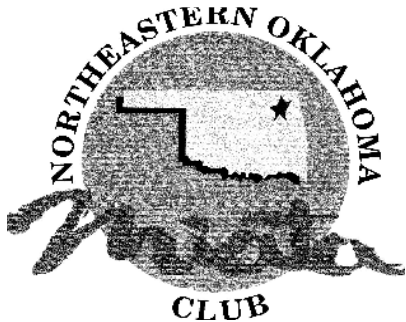


# The NEO Classic

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

June, 2000

Volume 11, Issue 6



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ June 21 - NEO Miata Club Monthly Meeting  
7:00 PM Mazzio's  
@ Tulsa Auto Collection—Mazda, 41st & Memorial
- ◆ June 24 - Back Roads Trip to Woolaroc  
9:00 @ McDonald's Admiral & Memorial
- ◆ July 15 - Driver's School Hosted by the Alpha Romeo Club
- ◆ July 16 - Alpha Romeo Road Rally (Miatas Welcome)
- ◆ July 19 - NEO Miata Club Monthly Meeting
- ◆ July 22 - Poker Run Through NE Oklahoma  
Moonlight cruise on the Cherokee Queen
- ◆ August 12 - Miata's at the Drive Ins
- ◆ August 16 - NEO Miata Club Monthly Meeting
- ◆ August 20 - Sunday afternoon drive to Fin & Feather on  
Lake Tenkiller
- ◆ September 9-17 - Trip to Colorado
- ◆ September 20 - NEO Miata Club Monthly Meeting
- ◆ October 24-27 - Miatas in Paradise, Daytona Beach, Florida

## From the President

Gene Bedingfield

### REMEMBER THIS MONTH'S MEETING IS AT THE TULSA AUTO COLLECTION AT 41st AND MEMORIAL.

August is the month we elect new officers so be thinking about the area in which you would like to serve. The club, and all the things associated with it, doesn't just happen. It takes people and a little bit of time to make them happen. So if you have never served before, consider serving this coming year. If you have served before, remember only the fun times and consider

serving again or serving in a different role. It takes everyone to make a really great chapter and I think we are on the right road to becoming one.

I am Miata-less right now. Four of our grandchildren are visiting us and I had to have a bigger car to haul them around so I left my BRG in Austin with my son and brought his Ford Expedition home (13.5 MPG, ouch!). Of course I would do it when the price of gas has gone up so dramatically. I won't have my Miata back until around July 2. I'm sooooo lonely. By the way if any of you are interested in a Merlot M Edition

**See Pres page 4**

The NEO Miata Club assumes no liability for any information contained within this newsletter. The opinions expressed within are those of the individual authors and do not reflect any endorsements or opinions of the club as a whole. Use of this information is strictly up to the reader's discretion.

## Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2000

Gene Bedingfield, President, called the meeting to order. The room was full! Everyone introduced themselves and their cars.

Mike Meyer, Tour/Special Events Chairperson, laid out a busy schedule of planned and unplanned events for the year. Earl Larkin briefed members on his trip for August 20 to Fin & Feather on Lake. Joel Eads briefed the group on the Garage Sale Tour on May 27. Joel will also lead a group to Woolaroc on June 24. Mike discussed Ronnie Lane's famous tour of little known roads through NE Oklahoma in July

A special guest from the Alfa Romeo Owners Club of Oklahoma, David Simmons spoke about the driving school being held at Hallet on July 15th.

Gene mentioned that June's meeting would be held at the Tulsa Auto Collection conference room at 41<sup>st</sup> and Memorial.

Meeting was adjourned and Gene gave a tech clinic on taking off the console to get to the radio.

## MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Pam Chronister

Sorry I missed the May meeting, but John and I were on vacation touring the Pacific Northwest. We drove over 5700 miles in two weeks, so you know what part of the anatomy is tired!

A big howdy goes out to our newest member, Donald Griffin. That brings the total number of households to 40.

If you haven't received a copy of the 2000 membership directory, I will have copies at the June meeting. Directories will not be mailed. If you can't come to the meeting, but will be at an event, let me know and we can make arrangements for you to pick a copy.

Pam Chronister

Secretary/Membership Chairperson

## Elections Coming Soon!

Elections for new officers will be held at the August meeting. It's always best to have willing leaders. Seriously consider volunteering for one of the offices.

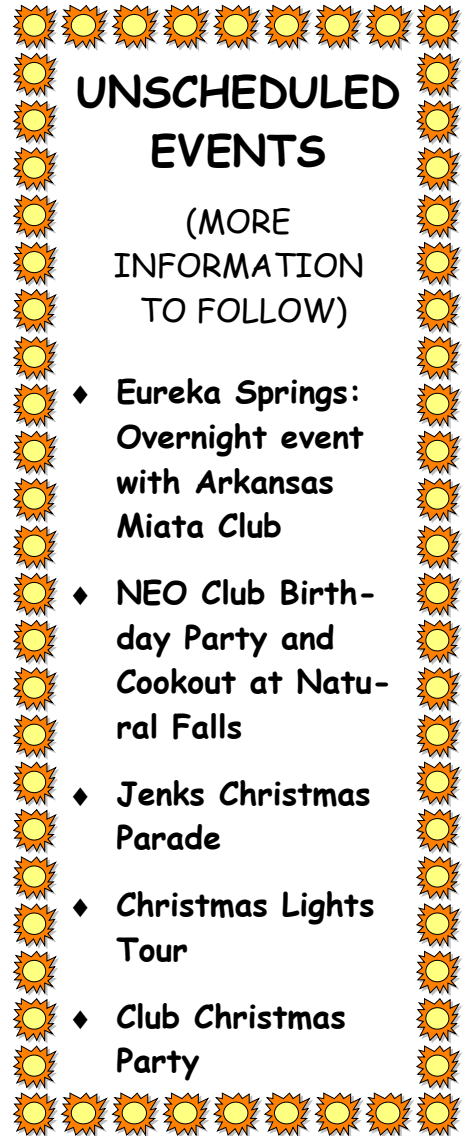
## Trip to McAlester/Krebs

Joe Bohannon

Twenty-five people got all they wanted to eat and then some during the trip to Pete's Place at Krebs, Oklahoma, which is just east of McAlester. We started around 2 PM on Sunday, May 21st. Twelve cars from Tulsa were joined by one from the Tenkiller area and we headed towards Krebs. We left Tulsa at 2 PM and arrived about 4:30 PM. The trip took us over the dam at Lake Eufaula and some scenic back roads of Oklahoma. The basic dinner was only \$8.95 and you could order special entrees if you were so inclined. The food was great and was served family style. Everyone got all they wanted. Some brave soul even ordered dessert. We finished around 6 PM and headed home. The drive home was easy on the Indian Nations Turnpike. The weather was perfect and everyone seemed to enjoy the trip. This event should become an annual event.

See Pictures of the trip on page 3.  
Pics by Papa Joe.

## July's Newsletter Deadline: Saturday, July 8th



## UNSCHEDULED EVENTS

(MORE  
INFORMATION  
TO FOLLOW)

- ◆ Eureka Springs: Overnight event with Arkansas Miata Club
- ◆ NEO Club Birthday Party and Cookout at Natural Falls
- ◆ Jenks Christmas Parade
- ◆ Christmas Lights Tour
- ◆ Club Christmas Party



**PRES: from page 1**

(automatic), there is one for sale in Austin that might go for as little as \$8,000. It has a couple of dents, which I think will pop out easily, and the right mirror is knocked off (\$100) and some minor scratches. I have no idea about the mileage. If you are interested I can give you a number in Austin to call.

Until next time,

Happy Miataing.  
Gene



Table 1

# Pete's Place May 21st



Parked at Pete's Place, Krebs, OK



Table 2 or was this Table 1



Afterwards... We had to use the Wide Angle Lens!

## 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.

## DAYTONA 2000 NATIONAL MIATA EVENT

Registration forms are here for the annual National Miata Event. 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 24<sup>th</sup> through Friday, October 27, 2000. By leaving Tulsa on Saturday, and spending three days on the road you could participate in this event, start back to Tulsa on Friday, and only use one week's vacation. Registration is \$325 per couple and rooms with ocean view are only \$89 per night. The event is limited to ONLY 400 MIATA'S nation wide, and 350 have registered already. 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 get information at the official website: [www.miata2000.com](http://www.miata2000.com).

## Are You Talking to Me?

Christian LeHew

I realize that I'll be walking on thin ice, but after discussing younger Miataphiles one other time, I wanted to share some recent observations on current Miata owners.

Obviously, because we joined a car club, we all love our cars, and a great deal of us love to meet others with the same passion. Most DelVal events revolve around Miata owners standing in a parking lot or at a restaurant, usually with a drive in-between. They're not talking about politics (usually), they're talking about the best tires, who installs the best leather seats, or the highest speeding ticket. If you haven't been to a club event yet, grab your keys, do an anti-rain dance, and be prepared to talk shop.

With the great group of people that you meet by owning this car, I've also begun noticing a great deal of "anti-social" Miata owners. They don't wave back when you pass them on the road. You're prepared to adjust their timing on the spot, but instead they thumb their nose at you. They complain of needing a new \$1000 top, but walk away before you're able to tell them where to find one for half that price. Am I the only one seeing this?

I once heard that you should not give advice, because wise men don't need it and fools won't heed it. If it wasn't for people like Dick Stell or Jim Kincade, who eagerly came over to a new Miata owner with an outstretched hand and a newsletter in the other, I would probably be driving a faded Miata held together with duct tape!

Soapboxes aside folks, let's not become a group known to people as (spit!) "Miata Owners". The cars are small, and a big head won't fit. If you

want to be a snobby car owner, go buy a Mercedes.

In this age of e-mail and cellular phones (and even road rage), let's not forget the camaraderie that cars have evoked in the human spirit through the years. The next time you're blown off, rest assured they (and their unfortunate Miata) will be the poorer. Move on, because I know there are many others like you out there! "Excuse me, is that a 1994 M Edition you've got there..."

*Christian LeHew is a member of The Delaware Valley Miata Club. Christian's article was obtained from the March, 2000 Roadster Review, Volume 11, Issue 3.*



## Classifieds

### For Sale:

Brainstorm Cockpit Chassis Brace for series I Miata. Paid \$80 nine months ago, but no longer needed because I put a roll bar on my Miata. Still like new. \$40.  
 Rod Van Koughnet 481.3420

### 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.

### Rates:

\$5	Personal ad
\$20	1/3 Page
\$30	2/3 Page
\$50	Full Page

## Back Roads to Woolaroc

Joel "Vrrroom" Eads

**When: Saturday, June 24th**

**Time: 9:00 AM**

**Where: McDonald's  
Admiral & Memorial**

**Buffalo Guide: Joel Eads**

**Phone: 250.3476 (H)**

**695.3046 (M)**

Wee-doggies! Polish up your cowboy boots. We're gonna round us up a herd of Miatas and mosey on down some curvy roads on a trip back in time. Destination Woolaroc Ranch.

Admission price is \$5.00 for adults, \$4.00 for seniors (65+) and free for children under twelve.

We'll be leaving from McDonalds at 9:00 AM sharp. Please get there early if you are planning to rustle some grub so we can leave on time.

## POKER, LOTTO, TOMATTO HILL & THE QUEEN

**When: Saturday, July 22th**

**Time: 9:00 AM**

**Where: McDonald's (north side)  
1244/412 at 193<sup>rd</sup> East Ave**

**Dealer: Ronnie Lane**

**Phone: 918.676.3365 (H)**

**CB Channel: 5**

**Route: Unknown (That-a-way)**

For new members and those who don't remember, Ronnie Lane spends his spare time looking for new and exiting Miata Roads in and around the Grand Lake area. As in past years we will return to one popular stretch of road used as a model for "Zingo". The good news this year is that Ronnie has made a practice run, so the chances of us getting lost are less. The bad news is he found a couple of new roads (If he can just remember where they were). Somewhere along the way, we will end up in Noel, Missouri. We will take some time to explore this scenic little tourist town and have lunch. And of course lottery tickets may be purchased at the State Line. We will then explore

a little bit of Southeast Missouri and see Roaring River State Park before heading to the Silver Dollar Café in Grove for Dinner around 5:00. We will be making several rest stops along the way so you might bring some old tennis shoes if you would like to go wading in some of the beautiful streams along the way. The highlight of the trip will be a Moonlight Dance Cruise on the paddlewheel Cherokee Queen. The cost of the cruise will be \$9.80 per person. We will then head back to Tulsa on the Turnpike. You should plan on being back in Tulsa around 1:30 AM. In past years, this has been one of our most popular outings. It might be a good idea to bring along your own map and compass, because Ronnie has a tendency to make up the route as we drive.

For more information call Ronnie or Mike Meyer at 243.7518.

## ALFA ROMEO ROAD RALLY (MIATAS ALLOWED)

Rod Van Koughnet

The Oklahoma Alfa Romeo Owners Club is organizing a fun road rally through the Osage Hills on Sunday, July 16. We're taking an old Osage Hills road rally designed by Jim and Becky Buck of the local Alfa Romeo Club and updating it for the event. In a nutshell, participants will be given several pages of instructions and questions. The instructions tell you the route and the questions are silly trivia taken from various things along the route. There is absolutely no facet of time competitiveness or speed in the event. The only competition is to see who answers the trivia questions most correctly from clues along the route. What do you stand to win? Only a proud smile and perhaps a round of applause. It is intended to be a casual day on scenic back roads teeming with drivers of similar interests. We anticipate participants driving Ferraris, Alfas, assorted other makes, and hopefully a number of Miatas.

We haven't sweated any of the de-

tails yet, so departure and travel times are still sketchy. We will most likely meet at the lot behind the Amerisuites Hotel, located just off 71st & Yale, because that is where all the Ferraris will be lodging. Nothing will start until after the end of live Speedvision coverage of the Austrian Formula 1 Grand Prix, so we're probably talking around 10AM. We'll finish at a nice spot for a late lunch somewhere.

The Ferrari folks are going to watch the F1 race at Rick's house. I would be happy to host NEO Miata folks at my house to watch the race (probably starts at 6:30 or 7AM) and sip some strong coffee in exchange for donut donations. I live very close to Amerisuites, so it will be convenient. I can be reached at 481.3420 or emailed [rodmon@dgrc.com](mailto:rodmon@dgrc.com).

To get on the list for specific road rally details and to register for this free event, please send an email to Rick Lindsay, [rolindsay@aol.com](mailto:rolindsay@aol.com). Just send Rick your name, email, navigator's name, and the year and make of your car. We suggest mixing up teams a bit (if your navigator is your spouse, trade with a friend) to make the trip even more interesting. You do not have to do the Hallett Drivers School or the Hallett Touring Session to participate in the road rally, but we sure hope a number of Miatas can come out to play at Hallett too! Even if you don't drive at Hallett on Saturday, come out and watch, buy an event T-shirt from the Alfa Club, and have a real good time. We hope everyone enjoys the road rally as much as we intend to enjoy planning and previewing it!

## Driving School

**July 15th  
Costs: \$120**

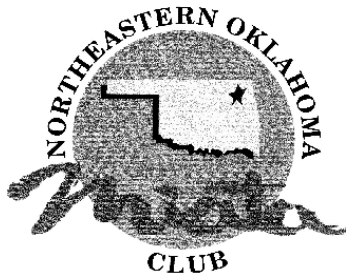
The Alfa Romeo Owners Club of Oklahoma is sponsoring a driving school which will hold up to 80 students. Roll bars will **NOT** be required for the two novice classes and the touring class. For more information and registration forms contact [www.geocites.com/alfarodeo2000](http://www.geocites.com/alfarodeo2000).

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## NEO Miata

P.O. Box 554  
Tulsa, OK 74101-0554

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The NEO Classic

# Top Down Tales

Ed.

Have you ever watched the Oklahoma weather especially during Tornado warnings and say to yourself where in Oklahoma (or maybe in the world) are these towns. Well, by going on Miata trips you will not only learn where these towns are, but go to them, through them, and maybe even stop in them. The last trip to Krebs (I thought Krebs was the name of the restaurant when we first started talking about this) we went through Leonard, Haskell, Boynton, Council Hill, Checotah, Porum,



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Enterprise, Quinton, Featherson, and Blocker. I do believe that Travis Meyer mentioned every one of these towns in the last storm warning.

Which started me thinking they could use Miatas as storm chasers! All the storm chaser would have to do is look straight up to see the funnel cloud coming down.

They could probably put their Doppler Viper radar equipment unhindered in the passenger's seat. The only other alteration that probably would be needed is to put a drain hole in the floor to let all the rain water out!

*Kim*