



ROBIN'S NEST

ROBIN GEORGE

Well, SAMOA's cruising and zooming season is almost over for another year. We have visited some great places and zoomed some mighty nice Miata roads. I wish to thank all of the leaders for planning such great



W e have been driving to many places all over Northern California. We are so fortunate to have many of the finest Miata roads within an afternoon's drive of Sacramento. And even more within an over-

cruises a n d leading us down t h o s e twisty country roads. We e

night stay. 2012 should be an even more exciting year and continued fun in our Miatas. Besides our favorite runs for next year, new runs and events are starting to be added. If you have a place you would like to visit and don't mind 25 or 30 of us tagging along, let us know. We love parties. Keep checking the events page and mark your calendars.

December 3rd is our Christmas party and as of this date we made our quota for keeping the room to ourselves. Thanks to all who are planning to spend a little Christmas cheer at Vincent's.

Plan to attend the General Meeting on December 8th. It should be a very interesting

and busy meeting. There are lots of goodies to disperse, great raffle prizes, election of new officers and club discussions. But don't forget the good food and friends. The club continues to grow and as long as everyone is enjoying themselves we will be a viable club. We are from various backgrounds and have just as varied talents. The Miata brings those skills together. What the future holds, only time will tell. One thing for sure – we sure love our Miatas.



TEDDY BEAR RUN PHOTOS



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NEXT MEETING

Thursday, Dec 8th

BLACK BEAR DINER

2700 El Centro Rd, Sacramento

(near I-80 and Watt Avenue)

916-641-2327

Come early for dinner, 6pm

Meeting at 7pm

We welcome our Newest Members

Memberships renewed in November

Somplack, Jon and Alice

Simpkin, Drew

Correia, Denise

Arnold, Kari

Gingrich, Michael and Kristen

Memberships Expiring December 1

Barlow, Gene

Garvin, Chuck and Ann

Jacczak, Nathan

Paauwe, Bob and Genny

Parker, JB

Selman, Nancy and Chuck

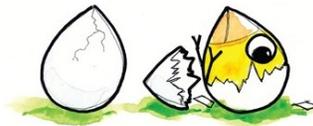
Thao, Bruce

Wierzba, Dennis

SAMOA stats: 128 Memberships, 216 Members, 138 Miatas

December Hatchlings

Christopher Bark – December 17th
Chuck Coffman – December 31st
Margaret Counter – December 15th
Clay Cowan – December 6th
Stan Cummings – December 19th
Gary Dunne – December 16th
Neal Mackey – December 1st
Bill Martz – December 29th
Jackie McClure – December 2nd
Lonnie McDavid – December 8th
Bill Menezes – December 19th
JB Parker – December 6th



Ron Petrich



Ama Revo – December 10th
Carol Rossiter – December 7th
Sally Schimmel – December 30th
Mary Schleeter – December 11th
John Shepherd – December 3rd
John Souza – December 2nd
Bruce Thao – December 14th
Jill Thurston – December 26th
Ron Zander – December 7th



The Road Ahead

A look at upcoming events

by Diana Loo

The following is a list of upcoming events. There is room to squeeze in another run or two. If you have any ideas for a run, please contact me or anyone on the board. Also, if you have not done so, please contact the person organizing the event to confirm you will be attending.

DATES	EVENT
December 3, 2011 	Christmas Dinner Vince's Ristorante in Elk Grove. Jason Carmel will provide the music and singing and if you wish, you can sing along with Jason or dance. Entrees are baked lasagna, chicken marsala or steak. Entrees include salad, pasta, bread, coffee, ice tea and dessert.
December 10, 2011 	Wreaths Across America Join us for the sixth straight year of decorating our Veteran's graves as part of a nationwide program whose goal it is to lay a wreath at each grave in every Veteran's cemetery throughout the US. We will meet at 7:30 AM for a 7:45 AM departure from the Davis McDonald's at 4444 Chiles Road, 95616. (McDonald's: 530.753.5001). We will drive to the Dixon VA Cemetery to attend The Wreath's Across America ceremony beginning at 9:00 AM. Following the ceremony and some time to decorate graves we will drive to Winters for lunch then take a fun drive, over some great roads, to Napa Valley. We'll take some roads that I believe are new to the club - some freshly paved - and with a nice mixture of curves, hills and scenic farmland. Watch the weather forecast and dress appropriately for an outdoor event. . If you would like to donate a wreath or learn more about this Nation-wide program you may do so by going to www.wreathscrossamerica.org . For questions about this event and to RSVP contact Mike DeLaurentis by email at
January 1, 2012	Hang Over Run – More to follow. so save the date.
January 10, 2012 	Go Kart Racing SAMOA Go Kart Racing #4. Tue. Jan10, 2012 RPM Indoor Kart Racing Bradshaw Road at Hwy 50 6PM Subway Sandwich place inside the Race Bldg. 6:30PM Sign in for racing! RSVP to Ken Johnson by email at okjwoodland@msn.com or 916-515-0789
January 28-29, 2012 	San Joaquin Valley Miata Club 19th Annual Coastal Cruise Meet at Denny's on Jensen at Hwy 99. Drivers meeting at 8:30 am, come earlier if you want breakfast. Lunch TBA at drivers meeting, dinner at Linn's in Cambria, and our motel will once again be the Courtesy Inn in San Simeon. Our rate will \$45.00 as in the years past, call 805-927-4691 and tell them your with " The Miata Club" RSVP Richard Johnson at rjohnsondds@comcast.net or RSVP Tom Jarvis at kg6kyu@comcast.net . We need RSVP for meal count Note: This year we will be going from Fresno to Carmel and then south on Hwy 1 to San Simeon.
May 3-5, 2012 	Miatas in Moab V Events and activities begin on Friday. Event registration opens at 5:00 PM Thursday. Welcome Social Thursday Evening. Cost of the event will be \$65.00 per person and includes the Event Cowboy Dinner Buffet & Program Sat. night (\$35.00 value) and Event full color Logo T-Shirt, Misc. Handouts for Drives, Event Schedule and Goodie Bag. Download the Event Registration Form to register for the event. Look for details on how to register on our website in the near future. Other details about the event will also be posted. Now is the time to make your room reservations for our Miata's in Moab 2012. Event will be held at the Red Cliffs Lodge Resort. Located at Mile 14, Hwy. 128, Moab, Utah 84532 on the scenic Colorado River. See the Utah Miata website www.utahmiataclub.com

In the Rear View Mirror

See what fun we had last month!

TEDDY BEAR RUN

Maureen and Randy Morris

19 Miata owners met on Saturday, Nov. 19th at 9:00 a.m. at Starbucks on Watt Avenue for our annual Teddy Bear Run. We were fortunate not to have rain. After leaving our gifts at the Children's Receiving Home, we travelled through Slough House, El Dorado

Hills, and Cool, crossing the American River, and into Auburn. The scenery was gorgeous and the trees were resplendent in fall colors of orange, yellow and red. We had lunch at Awful Annie's in a quaint, old building on the main street of town. Despite losing our reservations, they made room for us in the bar and we had a delightful lunch. A good time was had by all.

WINE SELECTING 101

Jeanne George



(1) Pick a winery and go with friends, you'll need them later.



(2) Select a vat.



(3) Sample the product.



(4) Try some more.



(5) Now you need your friends



(6) Take it home and enjoy!

More photos are at http://www.sacramentoareamiata.org/photos_charlesmitchell2011.html

ZIPPY RED 90

This little red 90 impressed me when I first saw it. Then I drove it. The thing was a rocket! It was real throaty sounding, had good paint and this little sucker was fast! It had a tweaked up exhaust system.

It was beautiful when I bought it, the timing belt had been changed and my mechanic did the valve cover gasket, rear brakes, heater hose, etc. I called it Zippy Red. It was the most powerful, fastest and coolest sounding car I'd ever had. This was 2010 when the economy was tanking but people wanted cheap transportation. I had an appointment with a guy (Ed) on his way down from Stockton to see the Zippy Red 90 and I told him I wouldn't sell it until he got here. He had made an offer over the phone sight unseen and I had agreed.

Anyway, this was a couple of years ago. Ed emailed me recently and said he needed to sell Zippy Red 90 as soon as possible. He had two kids, the car was too small and he needed the money. He'd had it a couple of years now and put a lot of miles on it, but I remembered that car. It was special when I first bought it and absolutely stunning when I sold it to him. He accepted low blue book, as it was in fair to good condition (which I lowered to fair condition). It had a torn window which meant a new top, which I was afraid of.

It was just the kind of project I couldn't resist. It was right on the edge of becoming a parts car. First thing I did was change the oil. It was awful! I had tried to get pictures before agreeing to buy it, but I didn't. The car was filthy inside and out, it had a ripped window and rotted top. But the body was still good, and the original paint was still there under all that grime for Bruce-the-detailer to bring back.

I had reluctantly agreed to get the smog on it because Ed was so stressed out and tied up with family stuff and work, but he would pay for it or take the car back. I promised myself I wouldn't do anything to it except change the oil until it passed smog. I didn't want to put any more money in it until then. It failed smog! Miserably!

Now I remember all the times sweating bullets waiting for a car to pass smog. I put a new catalytic converter on it (for which Ed paid half). In 10 cases out of 10.1, it's the cat and it will pass with a new one. It failed again!

It was time to bring in our mechanic, Jet. It was the dirty oil that we were assuming was causing the problem. I had had the oil flushed when it was changed, but Jet went back and flushed the whole top of the engine and the fuel system with Sea Foam Engine Cleaner (I say that like I know what I'm talking about.) He also moved the timing back a couple of notches and tweaked here and there. Eureka! It finally passed.

Ed had put 30,000 miles on it in a year. It needed a lot of elbow grease to save it. I have never seen such a filthy car! It was full of trash, ashes piled on the floor, sticky, icky stuff and the top of the seat was torn, plus all the little things that always need to be done.

Now it has a new top and I sewed up the little hole in the seat. Martin Castillo (my top guy) is very good and fast, and I love going to his shop. Just watching him work and seeing all the fancy work they do on vintage cars and hot rods is a treat.

Each thing we did to the car changed it dramatically. The new top looked great. I washed the car twice and then went over it again with a sponge and Simple Green. It looked better and I could see some shiny paint. I shampooed the entire interior twice and vacuumed it over and over. It had been smoked in and had ashes everywhere and smelled like a smoker. I put the top down for the whole first week. I used Febreze on it often and I shampooed it, seats and carpet. The dash and door panels were washed down. It took forever to get the windows clean. All traces of smoke were successfully removed.

Ed had put some awesome speakers in it and four new Falken tires. Right now it looks a 1000% better just being washed and the trash shoveled out of it.

Jimmy fixed the headrest speakers and anything (mechanical) that was sticky and changed light bulbs and took the wipers off so I could paint them and I took off the black luggage rack and cleaned it up and painted it. Bruce-



the-detailer buffed out the car. Bruce is a genius with paint. He also detailed the engine for me. The wheels looked horrible, but I got the crud off. The new tires do look good.

Zippy Red got his new top, his paint buffed out, had new tires, and his car card was all finished. I put it on Craigslist and within hours had several calls. The first guy who looked at it bought it. It was his first sports car and he'd just moved to California from Illinois. He's really jazzed about it and got a wonderful car.

And Zippy Red is no longer a commuter car. He's a sports car again and admired by the whole family. Total time to restore – two weeks. This was my third last car since I retired!

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**SACRAMENTO AREA
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1864 Bridge Creek Drive
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MEMBERSHIP BADGES

Any member may purchase a personalized SAMOA membership badge. An order form and complete order instructions can be found on our [website](#)

PERSONAL WEBSITE

Each SAMOA member is entitled to a personal page on our web site. You can include up to a full page of biographical or other personal information, and up to three (3) color photos. Contact the [webmaster](#) to set up and/or update your page.

*Best Wishes for a Joyous Holiday
and a Happy New Year*

