

Miata Fast Track



SEPTEMBER 2006

Issue #152

Beware of
Expensive
Imitations.

Get In.
Be Moved.

Get
involved.
Do
something
for your
club.

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

Letter from the President

Hello Miata Lovers,

Well summer is almost over and we have a lot going on at the Ames' household as I am sure all of you do as well. This month I will cover a lot of different things in my miscellaneous ramblings. I hope the summer has been good to you as we have had a fun and busy one.

First of all we have adopted a new car into the Ames household. Our kids car died a few months ago and so with school starting we needed some wheels for them. What originally started out as a car for the boys quickly became a car for Cindy! She had a friend selling a used Chrysler PT Cruiser in the price we were looking for and so went to take a look. Big Mistake!! Cindy decided it was the perfect car for her and so we bought it this week. Boys now get to drive the van so not too excited about that. It is an 2004 electric blue and Cindy has become a changed person. I think she may even like it more than the Miata! So far:

1. Washed a car on her own for the first time in years! Was washed on Monday and Saturday.
2. Used one of those dusters on it to keep it dust free.
3. Ordered a SASYCIN license plate from the state
4. Goes for drives in the country
5. Drives down the street with the stereo blaring and all the windows down!

Needless to say she is having a blast and enjoying it. Hope she will let me drive it one of these days!

The Spooktacular Coastal Cruise is really shaping up so if you want to go make a reservation now. October 28th and the information is on the web if no flyer yet. I do not know why flyers come out wrong when I send them to you but will keep working on it. At this point there is already about ten or twelve cars signed up. This is a run in which everything is on your own or a group of friends getting together for meals. We have a route planned, a hotel to stay in, and that is about it. Some are going on a night tour of the castle which I recommend. More details to follow but I am looking forward to this one.

Hopefully the next time you see my car it will be wearing some new wheels and tires. Rota is coming up with a Minilite copy but weight is maybe a pound less a wheel than the Chaparrals so think not. I am probably going to get a Flik Fuel from Edge Racing in a 15inch size and go with a Toyo Proxes 4 in 205 size. Nice looking combo and a little unique. After that it is saving money for suspension upgrades.

Think that is about it. We have our meeting in September, the Drive-In (maybe), the Train Trip, the Samoa Scrabble in the next month or so. It is nice to have options for a nice time of year to be driving in a great car. Let people know the club is alive and well.

Happy Driving!
Randy Ames

General Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2006

This months meeting began as a potluck hosted by Tom and Linda Hayward. Good idea, good food.

Meeting was called to order by President Randy Ames at 7:25. Randy thanked Tom and Linda for opening their home for the potluck.

Minutes were approved. Treasurer's report was given and approved.

Still looking for someone to do the newsletter. Keep those articles coming in.

October Coastal Cruz is a go for October 28 & 29. Information will be placed on the web site.

Club goodies always available, pins, decals and clothing, etc. Check with Tom Jarvis or Randy Ames.

Up coming events: Check the web site for information

August 19, Miatas at the movies (this was cancelled and will be rescheduled)

Sept. 8-10 Yosemite by Night

Sept. 16 Miatas on the train

Sept. 23 SAMOA Scrabble Scramble

Oct. 21 & 22 Zoom Zoom live in SF

Oct. 28 & 29 Zoom Zoom live in LA

Sheri Bond passed out the information for Miatas on the train.

Randy called for a head count of those going to the Scrabble Scramble. Let's caravan.

Board meeting Sept 17.

Business cards with the club information to pass out to Miata owners were approved.

Sheri Bond won the door prize a Zoom Zoom t-shirt.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05.

Respectfully Submitted

Marci Jarvis, Secretary

Scribbling from the *Interim* Editor

In case you hadn't noticed, we don't have any articles about the August events. That's because there weren't any August events. Many thanks to Cheron for his article on Miatapalooza. He sent this unsolicited, which is the best kind. If it weren't for him, this whole page would be my scribbling.

Look at what's coming up in September: Yosemite by moonlight; Dinner and a train ride (with entertainment); Driving fun and a test of word skills. Then October has the Spooktacular Coastal Cruise. Note that pages 5 & 6 have flyers for two of these events. Wasn't that clever of your editor to arrange it that way so you can remove that page and put it on your refrigerator (or wherever you put these things) as reminders. Be sure to make your reservations now.

You might be an autocrosser/track junkie if...

- You've been known to yell "It means 'check your mirrors' dammit!" at your television.
- You've paid \$5.00+ a gallon for high octane gas without complaining.
- You buy new parts because you don't know where you put the spares.
- You bought a race car before buying a house.
- You bought a race car before buying furniture for the new house.
- You're looking for a tow vehicle and still haven't bought furniture!

SCCA Autocross Schedule

Unless stated otherwise, all events are held at Castle Airport, Atwater. If you need directions or want more information on what an autocross is, call Ron at 323-5243. More information is available on the SCCA web site at <http://www.sfrscca.org/solo2/Fresno/>

(Continued on page 4)

Miatapalooza 2006

By Cheron Rojo

Just wanted to let the club know that my '91 Miata and I attended the Miatapalooza for the first time in San Francisco. I was very much welcomed by the club especially Lisa Peg, who was just wonderful in making me and my nephew welcome. It was a beautiful day also. I did not do the track, did not know I needed a helmet, so I watched all the pretty cars. I loved the tech seminars and started using some of the techniques discussed there. The food was great and the enthusiasm of the people attended. I was also surprised and soooooo excited to win "Best NA Model". My car was also happy of course, especially after her makeover this last March. Kudos to BAMA.



Cheron and a couple of beauties.
Nice Miata!!! Love those stripes.



Nephew and the MX-5 pace car from Mazda
Raceway Laguna Seca

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

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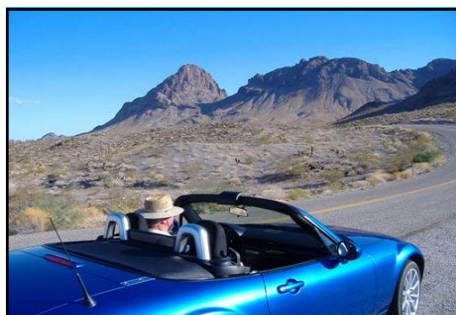
Event # 7	September 10
Event # 8	September 24
Event # 9	October 8
Event # 10	October 22
Event # 11	November 4
Event # 12	November 5

MX-5 5K Road Trip

Last week Shirley and I completed a nearly 5,000 mile (4,951 to be exact), 17 day road trip in our new MX-5. We got as far east as Arkansas & Missouri, as far north as Wyoming. Modifications made before trip: Cargo net & CoolBreeze Scoop. The cargo net is worth it; great for holding small items. It's also easily "stuffable" out of the way. The CoolBreeze scoop definitely worth it. It's a good product that actually works like claimed. I especially recommend it for long distances with the top down. Whenever possible, I avoided the interstates. I found I could drive from just outside Barstow (Daggett) to Kingman on old Route 66, with the only exception being the section between Needles,CA and Topock, AZ closed for repairs. Interstates are wonderful: they keep the traffic off the lesser highways going east-west thereby making them more enjoyable. The car was perfect!!! Fortunately no tire or pot-hole issues. I told Shirley driving this car for long distance is a lot more comfortable than her Accord. Very little "tired butt" like in the Honda. We did try to keep drive time to about 6 hours each day. Shirley did get a little upset when I set the cruise at 95 while on HWY 6 in Nevada. Seems I have half a page here with nothing to fill it, so here's some photos. Remember—you too could be editor and publish your own vacation photos. The gas prices are for premium, which is what the '06 requires.



Young burro really likes Winning Blue



Route 66 near Oatman, Arizona



Cadillac Ranch, Amarillo, Texas



Rainbow Curve Bridge, Route 66, Kansas



Capitol Reef National Park



Somewhere in Eastern Utah



Zion

AVG M/Gal= 30.3
 MAX M/Gal= 35.9
 MIN M/Gal= 26.9

AVG \$/Gal= 3.27
 MAX \$/Gal= 3.68
 MIN \$/Gal= 3.10



Yosemite—Home!

Yosemite Sugar Pine Railroad Miata Trip

In order to reserve spots for the trip, anyone who wishes to attend must call Yosemite Sugar Pine Railroad directly. We will be going on the Moonlight Special on Saturday September 16th.

To reserve your spot, please call: (559) 683-7273

Be sure to identify yourself as a member of the Miata Club so they put you at our table.

We will be meeting at the Riverpark Krispy Cream at 2:30pm and heading for Bass Lake at 2:45pm. We plan on stopping at Ducky's for a break before heading to the railroad by 5:00pm. Bring your own wine (there is a \$5 corkage fee) or buy your own refreshments on site.

Be sure to call in A.S.A.P. before they fill up!!

SPOOKTACULAR COASTAL CRUISE

OCTOBER 28-29, 2006

SATURDAY: Meet at Denny's at 99 and Jensen for an 8:30am departure. We will take some back roads through Carmel Valley and end up in Monterey for lunch at the pier (on your own). We will then drive down the coast to San Simeon and the Silver Surf Motel. Call 805.927.4661. Tell them you are with the Fresno Miata club for a rate of \$37(1 or 2 people). They will hold the rate until Sept. 30th.



SHOPPING AND BEACH WALKING AVAILABLE BEFORE WE HEAD OUT FOR DINNER AT THE RESTAURANT OF YOUR CHOICE. THERE IS A JAZZ FESTIVAL IN S.L.O. ALSO SOME ARE GOING ON THE 6:30PM HEARST CASTLE TOUR. LATE EVENING WILL BE SPENT BACK AT THE FAMOUS SILVER SURF MOTEL!

AFTER A LEISURLY BREAKFAST WE WILL HAVE "ROUTEMASTER" BOB TAKE US HOME. HINT: PEACHY TRIP TO THE VINEYARD.

RSVP Randy Ames at sjvmc.net with your name and number for contact so we can arrange meet up point if needed.



Upcoming Events

WARNING: Dates in Calendar are closer than they appear.

Join Us At An Upcoming Club Meeting

Meet at Marie Calendar's Restaurant and Bakery located at Cedar and Shaw in Fresno. We are in a banquet room located in the rear of the restaurant. The optional dinner is at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.. You are welcome to join us anytime!

Yosemite Run 2006—September 8-10

Socalm, led by SJVMC members Tom & Marna Wood, will be making their third annual trek to Yosemite on these dates. The highlight of the trip will be on Saturday, when “We will enter Yosemite in the mid-afternoon, visit the Giant Sequoias in the Mariposa Grove, then proceed to the valley floor. We will find someplace to enjoy a picnic dinner before watching the colors change during sunset. Then we will cap the evening by going to glacier point for the full moon.” For more information see the Socalm web site (<http://www.socalm.org/>) or Tom and Marna’s web site (miatafun.net) or contact them at twood@socalm.org, 909-864-0291.

Yosemite Mountain Sugar Pine Railroad September 16

The moonlight special is a 33-year tradition at the Yosemite Mountain Sugar Pine Railroad. The evening begins with a delicious New York steak BBQ dinner and music provided by the Sugar Pine Singers. Then it’s ALL ABOARD for the Logger Steam Train excursion through the woods. Be sure not to miss this; We did it a few years back and it was a great event—one not to be missed!

Date: Saturday September 16th at 5:30PM

Cost: \$44 per person, including dinner

RSVP: 559-497-7999 (Elizabeth—Sheri Bond’s daughter)

See the latest news on this event on page 5.

SAMOA Scrabble Scramble September 23-24

Mark your calendar for the Scrabble Scramble 2006 in Folsom on September 23-24, 2006. A hospitality suite will be available on Friday evening for us to socialize with the out-of-towners. Details are being confirmed. We will have a 2007 from Folsom Mazda to play with again during the Saturday morning car show. The host hotel will be the Residence Inn where we will have our car show and begin the Saturday run. Please contact Denise Correia if you are able to volunteer for this event. If you wish to pre-register or have any questions, please contact Denise at deni@samo.org or call 916-806-8707. Registration information is posted on the SAMOA website.

Spooktacular Coastal Cruise October 28-29

See flyer on page 6.

The following events are planned but the dates have not yet been finalized...

Sonic Drive-in; Fresno or Clovis

A date and organizer is needed for this. **Could that be you?** It’s really easy to do. An evening after work when it’s cooler would be easy to put together. Who knows, maybe we could even get the tops down for a short run; say to Millerton via Auberry road, etc.

Superior Dairy in Hanford

A date and organizer is needed for this. **Could that be you?** It’s really easy to do. Hanford is a great meeting place for our members from Coalinga, Selma, Visalia, Woodlake, Lindsey, etc.

What would you like to do?

Tired of waiting for somebody to organize an event you’d really like to do? It’s really not hard to put an event together. The hardest part is just deciding to do it!! Then all you have to do is give the information to Randy (president@sjvmc.net) or Cindy (webmaster@sjvmc.net) and it will be posted on the web site and e-mailed to all members with e-mail.



San Joaquin Valley Miata Club



Meetings are held the **3rd** Thursday of each month (Except in December) at: **Marie Callender's**, 1781 E Shaw Ave (at Cedar) at 6:30 P.M.

NEXT MEETING
SEPTEMBER 21, 2006
SEE YOU THERE

Newsletter Online!

You are receiving the Miata Fast Track as a courtesy to other clubs or because you are a member of San Joaquin Valley Miata Club.

If you would prefer to read the newsletter on-line, in printable Adobe Reader format (.pdf), and would like to save the club the copying, labeling, postage costs necessary to mail it to you, please let the editor know. Send an e-mail to Editor@sjvmc.net stating your name and to please remove your name from the Fast Track mailing list. Every little bit helps!

Thanks for your consideration!

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

Miata Fast Track

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

Get In. Be Moved.