



Miata Meanderings

September, 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



The "Miata Wave". Do you do it? What is it?

Twenty years ago when the Miata was first introduced it was very rare to see another Miata on the road. When we passed each other there was a flailing of arms, two thumbs up, a waving of hats. It was pretty much general hysteria. I can only imagine what the people in the cars behind us must have thought as we danced the Watusi in the cockpit.

Eventually, through Miata Magazine and other sources, a general consensus was reached that when we passed each other on the road, we would pop up our headlights as a salute. Those in the know did this and the "Miata Wave" was born.

With the introduction of the '99 Miata, pop up headlights were discontinued and the Miata community pretty much dropped the Miata Wave in favor of a quick wave of the hand as we passed by.



So fellow member...Do you wave when you see another Miata? I do. As a matter of fact, I wave to all Sports Cars in general. We Miata owners are part of a small group of enthusiasts called Sports Car Drivers. We appreciate driving just for the fun of it. Whether it's the wind in the hair, or a well maintained shined car, there are many reasons why we appreciate seeing another driver on the road that "gets it". Waving is a way to say... *I see you, and I "get it" too.*



So guys, when I see you on the road expect a Miata Wave. Perhaps, you can wave back to me.

When life throws you a curve, hit the apex.

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**.....

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

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.

October 8, 6:00 pm 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.

September Events

September 10 – 12, Watkins Glen Vintage Roadster Tour

Tom Cavanaugh

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.



(Tom has will send additional info by email to those members that have registered for the event- DFB)



September 27, Working Farm Tour, Apple Orchard

Andy Wargo



Come and join us for a day on the farm! We will be meeting at 9:30 a.m. at the Burger King on Route 5 in Auburn NY for a departure at 10:00 a.m. sharp. We will drive to the Cascade Grill for brunch arriving at approximately 11:30 a.m. Brunch will be \$20.00 per person payable in cash when we meet.

Departing the Cascade Grill around 1 p.m. we will then head to Sunnyside Farm in Venice Center. The farm is home to 6900 cows of which 2900 are milked each day producing 240,000 pounds of milk which results in 28,000 gallons of milk per day. Come along and see the

technology of today's working dairy farm along with the methane generator the powers the farm.



For those of you wanting to come with us after the farm tour we will be heading to Owen's Orchard where you may pick or purchase apples, doughnuts, cider, cheese and other produce.

Area reps please not Denise needs a head count by September 18th.



August Event Reports

Midstate Miata Club Picnic

Bob Sabella



Sampson State Park on the shores of Seneca Lake was once again the site for the Club Picnic.

Rain, rain, go away, and it did! What started out as a very rainy Sunday from Buffalo to Syracuse turned into a very pleasant afternoon even with patches of sunshine. The only thing missing were Red Miatas!

The first four Miatas to arrive at the picnic shelter were all blue; four other than Red Miatas followed these. In addition there were three O T M's for a total of 22 Club Members and guests to share good food and conversation.

Hosts, Tom and Bev Cavanaugh, Bob and Ronnie Sabella arrived early (?) to prepare the shelter for the day. The charcoal grill was put to good use cooking up a variety of hamburgers, hot dogs, pork steaks and corn on the cob. Prepared deli sandwiches rounded out the main fare. Shared salads, and a variety of desserts (no brownies) cookies, cake, fruit salad, and some special, to die for, homemade treats, were in abundance.

Karen and Norm Abbott brought their laptop to share photos of the recent wedding of their son. Club member Denise Wargo created the spectacular wedding cake.

The old adage of it's a good party if no one leaves early must be true as our 5 PM time frame came and went with no one ready to leave. Around 7 PM the group started to pack up and some went on to the traditional ice cream stop. The Sun God did overpower the Rain God, as the weather was a key factor for a very enjoyable day for all.

POLO EVERYONE!!!

Chuck Paul



Sunday August 16th was the perfect day for sitting under a tree with a bellini or glass of homemade wine in one's hand. That there was a polo match in the background and 44 or so Miataphiles sharing the experience was just icing on the cake (or cupcake, cookies or pie).

20 Miatas left Auburn aided by the loan of Ed Keller's radio and the best "tail car" in the business (Reisdorf), headed for Bob's barbecue in Homer; arriving with 18 after three from a Pennsylvania club dropped out to return home and another joined us. At Bob's we met southern tier members, picked up food and then preceded on

scenic shady roads to the polo grounds in Skaneateles where we met even more members.

The match was lackluster as was the announcer who apologized for not having the time clock, scoreboard, or music for “divot – stomping”. How bad was the announcing...at one point she reported that the goal just made raised the score of the team by one but she had no idea what that score was.

Did we care? Absolutely not. With our food and beverages and a gentle breeze keeping us cool we would not have minded if they had played croquet instead. Thanks to all who brought food and beverages to share. Already looking forward to next year.

Tubing down the Tioughnioga on a Sunday Afternoon

Janet Calp

It was a brilliant, uh, ok, cool and overcast day as I waited to see who would show up. Jerry Willis finally met me in the parking lot and then came the three other couples who didn't follow directions and had gone to the McDonalds instead. (they probably run with scissors too!)



After a short driver talk, and a side trip to my house to pick up some walkie talkies so I could be in contact with at least one other car in the caravan we were on our way.

On to Auburn for a pit stop and then with Andy's help, we were on our way, winding down the west side of Owasco Lake and through Moravia. After a slight course correction outside of Moravia we hit some great S curves and some perfect Miata (and CRX as I had my 'other' sports car) roads.

We arrived at the Three Bear Inn within a minute of 11AM (my impeccable timing!) stretched a bit, wondered about the weather, would it rain? and then went inside for lunch where, an earnest discourse about bidet seats progressed. Yup, you should have been there...

After lunch, we drove down to the rental place where 6 of the brave (Andy and Maryann remained landlubbers) donned life jackets and packed up our potent or not so potables. We decided that, with the weather being iffy and three of the couples going on south for their vacation, we would 'do' the two hour session. We were driven to Killiwog where (some of us, not me) gracefully got settled into our tubes.

Three tied their tubes together, Denise, Karen and Norm while Jerry, the other Jerry and me floated off independently.

The water was surprisingly temperate and the weather cooperated with the sun peeking out every so often. We watched a bald eagle soar overhead and south down the river, a majestic sight. All in all, the day turned out better than I had hoped it would.

Jerry Willis and I ended way out in front of the others, exactly the same as I drive, where we had our adventures trying to push off from the sides, not hid the railroad track hanging over and other small yet challenging obstacles.

The second group hit the same obstacles however there was one unlucky tuber (and it wasn't Karen) who managed to embed herself under foliage along the side of the riverbed eating 'salad' as she said and probably looking like the green monster of childhood nightmares when she emerged. I wish I had been there with a waterproof camera.

Jerry and I were ashore waiting for others when, to our astonishment, someone, who shall also remain nameless (what goes on in the Tioghnioga stays in the Tioughnioga) 'fell' out of his tube.

Jerry and I immediately sprang into action fording the rushing river and saving the tube from ending up somewhere in the Susquehanna. We couldn't save the beer can though... Jerry, er, the 'fallee' saved himself from drowning and the remaining four tubers made it back to the river's edge where the tubing fun ended and we walked back to the rental shop, wet but happy.

We got back to the cars to find the two landlubbers who did not participate holding hands and cooing to each other. A cute sight, except they were married to other tubers... and that secret too shall remain on the Tioughnioga.

I'm hoping that I can get enough interest to do it again next year. With a four hour session, it will be twice as much fun.

July Event Report

The Opera at Glimmerglass

Rosemary DeHoog

In spite of overcast and threatening skies and with occasional breaks of sun, 9 opera goers set out from Tully on Sunday, July 26. David and Anita Van Winkle drove from Vestal to join opera regulars June Goodreau and her friend Margaret, Bob and Ellen Golden and new members Dave and Gwen Sacia and coordinator, Rosemary DeHoog.

Much to our delight, we were able to enjoy the drive through the small towns, tall cornfields, and the lush valleys of Route 80 with tops down all the way. As the Otesaga Hotel was closed to the public due to the Baseball Hall of Fame weekend, lunch was enjoyed at the Blue Mingo Grill on the shores of Otsego Lake. Our table was tucked away under a canopy overlooking the lake so when a few raindrops fell, we could still enjoy the whole scene without having to seek cover.



As usual, The Alice Busch Theater of the Glimmerglass Opera provided a wonderful setting for a period production of La Traviata, "the wayward one." The singing was wonderful and the chorus of Young American Artists added extra interest. Rain was held at bay during the afternoon in spite of high winds during the performance. It held off so we could enjoy a top down ride home thus completing a lovely day at the opera.



Future Event in 2010

West Penn Miata Club Miata Mountain Mania 2010

ALL INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION FORM ARE AT THE WEST PENN WEBSITE

www.westpennmiataclub.com/mani10

The West Penn Miata Club will again host a Miata Regional on June 24 - 27, 2010. It will be held at Seven Springs Mountain Resort in the midst of the

Laurel Highlands. The area offers a beautiful landscape steeped in history with numerous attractions to tour. These include the newly renovated Bedford Springs Hotel, painstakingly bought back to its original splendor, the new Frank Lloyd Wright home, Duncan House, and two houses designed by his apprentices. Your MX-5 Miata will enjoy zoomin all the new twisty, windy, & curvy roads. We look forward to seeing you at Miata Mountain Mania 2010

OUR MOST IMPORTANT ATTRACTION - THE ROADS, WHICH ARE SURE TO PLEASE THE MOST AVID MIATA ENTHUSIAST

West Penn Miata Club, 3929 Murry Highlands Circle, Murrys ville PA 15668

Registration Limited to 125 Cars

Registration Fee

8-15-2009 to 1-31-2010 \$125 Per Person

2-1-2010 to 3-14-2010 \$140 per person

Registration Postmark will determine Fee

Includes Per Person

* Event Pin

* Event T-Shirt

* Lanyard with Name Tag

* Mountain Welcome Buffet

* Twisty, Windy, Curvy Dance

* Miata Mountain Mania 2010 Banquet

Includes Per Car

* Welcome Bag

* Panoramic Photo

Registration will not be confirmed until Check or Money Order is received

Confirmation will be by Email

Registration Fee Refund Policy: Full refund until January 24, 2010

After January 24 Refunds will be considered on a case by case basis

West Penn Miata Club 3929 Murry Highlands Circle, Murrys ville PA 15668

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 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