

Meet Our Members - José Cordero

José has been a member of the First Coast Miata Club since 2002. As a retired Naval Officer, of 32 years, he keeps his Miata up to very high standards, having been a project manager for Trainer Aircraft repairs at N.A.S. Jacksonville. José is the proud owner of a 1996 Montego Blue Miata, which he purchased in 2000. It may have been the easiest sale the dealer ever made as he was ready to drive it away before the salesman ever got to make his pitch.

After taking possession and thoroughly detailing and inspecting it José started laying out his plans for improvements with the first priority being a sound system: JVC digital media head unit with Polk speakers in the doors and Alpine woofers in the rear deck (yes, there is room on the rear deck), a Blaupunkt amp in the trunk. Some minor additional accessories include a Voo Doo shifter, sill plates, clear front corner lights, and a K&N filter. For help sticking to the road I chose Potenza RE-71Rs on Konig wheels riding on FM V-Maxx XXtreme coilovers Sport Package. To help stop faster: Hawk pads gripping drilled and slotted rotors with stainless steel lines. If all those mods weren't enough José answered the need for speed with a Jackson Racing Supercharger.

These days, though retired from the military, José still works in the same field as a civilian contractor, but finds the time to spend with his grandchildren and tinkering on projects for his house, in Mandarin, where he lives with his wife Kim T. Pepe-Cordero who is a Miata owner herself.

He enjoys the Miata Club and would like to see more Tech sessions and overnight events. In the past, he has trailered his Miata to Pocono Raceway for a high performance driving event. All in all it has been a long journey for José from his first car, a faded yellow 1974 Pinto with a green door. Four cylinders is about the only thing that it had in common with his pristine '96 Miata.

