

NORTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA MIATA CLUB

NEO MIATA CLUB EVENTS - Tom @ 492-2834

Have your 2-way radio at each drive. We use channel 5. Never use a voice-activated radio. Bring your Pike-Pass, if you have one. 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).

Want to lead a club drive? Do you want to eat, site-see, attend an event. Do you want to go for a 1 hour, 2 hour, 4 hours, Half Day or All Day Drive, Overnight drive, Two-caravan drive, Weekly drive, Annual drive? Do you want an easy visiting drive, a quick paced drive or a leisure paced drive? Combine what you want: like a "short leisure drive for visiting and dinner", or a "2 hour drive with 30% quick paced and 70% leisure paced driving with site-seeing and visiting before and after". How about a Week-night dinner Drive, an after Meeting Drive, a Community service drive!! We need a drive from you. Robber's Cave, Tahlequah, Ponca City, anywhere, help is available.

Written directions are available for any club drive we do. The full year's tentative schedule is available upon request.

FEBRUARY Club events

February 7 is open.

February 9, Monday "Full Moon" Drive #1. Let's leave the Quik-Trip just east of Riverside on 96th at 7pm. This drive will be southwest of the city over the "Pretty Water Marauder 520".

February 14, Saturday, Happy Valentine's Day

February 18, Meeting Night

February 21, Saturday "CHEROKEE DRIVE": Gene & Shirley Bedingfield and Jim & Sandy Sturdivant will lead us on a leisurely drive to Westville, OK, 100 miles away for lunch at Phil's Country Fare (\$5 to \$35 and the meals can be easily shared). We then travel to the Cherokee Heritage Center just south of Tahlequah for a guided tour of the Ancient Village, Adams Corner Rural Village and museum for \$7.50. After that, we can visit the Murrel House or the cemetery where Cherokee Chief John Ross is buried. Both filled with history. We plan to return to Tulsa late afternoon. Driver's meeting is at 8:44 AM, at the McDonald's, 91st & Memorial. Parking is available in the shopping center lot adjacent to McDonald's. We depart at 8:58. If you don't have a Pike Pass, you'll need \$.50 for a short trip on the Muskogee Turnpike. Questions to Gene Bedingfield at 1 918-664-4691.

February 28 is open.

MARCH "Tentative" events

March 6, Friday "Chili feed with the Kiwanis Club of East Tulsa-Broken Arrow": Start with all the Chili you can eat for \$5.00 at around 6:00pm on Friday March 6th at the Hicks Community Center, 3443 South Mingo Road, Tulsa. After everyone has their fill of chili and conversation, Jim and Jewel Naufel will lead a drive around the eastern parts of Tulsa & Rogers counties. Hope to see a lot of Miata's in the parking lot.

March 10, Tuesday "Full Moon" Drive #2: Let's leave the Braum's on 101st just east of Riverside at 7pm. This drive will be south of the city around the "Bixby 'Figure 8' 480".

March 14 is open.

March 18, Meeting Night

March 21, Saturday Drive to Granby, MO: Ronnie & Shirley Lane @ 1 918 676-3365, will lead a drive on back roads thru Grove, on Hwy 20 around Grand Lake & northeast OK, with a potty stop before Hwy 90 & Hwy 71 to Neosho, MO, then east on Hwy 60 to a car plant in Granby, Mo where they build a '66 Shelby Cobra among a few other specialty cars. At the plant we will have a tour and talk to the owners. Then we'll head to Joplin for some lunch and on to Afton for a tour of a Route 66 auto museum. After that we will take a drive home. We should be back by early afternoon. Let's meet at McDonalds south of I-44 on 129th for an 8:15 drivers meeting and 8:30 departure. It's about 130 miles to Granby, MO, then another 30 miles to Joplin and 130 miles back to Tulsa.

March 21 - 22, Hallett COMMA Race Club week-end #1.

March 28 is open.

APRIL "Tentative" events

April 4 is open.

SPRING FLING 2009 MIATAS ON A MISSION IN MISSOURI - EARL LARKIN

April 18-19, 2009, Saturday-Sunday:

Well January isn't even over yet and the "rumors" are already flying so we thought we had better do some "damage control." We have already received two phone calls asking us if we really were going to drive over 1,000 miles on Spring Fling 2009? We don't know how these stories got started but we're going to break the mileage down for you in great detail so pay attention.

We have broken Spring Fling down into three different "legs" just as we did for our last foliage tour. The First Leg starts at the McDonalds at 129th & I-44 in Tulsa and ends in Harrison, Ark. Saturday evening. The total number of miles driven Saturday will be about 321 miles. Eighty per cent of that will be windy, twisting, curvy two-lane roads. The First Leg will include all three of the "disputed roads." So if you can only go on Saturday the 18th, you will still be able to vote on which section of road you think deserves the title, "Deal's Gap of Missouri."

Even if you are only going for Saturday I strongly suggest you reserve your room and plan on spending the night. Why? You will have driven through hundreds and hundreds of curves and will be too tired to "safely" head back to Tulsa in the mountains in the dark; way too many deer crossing those roads at night. Stay the night, have dinner and breakfast with the club, then head home, refreshed, well-fed, alert and well-rested. If you drive like Tom Jones, George Walker, or Mac Arnett, you will be back in Tulsa in three and a half hours. If not, you will be back in four-five hours.

The Second Leg begins in Harrison after breakfast and ends in Clarksville. That stretch measures 97 miles of which 76.9 miles are two-lane twisties that are some of the best in Arkansas; your driving skills will be tested. If time is a problem for you and you need to leave us at Clarksville, just jump on I-40, go west to the Muskogee Tpk., and follow it straight back to Tulsa. From Clarksville, it should be about 174 miles.

The Third Leg begins in Clarksville and runs north, winding and twisting all the way back up to #412 West, 67.5 miles of non-stop curves and beautiful scenery. The Third Leg is for the "hard-core" dedicated drivers who "live" for these kinds of roads. The kind of drivers who loved the Third Leg of the Fall Foliage Tour. If you stay with us all day Sunday your total mileage for Sunday will be about 303 miles.

Let's talk about early reservations and why they are so important. April in Northwest Arkansas is a "hotbed" of non-stop activities. On the same week-end we will be there, Harrison is hosting a car show, a motorcycle rally, and an arts and crafts festival. The hotels and motels will be packed solid as in no vacancies.

So please, call the Days Inn in Harrison at 1-870-391-3297, tell them you want the N.E.O. Miata Club group rate of \$62.15 which includes taxes. They would only agree to reserve and hold ten rooms at a time for us. When we have called and reserved ten rooms, only then will they agree to hold another block of ten rooms, and so it goes until all of their rooms are reserved by us or other groups. Remember, you can always call and cancel your reservation if you have an emergency, but if you wait too much longer to reserve your room, you may not be able to find a vacant room anywhere in the city. Please reserve now.

Wild Thang & Wild Child

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - JOHN NEWMAN

We really had a nice attendance for the January meeting. Thanks to everyone for coming out. It's a good time to visit with each other.

One of the really nice benefits of being a member of the NEO Miata Club is all the great roads that we have driven and all the wonderful places that we have visited over the years. Places that I might not have even known about if I hadn't been taken there on a NEO drive. Winding country roads, lakes that I never knew about, historic places that took me back in time, great, I'm talking great places to eat. What fun this has been. Think about it with me.

How much fun is it to drive the Pig Trail in the fall with the trees hanging over the road creating a tunnel of orange, red and yellow leaves? The top down, the air cool and crisp, the sun shooting through the leaves. Who can forget LuLu and the swinging bridge at Oark? What I wouldn't give right now for a piece of Company's Coming Pie from the Cliff House. Ummmm. How scary was it to be 27 stories underground at Blanchard Springs Caverns? How about the spaghetti at Pete's. Did you flinch when the guns started shooting at Coffeyville? Gosh we've driven up on some steep mountains, Nebo, Petit Jean, Mt. Magazine. Some of them are so steep with such sharp switchbacks that you could see your own taillights. And what a view when you got up to the top. Hey we've even put our cars on a ferry boat so we could continue on! What fun. What about all the great trips up around the Grand Lake area and the roller coaster thrill of Zena road and the relaxing beauty of highway 10 along the Illinois.

I'm sure that you all have a favorite stretch of road or eating place or location that you found on one of our drives. I think it would be great to share some of those memories with each other. Why don't we write down a paragraph or two about one of our favorites and send it to Alan so

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

he can put it in the newsletter and we can all share it again. Hey it might even give us some ideas of something we might want to revisit. Maybe you could lead a drive to that favorite place so everyone could enjoy it again. That would be great. We have a lot of new members that maybe haven't experienced these places yet so it would be all new to them. I'm hoping that this sharing will recreate or create some fun drives. Let's send Alan so many short stories for the newsletter that he'll have one for every month for the whole year.

Looking forward to reading about your favorites. Man I've made myself hungry.....let's run up to Cowboy Junction and eat lunch!

JANUARY 2009 MINUTES - BARBARA NEWMAN

The January meeting of the NEO Miata Club was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President John Newman. New members Chris and Jenny Thompson were introduced. Everyone present then introduced themselves and told when they joined the club. John then read a card received from Wanda Scott to the club thanking them for their kindnesses during the loss of her husband, Jack. John congratulated George Walker for his winning championships last year in SCCA divisions for D Modified with his Lotus with a Miata engine and C Stock with his 2000 Miata. John asked anyone not receiving group e-mails from the club to please let Alan Doughty know. Alan reported a SPAM problem but it has been taken care of. He also urged members not to forward e-mails with the club address to other people.

Waivers and releases have been discussed previously by the club. A copy of a possible release that would be included with the membership form was available for review. Tom Jones can also e-mail copies to anyone needing one. John reported this is something the officers have been looking at and are considering. Purchasing insurance for the club would be prohibitive due to cost.

Secretary/Membership Report – Barbara reported we currently have 107 members, however, only 48 have paid dues for 2009. Please get your dues paid as soon as possible. She also (with great joy) announced that Gail Roop has volunteered to take over as Secretary/Membership Chairman.

Treasurer's Report – Amy Kolis reported approximately \$1,200 in funds at this time. Soon a report including expenditures and balance will be included in the newsletter monthly.

Webmaster/Newsletter Editor - Alan has corrected problems that were preventing some members from getting the newsletter via e-mail. He is working on revamping the website. Members will receive a link to an online survey about the website.

Tour Director – Tom Jones noted an e-mail notice drive was held on Saturday, Jan. 17th with 14 cars participating in a drive to Skiatook for barb-b-que. Please see elsewhere for the events calendar. Regarding Earl Larkin's Spring Fling scheduled for April 18th and 19th, the Days Inn Motel in Harrison, AR would only allot 10 rooms at a time. If those 10 are booked, they will add another 10, etc. So it is imperative that you make your reservations as soon as possible (1-870-391-3297). Tom reported that he has written directions to any drive from last year if anyone needs them.

Tom then provided a short discussion on the responsibilities of drive leaders. Other events coming up include: Miatas at Eureka June 12-14th, National Regional Miatas gathering in Dallas, May 22-25th. Bob Huckaby asked if there was interest in returning to Branson in the summer or early fall. Those responding preferred to go again in November to enjoy the Christmas shows. Bob will check into possibilities.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

NOTICE!! Like TV, the NEO Classic is going DIGITAL and Green!!

Beginning with the March issue, the NEO Classic newsletter will be distributed via email attachment by default. If you would prefer to continue to receive yours by regular mail, please confirm this by sending an email to your newsletter editor at newsletter@neomiata.com or giving him a call at 918-230-3910.



NELSON MAZDA

20% DISCOUNT ON PARTS & SERVICE

(Discount does not apply on promotional items)

COUPON VAUD FOR
NORTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA MIATA CLUB MEMBERS ONLY

EXPIRES 03/31/2009

Northeastern Oklahoma Miata Club

**NEO Miata
P.O. Box 554
Tulsa, Oklahoma**

www.neomiata.com



Top Down, Revs Up, Zoom-Zoom

(Continued from page 1)

April 9, Thursday "Full Moon" Drive #3: Let's leave the Braum's on Garnett just south of I-44 at 7pm. This drive will be east of the city thru the "Tigerswitch 380".

April 11, is open.

April 12, Sunday, Happy Easter.

April 15, Meeting Night

April 18-19, Saturday & Sunday "Spring Fling" Drive: A 2 day drive in Arkansas and Missouri, spending Saturday night, April 18, 2009, at the Days Inn in Harrison, Arkansas, reservations at 1 870 391-3297. A club rate of \$62.15 including taxes has been arranged. There is a write-up of this trip in the January Newsletter. Let's leave the McDonalds at **129st & I-44** at 7am. Driver's meeting at 6:45. Contact Earl & Dorothy Larkin 342-6992 for help.

April 25 - 26, Hallett COMMA Race Club week-end #2.

Club Officers:

President: John Newman

918-245-3209 president@neomiata.com

Vice President: Mike Viseur

918-663-7104 vicepres@neomiata.com

Treasurer: Amy Kolis

918-438-7879 treasurer@neomiata.com

Secretary: Gail Ropp

918-665-1869 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

FOR SALE

2006 Velocity Red LE w/ Black Leather.

Member Price \$17,500.

Skip & Linda Green @ 645-7773