



# MiataTudes

The Monthly Newsletter of the Sacramento Area Miata Owners Association—Volume 16—Number 8

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## The Dog Days of August, 2006



### Robin's Nest

By Robin George

First apologies to the Editor for being tardy with this article. Due to the many demands that come with this position I failed to set aside enough time to complete my manuscript as needed. Sorry Ron!!

Hot enough for you....I did something that was only forced by insuring continued harmony in my household; I turned on the air conditioner in TOBARR. It works and don't tell Jeanne it felt good. Jeanne and I went to the start of Baddtaz Run July 26<sup>th</sup> (see article) and it was already in the nineties at 8:30 in the morning. WHEW!! This is one weird year for motoring. Drown us in the winter and fry us in the summer. But we are hardy souls and have a lot of year left, so don't fret keep you eyes on events and be sure to go on one that meets your needs. And if you so choose, create one or suggest one. I see a plethora of various events on the horizon. August is rather sparse, but after that we are going to be super busy.

August 3<sup>rd</sup>, my wife and I are traveling to the east coast for three weeks to visit old friends and Civil War battlefields. Mike DeLaurentis, Vice President, will lead the rabble in my absence. He is no stranger to rowdiness so make sure you treat him with the respect you show me.....hehehe

Trivia...for those folks that do not know Mazda has lost the rights to use the name Miata. As of 2006 Mazda can no longer use the American beloved name of Miata. Many folks also do not know that the name Miata has only been used here in the States. In Canada, Europe, and other places in the world our Miata was always known as the MX-5 Roadster. In Japan it has always been called the Eunos Roadster. Enough with the history lesson. With the release of the all-new 2006 MX-5, we have new folks who never owned a convertible join our club. Please make these new folks feel like they've always been part of the M'sters family! We may also have folks trade in their 1st or 2nd Generation Miata for the new MX-5. With three generations of Roadsters running around on the roads, we all have one thing in common...the love of our Miata's/MX-5s. And with our new car promotion we have gained new members and new faces. That's great. New faces and new ideas.

Do you look at the club website often? I check the website often as it is a good site for us to check for upcoming events and other club news and there are a lot of useful links there. If you have a good story about your car or driving experiences, send them to Ron, he welcomes all help in filling up the newsletter with interesting articles. I know you have a story about your Miata and we would like to hear your story.



**SAMOA**  
**PO Box 392**  
**Orangevale, CA**  
**95662**

[www.samoa.org](http://www.samoa.org)

SAMOA is a 501(c)(7) non-profit corporation organized in the State of California for the benefit of its membership. SAMOA Membership dues are \$24 for 12 months and include 12 issues of MiataTudes and one email account. Applications and checks should be mailed to SAMOA, PO Box 392, Orangevale, CA 95662.

### August Avents... August

6th. CSCC Autocross Part

II... August 10th. SAMOA  
Monthly Meeting... August

26th. BAMA MiataPaloosa  
(at Candlestick Park)...  
and that's all there is...



## Mike's Musings

By Mike DeLaurentis

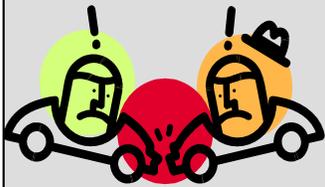


Our neighbors have one of those indoor/outdoor thermometers and when we were over there last Monday evening it was registering 107 outside. Today Mark Feinan tells me it was 105 and we're heading up to 107, again, this weekend. I'm making sacrifices to the air conditioning gods in hopes that they get me through the next week and then I promise to have the deferred preventative maintenance done on our ten year old A/C unit. Yes it is the same promise I made last year, and the year before but hey, I got busy and it cooled down. But this year, for sure.

As all of you know it is just plain ugly out there and the last thing any of us are probably thinking about is getting in our Miatas, throwing the top down and cruising. However (comma) we can use this time to think about a run that we can do come September or October when once again the weather will be ideal for top down cruising. The calendar is pretty empty for the Fall so you have your choice of open dates. I sense a lot of pent up enthusiasm for a good ride on a nice day so simply pick a place that you enjoy, pick a route and you're bound to have some SAMOANs who will follow you there and back.

As we always say if you need some help just ask myself, Ron Petrich or any BOO member and we'll help you plan an event.

In the mean time try and stay cool and pray to the A/C gods that they'll get you through one more summer – I am.



## Accident Reports

By Ron Petrich

The following are reported to be

taken from actual insurance claims:

The telephone pole was approaching. I was attempting to swerve out the way when I struck the front end. **The accident was caused by me waving to the man I hit last week.** I knocked over a man, he admitted it was his fault as he'd been knocked over before. **Coming home I drove into the wrong house and collided with a tree I don't have.** The other car collided with mine without giving warning of its intent. **I collided with a stationary truck coming the other way.** In my attempt to kill a fly, I drove into a telephone pole. **I had been shopping for plants all day and was on my way home. As I reached an intersection, a hedge sprang up, obscuring my vision and I did not see the other car.** I had been driving for forty years when I fell asleep at the wheel and had an accident. **I was on my way to the doctor with rear end trouble when my universal joint gave way causing me to have an accident.** My car was legally parked as it backed into the other vehicle. **As I approached the intersection a sign suddenly appeared in a place where no sign had ever appeared before, making me unable to avoid the accident.** I told the police I was not injured, but upon removing my hair, I found that I had a fractured skull. **I was sure the old fellow would never make it to the other side of the road when I struck him.** I saw a slow-moving, sad-faced old gentleman as he bounced off the hood of my car. **The indirect cause of the accident was a little guy in a small car with a big mouth.** I was thrown from my car as it left the road, and was later found in a ditch by some stray cows. **A pedestrian hit me and went under my car.** I thought my window was down, but I found out it was up when I put my head through it. **To avoid hitting the bumper of the car in front, I struck the pedestrian.** The guy was all over the road. I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him. **The pedestrian had no idea which way to run, so I ran over him.** An invisible car came out of nowhere, struck my car and vanished. **A truck backed through my windshield into my wife's face.** I pulled away from the side of the road, glanced at my mother-in-law, and headed over the embankment.



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We wish to thank the following businesses for offering SAMOA members discounts with presentation of their membership card

### America's Tire Company

Mike Wilson (916) 331-3670  
Ramps@dgweb.com

### Automotive Unlimited

Darrell (916) 989-3325

### Autozone

19th. & Broadway only  
Glen (916)443-5479

### Bob's Custom Upholstery

Roseville (916) 784-1442

### Carquest Auto Parts

1945 Broadway only  
Harold Taylor (916) 737-7280

### Chevron Lead Hill

Roseville Auto Mall

Dan Driffill (916) 786-9888

### The Clearwater Company

Skip Noyes (916) 852-1423

### Crazy Red Italian

Dave DeNuzzo (916) 456-2277

Discount Tire Centers

Citrus Heights (916) 725-7337

### Great Valley Mazda

Sacramento (916) 973-3240

### Harbor Freight Tools

6964 65th. Street Sacramento  
Dan Rasmussen (916) 393-7875

### Kneisels Body Shop

Citrus Heights

Dave or Robert (916) 969-0788

### Made in Japan / Made in America

10% off parts/labor on any work done

Rancho Cordova (916) 635-7444

Roseville (916) 773-0969

Sacramento (916) 349-8919

Sacramento (916) 486-4100

### Mazda's Plus

Harold Brown (916) 421-5708

### Midtown Framing & Gallery

Save 20% on any custom frame project and

Selected framed and unframed artwork

25th and J Street (916) 447-7558

### Movado Body Shop

Sacramento (916) 482-7818

### OK Tires of Sacramento

Sacramento (916) 331-2751

### Seat Works

Carpet, padding, seat covers,

Soft top repair & installation

Sacramento (916) 483-7994

### Towe Auto Museum

2200 Front Street

Sacramento (916) 442-6802

## Event Horizon...

By Ron Petrich

It's so hot that...it's so hot that it's really no joke anymore. We are on day 10 of this heat wave this morning, and I feel wasted at 10:00 in the morning already. I haven't driven my Miata since last Thursday (I'm really going to have to get the AC fixed one of these days) and I'm going through withdrawal. Of course I'm not saving any gas either as my OTM is a big honking Ford Explorer that gets 15 miles to the gallon. But at least it has air.

But the Miata in the garage has not been a total waste, as I've had the opportunity to install a neat set of AutoMeter gauges in the dash. For anyone interested in duplicating this project in their Miata...I chose 3 short sweep 2 1/16" diameter electric gauges – water temperature (#3337), oil temperature (#3348) and voltmeter (#3391). These are available directly from the Autometer website or at local auto parts stores (I picked up mine at Tognottis). From egauges.com I purchased a black DIN panel for 3 - 2 1/16" gauges and water temp and oil temp sending units. A tube that is spliced into the upper radiator hose for the water temperature sending unit was purchased from jackweigand.com. The oil temperature is taken from the base of my Thompson oil filter relocation kit. Power and illumination for all 3 gauges is taken from switched hot leads on the back of the main instrument (speedo, tach etc) cluster. Here is what the gauges look like installed.



Last month's club meeting was special to me, not only because of the success of Got Guts At Thunderhill, but also because of the warm reception you offered to Tamara Block from CCFA. And I want to specially mention all the hard work put in by an unsung hero in all of this – **Bob Carlson**. Between January and June I made at least 30 deposits to our account and sent Bob a copy in the mail. Bob flawlessly kept track of everything, so that when it came time in July to disburse the funds, he and I agreed to the penny as to the correct amount. Thanks Bob for all YOUR hard work.

A couple of new events have been added to the calendar this month, and regrettably, one has been removed. First the bad news. Because of his potential surgical procedure, Jack Parker is unable to organize and execute his poker run, which had been scheduled for August 12<sup>th</sup>. Initially I told Jack that I would do it, and he even forwarded to me his route map. Unfortunately I'll be out of town for 2 weeks in August, and alternative dates between then and the end of September don't work for me. BUT...they may work for you. So if anyone wants to assume the mantle of responsibility for this event, on a date to be determined, please let me or another of the BOO know about your interest. The run has already been totally planned, including the route, card pickup locations, ending restaurant, etc. Please just let us

know. The good news is that we have a couple more Miata events to choose from during August and September. First off, BAMA is sponsoring an event called MiataPalooza, which will include some autocross, a car show, raffle, food and drink, vendor booths, etc. It will be held in the parking lot of Monster Park (aka Candlestick Park) on Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup>. Please refer to the article later in this newsletter and on the SAMOA website. I'd like to organize a caravan for all of us from Sacramento who want to attend. We'd leave quite early on the morning of the event and take a combination of twisty roads and freeways so we get there on time. Please let me or the rest of the BOO know if you are interested. Finally, I have organized a picnic and wine tasting run to Matanzas Creek Winery, located between Sonoma and Santa Rosa, on Sunday September 10<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully the weather will be a little more moderate by then. Again, please refer to the article in this newsletter or to the SAMOA website.

On an unrelated topic, did anyone happen to catch Thomas Bryant's editorial in the September issue of Road & Track? Please read it, he must have read this column a month ago.

That's about it for now. The calendar still has many prime slots available during the rest of the year, so please contact us with your ideas. Oh, and in case anyone is interested, I'm NOT selling my Miata...just couldn't do it.

## SamoMail

By Ron Petrich

Have you ever needed to get the word out quickly but weren't sure how? Was your Events Coordinator just being lazy and unresponsive? When you looked to the clouds and yelled *Miata* at the top of your lungs, did no one but your neighbors hear? Well, there is a better way to communicate with your fellow Samoans and Miata enthusiasts. Its called SamoaMail, an unmoderated news list sponsored on the internet at Yahoo Groups. And its free!!!

SamoMail currently has more than 100 members, many from our club, some from other clubs, but all Miata enthusiasts. To join, simply log onto <http://groups.yahoo.com>. If you have a Yahoo account sign in...if not follow the directions to create a new account. Once logged in, type *Samoamail* in the search box at the Yahoo Groups home page, then click on Samoamail when it appears on the next screen, and then click the Join This Group box. You can choose to receive individual emails of all postings, receive a daily summary, or receive no emails at all (if you choose this notification method, you will need to log onto the SamoaMail site to read the postings). Once the group's moderator approves your request to join (this screening process helps cut down on spammers), you will receive an email notification that your membership has been approved.

### Next SAMOA Club Meeting

Our next monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, August 10, 2006 at Coco's Family Restaurant, 1830 Arden Way, Sacramento 95815. The restaurant is across the street from Arden Fair Shopping Center. All Miata enthusiasts are welcome. The meeting starts at 7:00 PM, but come early for chow & chat.

CLUB	DATE(S)	DAY	EVENT TITLE	ORGANIZER	TYPE	CODES
<b>AUGUST</b>						
CSCC	6-Aug	Sun	Autocross Part II	Tom Kubo (916) 847-8355	S	\$ R
SAMOA	Aug 10	Thu	Monthly Club Meeting			-
BAMA	Aug 26	Sat	MiataPalooza	Rick Weldon (510) 786-0851	T	\$ R
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>						
SAMOA	10-Sep	Sun	Matanzas Creek Winery Run	Ron Petrich (916) 454-1008	A	\$ R
SAMOA	Sep 14	Thu	Monthly Club Meeting			-
SAMOA	Sep 23	Sat	Scrabble Scramble 2006	Denise Correia (916) 806-8707	I	\$\$ R H
SAMOA	Sep 24	Sun	Baddtaz Barbecue Run	Dennis Dettloff/ Barbara Fenner (530) 644-7474	A	\$ R
<b>OCTOBER</b>						
SAMOA	Oct 01	Sun	Annual SAMOA Picnic	Board of Officers		R
CLUB NW	Oct 06-08	Fri-Sun	Backroads to Bavaria IX	John Hewitt (360) 659-4248	T	\$\$ R H
SAMOA	Oct 06-09	Fri-Mon	Fort Bragg Trip	Ralph Gingrich (916) 721-4499 & Fran Rowell	I	\$\$\$ R H
SAMOA	Oct 12	Thu	Monthly Club Meeting			-
<b>NOVEMBER</b>						
SAMOA	Nov 09	Thu	Monthly Club Meeting			-
SAMOA	Nov 11	Sat	6th Annual Teddy Bear Toy Run	Jack Parker (916) 698-2006	A	\$
<b>DECEMBER</b>						
SAMOA	Dec 02	Sat	Holiday Party	Ralph Gingrich (916) 721-4499		\$\$ R
SAMOA	Dec 14	Thu	Monthly Club Meeting			-
<i>Key: \$ = under \$30 \$\$ = under \$75 \$\$\$ = over \$75. R = RSVP to event coordinator or event sponsor. H = hotel reservation required or recommended.</i>						

## MIATA EVENT CATEGORIES



**MILD:** A relaxed scenic drive, slower paced, passenger-friendly, possible congested areas, several regroup stops. The main objective is to enjoy the scenery, eat and socialize.



**INTERESTING:** A drive with some intentional twisty roads, which allow the driver to enjoy the pace and the passenger to enjoy the scenery. It has a quicker pace, and usually ends with a meal and socializing.



**A BLEND:** This trip will allow the driver to exercise his/her driving skills on traditional Miata roads, within each driver's comfort level. Regroups areas. Passenger may miss some scenery. Ends with refreshments and shared stories of the road trip.



**TRAVEL:** Traveling some distance to meet, eat, socialize or visit locations. Often includes overnight stays or full day trips. Will entail a brisk pace with an emphasis on going directly, and may include freeways and faster direct roads, without regard to scenery.



**ADVENTURESOME:** Involves a quick, spirited pace. This run presents drivers with an opportunity to drive their Miatas to their individual safe limit. Will entail trips on back roads with lesser traffic, and lots of hills and curves. Motion sickness is not unheard of among passengers.



**SPORTING:** Includes track driving and autocross, with an objective of improving driving skills.

## Membership Updates

By Fran Rowell

The following folks renewed their memberships in the last month:

Tom & Fran **Rowell**  
Gene & Jan **Leining**  
Robin & Jeanne **George**  
Jim & Jackie **McClure**  
Ron **Petrich**  
Richard & Dorothy **McCamey**



Alas, Fred **Coxe** is moving out of state, and we haven't heard from Joe & Tammy **Herz**, Glen & Carolyn **Reed**, or Darlene **Wilkinson**. We'll miss you all.

We would also like to welcome the following new members (with a big Adi wave):



Gary **Dunn**  
Bob **Herron** – a lost sheep returning to the flock...  
Rick **Luttrell**  
Martin **Neft**  
Mike & Jennifer **Sipe**  
Fred & Farrah **Sneathern**



Finally, the following memberships expire on August 1, but you can maintain uninterrupted membership status by getting your check in by the next club meeting on August 10<sup>th</sup>:

RM & LJ **Gauthier**  
Gus & Maggie **Gustafson**  
Dani **Kastning**  
Mark & Annette **Lawler**  
Frank **O'Connor** & Kim **Edwards**  
Vince **Weis** & Kathi **Bell**  
Mac & Jean **Wright**



in July were Rick Luttrell, Niki & Martin Neft, Farrah & Fred Sneathern.

The club has now grown to 82 memberships, with 88 Miatas and 143 members.

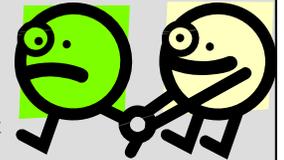
Reminder to keep your email address current with our secretary Fran Rowell at [secretary@samo.org](mailto:secretary@samo.org) to receive last minute event notices, event changes, and the newsletter.

## It's Too Hot To Drive

By Ron Petrich

If Fed Ex and UPS were to merge, would they call it Fed UP? I believe five out of four people have trouble with fractions. If quitters never win, and winners never quit, what fool came up with, "Quit while you're ahead?" Do Lipton Tea employees take coffee breaks? What hair color do they put on the driver's licenses of bald men? I was thinking that women should put pictures of missing husbands on beer cans.

I was thinking about how people seem to read the Bible a whole lot more as they get older, then it dawned on me . . . they were cramming for their finals. I thought about how mothers feed their babies with little tiny spoons and forks so I wonder what Chinese mothers use. Perhaps toothpicks? Why do they put pictures of criminals up in the Post Office? What are we supposed to do . . .



write to these men? Why don't they just put their pictures on the postage stamps so the mailmen could look for them while they delivered the mail?

Never agree to plastic surgery if the doctor's office is full of portraits by Picasso. How much deeper would oceans be if sponges didn't live there? If it's true that we are here to help others, then what exactly are the OTHERS here for? STRESSED spelled backwards is DESSERTS. You never really learn to swear until you learn to drive. Clones are people two.

If a man says something in the woods and there are no women there, is he still wrong? No one ever says "It's only a game," when their team is winning. If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague. Ever wonder what the speed of lightning would be if it didn't zigzag? Nostalgia isn't what it used to be. Think "honk" if you're telepathic. Last night I played a blank tape at full blast.

The mime next door went nuts. If a person with multiple personalities threatens suicide, is that considered a hostage situation? If a cow laughed, would milk come out her nose? Whatever happened to preparations A through G? If olive oil comes from olives, where does baby oil come from?

## Membership News

By Jeanne George

During the last couple of months we have added 15 new members to the SAMOA family.

Thanks go to Rod Gonzales' arm twisting with the various Miata dealerships and the club's offer of a one year free SAMOA membership. In July two new memberships took advantage of the opportunity to join the fun. Congratulations to Jennifer and Mike Sipe, on their recent purchase of a 2006 Marble White. They first presented their 2006 to members at the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration parade, much to the delight of the gentlemen present that day. A former member, Bob Herron, also took advantage of the promotion and recently made a new purchase and rejoined the group.

We would like to welcome the following new members. Joining in May were Mara and Milton Dee, Roberta McGuinn, and Terri and Bob Bacon. Joining in June were Kathy & Barry Hemphill. Joining

SAMOA spelled backwards is AOMAS

## BUY A MX-5 MIATA GET A FREE MEMBERSHIP

By Rod Gonzalez

As an incentive for new Miata owners to join our club, we have a new membership offer... Anyone that is not currently a SAMOA member or was a prior member and buys a new 2006 MX-5 or previously owned Miata from a participating Sacramento area Mazda dealer will receive a free one-year club membership.

Area Mazda dealerships participating in this free membership offer are:

<p><b>Senator Mazda</b> 3655 Florin Road Sacramento 95823 (916) 427-1234 www.senatorimport s.com Contact: Tom Donovan</p>	<p><b>AutoWest Mazda</b> 100 Automall Drive Roseville 95661 (916) 786-6611 www.AutoNation.co m New Cars: Rich Estep Used Cars: Bill Silva</p>	<p><b>Folsom Mazda</b> 12565 Auto Mall Circle Folsom 95630 (916) 985-5900 www.folsomimports .com Contact: Paul Lazar</p>
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These dealers are very enthusiastic about our promotion. They also welcome current members to come in and check out the new 2006 MX-5 and look forward to our continuing business. But this free membership offer only applies to new and reinstating members \*. Membership application forms are at the dealerships. More dealers may be included in the weeks to come, so check each month's newsletter and this space for updates.

Contact Rod Gonzalez at [rodroid@samo.org](mailto:rodroid@samo.org) or call (916) 443-7901 if you have any questions.

\* This is a new and returning member recruitment offer and is not available to current members or those that renew their membership.

## Zoom, Zoom, and More Zoom

By Adi Damania

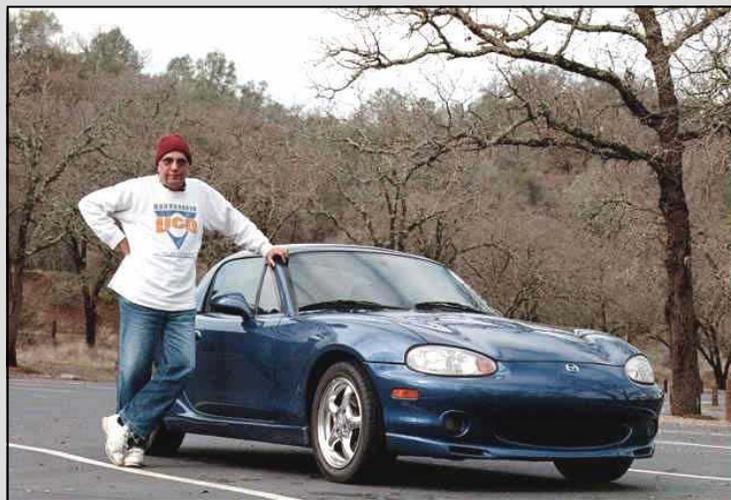
People often make positive comments about our 1999 10th Anniversary Edition Sapphire Mica Blue Miata at gas stations and elsewhere. The other day we went to the coast to visit our cousins who, tired of their large custom-built home in Fremont (part of the dot.com mob), had decided to rough it out a bit in a ranch-style camp site at Olema on Hwy 1. After a dash on I-80 towards San Francisco and then Hwy 37 across the bay and then to Hwy 1, we arrived at the cute little village of Olema. SAMOA should go there for a run; the place is full of nice antique shoppes and at least 3 great Italian restaurants and BBQ steak houses.

A few minutes after parking our "Blue Belle" in the shade of a pine tree, we were smothered with admiring glances of the family at the next campsite. "Is that a Ferrari?" asked the portly head of the group wearing only short pants and sporting a beer belly. "No", I said, "It is a Mazda". I thought an educational lesson was in order here. "It is a 1999" I added. "It looks brand new" the gentleman replied, by this

time, joined by his wife and a shapely young and blond daughter. The latter development gave me more encouragement to continue, while Parvin left for the food table.

I explained to the folks about the maneuverability and agility of the car is fantastic. It corners better than most any car, turns sharply, and has punchy acceleration (readers, note that I said "punchy" and not "neck-snapping"). Curves and turns are a joy in it. "I belong to the Sacramento Area Miata Owner's Association" I intoned, "where several dozen Miatas get together almost every second weekend and drive the foothill roads or go on longer driving trips to the Napa valley. The downside is that large road-hogging SUVs, motorhomes and other trucks sometimes do not see small cars and tend to want to run them over." By this time the wannadrives were listening to my every word, as if I was Enzo Ferrari, with wide eyes. "I would like to install a five-trumpet Maserati air-horn; the one that plays "La Cucaracha" or "The Marseilles", or "La Bamba" or whatever, complete with a switch that blows all 5 trumpets in an ear-splitting unison blast (reserved for those that cut me off), to notify other larger vehicles that are about to hit me. But, since the Miata can move quickly and efficiently, I can change lanes and avoid the road hogs rather easily. However, I would not go as far as to install one of them ugly roll bars." "Some of my best times in my little car have been had driving through those California highways with the very tall redwood trees on either side with narry a ray of sunlight falling on the road. I love to pray or listen to worship music while driving. Sometimes the presence of God is strong in this little car. In fact, one lady owner decided to marry her husband while driving the Miata with the man in her life riding as a passenger. She was listening to music and praying and started crying and felt a very strongly urge at that moment to say, yes, this was the man she wanted to marry (her boyfriend, not me!). And so she did. And they lived happily ever after". With that I too left for the food table where there were some sandwiches, the BBQ fare from the previous evening being all long gone, unfortunately.

Despite the triple digit temperature we had left behind in Woodland, the Olema Ranch campsite was a pleasant and cool 70F. We hated to part company and drive back once more to the hot, hot Central Valley and our home.



The dashing author in his 1999 10th Anniversary Miata "Blue Belle" at Lake Berryessa

## Coming Attractions

### CSCC Autocross – Part Deux

August 6, 2006

By Ron Petrich

The Competition Sports Car Club Autocross returns to the Stockton Fairgrounds. Entry Fees are \$20 per driver for CSCC members and \$25 for non-members. CSCC will again offer Miata specific run groups 1, 2, & 3. Run group placement depends on how your car is equipped. Furthermore if we can get a group of Miatas to show up as a club we will get the \$20 per driver "club discount". This is a good opportunity for those that haven't yet tried it to experience autocross in a fun and friendly environment. An approved Snell 95 or newer helmet is required; a limited number of helmets will be available to rent.



Details and run groups are available at [www.csccautox.org](http://www.csccautox.org), or contact Tom Kubo at (916) 847-8355 or email [kubo1@aol.com](mailto:kubo1@aol.com), or Bob Haugland at (916) 428-7640 or email [MrBobnOdie@softcom.net](mailto:MrBobnOdie@softcom.net).

### BAMA MiataPalooza

August 26, 2006

By Ron Petrich

Miatapalooza is a celebration of those things that make the Miata the great automobile that it is. This event will recognize the most beautiful, polisjed and presentable Miatas and at the same time celebrate the drivers and owners. It will take place on Saturday, August 26, 2006 at Monster Park (formerly Candlestick Park) in San Francisco.



Miatapalooza includes a car show and awards, tech seminars, raffle prizes, on-site vendors and freebies, goodie bags and dash plaques, and breakfast and lunch. The cost is \$20 per Miata. Registration closes on August 24, 2006.

For more information and to register for the event visit the BAMA website at [www.bayareamiataassociation.com](http://www.bayareamiataassociation.com) or email [lisa-jo885@yahoo.com](mailto:lisa-jo885@yahoo.com), or contact BAMA President Rick Weldon at (510) 786-0851.

### Matanzas Creek Winery Run

September 10, 2006

By Ron Petrich

Join your fellow SAMOANs on a relaxing drive to Matanzas Creek Winery near Santa Rosa, California, where we will enjoy a picnic lunch,



wine tasting, and cool Sonoma Valley late summer temperatures.

Matanzas Creek Winery was a raffle sponsor for Got Guts At Thunderhill, and they have invited us to their winery. The picnic grounds are large and well shaded.

We will meet at the McDonalds on Chiles Road in Davis (Mace Boulevard exit) at 8:30 AM and depart promptly at 9:00. The route will be familiar to some, as we will travel via SR128 and SR121 to the Silverado Trail in Napa, and make a pit stop at the Soda Canyon Store. From there we will take some twisty routes across the Napa and Sonoma Valleys to the winery.



After (or before or during) lunch we are all free to do some wine tasting (\$5.00 but refunded with a purchase). Our return will retrace our route back to the Silverado Trail but return to the valley via SR128.

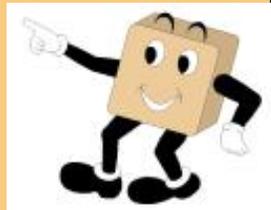
Please RSVP Ron Petrich by September 7th. at [reescope-dad@yahoo.com](mailto:reescope-dad@yahoo.com) or (916) 454-1008.

### SAMOA Scrabble Scramble 2006

September 23, 2006

by Denise Correia

Mark your calendar for September 23, 2006 for the Scrabble Scramble in Folsom. During the morning car show we will have another new MX-5 (a 2007 this time) from Folsom Mazda to test drive. We are planning another great route. Mazda is sponsoring the awards dinner. Check the SAMOA website for details at [www.samo.org](http://www.samo.org).



The cost is \$60 per vehicle and includes two lunches, two dinners, a t-shirt and chances to win great awards and prizes. The hotel is the Courtyard by Marriott in Folsom (916-984-7624). The hospitality suite on Friday evening will provide time for all of us to socialize with regional club members. Register prior to August 23, 2006 for a bonus t-shirt.

Contact Denise Correia at (916) 806-8707 or [deni@samo.org](mailto:deni@samo.org) for additional information, to volunteer for this event, or for a "no passenger" discount.

### SAMOA Club Celebrates 16 years of Fun

October 1, 2006

By Jeanne George

On October 13, 1990, the owners of 13 Miatas met at Carmichael Park for a get together. That group of people began what is now the Sacramento Area Miata Owners Association. (continued page 8)

## Coming Attractions (continued)

Over the years the faces have changed and the Miata has changed not only in style but in color selections.

Of the original group of Miata enthusiasts, today only two are still members of SAMOA. Skip Noyes, like a chameleon has changed Miata years and colors numerous times. Skip remains very active at monthly meetings often offering technical advice to members.

In addition he can be found at driving events, car shows, and has presented several great drives for the Scrabble Scramble. The other original member is Dennis Swaney. Dennis lives and works a great distance from Sacramento and is unable to attend monthly meetings. However, every December Dennis takes a vacation day to attend the Annual Business Meeting and the election of officers for SAMOA. We thank both of these men for their contributions over the years of the club's existence.



29 the club will have to pay for your meals.)

Come out and enjoy the fun. Your Board of Officers (BOO) is working on additional ideas and plans which will be provided in the September newsletter.



On Sunday, October 1, we will honor our Club's Birthday with a catered BBQ lunch at the Windwalker Vineyard. Windwalker owners, Arnie and Paige Gilpin have arranged the use of their facilities for our club members. In addition to wine tasting, bocce ball will be offered for those interested. Or

you can buy a bottle of wine and sit in the shade and watch the activities. The winery is located at 7360 Perry Creek Road, in Somers (530 620-4054).

Incahoots from Plymouth will cater the event. Lunch will be tri-tip on a French roll, green salad, potato salad, soda, water, and of course CAKE.

The event will begin with an organized drive to the winery (still in the planning stage), or you can drive there on your own.

Each active membership qualifies for two tickets to this event. Additional tickets can be purchased at a cost of \$15 each. **RSVP is required for this event. The deadline to respond is September 22. Contact Jeanne George at [jeanne@winfirst.com](mailto:jeanne@winfirst.com) to place your ticket requests or call 916 359-2627.** At the July meeting a sign up sheet was distributed, if you signed up, you do not need to email me. (If you sign up for this event and find yourself unable to attend, please notify me to cancel your attendance. If you cancel after Sept.

## Fort Bragg Weekend

October 6, 2006

By Ralph Gingrich

Yes, we are going back to Fort Bragg over the Columbus Day weekend. This event has been the longest-running event of the club and is a good one to attend.

We will leave from McDonald's in Davis (on Chile's Road at the Mace Boulevard exit from I80) on Friday or Saturday, October 6th. or 7th. at 8:30 AM. Vince Weis is working on a new route for the event. We will stop for a picnic lunch and he will have a place for us to pick up the food. Please email either Ralph or Fran at the phone numbers listed below and let them know which day you are leaving.



We will be putting on a Saturday night dinner. Fran Rowell and Ralph Gingrich are working on a menu for this now. It will include salad, main entree, and dessert. Last year it cost \$10.00 per person and we are working to maintain that price.

For reservations call the Best Western hotel at (707) 964-4776. The nightly rate is \$89.00 plus tax. We have already booked the cottage so we have a place to cook, play games and talk. The cutoff date to secure this room rate is September 13, 2006.

If you have any questions please call Ralph Gingrich at (916) 721-4499 or Fran Rowell at (530) 344-1913.

## Past Events

### July 4<sup>th</sup> Garden Valley Founder's Day Parade

By Jeanne George

Club Secretary Fran Rowell and husband Tom were hosts for this year's "Miatas on Parade" in Garden Valley. Fran hoped to increase the parade attendance from last year. When she arrived at the meeting location, she found current members, 7 new visitors (who read about it in the Sacramento Bee) and 10 Miatas. People were talking and hovering around Mike and Jennifer's new 2006 Marble White.



Our President, Robin introduced the group and gave his safety speech; Fran gave the driving instructions. The eleven vehicles headed out of the parking lot. One Miata decided it needed oil at the last minute, which caused the group to get split up. But father hen, Robin held back with the driver, and eventually we were on our way. After wandering around Auburn, waiting in the canyon on highway 49, we eventually headed to Cool. Robin could not believe that Fran and her group of eight Miatas had somehow passed us. So the two Miatas waited for the group at the side of the road. A passerby yelled to us that the group of Miatas was waiting around the corner. Once again we were on our way. Fran and Tom picked some

nice roads to lead the group.

We arrived at the parade staging area. There we were met by two more Miatas. The group got out and the decorating fun began. Robin and I were amazed at the enthusiasm of the community and the overall participation for this event. The organizers asked Fran how many Miatas would be driving the route, when she replied 13 (as in the number of original colonies) they were impressed. Even



though it was hot that day, it did not deter anyone from their decorating adventure. Thanks to Fran and Tom who provided many decorations for other attendees. In addition, David Chin had made many decorations and was offering them to others. Each Miata displayed the new SAMOA magnetic plaques on both sides of the cars for this event.

Soon our group, Number 83, was called to get in line and make a showing. As we turned the corner for the parade route, we were amazed at the numbers of spectators. Both sides of the street were packed with cheering families, children, teens, and many elderly. Some had chairs and cooler chests. They were prepared to be entertained.



Fran had a plan, she wanted the drivers to display their Miatas by driving from side to side across the road; she soon found her plan was futile. But the drivers did honk their horns as instructed in the judges viewing area. Members Dani and Scott gave bags of candy to us to throw to the children, much to their delight. Fortunately most of the horses were displayed behind us. At one point someone shouted to Robin to “look out for the horse poop”, to which he replied “thanks, I have to go around it, I won’t fit over it!” This resulted in the crowd laughing. Several people asked for the club web site and also commented on the group’s door plaques. The aroma of BBQ was in the air, and Robin asked when and where lunch was. Several people told him where to go..... (Not sure if there would have been food there or not). As we got closer to the end of the route, the crowds were packed together even more; all with the same enthusiasm and celebrating the 4th of July. This was great to see.



After the parade, we were led to Fran and Tom’s home; where we were provided a cool resting spot. This was followed by laughter, parade talk, and a great array of snacks, and BBQ chicken which Fran and now new member Farrah cooked.

For those of us who attended, we had a great time. For those of you that missed it, maybe next year. As a side point, the 7 visitors all attended the July monthly meeting and joined SAMOA.



## Around The Hills With BaddTaz

By Brian Larson

With this being my first outing with SAMOA, I didn’t know what to expect. All fears went away when I pulled into the McDonalds parking lot in Camron Park, and saw a few other Miata’s there waiting. My son Logan didn’t want mommy and me to have all the fun, so Sheri let him go on this run with me. We went in and got something to eat then met up with everyone in the lot and listened to the rules of the road. When Robin was looking for someone to do a write up for the trip, I thought what the heck. I can write a little story.

After passing out the radios, we all lined up and headed out on the open road. The first thing I thought, I should write down my thoughts as we drive along. But I didn’t have a pen, and I was driving. So I hope I didn’t forget too much from the trip. The foothills of the Sierra’s are a beautiful drive, with lots of winding roads to have fun in a little car. As we turned off the main roads, onto a small one-lane road, with signs reading Rough Road, I said to Logan, “Oh Boy, this road is going to be bouncy”! With the tight suspension on my 90, we felt every little bump on that road. After a stop sign we passed another sign, Rough Road, next 2 miles... well then, what was that we were just on??? This sign didn’t lie. It was the roughest of the day, but not a bad price to pay for the rest of the trip. As we passed a Senior Center, I remembered, I was on this road about a month ago. I know where I am at now! It is going to smooth out and be a great run from here on out as I finally glanced at the driving directions that were handed out. As we pulled into our first stop on Pleasant Valley Road, Logan said, “When is this going to be over? I want to go home.”



I think this was the hottest day of the year, so I wasn’t surprised to see a few cars put up the my AC worked. When I would have done it if we left our first stop, I knew what the rest of the We were heading into my backyard, and roads which “Myracer” have seen many miles. These and stretch our legs. As we passed Sly Park, Logan said “That’s like the lake we go to all the time”, I just laughed and told him it WAS the lake we go to all the time. He had no idea we had traveled all the way back to where we live, just on the back roads. Pulling the hill up Snows Road, I put my new KDW 2’s to the test and was very impressed with how they stuck on the switchbacks. Logan began to hold the door handle with both hands and got this big grin as we went through the turns. Pulling into Boa Vista Orchard was a break we all needed.



Logan was ready to go home, so I went looking for a phone to call mommy, but as I walked up to the shop, there she was with Grandma. She had a feeling that the little guy might be getting hot, and I had told her we would be there around 11:00 if she wanted to see all the cars. After I drank two bottles of water, and more tops going up, we headed out for our third and final stop for ICE CREAM! Taking a new side road that I had never been on, we passed a new Ferrari that gave a nice wave to us. I bet he was jealous of us. When (continued on page 10)



## Past Events (continued)

we came into Placerville, we got split up for a bit, but with the radio's, it was decided to follow the directions, and meet at the final stop. Heading over Cedar Ravine, a group pulled off to see if it was the right way, and as I was telling them all it was, Baddtaz passed us all by, yay, our fearless leader found us! Quickly meeting back at our first stop, we made our way to Fosters Freeze. Everyone got to see our weekend traffic in Placerville as we waited through a few light changes, then we were on our way again. As we pulled into the parking lot, I could already taste the Root Beer Float that was calling my name.



### SAMOA July Club Meeting

By Ron Petrich

The SAMOA club meeting held on July 13th. was noteworthy and demonstrated the generosity of the membership. A check in the amount of \$10,050.50 was presented to Tamara Block, the Executive Director of the Northern California region of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA). The money was raised by the club through a benefit track day and raffle that took place on June 19th. at Thunderhill Raceway in Willows. The event was Got Guts At Thunderhill. More than 70 drivers took part in the open track event, more than 30 vendors donated goods and services to the raffle, and at least 200 individuals purchased raffle tickets. More than \$6,000 in raffle prizes were given away at Got Guts.



CCFA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to raise money for research into finding cures for IBD - inflammatory bowel diseases, which afflicts about 1,000,000 persons in the United States alone. One hundred percent (100%) of the donation to CCFA made by SAMOA will go directly to fund medical research and assisting CCFA in fulfilling its stated mission.



Plans are already in the works for a repeat showing of this event next year. Please stay tuned to this newsletter and to the event's website at [www.gotgutsatthunderhill.com](http://www.gotgutsatthunderhill.com). For more information about CCFA and the work that they do, please visit their website at [www.ccfa.org](http://www.ccfa.org).



### THIS SPACE FOR RENT

**The newsletter is looking for a good owner for this prime article location**

**No experience necessary**

**Will edit to suit**

### Want Ads

**FOR SALE** - 1991 Mazda Miata, Special Edition -British Racing Green, original owner, 84,000 miles, 5 speed, excellent condition, new Robbins top, ABS, AC, new AM/FM/CD player. Asking \$9400.00. Serious inquiries only. Call Bob Shank at 916-204-5168 or email at [bbubba@comcast.net](mailto:bbubba@comcast.net). (1)

**FOR SALE** - Winning Power racing brake kit. For front brakes only. Includes 11.5" drilled and slotted rotors, pads and adapter brackets for the front stock calipers. \$175 OBO. Contact Jim McClure at (916) 332-9490. (3)

**FOR SALE** - Serious Auto CD Caddy. This single-din in-dash device holds 4 CD's. It fits in the empty slot above or below the factory radio slot. Like-new condition. Black. \$25.00. Contact Ron Petrich (916) 454-1008 or [freescopestdad@yahoo.com](mailto:freescopestdad@yahoo.com). (1)

**FOR SALE** - Flyin' Miata 99-05 single exit sport muffler. Like-new condition - only used for 5,000 miles and none in the past 4 years. \$150.00. (FM currently sells them new for \$378.00). Contact Ron Petrich (916) 454-1008 or [freescopestdad@yahoo.com](mailto:freescopestdad@yahoo.com). (1)

**FOR SALE** - Hard Dog Hard Core single diagonal roll bar for NA (first generation) Miata. Asking \$250.00. Also a set of four (4) Kumho Victoracer tires (205/50-15) mounted on black 15x6.5 Rota Circuit 8 rims. Asking \$400.00. Contact Joe Rainbolt at [joe.rainbolt@thomson.net](mailto:joe.rainbolt@thomson.net) or (530) 477-2208. (2)

**FOR SALE** - Four (4) Used 205/50-15 Falken Azenis Sport (old style RT-215's). Used for auto-x and a few track events, however they're in good shape with about half tread left. Caveat: One has a screw in the middle of the tread. If it was patched, it would be fine for street use and maybe auto-x, although not advisable to use on track events. They would also make good spares if you already have a set of these. Motivated seller - I need to get these out of my garage! Stop by and check them out. Make me an offer. Contact Rod at [rodnoid@samo.org](mailto:rodnoid@samo.org) or call 916-443-7901. (1)

## SAMOA Scrabble Scramble 2006

by Denise Correia

Mark your calendar for September 23, 2006 for the Scrabble Scramble in Folsom. During the morning car show we will have another new MX-5 (a 2007 this time) from Folsom Mazda to test drive. We are planning another great route. Mazda is sponsoring the awards dinner. Check the SAMOA website for details. [www.samoa.org](http://www.samoa.org) The cost is \$60 per vehicle and includes two lunches, two dinners, a t-shirt and chances to win great awards and prizes. The hotel is the Courtyard by Marriott in Folsom (916-984-7624). The hospitality suite on Friday evening will provide time for all of us to socialize with regional club members. Register prior to August 23, 2006 for a bonus t-shirt. Contact Denise Correia at (916) 806-8707 or [deni@samoa.org](mailto:deni@samoa.org) for additional information, to volunteer for this event, or for a "no passenger" discount.

### SAMOA SCRABBLE SCRAMBLE SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2006

Driver: \_\_\_\_\_ Passenger: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

#### REGISTRATION FEE IS \$60 PER CAR

Note: The registration fee includes participation in the car show, Scrabble Scramble, one T-shirt, lunch and awards dinner for two.

Please indicate the size of shirt you will need for the one (1) included shirt. All shirts are 50% cotton/50% polyester and will shrink minimally after washing.

M \_\_\_ L \_\_\_ XL \_\_\_ XXL \_\_\_

Optional additional T-Shirts are \$10 each. Please specify size and quantity.

M \_\_\_ L \_\_\_ XL \_\_\_ XXL \_\_\_ Total # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Lunch Buffet (for two)

**Dinner choices** (must be pre-ordered); includes soft drink:

# \_\_\_ BBQ Pork Babyback Ribs

# \_\_\_ BBQ Chicken

# \_\_\_ Beer-Battered Fish & Chips

# \_\_\_ Fresh Garden Salad

**Dessert Choices:**

# \_\_\_ Seasonal Cobbler

# \_\_\_ New York Cheesecake

# \_\_\_ Chocolate Fudge Cake

#### Refund Policy

Cancellations received prior to July 1, 2006: Full Refund

Cancellations received between July 1 and September 1<sup>st</sup>: \$22.50 refund (T-shirt will be sent with refund)

**No Refunds after September 1<sup>st</sup> 2006. T-shirt will be mailed to you.**

Send **Registration Form and Check** in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ payable to **SAMOA** to:

SAMOA Scrabble Scramble, c/o Denise Correia, P.O. Box 2283, Folsom, CA 95763

#### RECOMMENDED HOTEL:

##### Courtyard by Marriott

2575 Iron Point Road

Folsom, CA 95630

Phone: 916-984-7624

"Miata Club" special rate (\$89.99 rate – King/2Queen) before July 31

##### Residence Inn Suites

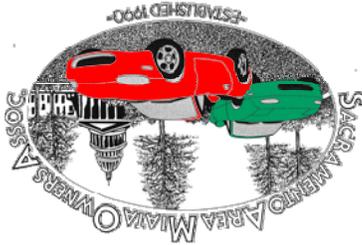
2555 Iron Point Road

Folsom, CA 95630

Phone 916-983-7289

Miata Club special rate (\$109.99) before July 31

**First Class Mail**



**Miata Tudes**  
**PO Box 392 Orangevale, CA 95662**



Are you interested in joining a Miata club  
That offers driving and social events,  
The opportunity to learn more about your car,  
but moreover the camaraderie of other  
Miata owners like yourself?

The Sacramento Area Miata Owners  
Association meets the second Thursday of  
Each month at Coco's Restaurant,  
1830 Arden Way, Sacramento, CA  
(that's just across the street from Arden Fair)  
At 7:00 PM. Many members come early and  
Enjoy a meal with other club members.

Join us for a no-obligation free tour.  
And visit us on the web at [www.samo.org](http://www.samo.org).

Contact \_\_\_\_\_

At \_\_\_\_\_



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At \_\_\_\_\_