



# Miata Meanderings

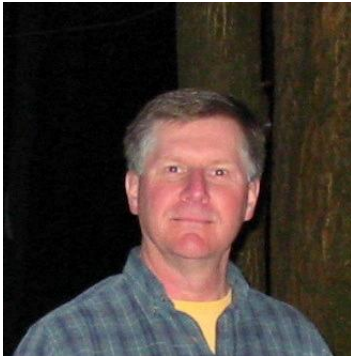
July, 2009

Official Newsletter of the Midstate Miata Club of New York

Visit the Midstate Miata Club on the Internet at:

[www.midstatemiata.com](http://www.midstatemiata.com)

## *President's Message*



As I sit here typing this message it's raining cats and dogs outside. Our car is tucked safely in the garage awaiting the next dry day. "Tucked safely in the garage." Hmm, sounds like I'm writing about a pet doesn't it? So, how do you feel about your Miata? Is it just a machine or do you feel like it's part of your family. I personally tend to feel that our Miata is like a good buddy. Always there for us and ready for any adventure we choose. I bet you have similar thoughts about your car as well.

A few notes to pass along.

By the time you receive this newsletter the Club Bulletin Board will be up and running. This is a new service for members only. Please click on the Bulletin Board link on the Club Website. After you register you will be able to post on the board. Our topics include road trips, car maintenance tips, a for sale/trade section, and other stuff. Check it out and sign up. I'll be there as TomC23.

We ran into a small glitch with LANDS'END orders. The MMC logo was too big for baseball hats. So we had to redesign the logo to fit baseball hats. The new design will have New York State, car and the stylized Miata text on the front of the cap and Midstate Miata Club of New York text on the back of the cap. This and the original logo will be the only authorized logo available at LANDS'END.

Please contact me if you have any questions about the logo.

This summer I would like to get to know as many members of our club as I can. If you have a meeting for ice cream or whatever, please let me know and I will try and drive to your town and say hello.

**When life throws you a curve hit the apex.**

**Tom C.**

## *July Events*

**Friday, July 10, Go Kart Racing at Cherry Valley Jay Cartini**



**Vroom vroom vroom** OK, for all you closet race-car-driver-wanna-bees here's your chance. On Friday, July 10<sup>th</sup> we have reserved Cherry Valley go kart track in Lafayette to give you the opportunity to see what it's really like to race wheel to wheel. An added bonus is that it will be

against your fellow MMCers to see who can not only talk the talk, but walk the walk. Yes, I know watching NASCAR and Indy and Formula 1 on TV or in person is a thrill, but this is the real deal. Almost all professional race car drivers began their careers as kart drivers, and most still continue to do it to keep their driving skills at their peak during the off season.

There will be safety equipment provided. But if you have your own closed faced helmet, driving suit, neck brace and gloves please bring them. You will need to have long pants on, close toed shoes with socks, a heavy duty jacket if you have one (like a Carhart).

The cost will be up to us, and will depend on how many laps we want to do: 5 for \$15.00; 10 for \$25.00; 15 for \$35.00; 20 for \$45.00; 25 for \$55.00 and upwards. There may also be a discount depending on how many people end up racing.

We will meet at the Scotch and Sirloin in DeWitt to depart at 6:15pm so we can get to the track, get orientated and start to race. Once we start (in all likelihood) you won't want to stop.

**This is a fair weather event only!!!! If we get rained out we will reschedule for a later date.** If you have any questions the day of if we are going through with it, or questions about what to wear, call me @315-430-3014.

## **Sunday, July 19, Old Forge Boat Tour**

**Jerry Willis**

**The trip will begin at the assembly point at the Burlington Coat Factory opposite Burdick's Mazda in Driver's Village.** Participants will meet there at 9:00 a.m. There are rest rooms at both McDonalds and Wendys which are about a block away. Plan to be on the road by 9:30 a.m.



From there the caravan will proceed through N. Syracuse, Rome, Boonville, and then to Old Forge. The round trip is about 220 miles.

In addition there will be a cash deposit of \$20.00 per person at the boat launch. This will be refunded to you at the end of the boat trip and its purpose is to provide a security deposit.

You should bring a light windbreaker or jacket to deal with any weather and spray from the boat although there should not be much of this due to the relatively low speed of the party barge. Also bring the usual sunscreen, binoculars, hats, water and any snacks to munch on during the ride. Please keep these carry ons to a minimum due to limited space on the boat. Lunch will take place at about 2:00 P.M. on the lake and this cost is not included.

If you wish to remain ashore but go for the trip, you may stay in Old Forge and visit the many shops there. Don't miss the Old Forge Hardwar Store. Even if you have been there before there is always something new to see.

## **Sunday, July 26, Opera (La Traviata)**

**Rosemary DeHoog**

*La traviata* is an opera in three acts by Giuseppe Verdi set to an Italian libretto by Francesco Maria Piave. It is based on the novel *La dame aux Camélias* by Alexandre Dumas, fils, published in 1848. The title "La traviata" means literally *The Woman Who Strayed*, or perhaps more figuratively, *The Fallen One*.



Piave and Verdi wanted to follow Dumas in giving the opera a contemporary setting, but the authorities at La Fenice insisted that it be set in the past, "c. 1700". It was not until the 1880s that the composer's and librettist's original wishes were carried out and "realistic" productions were staged. <sup>[1]</sup>

After some revisions between 1853 and May 1854, mostly affecting Acts 2 and 3, the opera was presented again in Venice, this time at the teatro di San Benedetto.

## ***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**.....

- **July 9, 7:00pm Carvel DeWitt (park in the P&C parking lot)**
- **July 23, 7:00pm Heids of Liverpool**

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.

- **August 13, 7:00pm Snow top in Manlius (next to the swan pond)**
- **August 27, 7:00pm Gannon's in the valley**
- **September 9, 7:00pm Hickory Hill on rte 31 (get off 481 at Great Northern Mall, turn left, it will be on the right)**
- **September 23, 7:00pm Vicky's in Liverpool on Old Liverpool Road**
- **October 14, 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' 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.

# ***June Event Reports***

## **Victor Car Show**

**Tom Cavanaugh/Gerry Acquilano**

Four cars arrived at the Ramada Inn in Geneva for breakfast. Just prior to leaving Geneva we were joined by one more car for the caravan to Victor. After a short ride we arrived at the event where the folks in our group who pre-registered were given instructions on where to park. At the event we were joined by one other car from our club. Also parked in the Miata row were four cars from the Niagara Miata Club as well as a few cars with no club affiliation. We put up the club banner and set up our base of operation and proceeded to enjoy the day. Throughout the event people came by to talk about our Miatas. Some people owned Miatas and wanted to discuss what mods that we or they had done to our cars. A lot of information was exchanged and new friends were made in the Miata community.

Of course we all walked a lot of miles checking out the fantastic assortment of vehicles at the show. My personal favorite was a beautifully restored Dino Ferrari. There was a flea market with all sorts of vendors and one of our members stuffed his trunk full with souvenirs for his young co-driver.

By mid afternoon our members started to head back for home with three cars making a road trip to Orbakers in Williamson for burgers and shakes. Overall, the weather cooperated and we had a great day at this event.

## **A Parade and More**

**Chuck Paul**

It is possible that Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> was the perfect day for a parade, especially if you were in a Miata. **Twenty Five (25)** Miatas paraded two by two through the streets of Marcellus in their annual Olde Home Days parade. Actually, counting the two Miatas leading the parade and carrying the “Grand Marshalls” there were 27. Lots of candy was thrown to the youngsters (we’re changing Marcellians to Marcellulites) and the crowd cheered us at every turn. We had Miatas from Rochester and the Southern Tier – thanks to all especially Jim Reisdorf for organizing the cars to avoid “color conflicts”.

Following the parade we relaxed in Marcellus Park while some chose to partake of the Field Days fare. After the short break 15 cars departed for a scenic one hour drive to Sweetie’s for pie and ice cream. “Departing” went well, however shortly thereafter the group self divided into two groups. It has become apparent that failing to review caravanning rules and stressing the need to keep a reasonably small gap is a serious lapse. Failing the above requirements will require radios in the future as simply waiting for a group to catch up when they are not even on the same road doesn’t work. We knew we were in trouble when we passed our club President going in the opposite direction. Thanks to Tyler Wainwright for assuming a leadership role (some people are just natural leaders) and guiding his portion of the group safely to Sweetie’s.

Thanks to everyone who participated.... several community members remarks about the impressive turnout.... looking forward to next year.

## **Oneida Community Mansion**

**Karen Abbott**

The day began with sunny, beautiful blue skies. We all met at the Doubletree Hotel on Carrier Circle and had a wonderful brunch buffet. There was a good selection of breakfast, lunch and dessert items. Denise Wargo brought an imposter who wore a nametag saying “Andy Wargo” whom she introduced as her John (oops, I mean her “car-panion” John). After our brunch we had a few more members join us for the rest of the days activities.

Bob Sabella showed off his new Miata upgrade. I don't know if it is safety equipment, but everyone was very impressed and probably envious. If you missed it, he has new Lamborghini style doors.



We left the parking lot with 16 cars and began a nice drive through the countryside and enjoyed the sharp turns of Gulf Road, the curves of Route 13 past Chittenango Falls, the hills and windmills of Fenner, on through Peterboro (although we had to do a quick detour due to a Confederate Army takeover of a state road) and finally arrived at the Mansion. We all enjoyed an overview from the curator, Tony Wonderley, and then we were split into three groups for our tour. My understanding is there were many questions from our various

members, and many people said they enjoyed the drive and tour. We all learned a lot of the history of the Oneida Community, a famous communal-living experiment from 1848-1880 and what ultimately became Oneida Ltd. We then regrouped and drove down the road to a small ice cream shop called Ebenezer's. After we all enjoyed our ice cream, everyone headed home in his or her various directions.

Though this was not the first event, it was a good beginning to a summer filled with driving fun.  
Zoom...Zoom...Zoom...

## ***May Event Report***

### **Wine & Waterfalls Tour**

**Ray Mosher**

Red Rulz! The skies threatened early, but the clouds soon parted and a sunny, topless day ensued. We started in Skaneateles and visited a total of 7 lovely waterfalls. Recent rains provided plenty of water. We added two cars to our caravan at Ludlowville and joined up with several more from the southern Tier group in Ithaca, We paraded through downtown Ithaca with 16 cars. A great lunch was enjoyed on the deck at the Wagner Vineyards and we sampled some of their libations. We caught the eye of a nice 1991 BRG outside Watkins Glen and had a chat with its occupants. Heading south, we stopped two more falls before finishing up at Havana Glen in Montour Falls.

This was just a small, carefully selected sampling of the waterfalls in the area. To find more, I recommend the book 200 Waterfalls in Central & Western New York by Rich & Sue Freeman. It's for sale at bookstores and for loan from the Onondaga County Library system.

## ***Upcoming Events***

### **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 lot's of Miatas.

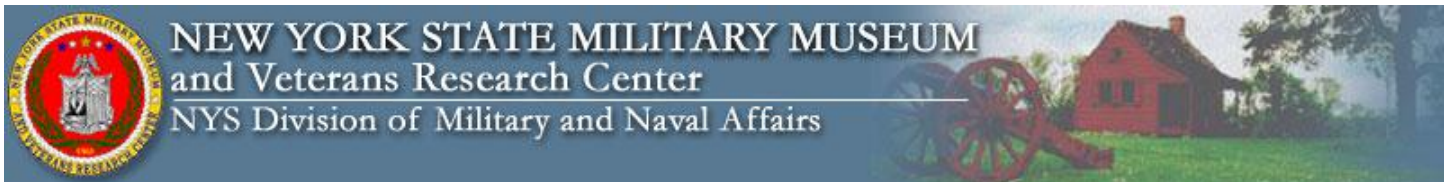
**PLEASE NOTE: There is a seven dollar entrance fee per car.**

**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/sampsonNavalTrainingBase.htm](http://www.dmna.state.ny.us/forts/fortsQ_S/sampsonNavalTrainingBase.htm)



## **Forever Plaid Update**

**Cathy Neuner**

In regards to the Sunday matinee performance of "Forever Plaid" at 2:00 on August 30 at the Cortland Reparatory Theatre is in Dwyer Memorial Park.

I spoke with a woman in the CRT Box office today. She said of the possible 235 seats, there are still 174 left. The center section has 142 seats and from what I was told, many of the house center left are sold. The house center right is "wide open" except for the 1st 2 rows.

When I took an informal count of people who thought they were interested in attending (this was back in the beginning of May) I thought there were enough people (we need at least 10) to get the group rate of \$21 for center seating and \$19 for side seating at the Theater. Of the six people, Mike and me included, who have actually contacted me, the preference is for center seats. But this is still not enough for me to order group tickets together in a block.

Now that school is out, I'd imagine that ticket sales will pick up. The box office manager suggests getting tickets ASAP if the group wants sit be together.

I'll need to get names of interested people and to know people's preference for center or side seating.

Back in May I was told by the manager that I could order the tickers and then would need a 25% or say \$4.25 per ticket (non-refundable) within 30 days to pay them as a down payment. The remained is due by August 7th. I think at this point I'll need the money in hand when I order the tickets

Once again this is for the Sunday matinee performance of "Forever Plaid" at 2:00 on August 30. The Cortland Reparatory Theatre is in Dwyer Memorial Park, with picnic facilities overlooking Little York Lake, on Rt. 281 between Homer and Preble NY. That's the same road a Bob's Barbeque.

I was thinking of meeting at the Burger King in Tully late Sunday morning, taking a drive then ending up at Bob's for lunch before the theatre.

Please me at home at 488-5311 or email at [cwneuner#twcnny.rr.com](mailto:cwneuner#twcnny.rr.com) with questions. I'll keep track of interested people then go ahead and order tickets when I have enough names/seating preferences.

Of course, if we miss the deadline for ordering group tickets, the alternative is that people buy their own. The price would be the \$ 2 more per seat or the same if you take the senior discount.

People can also get more information at the theatre's web site: [www.cortlandrep.org](http://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**



### **Train ride event date change.**

This event will be on Saturday, Sept 19<sup>th</sup>, instead of Sunday. The train doesn't lay over in Old Forge this year on Sunday, only Saturday.

We are working out the details and are hoping to get enough interest to keep the cost of the train down. The train will be boarding in Remsen about 10am, which will be an early start of the day.

Please mark your calendars and more info will follow in next newsletter.

***Etc.***

**Low Mileage 1990 Miata Raffle for Charity**

**Tom Cavanaugh**

As most of you know, our club was contacted in early May to help a local church get the word out for an upcoming raffle for a low mileage 1990 Miata. Because of the Miata connection, I agreed to help if we could.

Well I'm happy to report that because your efforts along with others, the church raised over \$54,000 from this event.

Of note, is the fact that the car was won by Rachel Durbin of Manassas, Va. and the second prize was won by a person in California. I'd like to think that the out of state winners are a direct result of our club's placement of the ad on Miata.Net.

For all those club members that spread the word and also placed posters all over the local area, I'd like to say Well Done! You guys make me proud to be a member of our club.

***Schedule of Events for the 2009 Driving Season***

<u>Day/Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>
Sunday, April 26	SCCA Autocross/Dinner @ Steak & Lube	Jay Cartini
Saturday, May 9	DeWitt Pancake Breakfast/Drive	Jim & Judy Williams
Saturday, May 30	Winery & Waterfalls	Ray Mosher
Saturday, June 6	Marcellus Olde Home Parade	Chuck Paul
Sunday, June 7	Victor Car Show	Gerry Acquilano
Sunday, June 14	Oneida Community Mansion	Karen Abbott
Friday, July 10	Go Kart Racing @ Cherry Valley	Jay Cartini
Sunday, July 19	Old Forge Boat Tour	Gerry Willis
Wednesday, July 22	Log Cabin car show	Jim Reisdorf
Sunday, July 26	Opera (La Traviata)	Rosemary DeHoog
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