

NEO CLASSIC

NORTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA MIATA CLUB



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE Joe M. Bohannon

With a new year ahead, I see my job as your new President is to stay out of the way of a well-oiled machine. The success for 2004 is unprecedented. Thanks to Mike Meyer and the able assistance of the rest of the officers, record membership was achieved along with many other milestones. I only hope we can continue to achieve even greater goals in 2005.

One of the goals I want to achieve is more membership participation in events and the leading of tours during the year. We have many annual trips but new ones are always exciting. I hope that as new members participate in events, they will realize that it is not only fun but also a chance to meet other members and get to know them better. I look forward to working with each of the new officers and committee chairpersons.

I plan to institute a new approach to club direction by having the officers and chairpersons come early for each meeting at 6 PM so we can discuss club business prior to the meeting at 7 PM. All members are welcome to come at this time to

present any ideas and concerns so they can be discussed and then brought up at the meeting in a timely manner. I hope that this approach will permit us to keep the meeting to one hour or less. Some of our membership have an early bedtime and need to feed their pet Toby prior to retiring.

The first agenda item is the Web Page configuration and content. Inputs are welcome from all members and please attend the early meeting if you want to give us your comments. Rather than piecemeal any changes, it would be more efficient to review the whole issue and then have an overhaul if necessary. I believe in the old adage "If it ain't broke, don't fix it" If only a few are not pleased with something, lets run it up the flag pole and determine if any changes are necessary.

Change sometimes creates confusion in a group that does not have daily contact and communication. At my age, I have enough confusion in my life, the main one being Mac Young. I plan to send a personal E-mail to Mac telling we have changed the meeting

place to Johnnie's at 81st and Sheridan. Please do not tell him otherwise.

With the holiday season over now, we can get back to our normal routine. I know everyone looks forward to the big game on January the 4th. Go Sooners!!!! It hurts this Aggie to root for the Sooners, but Oklahoma pride is on the line and since they are not playing the Cowboys, I guess Pistol Pete will forgive me.

On a more personal note, Sara's mother passed on December 26th at the age of 91. Our family was blessed with all five grandchildren here for the holidays.

I hope each of you had a joyous holiday season and remember, come to the meetings and keep putting those cards on any Miata you see about the club meetings.



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Happy
Happy
New Year!
New Year!



Club Christmas Party Jim Naufel

A big **THANK YOU!** to **Nelson Nissan/Mazda** for allowing us to use their shop for the party. Thank you Bob Huckaby for putting the party together. A special thank to Mack & Suzanne Young and the crew who helped them decorate, GREAT JOB! Those of you who did not attend missed a fun party.

JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	<u>19</u>	20	21	<u>22</u>
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Down The Road

- 02/06/05 Solo II, OKC, 8:30 AM
- 02/16/05 Club Meeting 7:00 PM
- 03/16/05 Club Meeting 7:00 PM
- 04/02/05 SCCA Road Rally
- 04/20/05 Club Meeting 7:00 PM
- 04/23/05 "Spring Fling"
- 04/30/05 SD&D ?
- 04/30/05 SCCA Road Rally

We need folks to plan events and/or SD&D's for next year, any and all ideas are accepted. Please contact Bob Huckaby.

Meeting Minutes - December, 2004 Leta Arnett, Secretary

New President Joe Bohannon called the meeting to order. It was a very short meeting because we took a Christmas lights drive after the meeting led by Bob Huckaby.

Dues are due as of January 15, 2006. Please make your check for \$20.00 payable to Neo Miata. If you are new and paid your dues the last quarter of 2004, your dues are current through 1/15/06.

Leta

Steve Hester Update

Steve came out of the comma and was moved out of intensive care. He could be home by the time this newsletter goes to press. They expect a full recovery.

January Events

January 19 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm:
Monthly Meeting

January 22 Run From The Chicken
Weather Date 01/29/05
Time: 10:45 Drivers Meeting
11:00 Departure

Where: McDonald's I-44 & 129th St.
We'll start with a short drive to a chicken place for lunch. The is local owned fast food type chicken place with food you will enjoy. The cost is about \$5.00-6.00 for a meal.

Following Lunch well take a fun drive to look at the winter countryside on some fun roads.

If the weather looks unacceptable for the event I'll post a notice on the club website by Noon on Friday.

Hope to see you for a fun run in January.



CHECK THE CLUB WEBSITE FOR CHANGES AND UPDATES!

Welcome New Members:

?????



Earl and Dorothy's 'Spring Fling' Drive Earl Larkin

WHAT: Spring Fling 2005, "Back Door To Hot Springs"

WHEN: Saturday & Sunday, April 23rd & 24th, 2005

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

It is very important that you make your reservations as quickly as possible. We will be staying at **The Downtown Hotel**. The last time the club stayed there, it was called as The Hill-Wheatley Downtowner Motor Inn.

The phone number for the hotel is **1-888-624-5521**. Please call between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM, and ask for **Wendy**. Wendy is in charge of promotions for the hotel and made this deal with me on Wednesday, December 15, 2004. Ask for the NEO Miata Club group rate of \$70.31. This rate is good if the club reserves at least ten rooms.

There are many activities scheduled for Hot Springs that weekend and as of December 15, 2004, the hotel only had 38 rooms available. We do not want to miss this opportunity. The hotel is on the main drag and within easy walking distance of The Arlington, Hot Springs National Park, Bath House Row, and numerous restaurants and clubs.

Please do not hesitate to make your reservation. You can always cancel up to 48 hours prior to our scheduled check-in time. Procrastinators may

end up staying at a different hotel/motel than the early birds.

Finally, Wendy said that if we get over ten reservations made within the next two to four weeks, she could probably put all of us on either the third or fourth floor, where some of the rooms have balconies overlooking the main drag. A total "HOOT" if you are a people watcher.

Please make your reservation as soon as possible. Watch for additional trip information in future newsletters and on the club website.



NEO Miata Logo Items

Shirts / Jackets / Hats etc.

Show your pride as a Miata owner and NEO Club Member by wearing our club logo on a shirt, jacket or hat. Our club logo is available at T-Shirt Express in Owasso. Exit Hwy 169 at 76th St. North, turn left at the light and go about 2 to 3 blocks. It's on the left side of the street next to the pawn shop.

You can bring in your own items to be embroidered or purchase items there at the store. Prices are reasonable, check for pricing.

Club Pins:

Club logo pins are available for \$3.00 each, 2 for \$5.00 or 5 for \$10.00. Contact the club treasurer at any club meeting or event.

Magnetic Signs:

NEO Club Logo magnetic signs are available for \$25.00 each at Signs Now located at 51st and Yale.

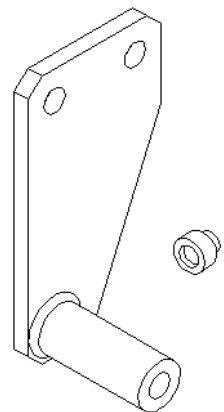


Adventures cont'd from Page 4

Took some measurements, used my meager influence at work the next day, and had my new fabricated bracket in hand by noon on Friday. Went home over lunch and tried it on the Miata with a finger tight fit. Eureka! A NEW bracket!

The new bracket bolts to the two screws on a formed bracket under the air intake and intake manifold. It has a tube that extends forward for attaching the alternator adjustment bracket. The alternator bracket had to be turned around which made the adjustment screw work in the wrong direction, so I reversed it in the bracket and made a small button to fit in the open notch that the adjustment screw normally fits in. When the screw is turned, it pushes against the button and moves the adjustment block as required.

Hoo-Rah! Back on the road....





Northeastern Oklahoma Miata Club

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Top Down, Revs Up, Zoom-Zoom

Check Us Out On The Web

<http://neomiata.com>

The Long And Winding Road Alan Doughty

ADVENTURES IN MIATA MAINTENANCE

My Y2K Miata broke on Wednesday, December the 8th. This happened on my way home from work that evening and I limped home with an overheated Miata.

A tab, cast as part of the aluminum water pump housing sticks out on the passenger side of the engine. The adjustment bracket of the alternator attaches to this tab. The tab broke off leaving the alternator hanging and breaking the belt that keeps the water pump turning. It was a fatigue failure, most likely from a casting defect present when the car left the factory, but at 75,000+ miles, I'm over the warranty limit. Dead in the driveway.

The dealer wanted \$400 to install a new water pump and could not get my car in the schedule until the following week. The water pump was not broken, nor the alternator. Someone suggested welding the tab back on, but to do that right would require taking the water pump of the engine. If I did that, might as well put on a new water pump. So, I spent an hour or so under the hood the next evening, ideas of how to overcome this dilemma swirling in my head. Light Bulb!

Cont'd on Page 3.....



“We'll Make A Believer Out Of You!”

20% Discount on Parts and Service



Expires 02/28/2005
(Discount does not apply on promotional items)