



Wheels in Motion



The Miata Club goes to the Rodeo

April 2023



Wheels in Motion

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Upcoming Events

Tour the National Weather Service Office

Friday, Nov 17th or Saturday, November 18th
YOU MUST RSVP by April 22nd to
David Keller at tpines@cyberstreet.com

Miata Club Christmas Party

Saturday, December 9th
at Herons Glen
More details to follow

**There's a lot of empty space here.
We really need some members to step up and
volunteer to do some kind of event.
You won't be on your own,
there are several officers and members
who are ready and willing to help you
with whatever you need.**

New location again..

For those who were at breakfast Tuesday morning you know Burger Barn said they never heard of us even though they called me to confirm last week so in looking again for a place to hold us on April 25th we are now going to Elena's restaurant 1101 cross street Punta Gorda and it is in the Cross Trails Center their phone number 941-575-1888. I am sure this will work out..but I will keep looking. thank you again for your patience

Judy (Sunshine Lady) 

Monthly Meeting

Thursday, April 13th

Beef O'Brady's

1105 Taylor Road, Punta Gorda, FL
(map on the next page)

Monthly meetings are the 2nd Thursday of the month
Dinner at 5pm and meeting at 6pm.

Please RSVP to Kathy Engler by April 6th
at kathy.engler@gmail.com

Cover Photos:

FRONT COVER:

Dennis Laslo got this shot at the All Florida Championship Rodeo.
I think we had two cars there!

BACK COVER:

This was submitted by Ross Clark.
A very over done Miata. It looks like something I would have made in a 1/25th scale plastic model back when I was 14 years old!

JUST FOR FUN

Breakfast Socializer: ANOTHER NEW LOCATION!!!

9:00am Tuesday, April 25th

**Elena's Restaurant, 1101 Cross Street,
Punta Gorda, FL 33950**

Please RSVP to Judy Western
at justducky1414@comcast.net

From the Editor's Desk

By Ron Lindensmith

Welcome to the March 2023 edition of the Miata Club of Southwest Florida newsletter. I know I've been telling people that 2023 would be my last year as the editor of the newsletter, but I've changed my mind. I'm not going to leave the Club without a newsletter, but from this issue on the newsletter will get more and more basic. I'm not going to bore you here with why I'm stepping down, other than to say it's part time management by me and part lack of participation in Miata Club events.

Just to be clear, I'm not abandoning the club. In fact if somebody steps up to do the newsletter and wants my help in any way, like transferring my files and software, training to get familiar with the way I did it, or even my long term help as writer and/or photographer; I'm happy to help. I'll still be at some of the meetings and I'll still make some of the events.

At the Annual Miata Club Picnic & Election we had a whopping 28 members! I know we've been through COVID and Ian, but this was just a picnic. Before COVID we used to get almost 100 people to come out. I wish I knew what the issues are that is keeping people from showing up.

The good news is, we had several people step up and become Officers to fill positions that were going to be empty.

Allan Engler will move up from Vice President to become President (as the bylaws requires).

Dan Nixon will be the new Vice President (thank you).

Judy Western will be the new Sunshine Lady as Sandy Cole steps down (thank you).

The big news here is that Kristin Zurovitch, a member for just over a year, is stepping up to be the new Events Coordinator as Donna Noyes steps down (thank you Kristin)..

Of course we need a new newsletter editor, but nobody stepped up to run for that office. If anybody is interested, I'd be happy to discuss it with you. And if you take the job, I'll be happy to help out as much as you need me to.

Other than that, the other officers remain as they were in 2022.

Sunshine Report

By Sandy Cole

Hi everyone,

I trust most of you are doing well. I definitely missed seeing many of you at the annual meeting and picnic. Although it was a small group, we were blessed with good weather and pleasant company. I am pleased to congratulate several new additions or changes to the board. However, there are also several opportunities for you to get more involved in the club. From my experience, taking on even a small responsibility has been rewarding and a terrific way to meet and/or get to know your fellow members. In addition to participating in an activity, leading an event, gives you an excellent opportunity to get acquainted and enhance your friendships. Start small. Just grab another member and put together a ride to a restaurant or destination you also want to explore. Easy and fun. I challenge you: GIVE IT A TRY..

I know of two of our members who had to miss the picnic due to health concerns. Debbie Conrad is dealing with a couple of on-going and different and more recent health challenges, which will hopefully get resolved quickly. Latest update, is she is feeling better but is still coughing and congested. Judy Western was home preparing for a procedure on Monday which was to hopefully correct the severe pain she was having in her hips. I just checked up on her. Pain is less, but unfortunately, full results may take several weeks. In addition she has an eye infection and tested positive for Covid. YIKES. It sounds like the perfect storm!!! Cards have been sent to cheer them up, but we ask that you continue to send thoughts and prayers for their speedy recoveries. Anyone else????? PLEASE let us know.

April birthdays: Bob Cockrum, Susan Cox, Jerry Davis, Sandy Dunham, Rick Edwards, David Erickson, Dick Fischer, Ed Hara, Rick Hayman, Susan Kindelan, Bernice Latteiri, Ron Lindensmith, Joanne Mainberger, Jan Myles-Brunnelle, Darryl Norris, Gary Robinson, David Saemisch and, Sheree Zwiebel. PLEASE join me in wishing all these members a HEALTHY and HAPPY BIRTHDAY .

THIS MAY BE MY FINAL SUNSHINE REPORT. Although it is bitter-sweet, I am pleased to announce that Judy Western will be taking over my position as SUNSHINE LADY. It has been a pleasant and rewarding experience. I have truly enjoyed the opportunity. And, appreciate the chance to have gotten to know so many of you. I plan to remain a member, and hope to continue to enjoy the opportunity to share experiences and continued friendships.

Blessings to all of you, Stay healthy and safe. Sunshine Sandy

March Membership Meeting

Photo from the February Membership Meeting

(all 26 of us... well, except for the guy behind the camera)



Miata Club Annual Picnic & Election



The threat of bad weather didn't materialize and the Miata Club Annual Picnic & Election came off as scheduled. Thanks to the 28 people who came out, It's a far cry from the nearly 100 we used to get for the picnic. Was that just because we didn't have free food? Officers were elected and the list can be seen on page 2 of this newsletter.

Elaine & I showed up about 8am and did a couple walks around the lake and took photos. BTW, the osprey is taking a bath!



Annual Arcadia All-Florida Championship Rodeo

By Dennis Laslo & Janet Keller

Here are some pics from the Rodeo event on Sunday. **Since there were only two of us at the event**, we have no caravan pics or parking lot Miata line-ups.

But it was a fun time. The Arcadia Rodeo is one of the stops leading up to the finals in Las Vegas and they had some international talent competing. It was very difficult to photograph as I was in row 1 behind the guard railing.

The first pic was the kid event where the 10 yr olds tried to stay on a bucking sheep.

The second picture was the entry from the Miata Club of SW FL (kidding).



Next are various events....the bucking bronco and steer lassoing.





Janet Keller sent in some photos and asome comments as well... "My photos aren't as good since mine are from a cell phone not some fancy camera! Maybe you could use one?"

Again the rodeo was great and we'll be going again next year. It's amazing what people can do!! It's well worth the price!!! The tickets for 2024 go on sale November 1, 2023, so I'll be sending out the "invite" before then.





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10% Discounts on Service and Parts

New at
Ed Howard Mazda
a 2023 Miata GT in
Zircon Sand Metallic



Miata Club Visit to The National Weather Service Office

How would you like to see how our weather is made?

Is it by consulting maps and forecast models?

Flipping a coin? Throwing darts at a board?

Spinning the weather wheel?

Now we can find out, by touring the **National Weather Service office**.

After three years on their wait list (thank you, COVID), it's finally our group's turn to schedule a tour. As a retired radio and TV meteorologist,

I think this will be a fun, informative, and interesting event
for Miata Club members.

DESTINATION

National Weather Service office in Ruskin, FL,
south-southeast of Tampa.

WHEN

Possible dates are **Fri, Nov. 17 or Sat, Nov. 18**
with a tour at approx. 11:00am.

MEETING LOCATION AND DRIVE

I envision meeting at the McDonalds off Jones Loop Road, Punta Gorda
at 7:30am for breakfast. We'd leave at 8:30 for a 90-mile,
2-hour leisurely drive without going on I-75.

PLEASE TAKE SPECIAL NOTE

RSVP REQUIRED BY APRIL 22nd !!!

Since I need to schedule the tour well in advance, I need to know how
many people want to go. If you are going, please

RSVP to David Keller at tpines@cyberstreet.com by April 22.

Thank you, -- David Keller



THE END

