

## SAMOA General Meeting

November 11, 2010

7 p.m.

Celias

President Robin George opened the meeting with his usual gusto and the amps on LOUD! We can all hear now, except for those of us who suffered hearing loss that night! In honor of all our Veterans, present and past, we stood and gave a toast. They have served our country admirably!

### GUESTS

We had four special guests tonight, coming from all around our region. The goal from our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party was, besides having fun, to raise money for the charities that SAMOA supports. We did a great job and the representatives from each of the charities were here to receive their check for \$1,750.00 each.

Ron Petrich first brought up Heather Frank, the Executive Director of the Society for the Blind. Their main goal is to assist those with impaired vision to function independently in a seeing society. Our own Ralph Gingrich has benefited from many of their services and is "paying it back" by working with the National Society.

The Lupus Foundation was represented by Shante Davis, who is their Support Group Coordinator. The foundation is involved in research and development, advocacy and support services. Lupus is an autoimmune disease that attacks one's own immune system. Emily Brooks, wife of Mark Brooks, is affected by this disease.

For many years Ron Petrich has raised funds for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation through the many Got Guts Races. Ron has been affected by Crohn's for a long time and has made it a goal to assist in fundraising for them. Megan Franks, the Community Director, present tonight to accept the check on behalf of the Foundation.

Finally, David Ballard, the Executive Director of the Children's Receiving Home, accepted a check on behalf of the Home. We have raised money, toys and Teddy Bears annually for at least the last ten years from our Teddy Bear run, led by Jack Parker. The Home has been open to children needing assistance for the last 44 years.

### BITS AND PIECES

Robin introduced the usual group of officers, past presidents and lifetime members.

The annual Board of Officers (BOO) election will be held at December's annual business meeting. The current board is stepping down. All spots are open except media; Ron Petrich is staying on. All other positions are open. Please see Rod Gonzalez if you would like to hold an office.

While we were at Bear Valley for our party, we noticed a car club picture from many years ago. We decided to donate a framed picture of our club, taken by Bob Bacon during the Anniversary event, to hang on their wall with the other historic pictures. The Board also donated \$100 to the Bear Valley's employee Christmas Party as thanks to the wonderful service we received at our event.

Rico Estrada from Elk Grove Mazda mentioned that this weekend only, all 2010 Miatas will be \$5500 off sticker price. If a car you want is not in stock, they will get it for you.

Ralph Gingrich brought up the point that if we let drivers drive their Miata with a bag on their head, why not him? He went on to mention that at Daytona Speedway, in January, a totally blind driver will get in a vehicle designed for the blind, and run it through the speedway track. This is a test car and is the first of its kind! Ralph is very active with the Society for the Blind. He is on the board for the National Foundation for the Blind and is a advocate for them. As a fund raiser for those attending various meeting, he is selling coupon books for Carls Junior for \$5. See him if you are interested.

## OFFICER REPORTS

### **Secretary – Pam Hunt**

We currently have – 146 memberships, 235 people and 154 Miatas and are continue to grow. Please let her know if you have any changes in addresses, phone numbers or emails.

### **Treasurer – Jeanne George**

Jeanne mentioned the link on our web page to the Tire Rack. The Tire Rack has rebated us almost \$500 since the link was added. They give us a percentage of every sale that is made through the link. It's an easy way to add to our treasury.

Don't forget the Christmas Dinner is coming up on December 4<sup>th</sup>. There is still room, so if you are interested, sign up soon as there is a limited amount of seats available.

The finance committee, composed of Jeanne, Rod Gonzalez and Wes perform annual audits of all finances and prepare our budgets. We budgeted \$2000 for Bear Valley but only spent \$957! The club is ahead because we are so well supported by donations. The books are available for viewing at any time.

### **Technical Advisor – Bob Bacon**

Bob discussed the meaning of all the numbers we read on an oil can. They are important when you are considering what type of oil you need for your car. The numbers refer to the viscosity of the oil - 10W30. The first number refers to the rate of flow at 0\* F. The W stands for winter. The second number stands for the rate of flow at 212\* F. The higher the number, the thicker the oil.

### **Newsletter Editor – Michelle Thomas**

I need articles! I need articles! That's all!

### **Media Director – Ron Petrich**

Ron had a true story, this time about Quasimodo. Nothing about the web site except that it's still there.

### **Events Coordinator – Mike DeLaurentis for Jack Parker**

Wreaths Across America will be on Saturday Dec. 11 in Dixon. This is an annual event honoring our veterans. See the web for more details.

The San Joaquin club will hold their annual Coastal Cruise on January 29-30, 2011. See their website for details.

Still under planning, is the Super Bowl run on February 6<sup>th</sup>.

Skip Noyes is leading an impromptu run this Saturday over to Napa to see the fall colors. Meet at the Davis McDonald at 9 am on Saturday 11-13. Just show up for the ride.

### **Vice President – Mike De Laurentis**

At the club picnic last month, we raised over \$400 in cash and lots of food for our soldiers boxes. Mike and Helen send out two boxes a month. They passed around a thank-you note from one of the units that received one of our boxes.

We have several visitors and new members tonight. Joe Marsala has a 1994 red Miata that used to belong to his business partner. He partner didn't drive it much, so Joe took advantage of it.

Rene Ariaza works at UC Davis in the "mouse" biology department. She drives a 2006 grey Miata.

Richard Reinhart likes vettes but really fell in love with his mother's 1995 white Miata. He bought hers when she was unable to continue driving and hasn't stopped since.

Sally is a new member and recently went on the Teddy Bear run. This was her first run and she really got a thrill from it. It was a beautiful day and she loved driving on the levees.

Stan mentioned that if you are in the market for new tires, there is a great article in the November issue of Consumer Reports.

The order of hat Jeanne mentioned at our last meeting came in. They are \$6; see her after the meeting if you would like to buy one.

Raffle

Flying Miata gift certificate – Wes

Auto week subscription – Mike

Tire coating – Mike

Mazda tshirt – Wes

Wine – Ken

Elk Grove Mazda backpack - Patrick

Fleece blanket – Jeanne

Hat & DVD – Mike

Wreath – Jackie

Car wash – Ron

DVD and Seatbelt straps-Clay

Hand brush – Frank

Car top cleaner – Pam

Wine – Pam

Wine – Patrick

Back support - Wes

Wreath – Clay

First aid kit – Ralph

Fleece blanket – Frank

Pumpkin ale – Dennis

Meguies wax – Patrick

Hat & car soap – John

Wine – Patrick

Orbit polisher – Pam

Wild Turkey – Jim

Meeting adjourned at 8:20.

