



MAY EVENTS

07 - Meet and Brunch: We will be having a Meet and Brunch on Saturday the 7th, at Burn Co Barbecue, 1738 S. Boston Ave, Tulsa OK. We need to get to restaurant by 10:15 am. They open at 10:30 am. To get a parking place, we need to be there by 10:15 am. They have some of the best by far BBQ I have ever had in this area. They have some items you never heard of that are great. So do not eat breakfast that morning, you will get plenty of good food to eat when we get there. You can check out their menu online if you want.

May 18, Wednesday, Meeting Night
7 p.m. @ Uncle Bucks Grill inside Bass Pro Shops
Broken Arrow, OK

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE : TOM MATTOX

The spring drive was one for the records, the roads were great, the weather could not have been better, and those who missed it will never know the fun we had on this trip. Just ask the ones who went and they will tell you. We have a Meet and Brunch this coming Saturday on May 7, 2016. We will meet at 10:15 am at Burn Co. See article for more details. We will be have a short drive later in the month so check your e-mail each week to see what is coming up for the drives. Hope to see as many can make it to the Meet & Brunch as well as the other planned events this month has to offer. Zoom, Zoom

Diamond Drive : RON COATES

On Friday, April 22nd, Tom and Jean Mattox led club members on a drive to Murfreesboro Arkansas. Duane and Ruth Will drove "sweep" for the drive leaders. Karine and Bill Thomas had to pull out of the drive just about fifteen miles from the start. They had a brake problem and had to go back home to fix it. On the way down to Murfreesboro, we kept together really well, and had many "relief stops"! All but two of the cars that made the trip were some shade of red. When I first joined the club, it was not unusual to have mostly red Miatas, but lately red has been on the decline. Lunch was served at the Queen Wilhelmina State Park, and the view was magnificent. So different from the last time the club was there and the fog was so thick, you could have cut it with a knife! After lunch, Karine and Bill caught back up with the group in Mena Arkansas. It seems Bill had found and repaired the problem, a loose fitting on the brake line.

The roads in that part of Arkansas are perfect for our cars, and with Tom leading, we got to have some fun. We got in to Murfreesboro around 3:45 PM; we freshened up and then went out to dinner.

At dawn on Saturday morning, we all SLEPT in! Tom and Jean had scheduled all the drive for people like Nelda and me who LOVE to sleep late. We did not have to do anything until ten AM, which was when we drove out to The Crater of Diamonds State Park, to seek our fortunes. The day could not have been more pleasant...the sun was just a little warm, but the breeze kept it delightful. Speaking of DELIGHT, I noticed that the cemetery in Delight Arkansas was having a dinner on that same day AT the cemetery. I had to ask the desk clerk at the Queen of Diamonds hotel what THAT was about. She told me that the dinner was a means of raising money for the upkeep of the cemetery.

If any of our club members struck it big at the diamond mine, they were wise enough to keep in to themselves. But I think we all enjoyed the experience of giving fate a chance to make us rich. Gil and Marilyn Steidley chose to drive on to Hot Springs to look around rather than become prospectors. There they got to see a bunch of Corvettes, the Vettes were having a get together which included over four hundred of the fiberglass cars! The Steidleys saw one unfortunate Vette that was damaged in a wreck there in Hot Springs.

The group got together for dinner on Saturday evening, and afterwards they enjoyed a few hours of visiting on the "porch" of the hotel. Tom Mattox was celebrating his birthday, but was trying to keep it a secret. Secrets are hard to keep from Miata owners, so Tom was serenaded with "the birthday anthem". As usual, Ruth had a few too many to drink, and had to be carried back to her room. But I guess she deserved to celebrate, she had beaten the other players who had opted for a game of miniature golf.

Sunday's plans for heading back to Tulsa were again, perfect for me. It included another sleep late departure time. As fate would have it, most everyone decided to head back on their own, rather than caravan in the group. Overall, this was one of the best drives for my taste in quite some time. Personally, I enjoy a slow pace, retired lifestyle. Therefore, this was perfect for me, but I am glad that different folks like different styles of driving...AND our club offers many different options from which to choose.

OUR MIATA MECHANIC IS BACK!: BILL CURTS

That is right! Bill Medicine Crow is back doing what he enjoys – auto mechanic work! Let me briefly tell you his story.

Some of you will remember that a little over two years ago that Bill was the go-to mechanic for our Miatas because he had worked at Nelson Mazda for many years and split off to open his own shop in Broken Arrow. He knows the Miata like the back of his hand.

About two years ago, while at his shop he had a stroke, which required him to close his shop. Because of his close relationship at Nelson and the nice people there, a few of the mechanics came to Bill's shop and finished off the pending work for him. The stroke affected his memory so he went through some therapy for a while. Then the nice people at Nelson hired Bill in the used car sales area. This

also helped his memory over the next two years until about two months ago. Bill's love for mechanic work drove him to thank Nelson for their help and quit.

Two months ago, Bill reopened his Auto Repair shop at the same location in Broken Arrow. He said that the past few months doing what he loves and seeing old friends and customers has done more for him than the two years at Nelson.

Therefore, our Miata mechanic is back. Make Bill's the go-to place for your Miata!

Bill Medicine Crow's Automotive Repair
8220 South Elm Place
Broken Arrow, OK 74011
918-893-5644

A MIATA BY ANY DEFINITION: BILL CURTS

- ✓ **CONVERTIBLE:** Automobile with a top that can be raised and lowered.
- ✓ **ROADSTER:** A small, open automobile, usually seating only two people.
- ✓ **SPORTS CAR:** A small, low automobile, usually a two-seat convertible, built for speed and handling.
- ✓ **RACE CAR/ RACER:** A vehicle used or suitable for use in a contest of speed.
- ✓ **LUXURY CAR:** A car with somethings that is not necessary for life but can make it more enjoyable or comfortable.

Would still be fun to drive. Zoom, Zoom!

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES : RON COATES

The April meeting of the NEO Miata Club was called to order at seven pm, on 4/20/2016, by President, Tom Mattox. After welcoming the folks, Tom passed the microphone around and members introduced themselves and reported a bit about their MX-5s.

John Ream, Club Vice President, had nothing new to report. The Club Secretary made sure that the attendance roster was being passed around. Club Treasurer, Andy Anderson, reported that the club has a balance of \$1,984.98. Alan Doughty, Web Master, had nothing to report, and our Event's Coordinator, Bob Schwarz, was not able to make it to the meeting.

Under New Business, Tom spoke about the Spring Fling Drive that was scheduled for the following Friday. He described the change of plans that had to be made due to a conflict for lunch. These changes meant that the departure time had to be moved up an hour.

He then told us about a "Meet and Brunch", this event would be at Burn Co., on Saturday the 7th of May, at 10:15 AM. Many of the club members voiced support for the BBQ restaurant. George Walker mentioned that the owner is a member of the SCCA (Sports Car Club of America) and a nice person.

John Ream spoke about the SCCA Solo racing. He explained that this is a race against your own time, and you need not race side by side against another vehicle. So damaging accidents are almost unheard of. You need not have a modified vehicle, your stock Miata does fine. George Walker remarked that most of what makes a good Solo Race is the driver, not modifications of the car.

Ron Coates reported on the new "MX-5 RF" (Retractable Fastback) that will be coming out in the late fall. It will be a "Targa" type top. When the top is up, it looks like a hard top, but then it retracts and leaves the fastback look behind the driver. The best way to see video of the top in action is to do a web search using the terms "MX-5 RF Mazda", that will take you to links that will show you the car in action. It is expected to raise the weight by about 200 lbs, and the price about \$2000 more than the soft top.

Earl Larkin's name was mentioned at the meeting Wednesday night; it seems many members of the club are missing his colorful talks. I know my daughter used to love to come to the meetings JUST to hear Earl describe a drive. Tom Mattox assured the members that Earl and Dorthy have just been very busy lately. They are over the illnesses that had knocked them down earlier in the year. Therefore, we hope to hear Earl give his reports again soon.

Bill Curts gave a small presentation about some of the club lapel pins, the window decals and where to put the window decals. He also suggested you might want to put your name and phone number on the card that you put on the windshield of other Miata's, inviting them to the meetings. Or simply write "Please join us" on the back of the cards. Bill mentioned the logo magnets, and how to put them on the cars. In addition, he urged the members to go to Yvonne's Monogram shop in Broken Arrow to get high quality NEO Miata Club logos put on your shirts and hats. In addition, he told us that Yvonne's could take a photo of your car, and transfer the image to a hat or jacket. Because Yvonne's has all of the artwork already, there is no "set up" fee. Mr. Curts urged the members to go by and see all the items that are available from Yvonne's Zoom Zoom, MX-5 and other Mazda logos. yvonnesmonograms.com

Tom introduced Gil and Marilyn Steidley. Marilyn invited the club to come visit their home near Eufaula on July 23, for dinner. They will be providing more information as the date gets closer.

Gary Deaton, Independent Rally Master, spoke for a few minutes about having another rally. He is trying to come up with a date that the club could participate. It would be a rally that lasts about three hours, with stops included. Gary has been making plans for a Prairie View rally, and would be happy to hand it off to any club member who would like to oversee it.

Tom Mattox is trying to get a feeling for where the club might want to go on a Fall Foliage Tour. Petit Jean Mountain is in the running for a destination.

Numbers were drawn for door prizes, and then Tom adjourned the meeting.

CLUB OFFICERS

President: TOM MATTOX
918-629-1540 president@neomiata.com
Vice President: JOHN REAM
918-644-7284 vicepres@neomiata.com
Events: BOB SCHWARZ
918-691-0879 events@neomiata.com

Treasurer: ANDY ANDERSON
918-857-8101 treasurer@neomiata.com
Secretary: RON COATES
918-637-1964 secretary@neomiata.com
Web/Newsletter: ALAN DOUGHTY
918-230-3910 newsletter@neomiata.com



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