

# Miata Fast Track



JULY 2005

Issue # 138

## AROUND THE BEND

**Beware of  
Expensive  
Imitations**

**Get In.  
Be Moved.**

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

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

The boss and I had a lot of fun in June. We meet the nicest people in Miatas.

We thoroughly enjoyed the Kernville run. Thank you to everyone who joined us for being such good friends and good sports. Snow still blocked Sherman Pass, but we had a great time driving Bodfish-Caliente Road. In hindsight, I wish we'd turned right around to drive Caliente-Bodfish Road, but 178 was still pretty.

The next weekend, we attended an unofficial run out of Patterson. On Friday we had a delicious dinner with Jae and Bridget Dale. (Our latest Poker Run was their first Miata event.) Saturday morning, Jae led us on a spirited drive over the Coast Range, through Del Puerto Canyon and San Antonio Valley, then over Mt. Hamilton – and back again! I've been wanting to drive Mt. Hamilton Road for several years, but could never fit it into the schedule. It's well worth the trip, but the east side of the route is even better. This could be an excellent "unofficial" club run, for the drivers who want the challenge and the passengers who'll enjoy the views.

On the weekend of the 25<sup>th</sup>, we went to Sacramento to get a roll bar installed in the Shark. SJVMC sponsor David DeNuzzo (the "Crazy Red Italian") took good care of us, and got the bar installed on schedule. Sunday, for our 29<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, we drove home via Highways 16 and 49, and various side roads along the way. We had a wonderful time as Lisa chased me through the gold country, coordinating by radio as we negotiated the tourist traffic.

If you haven't already learned this, good radios are a real safety tool. We highly recommend them.

In July, we'll have the club birthday party at the Haywards' home, and enjoy whatever other fun things come to pass. Meanwhile, please drive safely, enjoy the paradise in which we live and the great little cars we drive, and remember there's fun to be found in the corners.

We'll see you on the road.

*Don*

## From your Editor...

It looks like the next few months are going to be pretty active for those of you who want to get out with your Miata and Miata friends.

I have attached to the "hard copy" newsletter a flyer for the Bass Lake Dinner Cruise/Mammoth Lakes Run.

I also included information on the SAMOA Scrabble Scramble (pg 6) and the registration form. I attended this event in 2004 and highly recommend it. (*Partly because Denise and I won first prize*). This event is a great way to meet new Miata friends, connect with old friends and it also boasts some of the more fun roads for your Miata.

# SJVMC

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

June 16, 2005

### **Attendees**

Don & Lisa Asperger, Tom & Linda Hayward, Ron & Katherine Carrillo, Cindy Ames, Conner Ames, Jim Barker, Dennis Stumpp, Greg & Ro Almeida

The May 2005 minutes and treasurer's report were approved.

### **Old business**

Club pins – Dennis Stumpp explained the bids he received. A motion was made and passed to spend up to \$200 to buy 100 one inch pins in six colors on a black stock from American Pin Company. Lisa Asperger will place the order.

The club birthday party will be held on July 16 at the Haywards' home starting at 4:00 p.m. Members should bring a side dish and their own beverages. The club will provide meat. Please let Linda Hayward know by July 11 if you will attend.

Miatas at the Movies will take place on July 29.

### **New business**

2006 Poker Run – We discussed changing the date to April, changing the theme to the April Fools' Run, and basing the event in Visalia. No final decisions were made. Cindy Ames volunteered to chair the 2006 event, but more volunteers are needed.

### **Committee reports**

Newsletter – Jim Barker reported that he needs pictures from the Kingsburg parade and the Kernville run

Club historian – Ron & Katherine Carrillo provided Linda Hayward with Kingsburg parade pictures. Jim Barker had a 1999 Poker Run flyer.

Web site – Please send Cindy Ames pictures from past events, cut to 5 x 7 and at internet resolution. Cindy has ordered photo shop elements. President Don reported that spam bots are harvesting the SJVMC web site and suggested replacing @ with "at" to solve the problem. Cindy will make this change.

### **Past Events**

Reports were given on the Kingsburg parade, dinner with Tom & Marna Wood, and the Kernville run.

### **Upcoming events**

July 16 – Club birthday party at Tom & Linda Haywards' place.

July 29 – Madera Drive In movie night (Randy & Cindy Ames)

August 20 – Dinner Cruise on Bass Lake (Scott & Nancy Moore)

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(Continued from page 2)

August 28 – Miatas at Infineon (Ron Branam)

September 10-11– Mammoth Lakes run (Scott & Nancy Moore). A block of rooms will be held for us at the Sierra Lodge in Mammoth Lakes for September 10. The more rooms we book, the lower the rate, \$99 for 8 or more rooms and \$109 for 6 to 7. Call 1-800-356-5711 for reservations under “Miata Club.” Deadline is August 27.

October 1-2 – Gold Country Trip (Sheri Bond)

### Door Prize

Jim Barker won the pie.

Lisa Asperger, secretary

### COOL WEEKEND ON THE COAST by Denise Correia

This year the Redwood Coast Miata Club kicked off their Cool Weekend on the Coast with a social on Friday evening. Ellen Frosch joined me again for the trip to Eureka. Skip Noyes lead the way via Hwy 20 to Hwy 101 through some lovely country. We were off to a very late start because after over 125,000 miles of very reliable driving my “toy” lost a bolt which needed replacing BEFORE we could leave for Eureka. Skip and Ellen were more patient than I was during the wait Friday morning to start our trip.

Saturday morning we were off to the Lost Coast for a fast twisty drive through majestic redwoods and along beautiful coastal highways to Shelter Cove for lunch. Our very own Sharon Howe guided us for a less intense afternoon drive through redwood forests and tiny colorful towns and villages with a retro “60s” look to them. We went to a festival in Arcata prior to a wonderful dinner planned for us in downtown Eureka by RCMC. Sharon won the “Coolest” prize for her yellow BUMBEE. We heard lots of great stories about Miatas. Skip Noyes, Ron Brannam, Sharon Howe won some of the lovely prizes....actually everyone was a winner.

On Sunday, Ellen and I drove to Fort Bragg. We spent Sunday and Monday, at a leisurely pace. We walked on Glass Beach, enjoyed Mendicino Chocolate for lunch, then wandered through several tiny towns....stopped for a delicious “Milky Way” coffee in Myers Flat....of course, too much retail therapy (shopping) and too much eating....then headed home on Monday afternoon via Hwy 1 and Hwy 128 back to Sacramento.

It was a memorable cold weekend on the coast as we returned to the Sacramento heat.



### 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  
PO Box 27395  
Fresno, Ca. 93729-7395

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Some photos of the SJVMC participants of the Kingsburg Parade/Barbeque in May 2005



## Kernville Run

Saturday June 11, we began our day by heading to Mc Donald's in Orosi. This is where we waited to join the rest of our group. As we waited for them we decided to have our car washed by a local community fundraiser. Then we headed off to Porterville where we met up with the group from Socalm. Three cars joined us there.

Now, onto the run, we can unequivocally say that this was one of the best runs we have ever been on. Everything went perfectly, starting with the weather. We could not have asked for a more perfect day. It was a perfect size group and Don and Lisa Asperger did an outstanding job of organizing everything. There was nothing you could improve upon. The scenery and the wildflowers were unbelievable. Can you believe it Ron actually let me drive! We were following Ron Branam, the road to Kernville has a lot of twisties, Ron Branam hit one of those twistes pretty hard and spun around.

After a few hours of twisties we stopped for lunch at this wonderful little diner called Nelda's. It had a delicious list of 20 different flavored milkshakes. Everyone at our table tried a different flavor. These were the original kind of shakes, like the ones they served in the old days. Our lunch was fantastic. Then the owner asked us if he could take a picture of our cars in front of his diner.

After lunch we found out that Sherman Pass was still closed so we headed down Calente Bodfish road. What a wonderful find. Then we came around back up 178 to Kernville and headed for our hotel. The Golden Trout Resort was a wonderful little place with a huge deck where we all gathered and shared the adventures of our day.

Next was dinner, it wasn't far from the hotel a little restaurant call McNallys. We had the most mouth watering steak. It was like butter and it melted in your mouth. Not fancy but delicious. It was a perfect ending to a perfect day.

Unfortunately Ron and I had to head back home early on Sunday so Don shared the route he was going to use and we headed back. What a beautiful ending to a wonderful trip. On the way down we saw deer, snow and more wildflowers.

Thanks Don and Lisa for putting this together for all of us.

Katherine Carrillo

## Kernville redux

Tina Axe

On June 11<sup>th</sup> Ken and Tina Axe took their first ride with SJVMC, and what a ride it was. God in all His glory showed Himself once again as we marveled at His creation. The Sierras were bursting with wonderful colors of purple, pink, blue, and yellow flowers. The air was crisp and clean. Sometimes it was like riding on a roller coaster. We had a great bunch of people from our club Don, Lisa, Ron & Ron, Mike & Jeanette, and Ron & Catherine. They all made us feel at ease. We also had the privilege of having Bill & Doreen, Bob & Juli, and John & Gerry from SO-CALM who fit in with us just like family. We stayed at the Golden Trout Resort and had a wonderful dinner at McNalles. On

Sunday we all pitched in and brought stuff for breakfast and Ten Back on the road again. We had a wonderful time. Thanks Don for putting together a great run!

# SAMOA

## Scrabble® Scramble

**September 23-26, 2005**

Fun and games await you in Folsom, California! The Sacramento Area Miata Owner Association (SAMOA) invites you to come play in the foothills this fall. Enjoy a day filled with fun and games, fantastic scenery, and roads that were paved for Miatas. Meet new friends and catch up with old acquaintances from Miata clubs all over the region.

**Sign up now!** This event is limited to 44 cars, so get your registration in early. Print, fill out, and mail the registration form to reserve your space. For out-of-towners, hotel accommodation information is available on the registration form.

### **About The Event**

#### **Friday - September 23rd:**

Out-of-town participants arrive and will be greeted in the hotel hospitality suite. Many dinner and entertainment options are available in new Folsom along Bidwell or in historic Folsom on Sutter Street.

#### **Saturday - September 24th:**

**Car show:** Bring your bottle of spit-shine with you! A car show will be held prior the days' main event. Awards will be presented at dinner.

**The main event:** SAMOA's Scrabble® Scramble is like a poker run with a twist. Participants follow a predetermined route and pick up Scrabble® tiles along the way. Who will have the winning word? Find out when prizes are awarded at the Mazda-sponsored dinner.

#### **Sunday - September 25th:**

SAMOAns bid farewell to out-of-town guests as they depart for home.

### **About Folsom**

Folsom is a quaint Northern California town built during the gold rush era. The historic old town is filled with unique shops, popular restaurants, and a lively nightlife. On the edge of Lake Natoma, Folsom has many attractions, including the Folsom Powerhouse, a museum, historic buildings, and recreational paths along the lake. Just off Hwy 50 is the Courtyard Marriott in the new area near new restaurants and shops. For more information: My Folsom.com

### **Questions?**

Contact Denise Correia at [deni@samoa.org](mailto:deni@samoa.org)

## Upcoming Events for SJVMC & Other Clubs

July 16 – Club birthday party at Tom & Linda Haywards' place. ( 3027 E. Ellery, Fresno - RSVP by July 11 @ 297-9612) Tom and Linda have graciously offered their beautiful home again for our birthday party. It starts at 4:00pm. Bring a side dish or dessert/BYOB

July 29 – Madera Drive In movie night (Randy & Cindy Ames)

August 20 – Bass Lake Dinner Cruise—Hot Summer Night (Scott & Nancy Moore) Meet at Scott and Nancy's home in Coarsegold at 4:45 for a 5:00 departure. Bring a dish to share and BYOB. Swimsuits are optional (that should be interesting, *ed.*)

August 28 – Miatas at Infineon (Ron Branam)

September 10-11– Mammoth Lakes run (Scott & Nancy Moore). A block of rooms will be held for us at the Sierra Lodge in Mammoth Lakes for September 10. The more rooms we book, the lower the rate, \$99 for 8 or more rooms and \$109 for 6 to 7. Call 1-800-356-5711 for reservations under "Miata Club." Deadline is August 27.

Saturday, September 24, 2005 SAMOA—Scrabble® Scramble . Denise Correia, Events Director. (deni@samoa.org) See page 6 for information

October 1-2 – Gold Country Trip (Sheri Bond)



## 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**
- **JULY 21, 2005**

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

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**July 29** – Madera Drive In movie night (Randy & Cindy Ames)

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

## Miata Fast Track

San Joaquin Valley Miata Club  
PO Box 27395  
Fresno, Ca. 93729-7395

Get In. Be Moved.



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



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