

The NEO Classic

Official Publication of the Northeast Oklahoma Chapter of the Miata Club of America

February, 2000

Volume 11, Issue 2



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UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ February 16 - NEO Miata Club Monthly Meeting
7:00 PM Mazzio's
@ South Pointe Shopping Center at 101st and Sheridan

- ◆ March 15 - NEO Miata Club Monthly Meeting
7:00 PM Mazzio's
@ South Pointe Shopping Center at 101st and Sheridan

- ◆ March 19 - Spring Clean Thing At The Gheens'

- ◆ October 24- 27 - Miatas in Paradise, Daytona Beach, Florida

From the President

Gene Bedingfield

What do Joe Viggs, Charlie Mitchell's Mid-town and the Interurban all have in common? They are all places where the club met that have closed down. It looks like we have managed to close another restaurant, at least temporarily. Mazzio's at The Farm is undergoing a renovation and will reopen with a new format, including waiters and no meeting rooms. So once more we search for a new home. The good news is that we can meet at **Mazzio's in the South Pointe Shopping Center at 101st and Sheridan**. As I write this I can look out my window and see snow still on the ground. I think the only time I don't enjoy driving the BRG is in the ice and snow. In fact, I don't drive it in the ice and snow. Rear wheel drive and light tail ends don't mix with slick roads. Thank God that in Oklahoma we have very short winters and nice long summers. If you have to drive in the nasty weather, my advice is to put several

sacks of sand in the trunk. You can get them at places like Home Depot, Sutherland's, etc. I would also carry some sand in a container of some kind. The kind of container you can close to keep the sand from spilling but where you could open the container and spread a little sand on the ice in order to get some traction, if necessary. I hope everyone stayed safe during the storm and none of our cars received any dents. This being February means that the really nasty weather is almost over and it won't be long before we can put the tops down and go driving again. See you at the meeting and in the meantime,

Happy Miataing,
Gene



Meeting Minutes

Pam Chronister

January 19, 2000

President Gene Bedingfield called the meeting to order. Twenty six members introduced themselves and their favorite toy. Mike Meyer, Tour Boss, has flyers for the National Miata Convention. It will be October 24-27 in Daytona Beach, FL. Cost is \$325/couple, which does not include hotel accommodations. You can check out more info on the Internet at *miata2000.com*. There's a 400-car limit. Plans are to take about three days travel time each way, so that would mean 1 1/2 to 2 weeks of vacation time. There are no planned club events until March; however, there may be some spur-of-the-moment drives, weather permitting. There's no information on March Madness, an annual Miata "mini-convention" in Dallas.

Brad and Jan Coody, Treasurers, report that the club treasury has \$1,218. This increase in funds is due to the change in membership renewals. Speaking of renewals, Pam Chronister, Membership Chairperson, reminded members that dues are now due; most have paid, but there's about ten households that have not renewed. Membership directories will be available at the March meeting. Kim Hand, Editor, has the capability to digitize photos for the newsletter; an example is in the January newsletter. Please provide him photos of past events or after future events.

Gene encouraged members to send information to Kim Hand about experiences with local businesses on fixing broken "stuff" (good or bad) and after-market "stuff" (good or bad). This would be a good way for members to learn from others on taking care of their precious toys.

Other tidbits:

- Rod VanKoughnet mentioned that the Alpha Romeo club is planning a driver's school at Hallett Motor Speedway on 15 July. Cost will probably be around \$100. Details to follow.

- Tim Gheen still has a supply of Miata oil filters that he would like to get out of his garage.
- Joe Bohannon has been doing some dash kit research.
- Joel Eads said that the latest issue of *Sport Compact Car* magazine has an article on Miata suspensions.
- Don Kraycik said that *Road & Track* has an interesting article about a 24 car Miata race in Japan.
- Tulsa Auto Collection is "spinning off" their Mazda line and will set up shop at 41st and Memorial.

This will probably be the last meeting at Mazzio's at the Farm. They are closing in about three weeks to do a complete remodel. It will be a Mazzio's 2000 restaurant, similar to Zio's. The meeting rooms will probably not be available any longer. Gene will find another place and members will be notified of the new location for the February meeting.

Meeting was adjourned.

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Pam Chronister

We didn't have any new members join this month. Guess the winter months aren't the best time to think about joining a car club. I do want to remind you one more time that **RENEWAL DUES ARE NOW PAST DUE**. There's a handful of you who haven't yet paid. If I don't have your renewal by March 1st, your name will not appear in the membership directory and you won't receive a newsletter. Dues are \$20, payable to NEO Miata, and can be mailed to our PO Box or brought to the February meeting. Please include the application form that was in your November newsletter with your payment. I will use the info from the application to prepare the membership directories. The directories will be available at the March meeting.

WHERE TO GET NEAT CLUB STUFF

We have added so many new members lately, we thought we should remind everyone where the good stuff can be found.

THE OFFICIAL NEO CLUB PIN:

Jan and Brad Coody have the club logo pins for \$3.00 each, 2 for \$5 and 5 for \$10. The Coody's are at most club meetings and events.

OFFICIAL NEO CLUB APPAREL:

You can get all kinds of shirts and hats with embroidered club logos at *Eagle Apparel*, 608 E. Charles Page in Sand Springs (245.8191). The prices are very reasonable. For example a hat with logo is only \$18 and an embroidered chambray shirt is only \$26. You can also take your own shirts and hats and have them embroidered for \$15. If you take two or more items in they are only \$10 each.

NEO LOGO MAGNETIC SIGNS FOR YOUR ROADSTER:

\$25 each at *Signs Now* located on the NE corner of 51st and Yale.

MIATA OIL FILTERS AND GASKETS:

Tim Gheen has these for only \$6. He is at most meetings or you can give him a call at 272.1294.

Club Meeting To Change Location

The Mazzio's at the Farm is in the progress of remodeling. Therefore, we will be meeting at a new location.

We will be meeting at the **Mazzio's in the South Pointe Shopping Center at 101st and Sheridan. We will still be meeting February 16th at 7:00 PM.**

See you there!

SPRING CLEAN THING AT THE GHEENS'

Mark your calendars for March 19th. We will meet at Tim & Valerie's house rain, snow, or hail. While waiting for nature to welcome the spring top-down season, we'll have some fun getting our roadsters ready for this year's road trips. For those of you who haven't experienced the **Spring Clean Thing**, everyone meets at the Gheens' to mostly socialize and install do-dads, remove tie-down hooks, set the timing, change oil filters, share tall stories, and eat, drink, and be merry. We will also be putting the final plans together for this year's road trips.

The club will provide the meat; you bring your favorite potluck dish and drinks. Everyone who plans to attend should contact Valerie at 272.1294 to tell her what you will bring for the brunch. Plan on a fine afternoon with your Miata friends. Show up around 11:00 AM and we'll start the food line around noon. Bring your favorite detailing stuff and show off your after market accessories, or just pick up some tips from those of us that have made mistakes in the past. We will give directions to the Gheens' golf shack in the next newsletter.

DAYTONA 2000 UPDATE

Registration forms are here for the annual National Miata Event. As you know the gathering will be held at the Adam's Mark hotel on Daytona Beach October 24-27. The dates for the event are Tuesday, October 24th through Friday, October 27, 2000. Only one week's vacation is used by leaving Tulsa on Saturday, spending three days on the road, participate in the event, and then start back to Tulsa on Friday. For those who want to stay a few days longer, they are

planning a "Beyond" event for Friday and Saturday with more tours, activities and a Saturday night dinner. Registration is \$325 per couple and rooms with ocean view are only \$89 per night. Why are we making such a big deal about an event next October? The event is limited to ONLY 400 MIATA'S nation wide. The event is expected to sell out very soon. Consider: vendors, the beach, Daytona International Speedway, tours of the Kennedy Space Center, autocross, parade laps, and funcana. If you have never been to a national, it is an experience like no other Miata event you have ever done and one you will always remember. See or call Mike Meyer (243.7518) for more information and registration forms. You can also follow preparations at the official website: www.miata2000.com.



**Club Meeting
Wednesday
February 16th
7:00 PM
Mazzio's
South Pointe
Shopping Center
101st and Sheridan**

DALLAS MARCH MADNESS

Jerry Joyner with the Lone Star Miata Club is working on resuming the March Madness probably in April. This is a regional two day all Miata event with driving games, road rallies and a banquet. In the past we have driven down on Friday evening and returned Sunday afternoon. As soon as we know more, we will share the full details.

**DID YOU KNOW
THAT MIATA IS
GERMAN FOR
"HIGH REWARD?"**

Miata Club of America

By joining the Miata Club of America you will receive the *Miata Magazine*. This magazine is written expressly for Miata fans. It's the best source in the world for money-saving Miata advice, service tips from the pros, Miata news and background, race reports, coming events, driving techniques, MX5 modifications, member correspondence, and just plain old fun reading. Contributors include some of the best journalists, drivers, and technicians in the business-plus plenty of the men and women who created the Miata in the first place!

And *Miata Magazine* is only the beginning. Initial offerings to MCA has over 80 highly active local chapters that provide regional events and social activities for you and your Miata neighbors.

Join the Club! MCA dues are \$29.00 per year. Send your check or money order to:

**MCA Memberships
Box 2635
Alpharetta, GA 30023**

or call 770.205.8832 for VISA/MC.

State License Plate Mottos

Arkansas: Litterasy Ain't Everthing
Illinois: Please Don't Pronounce the "S"
North Carolina: Tobacco is a Vegetable
Oklahoma: Like the Play, only No Singing
South Carolina: Remember the Civil War? We Didn't Actually Surrender

NEO Miata

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Top Down Tales

Ed.

I'm fairly new at Miataing. I purchased my little toy just a year ago last January. Once I bought my Miata it was amazing how my attitude changed on certain things, e.g.:

- ◆ Washing a car was no longer a chore, it was a joy!
- ◆ Who cares if my other car gets a scratch, just don't touch my Miata!
- ◆ I don't have to have get a close parking spot, "exercise is good for you dear, let's walk clear across the parking lot!"
- ◆ "That will be how much? OK, anything for my baby."

The NEO Classic

Nelson Nissan Mazda

NEW MAZDA MIATA

\$16,995

**PLEASE SEE US FOR ALL OF YOUR
MAZDA NEEDS!**

258-6581

- ◆ "Twenty eight degrees is not that cold, let's put the top down."
- ◆ "Do you need anything from the store?" (However, I'm going to take the long way there and back.)
- ◆ "It's not going to rain and anyway we're almost home ... the

car needed a real good cleaning out anyway."

- ◆ "The Z3 is cute but not as cute as my Miata!"
Well I could go on and on, but I think my red toy needs a good washing.

Kim