

SAMOA General Meeting

March 10, 2011

Celia's

SAMOA's BOO opened the meeting with a coordinated, combined opening ceremony. All were welcome to join in the celebration of the finest affordable sports car around - the Mazda Miata!

OFFICER REPORTS

Secretary – Pam Hunt

Pam reported the current numbers for the club: Memberships: 149, Members: 236 and Miatas: 156.

Treasurer – Jeanne George

Jeanne mentioned our membership in the California Auto Museum and the way to get your free admission each year. She also has some new attire ready for those who want to model the latest in Miata clothing. Mike and Helen DeLaurentis have run out of money for the troop purchases. Our last collection was at the Birthday Party last fall. They send out two boxes of goodies each month to our troops and are always looking for donations. Please contact them if you would like to assist.

Then, Robin had a story.....

Newsletter Editor – Michelle Thomas

Absent

Events Coordinator – Diana Loo

Although the calendar is beginning to fill up, we still need many more runs to make it a fun year for the club. If you have any ideas or would like to lead a run, contact Diana or Robin.

Mike D. is leading a run on March 12th. The Folsom Historic Run will meet at the Park and Ride at the corner of White Rock and Latrobe in El Dorado Hills at 9:30 a.m. They will cruise over to Lone for lunch and then end up in Folsom at the museum for a special exhibit on the underground tunnels in Folsom and then go over to the Folsom Power House for a docent led tour.

There will be a practice for the SAMOA Club Autocross on March 19th. Get out on the track and see what you can do. Details are on the website.

Diana Loo is leading a group to go Whale Watching at Bodega Bay on April 9th. Please see the website as plans develop.

On April 16th, the Delta Club, led by Sharon Howe, will do a wildflower run, starting in Elk Grove. See their website for more information.

The annual club Autocross will be held on April 17th at Mather Field. See Jack Parker or the web page for more information.

Ron Petrich is leading a run to the Ferrari Challenge on April 30th. You will drive down to Sears Point for the annual races. Every four or five years it is a bigger event and this year it will include special Ferraris not normally seen, especially as they are not street legal. Meet at the Winter's Chevron at 7:30 to be at Infineon Raceway by 9 a.m.

Mt Lassen will be the site for some intrepid climbers and other easy hikers on July 30-31st. Ron Petrich will lead a group to Mt Lassen and an overnight stay at the Best Western in Chester. On Sunday morning, those more able bodied will do a climb of Mt Lassen. Others in the group will enjoy some of the other features of the Mt. Lassen Park such as Bumpass Hell.

Yosemite by Moonlight will be on August 13th. SAMOA is joining up with the San Joaquin club for a full moon run through Yosemite. On the way, there will be a stop at the Underground Gardens in Fresno as well as a stop on the way back at the Castle Air Force Museum. Make sure you get your reservations in at the hotel – space is filling up fast.

Don't forget Deltas 7th annual Stewarts Point run on September 24th. Put it on your calendar. More information will come later.

Remember to put the annual Ft. Bragg trip in October on your calendar.

Technical – Ellen Frosch

In Ellen's newsletter article this month, she asked Jack Parker that if he could only make two upgrades to his car, what would they be? His answer – suspension and tires. Those are the two items that will get you the most out of the money you spend. She also has three things that she recommends to all drivers:

- 1) Driver Training – learn as much as you can about your car
- 2) If you are having troubles with your vehicle, talk to someone in the club. Since we all have the same types of cars, there is bound to be someone who has the answer you need.
- 3) Get the most “bang” for your buck. Spend your money on upgrades wisely.

It's also spring cleaning time for your car. Take the time to go over it, inside and out. Clean, wax, condition, oil, new belts or whatever else is needed to get it ready for all those runs you are going to take. Check your tire pressure and make sure you use the appropriate grade of oil for your car. Check the owner's manual to make sure.

Media Director – Ron Petrich

Ron brought out his new book for us tonight “Ron’s Book of True Stories’! He proceeded to read several of them to us. You had to be there to appreciate it, maybe! There are some new items on the web site for you to check out. There is now a link to open track days at Thunderhill. The link show when other clubs have track days that you might be able to join. Many other clubs will let you race with them. Check out the sites and let Ron know.

Also, news about a possible new Miata – “D” series come out in the “near” future. Not really too sure when, or what it will look like, but stay tuned.

Vice-President – Jennifer Sipe

There is only one new membership being added tonight. Don and Kathleen Updegraff are members of Delta and have recently become empty nesters! What better way to celebrate their added free time by joining SAMOA! Welcome Don and Kathleen!

Crazy Red has some updates on older model Miatas for us-those with automatic transmissions. See him if you need more information.

Robin also mentioned our Lifetime members present tonight: Dennis Swaney, Skip Noyes, Ralph Gingrich and Dave DeNuzzo. Also acknowledged were past presidents Mike DeLaurentis, Dave DeNuzzo and Cat Black.

Raffle

English beer- Margaret

Wine – Cat

Car wash – Ron

Wine – Helen

Car Wipes – Doug

Wine – Dennis

Wine – Vince

Hose adaptor for car washing – Graeme

Wine – Ron

Wine – Renee

Wrenches – Vince

Wine – Doug

Wine – Graeme

Screwdriver set – Skip

Wine tool gift set – Diana

Champagne - Diana

Champagne – Pam

Car care Kit – Margie

Wine tool gift set – Jan

Tool bag – Skip

Gift Cert for Brew it Up - Robin

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05