

SAMOA General Meeting

April 9, 2009

Tex Wasabi

President Robin George opened the meeting at 7pm. We are here to celebrate the finest affordable sports car in the world. Again we met at Tex Wasabi's. A letter has been sent to Coco's thanking them for their great service to us over the recent years. If there are any problems or concerns with our new location, please let Robin know so that they can be addressed.

Robin introduced the current Board of Officers: Mike DeLaurentis- vice-president, Jeanne George- Treasurer, Pam Hunt – Secretary, Jack Parker–Events coordinator, Ron Petrich – Media Director, Bob Bacon- Technical Advisor, and Mark Brooks – Newsletter Editor. He also introduced lifetime members Skip Noyes and Dennis Swaney and past presidents Dave DeNunzio, Cat Black, Mike DeLaurentis and Steve Hartzell.

Ballots will be passed out this evening for opinions on designs for a new logo. There are six new designs plus the option to keep the one we currently use or none of the above. Please vote and let us know what you like.

Robin entertained us tonight with an “Easter” trick involving raw eggs, water, a plate, matchboxes and a broom. We were getting a good laugh watching him set up, and were quite amazed – and appreciative – when he succeeded in getting the eggs in the glasses of water without breaking them or making a mess! It is hard to describe the trick, so understand you had to be there!

Officer Reports

Secretary – Pam Hunt

We are still at the 200 mark for members with 122 memberships and 128 Miatas! Pam handed out the ballots for voting on the log designs –make sure you turn them in after the meeting.

Treasurer – Jeanne George

Jeanne mentioned the recent newsletter article concerning the increase in dues. In case you were concerned about the \$31.35 fee there is no reason to worry – APRIL FOOLS! She also mentioned that we still have plenty of inventory available for purchase by members. See Jeanne after the meeting.

Technical – Bob Bacon

Car and Driver recently did an article on the 2009 Miata-a very nice review. They also have the Miata listed as one of the top 5 sports cars under \$50k.

Newer ('06 and later) Miatas do not come equipped with a spare tire. Bob recently found a reasonably priced solution to this problem called "Vacu-Rak". It is a 4 suction cup supported rack that sits on the trunk of your car and is rated up to 200 pounds. It doesn't damage the paint and is easy to use. Even better it only cost \$65.00 plus shipping. It comes with straps to hold down luggage, a spare tire, or whatever you would like to carry. Red mentioned an unusual problem he saw on a Miata recently. The pulley on the timing chain slipped. He has never seen it before.

Media Director – Jack Parker

The chili cookoff was a great success. A lot of fun was had with the games and there were seven different types of chili to taste plus a lot of other great foods!

OTM III is this Saturday - Meet at the Towe Museum.

On April 25th will be the Spring Fever Run. Cat and Ken are leading a tour of the Garden Highway up into the Feather River with lunch planned in Auburn and ending with a tour through Cool and the surrounding area.

On May 2nd, there will be a picnic at D'Art Winery in Lodi. It will start with a run through the Delta and end with food, Bocce ball and wine tasting. Meet at the Starbucks at Exposition and Hwy 160 . Mike and Marlena Wilson are leading.

May 3rd is the Ferrari Challenge at Sears Point Raceway. No RSVP is needed. See the web for more detail.

On May 9, we are holding our first detail clinic. Between 35-40 cars have already signed up for what is becoming a very interesting day. We have a pro detailer coming out to show us how to clean our cars properly and also a dent repair guy to fix them for us. Check out the website for all the details of where and what to bring.

The Shriners Concours will be held on May 17th. Rod Gonzalez is coordinating for SAMOA. He has forms available – after they are filled out they need to be returned to him. We will be in the Car Club area at Mather Field. Seven cars have already signed up.

The Farmland Trail Run will be hosted by the Wilsons on June 3rd. We will be exploring the small farms and nurseries in the Sebastopol area. More info to come.

The annual Kirkland Run will be held on June 27. Instead of breakfast, there will be a lunch this year. More to come soon.

The club Autocross Championship trophies were awarded tonight. The Ladies Champion was Diana Loo. In the Open Category, Robin George placed first. Category 1 was won by Ross Donner, with Richard Kelly and Tek placing 2nd and third, respectively. Category 2 was won by Rod Gonzalez. Nick Csik won Category 3 with Eric Vance coming in second. Congratulations to all of the participants.

Vice-President – Mike DeLaurentis

We are sending out two packages a month to soldiers now. Keep on bringing in items to keep the boxes filled.

A specially designed wine bottle has been made available commemorating Miatas 20th anniversary. There are two choices- Merlot and Chardonnay. The specially designed labels make this a nice souvenir for \$20.

See Mike for more information.

Steve and Cindy Hartzell were prior members who have come back to join us. Steve is a past president.

Visitors Leonard and Connie Gaetsz are here for the first time from Auburn with a brand new Merlot Miata. Connie had a birthday a few weeks ago...

Drawing for Easter Eggs

Winners are: Terri Bacon, Vince Weiss, Ralph Gingrich times 2, Rod Gonzalez, Betty Hoffman, Neil, Betty Hoffman times two, Jim McClure, Rod again, Bob Carlson, Tak, Neil, Diana Loo, Bob Carlson, Jack Parker, Doug Hoffman, Ken, John Folsom. Kathy Bell, Richard Kelly, Diana Loo, Tak, Betty again, Jim again, Cindy Hartzell, Skip Noyes, Doug again, Kathy again and Vince again.

Raffle

Bocce ball set – Neal

Hand Mitt – Toby

Liquid polish-Richard Kelly

Knife and fork –John Folsom

Wine-Cindy Hartzell

Emergency kit-John Folsom

Travel picnic silverware- Judy

Wine-Toby

Cooler-Rod

Autoshade-Jack

Car soap-Betty Hoffman

Wine case – Judy

Travel silverware-Skip

Wine – Betty Hoffman

Car soap-Richard Kelly

Wine -Skip

Liquid polish – Pam Hunt

Coller – Jan

Wine – Terri Bacon

Air compressor-Toby

Wine-Terri Bacon

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30