

NEO Classic



SEPTEMBER 2007
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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: Barbara Newman
918-245-3209 secretary@neomiata.com
Tours/Events: Bob Huckaby
918-230-5109 tours-events@neomiata.com
Web/Newsletter: Alan C. Doughty
918-230-3910 newsletter@neomiata.com

CHECK THE CLUB WEBSITE
FOR CHANGES AND
UPDATES!

NOVEMBER EVENTS

- 3RD - FALL FOLIAGE DRIVE
- 21ST - CLUB MEETING
- 24TH - FULL MOON DRIVE

NEW MEMBERS

Pat Cordy
Judy & Jim Roach
Beth & John Smith
Charlie & Dianna Yates



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OCTOBER EVENTS

Dalton Gang/Coffeeville: Saturday, Oct. 6, 2007, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Where: Braum's in Sand Springs on Gilcrease Drive and Hwy 412
Time: 0745 for the driver's meeting. We leave promptly at 0800.
Details Page 4.

Monthly Club Meeting: Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2007 - 7:00 PM
Location: Johnnies Charburger, I-44 & Skelly Dr, north side I-44 @ Harvard

Full Moon Drive: Friday, Oct. 26, 2007, LEAVE from the Braums at 5048 S 33rd W Ave just North of I-44, west of the Arkansas River.

Sadie Hawkin's Drive: Saturday, Oct. 27, 2007 TBA

Fall Foliage Tour: Saturday, Nov. 3, 2007, 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Where: McDonalds at I-44 and 129th Details Page 3.

President's Message: GEORGE WALKER

I want to personally to take this opportunity to thank everyone from our club that participated either as tour guides, event workers, associate participants, participants or spectators at "Miatas at Hallett" event last weekend. It was with your participation and help to our Arkansas friends that the event was such a great success. At the banquet the Arkansas Miata Club president Gayle Clayton presented a plaque to our club to commemorate, recognize and thank our club membership for their contributed to the success of fifth annual "Miatas at Hallett". This plaque will be part of our Club display at Nelson Mazda along with other club event memorabilia. Gayle informed me that with Connie Stephens support they will be registering the "Miatas at Hallett"

name and have secured dates for next year. So mark your calendars for September 20th 2008 for that is when the Miatas return to the Hallett Motor Racing Circuit.

We had six hearty Miatas turn out for Tom's moon drive after a very rainy day and the threat on more rain and a no moon evening. But we were rewarded with Tom leading everyone on a fun drive where is seem as if we were driving right into the moon. The moon was out and beautiful most of the drive. However, as it happens, when we stopped to admire it, the moon found a cloud to hide behind, only coming out again when we resumed driving and then staying out as we ended the drive. Thanks to Tom

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nelson
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TULSA

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NEO Miata Club Supporter

and all who went on the drive it was a beautiful evening.

I hope everyone has made there arrangements to go with Bob for a great club trip to Branson.

Don't forget October 6th the Sturdivant's will be leading us to Coffeerville Kansas where despite the spring flooding the folks in Coffeerville are waiting to show us what happened that October day when the famous Dalton Gang made the bank raid on Coffeerville. Bring a picnic lunch.

Our club meeting will be Wednesday the 17th. Then Tom will lead us on the October Full moon drive on Friday the 26th and the followed day Saturday the 27th

will be our Sadie Hawkins drive. Both drives should be a lot of fun.

Earl Larkin has promised another wonderful fall foliage drive on Saturday November 3rd this is a must for everyone. For our newer members, Earl's spring and fall drives are the best. There is always something for everyone, great Miata roads and beautiful mountain scenery.

Justin Owens from Nelson Mazda was out to the Miatas at Hallett event and said the new parts and accessories web page is being tested should be up soon. So if you're in the market and looking for some goodies for your Miata check it out or give Justin a call. His phone number is

296-7858. He promises competitive pricing and a willingness to find things we are looking for. So go to him first and see what he can do for you.

Remember if you hear of any fun events let Bob Huckaby and Tom Jones know so that interested NEOMiata Club members can be informed and hopefully put a club drive together or at least let some individual members participate and represent the club.

One more thing, don't forget to use your 20% discount coupon at Nelson Mazda it's a great deal.

September 2007 Meeting Minutes: Barbara Newman

The meeting was called to order by the President, George Walker. New members, Charlie and Dianna Yates, were introduced and welcomed to the club. Everyone present then introduced themselves, year/color of their car, special tag, and anything new added to their car recently. It was noted that Bob and Mona Huckaby were back from their wedding and honeymoon in Hawaii.

George then announced:

- Miata gathering in Charleston, South Carolina, to be held in May, 2008. There is a link from our website for more information. There are several couples from our club who will be attending. (At last check, the registration was going to be closed September 24th.)

Possible Miata 20th anniversary party to be held in Dallas/Ft. Worth in 2009.

Vice President report: No report due to absence of Ruth Will.

Treasurer's Report: Devinna Smith reported we currently have \$1,300. She has the NEO Miata pins and 4 of

the little red cars for sale. George still has some of the magnetic signs for the cars for sale. Any new member who has not received their new member packet, see Devinna.

Secretary/Membership: Barbara Newman reported we now have a membership of 89 households.

Events (Bob Huckaby):

- Fall Foliage (Earl Larkin): This drive will be held either October 27th or November 3rd. Earl will be leading us to a new, unique area in Arkansas. See elsewhere in the newsletter for further details.

- Sadie Hawkins drive will be held either October 27th or November 3rd. This will be led by Kathy Higgins. More details will be forthcoming.

- Bob Huckaby invited everyone to a "come and go" reception to celebrate his and Mona's recent marriage. It will be held on Saturday, September 22nd at the Moose Lodge in Tulsa from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. with hors d'oeuvres and pictures and video of their recent wedding

in Hawaii.

- Dalton Gang Shoot-Out: Saturday, October 6th. The Sturdivants will meet everyone at the Braum's at Highway 412 and Gilcrease Museum Road at 7:45 a.m. for a drivers meeting and leaving promptly at 8:00 a.m. A fun drive to Coffeyville will take about two hours. The re-enactment begins at 11:00 a.m. Everyone is urged to bring folding chairs as the bleachers may not be available this year due to earlier flood damage. Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy on the grounds of the Brown Mansion. Approximately \$12 will be needed for admission to museums.

- Next Full Moon Drive will be held on Wednesday, September 26th. Tom Jones will be leading the drive and will meet everyone at the Braum's at Highway 412 and Gilcrease Museum Drive. SCCA Hallett weekend will be September 29-30th.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.



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EXPIRES 11/30/2007

Fall Foliage Tour - It's About The Roads: Dorothy & Earl Larkin

Eat a large breakfast, as it will be 5-6 hours till lunch.

As I am writing this for the Club Newsletter Oct. edition it is 91 degrees on our patio; kind of hard to believe that we are going to have a couple of hard freezes necessary to produce good colors in the next four weeks. Let us think positive and get ready to go.

Last year you enjoyed Arkansas so much we are going back again this year but this time to a different area. This area will be way different than where we usually go. Some of you may find this area a little spooky to much like the movie Deliverance for you to be comfortable. I hope not, for I find the place fascinating.

We are going to take you to a place that is like stepping back in time over 100 years. Until about the 1960s the valley was virtually unknown and unvisited, and that is just how the local mountain people wanted to keep it. It never had a real road to it until the 1930s when the WPA and CCC hacked one through the thick forests. Because this valley is right in the middle of what would become National Forestland, a second paved road was built into the valley and a few outsiders began discovering it, mostly bikers (that is exactly how I stumbled upon it). Some things began to change, ever so slowly.

I am not comfortable calling this place a town. There is no police, no fire department, no businesses to speak of, no library, no movies, no laundry, no gasoline, no drug store, etc., etc., etc. Your cell phones and pagers will not work here, there is no television. They now have a little school (it was all home schooling for over a hundred years). They recently got a tiny Post Office. If it is all the same to you, I am going to call it a settlement or a hamlet.

The people who live in this valley and on the sides of these mountains are the real deal, true mountain people. They tend to be self-sufficient and are fiercely proud of their way of life. For most of them their only luxury might be electric-

ity, maybe, but some of them still light with kerosene lamps. They heat with wood stoves and fireplaces, they get their water from wells and springs.

In this valley there are still about 50 families living on land that their forefathers cleared and settled on in the 1830s; think about that. They grow a great deal of what they eat: gardens, orchards, crops, and the men hunt year-round. Hunting to these men is not about sport, or a trophy on the wall. If these men kill it, they intend to eat it. Which brings us to the main reason many of the mountain people really do not like outsiders, really do not want us in their valley. This valley is full of deer, wild turkey, wild hogs, squirrel, rabbits, the list goes on and on. There is enough wild game to sustain the valleys population. Their greatest fear is that outsiders calling themselves sportsmen will enter their valley in ever-growing numbers, exterminate all of their wildlife, move on to the next hot hunting grounds and leave the mountain people to starve.

Ah very interesting, very historical, but is not this supposed to be a foliage tour ? Well it just so happens that half of all the trees in this valley are hardwoods, the very trees that make all of those reds, golds, purples, oranges, etc., that make all of us gah-gah. If we hit it at the right time, like we did last year, it will be breath-taking.

The place we are going to eat at is the oldest, continuously operating general store in Arkansas. The building we will be eating in was built in 1890 and has been open ever since. The wood floor, the entire building, was built with wood from this very valley and it really is as old as it looks. A great deal of what we will be eating is grown right here in this valley by the mountain folks. If you notice a different taste to your food it is because you are not tasting all of the preservatives that are present in all of our Processed foods that we are used to eating here in civilization.

Remember that we really are Outsiders to these very private people. Where we

are eating has been the center of their world and culture since the 1830s. This is where they come to see and visit their neighbors and friends, to buy or swap for what they need, to hear what is going on in the valley. This has been their safe place for over 170 years. Many of them do not like us being there for they do not trust us. No matter what, DO NOT STARE AT THEM. THEY REALLY, REALLY DO NOT LIKE IT. The people who own the general store welcome our business, our money, and hope that we return many times. However other locals who might be in the store while we are eating may feel just the opposite. Just be careful. Some of them are as curious about us as we are about them. Just let them start the conversation. Watch what you say; be polite. Never take their picture without their consent. If a situation looks like its fixing to turn ugly, introduce them to Mack Young; he probably knows them all personally. For those of you who are antique-lovers, (spouses do not count), you can go crazy looking at all the stuff sitting all around, hanging off the walls and ceilings, while you are waiting on your food. If you want to know whether or not something is the real deal or not, ask Mac Arnett, our club antique specialist .

Finally, for those of you who go on our drives for the roads, Rejoice. We will run so many curves on this day that you will become absolutely giddy, We will introduce you to three new roads and take you over a brand new mountain that has some 11-13% grades on their switchbacks. Do you realize how steep 11-13% grades really are ? Hint: You better be in the correct gear.

There are always those who want to know, how far is it, how long will it take, when will we get home ? The total round-trip distance will be about 400 miles. I hope to have us home by 7:00 PM but if we get trapped behind too many Winnebago's, too many times, then we will get back after dark. We

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**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>

(Fall Foliage Tour Continued from page 3)

look at it like this: Fall Foliage happens once a year; we drive, looking for beautiful colors, one day a year. On that one day, let us not worry about time. On that one day, let us hunt the colors and see just how many curves we can carve. On that one day, let us celebrate the fact that unlike most people, we really do LIVE TO DRIVE.

Wild Thang & Wild Child



Dalton Gang/Coffeville: Sandy & Jim Sturdivant

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 6th. Jim and Sandy Sturdivant have planned a fantastic, fun drive to observe the reenactment of one of the Old West's most notorious outlaw gang shootouts. It is done by professional actors and is sure to please everyone. The trip will start with an easy drive through the countryside to include some beautiful scenery along lakes and back roads, and we will end at our destination about 2-1/2 hours later. We will have potty stops along the way.

We will tour an Old West museum, watch the shootout, and then we will have a picnic lunch on the grounds of a tree-shaded mansion. After lunch, we will tour the mansion and then visit an Old West cemetery where Sandy will regale you with some western legend and lore that you won't want to miss. The trip home is an easy hour from

there. Pack a picnic lunch and bring your chairs.

