



# *In The Breeze*



January-February 2024

Official Newsletter of the Bluebonnet Miata Club

Still Free!

## *Few Changes, Few Needed, for this Winner!*

Introduced in 1989, the Mazda Miata is still one of our favorite roadsters. With its rear-drive dynamics and tiny convertible coupe body, the Miata is all about fun and involvement. Now in its fourth generation, known as "ND" by enthusiasts, the Miata is available with either a folding fabric soft top or a motorized retractable hard top. Mazda has announced several changes to the Miata for the Japanese market, which we expect to arrive in the United States, as well.

The Japanese-market Miata receives some changes for 2024. The North American-spec Miata is likely to benefit from these, as well.

- All-LED exterior lighting
- Asymmetrical limited-slip differential added
  - Updated electric steering rack
- Improved track stability control system
- An 8.8-inch infotainment display installed
  - USB-C ports replace USB-A
- Fresh paint, interior, and wheel choices



Note larger 8" wide screen with improved infotainment features. Daytime running lights share the headlight cluster.



Instrument cluster has new racing look



New paint and interior schemes

# 2023 Club Officers

- President**  
*Sophie Parazo*  
bbmcpresident@gmail.com
  - Vice President**  
*Dave Ogden*  
bbmcvicepresident@gmail.com
  - Treasurer**  
*Joe Knight*  
bbmctreasurer@gmail.com
  - Secretary**  
*Stephanie Turner*  
bbmcsecretary@gmail.com
  - Membership\***  
*Harry Maxwell*  
bbmcmembership@gmail.com
  - Newsletter Editor\***  
*George Lucas*  
bbmcnewsletter@gmail.com
- \* Appointed positions*

# New Members

- Delynda Butler**  
San Antonio
- Andrew Lemke**  
San Antonio  
1997 Marina Green Mica
- Craig & Sherry Mickleberry**  
New Braunfels  
2020 RF Soul Red

## Total Membership

186

## Contributing Photographers

- Charles Mims
- Lisa Martin
- Brenya Buchalski
- George Lucas

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**ZOOM-ZOOM**

## President's Message

Hello Everyone and Happy New Year!

It seems like it's been a while since our Christmas Party and since I've seen most of you but 2024 is here and I'm ready for a fresh new start to the year. I want to thank everyone who attended the Christmas party and I hope everyone had a great time. There were a few hiccups, but in the end I think the party was a success! Thank you to the team who put this all together because it could not have been done without them. I look forward to planning our next Christmas party!



The weather has been pretty cold lately so remember to check your tires and be careful when the temps dip below freezing. You know me, cold weather is not going to keep me from driving, even with the top down, but take extra care when the weather is not the best.

We had our planning meeting and the calendar for the year has been set so check out the website to see what we have coming up. I hope to see you all at our upcoming events and remember, if you need anything or have any suggestions, please reach out to me or any of the Executive Committee.

Until next time, drive safe and keep on zoomin!

*Sophie Parazo, president*

## From the Editor

At the risk of always starting with complaining about the weather, I'm complaining again! Last offering from me what about the blazing hot weather and as I sit here thinking about more compelling things to say, it's freezing out and I don't like it! Ha!

We didn't have a December newsletter, so I have some catching up to do! Our president Sophie and her staff put together a nice Christmas party with a new twist on gift giving and it was fun! Food was also great and the only common complaint was our host restaurant pretty much pushed out the door as they were booked up for that evening! All in all, we had a great time!

The Camp Verde Christmas run was full of surprises. Along with a free lunch for a lucky winner in our group, the Store gave everyone a 25% discount for lucky shoppers! And, next year, after a long pandemic hiatus, they will be having the Open House Christmas again! That's right, lots of free food, Santa, music and wonderful holiday shopping! Be sure to save time to join us this year!

The recent planning meeting revealed some new runs and some old runs returning to the calendar. Check the upcoming calendar of events elsewhere in this issue!

Let's all have a fun and a safe year out on our wonderful roads! Zoom Zoom!!!



*George Lucas, Editor*



# Polansky's Nutz Run

That's right, it seems Ed and Helenan went nuts. That is, to say they led us to the Fredericksburg Pecan Company for a tour and we learned all about how pecans are grown and all about the different kinds! I mean, who knew? Turns out, most us didn't!

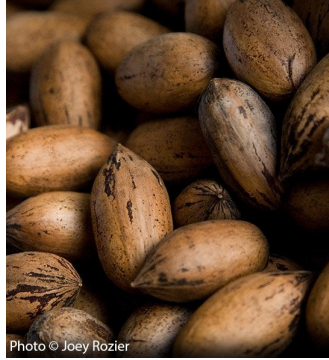
Of course, we ran some of our amazing hill country roads and had a wonderful lunch at, where else, the Pecan Grove Store!





# What was the "It's Nuts" Run All About?

By EdOp Polansky



The Texas Pecan was the theme for the run. Did you know that the pecan capital of the World is San Saba, TX? The run didn't go there, but that pecan fact tells you about the importance of the nut to Texas. Texas, New Mexico, and Georgia harvest most of the pecans in the U.S. And the pecan tree is the Texas state tree.

It turned out to be a good day for a run. The rains from Thursday and Friday were over, and the next rains weren't due until Sunday. Great timing for a Saturday outing. And very acceptable weather, highs around 60, overcast but pleasant. There was a slight chill in the wind but most went with their tops down. There was an excellent turnout of 16 Miatas, meaning many had a driving desire to hit the Hill Country.

Although 1604 construction delayed our departure, the run started with a circuitous route up Hwy 16 around Bandera and a stop in Medina at the Apple Store. You wonder what the Apple Store has to do with a "nut" run. Well, it's a great place to visit, some large pecan trees drape the facility, they sell some wonderful candied pecans, lots of apple spiced bakery items, and has restrooms.

After our dessert and rest break there, we headed up Hwy 16 through some of my favorite curvy and winding roads in the state. Our only regret was an OTM Jeep that we caught up to that slowed the Miatas from whizzing through some exciting hairpin turns, up and down roads, but we saw beautiful sceneries and trees that exhibited the changing colors of the season.

After skirting Kerrville, we returned to Hwy 16 and headed for Fredericksburg where we stopped at the Fredericksburg Pecan Store and enjoyed a talk by Olan Tisdale, the store's owner and grower of pecans for over 50 years. His own pecan orchard is near San Saba, but he buys pecans all over Texas. His store is packed with the many varieties of pecans and pecan products. Did you know there are over 1000 varieties of pecan trees? It's a fact.

Then it was off to the Pecan Grove Café on Hwy 16 just outside of Fredericksburg. It's an old Sinclair filling station that has been converted to a bar and café that sells great burgers and the best fries that George Lucas says he has ever had. We polished off the meal with mini-pecan pies.

So, while it was a very fine Bluebonnet Miata Club run through the Hill Country, it was definitely a pecan inspired trip. Did you know that pecans are healthy nuts as most of the fat found in them are monounsaturated fat which can help lower levels of bad cholesterol? Now you do!

One last pecan fact. The name "pecan" is a Native American word that was used to describe "all nuts requiring a stone to crack." Olan showed how pecan are shelled now mechanically and he said he would be glad to demonstrate the process to our group. Maybe that will be the next "It's Nuts" Run!

Helenan and I hope everyone enjoyed the day!





# Blue Santa at North Park and Christmas Party



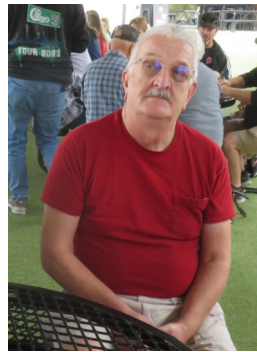
See more photos on our website!





# Jimbo's Re-Run to The District

A popular run repeat from last year, because it was worth repeating!



# Ladies, Ladies, Ladies



Here is a quick run down of events for the ladies group. Please note that JULY and SEPTEMBER have adjusted calendar dates other than the normal 2nd Friday of the month.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Lisa Martin 210-391-7875

**FEB 9** - HOPSCOTCH IMMERSIVE MUSEUM, Coordinator, Lisa Martin

**MAR 4** - BOTANICAL GARDENS, Coordinator Sophie Parazo

**APR 12** - KERRVILLE CROSS, Coordinator Betty Hicks

**MAY 10** -SA MISSIONS, Coordinator Sandy Phelps

**JUN 14** - MOVIES AND LUNCH, Coordinator Barb Ahmed

**JUL 11** - OLD ENGLISH TEA (and dress up!). NOTE: this event will be on Thursday  
Coordinator Marilyn Hamilton

**AUG 9** - NATURAL BRIDGE CAVERNS - new cavern area, Coordinator Cheryl Knight

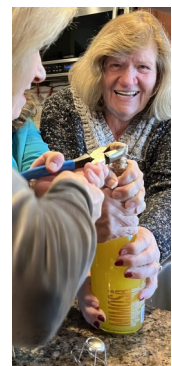
**SEP 6** - POOL PARTY, Coordinator Monica Harrison NOTE ADJUSTED DATE

**OCT 11** - LADIES ONLY TRACK DAY, Coordinator Monica Harrison

**NOV 8** - KRIS KRINGLE CHRISTMAS FAIR, Coordinator Barb Thompson

**DEC 13** - MUSEUM - New Braunfels , Coordinator Wanda Begnoche (and Barb Thompson)!

**And...who says our gals don't have fun!  
Maybe it was a good thing they had trouble opening that bottle!**







# ALDACO'S

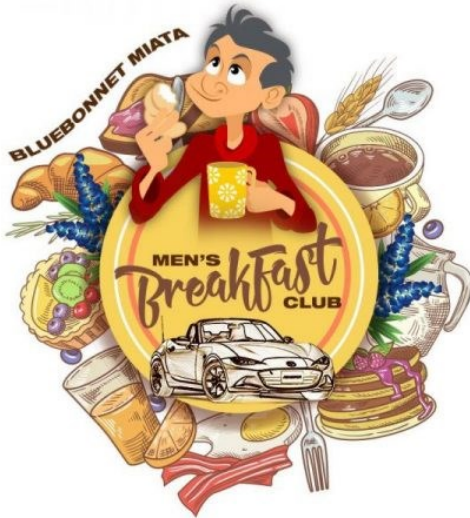
*Mexican Cuisine*  
— SINCE 1989 —

20079 Stone Oak Pkwy, San Antonio, TX 78258

This Thursday, January 25th, back to our very first Lunar Zoomer location, Aldaco's Mexican Food. Even if it's too cold outside, we'll be able to see the full moon as it rises over the entire city!

So, let's meet at **6:30 p.m., that's this Thursday, January 25th!**

Hope to see you all there!



**Friday. February 9th, 9:00 a.m.**

Hey guys, since a few of you said you really enjoyed Pancake Joe's, I think we'll do it again!

Great breakfast items and located in the Near Northside at

**1011 Donaldson Avenue, San Antonio, TX 78228 | Phone: (210) 785-9007**

Hope to see you all there!

# Upcoming Runs and Events

## JANUARY

**Thursday, January 25th. Lunar Zoomer Dinner, 6:30 p.m., hosted by George Lucas.** Meet at Aldaco's, 20079 Stone Oak Parkway, SATX 78258. Great food and great view of the moon rise! Be there!

## FEBRUARY

**Saturday, February 3rd, Street Dreams Run, led by Stan Chambers.** Meet at **10:00 a.m.** at the Valero, 9650 US 281, Spring Branch, TX, 78070. Join Stan for a run of our favorite back roads to Café at the Ridge in Kerrville for lunch. Afterwards, a short drive to Street Dreams Texas.

Street Dreams is a classic car show room and museum as well a few motorcycles. Most things are inside a heated building so we can look in comfort. Afterwards, you can join us for a few more back roads over to Blanco, then head home.

**Friday, February 9th, Men's Breakfast, hosted by George Lucas.** We'll meet at **9:00 a.m.** at Pancake Joes, a place once visited and most loved it! Excellent breakfast. Pancake Joes is at 1011 Donaldson Ave, SATX 78228. C'mon out, guys!

**Friday, February 9th, Ladies lunch, hosted by Lisa Martin.** Hopscotch Immersive Museum, **9:30 a.m.—1:45 p.m.** More details on our website.

**Saturday, February 10, BBMC Trash Pick Up, organized by Dave Ogden.** Meet at the Big's Valero, 18657 FM 2252. Show time is **8:00 a.m.**, go time is 8:15 a.m. Afterwards, we'll have a wonderful breakfast at Grumpy's around 10:15 a.m. This is one of our clubs community service projects. C'mon out, you'll be helping keep our Texas highways clean and you never know what you'll find out there, haha!

**Thursday, February 15th, Ladies Bunco, hosted by Marilyn Hamilton.** Meet at **6:30 p.m.** for a fun and spirited game with dice! Meet at Bigs Burger Joint, 1604 West Access Rd, SATX 78249

**Saturday, February 17th, Chicken Fried Steak Run, led by Jimbo Treat.** After some fun roads, we'll have lunch at the Old Spanish Trail Café in Bandera. Meet at **8:30 a.m.** and depart at 9:00 a.m. Great traditional run!

**Saturday evening, February 24th, Lunar Zoomer dinner, hosted by George Lucas.** Let's meet at Sea Island, in the Forum, 8223 Agora Parkway, at **6:30 p.m.** Famous for it's charbroiled shrimp, they have all kinds of delicious seafood C'm out for a fine dinner and catch a glimpse of the full moon!

**Tuesday, February 27th, Club meeting at Bigz Burger Joint, presided by Sophie Parazo,** Meet at **6:30 p.m.** and meeting starts at 7:30 p.m., 2303 N Loop 1604 West, SATX, 78258

*ZOOM-ZOOM*