



Road Runner

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A Monthly Publication for the Members & Friends of the First Coast Miata Club

First Coast Miata Club

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January Chili Treasure Drive to Jekyll Island

When: January 27, 2018 at 8 AM - 4 PM

Start: Cracker Barrell 13250 City Station Dr, Jacksonville FL32218

There's an explorer in each of us. Discover miles of wide-open beaches, marshes teeming with life, and live oaks draped in Spanish moss. You'll find out why the Jekyll Island experience is unlike that of any other.

We will meet for breakfast at Cracker Barrel starting at 7am (optional) and have a drivers meeting at 8 am sharp. We will then head up Rt 17 to the Jekyll Island Welcome Center for a bio break and to buy a parking pass (\$6) for the day. We will get briefed on the treasure hunt (artistic glass globes). Next we will head to the Jekyll Island Historic Tours & Gift Shop and from here you can create your own adventure.

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-90 min Passport to the Century Tram Tour (\$16)-leaves @ 11am.

-Georgia Sea Turtle Center (\$8)

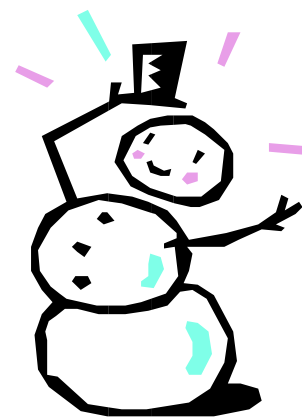
-Treasure Hunt (many ways to do this...rent a bike, golf cart, segway or horse drawn carriage) costs will vary

-Shop, shop, shop...ladies, there is a Life is Good store on the island! (Cost will vary according to credit limit and trunk size limit)

After you have worked up an appetite, we will meet up by 1pm at the Chili Cookout & Bake Sale at the Jekyll Island Fire Department. \$6 will include chili, trimmings, and a drink. We can get back together and share our adventures. There is too much to do in one day and we can certainly go back in the future.

After we eat, there will be enough time to do more shopping or head back home.

The 2017 FCMC Annual Holiday Party at Autobahn Indoor Speedway









2018 Mazda Miata adds a cherry on top

For 2018, Mazda is adding a number of new options that should get the attention of prospective Miata buyers, and one of them is shown below. Starting with the new model year, Mazda will offer both the usual black soft top, but also a "Dark Cherry" red top. It looks quite sharp with the silvery-blue color below, and it should be an excellent complement to the Grand Touring model's newest interior option. On the Grand Touring trim, customers can choose the reddish-brown Nappa leather interior that was first applied to the Miata RF Launch Edition. The interior package adds \$300 to the top-trim Miata's price tag.

There are a few other upgrades sprinkled throughout the Miata lineup. The base-level Sport models will finally get infotainment with a 7-inch screen instead of the the little stereo controls mounted to the dash. The midrange Club model now gets heated cloth seats that are upgraded to heated leather units with the Brembo/BBS package, which for \$3,770 adds Brembo brakes, BBS wheels, a body kit and the aforementioned seats. Another \$700 nets the same package but with Recaro seats that also feature seat heaters.

Along with the new features come slight price increases across the board. The base 2018 Sport trim now starts at \$26,185, an increase of \$395. The Club increases in price by \$370 to \$30,045, and the Grand Touring has the smallest change of \$145 to \$31,085. The first 2018 soft-top Miatas will arrive at dealerships this month, and should be available everywhere in January.



FCMC EVENTS CALENDAR

- **January 9 - 6:30 p.m. Monthly Club Meeting:**

Our monthly club meeting will be held at Tommy's Brick Oven Pizza at 4160-2 Southside Blvd, Jacksonville FL 32216 that has amazing Italian food. Visit their website for photos and a menu at: vitosoriginalitalian.com. So don't swim with the fishes or hit the mattresses. Come out and see what's cooking in 2018!

- **January 27 - 8:00 a.m. Chili Treasure Drive to Jekyll Island**

We will be traveling to Jekyll Island for a treasure hunt and then eating chili! See the front page for all the details! Don't miss this beautiful drive.

Upcoming/Planned Events:

- **February 24 - Daytona Motor Speedway Tour**
- **March 24 - Royal Palm Railway Experience**
- **April 7 - Space Coast Warbird Air Show**

You definitely don't want to miss out on all the fun-filled, action-packed drives we have planned for this year with many more to come!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! ...and Happy January Birthdays to:

Marlene Koehl, Jim Sparks, Brenda Doolin, Rosa Friedl & Paul Herbst

Welcome to Our Newest Members:

Chuck Tucker & Lisa Lutrario

The *Road Runner* is published monthly for the First Coast Miata Club of Northeast Florida. The editor and the First Coast Miata Club assume no liability for information contained herein, or for injury or damages resulting from use of such information and should be used at the reader's own discretion and risk. Neither contributors to the newsletter nor the editors express approval, authentication or encouragement of the contents. Neither the First Coast Miata Club, its officers, nor its members are responsible for injury or damages incurred during the events. All members are required to possess valid individual drivers licenses, insurance policies in accordance with Florida state law, and to follow all laws and regulations.



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Group Page: facebook.com/groups/firstcoastmiataclub

Thieves tell cops 'Mr. Tesla' said it was okay to swipe Teslas

Tesla's aren't easy to steal, but thieves in Utah allegedly made off with three \$80,000 models by breaking into a dealership and stealing the fobs. After that, however, their master plan fell comically apart. "One guy claimed a family member had died and left them all this stuff, but two of them actually said it was given to them by a man named Tesla," said South Salt Lake police detective Gary Keller.

Investigating a break-in at the dealership, police tracked down a suspect in one of the stolen Teslas and found him to be in possession of keys, the dealership's business license and a check for \$49,500 made out to Tesla. In a burst of what may have been alcohol-fueled inspiration, he claimed his name was Tesla.

While police checked clues at the dealership, a stolen Tesla happened to drive right by them. It ran out of battery power a moment later, so police easily picked up the 27-year-old female suspect, who apparently forgot about the whole "never return to the scene of the crime" thing.

Later in the morning, the third stolen vehicle was found parked outside (wait for it) a liquor store. The latter two individuals said they were part of the "Tesla family" and the woman said she received the high-priced vehicle from "Mr. Tesla" himself.

Luckily the cars were undamaged and the doors not pried, likely because the thieves had the keys to get in. After getting lucky with the initial theft, it's pretty clear they weren't criminal masterminds, though. "It's one of those cases where you're going, 'What?' and you're scratching your head," said Keller. "The good thing is we have four people in custody and hopefully all the property returned."

