

SAMOA member meeting 02/09/2012

The meeting opened with Sergeant of Arms, Mike DeLaurentis, announcing the arrival of the President of the Sacramento Area Miata Owners Association (SAMOA), Mr. Robin George. Vice President Ellen Frosch then introduced President George to the audience, and President George took the microphone and proceeded to give the State of the Club address. You can see/hear the address on the SAMOA website [here](#).

After the speech the meeting commenced. Robin requested the membership report provided by co-secretary, Renee. There are 124 memberships, 213 members, and 136 Miatas in SAMOA.

Robin then requested the treasury report from Treasurer Jeanne George. Jeanne reported that we are fortunate to have a good year in 2011. SAMOA income covered the SAMOA expenses. In addition, Mazda provided funds which helped fund the Scrabble Scramble, Birthday Picnic, and Christmas Dinner. Our raffle income was \$2090, expenses were \$1972, showing a gain of \$117. Tire rack funds coming into the club to date are \$359, this year total was \$86. Members donated \$993 to purchase items for the 'Support Our Troops' packages.

Jeanne then gave us all a health tip, when you go out to eat, get a to-go box up front, put half your meal in the box to take home, and dine on the other half. This helps keep your portions in check.

Our Media Director, Ron Petrich told a 'true story'. Announced was the new book 'Just Miatas' written by SAMOA club member Teresa Davis about all the Miatas she has restored and sold over the years. You can find a link on the SAMOA website to reserve copy. Additionally, it was noted that the old samoa.org web address was up for renewal at a cost of \$276 for 5 years, including fees to keep private. BOO voted to not renew this site as we have been using sacramentoareamiata.org for several years now, hosted by Yahoo for \$13.94/month, which includes privacy. Ron followed this by another 'true story'. Finally, Ron announced that there is a member survey posted online, with access from the member site. Please go in and fill out the survey, multiple responses are prevented with a requirement for name and email address in the survey. This is open to all members, including spouses, etc. Both partners are encouraged to fill out the survey, not just one.

Events Coordinator, Diana Loo, reported on past events:

The Super Bowl Run – this was the slowest ever, but a good time out with about 18 cars and perfect weather. Traffic slowed up some areas, and lunch in Davis was cancelled due to the 5 & 10K runs being held there, however some members lunched at Round Table in Winters.

Ken reported on the Tuesday night Go-Kart Racing event, there were about 10 club related persons attending, and, other than getting beaten by a little kid, Miata members had a good time. They will announce the next trip, all are welcome to come even if to just watch. Ken mentioned that kart racing actually helps with your driving reflexes.

Diana mentioned there will be a President's Day Run on the 20th of February, details to be posted soon.

Autocross championships will be May 20th, members should sign up. The cars only go about 35 MPH max, and the autocross is run by professionals, safety is their #1 concern.

Also on May 20th is a solar eclipse, and the best Northern California viewing is in Chico, more details will be posted, and if anyone wants to lead a run for this please contact Diana.

The Shriner's Concourse d'Elegance is on June 16th, more details will be posted/provided later.

Ellen would like to hold a Diva's Drive, women to drive, Dudes are invited as passengers.

Mike and Marlaina Wilson were presented with a decal for hosting the Drive and Shoot run last year. Robin encouraged the members to put their decals on when they attend an event. He also encouraged the members to host an event.

Jeanne announced available apparel, hats for \$6, polos for \$10.50, denim shirts can be ordered as well.

Wes Zicker gave a 'Tech Talk' regarding replacing the rear calipers on a '92. He noted that you can change calipers if you have a '92 to those used on a '94, with some modifications. Just remember that Mazda switched sides on the brackets. If you do switch, just remember to use the '94 pads as well.

Ellen introduced a new member, Dick Sullivan, who owns a '99 Blue Miata. Dick has been in the automotive industry for over 39 years, formerly in the GM service department, then in Bureau of Automotive Repair (Smog checks), and now an instructor at UTI. Getting a tour of UTI was mentioned and discussed.

Dave D. discussed two things you should routinely check on your Miata, oil and tires. Check and change your oil regularly, as deposits build up. At least twice yearly changes should be done, spring and fall. Check your tires regularly. The 4 numbers at the end of the DOT# on the tire is the week and year for the tire mfg date, so 4209 would be the 42nd week in 2009. Also check your coolant regularly for older cars. Dave noted that he and his brother found a tow kit that can be modified for a Miata, as they modified one for a customer to tow their Miata behind a motor home. A member asked if radiator issues are common for Miatas. Dave mentioned when you do start to overheat, it goes up fairly quickly. Most common cause is a hose leak. Another member asked if fuel additives are recommended. Dave does not recommend additives with the exception of the one to clean sticky lifters in older models.

Robin noted that Jennifer Sipe produced her first Miatatudes in January. BOO members are writing articles on why they joined the club. She said she is also giving members the same opportunity to write such an article. Email them to her or turn in comments on the forms passed out tonight. It can be a small testimonial, or a big article.

Mike Wilson mentioned that the California Auto Museum has a display of German autos right now with Mercedes spotlighted. There is a recreation of the Motorwag on display, a 300SL Goldwing, and the Studebaker club also currently has cars on display.

The meeting was ended and a raffle ensued:

Wine was won by Dennis S, Karen, Ellen, Margaret C, Mike D, Mike & Karen, and Marlaina. Black Bear Diner gift cards were won by Skip N and by Sally. Chocolates were won by Wes, Sally, Steve (along with a calendar), Jackie, Clay, Morris (also with a calendar), and Renee. A multi-tool knife was won by Clay. Sausages were won by Margaret and Vince. Randy M and Mike D won wine glasses, and Deb Thomas won placemats.