



Miata Meanderings

May, 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, I was just responding to my Area Rep's email request. The Area Reps coordinate between club members who are sponsoring the events and club members in the Area Rep's group. As you can imagine, it would be very chaotic and stressful for a event sponsor to provide information, and check on who will be attending their event, if they had to do this with everyone in our club on their own. The club through the Area Reps provides a means for the event sponsor to answer any questions and take attendance ahead of time to insure that the club events go smoothly. The Area Reps provide a central point for all club members to respond. When events are coordinated through the Area Reps repetitive requests and misinformation to the club members is minimized. When I receive an email or phone call from my Rep, I like to let my Rep know as soon as possible that I will be attending the event. As a courtesy to the event sponsor, I also give my Rep a heads up that I will not be attending an event as well. As we start the new season, I would like to say thank you to you the club member, for your timely replies which help our event sponsors. To the Area Reps, for all the time and effort they provide to make our club run so smoothly....Well Done!

Last month I told you that the club will soon have a member forum on the club website. The forum is coming along well. We will need three Moderators to monitor the forum once it gets going. Basically a moderator keeps posts on topic and ensures posters abide by the rules of the forum. I would like the Moderators to check the forum at least once a day. If you are interested in helping out email me at: **TomBev23@gmail.com**.

When life throws you a curve, hit the apex. Tom C

June Issue of Miata Meanderings

Effective with the June edition of the newsletter, the monthly newsletter will be published using electronic mail. The exception to this new policy will be those members that do not have an ISP or other e-mail capability or have specifically requested hard copy will receive a hard copy edition by surface mail.

While the electronic version will be in full color, the hard copy newsletter will be in black and white to save my pocketbook from having to replace color cartridges which are expensive.

Janette Clark

Deane Bergstrom

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Janette Clark is a registered nurse who spends a lot of her summer time driving her 2001 red convertible Mazda Miata. You might have noticed her cruising down the highways and byways if you saw her license plate: 1JST4FUN.

When her husband passed away, she returned to school to get her RN degree. There wasn't much money for Miatas.

Although raising her family came first, the Weedsport, Cayuga County, resident wanted a Miata for the past 20 years. The day she actually bought it, she was at a nursing reunion and suddenly decided the time had come. Out of the blue, she called her son's friend, a used car dealer in East Avon, to keep an eye open for her Miata. A 65-year-old widow at the time, she knew exactly what she wanted.

What she didn't know was that driving a Miata roadster would lead her to a new life. She bought the car at summer's end and the following spring, she learned about the MidState Miata Club of New York. She checked it out online and thought she'd give it a try. Founded in 1994, there are now 108 Miatas whose owners/members live throughout Upstate New York. This gave Clark the opportunity to discover the camaraderie and fun she'd been trying to find, and to make friends who encouraged her to drive her car to new and exciting places. For a \$30 membership fee, she received a car decal, a lanyard, and club pin; but most importantly, she was able to connect with a group of people who had something in common, and who also gave her lots of input on caring for her car.

She was also made aware of some vendors in the Syracuse area who offer discounts on parts and services to club members—always a good thing to know.

The MidState Miata Club is dedicated to providing opportunities for Mazda Miata owners and enthusiasts to enjoy the roadster. They exchange ideas and information, and participate in group events involving the Miata

At least one "official" event is scheduled each month from April through November. These are selected from suggestions presented by the members during the annual winter planning meeting in February. Trips are normally to points of interest in New York state. Occasionally, overnight trips to more distant locations are planned.

The event that keeps members closest is the informal evening gatherings for ice cream every two weeks during the warmer months. There are also frequent impromptu get-togethers among members, if for no other reason than to have someone to share the road with. Clark says, "My Miata has brought me closer to my family and friends, and I've taken trips I would probably never would have taken alone." She's visited Sacketts Harbor, Cooperstown, and has even gone white water rafting with the group. "In October, most members put their Miatas to sleep for the winter," says Bob Sabella, also a club member, and the owner of a '91 red Miata. "Some members do use their Miatas during winter. But their other vehicle is a Schwinn." This year, Miata will celebrate its 20th anniversary in Plano, Texas, and will donate a 2010 Miata to be raffled off to some lucky person. Sabella has long enjoyed being a member and says, "The minute you get in your Miata, it always makes



you smile.” So, if you think that sporty red Miata roadsters are just for the younger set, think again. Clark is now nearly 68 and looks like a kid in her “baby.”

More Info? If you want more information about the MidState Miata Club of New York, visit midstatemiata.com

May Events

May 9, DeWitt Pancake Breakfast and Drive Jim & Judy Williams



The second event of the 2009 driving season will begin at the Dewitt Rotary Clubs famous Pancake Breakfast at the Shoppingtown Mall in Dewitt. We will meet at 10:00 and show off our beautiful and colorful Miatas to the always big crowd that attends this great event. Judy Williams, a proud Dewitt Rotarian, will have discounted tickets for all club members. Tickets are downright cheap at \$3.50 per person and the food is very good. The cost otherwise is \$10.00 at the gate.

The Dewitt exit off of Route 481 will quickly lead to a right turn on to Erie Boulevard; turn right at Kinne road (the first T intersection). You won't miss the big event tent on your right.

The Club will gather to the southeast of the big tent. Look for the Club Banner.

Drivers meeting at 12:00. At 12:30 we will depart on a tour of some fun roads in southwest of Syracuse and end up in Camillus at about 2:00-2:30 Remember to buckle up tight because it's all about driving.

May 14 & 28, Ice Cream

James Cartini

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



For the month of May, we will return to an old tradition, Pete's Polar Parlor in Solvay on Milton Ave. Due to the unpredictable weather and the fact that it still doesn't stay light as long as we would like, the meeting time will be 6:30PM.....

May 14, 6:30pm, May 28, 6:30pm

(OK I tried to think of an indoor ice cream place for May and the only one I came up with was Friendly's, and that didn't sound all that appealing to me.....so Pete's it is.)

May 30, Wineries and Waterfalls Tour

Ray Mosher

All falls are a short, easy walk, except the last one which can be more difficult – you may want water shoes for it.

Syracuse based members meet at Skaneateles Fire Dept at 8:45 Proceed at 9:00 Head south about 15 miles (20 min) on 41A In New Hope, Turn Left on Glen Haven Rd to view **New Hope Falls** Proceed South thru

Moravia thru Locke to Ludlowville 34S Left on Buck Rd(25 miles - 40 min)

Southern Tier group meets at Ludlowville Falls at 1030 – 12 miles north of Ithaca on 34/34B

View **Ludlowville Falls**

Head South to Ithaca View **Ithaca Falls** (10 mi 25 min)

View **Wells Falls** (2 mi 6 min)



The Stonecat Cafe



Head toward Stone Cat Café at 5315 Rt 414 in Hector (23 mi - 45 min) Drink wine and have lunch (entrees run around \$10) for deckside dining overlooking Seneca Lake (arrive 12:30)

Head south on 414 toward Watkins Glen, stopping at **Hector Falls** (8 miles 15 min)

Head into and through Watkins Glen to **Montour Falls** on Rt 14 (5 miles – 10 min)

View **Aunt Sarah Falls**

View **Deckertown Falls**

Drive to Havana Glen (pay \$1.00) and take short walk to **Eagle Cliff Falls** This is a nice town park to hang out in and you can quit here and go home around 4pm, or for those with time and energy, head North up 14 to Glenora Wine Cellars and **Glenora Falls** (13 mi 20 min).)(Winery is open until 8pm – and they serve dinner)

Etc.

Annual Dues

Deane Bergstrom

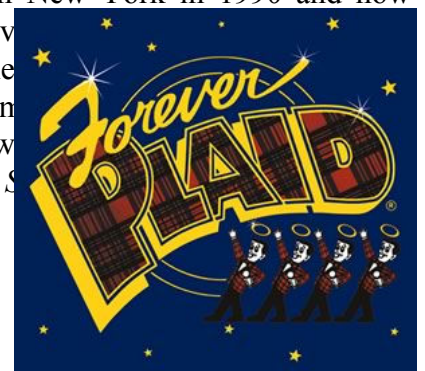
The fee for the 2009 driving season is a check for \$30.00 made out to Midstate Miata Club. Mail your checks to Lee Maddy, 40 Parkington Circle, E. Syracuse, NY. If you have any questions, please call Lee at 315-637-0472 or by e-mail at mrmiataman@yahoo.com It will save the Club postage for a reminder notice from Lee.

Future Events

August 30, Forever Plaid

Cathy Neuner

Forever Plaid is an off-Broadway musical comedy written by Stuart Ross in New York in 1990 and now performed internationally. The critically acclaimed show is an affectionate revue of "beat groups" (e.g. The Four Aces, The Four Freshmen) that reached the height of the 1950s. Personifying the clean-cut genre are the Plaids. This quartet of high-school chums whose first album ended in death (literally and indeed, symbolically) in a collision with a schoolgirls on their way to see the Beatles' American debut on *The Ed Sullivan Show*. The Plaids returning from the afterlife for one final chance at musical glory.



The songs they sing during the course of the musical include: "Three Coins in the Fountain"; "Undecided"; "Gotta Be This or That"; "Moments to Remember"; "Crazy 'Bout Ya, Baby"; "No, Not Much"; "Sixteen Tons"; "Chain Gang"; "Perfidia"; "Cry"; "Heart and Soul"; "Lady of Spain"; "Scotland the Brave"; "Shangri-La"; "Rags to Riches"; and "Love is a Many-Splendored Thing".

The original cast included Jason Graae (Sparky); Stan Chandler (Jinx); David Engel (Smudge); and Guy Stroman (Frankie). The musical opened May 20, 1990 at Steve McGraw's in New York City after engagements at The West Bank Cafe, The American Stage Company and The Wisdom Bridge Theatre. Musical arrangements, vocal arrangements and musical direction were by James Raitt; the show was written, directed, and choreographed by Stuart Ross.

The play was produced as a motion picture for release on November 15, 2008 starring David Hyde Pierce and written and directed by the show's original creator Stuart Ross.

If you are interested in this event please contact Cathy at (315) 488-5311 or email cwneuner@twcny.rr.com. This will help in securing a group rate and with reservations.

September 10 – 12, Watkins Glen Vintage Roadster Tour

Tom Cavanaugh

KNAPP



The event starts on Friday morning around 8am on Sept. 11th in the town of Watkins Glen. Our group will meet in town and proceed on the Knapp Sporting Roadster Tour which includes, a "rally" throughout the Finger Lakes country side with a stop for lunch at the Knapp Winery (previous years included a free tour labeled bottle of wine), a simulated "race" through the town of Watkins Glen on the old GranPrix track, free reserved

parking in town for GranPrix Festival, and Fireworks that night. Here's a website with more info:

<http://www.grandprixfestival.com/roadster.html>

Too make the event more enjoyable, I have arranged for the Big Flats Country Inn and Suites in Horseheads to set aside 12 rooms for us for Thursday Sept 10 and Friday Sept 11th, (6 deluxe /125.99 per night, and 6 suites/\$145.99 per night) This rate reflects a discount of \$34 per night per room. Considering how difficult it would be to arrange accommodations during the festival, this is a good rate.

The phone number to the hotel is: 607-739-9205. Be sure to mention you are a member of Midstate Miata Club to get the discount.

Regardless of whether you plan to stay at this hotel, ***PLEASE BE AWARE*** the main concern is to make your reservation to attend the Knapp Vineyards Sporting Roadster Tour ASAP through Watkins Glen Promotions.

Every year the quota fills up fast so please call as soon as you have made a decision to attend. The phone number is: (607) 535-3003 email: promotions@watkinsglen.com

December 4, Holiday Party

Lee Maddy

The Holiday Party this year will be on the evening of Friday, December 4th. To be held at the Genesee Grande Hotel <http://www.geneseegrande.com/> (1060 East Genesee Street, Syracuse, NY13210). Cocktail hour starting at 6:30 PM (with cash bar), Dinner to be served at 7:30 PM. (Dinner Menu-TBD) The Genesee Grande Hotel is located in the heart



SYRACUSE
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of Syracuse's historic University Hill neighborhood .Close to both Syracuse University, shops, theatre, and the downtown area.

A block of ten rooms have been reserved at a discounted rate of \$99.00 per room. These rooms will only be held until thirty days prior to the event, so don't delay. Call the hotel (Phone: 315-476-4212, 1-800-365-HOME), mention the "MidState Miata Club" group and reserve your discounted room in advance.

Check the newsletter and website for dinner details as the event approaches

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)/Otesaga	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	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