

NEO Classic



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Northeastern Oklahoma Miata Club
neomiata.com

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CHECK THE CLUB WEBSITE
FOR CHANGES AND
UPDATES!

JANUARYEVENTS

16TH - CLUB MEETING

NEW MEMBERS

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.

DECEMBER EVENTS

Club Christmas Party, Saturday, December 8, 6:00-9:00PM @ Nelson Mazda Club will provide brisket, pulled pork, chicken, sausage and bologna. Everyone to bring a side dish or dessert. Nelson will provide the Christmas tree, tables and chairs. Suzanne Young will head up the decorating committee. Dirty Santa gift exchange will happen after dinner. There will be a \$20 limit per gift, no gag gifts. Couples may bring one gift each or one per couple. If only one gift per couple is brought, they may only take one gift. We have to be out by 9:00 p.m. when Nelson closes.

Monthly Club Meeting: Wednesday, Dec. 19, 7:00 PM
Location: Johnnies Charburger, I-44 & Skelly Dr, north side I-44 @ Harvard

President's Message: GEORGE WALKER

I hope that everyone has enjoyed a great Thanksgiving holiday. I would like to take this time to thank the club leadership, the website and newsletter editor, the tour and event directors, and all the club drive leaders for the great work they have done this past year to keep the club moving forward and on the Miata road. All of you provided the membership with a great year of activities sharing many fun and memorable events. Thanks again to everyone that gave of their time and effort to help each of us to have a fun time driving our Miata's and visiting with our club friends.

Many of you already know that I will be bringing my career to a end at the end of December 2007. It will be the first time in 46 years, 4 months, and 10 days that I will not be going to the office or be on a company payroll. I have been very blessed to have never been unemployed or missed a paycheck in all that time. Ending my office job has proven to be another challenge and a very different task. I'm now working to turn my responsibilities over to my successor. This is just another of life's changes but it is a

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nelson
MAZDA
TULSA

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

November 2007 Meeting Minutes: Barbara Newman

The November meeting of the NEO Miata Club was called to order by President, George Walker at 7:00 p.m. All present introduced themselves.

Treasurer's Report: Devinna Smith reported we have \$1,154.00 in the treasury but she was still waiting on bills from the Birthday Party/Picnic.

Secretary's Report: Barbara Newman reported we currently have 97 members and reminded everyone it was time to start paying their dues for 2008.

George reported that Janice and Merritt Stewart were doing fine and looking for another Miata. They were most appreciative of all the calls and thoughts of them after their accident on the Fall Foliage Tour. They should be at the Christmas Party. Election of officers will take place at our

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strange time for me. Unfortunately, this process has taken a lot of my focus lately as I'm looking forward to and moving to the next stage of my life.

Please check the club calendar and

December 19th meeting.

Earl Larkin's Fall Foliage Drive was great. Other than the Stewart's accident and a couple of instances of people getting lost, it was a fun time driving our cars. The Birthday Party/Picnic was a great success. Mac Arnett did an outstanding job on smoking the ribs and sausage. Everyone had a great time.

Bob Huckaby reminded everyone the Christmas Party will be Saturday, December 8th at Nelson Mazda beginning at 6:00 p.m. The club will provide the meat and everyone is asked to bring a side dish or dessert. Dirty Santa gifts will be exchanged. (See elsewhere in newsletter for more details.)

Larry and Clara Eulert forward information on the Pawhuska Christmas Parade. They will not allow candy to be thrown

come and join the Christmas Party at Nelson Mazda on Saturday, December 8th, from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. I hope you will make the monthly meeting on December 19th. We will have a short business meeting to elect club officers for next year and then off to view many of Tulsa's beautiful homes on our

out during the parade so there was no interest in participating by members.

The Annual Christmas Light Tour will be held after the December 19th club meeting. The meeting should be short and then the tour will take about an hour to an hour and a half after which we will stop somewhere for coffee or hot chocolate and/or pie.

Tom Jones announced the next full moon drive will be held Saturday, November 24th at 7:30 p.m. leaving from the Braum's at 13th and Garnett. This will be the last one of the year.

Check with Tom for a tentative 2008 SCCA schedule.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. so everyone could continue their Thanksgiving cooking and baking.

Christmas Lights Drive following the meeting.

I want to wish each and everyone a wonderful holiday season. Have a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous Happy New Year!



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EXPIRES 02/29/2008

NEO Miata Fall Foliage Tour: Clara Eulert

"Under veil of darkness, On a cool fall Saturday morn, They gather."



Fortified with McFood, equipped with communication devices, Pike Passes and hi-test fuel, the engines come to life as do the drivers. Today, we are Wild Thang and Wild Child's Band of Merry Miatians on our Arkansas Quest for Color.

Twenty-eight Miatas in an artists palette of color and one 2007 Silver Z-4 BMW, piloted by our sweep crew, Sara and Joe Bohannon form a colorful moving ribbon as the sun comes up on "The Fast, The Spirited and The Cool Cruiser Dudes" headed for Siloam Springs on Hwy 412.

Leaving our first **P**ersonal **O**ppportunity **T**o **I**inkle **Y**onder **S**incerely **T**hanking **O**ur hosts **P**roperly... ..AKA, the "Potty Stop" at the Siloam Springs Tourist Center we headed for our first curves of the day on Hwy 16 E. This highway was granting all our wishes for curvy curves lined by beautiful trees in fall foliage when all of a sudden the words "there's been an accident" come over

the radio.

Janice and Merritt Stewart had hit a slick spot, slid off the road and flipped their car. Club members rushed to help Merritt right the car and free Janice. The Stewarts were taken to the hospital and after a CT scan, and head, neck and back X-rays of Janice reports were received "No serious injuries" to either Janice or Merritt. The Stewarts were driven home by friends as their Miata was no longer drivable. Janice and Merritt asked me to convey their thanks to the club members for all their help. We are so relieved and grateful the Stewarts are going to be alright as soon as the bruises and cuts heal, and the soreness quiets.

The foliage quest continued on Hwy 16 through Fayetteville to Elkins then, Hwy 74 through Huntsville, Kingston turning onto Hwy 21 for the best 50 miles of curves, so far that day to our next stop at Clarksville, and at every corner the color greeted us. The striking oranges, reds and yellows of Maple trees beside crimson Oaks were gorgeous. Multi-colored Sweet Gum trees and perfectly shaped Bradford Pear trees were prevalent and contrasted by the vibrant red of wild Sumac and tall green Lodge Pole Pines. The communities of Arkansas had really decorated their yards for fall with lots of pumpkins, cornstalks and scarecrows. This is just what

we came for. Good job Earl and Dorothy, good job.

What? I left out what? Oh yes, had we had the vision of foresight to video tape our drive that day we could be cashing in, selling the rights to two episodes of "LOST", i.e., "Lost in Fayetteville" and "Lost in Clarksville". Papa Joe and Sara now know what it is to "heard cats." You can lead 'em but when communications are missed or drivers are unable to see their leader due to big "BUBBA trucks," they will make their own way...even if it's the wrong way. No harm, no foul, the lost were found on both occasions and the band was restored to a full complement and happy in our knowledge that we can rely on each other.

Leaving Clarksville on Hwy 103 North we passed the end of a long span of white fence and Earl said, "The law as we know it has just ENDED! The hill folk of Oark, AR, take care of their own." Suspense in the air we down shifted and took off over "The Mountain" taking steep inclines and switch backs passing an on coming tanker truck with careless abandon. Well, not careless. This highway had it all, a Miatian's dream come true and before you knew we had driven to the end of 103 N and right onto Hwy 215 depositing our group in Oark, AR at 2:30 p.m.

Oark's population is one hand-

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

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ful of people and one pot-bellied pig. He (the pig) was like a Wal-Mart greeter nodding to each one as we went into the Oark Café, a historic general store and café established in 1890. This unique multi-function establishment is café, grocery store and probably the town meeting hall and operated by delightful staff, who worked tirelessly until all 56 of us were served everything from bacon cheeseburgers, homemade chicken salad, sweet potato fries and the best homemade Banana and Chocolate meringue pies. The pie alone is worth a trip back to this roadside surprise.

Oark would not be a stop you

would make unscheduled. This little hamlet is only a blink of an eye in length. The "hill folks" that Earl had us a little scared of were very hospitable allowing us to park our cars in their yards and pleasantly engaged with the operation of the retractable hard tops and unique car tags.

Lunch over at 4:00ish, we traveled up Hwy 215, 2 miles to a break in the guardrail at the sign of "The Swinging Bridge." The 100 year-old primitive wooden plank suspension bridge is the oldest free swinging bridge this side of the Mississippi and still used today to cross the Mulberry River during high water. Some of our more adventurous members, and you know who you

are, Doris, Sandy, Vicki, Harold and Aaron, crossed the bridge. Hopefully, the photos will do the bridge justice. The color of the leaves reflected in the water and the bridge steadfast in its conviction will likely be there when we return to Oark. The bridge is one of those "ponder'n" places complete with a "ponder'n bench", just inviting visitors to sit awhile, enjoy this view, enjoy this place.

