



TWISTS & TURNS

February 2021

What's the Road Ahead for our Club?

CLUB PRIORITIES 2021 AND BEYOND: NEW OFFICERS SHARE THEIR IDEAS

By Jackie Eder-Van Hook

Each year SDMC elects officers to serve as the new board of directors. The term for each office is one year, but recent club members have served multiple consecutive terms. David Bryan (2018-2020) and Gene Streeter (2016-2018) each served three terms as president and Dennis (Sully) Sullivan served four terms (2016-2020) as treasurer. This year, 2021, sees the return of our treasurer Dave Hunt, and the installation of a new crop of officers: president Terry Thompson; vice president Steve Norris; and secretary Jackie Eder-Van Hook. Terry and Steve are relatively new to SDMC, and Jackie joined in 2014.

As we enter 2021, the incoming board of directors is having conversations about the direction of the club. What kind of activities we would like to see the club do? How we might engage and support our members both in familiar, and new or different ways than in the past?

I asked each of us directors to think back to when we first joined the club. What did we want from our membership in the club? What caused us to stay? It was clear from the officers' stories that they joined the club to meet new friends who liked to have fun, drive, travel, and eat. Turns out our Miatas are *the vehicle* to facilitate building relationships.

Terry attended his first monthly meeting without knowing a soul. Within 5 minutes Wally and Sandy warmly welcomed Terry to the club and asked him to sit with them. Terry recalled the fun times he shared with club members at the *SCCA Novice School* and on overnight trips. He said, "It is those trips that deepen existing friendships and allow us to develop new ones. It is fun to go on the runs and experience how each run is different based on the idiosyncrasies of the individual run leader."

Steve commented, "On my first run Steve Sampson got a flat tire. I was really impressed when the run leader stopped everyone safely while we all assisted Steve. I knew then that SDMC was a club who cared a lot about people. This club has the perfect mix of driving/ socializing that I was looking for."

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At their first SDMC meeting, Pam and Dave knew no one. Dave shared that "Mark and Cathy Booth asked us to join them at their table. They were welcoming and introduced us to many people. Shortly after, in July 1998, we attended a 4-day Moss Motors' 50th Anniversary event at the *Flag Is Up Farm* near Solvang and had a blast on our first Car Rally run there. After our first Annual Meeting, we went to Old Town San Diego with Steve and Laurie Waid, Mark and Cathy Booth, Geri and Sal Causarano, and others. And again, everyone was extremely welcoming, and we were hooked on the club."

Dave continued, "But it was Surf-N-Safari at Carmel Mountain Ranch in 1999 that was the cherry on top of the sundae (remember we are a drive-eat-drive club). Jack and Sue Hinkle and John and Barb Templeton welcomed us with open arms, and we have since traveled with them and other SDMC members to Europe, Canada, Alaska; driven Route 66 (thanks Mark and Cathy); gone *Looking for Madonna* (thanks Steve and Laurie), and so many other exciting club sponsored and non-sponsored activities and trips. We truly enjoy hosting the *Annual Summer Picnic* and sharing good times together with all our SDMC friends. As a result of the SDMC, we have created and maintained wonderful life-long friendships... yes, travel, weddings, babies, grandchildren, dinners, lunches, life's ups and downs, and much more. It's a GOOD LIFE in the SDMC."

Jackie shared, "I grew up loving cars. I liked driving fast, faster than I should have, which resulted in being nicknamed "AJ" after A.J. Foyt, *King of the Indy 500*. Bob and I joined the club a short while after moving to San Diego. I wanted to meet people who liked cars, having fun, and could teach me how to drive my Miata since I had never driven a sports car much less owned one."

"Bob and I recall fondly our first run with the club, which was to the 25th Anniversary at Mazda Raceway at Laguna Seca. After a "leisurely" drive through LA and Santa Barbara, we met at a hotel near San Simeon. The next morning we were greeted warmly by the Waides, Bristols, Mills, and others. We got in line and took off heading north on Highway 1. We were not ready for a speedy Big Sur run, especially driving fast on curves. Like I said, I had never driven a sports car before. I didn't know how to use my paddle shifters. I wasn't comfortable taking my hands off the wheel to use the manual shift, so I stayed in automatic mode for the entire trip to Laguna Seca. I did my best to keep up, but it got to a point where I just needed to slow down. I pulled over to let Daryled Bristol and Neal Mills pass, not understanding the role of sweep. Later they asked why I pulled over, and I explained. They kindly reassured me that I was doing fine. It was that little bit of encouragement that hooked me. I wanted to be a better driver and to get to know these thoughtful, fun, and slightly crazy people. We knew we had found a home."

I suspect that these stories are consistent throughout the club. Please send your story to me at jedervanhook@gmail.com.

With our orientation stories as a backdrop, your 2021 officers also are pondering what we might strive or wish for the club in the near-and longer-term future. Our lists are on the next page. It is perhaps unsurprising that our wishes for the club matched our personalities: engagement, relationships, and efficient administration.

Cont'd on next page

What do you wish for the club in 2021?

1. Ask for member input on how to make the club more active and accessible.
2. Engage members in a variety of activities from volunteering to leading.
3. Encourage new members to volunteer (run leaders or sweeps, regalia, event coordination, others.)
4. Recruit new members of all ages, genders, and ethnicities, and foster inclusivity.
5. Communicate with members more frequently.
6. Create stronger connections among members.
7. Acknowledge our celebrations and losses routinely.
8. Participate in charitable or community activities (Holiday Drive for Toys for Tots, military)
9. Increase publicity about and exposure to the club, who we are and what we do.
10. Evaluate the club's finances to determine whether we need a financial cushion for other activities we might want to engage in.
11. Update the membership handbook and reconcile it with the website.
12. Formalize a succession strategy for the different volunteer roles ensuring there is always someone in the wings ready to step forward.
13. Digitize club records

What do you wish for the club post-COVID (whenever that might be)?

1. Solicit member feedback to the board.
2. Discover a better way to promote the local, regional, and national Miata activities.
3. Communicate with other clubs and meet for runs and or activities.
4. Return to the face-to-face meetings at the *Hamburger Factory* in Poway. It is always fun to get together with everyone. Zoom meetings have been a good substitute, but nothing beats actual face-to-face contact.
5. Discover new adventures on 3-5 day overnight Miata Run excursions. These are great club member bonding activities.
6. Promote and engage in more impromptu runs.
7. Increase publicity about and exposure to the club, who we are and what we do.

What do you wish for the club over the next 3-5 years?

1. Continue to grow the club to ensure SDMC will continue well after the many very experienced drivers hang up their driving gloves.
2. Participate in more charity events. The toy drive was very successful. We should look for something that we can sponsor throughout the year.
3. Create a cadre of volunteers who will step in and step up when needed. It's a great opportunity to assist in club needs, meet people, build relationships, and have fun at the same time.
4. Build and develop a pipeline of strong, communicative, and engaging leaders.
5. Continue to build out the website, including perhaps a list of resources and/or how-to-videos on common repairs (headlight restorations) and/or maintenance (dare I say tires?).
6. Create an outreach strategy so that members don't "go missing."

Please join us as we think about and create what the club might become in the coming months and years. Expect to see a survey in January/February. Start thinking about what activities you would like to do. This is your club. Be engaged, build relationships, and have fun!

Wishing us all a safe and healthy 2021!

Zoom Zoom, Jackie on behalf of Terry, Steve, and Dave

T&T

SDMC Board Meeting February 3, 2021

The next SDMC Board Meeting will be on **Wednesday, February 3th at 6:00pm via ZOOM**. All club members who are interested in seeing their board in action are welcome to log in and attend.

The Way Back Home...

By Daniel Mocerì

As I prepare for our next San Diego Miata Club run , I get a certain amount of excitement inside of me. This excitement reminds me of the preparation I did for my High School Prom ... washing the car, checking all the tires, washing the windows, getting gas, and so forth (How will I look? How will She look?). So, I set my alarm and try to get to bed early enough just so I am all rested up for the morning adventure . But, no! I'm still awake! 11pm ..12pm...1am...2am, oh boy, my mind won't shut down! "Did I charge my Ham Radio ? What should I wear? Oh shoot, I forgot to check the tire pressure? Finally, I get up to take a Benadryl (that does help). Of course, I automatically wake up at 6:00 a.m, no matter what! Now, the real issues start. I'm all pumped up and so ready as I remind my Better half to be in the car by 8am sharp! She replies " NO PROBLEM HONEY " "great, I say ". I'll be in the garage getting the car ready for departure..8 ...8:10...8:15...nothing! I yell upstairs, "what's the hold up?" A calm and soft reply floats down the staircase, "I'm coming down now", as I wipe the sweat from my brow and head back to the car, and back it out of the garage8:20...8:25 ..As I'm getting out of the car, she S L O W L Y walks to me and our Mighty Miata....ahhhh. Finally, as I start to back out of the driveway she chirps out "Wait, I forgot my other glasses!" It's now 8:35...I'm exhausted already....now she's back in the car, but now she's got me so worked up, I now have to get out to go to the bathroom...it's now 8:40....meet time is 9 am! ...Well, she has told me she is not an early morning person! Can't wait for... the way back home and so it goes. ZOOM ZOOM

T&T



Dear Operation Christmas Spirit Christmas Elves and Angels,

I'm writing to you on the first day of this new year with a heart filled with gratitude. Over the course of the last 30 days, families of all sizes and shapes with varying needs and wishes were blessed by total strangers through your acts of kindness and generosity. There are no words to fully capture our gratitude, but I'm going to try.

This year we had the extra challenge of serving families impacted by the pandemic in addition to families who could use the support even in "normal times." You helped families used to surviving on more than one income as they dealt with job loss. You helped families dealing with illness and injury while hospitals are burdened. You helped families separated during deployment with the added stress of managing a pandemic, quarantines and the inability to see extended family members. You helped service members struggling with PTSD and spouses facing mental health crises feel connected with the world at a critical time. You've helped families who have lost loved ones to the pandemic, and a service member who lost his battle with CVD 19 this week. You helped change lives.

Because of you, a child somewhere was delighted on Christmas morning; a mother or father deployed far away got to sleep easy knowing his/her family was cared for; parents of single service members who couldn't come home for the holidays were touched knowing someone cared for and surprised their sons and daughters with gifts; families burdened with surgeries, cancer, financial need, loss and crisis were met with acts of kindness they will never forget; and families big and small were touched by the Spirit of Christmas.

This new year, I hope you let that soak in-- how wonderful, magical and touching it is for each of these families to know your kindness, and how surprised, moved and thankful each recipient feels. I hope you, too, had the most wondrous Christmas. I know we ALL are ready for 2021!

May your new year be filled with happiness, good health, love, blessings and hope.

With much love and many thanks,

Cindy and Team Operation Help a Hero

See thank you card on page 9



SDMC RUN MANAGEMENT

Some Basic Guidelines

- The **Leader/Sweep** are a **team** and normally prerun the trip to document turns, miles, adequate parking, restroom stops, restaurant planning, problem areas, etc.
- The **Leader** plans the run, prepares the run directions and liability release sheets, leads the run, and during the run announces upcoming turns and information over the radio.
- The **Sweep** follows the run, communicates run progress and problems over the radio to the leader, recovers errant drivers and provides rear-guard when the group pulls back on a road.
- All **others stay between** the Leader and the Sweep.
- **Faster drivers** should position forward and **slower drivers** toward the rear.
- **A two-way radio greatly improves** run enjoyment and success. SDMC uses Baofeng radios on channels 4, 5, 6 or 7 as assigned. See the SDMC web site for details.
- If the convoy gets separated or for other emergencies **radio the word forward** to the run leader. We will make a group stop until it is all sorted out.
- **Everyone should pause at every junction** until the Miata behind you sees you and makes the correct turn. That simple courtesy keeps us together without radios or other heroics. *See the Bread Crumbs slide.*
- **Don't leave the run** without notifying the Leader and the Sweep. We don't want to be up all night looking for you while you are home watching TV.

1/18/2021

San Diego Miata Club

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SDMC ROAD RULES – GROUP STARTS

Follow the Le Mans style start – All leave at Once!

When a SDMC run needs to re-enter the road after a road-side pause, it needs to be done quickly and safely

These are the recommended steps:



1. When you park, position your car for an easy re-entry
2. To re-enter the road, the Sweep will watch for openings in the rear-coming traffic
3. When safe the Sweep will pull out, blocking the lane, becoming the rear guard
4. The Sweep will also radio the group to pull out
5. **EVERYONE should then quickly move onto the road as a group**

This has several benefits:

- The Sweep has the best visibility to the rear
- The time we hold up traffic is minimal
- This keeps OTMs from getting in the convoy

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SDMC ROAD RULES – BREAD CRUMBS

Or NEVER leave the Miata behind you!

The many curves and intersections on Miata runs WILL break the convoy up. With radios it is difficult to manage a run. Without radios, it is impossible without using a simple rule we call “Bread Crumbs”.



This rule is this simple! At EVERY intersection or road choice, *wait until the Miata behind you sees where you are going*

- **NEVER** leave a road junction until you know the following Miata sees you and your direction
- If you are following a Miata, do try to keep them in sight (following the bread crumbs)
- At every junction, watch carefully for a waiting Miata and flash your lights.

When the fun of the road or the desire for speed destroys this discipline, recovery time stops everything. This behavior should be ingrained with every driver, every run!

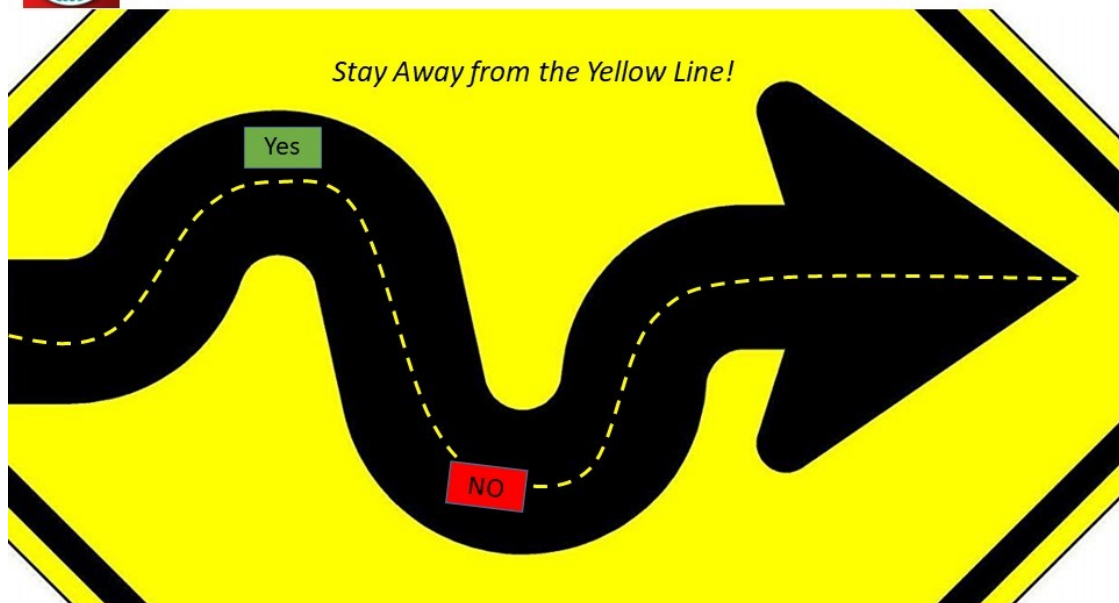
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SDMC ROAD RULES - CURVES



It isn't just that you should obey the law. On curvy roads, others too often cross the line. **If you are on, over, or even next to, the yellow line – YOU are at risk!**

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SDMC ROAD RULES – CLEAR THE ROAD QUICKLY!

EVERYONE pull to the BACK of the parking lot!



At locations like Dudley's, on a busy road with heavy traffic both ways, we need to exit the lanes QUICKLY!

If you slow down to park near the entrance, you will trap your fellow Miata's behind you on the busy road.

- **DRIVE ALL THE WAY TO THE REAR**
- **QUICKLY!**

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In Memory of ...

Like many of you, I learned of long-time member Michael Shack's passing from Mark Booth's email post the morning of January 15. To my knowledge, Michael was only the second SDMC member to succumb to COVID-19, leaving all of us with the same sense of loss; of being unable to say "good-bye" to a good friend and interesting man. The photo to the left is appropriate because Michael and Elinor largely proved themselves inseparable in their fifty-five years of marriage. We can certainly empathize with Elinor and their wonderful family. Michael only recently celebrated his 77th birthday, in December. I would argue his life was snatched from us prematurely.

photo courtesy of Caring Bridge

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In memory of Mike Shack (cont'd)

Mike's encounter with this ultimately-fatal virus was chronicled on "Caring Bridge" beginning January 2nd. Daughter Jenny, the writer of the family, penned a poignant diary of Mike's hospitalization rich with insights for those of us not intimately familiar with the process. Her artfully crafted journal accounts shared the full range of emotions the family experienced in his weeks-long battle for recovery, and ultimate heart failure. (**You can access those accounts** simply by typing the words "Caring Bridge Michael Shack" into your web browser.)

Graciously, Elinor and their daughters invited his extended family and friends to join the funeral conducted Monday morning, January 18, virtually via Zoom. Many members of Mike's "Miata family" joined the nearly 230 households that logged on. We were reminded that "family" was of the utmost importance to him, always nurtured by his Jewish faith in Poway's Temple Adat Shalom, which he helped to found. During the nearly ninety-minute ceremony and photo montage at the end, we were regaled by accounts of Mike's service to his community, neurology profession, extended families, and life story. As was shared in a Caring Bridge post, Michael was once again described as a "true mensch." His life-long display of character, dignity, doing the right thing, and responsibility certainly earned him that assessment and high compliment.

Always well-dressed, Elinor was comfortable wearing Mike's SDMC sweatshirt throughout the ceremony, with children and grandchildren sharing stories and sentiments of riding in one of Mike's Miatas. It was abundantly clear how important his Miata family was to him as well. I'm proud to claim membership in that extended family and to have known him for the last fifteen years.

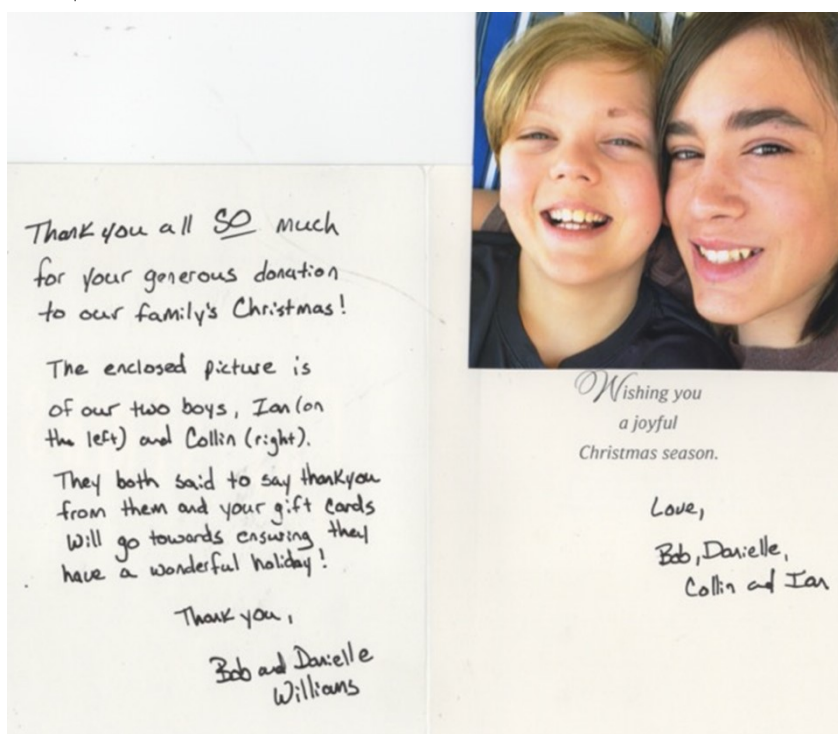
Rest in peace, and distinction, our friend.

By Gene Streeter

T&T

(Thank you letter is on page 5, —ed.)

Operation Help a Hero: To the right is a thank you Christmas Card from one of the many families that your club helped.





Rear View Mirror – February 2021

By Gene Streeter

PARAPROSDOKIANS for the New Year

Para ... what? Is this yet another media grab by the Kardashians clan? No, but the truth isn't too far from celebrity. SDMC's own racing octogenarian, Wally Stevens, read an article on this unique phraseology quite a few months back, shared it with me, and asked that I somehow incorporate some examples into my monthly column. Mind you, I'm not above taking requests to improve readership, substance, etc. The one request I've steadfastly ignored is the one that suggests I stop writing altogether and save our club the additional printing costs. Hint: it's not our long-suffering editor, Larry Lloyd.

While "[paraproisdokians](#)" is a technical term, we're probably all guilty of their occasional use. Should you be remotely familiar with the Greek language, it literally means "beyond what is expected." (I watched the movie "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" four times. Does that count? – Ed.) Here's some assistance with its pronunciation: [pæ-rê-prahz-dok-i-ên](#). Perhaps just as appropriate in our current situation, one of the memorable lines from FDR's first inaugural address at the depths of our economic depression, begins "the only thing we have to fear..." and you're expecting some sort of detail, right? And, then he ends his one-liner with ".... fear itself."

Happy Birthday, Wally!

You, too, can amaze your friends with your new-found language knowledge, except for Les Smith. I'm repaying his recent flattering post by suggesting he already knows what paraproisdokians are. Back to Wally and his months-old request. Since I told Wally I would make an effort to apply these stylized phrases in my column, I'm attempting to make good on a promise ... sort of a New Year's resolution. Bear with me, your entertainment is right around the corner. The first batch are all attributable to others. (No copyright infringements, OK? -Ed.) The second batch are mostly my creative musings, and a novel way of wishing Wally Stevens a very belated (Jan. 6) "Happy Birthday!"

- It's all fun and games, until someone gets hurt. Then, it's hilarious.
- Two wrongs don't make a right, three lefts do.
- "I had a wonderful evening—but this wasn't it." ~Groucho Marx
- The only thing we need to fear is fear itself. That, and the IRS.
- I may be getting older, but I refuse to grow up!
- Trust! But verify. ~Ronald Reagan
- If everything seems under control, you're just not going fast enough. ~Mario Andretti

Cont'd on next page

- Being second is to be the first of the ones who lose. ~Ayrton Senna
- The only thing that interferes with my learning is my education. ~Einstein
- Hospitality: making your guests feel like they're at home, even if you wish they were. ~ not Conrad Hilton
- There are a bunch of different crunches that affect the abs ... my favorite is Nestle's.
- I removed all the bad food from the house. It was delicious.
- It's been said that eating a dish of black-eyed peas will bring you luck in the New Year. I don't think I ate nearly enough. ~ Alan Kagan/Jill Wilson
- I want to die peacefully in my sleep, like my grandfather, not screaming and yelling like the passengers in his car.
- We don't stop playing because we grow old. We grow old because we stop playing.
- I saw a sign that said, "watch for children" and I thought, "That sounds like a fair trade" ~Demetri Martin
- I was going to give him a nasty look, but he already had one.
- Laughter is the best medicine, especially if you don't have insurance.
- Listen-up, men. Cars are like women ... they need to be enjoyed, loved, and properly maintained. The biggest difference comes at trade-in time.
- Women, listen-up. Men are more like trucks ... the longer they're in service, the rougher around the edges, the ride less disciplined, and the exhaust a little rowdier.
- Yep, she sure purrs like a kitten at idle, and roars like a lion when I bury the throttle. No wonder I can't seem to keep my garage floor clean.
- I know the answer is still "Miata." I just forgot the question.
- Over the years I've been described as both a "man's man" and a "lady's man." Is it any wonder I'm having an identity crisis?
- The Miata was carefully designed to be a "friendly" car, non-threatening to onlookers and motorists. You have a problem with that?

Paying Tribute – Mike Shack

I hope that you've been touched, as I have been, by the outpouring of sympathy for the Shack family in recent days. My "In Memoriam" appears elsewhere in these pages(8 & 9), standing alone and on its merits. Losing Michael to COVID-19 was certainly a loss to us all, and it reminds us that life is precious and fleeting. As a physician, and with Elinor having been a nurse, they both understood that. As his Rabbi shared as part of his memorial service, Mike was concerned about his legacy - his level of contribution to his family, extended family, profession, and the community at large.

Mike and Elinor joined SDMC in 1998. He served as treasurer from April 2000 through March 2001. Michael's contributions go well beyond that role. Apart from his engagement with others, he's assisted with medical emergencies and shared professional advice

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Behind the Wheel

By Lynn Nolan

*"When I get really bored, I like to drive downtown and
get a great parking spot, then sit in my car
and count how many people ask me if I'm leaving."*

Steven Wright

Introducing: SDMC president **Terry Thompson**

Past board member Julie, and newly elected president, Terry, met in 1988, in the pool at their apartment complex in Virginia Beach. In 1990 they moved to San Diego, married, bought a home a year later and now have two children, Matt who is 24 and Melissa, 22.



Hometown

Terry grew up in Globe Arizona, a small town about 90 miles east from Phoenix with a population today of a little over approximately 7,000 residents.

In Kirkland, Arizona, Terry attended grades 1-6 in elementary school, however he only attended 5 grades (*More about that later. I want to infuse a little mystery!*) In such a small town, the school consisted of only a one room schoolhouse. Terry recalls that there were 4-5 children in each grade which were separated by partitions.

Terry must have paid remarkably close attention in school. He proudly recalls that, upon completing first grade, he had also mastered the second-grade subject content. Mrs. Potter, his first-grade teacher, facilitated his rapid promotion, enabling him to skip second grade (*Mystery solved for attendance in 5 of 6 grades!*). That meant that he immediately advanced to 3rd grade (*Did he pass "go" and collect \$200?*). He joined others in the 3rd grade partitioned area of the school room.

After elementary school, Terry attended and graduated from Superior High School. He was accepted into the Air Force Academy but did not attend because he wore glasses. 20/20 vision was one of the requirements to be a pilot and since he wore corrective lenses, he passed on the opportunity. Instead, he served in the Navy for 6 years (*Thank you for your service, Terry*) and was stationed in Groton, Connecticut.

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BTW, *Cont'd from prev. pg.*

After his military service he worked in the government for 31 years in a supervisory role in an electronics technician position. Terry's last day in that job was December 31, 2019. He is now retired.

Joining SDMC

It seems there were a series of capricious events that led Terry and Julie to join SDMC in 2017.

First event—the Miata. Earlier, a neighbor of Terry's mother-in-law in Muskegon, Michigan had a red NA in what Terry described as in "excellent condition." Eventually the neighbor decided to sell the Miata and, remembering how Terry had admired the car, contacted him to see if he would be interested in giving it a good home.

Second event—class. Coincidentally, Terry was to attend a work-related class at the University of Michigan. He flew there for the class and on that trip, he also checked out that '94 Miata. It was a match! Terry bought it. *(It does seem that at this point he became a shifty character, of sorts).* The NA was a standard transmission and fortunately many years prior to that event, Terry had learned to drive "a stick," although he was a bit rusty. *(Thus, the comment about him being a shifty character).* Handling a stick shift was like getting back on a horse. He drove solo from Michigan to San Diego in his new ride.

There's more in the string of serendipitous events.

Third event—Rocky's. Terry took the '94 Miata to Rocky's for a new radiator, where he met Elliott Shev. It was that encounter that was the catalyst to join SDMC in 2017. Terry recalls walking into his first meeting at 6:55 pm to a room packed with a spirited group of "Miata people." Wally and Sandy beckoned Terry over and invited him to sit with them. They welcomed him into the club and went on to discuss their Miata as well as other more attention-grabbing cars.

Terry and Julie's first run was Ed and Chloe's Flip Flop run. At that run, Laurie and Steve Waid introduced themselves and Steve suggested that Terry stay behind him on that run so he'd feel a bit more comfortable in the group.



Despite his love affair with his NA, Terry found the orange Miata anniversary edition to be irresistible. He kept his NA but bought a new melon-colored ride. He laughs, recalling his surprise at the "modern conveniences" such as power windows, in the 4th generation Miata.

Mods (It's a car club!)

Terry is undoubtedly not asleep at the wheel.

He has wasted no time adding the following mods to his new baby:

- Goodwin racing sport exhaust
- black racing stripe down the middle of the ND
- Carbon Miata Spyder Grille replacement from Goodwin Racing
- Goodwin Racing Roadster Sport Sway Bars front and rear

Cont'd on next page

BTW, cont'd from prev. pg. **Mods (It's a car club!)** (cont'd)

- blackened all emblems
- disassembled the entire car with 5 miles on the odometer to apply Paint Protection Film (PPF) and also Ceramic Pro to the entire car



Favorites

Hobbies and Leisure Activities

SDMC members love to drive and long-distance travel ranks high on Terry's list of favorite things to do! In 2018, he participated in the Arizona Devil's Highway run and enjoyed it so much that in 2019 he drove Devil's Highway three more times (May, September, and October). He has added many more impressive runs to his dashboard, having attended the Miata Reunion at Laguna Seca, Coastal Cruises to Cambria with San Jacquin Miata Club (2019-2020), Flyin' Miata Summer Camp in Grand Junction, Colorado, Sahuaro Miata Club's "Run to the Borders, and in August 2019 he completed a 19-day round trip, with Dell and Debbie up the coast of California, Oregon, and Washington all the way to the Canadian border and back.

He confessed that in San Diego, often a local quick trip takes much longer when he surrenders to his craving for a longer drive.

When he is not driving his Miata, Terry is a referee for basketball, baseball, and football games. He also enjoys playing golf, and, in younger days, he liked scuba diving.

Food and Restaurants

Mexican food is at the top of food favorites, especially at Cenote Grill in Escondido and, for breakfast, Le Papagayo in Leucadia.

Movies and Music

Terry promptly stated he avoids chick flicks such as Bridges of Madison County, preferring action and adventure movies.

His music preferences are centered on Rock, especially Ted Nugent, Zac Brown Band, Jimmy Buffett, and Kenny G.

Something Most People Don't Know About Me

The sequence of events that resulted in Terry and Julie joining SDMC are not the only coincidences in their life. Another noteworthy fact is that Terry is an only child and that he was adopted. He married Julie, also adopted and an only child.

Terry says that he is pretty much an open book. Stay tuned for the next adventurous chapter!



zoom zoom

How about sharing your story in T&T? Are you a driver behind the Miata wheel or do you know someone else who is? Interested? You tell your story; I do the rest. For no-obligation information about BTW just email me at lnolan@san.rr.com.

The Art of the Sweep

By Daryled Bristol

For some time now, it has been a recommended practice that before you attempt to lead a run that you sweep a run. The duties of a sweep is to ensure everyone completes the run as directed from start to finish. This task in itself can be more than enough, chasing errant drivers for miles on end. The errant driver is attempting to catch an imaginary car that turned miles ago and they are not aware of it. Or they missed the car ahead that turned to stop to render aid to a member that has suffered some unexpected malfunction from flat tire to busted car. All the above examples are expected for a sweep and anyone could fill the bill on the day of the run.

A good pre-run can help make a run as seamless and easy as possible for all participants. This is the time where the run leader explores the chosen route with a rough draft of the run instructions and the sweep takes notes that the leader may or may not agree with. This includes but is not limited to mileage, unexplained route changes, turns that are misleading or are hard to understand, or even missing turns. Perhaps they are absent from the initial instructions. The run leader may be driving a route that is so familiar that driving it has become second nature. Someone who is unfamiliar with the route may spot deficiencies in the run instructions during the pre-run.

Keep in mind that even with the best of instructions and the best bread crumbing, drivers err. Road names can change in the middle of nowhere and for no apparent reason, adding to the confusion. For single drivers (those attempting to complete a run without a Navigator/Radio Operator), trying to read directions or simply follow a GPS device can be a challenge.

Do the best that you can during a pre-run to anticipate and minimize problems that might pop up on the day of the run. At the ripe old age of 75 I hope that I am not too old to learn.

RVM, cont'd from page 11 on certain neurology cases; she trusted his work and wise counsel.

Mike's earlier MG ownership and enjoyment of British sports cars led him eventually to Miata ownership, as well. When I was club president and concerned with meeting agendas, Mike delighted in reminding me that San Diego MG Club meetings involved actually working on their cars.

Mike has welcomed many into SDMC, even some into his home for special Jewish religious occasions. Mike, and certainly Elinor, considered SDMC another element of their extended family. Elinor has served as "Santa's Assistant" at our Holiday Parties for many years, always sporting her latest Christmas sweater. As "Elfinor," she brought joy to all in attendance and a wry smile to Michael's face. Not given to boasting, Mike's license plate frame uncharacteristically reads "My Miata is Better Than Yours." He was justifiably fond of his Miatas and SDMC. He will be missed and remembered for all these reasons.

Newsletter Publication - Bi-Monthly? Or Bye-bye?

Wherein Editor Larry helps us come to grips with flagging readership and journalistic efforts. One of the elements of January's Executive Board Meeting was a discussion of our Twists 'n Turns newsletter publication and frequency. Before I forget, congratulations to our new Board, including our "re-tread" Treasurer, Dave Hunt. (Don't you ever grow tired of abusing automotive terminology? It certainly wears on the rest of us. -Ed.) Observations that run reviews that are posted to the two Facebook® pages and/or the SDMC email list are siphoning-off articles that once graced the pages of our newsletter. Granted, such posts can be more timely, nearly real-time on occasion. Also, pandemic-related restraints have put the brakes on our normal volume of runs and activities.

While some members still appreciate and expect our traditional, monthly newsletter, there are practical concerns that may drive our likely move to bi-monthly publication, or worse. I'm not alone in imagining a strictly on-line format in our future. As a routine contributor to this format, I'm not buying or selling. I'm just looking to our cultural landscape and the gradual devaluation of traditional newspaper and magazine print enterprises. Have you hugged your newsletter editor this month?

One of the Zoom-Zoom Board Meeting's highlights was the number of members in attendance – 17. Granted, my memory isn't what it used to be, but I can't remember that level of attendance at a board meeting the last six years I've been associated with that body. Even when we conducted one immediately following a monthly meeting.

The balance of our newly-elected board – President Terry Thompson, Vice President Steve Norris, and Secretary Jackie Eder-Van Hook, concluded the Zoom method was an efficient way to conduct the quarterly board meetings expected by our club bylaws. While I'm not in suggesting this virtual format is no replacement for face-to-face communications, it's a tool that has worked well for us the last 10 months.

"All I Want for ... Valentine's Day?"

In searching for something relevant to the month of February and Valentine's Day, I thought I might provide some genuine "public service" (As part of your sentencing arrangement? -Ed.) in the form of gift-buying tips. These examples come straight from the internet by sellers wanting ... no, needing, your financial support. I'm certain they value my recommendations and expansion of their media presence.

Cont'd on next page

Member Classified Ads

Future collectible 2004 Mazdaspeed for sale to good home. Lots of upgrades, yet all the stock pieces are available to return it to "stock."

Velocity Red, black leather and top, polished fact. alloys / always well-maintained at Rocky's / 146K on the clock. / \$9950. / Gene Streeter (619) 653-8100



For Sale:

2002 Miata Vivid Yellow/tan. 6spd. Supercharged smog legal, roll bar, coil overs, big radiator, many more aftermarket performance & handling upgrades. Runs & looks good. Mods & service by Rocky. I bought car from Wally. \$9000 OBO.

Ralph Lufkin 619-606-1361 rlufkin3@cox.net



RVM, Cont'd from prev. page



Sweatshirt image courtesy of redbubble.com, this would make a fine seasonal gift, not ordinarily available from our customer-pleasing Regalia duo – Laurie and Steve Waid.



Apart from its 30 AE coloration, this is a generic Miata-shaped cookie cutter, sure to please the Miata child in many of us. Image courtesy of e-bay



Adorable plush is always appropriate for Valentine gifting. While the fur's white color plays to a certain minority of Miata enthusiasts, the t-shirt's red Miata image broadens the appeal. The encouragement "Drive it like you stole it" adds just the right touch of rowdiness or edginess would make a suitable gift for any driver...

Cont'd on page 19

Membership

By Chris & Linda Jones

February 2021

Welcome to our newest members...

Ed Rios
Joe Huvar
Tony & Adrian Sa
Craig Prosser
Pablo & Joy Punaro
Kealon Hofler-Marron

Temecula
San Diego
Encinitas
San Diego
Chula Vista
Valley Center

2020 Polymetal Gray Metallic
2005 Classic Red
1991 Classic Red
2008 Sunlight Silver Metallic
2016 Arctic White
2020 Polymetal Gray Metallic

Our Club's numbers to date: (annual renewals wrapping up)

163 memberships (50 single, 113 dual) for a total of 276 members
=====

Your Membership Renewal for 2021 – never too late

Per SDMC policy, members renewing after January 31st incur a \$5.00 late fee (total \$40 for the calendar year). If you still plan to renew, do it now to avoid interruption of access to membership news in the SDMC-Mail@groups.io – those accounts will be terminated on March 1st for anyone who hasn't renewed (granted an additional month grace period).

The Membership Renewal Application form is available for download on the Club's website:

<http://sandiegomiataclub.org/for_members/index.html>. Look for the blue "Renewal Application" link in the middle of the "For Members>>>" page; print or download it to your computer. Since we have no in-person meetings, **MAIL the completed, signed form, along with a check for \$40.00** (includes the late fee) to the address on the form: SDMC | PO BOX 180456 | CORONADO, CA 92178-0456.

Again: \$40 after January 31st.

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>

Miata Reunion

New Jersey Motorsports Park

October 23-24, 2021

<https://miatareunion.com/>

Canada's Capital Miata Meet 2021

August 12-15, 2021

<https://www.umn-c2m2-2021.com/>

Events Information

San Diego Miata Club February 2021 Events

By Steve Norris

Our monthly club meeting is scheduled for Thursday February 28th. 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 before the meeting start time for some socializing. The meeting will start at 7:00.

With the current Covid restrictions and the fact that people don't stay in their cars when we get together, **we are not scheduling any runs at this time.**

If you want to lead a run or be a Sweep on a run, please contact the Events Coordinator at events@sandiegomiataclub.org.

T&T

RVM, *Cont'd from pg. 17*



Where fetching lingerie is a popular Valentine gift option, this might be the ultimate undergarment for the Miata-loving woman in your life. Or not.

Remain resolute, be safe, and stay in touch, San Diego Miata Club!

T&T

SAN DIEGO MIATA
CLUB
P.O. Box 421325

Postage

Address

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