



Miata Meanderings

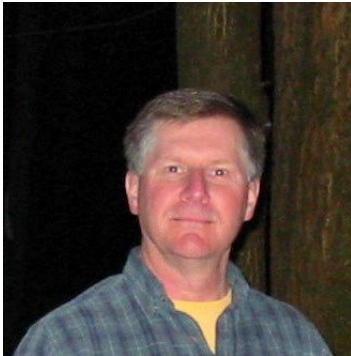
August, 2009

Official Newsletter of the Midstate Miata Club of New York

Visit the Midstate Miata Club on the Internet at:

www.midstatemiata.com

President's Message



Hello everyone, recently at an event a few club members wanted to know how to get more power from their Miata. It seems the cars were too slow. We discussed the usual mods and add ons, cold air intakes, aftermarket exhaust, 14 degree timing bump, and the like. Then I asked the question in which I already knew the answer. I asked, "At what RPM are you shifting your car?" "Oh, about 4000", was the reply. Well, to quote my old Alabama friends. There's your problem right there.

Our Miata engines are built with iron blocks, forged connecting rods, ductile cast iron crankshaft, aluminum pistons, an oil pan windage tray, four valve per cylinder aluminum heads, huge diameter intake and exhaust valves, high lift and high overlap camshafts, and equal length tubular headers. The transmission ratios are closely spaced and the final drive ratio is very low. So what does all this mean? Simply put, our cars are designed to be driven at high RPM. With the exception of the turbo Mazdaspeeds, redline is at 7000 rpm, max horsepower is at 6500 rpm, and max torque is at 5500 rpm. To get the most performance from your Miata you have to rev the engine. It's as simple as that.

"But I don't want to hurt my car". Trust me. You can't hurt the Miata by driving the car the way it was engineered to be driven. As a matter of fact, Norm Garrett, lead engineer for the original Miata Project has stated that our cars were designed from the beginning so that *every shift* could be made at 7000 rpm for 100,000 miles. You cannot over rev the engine. Our cars have a rev limiter which will shut off the fuel supply at 7300 rpm until you return to a lower rpm. Go ahead and try it. Feel how strong the car pulls right up to redline. You won't believe it's the same car.

Now obviously, I don't want you to speed or exceed your personal level of comfort when driving your car. But, if you need it, the car will zip along pretty quickly. All you have to do is to rev the engine. So with that in mind, this month I'll sign off with....

Rev early, Rev often.

Tom C.

Midstate Miata Ice Cream

I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream

Jay Cartini

For the month of July, (and for the rest of the year) we will visit 2 different ice cream locations to add some spice to our lives. Since the weather and the length of the days are swinging into our favor, the meeting time will be the normal one **7:00PM**.....



- **August 13, 7:00pm** Snow top in Manlius (next to the swan pond)
- **August 27, 7:00pm** Gannon's in the valley

Here is the ice cream schedule for the rest of the year. I have omitted October 28 as of now due to the unpredictable nature of the weather.....we will play that one by ear.

September 10, 7:00pm Hickory Hill on rte 31 (get off 481 at Great Northern Mall, turn left, it will be on the right)

September 24, 7:00pm Vicky's in Liverpool on Old Liverpool Road

October 8, 6:00pm Pete's Polar Parlor in Solvay

Southern Tier Ice Cream Night

Joe Lamphere

The southern tier group has a regular ice cream night. We meet the first Monday of each month at Pop's Sugar Shack on Conklin Ave in Binghamton. We have ice cream and also discuss the upcoming events for the month. We also decide on another ice cream night somewhere else later in the month.

August Events

August 2, Midstate Miata Club Picnic

Sabella/Cavanaugh

When: 11:00 am to 5:00 pm, August 2nd (Sunday)

Event Chairpersons: Tom and Bev Cavanaugh, Bob and Ronnie Sabella

Let's get together for a Club Picnic at Sampson State Park on the shore of beautiful Seneca Lake.



We have rented a pavilion and there are grills and plenty of picnic tables. Charcoal, lighter fluid, paper products, plastic ware, condiments, and bottled water will be provided. Bring your own food and favorite beverage. If you would like to bring a dessert to share that would be great. Brownies are not recommended.

This is a Rain or Shine event

Sampson State Park is centrally located between Elmira/Corning, Syracuse, Rochester and Binghamton on the east shore of Seneca Lake on RT 96a. This spot was chosen so that all our far flung club members can meet and get reacquainted again.

Suggested Routes:

Elmira/Corning, Drive to Watkins Glen, in town, turn right on RT414 north, at Ovid, turn left on RT96a, Sampson SP will be on your left on RT96a.

Binghamton, Depart Binghamton westbound on RT17, exit at Horseheads and proceed north on RT 14 to Watkins Glen, in Watkins Glen turn right on RT414 north and turn left at Ovid on RT96a, go north on RT96a, Sampson SP will be on your left.

Syracuse, Take Thruway to exit 41, take RT414 south, turn left on RTs 5-20 proceed to Seneca Falls, in town, turn right on RT 414 south, turn right on Yellow Tavern Road, at Rose Hill turn left on RT 96a, Sampson SP will be on the right..

Rochester, Take Thruway to exit 42, take RT 14 south to Geneva, in town, take RTs 5-20 east, just east of Geneva take RT96a south, Sampson SP will be on your right.

In The Park, Head towards the lake and past the Navy Jets, follow signs to picnic grounds, we will be in one of the two open pavilions. Look for Club Banner and lots of Miatas.

PLEASE NOTE: There is a seven dollar entrance fee per car.

Sampson Naval Training Base

Deane Bergstrom



You may want to visit the Sampson Naval Training Base museum at the park during or after the club picnic. We visited the museum at the previous picnic and found it to be worthwhile. If you are interested in naval history take the link below for a more detailed description.

http://www.dmna.state.ny.us/forts/fortsQ_S/samps onNavalTrainingBase.htm

August 16, Polo

Chuck Paul

P O L O A N Y O N E ??? Sunday, August 16th is the date for what has become the most anticipated event of the driving season – Polo at Skaneateles. Combining the excitement of an “up close and personal” sporting event involving large horses with fine dining via “trunking” style (not really tailgating).

We will **leave** the Burger King on Grant Ave. (Route 5) in Auburn at 12:10 for a scenic drive along Owasco Lake and Route 90 arriving at Bob’s Barbecue for those who wish to purchase food to go. A “new” path from there will take us past a deer and llama farm (easy Tyler) and on to the Polo grounds.



For those who have never attended this event, many bring food to share in a variety of formats, but there is no requirement to do so (except for Denise where there is a requirement). A folding chair, a wide brimmed hat for shade, and whatever you plan to nosh on are all that is required.

Any questions - cpaul@twcnny.rr.com or 315 673-4432.

August 23, Tubing at Marathon

Janet Calp

For all you wusses who didn't do the white water rafting down the Black River: On August 23rd we're going tubing down the Tioughnioga River. No white water,,, well maybe some gentle rapids, but VERY gentle. We get the tubes, life vest and a cup holder for whatever potent or unpotent potable you choose to bring. Very relaxing and a lot of fun. We'll meet in the parking lot between Green Hills Farms and McDonald's in on Salina Street in Nedrow around 8AM if you want breakfast and leaves at 8:30 AM sharp winding our way down to Marathon with a pit stop in Auburn, so drink accordingly.



Lunch first around 11AM at the Three Bear Inn (No swimming after eating – a myth, but keep the lunch light). Then hopefully by 12:30 we can begin the tubing portion. Cars can be left at the Inn and the tubes and van will come to us. Wear your bathing suit under your clothes for a fast getaway after lunch.

We tube down the Tioughnioga River for about 4 hours. If you think that's too long, you can go for 2 hours and the van will take you down to the other input site. The first time I went, we did a two hour trip and thought, Gee that just wasn't long enough. It was the first time I really laughed out loud since Bill died.

You can bring soda or a bag 'o beer if you'd like but I think there's a law against drunken tubing, so stay sober. We'll put in at Lighthouse Landing (if we don't miss the orange cone) and they will take us back to the Inn and our vehicles.

We can change back into our dry clothes at the bathrooms in the Inn, or bring towels to sit on for a damp trip home

Pray for a hot day, as the river goes in and out of the sunlight, particularly in the later hours.

I need a head count by August 12th for lunch (so that the Inn can be prepared for the crowd) and we'll order from a pre-set menu so that we can be in 'n out and ready for the tubing. You can call and leave a message at 469.3763 or email me at: jancmx4@aol.com.

I have no idea how many will want to do this, but Lighthouse Landing can accommodate up to 50 tubers, so be forewarned.

The tubing is \$10 for 4 hours, the fun and laughter is free. The last time I went, a bald eagle soared over our heads several times. Bring some cord so we can tie some tubes together and go down in groups - a lot more fun and no one gets separated.

Forever Plaid Update

Cathy Neuner

I still have only heard from 3 couples who want to attend this performance at Cortland Reparatory Theater. These people along with Mike and me are only 8 people and not enough to order group tickets. A group must be at least 10.

So what I will do, if my other 6 are still interested, is request checks for the amount for the type and number of seats you want. Regular tickets for the matinee are \$22 center and \$20 side with \$1 discount for senior/student. When I get them I will buy tickets in a block if appropriate or as close together as possible.



Of course, if I hear from a lot more people by August 1, I can still buy group tickets. But I will still need the money which at the group rate is \$21 center and \$19 side.

I still have the check from the Skoglands. If I buy regular tickets for us, I may need a couple of bucks more.

For the rest of you please a check to me, Cathy Neuner for the amount of regular tickets I should buy for you (center/side, regular adult/senior), and I will get them ASAP.

Please make the check out to me by August 7th, and send to our address:
212 Peterson Dr.
Camillus, NY 13031

If you have any questions please email me at cwneuner@twcny.rr.com or call me at home 435-4745 or at work 435-4745.

People can also get more information at the theatre's web site: www.cortlandrep.org Click on box Office, then Seating Chart to see the layout or call their box office at (607) 756-2627 or toll-free 800-427-6160.

Old Forge Train Trip

Herb & Sherry Skogland

This event has been cancelled due to unexpected high costs.

July Event Reports

Friday, July 10, Go Kart Racing at Cherry Valley

Jay Cartini

And the results are in!!!! For those that were not able to attend you missed one heck of an event. We had a total of 15 competitors come and test their driving ability, reflexes, endurance, fear and humility in an evening full of trash talk, bravado, finger pointing and wheel to wheel racing.

We broke down into 4 randomly selected groups and started off with 10 laps of practice so everyone could get use to the track, how the karts handle, and gain an appreciation for how exhilarating and challenging karting can be. Once practice was completed we ran a 10 lap “heat” race. The top 2 competitors in each group advanced to the “feature”. The feature race was an additional 10 laps consisting of the “best of the best”.

Now, in the classic movie Days of Thunder, there is an appropriate quote, “rubb’in is race’in”. There may have been a little rubb’in in the beginning of the feature. I’m not exactly sure as to the nature of the rubb’in, nor am I sure who is at fault. I do believe that a conspiracy was afoot to somehow get me out of the race. In the 4 years



I’ve been karting my kart has never been airborne before, but fortunately, due to my vast experience, superior driving ability, and calm nature, I was able to regain my composure and continue the race.

(At left is a picture of Jay and his Kart after his flight. Notice Jay hanging on to his roll bar in sheer terror - DFB)

overall winners.

4th place, Tom Cavanaugh
3rd place, Ray Mosher
2nd place, Jay Cartini
1st place, Ed Heffron
Slowest lap times, Lou Nefflen

We dipped into the club goodie bag and handed out prizes for the 1st and 2nd place heat finishers, as well as additional prizes for the

It is only appropriate that Ed beat me. He’s the one that introduced me (ok pushed me) into the sport. Besides, since I was wearing a helmet with a smoked visor, and we finished in the dark (it was like wearing a welder’s hood), how could he not have won.

PS. If we’re interested in taking our cars out on the track for a mini autocross we’re more than welcome to do so. We could rent the track for a flat fee of \$15.00 per car and run as long as we want. Set up a start and finish line, run one car at a time, use a stop watch and see what happens. This would be a safe way to see how you handle your car in a controlled environment with speeds not exceeding 2nd gear. Give it some thought and maybe we can throw something together before the end of the summer.

Sunday, July 19, Old Forge Boat Tour

Jerry Willis

Even though dark clouds and cool temps tried to dampen spirits six miatas persevered topless through some winding forest roads to Old Forge. There we embarked on a comfortable pontoon boat traveling through the picturesque Fulton chain lakes to lunch at a lakeside Adirondack style restaurant. From there we proceeded by boat to the village of Inlet for some gelato ice cream and were surprised with a craft fair in the park.

(At right is the prototype pontoon boat for Jerry’s event – DFB)

With Adirondack style furniture, paintings, photographs, homemade



fudge, and a myriad of other things for sale (soo...glad miatas have small trunks, just big enough for fudge). The hour and a half return trip was very pleasant until one unnamed couple hogged the cool and refreshing wall of water from a passing boat wake that crashed over the bow.

We safely disembarked and split up for the trip home, although occasionally you could hear "my bottoms wet"
P.S. many thanks to the professionalism of the docking crew.

MIATA World II

Lou Nefflen



Mazda MX-5 *Miata World II* **MAY 22-25, 2009**

Once every 10 years Mazda celebrates the creation of a sports car of incredible endurance, reliability and owner appeal. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the MX5 Miata. The second decade of the Miata was celebrated on May 22-25th in Grapevine Texas, just outside Fort Worth Texas, 5 cars of exceptional quality represented Midstate Miata Club of Central New York. These participants were in alphabetical order Edward and Layne Keller , Joseph and Joyce Lamphere, Louis and Marla Nefflen, Chuck Risechenole and Mark and Kass Vande. This intrepid troupe of good-natured sports car enthusiasts all came at separate times and used separate ways of getting there. But all met for the Friday night reception and dinner. Everyone had a story to tell of the trip. The most exceptional story was that of Chuck Risechenole who, while driving to the event, in order to not hit a deer swerved and hit a signpost instead and had his car fixed and still drove down to Miata World. That showed real stamina and the ability to overcome great odds and move on.

Miata World II gave all of us a chance to met people from all over North America and Hawaii. Although all the cars start basically the same none of the cars, with exception of the new ones under warranty, were stock. You could see many modifications to the Miata there. Everything from the V8 Miatas and many other power adders to body kits to make Italian sports cars, and Lotus 7 sports car as well as open wheel racecars out of Miatas all the while the owners were there and willing to tell anyone all about their creations. Several vendors with their wares were represented there also, so several of us bought things. One of the vendors was selling small trailers and hitches for the Miata.

On Saturday you had a choice of going to the Cavanaugh Flight Museum and having you picture taken with a World War II plane, or starting the two day rally, or several car runs all over the area. After that came a car wash and more vendors time and a social hour followed by a Banquet. Thanks to our wives we were able to get a table for all of us. The Banquet was hosted by Mazda among the speakers was Mr. Matano who created the Miata and developed the car. At this event they announced the winner of the 2010 20th edition MX5 being given away (needless to say none of us are driving a new car). All in all the night was fun.

Sunday we all met at 7:30 AM for a parade through Grapevine Texas and a group photo at the Texas Motor Speedway of over 500 cars. After were the track events at the speedway these included speed laps around the oval track and autocross on the infield track as well as Funcanna (Miata Games) in the parking lot all overseen by the SCCA. At the same time there was a Concours de Elegance back at the hotel and a rally around Ft. Worth area all going on at once. After all that we all meant back at the hotel for a Social hour where there was a table for Mr. Matano and other Mazda officials to sign autographs followed by a Banquet. At the banquet event prizes were given out for the different track events and the rep from the Sports Car Club of America gave us a

little speech about the events as well and proclaiming us the most unable to follow orders and follow directions. To this the whole audience cheered. And a good time was had by all.

Monday started the drive home or drives somewhere. We all came home a different way some through the Grand Canyon some thru the Blues Museum and others by way of their grand children. But everyone I have spoken to had a really great time and would do it again.

Schedule of Events for the Remainder of the 2009 Driving Season

<u>Day/Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>
Sunday, August 2	Club Picnic	R. Sabella/T. Cavanaugh
Wednesday, August 12	Log Cabin Car Show	Jim Reisdorf
Sunday, August 16	Polo	Chuck Paul
Sunday, August 23	Tubing @ Marathon	Janet Calp
Sunday, August 30	Cortland Reparatory Theatre	Mike & Cathy Neumer
Thu-Sat, September 10-12	Watkins Glen Historic Race	Tom Cavanaugh
Sunday, September 20	Old Forge Train Ride	Herb & Sherry Skogland
Sunday, September 27	Working Farm Tour/Apple Orchard	Andy Wargo
Sat-Sun, October 3-4	Letchworth Overnight	J. Williams/J. Reisdorf
Sunday, October 18	Road Rallye	Tom Cavanaugh
Friday, December 4	Holiday Party	Lee Maddy

Midstate Miata Club Officers for 2009

President: Tom Cavanaugh

Vice President and Activities Chairperson: Jay Cartini

Communications Manager and Newsletter Editor: Deane Bergstrom

Treasurer: Lee Maddy

Membership & History: Bob Sabella