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FEBRUARY 2020



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

Through the Forest and to the Lake

WHEN: February 22, 2020

MEET: 9:00 AM at Hardee's on SR21 Middleburg, Fl.

DEPART: 9:30 AM

The February Drive will happen on February 22. The Drive will take us thru the Ocala National Forest along roads less traveled to Gator Joe's on Lake Weir in the thriving metropolis of Oklawaha, Fl. The drive will take us where there are few traffic lights, minimal traffic, rolling hills and curves for we MIATAPHILES to enjoy. Those sharp-eyed individuals among us may even spot some of the abundant wildlife known to inhabit the area.

Gator Joe's is on a pier built out into Lake Weir, it has good food, cold drinks and lots of character and the CHARACTERS in our club will just add to the legend of Gator Joe's!

SO GAS UP, GEAR UP AND BE READY FOR A GREAT DAY OF MIATARING!

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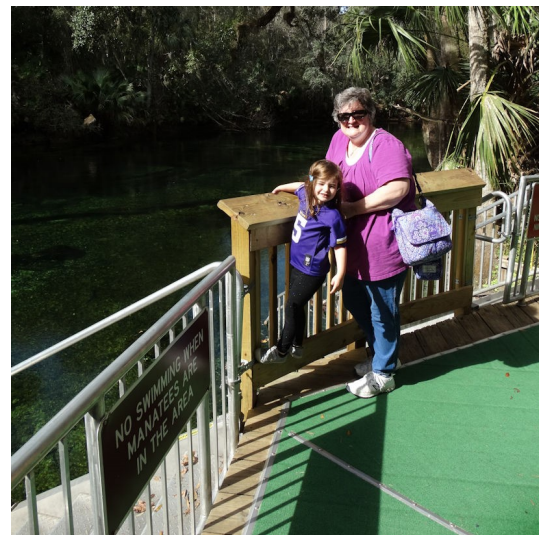
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Blue Springs State Park Cruise For Manatees - Jan 18, 2020





ROAD RUNNER





Mazda Celebrates 100th Anniversary

On January 31st, Mazda celebrated the company's 100th anniversary at its headquarters in Hiroshima, Japan. With about 500 executives, employees, and other representatives in attendance, it held a ceremony that expressed appreciation for all of the people who have helped Mazda reach the milestone, and commitment to the next 100 years.

“Mazda originated as a company producing cork and then took the path to manufacturing automobiles,” said president and CEO Akira Marumoto. “Now, our cars have found friends with many customers from over 130 countries and regions.”



A century ago, the company that would become Mazda was known as Toyo Cork Kogyo — a cork producer. When Jujiro Matsuda became president in 1921, he changed the company into a producer of machine tools, and ten years later, Mazda introduced its first vehicle — a three-wheeled truck simply named the Go, which it would continue to update for years to come.

As it was based in Hiroshima, automobile production ground to a halt during World War II, though Mazda resumed making commercial vehicles only months after the first atomic bomb was dropped. In 1960, Mazda launched its first four-wheel passenger car, which was a success and paved the way for the future of the brand.

But the true revolution took place in 1967, when Mazda made the Cosmo Sport, the world's first production model powered by a rotary Wankel engine — and one with an attractive, sporty style to boot. Since the Cosmo Sport, Mazda has become nearly synonymous with rotary engines. Mazda then went on to build iconic models like the RX-7, MX-5 Miata, and the Le Mans-winning 787B.

Mazda plans to showcase all of these historic models and moments, among others, at special exhibits at the Geneva Motor Show as well as during Mazda Open Day 2020 in May, an open house event at Mazda headquarters. Until then, you can check out the company's website for all sorts of information about the brand's history.

“As we look ahead to the next 100 years, we will continue to put people first and cherish our ‘uniqueness of co-creating with others’,” Marumoto added. “As we strengthen co-creation and cooperation with all those connected with the company, we will continue to challenge ourselves to create unique products, technologies, and experiences that our customers love.”

FCMC Events Calendar

- **February 11 - 6:00 PM Monthly Club Meeting**

Our monthly club meeting will be held at La Casita Mexican Restaurant at 20 N Orange Ave (US 17), Green Cove Springs FL 32043. Come out for the delicious food and stay late to pop a few hoods!

- **February 22 - 9:00 AM Through The Forest And To The Lake**

If you like country driving, this is a trip you don't want to miss! See all the details on the front page and hope you can make it.

- **March 10 - 6:00 PM Monthly Club Meeting**

Club meeting site to be determined. It will probably be at an excellent restaurant again! That's my guess. The suspense is killing me... Stay tuned.

- **March 14 - St Mary's GA Wild West Frontier Train Ride**

If you like trains, this is a trip you don't want to miss! More details will be at the Feb 11 meeting and online.

Happy February Birthday to:

Kim Pepe-Cordero, Kenneth Hall, Rich Iulucci,
Pierce Crabtree & Douglas Smith

And Welcome To Our Newest Members:

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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We're on the Web! Check us out!
Web Page: www.firstcoastmiataclub.org
Facebook: facebook.com/groups/firstcoastmiataclub

Wienermobile pulled over by cops; puns

The Oscar Mayer Wienermobile was pulled over in Waukesha, Wis., recently after it failed to move out of the lane closest to a stopped emergency vehicle, which is the law in Wisconsin and just a good driving practice anywhere.

The Waukesha County Sheriff office then publicly shamed the enormous hot dog on Twitter along with some instructive driving safety hashtags. Apparently, the driver was given a verbal warning.

I will now cease writing this as a serious news piece and let you come up with your own puns or just read these!



-  **Joel Stocksdale** 9:05 AM
I wonder if it took long for the sheriff to ketchup to the Wienermobile
-  **Alex Kierstein** 9:06 AM
driver was being a brat to him
-  **Joel Stocksdale** 9:06 AM
just the wurst
-  **Alex Kierstein** 9:06 AM
i relish the clicks this'll get
-  **Greg Rasa** 9:06 AM
Not pulling over for an emergency vehicle is just offal.