to exist, and art to live" isn't lost on me. (I wondered how you would make that segue'. – Ed.) I've always been fond of classic automobiles, especially those of the late 1920s and '30s. The elegance and excesses of the Art Deco movement combined with the craftsmanship and engineering invested in the finest motorcars from both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. Let's not forget about the necessary income, wealth, or lucre and the exclusivity that it buys. Even crusty "barn finds" from that era are museum-worthy for the stories and significance they often bring to bear.

One such institution is the (Peter) Mullin Museum in Oxnard, California. While I've led and collaborated on runs to the Nethercutt Collection, joined multiple Les Smith-organized excursions (using mostly public transportation – *sacre bleu!*) to the Petersen in Los Angeles, and attempted to visit every automobile museum I can, "the Mullin" has eluded my inspection to date.

Cont'd on next page

Like its sister museums across the landscape, the Mullin closed its doors to the public "out of an abundance of

caution" and in reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic. Attempting to remain connected to its clientele and attract new customers, they began doing virtual tours of the museum and its wonderful collection of French motorcars. (Interested? Here's how to join: Mullin Automotive Museum <info@mullinautomotivemuseum.com>)

Wondrous Bugattis, Delahayes, Talbots Lago, Voisons, even Citroens are artfully displayed and maintained within its walls. The stories of the people involved and the vehicles themselves are shared each Tuesday by docents who clearly love what they do. (Not unlike the collection of SDMC members that haunt the San Diego Auto Museum as volunteers.) Every broadcast I take in reminds me of our own departed member David "Woody" Woodhouse, who was steeped in the details and history of these vehicles. It could be said his second language was "Bugatti."



Image courtesy of the Mullin and Mark Vaughan's article – Autoweek, March 19.



Your author enjoyed this bespoke Bugatti at the Petersen last November. The Petersen has also been conducting virtual tours for the its legion of fans

While I'm sharing this information as something of a public service (not court-ordered, if you must ask), I'm now committed to touring this facility as a "bucket list" item. Given its relative ease of access, it's not a difficult box to check. I'm thinking an overnight SDMC tour might be in order when the climate is more appropriate. (Judging by Jackie Eder-Van Hook's recent post, she might be first in line for that event. – Ed.)

Humor is Where You Find It

Most of us have had our fill of the COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictions stemming from our attempts to limit any further transmission. The airwaves saturate us with facts, data, and opinions, not necessarily in that order. Knock on wood (then re-sanitize your hands, please), I'm not aware of anyone in SDMC that has fallen victim to the feared strain of coronavirus. Not in the physical sense, anyway. Most of us have struggled with the proscribed isolation from other human beings and to varying degrees. Agreed?

From my perspective, our club has helped fill some of that social void. Daily posts to the club email list, telephone calls, and multiple impromptu runs have buoyed our spirits and met many of our social needs. A few of those emails welcomed new and returning club members. It was very gratifying to see some former members returning "home." Consider this your virtual hug or hearty handshake. Perhaps this really is a good place to meet some of those needs.

Cont'd on next page

Our virtual monthly meetings on the Zoom platform have felt surprisingly comfortable and went much better than I would

have expected. By comparison, the three Zoom Surf 'N Safari meetings I've conducted to date have had more hiccups and my orchestration of them more ham-fisted. (Always with the food references, hot dog. - Ed.)

Humor has been a common thread in many of those communications, and with good reason. It releases endorphins that make us feel better; it makes us smile, exercising many more facial muscles than the alternative frown. Humor acknowledges the pain and difficulties we might be suffering but refuses to submit. It makes the mundane more interesting. Here's a recent example with two of my favorite subjects – cars and canines. I had spent more time in a line outside a grocery store (you know the drill) than I spent hunting down and dragging my conquests to the register and then back to my car.

At first glance, I thought a very blonde women was behind the wheel of a nearby SUV. Since it was running, I didn't want to stare. On second glance, I realized it was a poodle, with front paws actually on the steering wheel and sitting squarely in the driver's seat. Imagine my reaction, upon finding no one else was in the vehicle ... no other human, that is. Here's what I observed, only af-

ter Fifi and I locked our gazes:

Yes, the engine and A/C was running ... had I been quick enough with my camera, the poodle had both front paws on the steering wheel – at "10" and "2



"Out of An Abundance of Caution"

There are many bits of popular advice I could offer in closing, ranging from "Be well" to "keep the shiny side up." Out of an abundance of literary caution (that rarely has any meaning for you – Ed.), I won't attempt to list even those that I've used in previous columns.

Instead, I'll leave you with this single, simplistic thought. "Keep smiling." It's good for your physical and psychic well-being. Besides, and in the words of my departed father,"... it makes people wonder what you've been up to."



Surf 'N Safarí, 2020 June 2020

Surf 'N Safarí Update

We can likely agree that 2020 has thus far been one of the most bizarre and generally disruptive years in decades. Your Surf 'N Safari core committee hopes this message finds you and those you love in good health above all else. Given the current social restrictions in place, we have met virtually the last three months to continue plotting San Diego Miata Club's hosting of our 5th regional Miata event, one we proudly advertise and conduct as a "party."

It is an opportunity for many in the Miata community to come together in an intimate setting, exchange hugs and handshakes, experience great drives, good food, even show off some dance moves when the music moves you. In the current climate, and what we expect to see less than five months from now, those activities would need to look quite different. In keeping with our proven designs and strong traditions, we've decided on an alternate approach.

With your indulgence and understanding, we are moving our Surf 'N Safari party to *next* October. We are confident the social and medical landscape in 2021 will be more conducive to the activities and experiences we want to provide our Miata friends and extended family. We apologize for any inconvenience this causes, and acknowledge everyone's current needs for socialization and stress relief. A prescription for top-down Miata motoring has been helpful for the latter.

Just as we initiate the registration refund (**in full**) process, we ask that you earmark those funds for next year's event ... same intimate resort venue, same entertainment value, same San Diego party atmosphere. As an additional courtesy, we'll cancel your lodging reservations directly with resort management. Be well, and keep the shiny side up! **We look forward to seeing you at Surf 'N Safari - October, 2021!**

Gene T&T

Events Information

June 2020

Sun	Mon 1	Tue 2	Wed 3	Thu 4	Fri 5	Sat 6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 7pm-8pm SDMC Monthly Meeting TBD	26	27
28	29	30				

San Diego Miata Club June 2020 Events

See the SDMC web site for further details. No events scheduled for June.

Due to the quarantine, club events have been cancelled at this time until the quarantine is lifted.

Thursday, June 25th – The **club monthly meeting** is held on the 4th Thursday of the month. **7 pm—8 pm**. Hamburger Factory in Poway. Next on-site meeting TBD. (Restaurant closed due to CoVid-19.)

A virtual meeting will be on **Zoom** Thursday, May 28th at 7:00pm.

All current members will receive a Zoom meeting invitation via e-mail with Meeting ID & password prior to the meeting.

The July 4th Parade in Julian has been cancelled.

Future SDMC Event

Surf 'N Safari 2021

This event has been rescheduled to 2021. Specific dates to be announced soon.

http://www.sandiegomiataclub.org/sns20/index.html

Please read the SDMC June Events Calendar on the club website for further details.

T&T

T&T

Membership

By Chris & Linda Jones

Welcome to our newest members...

And welcome back after a short gap...

Carvn & James Pass

Chula Vista

2015 Liquid Silver Metallic

Our Club's numbers as of 4/15/2020:

140 memberships (38 single, 102 dual) for a total of 242 members.

Membership Roster updated and posted

The membership roster is available for downloading from the SDMC-Mail@groups.io website. This website is available only to current (paid) mempers. To access the file:

Go to <groups.io/g/SDMC-mail> and click on "Log In" at upper right corner. Once logged in, go to "Your Groups" and click on "SDMC-mail" for next screen. Click on "Files" from list of choices on left side Click on folder titled "SDMC MEMBERSHIP ROSTER"

Open or download the .pdf file to your device. The most recently updated roster is posted.

All are reminded to protect the member information; it's not to be shared with anyone outside SDMC.

Updates: Send any updates to your information via email to <membership@SanDiegoMiataClub.org>

Access: If you don't have an SDMC-Mail account, or want to set it up with a different email address, send email request to Membership with your name and the email address you want to use. Membership team will validate eligibility and generate a system invitation through Groups.io.

Your SDMC Membership Team,

Chris & Linda Jones membership@SanDiegoMiataClub.org

Upcoming Events Elsewhere

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!

Miatas at the Gap MATG XXIV

August 6-9, 2020

https://www.GapMiatas.com

Miata Reunion

October 31-November 1, 2020

https://miatareunion.com/

Canada's Capital Miata Meet 2021

August 12-15, 2021

https://www.umn-c2m2-2020.com/

Member Classified Ads

Classified ads will be published for paid members on a space available basis. Ads will run for a maximum of 90 days.

For sale:

"Robbins Vinyl Tonneau Cover (1900H) for a 1990-1997 Miata with plastic window in the top. Never installed, new in box.

Current **MOSS Motors price** is \$369 + tax.

For sale for **\$100**. Call Chuck at 619 654-0555."

Chuck Graham

For Sale:

1993 Miata, White w/ Tan leather interior. 139 K miles. I'm 2nd owner. Includes hardtop. It's a 5 sp , with new clutch done last year at Rocky's in Chula Vista. Recent new tires. Has the lightweight 1994 Miata wheels.

Looks and runs great. \$5800.

Contact Don Sinclair at 760-525-4122

For Sale:

2001 Track Miata, 6 speed, ABS, sport brakes, PS, 88k miles, new windshield, timing chain, water pump, fuel pump and battery. Full cage with gutted interior, SPARCO seat., Wisdom bumper cover, burgundy.. **\$4,990**

Contact Chuck Graham at 619 654-0555

Just a reminder of the **best channels to pick for SDMC runs**.

BEST: 5, 6, 7 or 8 (VHF) Preferred

WORST: 1, 2, 3 or 4 (UHF)

VHF channels can have up to twice the range of UHF in our typical rolling and mountain countryside. In flat open land they are more similar.

Steve Sampson

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President



John Lord
Vice President



David Hunt Treasurer



Julie Thompson Secretary

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Events Coordinator—Steve Norris
Webmaster/Postmaster—Dan Garcia
Club Regalia—Steve & Laurie Waid
Historian—Elinor Shack

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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 17th of each month. The Editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Contact

Member Discounts

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 Groups.io named SDMC-Mail.

Follow these steps:

- 1. Go to http://groups.io/g/SDMCmail (capitalization matters!).
- Click the button labeled "Apply for Membership to This Group on the bottom left side of the
- 3. Enter the email address you want to use.
- Your account will be approved after confirmation of club membership.
- 5. You will receive an email to confirm your address.
- 6. Please go into the profile section and enter your display Name, First and Last name preferred.
- Select a Message Delivery and Format option.
- For complete instructions and club email etiquette, go to the "For Members" section on the SDMC website.



any vendors offer discounts to 949.548.4470. Discount: 15% on Porterfiel Miata Club members. The Club & Hawke brake pads, \$10 off rotors, \$9.25 does not endorse these vendors, but per pt of Motul 600 brake fluid. lists them as a membership benefit. Some offers December 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@sandiego miataclub.org for additional information.

Automotive Services

American Battery. Miata batteries and all other batteries. 525 W. Washington Escondido, 760.746.8010. Contact Jeff HartDecemberer. Fleet discount on all prod-

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,

Bumper Rescue, Bumper, body and collision repair with excellent quality and paint matching. Near Rocky's old location. Free estimates and free Uber rides back home once you drop off your car. 10% off with mention of this ad. Contact Shay at 619.286.7377.

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

Good-Win Racing LLC. Miata intakes, exhausts, shocks, springs & goodies from Racing Beat, Moss & torse. Special club prices of the special spe on RoadsterSports Items only. 858.775.2810. sales@good-win-racing.com

Wholesale Tire. Hawthorne wheels, brakes & suspension. 877 Rancheros Dr., San Marcos. Discount. 10% Marcos. Discount. 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 Miatamotive 696 Naples St. Chula Vista 91911 858.273.2547. Discount: 10%

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

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

Porterfield Enterprises Brake pads, r

rotors. 1767 Placentia Ave Costa Mesa 949.548.4470. Discount: 15% on Porterfield

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

Stuart Terry Auto. Specializing in Miata A/C problems, recommended by Rocky's Miatamotive. 4858 El Cajon Blvd. SD 92115. 6129.287.9626. 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

TJM Enterprises (formerly Magnolia Auto body) Restorations, Body Work. 10027 Prospect Ave. Santee. 619.562.7861 Ask for TJ. Discount: 10% on parts and labor.

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

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. Discount: 20% on most parts; 15% on labor (except smog, oil changes, and tire rotation). For purchase, ask for Xavier or Tony.

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

Other Services

David Bryan, your friendly neighborhood REALTOR; Coldwell Banker West Realty. I sell garages with homes! SDMC members who buy or sell a home through me receive a 1 year free home warranty. 619.672.0493. DavidBrealtor@cox.net. DRE#01009295.



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SAN DIEGO MIATA **CLUB** P.O. Box 421325

Postage

Address