



Northeastern Oklahoma Miata Club

NEO CLASSIC

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FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES: JAN COODY

PRESIDENT JOE BOHANNON OPENED THE MEETING, ANNOUNCING THE RECALL OF 2001 & 2002 MODELS FOR A PROBLEM INVOLVING THE EMISSION SYSTEM. PLEASE CONTACT NELSON MAZDA SERVICE DEPARTMENT TO SEE IF YOUR CAR NEEDS SERVICE OR A CHECKUP. JOE ALSO REQUESTED MEMBERS USE THE CLUB WINDOW STICKERS ON THEIR CAR WING WINDOWS AND THE MEETING INFORMATION CARDS FOR OTHER MIATAS YOU MIGHT SEE OUT AND ABOUT. BOTH ARE AVAILABLE FROM HIM. DUES MUST BE PAID BY THE END OF MARCH IF A MEMBER WANTS TO CONTINUE RECEIVING MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS. IF YOU HAVE A SUGGESTION FOR ANOTHER MEETING PLACE, PLEASE CHECK OUT WHETHER IT WILL HOLD UP TO SIXTY PEOPLE, SERVES FOOD AND IS AVAILABLE ON THE THIRD WEDNESDAY. WE ARE ABOUT TO OUTGROW JOHNNIES. NEW

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE JOE M. BOHANNON

AFTER FOURTEEN MONTHS AS YOUR PRESIDENT, MY WORD BANK IS ALMOST EMPTY IT SEEMS. EVEN ATTORNEYS RUN DOWN EVER ONCE IN A WHILE. ALAN EVEN SENT ME A REMINDER ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER SINCE FEBRUARY IS A SHORT MONTH DAY WISE.

THE WEATHER TOOK IT TOLL ON THE "JUST LUNCH" DRIVE PLANNED BY RODNEY AND MARTHA. I AM SURE WE CAN MAKE IT UP IN THE MONTHS AHEAD. IT SOUNDED LIKE FUN. THE DRIVE HEADED UP BY LARRY AND CYNDI WAS WELL RECEIVED. SARA AND I WERE UNABLE TO ATTEND BUT IT SOUNDED LIKE ALL ON THE DRIVE HAD AN ENJOYABLE EXPERIENCE. AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE REMARKS MADE BY LARRY AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING ABOUT LEADING A DRIVE, WHICH WAS A FIRST FOR HIM, IT WAS EASY AND LARRY ENCOURAGED ALL NEW MEMBERS TO CONSIDER UNDERTAKING A DRIVE IN 2006. ALSO, ONE OF THE BEST WAYS TO GET TO KNOW

YOUR FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS IS ON A DRIVE. DURING THE REST STOPS AND WHILE EATING, YOU CAN FIND OUT MORE ABOUT YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS.

SARA AND I ATTENDED A RALLY SCHOOL ON THE 25TH OF FEBRUARY AND IT WAS INTERESTING. GEORGE WALKER AND HIS DAUGHTER ALSO ATTENDED. THEY HAVE DONE SEVERAL OF THESE TYPES OF EVENTS. I DISCOVERED THAT THERE ARE MANY STYLES OF EVENTS AND IS REALLY FUN. WE DID A SAMPLE DRIVE AND I THINK EVERYONE GOT LOST AT LEAST ONCE DURING THE DRIVE. HOPEFULLY, WE WILL BE ABLE TO RESCHEDULE THE RALLY FOR OUR CLUB FOR A SECOND TIME THIS YEAR. THE ORIGINAL ONE HAD A LOW ATTENDANCE DUE TO THE WEATHER. MORE ON THIS NEW ENDEAVOR LATER.

I HAVE HAD SOME COMMENTS ON MOVING OUR MEETING LOCATION DUE TO

THE SIZE OF THE ROOM AT JOHNNIE'S. ONE MEMBER INQUIRED ABOUT CHANGING THE NIGHT SINCE WEDNESDAY'S CONFLICT WITH SOME OF THE MEMBERS. I AM SURE AS LARGE AS WE ARE, ANY NIGHT WILL HAVE SOME PROBLEMS BUT WE NEED TO LOOK AT THIS IDEA. I HAVE A COUPLE OF LEADS WHICH ARE BEING INVESTIGATED. THE CLUB WILL MAKE THE FINAL DECISION ABOUT WHEN AND WHERE WE MEET IN THE EVENT OF A CHANGE. AS FAR AS I KNOW, THE THIRD WEDNESDAY HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE MEETING NIGHT. SOMETHING CAN BE SAID FOR CONSISTENCY I GUESS.

WELL WRITING THIS LETTER IS KIND OF LIKE OF BEING LOW ON GAS BY THE GAUGE. WE OFTEN DRIVE MORE THAN WE THOUGHT WE COULD BEFORE RUNNING OUT OF GAS. I WILL QUIT NOW WHILE I AM STILL MOVING. KEEP WAIVING, HONKING AND SMILING.
POPAJOE.



"It's About The Roads" - DOROTHY AND EARL'S SPRING FLING 2006

APRIL 29-30, 2006

MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATION NOW!

AS OF JAN. 24TH, ONLY NINE (9) ROOMS ARE LEFT!

DRY CREEK LODGE, MOUNTAIN VIEW, AR, 1-800-264-3655, REF. NEO MIATA CLUB

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MEMBERS AL AND DEB TAYLOR WERE INTRODUCED.

VICE PRESIDENT GEORGE WALKER HAS NEO PATCHES AVAILABLE FOR \$7.00. THESE CAN BE SEWN OR VELCROED ON JUST ABOUT ANYTHING.

SECRETARY, JAN COODY, WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND, BUT THE ATTENDANCE SHEET WAS PASSED AROUND (THIS WILL HELP US DETERMINE WHO WE NEED TO ESPECIALLY CONTACT TO GET TO EVENTS). IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT WE HAVE 6 NEW CARS.

TREASURER, RUTH WILL, ANNOUNCED WE HAVE \$1332.14 ON HAND, AND 72 PAID MEMBERSHIPS TO DATE.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR, ALAN DOUGHTY, SAID HE IS CONTINUING EMAIL AND POSTAL DELIVERY AND WOULD APPRECIATE NOTIFICATION FROM ANYONE WHO IS CONTENT WITH EMAIL ONLY.

NELSON LIAISON BRYAN WHITT REPORTED THAT NELSON REALLY APPRECIATES OUR SUPPORT. MEMBERS HAVE USED THEIR SERVICE, BOUGHT CARS, AND RECOMMENDED THEM TO OTHERS. CURRENTLY AVAILABLE AT NELSON: A 2002 YELLOW, ALSO THREE PRE-OWNED 2006'S - COPPER-RED MICA, TRUE RED, GALAXY GRAY.

CRUISE REPORT BY MAC YOUNG: IT WAS GREAT AND LOTS OF FUN, AND WE MAY DO IT AGAIN.

TOUR DIRECTOR, RODNEY JONES, SAID THIS SATURDAY'S "JUST LUNCH" DRIVE WILL GO NO MATTER

WHAT! (LATE NOTE: ICY CONDITIONS SAID OTHERWISE). JIM NAUFEL SAID THE CHILI DINNER & DRIVE WILL BEGIN AT HICKS PARK COMMUNITY CENTER AT 6:00PM, FRIDAY MARCH 3RD. THE KIWANIS CLUB WILL PROVIDE ALL YOU CAN EAT FOR \$5.00. THERE WILL BE A 2HOUR DRIVE AFTERWARDS, THEN A DESERT STOP & VISITING. A LEADER IS NEEDED FOR A DRIVE TO PAWNEE ON MAY 6. LARRY YOUNG AND CYNDI McNUTT WILL LEAD A "BRING YOUR PET" DRIVE ON APRIL 1ST, LEAVING FROM HICKS PARK AT 10:45. LARRY ALSO TALKED ABOUT HOW MUCH EFFORT THE TOUR DIRECTORS PUT INTO THEIR JOB AND HOW WILLING THEY ARE TO HELP LEADERS PREPARE FOR DRIVES. LARRY PARKER ASKED HOW MUCH INTEREST THERE WOULD BE IN A OVERNIGHT DRIVE TO GUTHRIE - HE WILL BE WORKING ON ONE. EARL LARKIN REPORTED THAT THERE ARE NOW 35 CARS GOING ON THE ARKANSAS TRIP IN APRIL, AND THERE ARE A FEW ROOMS STILL AVAILABLE. THIS IS ENOUGH PEOPLE THAT THE INNKEEPER WILL PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION FOR US TO MEALS, SHOWS, ETC., WHICH IS REALLY A GOOD DEAL SINCE THOSE EVENTS ARE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF A HILL FROM OUR ROOMS.

TOM JONES PRESENTED A GIFT OF APPRECIATION TO ALAN DOUGHTY FOR HIS WORK ON THE NEWSLETTER AND NAME TAGS AND WEBSITE, ETC. IT IS A MINI-MIATA THE COLOR OF ALAN'S CAR, IN A LUCITE DISPLAY CASE.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:10 PM.

ACTING SECRETARY
SARA A. BOHANNON

APRIL EVENTS

- ☑ 1st - Pet Drive: Cyndi & Larry
- ☑ 15th - Beans & Cornbread: Suzanne & Mac
- ☑ 19th - Monthly Mtg.
- ☑ 29th-30th - Spring Fling 2006: Dorothy & Earl

CHECK THE CLUB WEBSITE
FOR CHANGES AND UPDATES!

NEW MEMBERS

AL & DEB TAYLOR



"WLDTHNG"

(Continued from page 3)

NOT ABOUT "RACING AROUND CURVES" IN OUR CLUB. WE HAVE MANY A DRIVE OVER STRAIGHT ROADS AT LEGAL SPEEDS GOING TO MUSEUMS, EXHIBITS, PLACES TO EAT ETC. DOROTHY AND I PUT THIS ON ONCE A YEAR BECAUSE WE "LOVE THE ROADS." BUT THE TRUTH IS MIATA PEOPLE LOVE THEIR CARS AND YOU WILL FIND THAT WHEREVER YOU WANT TO TAKE US WE WILL GO BECAUSE IT IS A CHANCE TO GO DRIVE OUR MIATAS WITH OUR MIATA FRIENDS. SO START MAKING UP YOUR OWN PLANS ABOUT WHERE YOU WANT TO LEAD US, WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHOW US. WE REALLY ARE NOT VERY HARD TO PLEASE AT ALL.

NOW ABOUT THE ROUTE: THOSE OF YOU WHO STAY WITH US FOR THE ENTIRE TWO DAYS WILL WIND AROUND MORE THAN 2,000 CURVES (YES IT IS REALLY POSSIBLE TO FIND 2,000 CURVES IN THE STATE OF ARKANSAS IF YOU KNOW THE RIGHT ROADS TO DRIVE.) ALL OF YOU WILL DRIVE ON SOME STRETCHES OF ROAD YOU HAVE NEVER BEEN ON BEFORE. SOME OF YOU WILL DRIVE ON A LOT OF ROADS YOU HAVE NEVER DRIVEN BEFORE. THAT'S A GOOD THING; YOU ARE LEARNING MORE AND MORE PLACES TO GO "PLAY." SATURDAY'S ROUTE: 86 MILES OF FOUR-LANE HIGHWAY FOLLOWED BY 232 MILES OF NON-STOP WINDING, TWISTING, LONELY CURVES AND

TWISTIES. SATURDAY'S TOTAL MILEAGE WILL BE AT LEAST 318 MILES BUT FOR SOME OF YOU IT WILL SEEM A LOT LONGER DUE TO PHYSICAL FATIGUE. YOU GUYS ARE ALL IN GREAT CONDITION, RIGHT? HOW "FULL" IS YOUR ENVELOPE NOW?

WILD THANG & HIS MATE, WILD CHILD



NELSON MAZDA

**20% DISCOUNT ON
PARTS & SERVICE**

(Discount does not apply on promotional items)

**COUPON VALID FOR
NORTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA MIATA CLUB MEMBERS ONLY**

EXPIRES 05/31/2006

Spring Fling 2006 (It's All About The Roads) - Planning Update: Dorothy & Earl Larkin

WHERE: WE WILL BE SPENDING THE NIGHT IN THE DRY CREEK LODGE INSIDE THE OZARK FOLK CENTER LOCATED AT THE NORTHERN EDGE OF MOUNTAIN VIEW, ARKANSAS. RESERVATIONS NUMBER: 1-800-264-3655 (ONLY 8 ROOMS LEFT IN THE ENTIRE LODGE).

WHEN: SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH, AND SUNDAY, APRIL 30TH 2006.

FROM: McDONALDS, I-44 & 129TH E. AVE.

TIMES: 06:00-06:45 BREAKFAST (EAT A BIG BREAKFAST; WE MAY NOT HAVE TIME TO STOP FOR LUNCH).

06:45-06:55, DRIVERS MEETING

06:55, LINE UP IN GROUPS.

07:00, DEPARTURE

WHAT IS A "GOOD MIATA ROAD ?" WHAT MAKES A "GOOD MIATA OUTING ?" WHAT ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A "GREAT MIATA WEEK-END ?" WELL IT ALL DEPENDS UPON WHO YOU ARE ASKING. REMEMBER THAT WE NOW HAVE OVER 200 MEMBERS IN THIS CLUB AND THAT MAKES FOR A LOT OF DIFFERENT OPINIONS TO THOSE QUESTIONS. AND THAT IS HOW IT SHOULD BE.

FOR DOROTHY AND I IT REQUIRES THESE THREE MAJOR COMPONENTS: (1) CURVES, LOTS AND LOTS OF CURVES; THE MORE CURVES THE BETTER; (2) SCENERY, HILLS, VALLEYS, MOUNTAINS, CANYONS, CREEKS, RIVERS, LAKES; IF WE LIVED ON EITHER COAST WE WOULD ADD OCEANS. A TRIP DOWN THE PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY IS UNFORGETTABLE. (3) LOW-TRAFFIC, AND FREQUENTLY THAT IS THE HARDEST COMPONENT TO FIND. ARKANSAS SCENIC 7 IS BEAUTIFUL AND IT IS FAMOUS NATION-WIDE, BUT I HAVE DRIVEN IT MANY, MANY TIMES WHEN THE TOP SPEED POSSIBLE WAS 25 MPH AND ALL YOU COULD SEE, AS FAR AS YOU COULD SEE, FRONT OR BACK, WAS HUNDREDS OF MOTOR HOMES AND VANS. SUCH DRIVING CONDITIONS, FOR DOROTHY AND I, ARE "MISERABLE" AND FILLED WITH ENDLESS "WHAT-IFFS?" CONSEQUENTLY OUR DRIVES AND TRIPS TEND TO BE "OFF THE BEATEN PATH" SO THAT WE CAN "PLAY" TO OUR HEARTS CONTENT.

BECAUSE SO MANY OF YOU ARE NEW TO THE CLUB, I SHOULD EXPLAIN SOMETHING DOROTHY AND I DO ON

OUR DRIVES THAT IS UNIQUE TO THE CLUB. WHEN DOROTHY AND I JOINED THE CLUB SEVEN YEARS AGO AND STARTED GOING ON CLUB DRIVES WE NOTICED THE SAME EXACT "PROBLEM" THAT WE ENCOUNTERED IN EVERY MOTORCYCLE CLUB WE HAD EVER RIDDEN WITH. DOROTHY AND I ARE "BIKERS;" IN 2006 I TURNED THE 50TH YEAR THAT I HAVE BEEN A TOURING MOTORCYCLIST. SO WHAT WAS THE RE-CURING PROBLEM THROUGH 50 YEARS OF RIDING? ANGER AND RESENTMENT OVER DIFFERENT RIDING STYLES. RIDING STYLES? ESPECIALLY IN THE CURVES, SOME LIKE TO "GO FAST;" SOME LIKE TO "JUST CRUISE," WHILE STILL OTHERS REALLY LIKE TO "STOP AND SMELL THE ROSES" SO TO SPEAK. MIX THESE DIFFERENT "RIDING STYLES" UP, ALL TOGETHER ON SOME GOOD CURVY ROADS AND YOU WILL CREATE THE FORMULA WHICH GUARANTEES INSTANT UNHAPPINESS, RESENTMENT, AND SOMETIMES, A GOOD DEAL OF ANGER THAT SOMETIMES CANNOT REMAIN CONCEALED AND ON OCCASION, CAN GET "QUITE UGLY." SOME RIDERS ARE COMPLAINING THAT "SO AND SO" IS HOLDING THEM UP AND IS DRIVING LIKE "AN OLD WOMAN." OTHER RIDERS COMPLAIN THAT THEY ARE A "NERVOUS WRECK" BECAUSE SO AND SO" IS RIDING "LIKE AN INSANE PERSON" ABOUT "SIX INCHES OFF THEIR ASS." INEVITABLY, SOME RIDERS WOULD GET SO UPSET OVER THE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY "DIFFERENT RIDING STYLES" THAT THEY QUIT RIDING WITH THE CLUB.

MOTORCYCLE CLUBS SOLVED THIS PROBLEM OVER 40 YEARS AGO BY DEVELOPING A PHILOSOPHY CALLED "RIDE YOUR RIDE." SIMPLY PUT, ANY TIME YOU ARE RIDING IN A GROUP POSITION YOURSELF WITHIN THE GROUP SO THAT YOU ARE RIDING WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE THE SAME RIDING STYLE AS YOURSELF AND ALL THE ANGER AND RESENTMENT WENT AWAY. SO DOROTHY AND I BROUGHT THE PHILOSOPHY TO THE NEO MIATA CLUB AND SIMPLY CHANGED "RIDE YOUR RIDE" TO "DRIVE YOUR DRIVE."

DOROTHY AND I WANT EVERYONE, EVERY SINGLE DRIVER, TO HAVE A "GOOD TIME" ON OUR DRIVES, REGARDLESS OF THEIR "DRIVING STYLE." SO HERE'S

WHAT WE DO. BEFORE WE GET TO THE "GOOD STUFF" (CURVES), WE DIVIDE OURSELVES INTO THREE GROUPS: (1) FAST DRIVERS; EARL LEADS THOSE DRIVERS WHO LIKE TO GO FAST THROUGH THE CURVES. IT'S NOT A RACE. ON A CURVE MARKED 30MPH EARL TAKES THE CURVE AT 50-60 MPH, FAST ENOUGH FOR THE "FAST DRIVERS" TO HAVE FUN BUT NOT FAST ENOUGH TO CAUSE ANYONE TO "RUN OFF THE ROAD" OR "SPIN OUT." (2) SPIRITED DRIVERS: THIS GROUP TAKES THAT SAME 30 MPH AT 40-45 MPH AND HAS FUN DOING IT. (3) COOL CRUISER DUDES: THIS GROUP TAKES THAT SAME 30 MPH CURVE AT 30 MPH, OR LESS, AND HAS FUN DOING IT. THE POINT IS, THE OBJECT IS, FOR EVERY SINGLE DRIVER IN THE ENTIRE GROUP TO "DRIVE HIS DRIVE," AT HIS PACE, WITHIN HIS "COMFORT ZONE," AND HAVE FUN. ISN'T THAT REALLY WHAT WE BOUGHT OUR MIATAS FOR IN THE FIRST PLACE; TO HAVE FUN WITH IT?

EARL DOESN'T ASSIGN YOU TO A GROUP; YOU PICK WHICH GROUP YOU WANT TO DRIVE WITH BASED ON YOUR OWN "COMFORT ZONE." IF YOU SHOULD FIND YOURSELF DRIVING WITH A GROUP THAT HAS YOUR PULSE POUNDING, YOUR HANDS SWEATING, YOUR BODY TREMBLING, AND YOU ARE SCARED TO DEATH, CLEARLY YOU ARE NOT IN YOUR "COMFORT ZONE." DO NOT CONTINUE TO TRY AND "KEEP-UP." PULL OVER AT THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY, STOP, AND PULL BACK IN WITH A SLOWER GROUP. DO NOT RISK INJURY, POSSIBLE DEATH TO AVOID "EMBARRASSMENT." YOU HAVE NOTHING TO PROVE TO US. WE LOVE YOU JUST THE WAY YOU ARE, NO MATTER HOW SLOWLY YOU MAY CHOOSE TO DRIVE. REMEMBER, THE WHOLE IDEA IS TO HAVE FUN WITHIN YOUR, REPEAT YOUR "COMFORT ZONE."

A WORD OF COMFORT AND REASSURANCE TO ALL OF OUR NEW MEMBERS. THE WAY THAT DOROTHY AND I DO THINGS IS NOT NEO MIATA CLUB POLICY OR PHILOSOPHY. ALL CLUB DRIVES ARE NOT DONE THIS WAY AT ALL. IN ALL OF OUR OTHER DRIVES WE JUST GET IN

OUR CARS DRIVE AWAY AS A GROUP. EVERYTHING IS

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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:

FULL COLOR MAGNETIC CLUB LOGOS ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOUR CAR. TWO (2) FOR \$35. SEE GEORGE WALKER.



AT THE GAP, THERE BE DRAGONS! Rodney Jones

LEGEND SAYS... A DRAGON LIVES IN THE MOUNTAINS OF TENNESSEE AND WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA, AND I KNOW AT THE GAP THERE BE DRAGONS BECAUSE MARTHA AND I HAD THE MISFORTUNE TO ENCOUNTER ONE.

NOW I KNOW YOU WILL HAVE DOUBTS CONCERNING THE FACTS OR REALITY OF WHAT I'M ABOUT TO TELL YOU, AND HECK I KNOW EARL AND I HAVE A REPUTATION OF EMBELLISHING OUR STORIES, BUT I SWEAR THIS IS TO BE A TRUTHFUL ACCOUNT OF OUR ENCOUNTER WITH A DRAGON. A FIRE BREATHING, SMOKE BELCHING DRAGON.

IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL FALL DAY, EVERYTHING WAS PERFECT, I WAS RUNNING SOUTH ON US-129 EAGERLY ANTICIPATING RUNNING THE DRAGON TAIL. FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE RUN THE DRAGON TAIL YOU KNOW THAT THE DRAGON TAIL (DEAL'S GAP) IS ON US-129, AND JUST NORTH OF THE DRAGON TAIL US-129 IS A NARROW WINDING ROAD THAT RUNS THROUGH ONE LITTLE COMMUNITY AFTER ANOTHER, HOUSES RIGHT OUT NEXT TO THE ROAD, AND ONE HAS THE FEELING OF DRIVING IN EUROPE, DEFINITELY NOT A PLACE TO BE GOING FAST. SO I WAS JUST TOOLING ALONG, I WOULD BE TO THE DRAGON TAIL IN A FEW SHORT MINUTES AND THEN TRAFFIC PERMITTING I COULD GO AS FAST AS DESIRED.

MARTHA AND I WERE JUST DISCUSSING HOW LUDICROUS THE 50 MPH SPEED LIMIT WAS, IN MY OPINION IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN 25-35 MPH, WHEN WE CAME UPON A SCHOOL BUS. I DON'T REALLY KNOW HOW TO DESCRIBE THIS SCHOOL BUS, BUT THERE WAS SOMETHING INTIMIDATING ABOUT IT, I THINK IN A BIG PART BECAUSE OF ITS HUGE CHROME WHEELS AND THE WINDOWS WERE TENTED SO DARK THAT THEY APPEARED TO BE PAINTED BLACK. NOT TO WORRY, WHILE THERE AREN'T TOO MANY PLACES TO PASS ON US-129, THIS WAS A SCHOOL BUS AFTER ALL. HOWEVER IT SOON BECAME APPARENT IT WASN'T GOING TO BE THAT EASY GETTING AROUND THIS PARTICULAR SCHOOL BUS, IT WAS GOING FASTER AND FASTER WITH EACH STOP. IT WAS GOING 65 MPH IN THE 50 MPH SPEED ZONE, THE ONE THAT SHOULD BE 25 MPH, AND IT WAS TAKING THE CURVES FASTER THAN YOU WOULD BELIEVE. MARTHA WAS LAUGHING BECAUSE I COULDN'T STAY UP WITH THE SCHOOL BUS. I WAS IN A BAD SPOT, I DIDN'T WANT TO TAILGATE A SPEEDING SCHOOL BUS, AND I COULDN'T JUST LAY BACK AWAITING A SPOT TO PASS, BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT TO BE FLYING AROUND A BLIND CURVE AND PLOW INTO A SCHOOL BUS DROPPING OFF KIDDIES. NEXT THING WE KNEW IT WAS GOING 75 MPH AND GOING AROUND THE CURVES EVER FASTER AND FASTER, AND MARTHA SAYS THAT HE MUST HAVE DROPPED ALL THE KIDS OFF, WE COULDN'T SEE ANYTHING THROUGH THE DARKENED WINDOWS, HOW COULD ANY KIDS BE RIDING IN A BUS THAT'S BEING THROWN FROM ONE SIDE OF THE ROAD TO ANOTHER, BUT NO HE KEPT DROPPING OFF KIDS. AT THIS POINT I

WAS PANICKED, HE WAS NEARING THE NORTHERN END OF THE DRAGON TAIL AND ITS 40 MPH AND NO PASSING, I HAD TO GET AROUND HIM SOMEHOW, WE WERE FLYING DOWN MY LAST CHANCE TO PASS, A SOMEWHAT STRAIGHT ROAD WHERE THE LITTLE TENNESSEE RIVER TURNS INTO CHILHOWEE LAKE, I'M GOING 85 MPH, TAILGATING A SCHOOL BUS, AND TRYING TO GET UP THE NERVE TO PASS. MARTHA IS STILL LAUGHING.

AND THEN IT HAPPENED, I DON'T KNOW IF I HEARD SOMETHING, OR I FELT A PRESENCE, BUT I LOOK IN MY REARVIEW MIRROR AND THERE I SEE NOTHING BUT GRILLE, A HUGE CHROME GRILLE, I LOOK IN THE SIDE MIRROR AND IT'S A TOW TRUCK, AND HE'S TRYING TO PASS. TALK ABOUT BURSTING ONES EGO BUBBLE, ONE MINUTE I'M THE FASTEST THING ON WHEELS ON MY WAY TO RUN THE DRAGON TAIL AND THE NEXT I'M TAILGATING A SCHOOL BUS I CAN'T PASS AND HAVE A TOW TRUCK BEHIND ME THAT'S TRYING TO PASS THE BOTH OF US.

ALL OF A SUDDEN THE SCHOOL BUS TURNS ON HIS TURN SIGNAL AND TURNS DOWN THE VERY LAST TURN OFF BEFORE THE DRAGON TAIL. I'M RELIEVED TO BE AROUND THE SCHOOL BUS, BUT WHAT ABOUT THE TOW TRUCK, HE'S OBVIOUSLY GOING TO BE A PROBLEM, DO I TUCK MY TAIL BETWEEN MY LEGS AND WAVE HIM AROUND OR TRY AND LEAVE HIM IN MY DUST. I DROP IT DOWN INTO A LOWER GEAR AND FLOORBOARD IT, AND I SCREAM INTO THE FIRST CURVE OF THE DRAGON TAIL AT 120 MPH, I SLAM ON THE BRAKES HARD, BRAKING TO ABOUT 30 MPH, SLOWING JUST ENOUGH TO MAKE THE CURVE, CRAM THE TRANSMISSION INTO SECOND, RUN THE RPM'S UP UNTIL IT HITS THE REV LIMITER, THROW IT INTO THIRD, I LOOK IN MY MIRROR AND ALL I CAN SEE IS THE GRILLE OF THE TOW TRUCK. I WENT FASTER THAN I HAVE EVER DRIVEN IN MY LIFE, FASTER AND FASTER, AND FINALLY I WAS ABLE TO PULL AWAY. PERHAPS HE WOULD BACK OFF THE DEATH DEIFYING PACE ONCE I HAD PULLED AWAY, BUT NO... EVERY TIME I WOULD GO AROUND A CURVE I COULD SEE HIM COMING DOWN THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN BLOWING SMOKE AND BELCHING FIRE FROM HIS EXHAUST. AM I IN THE TWILIGHT ZONE?

WE HADN'T GONE TOO FAR AND I CAUGHT UP WITH AN SUV ALLOWING THE TOW TRUCK TO CATCH BACK UP, FINALLY THE SUV ALLOWED US BOTH TO PASS, STARTING THE MAD RUN ALL OVER AGAIN, AND THEN I OVERTOOK A GROUP OF CROTCH ROCKETS, AGAIN ALLOWING THE TOW TRUCK TO CATCH UP, BUT AFTER THEY ALLOWED US TO PASS IT WAS A CLEAR SHOT ALL THE WAY TO THE END OF THE DRAGON TAIL.

I PUSHED MY LUCK FURTHER AND FURTHER TAKING INCREASING RISKS WITH EACH CURVE, FORGET THE CENTERLINE I WAS DRIVING FROM DITCH TO DITCH, I

COULD SEE THE FEAR IN THE FACES OF APPROACHING VEHICLES, AND THEIR EYES WERE AS BIG AS SAUCERS. MARTHA WAS NO LONGER LAUGHING.

I KEPT UP THE FURIOUS PACE UNTIL WE CROSSED OVER INTO NORTH CAROLINA WHEN I BACKED OFF AND WE COASTED DOWN THE HILL TO DEAL'S GAP, WHERE I BACKED INTO A PARKING SPACE. WE HAD JUST GOTTEN OUT OF THE CAR WHEN THE TOW TRUCK CAME DOWN THE HILL. WE COULD HAVE BEEN NO MORE THAN A MINUTE OR TWO AHEAD OF HIM AT ANY POINT.

AND AS IF TO RUB SALT INTO THE WOUND THE TOW DRIVER STOPPED OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF US-129 AND YELLED TO US "BET YOU NEVER THOUGHT YOU WOULD SEE THIS FAST OF A TOW TRUCK DID YAW'?" AND WENT ON TO SAY "I MAKE THIS RUN 2-3 TIMES EVERY WEEK" AND "I OUTFRAN MOST OF THE SPORTS CARS AND MANY OF THE CROTCH ROCKETS".

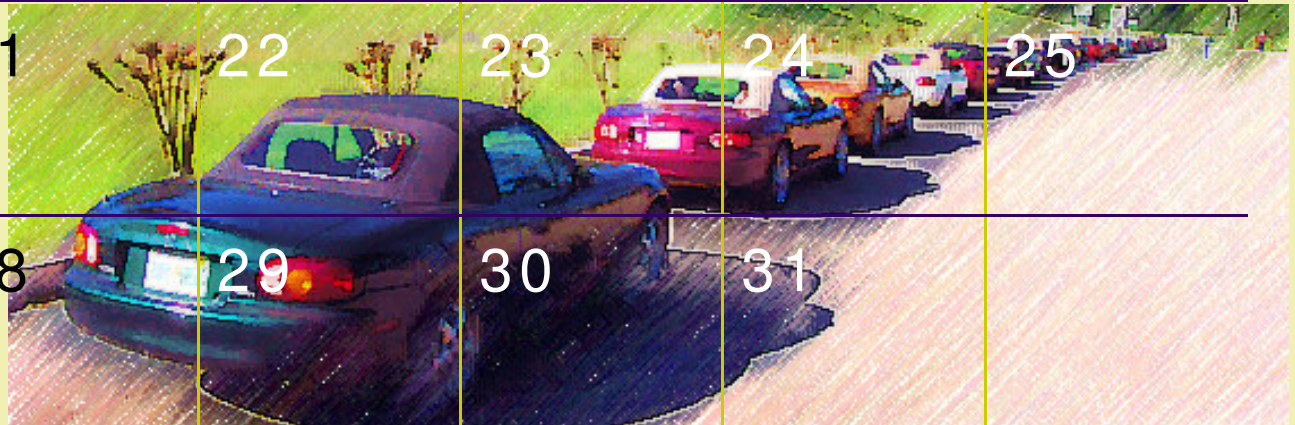
I WAS WORN TO A FRAZZLE, MY LEFT FOREARM ACHING FROM GRIPPING THE STEERING WHEEL SO TIGHT, I WAS DRIPPING IN SWEAT. MARTHA WHO HAS RIDDEN ON THE BACK OF CROTCH ROCKETS IN THE ALPS, AND FOLLOWED EARL ALL OVER ARKANSAS IN THE MIATA WAS SICK TO HER STOMACH. IT WAS A HORROR, OUR BARELY BEING ABLE TO OUTFRAN A TOW TRUCK, AND THEN TO HAVE HIM STOP TO BOAST HOW FAST HE IS, AND OF COURSE THERE WERE A COUPLE OF DOZEN MOTORCYCLE RIDERS STANDING AROUND LISTENING. YES WE ENCOUNTERED A DRAGON, ONLY OUR DRAGON WAS FIRE BREATHING, SMOKE BELCHING TOW TRUCK.



March 2006



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
			1	2	3 Chilly Drive Jewel & Jim	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 CLUB MEETING	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	





NORTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA MIATA CLUB MARCH 2006 EVENTS

3

CHILLY DRIVE: HOSTS: JEWEL & JIM NAUFEL

JOIN JIM & JEWEL FOR AN "ALL YOU CAN EAT" CHILI DINNER. PROCEEDS TO GO TO A WORTHY CAUSE. THE OUTING STARTS AT 6:00 PM WITH THE KIWANIS CLUB OF EAST TULSA-BROKEN ARROW ANNUAL CHILI FEED AT HICKS PARK.

AT 7:00 PM WE WILL LEAVE FOR A DRIVE AROUND THE ARE., I AM HOPING FOR A FULL MOON, TO SEE THE NIGHT SIGHTS WITHOUT THE BRIGHT LIGHTS OF THE CITY.

DESSERT UNDER THE STARS OR UNDER A ROOF DEPENDING ON THE WEATHER AROUND 9:00 PM.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS. YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT UNDISCOVERED CURVES AWAIT.

15

MONTHLY CLUB MEETING

7-8:00 PM, JOHNNIES CHARBURGER, I-44 & SKELLY DR, NORTH SIDE OF I-44 .



NEO Miata
P.O. Box 554
Tulsa, Oklahoma
74101-0554

*Top Down, Revs Up,
Zoom-Zoom*

Check Us Out On The Web
<http://www.neomiata.com>