

# Miata Fast Track



JANUARY 2005

Issue #132

## Beware of Expensive Imitations

## Get In. Be Moved.

## Get involved. Do something for your club.

## Join for the car... Stay for the people.

## Around the Bend

Happy new year!

We had a great time exploring the back roads with our wonderful Miata friends last year. Our thanks go out to President Ron and all of the members and officers who worked so hard to make SJVMC one of the best Miata clubs in the country. I'd list you all by name, but it would include most of the roster and take more space than we have on the page. Thank you, each and every one.

Thanks, too, to all of those who have stepped forward to keep things running this year. We're all about having fun, and fun will be our focus in 2005. We'll honor old traditions like the Coastal Cruise and the St. Patrick's Day Poker Run, but we'll also try to keep things fresh by adding some new twists. We hope you enjoy our new route to the coast, and our new Poker Run headquarters, with all the new roads it allows us to explore.

We may have a special treat in April. We've been approached by an English MX-5 Club, which heard about the fun we had with our Dutch friends in 2003, and is hoping to spend a few days driving with us that month. We're developing an international reputation! Watch for details as our plans develop.

We're pondering a trip to Mammoth this summer. Tioga Pass is especially spectacular for topless driving, and there are lots of fun activities in the Mammoth area. Please let us know if the idea appeals.

For that matter, please step forward with any ideas you have. Do you have a favorite road? A favorite picnic spot? Something you've always wanted to try, but not gotten to yet? Please share it with the club. Not every run needs to be an overnight extravaganza, or even planned to the last detail – Papa Bob has shown us what fun we can have on informal day trips, and sometimes it's fun to get lost in the twisties. This is your club, and it's as good as you're willing to make it.

We'll see you on the road.

## From your Editor...

Here we go again for another exciting Miata year... January looks to be runless (please see the upcoming events page!) but February and March will have our premier events in the Coastal Cruise and Poker Run. We have some new members and with new members we often get new ideas for places to drive our Miatas.

I am and will be asking for volunteers for contributions of articles and photos for our runs this year. This is your newsletter and it would be fun and interesting to the other members to hear your take on how you enjoyed the runs.

Thanks to those of you that have helped me fill up these pages during the last 12 months... looking forward to the next.....

# SJVMC

## General Meeting Minutes

December 18, 2004

***Attendees:***

Van and Hertha Van Oosbree, Tom and Linda Hayward, Scott and Nancy Moore, Ralph and Kathryn Weber, Denise Correia and Jim Barker, Tom Wade, and Don and Lisa Asperger

***New Business:***

2005 OFFICERS

The following members were elected to office.

President: Don Asperger  
Vice President: Van Van Oosbree  
Treasurer: Bob Raus  
Secretary: Lisa Asperger

That was the only official business conducted during the December meeting. The rest of the evening was filled with wine, food, and gifts.

***Editor***

Christmas Party Thanks...

This years Christmas party was a lot of fun. Thanks to Don and Lisa, our gracious hosts,. for opening up their beautiful home, for the second year, and providing a festive and comfortable place to hold our annual Christmas gathering.

The food was delicious and the wine wonderful.

The presents this year were.....let's just say that there was a lot of swapping and I think everyone went home pretty pleased with what Santa put under the tree.

The pictures in the newsletter and on the website says it all.....fun, fun, fun

Thanks from all of us that were there.....

CHRISTMAS TREE LANE  
2004

15 Miatas decorated with holiday lights traveled top down through Christmas Tree Lane in Fresno with carols filling the night air. Lots of Miataphile "engineering" expertise went into powering up various light displays covering the entire Miata for several of our group. I was impressed. Of course, the lovely homes were decorated in the spectacular light displays including the Polar Express ...again this 84th year..... generating lots of ouuus and aaaahs from our group. Many of us in our Santa hats were chilled with red noses when we arrived for dinner at the Elbow Room very near the end of the lane. We had a good time warming up with drinks and socializing over a lovely dinner. I look forward to going again next year.  
Denise Corriea-SJVMC AND SAMOA

Dateline - Fresno, CA

The holiday season began in high style on the Seventeenth, as a healthy turnout of Miatas descended on Van Ness Avenue for a cruise up Fresno's historic Christmas Tree Lane. With clear skies overhead, hoods were dropped and Santa hats were donned as the group passed through, two by two, Christmas lights blazing brightly from at least half of the cars in the formation. The scent of evergreens and overheated clutches wafted through the air, as at least one intrepid member was heard exclaiming, "my calf is cramping, speed up!"

Dinner at the famous Elbow Room followed, at which time much good food was consumed, much good drink was quaffed (though not TOO much, as of course we were all driving home), and much jollity and bonhomie ensued. A hearty thank you to all that participated.

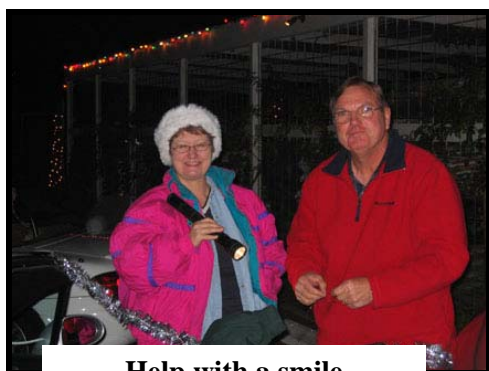
Todd Severson



In case you doubted



We allow any and all passengers-that fit



Help with a smile



Three pretty ladies

**Publication Information**

The first issue of the Miata Fast Track is free. Membership entitles you to participate in all events, including drives, assemblies, meetings, parties, gatherings, conventions, technical sessions, etc., newsletters, and allows you the opportunity to meet some nifty people.

This newsletter is a monthly publication of the San Joaquin Valley Miata Club (SJVMC). The information presented represents the opinions of the individual contributors. No representation is made regarding the accuracy or reliability of any information contained on any of these pages. Neither the Mazda Corporation, the Miata Owners Club, the San Joaquin Valley Miata Club, the editor, or any of the individual contributors accept any liability for the consequences of using the information presented in this newsletter.

**USE THE INFORMATION IN THIS NEWSLETTER AT YOUR OWN RISK MEMBERSHIP:**

Send \$25 with your full name and address, phone number, year & color Miata to: San Joaquin Valley Miata Club  
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SJVMC 2004 CHRISTMAS PARTY



Nancy, Linda and Denise—enjoying the party



All kinds of presents—Scott and Nancy checking



Ralph: Intent?? Napping?? Deciding??



Hertha and Van are trying to decide which present to swap (steal)



Lisa—very happy with Santa's gift....



Linda has her eye on something and Tom ????

## Upcoming Events for SJVMC & Other Clubs

### SJVMC ANNUAL COASTAL CRUISE - 2005

The coastal cruise will be on Saturday and Sunday, February 12th & 13th. We will drive a new and exciting route this year. Paso Robles for lunch, Silver Surf Motel in San Simeon for lodging, (Make reservations at (805) 927-4661 and ask for the Miata Club rate of \$35/night) San Simeon Beach Bar & Grill for Sunday morning breakfast. Please bring a picnic lunch for Sunday lunch on Fort Hunter Liggett Saturday evening dinner will be at The Hamlet at Moonstone Gardens.

*Please see inserts for more particulars—ed.*

### SJVMC ANNUAL CHARITY POKER RUN—2005

**Sunday March 19, 2005**

Don Asperger reported this year's run would be based out of Oakhurst. The Shilo Inn in Oakhurst has reasonable rates and will let us use a corner of their lobby for registration. The route is set. Lunch is set as well as dinner at an Italian restaurant in Oakhurst.

*Please complete the registration form attached or see the one on the SJVMC web site and send it and your check to the address noted as soon as possible. Ed.*

### **JANUARY PLAYOFF PARTY (FOOTBALL)**

A suggestion has been made for a "Playoff Party" vs a "Superbowl Party" this year. This year the Superbowl will be February 6th, the week before the Coastal Cruise.

As the "Football" party in January is pretty much a social event the "Playoff" idea works just as well and is a two for one value!

#### **WHEN:**

The date for the "Playoffs" is Sunday, January 23.

#### **WHERE:**

Jim Barker's home  
5922 W. Alluvial Ave, Fresno  
275-1512 RSVP

#### **WHAT:**

Bring any snack food "tailgate" that you enjoy.  
Bring your own beverage



## San Joaquin Valley Miata Club

Meetings are held the **3rd** Thursday of each month at:

**Marie Callender's**, 1781 E Shaw Ave (at Cedar) at 6:30 P.M.

Win a free pie!



**NEXT MEETING**

- **SEE YOU THERE**
- **JANUARY 20, 2005**

**WARNING:**  
Dates in Calendar are closer than they appear.

### JANUARY PLAYOFF PARTY (FOOTBALL)

January 23, 2005

5922 W. Alluvial Ave. Fresno

### SJVMC ANNUAL COASTAL CRUISE - 2005

The coastal cruise will be on Saturday and Sunday, February 12th & 13th.

### SJVMC ANNUAL CHARITY POKER RUN 2005

Sunday March 19, 2005

*VISIT THE SJVMC WEB PAGE AT*  
*<http://www.sjvmc.net/>*

# Miata Fast Track

San Joaquin Valley Miata Club  
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The first issue of the Miata Fast Track is complimentary.  
To continue receiving this newsletter contact the treasurer.



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