

SAMOA
March 12, 2009
General Membership Meeting

Location: Tex Wasabi
Call to Order: 7:00 pm

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President Robin George opened the meeting at 7pm at our new (?) location – Tex Wasabi’s.. He noted that we are here to celebrate the greatest sports car ever – the Miata! There has been a struggle to find an appropriate place for our growing club, and after a lot of work by many people, we may have found one. The problems at Coco’s were becoming major-besides too little space, we froze at the front, steamed at the back and were crammed in like sardines. Tex’s is the latest trial run. So far, so good.

Tex Wasabis’ General Manager, Bob, took the time to come in and introduce us to his restaurant and its’ history. He has been here 2 ½ years and is just getting to know his way around the area. They serve BBQ and Sushi – a strange combination that has its roots in a road trip with a bus of friends looking to drink their way to San Francisco and find a restaurant that they liked.

Please let Robin and the rest of the BOO know what you think of Tex’s.

The Board of Officers were introduced: Vice-President-Mike DeLaurentis, Secretary-Pam Hunt, Treasurer- Jeanne George, Media – Ron Petrich, Events – Jack Parker, and Technical advisor - Bob Bacon.

Robin also introduced lifetime member Skip Noyes and Dennis Swaney, and former presidents Dave Denunzio, Cat Black and Mike DeLaurentis.

Officer Reports:

Secretary – Pam Hunt

Tonight we have hit the 200th member! We are growing and expanding. Robin also asked how many read the minutes of the meeting on line...and the answer was ZERO!

Treasurer – Jeanne George

Jeanne announced that we still have a great inventory of club wear items for sale.

Jeanne led the charge in looking for a new place to meet and visited more that 20 place by herself. There were many others in the club who took the time to assist Jeanne in her search – The Sipes, Wilsons, McClures and Denise and Ellen. Thank you all for your assistance and a big thanks especially to Jeanne!

Media – Ron Petrich

Ron told quite a few one-liners which will not be repeated here. He also mentioned that the password for March is ettubrutus.

Robin stepped in to compete with Ron with his own one-liners and jokes. There was no comparison-they were both bad!

Events – Jack Parker

March 14th will be the Chili Cook off, hosted by Vi and Frank Nicholson. You can still sign up tonight. There will be about 7 different types of chili's to try and also a few games. Mike and Helen DeLaurentis will lead the run prior to the cook-off at 1pm. Meet at the park and ride at Whiterock and Latrobe at 1pm.

The Club Autocross champs will be on March 22nd in Stockton. Currently 14 cars are signed up and room for more. There will be trophies in 5 categories and also a women's class trophy for the first time. There will also be time for fun runs.

April 11 will be the OTM III at the Towe Auto Museum. Meet in front of the museum at 10 am.

Kat and Ken are planning a run on April 25th leaving from Natomas and heading to the Feather River. Lunch will be in Auburn. More to come in April.

Mike and Marlaina are leading a run on May 2nd. It will be to Lodi and visiting a boutique winery - the D'art Winery. There will be bocci ball, a picnic lunch and a nice run through the delta to get there.

The Ferrari Challenge will be held May 3rd at Sears Point. Plan to meet in Winters at the Chevron Station at 8 am. There will be a ride through Berryessa to get there. A lot of nice Ferraris will be there to look. The cost will be \$20 to get in and plan to bring your own lunch. No RSVP needed.

May 9-SAMOA Detail Clinic. We have 26 cars signed up so far. You must RSVP by email to Ron Petrich if you are coming and want to get in on the drawing for the free detail job. We will be learning how to properly detail our cars by a professional detailer. There will also be a mobile dent repair guy to fix all those little dings that drive us crazy. He is donating 2 free dent repairs to raffle off. Flying Miata may also do a sponsorship of the activity. It will be held at the bus barn on Arena Blvd (where Robin works). They have donated the space for our use. There will be a BBQ lunch free to members.

Shriners Concours will be held on May 17th at Mather Field. Registration will be \$40/car and will include lunch, drink tickets, and goodie bags. All registrations for SAMOA need to be sent to Rod. It will be a daylong event. We need a minimum of 10 cars pre-registered to qualify for the awards that the Shriners will give us. All proceeds will go to the Shriners Hospitals.

On June 13th, Mike and Marlaina will lead a tour of the Farm Trails of Sebastapol. It is still in the planning but sounds like a really fun and different trip. More to come later.

Technical – Bob Bacon

Bob had some interesting trivia on Miatas for us tonight. There are quite a few rare Miatas out there and maybe you own one of them! In 1990 Mazda did 6 special cars that were all metallic paint. There are only 3 left today. In 1997 there was a “R” package Miata made. It had more of a beefed up steering package and was made more for racing. There were only 47 made of those.

Bob asked if there were any technical issues out there tonight, but none surfaced.

Vice-President – Mike DeLaurentis

Mike mentioned that we had over 65 people turn out for the meeting tonight. It was a great showing and signified the need for our recent restaurant search. He also had a big Thank you to Mark Brooks for the latest newsletter. Great job, Mark!

New Members and Guests:

We have several new members and guests tonight:

Our 200th member is Patrick Johnson. He is the proud owner of 2008 grey hard top. He has like them since they first came out and finally went out and bought one. As he said, they are a pleasure to drive. As member 200, he received a free years membership on top of his free years membership!

We also had a guest here tonight from Fair Oaks. Laina drives a Mini Cooper, and a Harley and recently moved here from San Francisco. She is a friend of Mario and Cece’s and thought the club sounded like fun.

SAMOA will be celebrating its 20th birthday soon and we are planning to do a special party. If anyone is interested in being on the organizing committee, please let Robin know.

Raffle:

Guinness six pack – Laina

Bag of rags – Fran

Guinness – Bob and Camie

Clay Bar – Fran

Air compressor and digital tire gauge - Jim

Fleece blanket – Ellen

Cooler backpack – Jan

Tire clock – Samantha

Degreaser – Diana

Blanket – Bob
Octane Booster – Mark
Bailey Irish Cream – Patrick
Wine case-Mario
Baileys Caramel Cream – Helen
Carwash soap – Vince
Black & Decker Simple start charger – Patrick
Hat – Cat
Wine Case – Eric
Wine for Dummies-Joe
Cooler – Rod
Octane Booster – Bob
Blanket – Steve
Coffee on the run – Terri
Speed racer car – Mac

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20.