



TWISTS & TURNS

July 2020

A Much-Needed Reprieve

By Jackie Eder-Van Hook

On May 16, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department offered a much needed reprieve from the State's stay at home orders by inviting car enthusiasts all over Southern California to Hacienda Heights. This predominantly residential neighborhood is located in the eastern San Gabriel Valley bordering City of Industry to the North, Whittier to the West, La Habra Heights to the South, and Rowland Heights to the East along the Pomona Freeway, Route 60.

For a few glorious hours, the event offered 20 some Miatas from SDMC and SoCalm to join together with other car enthusiasts to support the Helen Evans Home, a 42-bed residential facility located in Hacienda Heights, California, a place known for providing exceptional care for infants, children and young adults with special needs for more than 40 years.

The event brought joy to the residents, families, and staff at the Helen Evans Home as well as happy smiles to the community members who came out to watch and take pictures along Gale Avenue on a beautiful, sunshiny, southern California day. Of course, it also brought bright grill-sized smiles from the car enthusiasts who travelled nearly empty LA freeways experiencing horns and waves from those lucky enough to witness the parade of cars coming from all over area. We were treated to a dazzling display of cars, Ferraris, Lamborghinis, and McLarens, along with Acuras, NSXs, custom Toyotas, Corvettes, Mustangs, our beloved Miatas, and many more. Stacked along Gale Avenue, two abreast, gave us time to chat with our fellow car lovers. A McLaren asked us if we wanted to race to which Olive -- sometimes known as Bob Van Hook -- deadpanned, "Sure, if we are driving twisties." Another driver wanted me to settle a bet about automatic transmissions. It was all in good fun. The event was short -- just long enough to queue, handoff gifts we had brought for the kids, and wave as we drove past the home.

Many of the club members met up at Katella's Deli and Bakery in Los Alamitos off the I-605. Turns out this is one of those *I heard from a friend, who heard it from a friend* recommendation. As Alan Kagan says, "Truly ALL the food at Katella's is scrumptious."

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I highly recommend any corned beef or pastrami sandwich. A favorite is 'The Special' which I have them grill. Don't forget to check out the bakery. It is AMAZING." This place IS amazing. For anyone who loves deli food, ya gotta go! <https://www.katellabakery.com>

After getting our food, we met up at a small park less than a mile away from the Katella Deli. Most of us engaged in social distancing, and those who didn't want to social distance, didn't. Besides the wonderful conversations, an added benefit of being at the Little Cottonwood Park was the chance to hear the sweet sounds of baseball as a few family members played catch and took turns hitting the ball.

These days, no trip over 90 minutes can happen without thinking through the bathroom situation. I am happy to report that our meetup point at the I-5 North Aliso Creek Rest Area was open and ready for business as were the restrooms at Katella's.

Thanks to Alan Kagan for arranging the trip and to Steve Norris for leading us. While Bob and I have been very reticent to do much traveling, we found this to be an easy trip without much hassle and we enjoyed a beautiful day with wonderful people bringing smiles all around.

T&T

Mazda 100th Anniversary MX-5

Photos courtesy Mazda Corporation



Ed. Note: Mazda has not yet decided if this version of the Miata will be offered in the U.S. Only 100 copies of this model will be offered in the countries where Miatas are sold. The press release was April 4, 2020.

COVID-19 RISK VERSUS THE BENEFITS OF MIATA FUN RUN...

THE THRILL OF TWISTIES WINS!

By Julie and Terry Thompson

Contributions from Daryled Bristol and Mark Kucera



Once the Sahuaro Miata Club decided it needed to reschedule the official Devils Highway Run due to Covid 19 (as so many other events this year had needed to do), many Miata lovers in both Arizona and California were extremely disappointed and began monitoring the safety of adventuring on the trip independently. Roger Petterson, Sahuaro Miata Club, kept this trip together along with Wade Phyfer. Due to many different reasons, the number of committed Miata enthusiasts dwindled down from six cars from SDMC and five cars from the Sahuaro Miata Club to two cars with three members of the SDMC and three cars with three members from the Sahuaro Miata Club who all rendezvoused in Payson, AZ.

Once the five cars connected in Payson, (one from La Mesa via Oatman/Sedona/Williams AZ, one from Escondido via Phoenix, one from Phoenix and two from Prescott), we bought sandwiches at a Safeway in fear of no open restaurants. Our worries were for naught, as we found plenty of food options on the trip and did not starve. We also managed to find plenty of open places for gas, snacks, cool air and "comfort" stops. We headed up the highway from Payson and reached the Mogollon Rim on Highway 260 taking us into Show Low and eventually Springerville. Once we arrived on the rim with amazing views, we found some rocks that offered a gorgeous view of the valley below and enjoyed our picnic lunch. After lunch, we stopped about 30 min down the road to fill our gas tanks



and empty our personal tanks. We attempted a stop at Hawley Lake, but the Apache Indians had "closed the forest". Once we discovered this, we decided to continue on into our destination for the evening to rest up for the day ahead. Three cars decided to take one more detour driving into a little settlement, Greer on the Little Colorado River



and found an open establishment with cold beer, a very welcome find with the temperature above 100 most of the day. We did a little sight-seeing on the river and then drove on into Springerville. Upon our arrival, we discovered the hotel had decided that the group didn't need rooms since the Sahuaro organizer had called to inform them the official event was being postponed until October. The AZ club members rooms were cancelled, the SDMC member's rooms were still available, but the hotel was full. We were all moved to the sister hotel across the street, the "El Jo Motor Inn". We were all settled into our rooms and went next door to the Safire Lounge for delicious burgers. We took a little after-dinner walk and took in the sunset on our way to Safeway for some beverages to enjoy while sitting on the stoop and planning the trip for the next day.

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due to Covid 19 preventative practices. After energizing ourselves and completing the necessary car care in the parking lot from the rain and wet pavement the prior day, we departed for our driving adventure on the Devil's Highway. Two drivers, Daryled Bristol from San Diego in his blue NC and Mark



Kucera from AZ in a beautiful striped ND (the prototype from which the Thompson's striped ND was created), decided one trip on the twisty road was not enough for one day, so they split off on their own journey to go down and then meet the other three cars at the bottom to head up AZ Highway 191 aka "The Devil's Highway". The three less ambitious cars "easy rider group", as labeled by Mr. Bristol, traveled across AZ and through New Mexico to meet the two adventurous cars in the mining town of Morenci for lunch prior to beginning our trip up the thrilling highway. While calling to arrange our meet up time and spot for lunch, the three cars learned that there was a story to be told but it would have to wait to be told at lunch. Our trip through New Mexico was uneventful compared to the adventure seekers. The story goes as follows: Daryled had made two previous trips on Route 191 but had never entered Alpine (the head of the

route) from the West before. So, Mark Kucera from the Sahuaro Club, the Route 191 expert, led the way. Once in Alpine, Daryled took the lead and let the fun begin. About 15 minutes into the run where the broad meadows end and the pine forest begins, the two made a comfort stop to prepare for the fun ahead. Within 10 miles the lead car, Daryled, met up with "**Kamikaze Bambi**", stepping hard on the brakes and attempting to avoid the doe, he put a violent end to her wanderings. (The second car's driver, Mark Kucera, judged the deer's flip over the car and off the side of the road as a 9.5, because she didn't stick the landing) Shortly after this encounter, the two pulled off the road to inspect the damage (and let their heartrates return to normal) ...left front headlight busted, fog light missing, side marker also missing, dent in the bumper and hood slightly tweaked. All indications were the engine had not suffered any damage and the handling was working as expected. A four-minute inspection and they were back on the road at speed continuing south. Mark decided he needed to reduce speed somewhat, just in case the deer had family that might attempt to take revenge. The two arrived in Clifton/Morenci without further incident and shortly were joined by the easy rider group. We bought sandwiches at a PJ's restaurant (open for takeout only) and found a shaded park to eat lunch. During lunch we were able to share stories of our adventures to Morenci.

After lunch we drove through the open mine in Morenci and began our trip up the "Devil's Highway"/old Route 666 with 460 twists and turns in 120 miles and a 6000' change in elevation. The trip up was much less eventful than previously experienced in the morning on the way down, but still fun. We returned safe and sound to Springerville for a shower, rest, dinner and to sit on the hotel stoop to revisit the day. Daryled took off for Williams after the trip down and up and the great deer encounter. He wanted to get home with his injured Miata to start the repair process.



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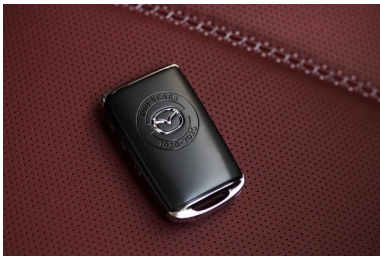
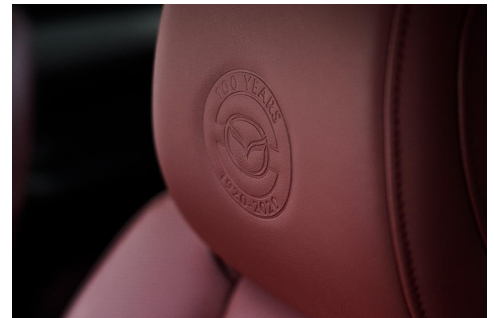


The next morning, we checked out of the hotel and made a trip up the mountain 9,500' to visit Big Lake. It was a beautiful area with 360-degree breathtaking views which are not what you typically think of as Arizona landscape. There was even a sighting of snow on the mountain tops in the distance! After our morning adventure we took off for home. Two cars split off at Payson to head to Prescott. Before we parted ways, the traffic began to get pretty heavy and through our maneuvers trying to stay together, we took a pretty large rock to the windshield...window replacement is in our near future! We said our goodbyes to the other car in Northern Phoenix and continued on to Wickensburg to rest for the night before heading home to Escondido. We had a great weekend practicing for the fun we hope to have again on October 2nd – 4th participating in the official "Devil's Highway Run". Hope you'll consider joining us.

T&T

Mazda MX-5 100th Anniversary Edition

Photos courtesy Mazda Corporation





Rear View

Mirror

July, 2020

By Gene Streeter

Warning: owing to the untoward combination of the author's daily pharmaceutical regimen (consisting of Metamucil, Ibuprophen, and Voltaren Gel), COVID-19 limited socialization over the past three months, long-repressed toilet-training angst, and steady diet of disturbing news, the following sentiments may be both inaccurate and irreverent at times, despite proofreading efforts. Your editorial staff would understand if you chose to line your birdcage with this column even prior to its thorough reading. (It's good to see you're back to normal, Gene. – Ed.)

A Sense of Community ... Drive-bys and Such

Lady Bonnie and I jumped at the opportunity to participate in SDMC's impromptu run up the hill to participate Ramona's American Graffiti Cruise, in honor of its local high schools' graduating class of 2020. While many of us complained (mildly) about the jammed shopping center parking lot and wonky (parade technical term) start of the cruise, none of us expected the enthusiastic reception we received along the entire cruise route. It could have been the size of our contingent (certainly not the size of our vehicles), the flashing lights, flag-waving windshield wipers, and our enthusiastic horn-honking, but we were made to feel welcome and appreciated in this western-style vestige of small town America.

At just 1430 feet above sea level and most of San Diego's attempt at urban sprawl, tiny Ramona (population – 20,000-plus) doesn't seem to take itself too seriously. You can't really label it a "mountain town," though my relatives in New England are easily impressed by Southern California's collection of foothills. In the weighted opinion of SDMC member and Ramona resident, Phil Daoust, Ramona sees itself as a tightly knit community, mostly removed from the goings-on far below.

I have little to add to Phil's account of the scene: "I stood out watching all the cool rides (over an hour) festooned in Bulldog regalia, American flags and lots of good ol fashion American spirit by riders and spectators alike. (Just what the Dr. ordered!!!!) And lo and behold, the last entry in the parade was SDMC! 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."

Devil's Highway De-brief

Wherein the inimitable Daryled Bristol ("Mr. Warm 'n Fuzzy" to may of us) shares his AZ 191 driving fun and surprise impact with an errant deer. Daryled and I have conquered that stretch of highway a few times in the past. It's one of my all-time favorite "driver's roads." Since I was intending to participate in that un-sponsored event, it could have easily been me.

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In the ensuing email posts, the conversation turned to a common "COMP vs. Collision coverage" discussion. I know I've shared some of the distinctions of these two auto insurance coverages in the past, and within the vaunted pages of *Twists 'N Turns*. While my professional insurance experience was on the repair estimate side of Auto Claims, Alan Kagan actually worked as a claim representative a few decades ago. For the record, SDMC's own Sue Kesler also retired from Claims management, a few years before me. She and I remain "good neighbors" in Chula Vista.



Quadrupeds and Bipeds

While Alan did a nice job of detailing the characteristics of a COMP claim in his email post, I wanted to add that *any* impact with an animal is assumed to be unintentional and largely beyond the ordinary control of the insured vehicle's driver ... thus, a loss under your "comprehensive" coverage. The underlying reason is simply that animals (quadrupeds and birds, for the most part) are unpredictable in their movements; if you've ever witnessed the erratic, seemingly suicidal, dashes of a squirrel within your highway lane, describing that behavior as "mindless" is not overly harsh.

Where it comes to the human animal, a vehicle impact with an adult specimen is addressed as a collision, and one that falls under the "collision" coverage. As it has been explained to me, adult humans typically know the rules of engagement with motor vehicles and are largely predictable in their movements. The driver should be observant of adult humans' movements and the general roadway environment. Hitting a pedestrian may bring both civil and criminal actions. (To be clear, with or without your car. – Ed.) Where the COMP vs. Collision coverage decision gets a little sticky is in situations where a motor vehicle impacts a minor, a child. Akin to the erratic behavior of that cute, bushy-tailed little rodent, a human child is less predictable, even "mindless" in certain situations. Not thinking about the possible consequences, they may dart into the street from behind parked cars, chasing a ball, etc. Those of us surviving our raising of teenagers to adulthood can also relate.

Lastly, your auto insurance premiums are subject to your safe driving experiences at the wheel, as measured by the "points system" used by the CA DMV:

Courtesy of www.ca.dmv.gov, here are some basic point values:

- 1 Point: Speeding, Running a Red Light, Unsafe Lane Change, At-Fault Accident, etc.
- 2 Points: Reckless Driving, DUI, Driving with a Suspended License, Hit and Run, etc.

You can be considered a "negligent driver" and your driver's license can be suspended or revoked for accumulating the following point values on your driving record:

- 4 or more points in a 12-month period
- 6 or more in 24 months
- 8 or more in 36 months

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"But I'm a Good Driver ..."

Think Dustin Hoffman in his Academy Award-winning role in "Rain Man." While CA DMV regulations may threaten suspension or revocation of your driver's license (the thresholds are outlined above), your insurance carrier typically provides premium discounts and continued coverage based upon an acceptable or good driving record. Apart from moving violations (speeding, illegal turns, failure to properly observe traffic signs and signals, etc.), any vehicle collisions stemming from those missteps are labeled "chargeable" offenses and are assigned points. Where Comprehensive claims don't generate any such points (or corresponding premium increases), collision losses typically generate a surcharge whenever the insurance company pays out anything beyond \$1,000 in any given collision claim. That is, any payment(s) totaling \$1,000 beyond your collision deductible. Trust me, that amount is really easy to exceed. Expect a corresponding increase in your premiums over the next three years whenever you suffer a "chargeable" accident or your "good driving" status is erased. Note these are general rules and observations. I advise you consult your specific insurance policy(ies) for such details.

If the insurance lingo is difficult to follow, let's use the example Daryled unwittingly provided us to make things clearer. His vehicle suffered an impact with a mindless animal (to wit, a kamikaze deer), causing significant damage to his prized NC. His COMP coverage will apply to cover the expense of the body and refinish repairs and make him whole again. ("Indemnify" is another bit of pesky insurance/legal jargon.) He will pay his specified deductible upon completion of those repairs and return of his vehicle.

Since he is not "at fault" for this loss (simply wrong time and wrong place), there are no accident points to assign in the DMV model, nor any premium surcharge to endure for the next three years. If you experience a loss to your automotive possession(s), a justifiable COMP claim is both cleaner and simpler than the collision type. Please direct your specific questions to your insurance agent, Alan, or Sue, in that order.

A Little Surf Music, Please ...

You might have noticed the lack of a Surf 'N Safari update this month ... or not.

Hopefully, you're aware our once-every-five years party (there has to be a Hallmark card category for that, right?) has been re-scheduled to October, 2021. By now, all our early registrants have had their reservation monies refunded and lodging reservations cancelled by resort management. (Thank you for testing that process early on, Dell.)

As your chairman of the Surf 'N Safari committee, I'm convinced we made the right decision in postponing this event because of the planning complexities and our commitments to deliver the quality event our patrons expect. It pains us to have made that decision.

From the Mind of Les Smith

The fertile mind of Les Smith (you know him as the guy that conducts his driving events to and from public transportation) generated the concept of a virtual Surf 'N Safari this coming October. The ideas he spawned are spelled-out in the email he shared directly with me: *Cont'd on next page*



"Although Surf 'N Safari is postponed a year, why not schedule some type of complimentary virtual activity (activities) during the original time period? Would be an opportunity to maintain contact with existing registrants and possibly attract additional for next year. Like a preview party. Perhaps Mazda USA, Meguiars, Sycuan, Goodwin and/or Flying Miata might be involved, even offering gifts for a drawing. They might appreciate the opportunity to remain in contact with customers if worth their while. Might even do it from Singing Hills, or include video from (?) the site. How can we utilize its golf course in this? And hosts will wear large truck tire inner tubes held up by suspenders (this year) at waist level to maintain social distancing.

Photo courtesy of John Middlebrook and Business Insider <https://www.businessinsider.com/bar-social-distance-with-giant-inflatable-inner-tube-tables-maryland-2020-5>



What kind of activities? Calls for brainstorming but I would include something fun like the marble racing or the dice game we once did with Miatas of six different colors. Video some of the proposed runs to show folks excitement they don't want to miss. Possibly a Saturday night party with a DJ and encourage participants to gather their own small groups in their homes.

Play Pin the vaccine on the virus! Need a theme like 'you can't keep a great Miata club or event sidelined.'"

I put it to you, dear reader. What do you think?

Stimulus Package- Miata Style

As part of President Dave's online meeting agenda, he's asked "any new Miatas or Miata bling out there ... anything, anything?" the last two months. He's even asked me directly about my NC purchase from fellow club member Don Caddle prior to the COVID-19 lockdown. I've sheepishly shared I bought my 2006 NC (True Red, thanks for asking) because it already had a 2.5-liter engine transplant. While I've replaced the shocks and springs all around (Koni adjustables and Progress springs, a favored "street" combination of Goodwin Racing), I haven't yet tackled the exhaust upgrades and a few others I have planned.

"Get with the program!" you say. I know ... I know. Several home improvement projects have been occupying my time and money over the last three months. In the interest of this column, I thought I would share the photo details of the 2.5-liter swap with you, and featuring one of our favored Miata service providers, Rocky's Miatomotive. Unless you're a regular reader of Grass-roots Motorsports, you might not know Goodwin Racing & Rocky's Miatomotive was challenged last year to complete the process in one day, just 24 hours. Yes, they made it. (Click on the link below for the photo-documented surgery.) No, this isn't my NC; this is yet another of Brian Goodwin's

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Gregg's Goals 2020 Fundraiser

Please join the Garons and your Miata friends and any other drivers who would want to join us for the 2020 fundraiser for Gregg's Goals. Because of the Corona Virus and need to stay safe, we are changing our usual wine/soda tasting event to a CAR RALLY!

The fundraiser will be held Aug. 1, 2020. We will meet at Westfield North County at 10 AM, with departures planned for 10:30. The current plan is to meet up at the end at a local park (in a relatively cool place). However, as park reservations are currently not open, these plans have not been finalized. Attendees can bring their own chairs or picnic blankets and arrange their safe sitting distances as they wish.

At the end site, we will have box lunches with gourmet sandwiches (tri-tip, turkey or veggie), chips, a cookie. Soft drinks will be available. We hope to have some of the scholarship recipients there - as we know that our supporters love hearing from them! In addition, there will be awards for rally winners and best costumes.

The rally will be a photo scavenger hunt. You will be given a list of San Diego historic or unusual sites and two hours to visit and take photos at as many as possible (no speeding. . just make a good route). Each entry will be given more detailed instructions with where to post photos (Facebook, a hashtag or you will be able to text them to phone number provided for posting). Prizes will be given for most sites visited and best photos. We hope this will be a fun and different event.

The cost will be \$40/car with one boxed lunch. \$10 for each additional lunch. We will be asking people to register ahead of time (more details to follow), but will allow for a few onsite registrations *as space allows* for \$45/car (\$10 for additional lunches). *Remember - these "kids" are from the class that has had no prom, no senior activities and no graduation ceremony. . let's make this really special!!* We really need people to get out and support us this year, as we have FIVE returning recipients and FOUR new recipients.

IN ADDITION, the auction will be online on **Auctria.com** - to begin **July 24 and end July 31**. That way, if auction winners are present on Aug. 1, we can bring them their auction prizes (otherwise, we will deliver or ship).

What is Gregg's Goals about? A little history: in 2006, family members and friends got together to create a scholarship for soccer players in San Diego county, in memory of our son, Gregg Garon, who passed away at age 35 in 2005. Gregg grew up in Rancho Penasquitos (PQ) and played in the first year of soccer in the Poway and in Penasquitos. He played soccer all his life and also coached in PQ, Poway, and in Marietta, GA. The scholarship effort grew from a few \$250 scholarships to more than 8 per year, at \$2000 each.

"Gregg's Goals" is a 501c3 nonprofit that has NO overhead. . it is run by the Garon-Balderrama extended family - the fundraising is an all volunteer effort. The funds raised provide scholarships for young men and women to encourage them to continue their education after high school. In addition, we are now able to help eligible scholarship recipients to remain in college.

The target group for the scholarship is young people who have played soccer, rewarding the "unsung heroes" amongst the players - the ones with a lot of "heart", love of the game, the ones who are always there rain-or-shine, win-or-lose to be part of their team.

Through our fundraising efforts, we have been able to raise close to **\$70,000 and award over 50 scholarships over the years!** With your support, we hope to be able to provide scholarships for even more.

Please visit the website www.wwggd.org after June 25 for the application form and to make payment. Or, if you prefer, you can send the form and payment to the Garons: 1843 Da Gama Ct. Escondido, CA 92064, or via PayPal or Stripe (email: wwggd68@yahoo.com). We can also send you the application form to bring to the day of the rally if you prefer.

Most of all - we want this to be a really good time with our Miata club friends who have supported since the beginning - and we would love you all to come out and have some fun again this year! **T&T**

Photos on pg 13

Events Information

July 2020

Things are starting to loosen up concerning the Covid-19 stay-at-home order. That means that we can start having runs again so long as we keep social distancing.

Our **monthly club meeting** scheduled for **Thursday June 25th**. It will once again be a **Zoom meeting**. All current members will receive a Zoom meeting invitation via e-mail with Meeting ID & password prior to the meeting. You can log on at 6:30 for 30 minutes of socializing. **The meeting will start at 7:00**. The Hamburger Factory can't handle a group our size because of the social distancing requirements.

It looks like the Escondido Cruisin' Grand night will be starting up soon. We plan to go the 1st Friday night of each month starting on **July 3rd**.

The city of Julian **cancelled** their **July 4th parade** this year due to the worries over large groups of people gathering. David and Lori Bryan are hosting a **run that will take us through Julian** that day anyway. We can decorate our cars with things that will stay on at 60 MPH so we don't have to stage before or after the parade. The run will end at the Presidential Estate in Lakeside for a **pool party**.

On **Saturday Jul 25, 2020** Mark & Cathy Booth will be hosting their **26th Annual Twilight Fun Run**.

On **Saturday Aug 1st**, Dennis & Maryanne Garon will be hosting **The Great Car Rally of 2020**. This is a fundraiser for the **Gregg's Goals charity**.

On **Saturday Aug 15th**, Steve & Laurie Waid will be hosting the **Moon Over Miatas** event. Like the Twilight Run, this is an attempt to have a cooler and different experience to the summer. We will have an eating opportunity (hopefully) before we start the run at about dusk so that we are driving and viewing the moon as it is near full.

The **Devil's Highway** run was rescheduled to **October 2-4**. If you plan going on this, look at the SDMC Events Calendar for the hotel and registration information.

Future SDMC Event

Surf 'N Safari

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

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

Please read the SDMC Events Calendar on the club website for further details on all of these events.

T&T

Rarely camera-shy, Greg Lee is seen here in the foreground, taking a break from his Goodwin Racing Sales Advisor gig. "Rocky" Murphy is a familiar face to many in the Miata community.

<https://grassrootsmotorsports.com/forum/grm/lets-25-swap-an-nc-miata-in-a-single-day/149432/page2/>



If you're wondering why, the easy answer is "more power." With exhaust system upgrades and new tune, 200 rear wheel horsepower is possible, with a corresponding boost in torque to approximately 195 ft./lbs. The additional torque is what I notice and appreciate most.

Parting Shots

With apologies for the pithy comments I leave you with in every edition of Rear View Mirror, I would ask that you participate in the community that SDMC represents, enjoy its activities (however sparse in our current pandemic-suppressed environment), while enjoying, informing and uplifting one another.

Stay classy, safe, and inclusive San Diego Miata Club!

T&T

AutoMatters & More: Taking your car in for service during the Coronavirus Pandemic

By Jan Wagner, Photos by Jan Wagner

Even though most of us are not driving as much as we did before, our cars still require regular service. Vehicle service intervals may be determined by several factors: typically mileage since their last service or the amount of time that has passed since the car was last serviced.

For example, my 2019 Mazda MX-5 Miata has only been driven a little over 4,000 miles since new. According to that mileage alone, it was still not due for its first service, but I took delivery of this car on July 5, 2019. Mazda's warranty specifies that even if it has been driven less than a certain number of miles before requiring that it be serviced, it must nevertheless be serviced within one year of its previous service or its delivery date. That meant that I needed to get it serviced before its one-year anniversary.



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Car service, from previous page Driving any car regularly is very important, especially for lubrication, avoiding corrosion, and maintaining the electrical system, the gas in the tank and the rubber parts (including the belts and tires). With that in mind, even though I have hardly left my house in three months, I have driven my Miata at least once every two weeks.

When you take your car in for service, it is potentially exposed to having coronavirus respiratory droplets either settle upon it, or through touch. Therefore, in the interests of safety, it is important that the car either be shielded from such contamination, sanitized, or both.

When I phoned to make the appointment to bring in my car to Mazda of Escondido, one of the things that we discussed was the measures they are taking during the Coronavirus Pandemic to help keep their customers – and their employees – safe.

At this dealership, all employees who are potentially going to be in contact with customers and their cars wear a face mask and gloves. They also practice social distancing, ensuring that customers and employees remain apart throughout the interaction processes – from check-in at the dealership, to consulting with a service advisor at their work station.

Part of the dealership's preparation of my car for service included installing disposable plastic covers on the driver's seat, steering wheel and gearshift knob (although curiously not on the handbrake lever). Furthermore, I observed an employee wiping down surfaces with disinfecting wipes.



The process was stress-free. Upon check-out, signing for my payment by credit card was optional. They even washed the exterior of my car.

Before I left the dealership, out of an abundance of caution, I wiped off switches and other control surfaces, the door handles and that aforementioned handbrake lever with a disinfectant wipe.



Be safe. We can get through this.

T&T

Gregg's Goals Photos

Photos by the Garon's



Membership

By Chris & Linda Jones

July 2020

Welcome to our newest members...

Raymond Patino & Sue Sormiento
Christopher Welch

SANTEE
SAN DIEGO

2010 Liquid Silver Metallic
2019 Ceramic Metallic

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

142 memberships (39 single, 103 dual) for a total of 245 members.

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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) members. 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 XXV

August 5-8, 2021

<https://www.GapMiatas.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:

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

Who's your Mail Carrier? **E-mail, that is.**

It's clear that most of the Club's members have migrated to Gmail in the past few years, yet many others are satisfied with their current provider – or just don't want to deal with the hassle of changing their communication and accounts "world" over to something different. Here's a breakdown of email providers associated with our Club members' accounts:

EMAIL @...	Cou nt	% of To- tal		EMAIL @...	Cou nt	% of Total
gmail.com	54	37.8%		good-win- racing.com	1	0.7%
cox.net	22	15.4%		live.com	1	0.7%
yahoo.com	21	14.7%		mac.com	1	0.7%
aol.com	11	7.7%		me.com	1	0.7%
hotmail.com	8	5.6%		mindspring.com	1	0.7%
san.rr.com	6	4.2%		msn.com	1	0.7%
att.net	4	2.8%		netscape.net	1	0.7%
roadrun- ner.com	2	1.4%		prodigy.net	1	0.7%
sbcglobal.net	2	1.4%		riseup.net	1	0.7%
abraham.net	1	0.7%		sbih.org	1	0.7%
calvarychap- el.com	1	0.7%		sweetwater- schools.org	1	0.7%
				TOTAL	143	100.0%



Address

