



MAY Club Events

May 1, Saturday

May 6, Thursday, OSU Okmulgee – Culinary Arts Experience! Pierre and Sharon Smith 495-3988

Description: If you are available for a mid-week drive, would enjoy a wonderful culinary experience (and inexpensive), enjoy a day with Miata friends and spending time with the wind blowing through your hair, this outing is for you! An unbelievable meal will be prepared and served by the OSU Culinary Arts students. In addition tours of several OSU Okmulgee specialty programs will be conducted. Meal reservations must be made ahead of time so put this on your calendar and advise Pierre (495-3988 pierresmith1@cox.net) if you haven't already done so! Prepare for a very special day!!!! This is a "cruiser" drive with some scenic country after the campus visit.

Date: Thursday May 6, 2010

Time: Drivers meeting 8:45am, Depart 9:00am

Meeting Place: Braums at 121st and So. Memorial in Tulsa (also use Pizza Hut Parking lot North of Braums.

Schedule: Our OSU Host will be Steve Rupert, OSU Okmulgee, Director, Special Events and Services

10:15 am - Arrive OSU Campus - guided tour of the Culinary Arts Program, kitchen, and view meal prep.

11:15 am - Enjoy a special culinary experience - multi-course buffet meal prepared by the students **(\$8 per person. Please bring cash – we will collect from attendees and make one payment for all.)**

12:15 pm - Walking tours of the OSU Okmulgee Campus: New Nursing Center, Rolex Watch Making Program, GM Automotive Specialty Program, and the Kamatsu large equipment training program.

1:30 pm - Depart- A 1.75 hour return drive is planned. Those choosing not to join the drive can return to Tulsa on US75. We should be back in Tulsa between 3:00 and 3:30pm.

Forty are currently on the reservation list. Additional reservations can be made until May 4th. Contact Pierre Smith (495-3988 or pierresmith1@cox.net) if you would like to join the group.

May 8, Saturday, May 9, Sunday, Happy Mother's Day.

May 14-16, "Miatas in Moab IV": Info at Utah Club website www.utahmiataclub.com then click on "Miatas in Moab IV" or MX-5 Miata.Net Forum at <http://forum.miata.net/vb/showthread.php?t=328504>. For information contact Gene and Shirley Bedingfield (664-4691)

May 19, Meeting Night

May 22, Saturday "PHOTO-RAMA Road Rally" (A different kind of drive.) Meet at Quick Trip, Broken Arrow (East Parking Lot), NE Corner of 193rd E. Ave and 71st Street/Kenosha. (BA Expressway East, Exit at Kenosha then East ½ mile. Bill & Sonja Curts, Host 261-3026 (cell).

Description: We will meet at the East parking lot of Quick Trip in Broken Arrow at 8:30 a.m. (Snacks, drinks, gas, air and restrooms at QT) Drivers meeting will be at 8:45 a.m. with departures starting at 9:00 a.m. Make sure you arrive with a full tank of fuel as we will be traveling about 190 miles. For the most part, this will be a cruising drive with some sharp turns and up and down hills which will be challenging and fun. We will have scheduled potty breaks along the way. Remember this is not a follow the leader type of drive or a race. Each car will travel on its own following PHOTO navigation instructions. Cars will depart one minute apart. It is suggested that you have a "Navigator" setting in the passenger seat as it will be difficult to drive and view the navigation instructions at the same time

– but it can be done. Money or plastic will be needed for a fine lunch at “Phil’s Country Fare” about 11:30-11:45. Phil serves steaks, BBQ, seafood, chicken with soup, salad, baked potato or French fries or rice included and hamburgers (even a 16oz burger). The objective of this rally is to follow the photo navigation instructions and match the predetermined time for each leg and total time. Awards will be made for the three best times for each leg and total time. We should arrive back in Broken Arrow about 3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Bring your Pike-Pass as it may be needed on the way back. Our hand held radios may get out of range, so bring both your radio and cell phones to call our host Bill & Sonja Curts, 261-3026 (cell) for back-up help with directions and questions.

May 22 - 23, Hallett COMMA Race Club week-end #3.

May 27, Thursday - “A Full Moon Night” - Do you want a drive? How about leading this one?

May 29, Saturday, May 31, Monday, Happy Memorial Day.

JUNE Club Events

June 5, Saturday, “Pawnee Bill’s Wild West Museum” - Drive Leader/Hostess: Sharon Smith

Description: This drive will be a fun outing lead by Sharon Smith (495-3988) – the ladies are encouraged to drive, that is if they trust their co-pilots navigation and radio skills! The drive will include some great roads west of Tulsa and through Osage County on the way to Pawnee. In Pawnee we will dine at Click’s Steakhouse then on to the Pawnee Bills Museum. A guided tour of the mansion will be conducted and time will be available to enjoy all of the historic grounds. This is an amazing place. (Admission \$2 per person) Our return will include a scenic drive around Pawnee Lake. Plan to be back around 4:00pm.

Date: Saturday June 5, 2010

Time: Drivers meeting 9:15am, Depart 9:30am

Meeting Place: Braums - 3950 South Hwy 97 in Prattville (Just north of 41st Street West at Hwy 97)

Lunch: Clicks Steak House, Pawnee (Meals \$6 - \$9 inc. drink)

Special Attraction: Pawnee Bills Ranch Site, Museum and Mansion

June 11 – 13, Miatas at Eureka Springs 2010 (www.miatasateureka.com)

June 16, Meeting Night

June 19, Saturday

June 20, Sunday, Happy Father’s Day

June 26, Saturday “A Full Moon Night” - Do you want a drive? How about leading this one?

June 24-27, 2010 “West Pennsylvania Miata Club”: The West Penn Miata Club is hosting it's second regional event. It is to be held at the Seven Springs Mountain Resort in the Laurel Highlands of Pennsylvania. Registration is full and a waiting is now available. The event Web site is <http://www.westpenmiataclub.com/mania10.html>.

June 26 - 27, Hallett COMMA Race Club week-end #4.

SPRING IN OKLAHOMA - WILD HORSE MOUNTAIN BAR-B-QUE: PIERRE SMITH (GOIN4IT)



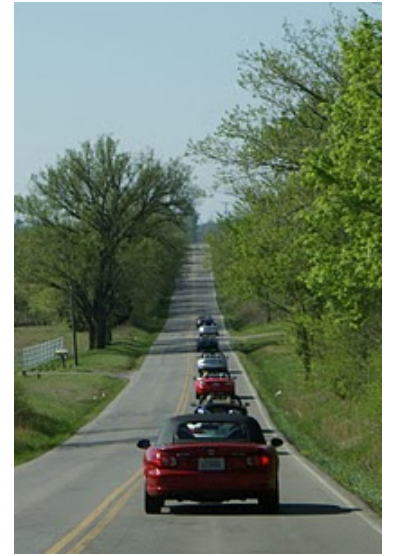
On April 10, 2010, twenty shining Miatas gathered at McDonalds in Broken Arrow for a top down adventure to Wild Horse Mountain Bar-B-Que in Sallisaw. Host Roy Kolis requested undivided attention for the drivers meeting at 9:45am and the caravan departed east on hwy 51 toward Wagner. The weather was unseasonably warm with full sunshine – it was truly a “top down” day from start to finish.

After a short break in Wagner we continued east across the bridge on Fort Gibson lake and past Sequoyah State Park. At Hulbert we ventured south on hwy 80 for a spirited drive

around the east side of Fort Gibson lake. The bright green of the new growth on trees, color in the shrubs along with the challenging “twisties” made this leg of the trip exhilarating for all. At the Fort Gibson Dam we continued south on hwy 82 and on into Sallisaw. We arrived at the Wild Horse Mountain Bar-B-Que about 1:00pm. The environment was rustic, the food was delicious, and most of our gang said they would like to return.

After lunch, a few Zoomers headed back to Tulsa via the Muskogee turnpike. About 14 cars headed west on Hwy 10 for a fantastic “cruiser” drive around the west side of Fort Gibson Lake. Tops down, many curves, unbelievable scenery and a quick pace made the return trip exciting. The group arrived back in Broken Arrow about 5:00pm and after warm thanks to Roy went our individual way.

This was not a new trip to Roy and Amy as they have taken the NEO Miata Club to Wild Horse Mountain before. It is a proven venue and with Roy’s leadership and perfect weather, it was a roaring success in 2010. Everyone is encouraged to view the great pictures taken by Jaunice and Tony that are on the club website (www.neomiata.com).



Thanks Roy!!!!!! The only possible improvement would have been to have Amy with us. Amy you were missed!

SPRING FLING 2010: SHARON SMITH



In spite of a rainy forecast, 26 cars showed up bright and early for Earl’s annual Spring Fling, 2010; destination—Beavers Bend State Park in the southwest corner of our beautiful state. After coffee and conversion, we all turned attentive ears to our fearless leader’s instructions. Then we set out in a light rain, headed for Muskogee, our first “break” of the morning. On leaving Muskogee the rain picked up a bit. But by our second break, it had stopped and many of the tops came

down. As we entered the lovely San Bois Mountains, the clouds began to give way to patches of blue sky and sunshine. And what a beautiful sight as we twisted through the lovely hills of that range. Next we drove into the Kiamichi Mountains, still headed into the sunshine. Our eyes were dazzled by the myriad shades of green on the mountains and our senses delighted with the feel of the twists and turns and the climb up the mountain. True to his word, Earl kept the drive at a “cool cruiser dude pace.”

At Talihina, Oklahoma, we entered on to Talimena Drive which ends at Mena, Arkansas. Hence the name Talimena - as Earl enlightened us with this brief history lesson. This drive is familiar to many and is a club favorite as it winds its way up and down with many sharp curves. At the top is the lovely Queen Wilhelmina Lodge, where a fully loaded buffet was awaiting our arrival for lunch. Before departing, we all had to take the opportunity to stop and admire the breathtaking view at the top of this lovely Ouachita mountain range.

After a quick gas stop in Mena, most of the tops came down and we continued our drive in sunshine. A few miles out of Mena, Earl took us to Hwy 8, which is a road that he had never taken the club on before. It was a great mountain road with gentle, serpentine curves surrounded by the deep greens of the tall evergreen pines and the amazing spring greens of the many deciduous trees. What a glorious sight with the backdrop of blue sky, sunshine and fluffy white clouds. Shortly after that, we turned on to Hwy 259 which was another new road for the club with the same beauty of nature and curves and hardly any other traffic. So from then on it was just “cruising” and having fun in the sun with our pretty Miatas all in a row, all the way to Broken Bow!! Well, not the city, but the lake. About nine miles away from the town of Broken Bow, Earl turned into one of the park roads which took us through the park along the lovely Mountain Fork River, by campgrounds and fishing spots, over the Broken Bow Dam where we got our first view of the lake and

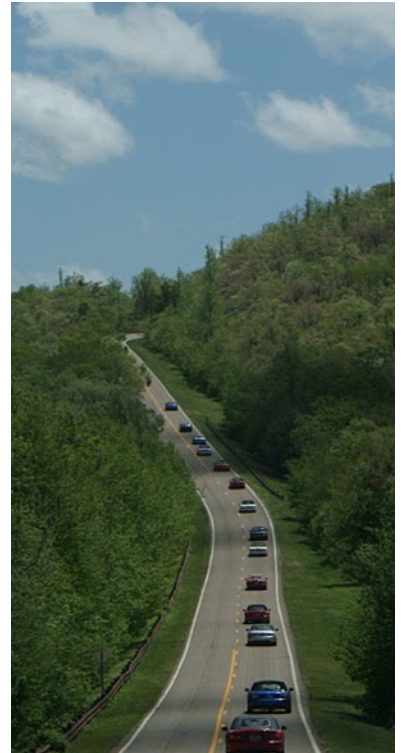
on around to our destination—Beavers Bend Lakeview Lodge. And that also was beyond expectations. The rooms were spacious with each having a small patio or deck looking out over beautiful Broken Bow Lake with the mountain range in the background. Great choice of accommodations, Earl.

With so many things to do, each could choose their thing whether it was hiking, paddle boating, socializing or just relaxing and enjoying the view. Before breaking up we were left with an invitation to partake of the courtesy breakfast at the lodge the next morning and to be sure and have a full tank of gas before the driver's meeting started at 8:15. Tom Jones also announced that his full moon drive would meet for a driver's meeting at 7:30 that evening and depart shortly thereafter. The ones who participated enjoyed a "spirited" drive and a clear night to enjoy the moonlight and roads.

The next morning the lodge lounge began to fill up and by 8:15 all were fed and coffeed (is that a word?) and ready for the driver's meeting. After a few short instructions, we lined up for a picture with everyone grouped around three of our cars, each representing one of the three generations of Miatas. Then we were on our way.



Once again Earl had a great new road for us—Hy144. What a fun way to start the day with all the twists and turns and once again very little traffic. Earl said we might not want to take this road Monday through Friday as it is the road the logging trucks use and they are numerous and monstrous. But on the weekends it is not very busy and we enjoyed a good run on it before turning onto Hwy 2. This also was a great road with many gentle curves and a few long stretches to really zoom-zoom. Only once or twice did we get a bit strung out and have to have Earl back off for a short period. But it was amazing how much of the time we were able to all be in line without any "civilians" in between. What great fun to see Miatas front and back winding



through these mountains.

At Muskogee we took our second "break". Since it was about 12:30 some were stopping for a bite to eat and some were continuing on back to the original starting point. So many goodbyes and thanks were made to Earl and it was a smaller group that made the last stretch back to Tulsa on the turnpike. But from all of us, our heartfelt thanks to both Dorothy and Earl for introducing us to some wonderful new Oklahoma roads and to another beautiful part of our state that many of us had not visited before. As usual, it was another amazing Larkin adventure drive!!

Editor: Be sure and check out all of Jaunice and Tony's photos in the club's gallery at www.neomiata.com.

LAST MONTH'S MEETING MINUTES: GAIL ROOP

The meeting was called to order by club president, Mike Viseur at 7:00pm. Introduction of club members and officer reports were skipped to allow time for a guest speaker.

New club members were introduced:

Tom & Nancy Page
18314 S. 4150 Road
Claremore, OK 74017
home: 342-4540 cell: 232-2598
tom.page@hilti.com
1992 Red

Gary & Tresa Clements
11615 S. 101 E. Ave.
Bixby, OK 74008
home: 369-5008 cell: 671-7174
gtbix@olp.net
2006 Red

Errol & Kim Goad (previous members in 2008)
6063 W. 410 Road
Adair, OK 74330
cell: 918-716-0173
egoad@man.com
1994 Black (2) / 1994 Laguna Blue / 1994 Red

Pat & Deborah Calhoun
11008 S. Darlington Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74137
home: 528-6217 cell: 694-6533
tpd007@hotmail.com
2000 Burgundy

Lonnie & Donna Hardin
731 S. 90 E. Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74112
home: 590-8969 cell: 855-3593
nl25lj@cox.net
1991 Red

We had 3 others that visited and said they were going to join also. Club president awarded Earl Larkin a Club Shirt that said "Follow the Leader" in honor of the Spring Fling Drive. Earl Larkin discussed the Spring Fling drive scheduled rain or shine for April 24th and 25th

Our guest speaker was Mike Massey with Operation Life Saver (OLI.org). He provided a slide presentation on rail road crossing safety. Their focus is Education (presentation to the public), Engineering (encouraging increased safety), and Enforcement (enforcement of safety laws). Freight trains do not run on schedule any more, so do not expect a freight train to pass at the same time each day. At 55 miles per hour, it takes: 200 feet to stop for all light weight cars; 230 feet to stop for a school bus or van; 300 feet to stop for a semi truck; *1 mile for a freight train*. Automobiles weigh 3000 pounds. Trains weigh 12 million pounds---this is a ration of 4000 to 1. A Miata weighs approximately 2500 pounds---think about that if you decide to challenge a train!! (This is like an aluminum pop can taking on a car.)

Tips: No passing within 100 feet of a railroad crossing. Do Not pass, shift or stop on a railroad track. Stop no closer than 15 feet to a railroad track and no further than 50 feet away. Do Not walk on railroad track, it is dangerous and technically they are private property LOOK, LISTEN and LIVE

Tour Director Pierre Smith said there were 3 drives last month and all of them were great. He encouraged everyone to watch the web site for communications on drives or changes to the schedule. Let him know if you are interested in leading a drive.

- 5-6 OSU-Okmulgee Culinary Experience: \$8 each and 40 people have signed up so far. They will leave at 9:00 and be back by 3:30.
- 5-22 Road Rally
- 6-5 Ladies Drive with the spouses co-piloting

George Walker talked about Miatas at Hallett on Sept. 18th, a Road Rally on 6-12 with the Jaguar Club, and on Mothers Day, 5-9, precision driving at the Tulsa Fairgrounds, Lot 14.

A Kansas City trip by Sam and Gail will be coming this summer. A Van Buren trip by John and Barbara Newman will be coming soon.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.



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