

# Miata Fast Track



FEBRUARY 2005

Issue #133

## AROUND THE BEND

### **Beware of Expensive Imitations**

Well, we had a few topless days in January, and we didn't need the Ark. The skies are clearing, so we'll soon have great driving weather!

### **Get In. Be Moved.**

Thanks to Jim Barker for hosting our first-ever SJVMC Playoff Party. Our spies tell us a splendid time was had by all.

### **Get involved. Do something for your club.**

Scott and Nancy Moore sacrificed a weekend to help the boss and me explore some back roads between here and the coast. (It's a tough job, but somebody's got to do it.) We found some great new twisties, and look forward to sharing them with you on the 12th. Meanwhile we thank Sharon Mack and Van ("the Man") Van Oosbree, for making the major Coastal Cruise plans and handling the administration.

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

Ron Branam is still working hard on the Poker Run, and it will be another great event. I'm sure he'd love to hear from you if you can possibly help out. Please don't forget that our raffle has become a major attraction and generates most of our charitable proceeds. Please think about what sort of plunder you (or your fellow Miataphiles) might want to see in the raffle Saturday night, and then find a way to make it happen. This club's generosity always makes us proud, and it's fun to support our community.

Sheri and Dale Bond graciously offered to host Friday night's pre-Poker Run dinner at their Oakhurst resort. The Bonds' hospitality is unparalleled. To help share the load, we ask that SJVMC members bring a salad or dessert to share, plus whatever they'd like to drink. Thank you, Sheri and Dale!

Speaking of Bonds, Sheri volunteered to plan a run to the gold country October 1 and 2. Her extravaganzas are always delightful, so please save the date and polish your tiara.

We're still working on the 2005 event schedule. Check the coming events calendar in this newsletter, mark the dates that look good to you, and let us know what else you'd like to do for fun. Elaborate overnight and "drive to eat" runs can be great, but the real joy of these roadsters comes from bombing around on the winding roads. That can be done in an afternoon, and doesn't require much planning or effort.

Two cars can make a run. The boss and I have learned that, even if we can't always attend, we love getting emails from friends who have new roads to explore. How many of you feel the same? Why not share your favorite corners with a few Miata friends?

We'll see you on the road.

*Don*

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**From your Editor...**

# SJVMC

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

January 20, 2005

### Attendees

Members: Don & Lisa Asperger, Dennis Stumpp, Randy & Cindy Ames, Van & Hertha Van Oosbree, Roy Arnold, Ron Branam, Jim Barker, Bob & Lor-Rae Raus, Tom & Linda Hayward, Tom Wade, Ron & Katherine Carrillo, Greg & Ro Almeida, Dave & Katie Mosher, Dale & Sheri Bond, Ray Johnson

Guest: Rosalyn Merry

The November and December 2004 minutes were approved as was the treasurer's report.

### Old business

The premium for liability insurance for 2005 has been paid.

Coastal Cruise 2005 – Everyone going through Fort Hunter Liggett on Sunday needs to give Van Van Oosbree their license plate and driver's license numbers in advance.

Poker Run 2005 – Flyers have been sent to all past registrants. Ron Branam is working on a Mazda sponsorship and publicity. Two new charities were chosen – ½ of the proceeds will be donated to Sanctuary (contact: Sheri Bond) and ½ to the Holy Cross Center for Women (contact: Cindy Ames). A motion to seed the raffle with \$200 was approved. In addition, each club member should provide a raffle item. Sheri & Dale Bond volunteered to host a dinner in Oakhurst on Friday. Sheri requested that club members bring either a salad or a desert and their own drinks.

### New business

Events for 2005 were discussed.

April 22-24 SJVMC is invited to join SOCALM on a run based in Three Rivers. A tech day is needed. There is interest in a Yosemite run if we can find a leader. We discussed repeating Kernville in June but with modifications. Sheri Bond volunteered to organize a Gold Country run in the late fall and also suggested getting together for dinners during the week. Van suggested Death Valley. Randy Ames volunteered to explore a movie night and barbecue.

### Committee reports

Newsletter – Jim Barker needs more help this year. Also, he wants anyone who is willing to be a web only newsletter recipient to notify him.

Web Site – Roy Arnold requested more pictures. The "join the club" flyer can be printed from the site

### Past events

Christmas Tree Lane

Christmas party

### Upcoming events

January 23 – Playoff party (Jim Barker)

February 12-13 – Coastal Cruise (Van Van Oosbree)

March 18-20 – Poker Run (Ron Branam)

April 22-24 SOCALM Three Rivers Run (Contact Bill Bryant [bbryant@tvrc.com](mailto:bbryant@tvrc.com) for information)

Rosalyn Merry won the pie.

Lisa Asperger, acting secretary

## Poker Run Update

By Ron Branam

The planning & preparing for the 2005 version of this event are coming along very well. As of this writing, we have **22** cars registered, which is ahead of pre-registrations at this time last year. At this rate, it's possible we may make that elusive 50-car turn-out we've been looking for. What is also impressive (to me anyway) is that **12** of those registered are members of SJVMC, and two others indicated they would be joining this year. Way to go, guys!

Yesterday, Sunday, 1/26, I had the opportunity to preview the run that Don and Lisa have set up. Let me tell this – it's a beauty! It's got a nice blend of roads; some highway, some not highway but still with a center line, and some without the center line. And of course, true to our poker run tradition, I did come across a cow and one wild turkey in the road. (Caution: I brake for wild turkey.) With the run starting in Oakhurst, we have some new territory to discover. I think for most of you they will be a new experience; one you'll be glad you didn't pass up. I took some pictures and I hope to post them on our web site so be sure to check them out.

At our last meeting I passed around an assistant sign-up sheet and I think all who were there signed up for something. Unfortunately, space doesn't permit listing you all, but you know who you are, so thank you. However, I do still have some positions not yet filled. These are: the lunch stop and the second card stop. We also have some positions where three or four are needed and only one or two have signed up. If you would like to volunteer (which I hope you do), please call me at 323-5243. I can find something for you to do.

### SJVMC PLAYOFF PARTY

A few of us gathered at my home to eat, socialize and watch the two (football) playoff games on January 23. As usual, at a SJVMC event, there was plenty of food and socializing. The games were incidental and a little lack-luster for playoff games which made for more time for the other important things.

We welcomed two new SJVMC members, Mike and Jeanette Derr from Selma, with their new Titanium Mazdaspeed. Roy Arnold was there as were Ralph and Katherine Weber. Sheri Bond dropped by also and brought her unique flavor into the party. Denise Correia was at the party and was instrumental in filling up the room and the food table, by inviting her Mom and Dad, Gene and Elsie Correia, sister, Renee and her children, Alysa and Jarred, and Gene and Barbara Correia, brother and sister-in-law. Might have the potential of some new members, Gene and Barbara are going to the Coastal Cruise in Denise's 1996 Starlite Blue M Edition. Denise gets to ride in the 99 "unpainted" Miata of yours truly.

Jim Barker

#### Publication Information

The first issue of the Miata Fast Track is free. Membership entitles you to participate in all events, including drives, assembles, 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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## **Coastal Cruise Update**

On January 22, armed with maps, parkas and strong black coffee, Scott and Nancy Moore and Don & Lisa Asperger set off to discover a new route to San Simeon.

We found success. Things will look familiar through the traditional “meet and greet” stops at Kettleman City and Cholame, then we’ll be off down new roads, to see new vistas and have new adventures.

Saturday’s lunch will be at a trendy biker bar in Paso Robles. The owner appreciates the open road(ster), and stands ready to welcome us. After lunch, we’ll be off to Cambria via back roads, past elegant wineries and estates, then (if weather permits) through forgotten parts of the Coast Range.

Sunday will mix old traditions with newer horizons. After breakfast in San Simeon, we’ll head up Highway 1. We’ll visit our old friends the elephant seals, take a brief bio break at Ragged Point, then continue north to Nacimiento-Ferguson Road and Fort Hunter Liggett. We’re told the restaurant at the old officer’s club has reopened, and we’re looking forward to a gourmet lunch in this elegant Hacienda, which was designed by Julia Morgan for William Randolph Hearst. (Picnics are optional for those so inclined.)

After lunch, we’ll continue eastward. The group will divide at Highway 101, with the Valley contingent heading home via beautiful Highway 198.



**BENDY BITS**



**OPEN ROAD**

## Upcoming Events for SJVMC & Other Clubs

**SJVMC COASTAL CRUISE:** The SJVMC Coastal Cruise will be on Saturday and Sunday, February 12th & 13th. As usual, we'll depart the Denny's parking lot at Jensen and 99 at 9:00 a.m. sharp. 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. Sunday lunch on Fort Hunter Liggett at the old Officers Club. Saturday evening dinner will be at The Hamlet at Moonstone Gardens.

**SJVMC POKER RUN:** March 18-19 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.

**FRIDAY EVENING DINNER** at the Bonds' Oakhurst resort. To help share the load, we ask that SJVMC members bring a salad or dessert to share, plus whatever they'd like to drink

**April 16 (tentative)** - Tech Day at the Asperger pad. There is always something you can do to upgrade your Miata. There will be plenty of advise available and maybe a wrench or two and probably some food and drink.

**April 22-24 - SOCALM** Three Rivers Run

**June 11-12 (tentative)** - Kernville, redux.

**June 25-26 Cool Weekend on the Coast- Redwood Coast Miata Club**

The Redwood Coast Miata Club is proud to present the 2005 Cool Weekend event. Beat the heat and get to the coast...The Northcoast of California.

**JULY 16TH (tentative) CLUB BIRTHDAY PARTY** Location TBA

**August \_\_\_\_ (tentative)** - Mammoth Lakes overnight.

**October 1-2** – Gold Country Trip. Sheri Bond volunteered to organize a Gold Country run in the late fall.



## 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**
- **FEBRUARY 17, 2005**

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

**SJVMC ANNUAL COASTAL CRUISE - 2005**

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

**SJVMC ANNUAL CHARITY POKER RUN 2005**

Friday evening and Saturday March 19th and 20th.

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

# Miata Fast Track

San Joaquin Valley Miata Club  
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Get In. Be Moved.



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



**inside...**

President's Message	Page 1
Minutes	Page 2
Articles	Page 3
Coastal Cruise update-photos	Page 4
Upcoming events	Page 5