

# NEO Classic



APRIL 2007 VOLUME  
18, ISSUE 04

Northeastern Oklahoma Miata Club  
neomiata.com

## Club Officers:

**President:** George Walker  
918-492-4965 president@neomiata.com  
**Vice President:** Ruth Will  
918-245-3747 vicepres@neomiata.com  
**Treasurer:** Devinna Smith  
918-272-2890 treasurer@neomiata.com  
**Secretary/Membership:** Barbara Newman  
918-245-3209 secretary@neomiata.com  
**Tour-Special Events:** Bob Huckaby  
918-230-5109 tours-events@neomiata.com  
**Webmaster/Newsletter Editor:** Alan C. Doughty  
918-551-6747 newsletter@neomiata.com

## APRIL EVENTS

### Full Moon Drive

Contact: **Tom Jones**, 492-2834

Date: **Monday, April 2, 2007 - 7:45 PM - 9:00 PM**

Full Moon Drive. Meet at Braum's, 5048 S 33rd West Ave, just north of I-44.

### Monthly Club Meeting

Location: **Johnnie's Charburger, I-44 & Skelly Dr, north side I-44 @ Harvard**

Date: **April 18, 2007 - 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

## MAY EVENTS

- 2nd - Full Moon Drive
- 12th - Full Moon Day Drive
- 13th - NEO Miatas To Moab
- 16th - Club Meeting

### Azalea Festival Parade

Date: **April 14, 2007**

Meet at the Sonic Drive In at 41st St and Hwy 169 for 9 AM Departure. We will drive to Muskogee via the Turnpike and join the Parade at our assigned Staging area, Should be done around 1 PM. We may do lunch if everyone wants to do that after the parade.

CHECK THE CLUB WEBSITE  
FOR CHANGES AND UPDATES!

### Drive | Lunch | Drive

Contact: **Bob Huckaby** 230-5109

Date: **Saturday, April 21, 2007 - All Day** Details inside.....

## NEW MEMBERS

Doug Fletcher & Erica Parker  
Kelli & Brad Long  
Mike & Melinda Smith

### Spring Fling

Contact: **Earl Larkin** (918) 342-6992

Date: **Saturday-Sunday, April 28-29, 2007 - Overnight**

Details inside.....

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: GEORGE WALKER

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Spring is finally here and there are lots of fun things going on for Miata fanatics. April may bring showers but it will also bring out the NEOMiata members for club drives. The first drive of the month is one of Tom Jones' Full Moon drives on Monday April 2nd.

Resort on Lake Tenkiller on Saturday, April 21st. This will be a warm up drive lead by Mr. Earl "It's about the roads" Larkin that will to be topped off with a great Fin and Feather buffet dinner and "it's about the desserts" to finish off the meal.

Next up is a club drive to Fin and Feather

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nelson  
MAZDA  
TULSA

We'll make a believer out of you!  
NEO Miata Club Supporter

## March 2007 Meeting Minutes: Barbara Newman

The meeting was called to order by our President, George Walker, at 7:00 p.m. All those present introduced themselves, told what year and color of Miata they own, and special tag.

Vice president Ruth Will had nothing to report at this time. Treasurer Devinna Smith reported the club currently has \$722.00. Secretary Barbara Newman reminded everyone that their annual dues were due in January. We currently have 126 members. Our webmaster/newsletter editor apologized to Earl Larkin that the Spring Fling drive scheduled for April 28-29th was not included on the list of events on the front of the latest newsletter. He had nothing further to report.

Tom Jones, Special Events, noted the following:

Mar 24-25th, COMMA event - Hallett

Mar 31st, the vintage cars event - Hallett

Apr 2nd - Full Moon Drive beginning at Braum's on 33rd West Ave. and I-44

Apr 28-29 - SCCA racing at Hallett

For information on any SCCA events, contact Tom Jones or George Walker.

Bob Huckaby, Tour Director, reported the following events:

Mar 24th, Centennial Oklahoma Trip to be led by Brad Coody: Leave from McDonald's in Sand Springs at Highways 97 and 412 at 7:00 a.m. to go to Alabaster Caverns and Little Sahara.

Apr 14th, Azalea Festival Parade - Line up to begin at 10:00 in Muskogee and parade begins at 11:00 a.m. Bob will arrange for everyone to meet somewhere for breakfast and drive to Muskogee.

Apr 21st, SD&D - to be led by Earl Larkin. Will leave from McDonald's at I-44 and 129th, play in some curves and lunch at Fin and Feather. Plan on \$25 to

\$28 per couple for lunch. After lunch, Earl will lead us to Muskogee where we will have an additional opportunity to view the azaleas.

Apr 28-29th, Spring Fling 2007 - Salute to Scenic 7 - trip to Hot Springs led by Earl Larkin. Further details are elsewhere in the newsletter. Currently 23 rooms have been reserved. Dinner (on Saturday night) and breakfast (Sunday morning) will be at the hotel with lunch Sunday scheduled for the Queen Wilhemina Lodge.

Mac Young asked if there was any interest in touring the Mercruiser plant and there was some interest, so he will arrange this for those interested. He also told the club that Luigi will be singing on Tuesday, April 10th at 6:30 p.m. at St. Michael's Alley. A table will be reserved for the NEO Miata Club.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 so members could admire cars and kick tires.



# NELSON MAZDA

## 20% DISCOUNT ON PARTS & SERVICE

(Discount does not apply on promotional items)

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

EXPIRES 05/31/2007

## Drive/Fin & Feather/Drive: Earl Larkin

When: Saturday, April 21, 2007  
Where: McDonalds at 129th and I-44  
Times:  
Breakfast: 08:00-08:45 A.M.  
Drivers Meeting: 08:45 A.M.  
Departure: 09:00 A.M.  
Return: 2:00-2:30 P.M.

This will be a short but "scenic" drive. There will be much to enjoy if you like mountains, hills, rivers and lakes. Even if you don't like all that "nature stuff," surely you will enjoy the food and the company.

Wild Child and I have been eating at the Fin and Feather Resort for more years

than I can count and have never had a single "bad" eating experience there. This will be a buffet about 30 yards long. If you can't find something in this line that you really like, you probably should eat at home in the future. At this place, you eat whatever you want, as much as you want, for as long as you want.

A warning to all men: this place has a gift shop with "knick-knacks" lining the entire entrance passageway; "chick heaven," Men, you have been warned; bring extra money.

After lunch we will take another short drive which will take us to Honor Heights

Gardens in Muskogee where we will drive through and hopefully catch the azaleas in their "full glory." After that, we will return directly to Tulsa.

Hope to see all of you there,

Wild Thang



## Spring Fling 2007 ( Salute to Scenic 7 ): Earl Larkin

When: Saturday, April 28-29th, 2007

Where: Hot Springs, Arkansas

### Saturday Schedule:

06:00-06:45 A.M.---Breakfast at McDonalds at I-44 and 129th

06:45 A.M.---Drivers meeting

07:00 A.M.---Depart promptly

6:00 P.M.---Dinner in our hotel in Hot Springs

### Sunday Schedule:

07:00 A.M.---Breakfast in our hotel

07:45 A.M.---Drivers meeting in our parking area ( in lobby if it is raining)

08:00 A.M.---Depart promptly

11:00 A.M.---Lunch buffet at Queen Wilhelmina Lodge

12:00-12:30 P.M.---Depart Lodge for Tulsa

6:00 P.M.--- or earlier, back in Tulsa before Dinner

It still isn't too late to make your reservations. As of March 21st we had 23 cars going. Simply call 1-888-624-5521 and tell them you want the NEO Miata Club "special rate".

It is time to get serious about your car. Check your engine oil, transmission oil, clutch oil, and your coolant level. Be absolutely certain that your tires are carrying the right amount of air pressure; if their air pressure is too low you will become painfully aware of that fact when your car begins to "wallow" in the curves. Don't wait until Talimena Drive to discover you are low on brake fluid: "Bummer".

Radios: Buy one or borrow one, but either way, be personally responsible for putting new, fresh batteries in the radio you intend to use. If you have broken down (Mike Vizeur), had a flat (Gene Bedingfield), gotten lost (Jim Basteri), or something else, and you can't call for help, (Bummer.)

Rules Of The Road: Failure to follow these simple rules can cause some real problems.

Always know, be conscious and aware of, where you are in line when we are in line going down the road.

You are responsible for all the club members following you. Realize that if the person directly behind you in line makes a mistake and goes the wrong way, every single car behind him will follow him and instead of one lost car we have 15 lost cars and 30 people and they don't even realize that they are lost. This usually happens when we make a turn onto a different road. So, if you can't see the car behind you, he won't see you make that turn. You must slow down, perhaps even have to stop, but you must not make that turn until you know he has seen you making that turn.

Drive with your "parking lights" on, not your head-lights. This identifies you as a group who are traveling together to the public and to all law officers and it changes the way they view us and respond to us. Do not be offended when your fellow club members remind you to turn them on because we all forget to do it from time to time. Everybody also helps everybody remember to turn them off at all stops because leaving them on for one and a half hours while you eat lunch kills the battery (Wild Thang 4 years ago).

Notify the drive leader anytime you think we have a problem: accident, mechanical problem, lost driver, whatever. The drive leader must stop the rest of the group, call an ambulance, get club mechanics (Mac Arnett), send someone to catch our lost club members, whatever.

Our radios will frequently be "knocked out" by such things as mountains, weather, distance, weak batteries, etc. It will be necessary for us to "relay" to and for, one another. If someone is trying to tell the drive leader something and the drive leader is not responding, that means the drive leader is not receiving the message for whatever reason. Someone must repeat the message (relay) until the drive leader responds. The reverse is equally true. If the drive leader is asking has everyone made the turn, got through the light, whatever, he won't "pick up the pace" until "someone" tells him over the radio it's all right to proceed.

Now pay attention class: when something is said which requires an answer, relay the message until you know the information has been received.

Pike Pass: It really speeds things up when all members have a Pike Pass and we are trying to make the best time possible by traveling on Oklahoma Turnpikes. If you don't have one be absolutely certain that the drive leader realizes that you must stop at every toll gate and pay your fee. Otherwise the drive leader and the rest of the group runs off and leaves you not realizing what they have done.

About the weather: The club doesn't do club drives on snow and ice; the risks are simply too great. But rain is a risk we do take. Our Miatas have a strong top, defrosting, and we slow the pace down to whatever speed is necessary to maintain safe traction. So if it is raining Saturday, April 28th, yes, we are going. We always have the hope and possibility that we will drive out of the rain. However, should the rain turn to damaging hail, remember the most important rule of all: if it begins hailing, all club members shall abandon their Miatas wherever they are, run to the front of the line, and hurl their bodies over, onto, and around the Miata of the group leader to protect it at all costs. Three layers of bodies will be deemed sufficient to meet the requirements of the rule.

By the way, what are you guys taking for lunch ?

Wild Thang







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### ***Top Down, Revs Up, Zoom-Zoom***

Check Us Out On The Web

<http://www.neomiata.com>

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Then the club is off on Mr. Earl's Big Spring Fling drive to the over night stay in Hot Springs on Saturday and Sunday April 28th and 29th. Earl has a lunch planned at Queen Wilimina Lodge on the Talimena Drive and more G-R-R-REAT DESSERTS. "Oh MY"!!!! What a road to and from the Lodge and the view is something special. What a way to come home from Hot Springs!! You don't want to miss the drive.

Other none club events that may be of interest for club members are:

The Azalea Festival Parade on Saturday April 14th. We have been asked if we would like to participate and drive our Miata's through Honor Heights Park in Muskogee Ok. This event is being coordinated by Bob Huckaby.

Then there are sports car races at Hallett Motor Racing Circuit in Hallett, OK on Saturday and Sunday, April 14th & 15th. You can expect see about 30 Spec Miatas and a number of other Miata race cars from the Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kan-

sas, and Texas at this event. They put on quite a show.

If you want to tune up your precision driving skills or just watch some other people driving Miata's and other makes of sport cars and sedans trying to drive fast and avoid hitting traffic cones, there will be a SOLO event in the infield parking lot at the Fair Meadows Race-track in the Tulsa Fair Grounds at 21st and Yale on Sunday, April 15th.

If you can't make it to Hot Springs with us, you might look into going to Hallett Motor Racing Circuit on Saturday and/or Sunday, April 28 & 29th for some High Speed Touring. Just like the "Miata's at Hallett" but you drive with other makes of cars on the track with you, still a lot of fun.

Then there is the Sooner Centennial TSD, GTA Road Rally on Saturday, April 28th and The Five Tribes TSD, GTA Road Rally on Sunday, April 29th. Both event starts in Locus Grove. For more information on these last four events check with Tom Jones.

Be sure to let Tom and Bob know of any other car events you hear of so that inter-

ested NEOMiata Club members can be informed and have a chance to participate and represent the club.

Let's hope that the weather this spring favors us with sunshine and it will be a great time for our club drives and all other top down activities of the Miata's of Northeastern Oklahoma. Don't forget to use your 20% discount coupon at Nelson Mazda (great deal) and be sure to drive friendly and give a wave to our fellow Miata Drivers.

