



Wheels in Motion



August 2022



Wheels in Motion

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Upcoming Events

Track Days at Talladega Speedway

August 13th
Details on page 13

Miata Cruze-In
October 22nd (Saturday)
Details on page 16

Cape Coral Veterans Day Parade
Details as they become available

Key West "Hometown Holiday Parade"
December 3rd (Saturday) 7:00pm
Details on page 17

Christmas Dinner & Party
December 15th, (Thursday)
Olde World Restaurant
Details when available

Monthly Meeting

Thurs, August 11th

Olde World Restaurant
14415 Tamiami Trail #2728
North Port, FL 34287

Monthly meetings are
the 2nd Thursday of the month

Dinner at 5pm and meeting at 6pm.
Please RSVP to Kathy Engler by August 5th
at kathy.engler@gmail.com

Cover Photo & THE END Back Cover Photo:

Thanks to Ron Kerlin for his front and back photos.
Next month I hope to have front and back photos of my car
on the track during the Sunday Track Day
at the Miata Reunion at Barber Motorsports Park

JUST FOR FUN

Breakfast Socializer August 23rd
Metro Dinner, 1720 Tamiami Trail Suite 100,
Port Charlotte, FL 33948.

RSVP to Judy at memmx5swf@yahoo.com by Aug 23rd

From the Editor's Desk

By Ron Lindensmith

Welcome to the August edition of the Miata Club of Southwest Florida newsletter. I apologize for this issue being a bit short on content. Between my medical schedule and getting ready for a 2 week vacation (I leave tomorrow) I just haven't had the time

A side note here, Elaine and I went to the Peace River Botanical & Sculpture Garden for a visit. The caretaker in the Butterfly House that day was Cathy, a very nice, older lady.

She drives a green 1999 Miata with a roll bar on it. I asked her about it and she told me she and her husband drove from Kalamazoo, MI to Fontana, NC for 12 meetings of the



Miatas at the Gap! They have done a couple from here in Florida as well! They installed the roll bar after their first drive on the Tail of the Dragon. I tried my best to get her to consider joining our Club.

I leave Thursday morning for the Miata Reunion at the Barber Motorsports Park outside Birmingham, AL. Then drive over to Fontana, NC for the Miatas at the Gap event. I've actually raced wheel to wheel on most of the race tracks east of the Mississippi, but not Barber Motorsports Park and it's been a Bucket List item for me for a long time. I've never done the Tail of the Dragon either and I'm looking forward to that as well. I think we will be meeting up with Janet & David Keller for the Tail of the Dragon tour. They summer in NC about an hour or so north of Fontana.

I have hired a professional photographer to take photos of me on track and I sure hope I get some good photos from both event sites as well as some scenic mountain views! Look for those in next month's newsletter which I promise you, will be considerably bigger than this issue!

**The Board of Directors has decided
that since almost nobody is putting together
any trips or events,
that we will form a committee
to see what can be done to resolve the problem.
If you are interested in helping out in any way
please let any or all of the following people know:
Ron Lindensmith, Judy Western, Dana Breda
We are looking for answers,
not trying to create more work for anybody.**

On a personal note, I joined the Club to spend time associating with other people who enjoy Miatas. As it turned out, the Club was doing regular trips and events to go to places that we either didn't know about, like Solomon's Castle, the REV Car Museum, or required a group, like the Piper Aircraft Factory, or we just wanted to visit with Miata friends, like the annual picnic, Christmas Party, Ice Cream Social and more. We found a lot of events we enjoyed, and a few we weren't interested in, but that's OK, that's just part of life.

Then COVID happened. We stopped having the monthly membership meetings, the annual picnic got cancelled along with any possibility to do any trips or events. Even quarterly Board meetings were done online.

At this point, I hope we are getting near the end of the COVID concerns. We have monthly meetings again, but attendance has been really low at the last two. We've done a few events, a Rally, the Babcock Ranch Eco Tour and the Ice Cream Social. Attendance was pretty good. But they were all put together by members who have already done a lot for the Club.

I think we need some new blood to step forward and put in at least a little effort to make the Club fun. I'm fearful that as things continue to decline, the Club could be in trouble. Please don't wait for somebody else to fix it, become part of the solution!

Everyone Needs a Little Sunshine

By Sandy Cole

Hi All,

Not much is happening, so this will be short. Whether you are here in Florida or elsewhere, I trust you are enjoying the summer. It appears to be hot most everywhere, but that doesn't stop us from putting the top down and going for a run. Just be sure the air conditioner is working!

I have not even had a request for Thinking of You, Get Well or Condo-lence cards. It would be great to believe that the club members are all healthy and happy. So, no news is good news, right!!!

There are several birthdays to acknowledge in August. Would you believe, that list is quite short, as well. Please join me in wishing the following members a very Special and Happy Birthday.

Gary Blessing, Dana Breda, Donald Carey, Judy Goodrich, Rod Kent and, Kelly Wisnewski.

I am excited to learn that there several members working on planning more events. Lets think positively, and keep an eye out for any emails. Hoping to see you all again very soon.

Smile, and count your many blessings.
As always, SUNSHINE SANDY



Membership Notes

Hi Members

I hope everyone had a nice and safe 4th of July.

We are adding another job for the Miata Club. I will be turning over the membership to Dennis Laslo his email address is djlaslo@gmail.com. I will be setting up the new group called the "Events Committee". I'm looking for a few volunteers to join our fun committee, please email me at memmx5swf@yahoo.com. Ron Lindersmith, Dana BredaKatrina MacIntosh and Dick Fischer are also on the committee.

What the Events Committee is going to do is research and make arrangements for club trips and events and present them to Donna our Events Chairman. She will continue to be the person sending out email notifications about trips.

We are hoping we will get alot of interest in our trips.

Judy Western

Ed Howard Mazda Status

**Some of you asked me about
what's going on at Ed Howard Mazda?**

Well, they're getting a new building.

Completion is estimated this summer.

**If you want service, they are temporarily doing business
in the Lincoln dealership next door.**

Mazda Parts is in the existing Mazda building on the left side

Sales is also in the Lincoln Dealership

and clearly marked to the right of the service drive through.

**And an added benefit of your Miata Club of Southwest Florida membership
is you get 10% discounts on service and parts at Ed Howard.**

Just show your card.

Dennis Laslo (Ed Howard Liaison)

TWELVE COMMANDMENTS FOR SENIORS

1 - Talk to yourself. There are times you need expert advice

2 - In Style are the clothes that still fit.

3 - You don't need anger management. You need people to stop making you mad.

4 - Your people skills are just fine. It's your tolerance for idiots that needs work.

5 - The biggest lie you tell yourself is, I don't need to write that down. I'll remember it. "

6 -On time is when you get there.

7 - Even duct tape can't fix stupid - but it sure does muffle the sound.

8 - It would be wonderful if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes, then come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller?

9 - Lately, You've noticed people your age are so much older than you.

10 - Growing old should have taken longer.

11 - Aging has slowed you down, but it hasn't shut you up.

12 - You still haven't learned to act your age, and hope you never will??

And one more:

"One for the road" means going to the bathroom before you leave the house.

**SINCE IT'S AUGUST
AND WE'RE IN SW FLORIDA**





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2022 MX-5

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SW FL Miata Club Membership Card
for
10% Discounts on Service and Parts

TRACK DAYS AT TALLADEGA SPEEDWAY

by Donna Noyes

Here is what I know so far -

Possible dates are:

August 13th

The event organizer says that Track days will include:

- Two laps around Talladega Superspeedway
- Opening up the garage area to have a large show 'n shine event, open to any makes and models
- We will have food and drink available to purchase
- Photo in victory lane
- Photo of each car before they roll out and do their laps (still working on the details of this)
- Initial plan is to create a folder that we can send to all attendees so they can go in and find their car and other photos that they want to keep
- Dash plaque
- This event is meant to be an all-day event

Also included is a race ticket to either the GEICO 500 on April 24th, 2022 or the YellaWood 500 on October 2nd, 2022. All attendees will sit together for the race, Sections have already been blocked off to keep everyone as close as possible.

Cost is \$35 per person + \$25 per car for the track days. The \$25 will support local charities in East Alabama.

Once we get final details and the actual date, we can find out if we have any interested members that would like to attend. We can caravan to the area - probably this will be a 3- or 4-night trip - and we might find other places to visit on the way or in the area. So, keep this in mind - it could be pretty incredible, I think. Imagine driving your beloved Miata on the Talladega Super Speedway, with a photo to prove it! In the meantime, if you are a fan of Will Ferrell, maybe check out the movie "Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby".

Stay tuned for more details.

The Miata Is a Better Sports Car Than the Honda S2000

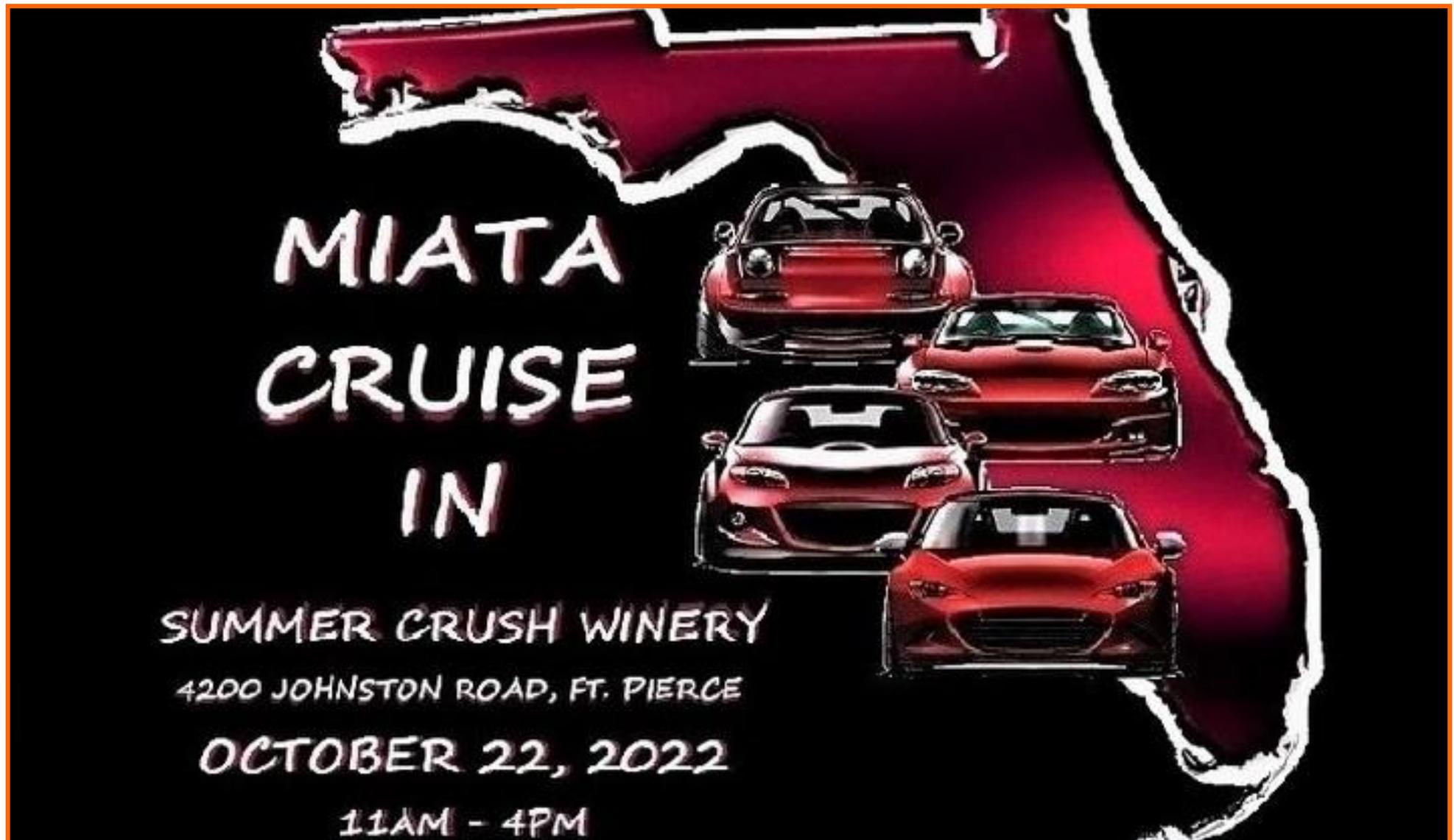
By Mack Hogan

Even a VTEC-loving, rev-happy S2000 owner like me can't deny how good the Miata is. The S2000 is an incredible feat of engineering. The AP1's 2.0-liter four-cylinder revs to 9000 rpm. The engine made more horsepower per liter than any other naturally aspirated car and was mated to probably the best gearbox ever installed on a production car. It's my attainable dream car, one that I still can't help but smile at every time I walk by. But it's not a better sports car than the ND2 Miata.

This wasn't easy to swallow. Because I long maintained that all I needed was a Miata, until a chance opportunity to drive an S2000 at an autocross course fell into my lap. From the second that AP2 crested 6000 RPM, the VTEC light has shone brightly within me. No Miata would ever be special enough, I thought. Great cars, sure, but in frequent arguments in real life and on Twitter—mostly with Engineering Explained's Jason Fenske—I proclaimed my ethos loudly. If your car doesn't rev to 8000 rpm or more, you should probably throw it out. If it's a decade newer than the S2000 and is still down nearly 60 hp, you should definitely throw it out. Forget torque, forget Miatas: The S2000 makes you work, but in return it offers the best sports car experience.



(continued on page 10)



Currently I know we have 4 or 5 Miatas going to the Miata Cruise In and we are all staying over night on Saturday at the Holiday Inn Express in Ft Pierce. They offer a discount if you tell them you are going to the "Miata Cruise In at the Summer Crush Winery".

Currently we do not have a 'caravan' to this event. But if more people express an interest in going and would like to drive over together, let me know. My email is mrhandyrsl@hotmail.com.

Key West

"Hometown Holiday Parade"

By Dana Breda

Hi all,

I'm getting an early start organizing a trip to Key West for the 2022 Christmas parade!

The Miata Club has been participating in the Key West Christmas Parade for 26 years (they cancelled the parade in 2020) and it has always been a fun time! We drive to Key West together on Friday morning, stop several places along our way for sightseeing and lunch, and arrive about 4:00 pm. Saturday is yours to explore the area, and there are many fun ways to spend your day. We usually meet for an early dinner on Saturday before we decorate our Miatas for the 7 pm parade. After the parade, you can do the Duval crawl, or head out for cocktails and conversation. Sunday, most of us head for home.

If you haven't seen them, check out the videos of the parade on the gallery page of our website at miataclubofsouthwestflorida.com.

I've been leading the parade weekend for the last few years and we've typically had between 8 and 12 Cars. In 2019 several members of the Music City (Nashville) Miata Club joined us and they had 3 cars attending last year. I've sent them an invitation for this year also but don't know if any will attend.

I need to know if you are interested in going! I know it's very early, but please let me know if you think you can make it. I also need to know if you would make your own room reservation or if I should try to find a hotel for the group. Room rates went high after Covid and have not come down. Average room rates at the time of this writing are around \$300 per night. Hotels fill up fast for the parade weekend. Those with a military ID card are eligible to stay at the Navy MWR facilities in Key West.

Call, text or email me if you have any questions!

Dana Breda

dbreda@earthlink.net

336-416-7464

(Continued from page 8)

I relitigated this argument at a team camp fire recently, the night before a big *Road & Track* shootout featuring eight of the best cars ever built. Only one new car earned an invitation, the ND2 Miata. Zach Bowman, our senior editor and the man whose dad sold me my S2000, argued strongly that the accessibility, cheapness, and replaceability of Miatas made them more fun; you don't ever have to baby them. Plus, they offered more torque across the rev range and an overall better experience. Sure, I conceded, a Miata has better steering feel and low-end grunt, but the S2000 is the across-the-board champion.

The next morning, about 25 feet into driving the Miata, I realized I was wrong. The Miata is down 60 hp and 1500 revs compared to the S2000 I had flogged on the way to the track, but it's also 400 pounds lighter. You can feel that and the torque, which both contributed to the eagerness with which it goes about its business. The S2000 pays no mind to you until you slam it down two gears and bury the gas pedal. The experience becomes religious as you crest 6000 rpm; Some buzzy, exhilarating blur that reaches higher than Miata driving's most prominent peaks.

But the beauty of the Miata is that the best parts aren't fleeting, they're ever-present. The suspension tuning is perfect, softer over bumps than the S2000 but more predictable and sure-footed in corners. Its steering never shuts up, giving you far more information than AP1 or AP2 S2000s. All of that encourages you to push harder, the ND2 revealing more of itself the faster you go. You can push it knowing that the chatterbox steering and progressive, communicative body roll will warn you long before you reach the limits of your grip. When you do, it dips into controllable, easy slides that are far more manageable than the S2000's past-the-limit behavior.



AMERICA BRIGHTENS UP

Thomas Edison introduced a commercially viable light bulb as early as 1879. But it took another 50 years before even half of America's homes could get electric light. One of the big challenges was generating and distributing electricity across the country. The other was standardization; every light bulb seemed to operate differently, give off different levels of light, and require its own electrical system.

That changed in 1909, when General Electric introduced its Mazda incandescent bulb, named after the Zoroastrian god of enlightenment, Ahura Mazda. The Mazda bulb used a tungsten filament, which was dependably brighter and longer lasting than the carbonized thread in other bulbs. It also introduced a standard, threaded base to the bulb, which is still used today.

To advertise their bulb, General Electric ran a series of eye-catching ads using art by Maxfield Parrish and, later, Norman Rockwell.

While GE could boast that its Mazda bulbs lasted longer than its competitors, some of those early, carbon-filament bulbs have proved unexpectedly durable — like the hand-blown, carbon-filament bulb that has been burning nonstop in a Livermore, California, fire station since 1901.

It was that a million hours ago when the woman still kept the fire of life. The 1909 is being written in the time when you use your Edison Mazda Lamp.

Painted by Maxfield Parrish for the Edison Lamp Works of General Electric

WOMAN

Keeper of the light

MAN followed the chase when the race was young; and woman kept her vigil over the sacred flame.

Down through the ages the story of progress has been the story of light.

It is this story which Maxfield Parrish is telling in his magnificent series of paintings made into calendars for the Edison Lamp Works. Last

year the subject was Prometheus, the light bringer; this year it is light in the life of primitive man.

Lives change, but life is changeless. Still as of old, the struggle for shelter and food is the high duty of a man. And in the home lit with Edison Mazda Lamps, it is the glory of the woman still to be the keeper of the light.

EDISON MAZDA LAMPS

EDISON LAMP WORKS OF GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY



THE END