

November 2022





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http://www.miataclubofsouthwestflorida.com/home.html

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/1221394091665789

Upcoming Events

Peace River Sculpture & Botanical Garden
Cancelled

Cape Coral Veterans Day Parade Cancelled

Key West "Hometown Holiday Parade" ???Pending???

Cape Coral Art Center Holly Daze & Toyland Exhibits & Veteran Park Picnic

December 8th (Thursday) Details on page 13

Christmas Dinner & Party

December 15th, (Thursday) Olde World Restaurant is closed <u>???Pending???</u>

Annual Picnic & Election

?Pending?

Monthly Meeting

November (CANCELLED)

Golden Corral (CLOSED)

1151 Tamiama Trail

Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Monthly meetings are the 2nd Thursday of the month

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

Cover Artwork:

This months front cover is a photo that Mark Gilbert, of the South Florida Miata Club had posted up on their Face Book page. This is from an event they did some time in the past. And as a photographer, I think it's a VERY cool photo!

JUST FOR FUN

Breakfast Socializer November 22nd Metro Dinner, 1720 Tamiami Trail Suite 100, Port Charlotte, FL 33948. RSVP to Judy at memmx5swf@yahoo.com by Nov 17th

From the Editor's Desk

By Ron Lindensmith

Welcome to the November edition of the Miata Club of Southwest Florida newsletter. After September's super sized issue, and October's Hurricane Ian issue, this month is kind of a mixed bag. I had the October issue about 80% ready when prep work for Hurricane Ian dragged me away from the computer, then cut off our power and internet.

Hurricane Ian was, at the very least, a disruption, and unfortunately for some, a complete disaster. Sure, most of us fall somewhere in between. We had almost no damage to our house, but our yard was a very different story. We had 8 big palms leaning at 45 degree angles or worse, so we had them and 4 others (located too close to our house) cut down. We also had a huge Sea Grape and 2 Gumbo Limbos in the front yard cut back seriously due to broken off branches. We had no power and a boil water notice for 12 days, and no internet or cable for 18 days. In fact, our internet/ cable TV cable is still laying across several of the fences of the neighbors who live behind us! Compared to some we got off very easy. And our sympathies go out to all who suffered bigger losses.

So, I skipped the October newsletter (except for a 3 page notice). And even that had to wait for our local library to open so I could use there internet service since we had none at that point. BTW, that started an everyday visit to the library to access the internet (can you tell we are addicted?).

What all that means is, I didn't even start work on this newsletter until October 12th and honestly, I really haven't been in the mood to work on it. And I don't have any Miata stuff of my own to write about. But then nobody else is writing much up or sending me photos. There have been a few articles from commercial publications that have been sent to me, and just so you all know, I do appreciate that a few people in the Club see fit to keep me up on the latest news. But sometimes those commercial publication articles take longer to cut, paste and fit into our newsletter than you might think!

And I'm even writing this column as I start work on this issue, rather than as I finish it, which has been my norm. I'm having a bit of a hard time getting involved with this issue. It's probably a bit of a post Miata Reunion letdown... ha, lets face it, It's Hurricane Ian PTSD!.

As you may have noticed, the front cover of this issue is different than

the front covers of the past year. Doing the front and rear of members cars made the covers pretty easy to do. But it seems it's not that big a deal to be on the cover as so few people sent in photos. So now I will have to find other things related to Miatas and the Club to put on the cover. Hopefully the efforts of the new Events Committee will give us more things to do and places to go and maybe some photo ops for the cover and stories for inside? But I can't be at every event, so photos and even short write ups of how things went, would be very welcome in my email inbox!

Ian forced us to cancel our trip to Albuquerque for the Hot Air Balloon Fiesta. To say I was disappointed doesn't even come close to my true feel-

ings. But we will schedule it for next October and as a bonus, an annular eclipse of the sun will come up through Texas and curve to the west, going directly over Albuquerque the last weekend of the Fiesta. So we'll stay for that. I also hope to get out to NW New Mexico to visit an area of hoodoos. There is one in particular I want to photograph called The Alien's Throne.

Of course lan also caused us (the Miata Club) to cancel several trips. The Peace River Botanical Garden is closed and The Cape Coral Veteran's Day Parade has

been cancelled. At this time we are unsure about the Key West Holiday Parade. Our monthly membership meeting and the Christmas Party are also looking for new venues as The Olde World Restaurant and the Golden Corral in Punta Gorda are also closed. Even our Annual Picnic & Election at Lakes Park in March is questionable. Lakes Park is being used by FEMA as a staging area and we don't know for how long!

That only leaves the Cape Coral Art Center Holidaze and Toyland Exhibits and the following picnic as still available.

For those of you who have been to and driven The Dragon, you should watch this. If you don't enjoy crazy, high speed driving on twisty roads... this isn't for you!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=69wBSKI7rZw



Everyone Needs a Little Sunshine

By Sandy Cole

Hi to all of our Miata Club Members,

As I write this report, I am listening to updates and watching for Hurricane Ian to arrive in SW Florida. No matter where you are, we pray you and your loved ones are okay and will remain safe. As much as I would like to minimize the effect, we can't ignore the circumstances. So PLEASE do all you can to prepare and, if appropriate, offer help to others. As wonderful as life in Florida can be, this is one of our greatest challenges. Hang in there.

Requests for sunshine have been minimal. We sent one card this month to Judy Western who had Covid in addition to a visit to the hospital. She seems to be doing pretty well. Please join me in wishing Judy and all those other members who have needed a little extra sunshine, but neglected to reach out. Actually, WE CAN ALL PROBABLY USE AN EXTRA BOOST AND HAPPY THOUGHTS.

As always, birthdays continue to happen despite what might be going on in our daily lives. Please join me in acknowledging the following birthdays. Don Audrain, Judy Bishko, Sandy Cole, Jackie Davis, Rayanna Edwards, Susan Erickson, Jill Haflich, Larry Lymburrner, Mike McIntosh, Lori Mendes, Dan Nixon, Sara Robbins and, Gary Stuber . We hope you all have a very Happy and Healthy year ahead.

October can be a fun and exciting month. I have such great memories. I can still recall gong to our local farm to pick out a pumpkin and carving it with family and friends, going apple picking, bobbing for apples, dressing up in a homemade costume and, going trick or treating. I guess it is no surprise that October is so special, since I am a Halloween baby. Hopefully, Hurricane Ivan, will not interfere with the festivities.

Please stay safe and take care.

Blessings, Sunshine Sandy



From the Events Committee

By Judy Western

Good Fall Day to our members. Fall will be here, as least on my calendar soon. I want to explain a little bit about the new committee called Event Committee, (I know not very inventive name).

However... we have formed this committee to come up with ideas for trips. We will meet quarterly to plan 2 trips a month so we have some fun in our Miatas.

We will put it in our newsletter and you can text me if you are interested in taking it on as your trip, with the help of someone on the committee or, if not, someone on the committee will take one on.

The committee consists of:

Judy western, chairperson - Memmx5swf@yahoo.com Donna Noyes, Katrina McIntosh, Ron Lindensmith, Dick Fischer & Dana Breda



Free to a good home

I have a trim cover which goes over the lowered top of an NB. It came with the 2004 I briefly owned and appears to be in unused condition. Pick up only. Dana Breda:

Phone: 336 416-7464 or email at: dbreda@earthlink.net

Super Car Update

By Dana Breda

You may recall that last July, I wrote an article saying that I had bought, then sold a low-mile 2004 NB Miata that I originally intended to use as a donor for another car. I had decided that I didn't want to do all the cleanup and rebuilding it would take to make a "new" car from the used parts. It also said that I'd keep you posted on what happened next.

Well, time has marched on and I have now been informed that the chassis for my next project has been completed and is off to the powder coater for its final finish. Next will be the packaging/boxing, etc and the shipping of the frame, body panels, suspension parts, etc. All this from jolly old England, by the way.

The engine will come from a US supplier, not incidentally the same company who did the turbocharger/tune installation on my 2014 Club. The recent hurricane and its damage to my home has kept me occupied of late but my anticipation for the new project is not diminished. I hope to have a big box in my driveway a month or two after you read this. Details to follow...



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SALES: 888-653-7132 | SERVICE: 888-894-7858 | PARTS: 888-699-3182 | SARASOTA, FL

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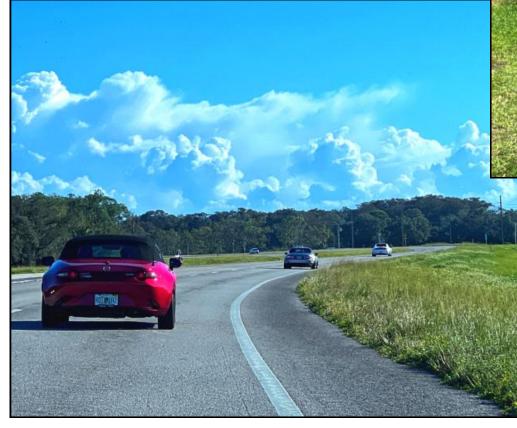
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Show your SW FL Miata Club Membership Card for 10% Discounts on Sevrvice and Parts

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Miata Cruise In at the Summer Crush Winery









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. <u>Average</u> 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 <u>dbreda@earthlink.net</u> 336-416-7464



It may seem early but Christmas is less than 20 weeks away! We don't want you to miss out on this annual event and the chance to share holiday wishes with club members.

Here are the details:

Date - Thursday, December 15
Location - The Olde World Restaurant, 14415 Tamiami Trail #2728, North Port, FL 34287
Happy Hour/Cocktails 5 – 6 pm (cash bar) Non-alcoholic beverages
Hors D'oeuvres - Cheese plate and fruit.
Dinner 6 pm
Caesar Salad with rolls, Twice Baked Potato, Vegetable, Entrée - Choice of one of four: Salmon w/dill
Chicken Cordon Bleu Prime Rib Alfredo Pasta
Dessert - Strawberry cheesecake

> \$52.64 per person includes tax and gratuity.
> RSVP including payment and choice of entrée to: Judy Western by December 1.
> No cancelations after December 1.
> No refunds after December 1.

You can give your check or cash to Judy at an upcoming meeting or you can mail it to her at: 3006 Caring Way, Unit 306 Port Charlotte FL 33952.

Any questions or comments, please contact: Judy Western at justducky1414@comcast.net

Cape Coral Art Sale & Exhibit and Vetrans Park Pienic

Other Miata Club events & meetings may be cancelled or pending, but this one is 100% on.

> This event is 100% FREE! Save the date: Thursday December 8th

The Cape Coral Art Center 4533 Coronado Parkway Cape Coral, FL 33904

Gather there at 10:00am and take an hour or two to wander through their Holly Daze annual fine art sale (maybe you'll find that special gift).

Then go to the building next door to see **The Toyland exhibit** for a whimsical look at sculptures, guirky aesthetics and toy inspired art.

Then we'll gather a mile up the road for a picnic at

Veterans Park 4140 Coronado Parkway

This will be a bring your own food and beverages (no alcohol). There is a shelter with picnic tables and room for 40 to 50 people.

Please RSVP to: Ron Lindensmith at mrhandyrsl@hotmail.com



