



Northeastern Oklahoma Miata Club

NEO CLASSIC

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 10

www.neomiata.com

OCTOBER, 2006

Club Officers:

President: Joe Bohannon
918-355-5187

president@neomiata.com

Vice President: George Walker
918-492-4965

vicepres@neomiata.com

Treasurer: Ruth Will

918-245-3747

treasurer@neomiata.com

Secretary/Membership: Jan Coody
918-481-0658

secretary@neomiata.com

Tour-Special Events: Gene Bedingfield
918-664-4691

tours-events@neomiata.com

Webmaster/Newsletter Editor:

Alan C. Doughty

918-551-6747

newsletter@neomiata.com

NEW MEMBERS

LYNN & JACK BRYANT

November Events

- 05th - New Moon Drive
- 12th - B'Day Party
- 15th - Monthly Mtg.
- 18th - Christmas Parade

CHECK THE CLUB WEBSITE FOR CHANGES AND UPDATES!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: JOE BOHANNON

What happened to Summer????

Sara and I enjoyed the drive to Kansas City on the 16th and 17th. It is our favorite destination drive. Eleven cars showed up and we had a busy schedule thanks to the planning of Sam and Gail Roop. We had several new faces for the drive and it is encouraging to see new members starting to join us on our drives. Please check the October schedule for the drives and we have some exciting drives and events coming up. Tom Jones will be leading another "moon" drive and the Arkansas event at Hallett is on the schedule for the 20th and 21st. Put those tops down and come out and play.

Be sure to attend the October meeting on the 18th. It is time for the annual election of officers. There will be door prizes for everyone. Mac Young and his committee are working on a slate of officers for the election. This is always a fun meeting so plan to attend. The club is in need of door prizes so if you or your company has some items, they would be appreciated. Please let me know if you can provide something.

The new small Miata models

are in and say NEO Miata Club on the driver's door. They are available for purchase from the Treasurer.

I checked with Brian Whitt, our Nelson liaison, and the promised first new 2007 retractable hardtop has been delayed and is now due to arrive in the first week or two of October. It has been pre-sold and will not be available for driving but may be for viewing depending on when the new owner takes delivery. Several more are on order.

Our hard working newsletter editor, web master and name tag provider, Alan Doughty, is taking a vacation and he is being very cryptic about his plans. My intelligence sources tell me he is going to Russia and check out the "mail order brides" in person. (Ed. Joe needs to get some new sources) Good thinking Alan. An old Oklahoma saying is "You don't want to buy a pig in a poke". For you non-Okies, ask someone what this means if you don't know.

One of my Catholic friends in Texas which I sent the September picture of "Pope Joe" and the Joe Mobile called and said I was doomed to Hell for making fun of the Pope. I have furnished him Alan's

name to be forwarded to the Vatican.

You will notice on the schedule the annual Birthday Party has been moved to November 12th due to scheduling conflicts. This is another event you do not want to miss. A short drive and good food and tall Miata tales are in the air. Earl and Dorothy will also be leading a foliage drive in early November which will be awesome as all of his drives. It is for the day only and Arkansas here we come. The Jenks Christmas parade is also coming up in November. Keep on waiving and honking.

Joe M. Bohannon
President
NEO Miata Club.

It's A Joke Son!

Donald Rumsfeld briefed the President this morning. He told Bush that 3 Brazilian soldiers were killed in Iraq. To everyone's amazement, all the color drained from Bush's face, then he collapsed onto his desk, head in hands, visibly shaken, almost in tears. Finally, he composed himself and asked Rumsfeld, "Just exactly how many is a brazilian!?"

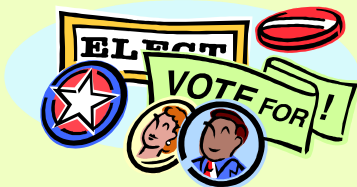
The NEO Miata Club assumes no liability for any information contained within this newsletter. The opinions expressed within are those of the individual authors and do not reflect any endorsements or opinions of the club as a whole. Use of this is strictly up to the reader's discretion.

NEO Officer Elections: Mac Young

All members should make every effort to attend our October meeting and participate in the election of our club officers for 2007.

The nominating committee wishes to submit the following slate of people for office for the 2007 year. Other names may be added to this list by calling Mac Young 492-1820. Nominations will also be available from the floor at the meeting. Voting will take place at the October meeting.

- President - George Walker
- Vice President - Ruth Will
- Secretary/Membership - Barbara Newman
- Treasurer/Membership - Devinna Smith
- Tour Director - Bob Huckaby
- Webmaster/Newsletter Editor - Alan Doughty



Fall Foliage Tour Details: Wild Thang & Wild Child

We have decided to go to Arkansas Drive. Other years it was just the this year to try something new and different. Having said that, please realize that predicting the best time to go see the best color is impossible. There are so many factors involved: did we have adequate rain-fall at the right times, when did the first frost occur, when did the first really hard freeze happen, and the list goes on. I have been riding through the Ozarks for 50 years. I have seen the colors "explode" as early as the second week in September or as late as the third week-end in November. I have seen years when the colors lasted a full month and I have seen years when the colors appeared and were gone in five days. I have seen years when there was no color at all in North and Central Arkansas but it was beautiful down around Talimena

Drive. Other years it was just the opposite. Trust me when I tell you that predicting color is not an exact science.

We had to pick a date two months in advance that didn't conflict with any other planned club activity and October 28th seemed like our best shot. It's always a "crap-shoot" when you pick this far in advance. So, did we pick the "right" week-end, will we see fabulous colors? Who knows?

With that much "uncertainty", let us tell you why you should definitely plan on going:

(1) We are going to be in the Ozark Mountains on "great" roads. If we have no colors to enjoy, we will just "wick up the speed" and "play" like there is no tomorrow.

(Continued on page 3)

September 2006 Meeting Minutes: Jan Coody

President Joe Bohannon called the meeting to order and introduced three guests. He showed us the small red toy Miatas that we voted to purchase at the last meeting. They will sell for \$5.00 each. He asked for donations for door prizes that we will draw for at the October annual election meeting. Mac Young, chairman of the nominating committee, announced the proposed slate of officers and asked for any other volunteers that would like to hold an office to let him know.

The annual Miata Birthday party date has been changed to November 12th and it

was voted on to have it at Chandler Park this year. Joe also asked about interest in racing at the Tulsa Motor Park.

Vice-President George Walker reported on the Arkansas Club's Hallett Event. Our club will be helping with drives and restaurant selections. Tom Jones reported that he has researched these drives and needs leads and sweeps to help with three drives. Secretary Jan Coody reported that we have 113 members which include one that joined at the meeting. Treasurer Ruth Will reported that we have \$493.00 in our bank account after the purchase of the toy Miatas. Brian Witt

from Nelson's Dealership made a special announcement that he brought a new retractable hard top for us to see.

Upcoming trips were discussed beginning with Larry Young about the Tom Mix Festival in Dewey. Tom Jones reported that he would be planning one Moon Drive per month rather than two. Earl Larkin told of his plans for the Spring Fling in April of 2007 to Hot Springs on Scenic 7.

The door prize was drawn and we adjourned to the parking lot to see the new retractable hard top in action.



NELSON MAZDA
20% DISCOUNT ON PARTS & SERVICE
 (Discount does not apply on promotional items)
COUPON VALID FOR
NORTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA MIATA CLUB MEMBERS ONLY
 EXPIRES 11/31/2006

Foliage (Continued from page 2)

(2) We are going to eat at a new place where the view is always spectacular, the food is always great, and the prices are always modest. We predict that future drive leaders will make it a point to take us back to this restaurant.

(3) We are going to take you over a road, then over a mountain, then into a valley all of which the club has never visited before. When the road ends abruptly, we will all step out of our Miatas and turn our bodies in a 360 degree circle. While turning, see if you can find an angle in any direction where you are not looking up at mountains.

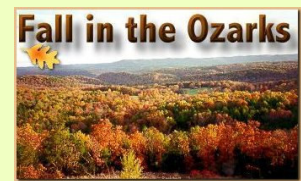
(4) The Hike: Many years ago when my knees were working better and were not nearly so painful as they are now, I used to park my motorcycle and hike back into the woods to see things that I had heard about from other bikers. I saw some really incredible sights; things and places so

beautiful that it is really difficult to describe them. But there's a catch; you can't drive to any of these places; they can only be reached and seen by walking to them and the hikes tend to measure in the three-five mile category. My knees are so arthritic today that I sometimes have difficulty walking out of Johnnies to my Miata after a club meeting.

So I never considered taking the club to any of these "special places" because I knew that I couldn't walk far enough to reach them. Then I got an idea. Mac and Leta Arnett are "serious walkers." I could lead a drive as close as we could get in our Miatas and Mac and Leta could lead the hike to the attraction while I stayed behind and guarded our vehicles. Any other club members who had any kind of "health problems" could stay behind and keep me company. Forest Rangers tell me it is about one-tenth of a mile down to the natural bridge you are hiking to see.

The bridge is about 130 feet long and 12 feet thick. You can walk on it, under it, and around it. I remember small caves down around it and if it has been raining, you will be treated to a waterfall. With any luck your entire hike will be through "colors." Remember the one-tenth of a mile back is all up-hill.

I selected this particular hike because it is the shortest hike I can remember making. Arkansas is full of these "hidden treasures" if you are healthy enough to walk to them. If you like it, if it's fun, we'll plan others. If you don't, say so, and that will be the end of it. We hope to see as many of you as possible on Saturday, October 28th. Remember, bring your cameras and wear your hiking boots or shoes.



"We Went to Kansas City, Kansas City is Where We Went": Gail Roop

We started at the McDonald's at I-44 and 129th with 12 top down Miatas fueled and ready for the trip to Kansas City. The Young's left their trolley tickets at home and went back to get them. We left McDonald's 10 minutes later than planned to give them a little extra time to catch up as we headed to our first stop at the Joplin Visitors Center. And catch up they did; as the last car pulled into his parking space, Mac and Suzanne pulled in right next to him! After a short stop, we hit the road again with the next stop in Nevada, MO where everyone topped off their tank and their belly.

Two hours later we were in Leavenworth, KS. We had lunch at The Village Square Restaurant. They had a room all set up for us when we arrived. We got the great idea to change the U-shape of our tables by pushing them together for better conversation. That did not last long when our very pregnant waitress came in and said she could not fit in the space to serve us with the tables pushed together. It was a tough decision to talk or eat, but the growling stomachs won out and we moved the tables apart enough for her to get through.

After lunch, we headed out of Leavenworth on Highway 73. As we passed the Leavenworth Penitentiary, several members asked if we had time to stop and visit friends and family—just kidding. I had never seen this Federal prison, and was amazed at how big it was. (Remember that if you think about cheating on your taxes in April.)

We took a scenic road into Atchison, KS where we toured the home where Amelia Earhart was born and lived in her youth. The house where she was born was the home of her maternal grandparents, Judge and Mrs. Otis. The house was very grand for its time and faced the wide and muddy Missouri River. I had encouraged everyone to have the correct currency for the tour (\$3/person) because the elderly lady we met when we were there 3 weeks ago, almost hyperventilated at the thought she would have to make change or break a \$20. As it turned out, we had a person who was not intimidated by a \$20 bill. Parking for the tour was street parking on a narrow road, so 12 Miatas took up the street in front of the house and several cars were parked on the side street. When

we pulled up there was a white Miata parked in front of the house with Georgia plates, but it was gone when we came out. I bet he got a shock when he came out and saw all those Miatas stretched down the block. Did you know there was Amelia Earhart luggage and clothing?

We left the Earhart house and headed back downtown for the trolley ride. The temperature was getting warm by now, so most of the tops were up. We had an hour to kill, so we toured the Atchison Museum conveniently located in the same building as the trolley tours. We saw the World's Smallest Presidential Library: The Unofficial David Rice Atchison Presidential Library. He was the real 12th President of the United States if only for a single day. Ask someone on the trip how it happened! At 5:00, we piled into the trolley for the Haunted Trolley Tour of Atchison, "the most haunted town in America". Four of our members could not get tickets (sold out), so we had them follow the trolley in their Miatas and I held the walkie talkie inside the trolley. When the tour guide talked, I pressed the button and they could

(Continued on page 4)



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>

(Kansas City Continued from page 3)



the tour, she said, "I guess the tour is so popular that those little cars are following us to see the houses, but they won't be able to hear the stories!" Little did she know!!

We left Atchison and headed back toward Kansas City. We stopped in Leavenworth again and had dinner at the Pullman's Restaurant. The town was having a Festival and there were a lot of people downtown. We were lucky enough to find a parking lot one block from the restaurant for all of our cars. We walked to the restaurant and found they had the Pullman Room ready for us, with white tablecloths and napkins. As we waited for our food, some of us near one wall noticed the room to be getting warmer and warmer. We

h e a r what she was telling us. A b o u t half way through the tour, she said, "I guess the tour is so popular that those little cars are following us to see the houses, but they won't be able to hear the stories!" Little did she know!!

thought it was due to the number of people in the room and the manager said he had turned on the air conditioning for the room a couple of hours ago. It was discovered by Suzanne Young, that the heater was actually on. There were many apologies from management, but at least they did not charge us for the sauna. As we pulled out of the parking lot, somehow the group left from two different exits. The problem was they lead in two different directions. Sam and I were in a left turn lane and could only use the walkie talkie to say some of the cars were heading in the wrong direction. Kudos to Bob Huckaby, who was sweep. He stayed with those cars and like a good shepherd guided them back in the right direction. Way to go Bob!



By now, we are all full, tired and getting sleepy. We headed into downtown Kansas City, MO and checked in to the Hotel Savoy. This is a fun place to stay and offers a free breakfast the next morning that is worth the trip all by itself. After a good nights sleep and a great breakfast, we

were given a tour of part of the building by one of the employees, Curtis, who also gave us a verbal history of the building. He is writing a book about this historic building, and was very informative. He even shared future plans for the hotel. We checked out and tried to go to an overlook of the area, but found it packed with cars. It seems there was an air show and everyone went to the overlook to see the airplanes take off from the airport. Not to be discouraged, we head to our usual curvy road and found it fenced off due to rain the night before (this road gets very slick after rain). Oh well, off to Crown Plaza and a quick tour of Union Station. Several couples left heading back to Tulsa, but a few couples opted to go to the Steamboat Arabia. After taking the 90 minute tour, a tired but happy group headed toward Tulsa.

Sam and I want to thank you for sharing this weekend with us. We are already talking about going back in the spring for the Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibit. Details to be announced later.

NORTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA MIATA CLUB



7

Full Moon Drive

- ◆ Braum's at 3950 Hwy 97 in Sand Springs
- ◆ 7:00 PM
- ◆ Snack - 15-20 min./Drive - 45-50 min.

20

7-8:00 PM : MONTHLY CLUB MEETING

20

ARKANSAS MIATA CLUB - MIATAS@HALLETT

Track Time, T-Shirt, Group Drives, Award Dinner, Vendor Displays, \$1,000s Of Dollars In Door Prizes !!!!! For info, follow the link to the Arkansas Club's website in the LINKS section of our website.

21

"Its about the Color" Wild Thang and Wild Child

- ◆ What: 2006 Fall Foliage Tour
- ◆ When: Saturday, October 28th, 2006
- ◆ Where: McDonald's at 129th and I 44
- ◆ Time: Drivers meeting at 7:15 AM, Depart 7:30 AM
- ◆ Return: Impossible to predict; figure all day, 12 hours, and anything less than that will be a pleasant surprise

28

See details in newsletter.



October 2006



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 FULL MOON DRIVE
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 CLUB MEETING	19	20 ARKANSAS MIATA CLUB MIATAS@ HALLETT	21 ARKANSAS MIATA CLUB MIATAS@ HALLETT
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 FALL FOLIAGE DRIVE
29	30	31				