

The NEO Classic

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

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ April 18 - NEO Miata Club Monthly Meeting
7:00 PM Mazzio's @ South Pointe Shopping Center
101st & Sheridan

- ◆ May 5 - Robert's *Miata* Tour
8:00 AM @ Burger King in BA, 161 & BA Expressway
or
9:00 AM Big K-Mart North Main & Shawnee, Muskogee
- ◆ May 16 - NEO Miata Club Monthly Meeting
7:00 PM Mazzio's @ South Pointe Shopping Center
101st & Sheridan
- ◆ May 19 - Eureka Springs Run
8:00 AM @ McDonald's, I-44 & 193rd East Ave

- ◆ June 20 - NEO Miata Club Monthly Meeting
- ◆ June 30 - TSD Road Rally

From the President

Mac Arnett

I guess we missed Spring, this Oklahoma weather is sure something, 30 one day and 80 the next.

For you folks who missed the Hot Springs trip, I can only say too bad! It was GRRREAT! Earl did a splendid job putting it all together for us, as usual. We had fourteen cars who drove all the way from Tulsa, picked up one in Muskogee and three more in Alma, Ark. Total of 18 cars from the Tulsa Chapter. We had great accommodations and food in HOT SPRINGS. On Sunday most of us drove to Mena, Ark and the Talimena Drive and had lunch at the Queen Wilhimena Lodge.

Leta and I left the group after lunch and went North up Hwy 23 to

Eureka Springs, then to Springfield Mo. for a spending spree at the Bass Pro Shop. The Bass Pro shop just keeps growing and we found some new Antiques Malls along the way. On the way back to Tulsa, we stopped and ate at Cosby's Catfish Restaurant in Disney, OK and it was good as usual.

I see Mazda has sponsored a major Motor Sports Facility in California. "Laguna Seca" is a racing facility and one of the most recognized road courses in the world. By renaming it the Mazda Raceway at Leguna Seca, Mazda is demonstrating its full commitment to "ZOOM ZOOM." This is a good sign.

I don't have an update on MCA

See PRES page 2

Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2001

President Mac Arnett chaired the meeting. Introductions were made all around. With three members paying dues at the meeting our total is now 39. That compares with a total of 50 at the end of 2000. (Latest update - number 40 joined while we were at Hot Springs. Richard & Nila McCorkle of Vinita.)

The latest on the squabble between the National Club and the magazine was discussed. Mike Meyer said that he had been to Nelson Mazda and they told him Mazda was thinking of starting a new national club (See "New National Miata Club" on page five). They have approached the Dallas club, and possibly others, to hold a "kick-off" convention in 2003 to correspond with the new model of Miata that will come out that year. Stay tuned.

The drive scheduled for March 24-25 with both Arkansas clubs and the Memphis club was discussed along with the others for the rest of the year that are already scheduled.

New Members:

Richard & Nile McCorkle
Allen & Amy Richardson
(former members)

Gene Bedingfield
Secretary/Membership Chairperson

Fureka Springs Run

When: Saturday, May 19th
Time: 8:00 AM - Gathering
8:30 AM - Departure
Where: McDonald's (north side)
I-44 at 193rd East Ave
Guide: Ronnie Lane
Return: 7:00 PM (no later)

More details at April's meeting and in May's newsletter.



2001'S HORSEPOWER

Don Kraycik

AutoWeek (03/26/01 issue) is reporting that Mazda has admitted to "overstating" the horsepower rating for the U.S. spec 2001 Miata, and is taking measures to patch things up with buyers of the 2001 Miatas. Mazda initially claimed 155 hp for the new model, but that figure has been down-rated to 142 hp after the 50-state emissions modifications were applied to the engine.

Mazda will provide owners who purchased a 2001 Miata, with a 155 hp sticker between January 1 and March 15, with free factory-scheduled maintenance for the length of the warranty and issue a \$500 MasterCard debit card to the owner to spend as they choose. Owners may also opt to sell their 2001 Miatas back to the company for the full purchase price.

Top Down Texas

Sandy and I really got tired of the OK cold after the first of the year so we loaded up, put the top down, and headed south on February 18th with icicles hanging from the eaves. The first day was turnpike driving just to get into Texas. The first night was spent in Mount Pleasant. The next day we crisscrossed the Piney Woods with stops at historical sites and wound up in Beaumont. The third day was spent driving through the Big Thicket towards Houston, lunch on the waterfront in Kema, then dinner and visiting with friends in Katy. (The Houston area is really a congested place.) The fourth day was a drive through historic old towns of Texas including Schulenberg, Hallettsville, Victoria and Refugio to two glorious nights overlooking the Corpus Christi Bayfront Marina. We visited my mother, sister and nieces family. Sandy and I lived in Corpus Christi for 19 years and four in Victoria.

On the sixth day we drove north through the Hill Country communities of San Marcos, Wimberly, Dripping Springs and Johnson City (in the rain with the top UP!) and overnighted in Marble Falls overlooking Lake LBJ. The seventh day morning was spent looking for an old cemetery in the central Texas community of San Saba that has graves of my old relatives (1860 vintage), and we found it. Also, a Texas Highway Patrolman disagreed with some of the "U" turns I made on the highway, per Sandy's direction, while looking for the cemetery. He was very nice (only a warning ticket) and directed us to the jail (Sheriff's Office) where we received the directions to the graves. That evening we had a pleasant visit with an aunt and uncle on their ranch in Eastland. Then on to a lovely night in Ranger. The next morning we took the back roads to Wichita Falls and then turnpiked it home.

It was a wonderful Miata top down trip, especially in February. The next chapter will be Top Down New Mexico, I think. We'll decide where as we pull out from the driveway in the morning.

Happy Miata Driving,
Jim & Sandy Sturdivant (BLKBUTI)

May's Newsletter Deadline: Saturday, May 5th

PRES: from page 1

worth talking about. But Mazda Sales are up 20% in March and they have sold 3600+ Miatas so far.

UNTIL NEXT TIME,
KEEP YOUR TOP DOWN
AND YOUR REVS UP

Mac



Robert's *Miata* Tour

When: Saturday May 5th

Tulsa:

Time: 8:00 AM

Where: Burger King in BA
161 & BA Expressway

Muskogee:

Time: 9:00 AM

Where: Big K-Mart
N. Main & Shawnee
Muskogee

Guide: Robert Majors

Phone: 918.684.6320 (Day)

The Tulsa cars will meet at 8:00 AM with a departure time of 8:15 AM. Earl will not be able to make this trip so a volunteer leader to take the group to Muskogee will be asked for at the April meeting

Everyone will rendezvous under the Big K sign at K-Mart located at North Main and Shawnee in Muskogee. Robert will lead the group out of the parking lot at 9 AM and proceed east to York Street where we will turn north.

We will go through Fort Gibson to Fort Gibson Dam and take state 80 to Hulbert. From Hulbert we will go north to Lost City. North of Lost City there are many low-water crossings and if it is raining or has rained in the last two days we will cancel this section of the trip.

In Lost City, we will turn east at the stop sign and come into Moddys from the south. Here we turn east until we get to state 10.

We will go south on state 10 until we get to US 62. We will then go east for about a mile to a Phillips 66. This will be a break for pop, gas, or restrooms. When we leave we will turn south by the station on a road that goes through Welling. Once through Welling and just before getting to state 100 we will turn left and make a detour and reconnect to state 100 farther south.

At state 100 we turn right and follow state 100 to 10A. This will take us to Fin and Feather where we will eat. At this point we will have covered 100 miles and it will be noon.

After lunch those that want can take state 10A to state 10 and back to

2001 Neo Miata Calendar



zoom zoom

May

Saturday, May 5

Robert's *Miata* Tour
Leader: Robert Majors

Saturday, May 19

Eureka Springs Run
Leader: Ronnie Lane

July

Saturday, July 7

Alphas & Miatas @ Hallet

Sunday, July 15

Oklahoma Back roads
Leader: Joel Eads

June

Saturday, June 30

TSD Road Rally
Similar to Article on Page 4



August

Saturday, August 25

This Old House (Osage Hills)
Leader: Dorothy & Earl

September

Saturday, September 2

Take the High Ground
Leader: Dorothy & Earl

October

Sunday, October ?

Drive to Dinner
Leader: Dorothy & Earl

November

Birthdays Party Picnic

Jenks Christmas Parade

December

Christmas Party

Muskogee. If there are those that would like to take some more back roads, we can discuss it farther as there are enough paved back roads in eastern Oklahoma we could drive all weekend.



Hot Springs Trip

March 24 & 25

Pics by Ray Ducket



Hot Springs Tower Mountain



Miata Clubs in Action



Eating Lunch at Queen Wilhemina Lodge



Hot Springs Overlook



Queen Wilhemina Overlook



Our Fearless Leaders Doing What They Do Best

**Zoom
Zoom
Zoom
Zoom**

THE TOLSA TULIP 200K

(A TSD rally)
Rod Van Koughnet

Saturday, April 28, 2001
Mazzio's Lot
Highway 97 & South 41st Street
Sand Springs, Oklahoma

Paved and Combo Championship Info:

Registration Opens	1:00 PM
Competitors Meeting	2:00 PM
First Car Out	3:01 PM

Gravel Championship Info:

Registration Opens	7:00 PM
Competitors Meeting	7:30 PM
First Car Out	8:01 PM

Entry Fees:

Paved Championship	\$20
Gravel Championship	\$20
Combo Championship	\$30

For more info call (918) 492-3602.

If you want to play, you need the following:

- ◆ a navigator
- ◆ a clipboard
- ◆ stopwatch with countdown feature and calculator are a big help
- ◆ something to illuminate the navigation in the night time stages.

Don't forget to call (918.492.3602) or e-mail (GREGARYUS@YAHOO.COM) the rally master (Garry Deaton) your RSVP so that he prints out enough navigation instructions.



2001 Miata

New National Miata Club

Dear Miata Club President,

As President of your local Miata Club, we wanted you and your fellow Club Presidents to be the first to receive the good news. Mazda North American Operations is pleased to announce the formation of the Miata Owners Club (MOC). This new club will replace the Miata Club of America, which has ceased Miata Club operations.

We are also pleased to announce that Barbara Beach will continue as publisher of Miata Magazine. Members have indicated their overwhelming satisfaction with this high quality publication, and we are happy that Miata Magazine will continue to be a key member benefit. In addition, Barbara Beach will play an active role in the new club, working in an advisory capacity. Further, Mazda has engaged the services of an experienced club management firm to help in developing benefits and member services.

What does this mean for you? Our principal goals are to serve as "facilitator" to enhance your member benefits and provide support to local Miata Clubs. We greatly value and seek your input. Accordingly, we are forming a Leadership Council to provide advice and direction to the new MOC. This committee will work with Mazda to build the value of MOC and help us all achieve continued growth in national and local membership. You may contact 1-800-968-4980 if your club is interested in participating.

Please bear with us during construction. There's a lot to be done. More details will be released very soon. To contact us, please visit www.MiataOwnersClub.com or call 1-800-968-4980.

Mazda is committed to making sure that membership in the Miata Owners Club provides valuable benefits to all Miata owners and enthusiasts.

Thank you for your loyal support of the Miata, and we look forward to

good things to come.

Sincerely,

Stephen T. Odell
Executive Vice President & COO
Mazda North American Operations

Note from Rod Van Koughnet:

According to the Miata Digest, anyone who subscribed directly to the Miata Magazine is already automatically a member of the new Miata Owners Club and will be receiving goodies in the mail soon.

The membership is apparently good until the magazine subscription runs out next year! This is good stuff!

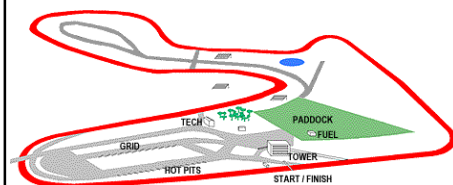
Alfa Romeos & Miatas Run at Hallett

Rod Van Koughnet

The Oklahoma Alfa Romeo Owners Club is happy to announce and invite you to our annual "Alfa Rodeo" track day and performance drivers school, July 7, 2001. The location is Hallett Motor Racing Circuit, just west of Tulsa, OK. Mark your calendars for this fun event. There are four classes of drivers school, from first-timer through Speed-Racer, as well as a touring class for those who want to experience the track in a slightly tamer setting.

We already have registrations from members of the North-East Oklahoma and Wichita Miata clubs and are expecting more from Oklahoma City, so you can expect a healthy number of Miatas at this Alfa event.

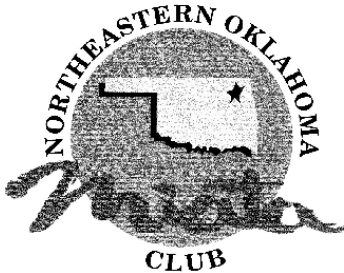
All of the details and several action photos are at the following web site. For some reason, the site is not Netscape friendly, so please use Explorer. It comes out fairly scrambled with Netscape. <http://www.geocities.com/alfarodeo2001/>



Hallett Racetrack

NEO Miata

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






The NEO Classic

Top Down Tales

Ed.

We've finally had some good weather the last couple weeks. Last Saturday I jumped in my Miata, drove to the new Merritt's bakery and had a donut and a cup of coffee. When I got in the car to return I just had to take the long way home. I wanted to go farther and stay out longer, but I had to get back to put the newsletter together. However, I was able to get back out later by running an errand with my wife.

Speaking of weather, I was driving home from work this last week and met a rain storm. I've heard other members state that you can keep dry in a rain storm if you keep the car moving fast. Well, when your driving

	Nelson Nissan Mazda	
	258-6581	
BE THE FIRST ONE TO OWN THE NEW 2001 LIMITED EDITION MIATA! COME IN AND SEE THIS BEAUTIFUL CAR		
	10% Discount on Parts and Service	Expires: 05/31/01 (discount does not apply on promotional items)

home during rush hour in Tulsa you're stopped more than you're moving. So, if you have a daring nature, you'll need to have a game plan. First, always drive in the right hand lane. That way if it starts raining you can quickly pull off and put your roof up. Second, keep towels in the trunk so you can mop up the inside after you put the top up. (You

might want to also put some Armorall in to finish the "detailing" job.) Some of you would just put the top up if it looks like it's going to rain. That's no fun!

*Zoom, Zoom,
Zoom!*

Kim

