

# NEO Classic



APRIL 2008  
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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:** Tom Jones  
918- 492-2834 tours-events@neomiata.com  
**Web/Newsletter:** Alan C. Doughty  
918-230-3910 newsletter@neomiata.com

CHECK THE CLUB WEBSITE  
FOR CHANGES AND  
UPDATES!

## NEW MEMBERS

Rex A. Smith  
David and Geneva Garrison



We'll make a  
believer  
out of you!



NEO  
Miata Club  
Supporter

## NEO Miata Club Events

Have your 2-way radio at each drive. Bring your Pike-Pass. Wear your club name tag. Be ready to depart On-Time, with a Full-Tank and an Empty-Bladder. Read "Rules of the Road" on the website homepage before each drive (they get updated). Did you know that written directions are available for any club drive we do?

Want to lead a club drive? How about Pops on 66, Wool-A-Roc, Fort Gibson National Cemetery, Tour the old SCCA race track east of Ponca City?? Where ever you want!! Want to go at the last minute? Have an internet run!! The club needs a drive for the month of **September** (6<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup>) or any other time you want to go zoomin'. Remember that any "Day Cruise" or "Night Ride" can be re-scheduled for anyone wanting to do a drive on that date. More possible drive dates include: July 19, August 23, September 6 or 20, or November 15.

Check your email on Friday nights for an internet run on any open Saturday.

The following is the "current month" schedule.

**April 5, Saturday "Day Cruise" #4:** Let's leave the Braum's on 101st just east of Riverside at 2pm. This drive will be south of the city around the "Bixby 'Figure 8' 360".

April 12 is **open**.

### April 16, Meeting Night

**April 19, Saturday "Tigerswitch 500" Drive:** Tom Jones @ 492-2834 will be leading a day drive with a late lunch in Owasso to return early afternoon. Let's leave the McDonalds at I-44 & 129th at 11am. Driver's meeting at 10:40.

**April 26 - 27, Hallett COMMA Race Club week-end #2.** Questions to Tom 492-2834.

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"Tentative" schedule for future events.

**May 3-4, Saturday & Sunday "Spring Fling" Drive:** Details on page 3.

**May 1-4, "Miata's Doin' the Charleston" Drive:** Those members interested in going to this Charleston, North Carolina event, contact our club organizer Kevin & Devinna Smith @ 1 918 272-2890. The Smith's would like to invite anyone else going to sit down and plan a sight seeing trip along the way.

May 10 is **open**.

**May 17, Saturday "Ugly John's Car Collection" Drive:** Mac & Suzanne Young @ 492-1820 and John & Barb Newman @ 245-3209 will be leading a drive to the "?????????" for a late lunch (around 1pm). On the way, we will see the

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## March 2008 Meeting Minutes: Barbara Newman

The meeting was called to order by President, George Walker, at 7:00 p.m. , followed by attendees introductions

Vice president report – none.

Secretary/Membership Report – Barbara noted we currently have 101 members but those who have not paid their dues will be removed from membership shortly. Two new members joined at the meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Devinna reported we have about \$1,000 in our account at this time. A \$50 donation will be made to Hallett.

Webmaster/Newsletter – Alan will be making some changes to our website in the very near future. It will be more user friendly and members will be able

to register and update their information online and we can do away with paper membership lists. If anyone has any suggestions for the website, just let Alan know.

Tours/Events Director – Tom Jones then discussed future drives scheduled. (See elsewhere for details.) There are still some open dates for regular drives in May, June, September and October. Tom will be sending out the 90 day schedule to the group e-mail when he sends it to Alan for the newsletter. Be sure to watch the webpage for any changes to the 60-90 days out drives. Night drives will start in May – watch for details.

Announcements: George announced an automobile auction in Sapulpa in April. The Blue Grass 1000 Road Tour

will be held in for 4 days in Kentucky October 6-9<sup>th</sup> for all sports cars. See George for more details.

Earl mentioned an inquiry last fall about our club doing things with other sports car clubs. After a general discussion, it was determined that past attempts have been futile and we have plenty of participation by our own club members in events plus we are more involved in driving our cars than other sports car clubs.

Floor was then opened for any questions regarding our cars. A general discussion followed regarding octane needed to run our cars, ethanol, etc.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

*(Continued from page 1)*

private 60 car and cycle collection of John Mullins, with a \$1,000,000 car. We will leave the Quik-Trip on 193<sup>rd</sup> E. Ave. just south of I-44 at 9:45am, returning to Tulsa mid-afternoon.

### May 21, Meeting Night

**May 24 - 25, Hallett COMMA Race Club week-end #3.** Questions to Tom 492-2834. Happy Memorial Day.

May 31 is open.

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**June 7, Saturday "Run Silent – Run Deep" Drive:** George & Kathy Thomas @ 543-4575 / 691-4575 will be leading a day drive 75 miles to the "Batfish" submarine near Muskogee for a tour, lunch and a drive, returning to Tulsa early afternoon. Let's leave the PLACE at STREET & STREET at TIME.

**June 13-15, Miatas at Eureka:** Visit [miasateureka.com](http://miasateureka.com) for info. Host hotel is Best Western Eureka Inn. Friday pm register, Saturday drives, Sunday check-out, \$20 event entry fee. Eureka Springs is 160 miles away. Local club organizer is Mike & Judy Wheat in Pryor @ 1 918 825-5428.

### June 18, Meeting Night

**June 21, Saturday "Dewey" Drive:** Bob & Mona Huckaby @ 230-5109 will be leading a day drive 60 miles to Dewey, OK and the Tom Mix Museum, Historic Dewey Hotel & antique shops with lunch plus a 2 hour tour at Prairie Song all for \$20, returning to Tulsa mid afternoon. We need 25 people for a special deal. Please contact Bob & Mona at the April meeting, if you can attend. Your \$20 will be collected at the May meeting. Let's leave the McDonalds on 129th just south of I-44 at 8:30am with the driver's meeting at 8:15.

**June 28 - 29, 2008, Hallett COMMA Race Club week-end #4.** Questions to Tom 492-2834.  
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## SPRING FLING 2008 (It's about the Roads and the Views): Earl Larkin

### I Saturday schedule for May 3, 2008.

- 06:00-06:45 A.M.---Breakfast at the McDonalds located at 129th & I44.
- 06:45-----Drivers meeting.
- 07:00-----Depart promptly.
- 04:00 P.M.-----FYI, no one will be allowed to check-in at the lodge before 4:00 P.M.
- 06:00 P.M.-----Everyone will gather for dinner in the HERITAGE ROOM.

### II. Sunday schedule for May 4th, 2008.

- 08:00-08:45 A.M.-Everyone will gather for breakfast in the HERITAGE ROOM.
- 08:45 A.M.-----Drivers meeting in the HERITAGE ROOM.
- 09:00 A.M.-----Depart promptly for Tulsa.

As always, several have already asked, "How much will the week-end cost ?" You already know what your room will cost based on your reservation. You will start out with a tank full of gas and breakfast for twoat McDonalds will cost less than ten dollars. We will top off our gas tanks twice before arriveing back in Tulsa. Lunch Saturday will be "off the menu" so the cost for two people will be between \$10.00-\$40.00. The dinner buffet at the lodge Saturday will cost fourteen dollars per person for all you can eat and the price covers the meal, all drinks, all deserts, all taxes, and the tip. The breakfast buffet Sunday morning costs\$10.15 per person and the cost covers everything including taxes and tip. Only you know what you might spend along the way for snacks, drinks, ice cream, film, batteries, souvenirs, etc. Hope this information answers your question.

"What should I bring along for the week-end ?" Besides your clothes, I would recommend a two-way radio, new batteries, a Pike Pass, and your best camera. There is going to be some great "Kodak Moments" happen on this drive. Please, if you have a good camera and you know how to use it, please take some club photos that we can put in our club newsletter, on the club web site, and in the display casein Nelson Mazda's showroom; its great advertising and public relations for our club.

Be sure your Miata is ready to go: full of fuel, engine oil, coolant, proper air pressure in the tires. We are going to be driving on some roads that will challenge your suspension and your skills of gear selection and shifting. For example, we will drive on one stretch of road that is the most narrow two-lane road in all of Arkansas that has a #number assigned to it designating it to be a state highway. This road has blind, scary curves, elevation changes, one challenge after another. What it does not have however is one guardrail, not one sign advising you how fast to try to take the next curve, and scariest of all, not one inch of shoulder space ! If you allow any wheel to slide off of the pavement, IT'S ALL OVER 111. Damn but its a great road to run! Please remember basic club rules about traveling in a group. Relay all radio messages to the front or back as required. You are always responsible for the car following you. You cannot make that turn until you are certain that the car following you has seen you making that turn. Look for his turn signals flashing proving he is about to make the turn himself.

If you see someone miss a turn and go the wrong way, get on the radio immediately and tell them their mistake and to turn around. Call the group leader and stop him until we are all back together again. If the "lost car" does not respond to your radio warning, someone must engage in "hot pursuit" to stop him. Remember, others may be about to follow him. We want to chase one car, not ten. Radio the car behind you to turn at the right -place and not to follow you. Getting "lost" should not happen. Listen carefully to what is being said on the radios. Ask for a repeat of something you didn't understand. It is vital that everyone be willing to "relay" messages as often as it is necessary. Pay careful attention to the car in front of you; try not to ever lose" him. When someone does get "lost" it is because someone made a mistake and didn't follow group rules and protocol. Just pay attention, be aware and alert to what's happening around you. If you are confused about something , ask someone on the radio; all of us "old-timers" will help you.

**TOURING TIP OF THE DECADE:** Use straight roads to defeat the "bungy-cord effect." We all know that some drivers like to go "really fast" in the twisties while other drivers prefer a more "leisurely pace" when the roads get curvy. Fine. Wild Thang never drives faster than 60 MPH on straight two-lane roads when ever he is leading a group drive. Why is that ??? It is to allow the slower drivers to make-up the distance they lost on that last curvy section. If Wild Thang is driving 60 MPH on all the straight sections of road and you" drop the hammer" on your Miata on all those same sections of straight roads, you will be shocked at how quickly you "close the gap" on those straight roads. Some of you don't have a clue about how fast your Miata really is. Let me give you a hint. At 90MPH it hasn't broken a sweat. At 125MPH its starting to flex its muscles and the engine is howling with joy because finally you are driving it the way it was built to be driven. You will develop a whole new respect for your Miata and you will look at it in a whole new way. It will cease to be that "cute little car" you bought as it dawns on you that you own a real sports car, withall that means. You will feel a new sense of pride of ownership and your Miata will love you for it.

