

Road Runner

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A Monthly Publication for the Members & Friends of the First Coast Miata Club

www.firstcoastmiataclub.org

First Coast Miata Club

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BLACKWATER INN REVISITED

WHEN: OCTOBER 19, 2019

MEET: 9: 00 am AT THE FLYING J TRUCK STOP
950 STATE ROAD 206 WEST, ST AUGUSTINE, FL 32086

DEPART: 9:30 am SHARP

OK ALL YOU MIATAPHILES TIME TO SHINE UP ALL THOSE MIATAS AND DROP THOSE TOPS. ON OCTOBER 19th WE WILL CRUISE ALONG THE ATLANTIC OCEAN, THEN DOWN TWISTING CANOPIED ROADS ALONG THE CANALS OF OLD FLORIDA. THE DRIVE WILL THEN HAVE US MOSEYING THROUGH CATTLE COUNTRY AND TO THE FERN CAPITOL OF THE USA.

AFTER ENJOYING SPIRITED DRIVING WITH LOTS OF CURVES AND TURNS WE WILL ARRIVE IN ASTOR, FL AND THE BLACKWATER INN ON THE BANKS OF THE MIGHTY ST. JOHNS RIVER. THE FOOD WILL BE SUPERB, THE SCENERY MAGNIFICENT AND THE DAY WILL BE FUN!!!

SO SHINE UP AND GAS UP ALL THOSE MIATAS AND COME ENJOY THE DAY. SEE ALL YOU MIATAPHILES ON THE 19TH.

Inside this issue:

MX-5 Sets Record	2
Old Miata Vs New Miata	3
September Morn Drive...	4
To Folkston GA	5
30th Anniv Editon MX-5	6
FCCM Events Calendar	7
Stolen Pickup?	8



Mazda MX-5 Breaks A Record You Never Knew Existed, Always Wanted To Try

Driving a properly balanced, RWD sports car on a twisty mountain road is a must experience for every true motoring enthusiast. Even better if you can do that while also breaking a world record, just like Mazda did with a first-gen MX-5.

On the night of July 17, the Japanese automaker was allowed to close the Kaunertal mountain pass in Austria, and they used it to set a new record for the most hairpins driven by a car in 12 hours. As mentioned above, the weapon of choice was an MX-5 Mk1, modified by the 'Mazda Garage' team. It was put through its paces by racing drivers Cyndie Allemann and Jan Spieb, rally driver Niki Schelle and image test driver Stefan Novitzki.

Part of the MX-5's 30th anniversary celebrations, the record-breaking attempt began at 19:00 local time, and besides fighting the dark, they also faced additional challenges due to heavy rain. 12 hours later, the classic roadster managed to cover 2,900 hairpins, some 1,400 more than the previous record. In order to be valid, each hairpin had to measure between 150 and 180 degrees, and the whole run was recorded using a GPS signal and photoelectric sensors mounted along the course. The record was certified by Germany's 'RID Rekord Institute'.

Unfortunately, Mazda did not say anything about the modifications featured on the MX-5 in question, and our German is a little rusty. However, if yours is better, then you could try and decipher the mystery by checking out the following video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q972qfOuW0g>



1990 V 2019 Mazda MX-5: Underestimate The NA At Your Own Peril, ND Owners

This is a dilemma many Miata enthusiasts have: make a significant financial effort and buy the new ND generation model or settle for an early NA or NB Miata for a lot less money.

People who don't have the means to get the latest Miata are spared of this dilemma but those who do want to know how much they're losing on by going with an old Mazda MX-5 instead of an ND generation model — besides safety, of course.

The guys from Throttle House try to answer this question by pitting a 1990 Mazda MX-5 against the brand new and well-specced 2019 Mazda MX-5 Miata 30th Anniversary. You'll be glad to learn that the ND Miata does not offer much more in terms of driving thrills and performance, and that's testament of how great the NA Miata still is.

The new model may have 76 extra horsepower but, according to the reviewers, you don't really feel that when driving the two cars back to back. That's obviously great news for those who prefer the first-generation Miata to the latest model.

Sure, you'll lack modern safety features that make the difference between life and death in case of an accident but some people are willing to take that chance given that a Miata is the sort of car driven mostly during the weekend for short joyrides.

The price is obviously the biggest argument in favor of the NA Miata as a decent example costs around \$5,000. That's roughly one-seventh of the 2019 Mazda MX-5 30th Anniversary's base price. And the ND Miata certainly isn't seven times better than the NA.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k0qppUHN2Uc>



SEPTEMBER MORN DRIVE TO FOLKSTON GA - 9/21/19





Mazda MX-5 30th Anniversary Edition Is Pure, Unadulterated Fun

With the world's most popular roadster, the MX-5, turning 30 recently, Mazda is celebrating its anniversary with a limited edition aptly called the 30th Anniversary.

Offered in 3,000 units worldwide, including 500 allocated to the U.S. market and 550 to the United Kingdom, it comes in an exclusive, and quite striking, Racing Orange shade and sports unique black alloys and orange brake calipers on all four corners.

You can catch a glimpse of the same orange color inside too, on the dashboard, door panels and gearshift lever. The Recaro sports seats with orange piping, wrapped in leather in Alcantara, offered good lumbar support and the anniversary plaque constantly reminds users of the sports car's special status.

Equipment is generous, with the MX-5 30th Anniversary Edition getting standard LED headlights, parking sensors, satellite navigation system and a Bose premium audio with speakers incorporated into the seats for the ultimate music experience with the top down.

Like most roadsters out there, the MX-5 isn't that practical. The boot offers a mere 130 liters (45.6 cu-ft) of cargo space, so you'll definitely have to travel light. It also lacks traditional door bins or a glovebox, but there are some small storage spaces inside.

Let's face it, nobody is going to buy the small Japanese roadster for anything else than its brilliant handling and, perhaps, good looks. So, the thing that you'll have to keep in mind is that it offers one of the purest driving experiences, with sharp steering and huge levels of grip around corners.

The 2.0-liter, naturally aspirated petrol four, with 184 PS (181 hp / 135 kW), which is offered in all markets except Japan that gets a 1.5-liter unit, provides sufficient power across the rev range. Get it with the six-speed manual gearbox and you'll be having lots of unadulterated, rear-wheel drive fun.



FCMC EVENTS CALENDAR

- **October 8 — 6:00 am: Monthly Club Meeting at Hodges Mazda**

Our monthly meeting will be held at Hodges Mazda at 10681 Philips Hwy, Jacksonville FL 32256. Come early for the food (supplied by the dealership or food truck) and stay after and pop your hoods!

- **October 19 — 9:00 am: Blackwater Inn Revisited**

We are meeting at the Flying J Truck Stop in St. Augustine. Even though we have done this once before, this is a once in a lifetime event so don't miss it! See the front page for all the details of this exciting and different drive!

- **November 16 — Drive to Cedar Key and Lee Bryans Clam Farm!**

This was a big hit last time we did this, so we're doing it again! There will be more details coming soon! Don't miss this one!

- **December — FCMC Holiday Party**

More details as this gets closer, but expect the usual fun and games!

HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS TO:

**Cindy Busch, Chuck Belinski, Linda French, Jeff Eakle,
Dave Talbert, Ken Tureski, Donnie Thompson, Gary Kight,
Gregory Dehart, Steve Shap, Stan Sobatka & Joan Wagner**

Welcome To Our Newest Members:

Michael & Enza Huff

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First Coast Miata Club
c/o Mike French
4027 Pinto Rd.
Middleburg FL 32068



It must be time for Halloween.

We're on the Web! Check us out!

Web Page: www.firstcoastmiataclub.org

Facebook: facebook.com/groups/firstcoastmiataclub

Man reports pickup stolen — while cops say he was committing his own crime

Sometimes karmic correction occurs faster than a bad deed can be completed. According to ABC News, somebody in Washington state stole a getaway pickup truck while the owner was allegedly robbing a business across the street. A local security camera caught the theft on camera, and the Kennewick Police Department posted the footage to Facebook. In an eyebrow-raising twist, the truck owner accused of burglary is reportedly the one who called the cops.

Around 6 a.m. on a Sunday morning, the Kennewick Police received a call from a man saying his 1992 Chevy truck had been stolen. After some investigating, the cops found nearby security camera footage that had captured the entire event. Somebody riding a bicycle had noticed the keys sitting on the front seat of the truck, tossed the bike into the bed, and drove off.

As the pickup is driving away, a second person appears on video, throws something at the truck, and chases after it. This person had allegedly just returned from attempting his own robbery across the street. Once police realized the situation, the man who called the cops was put in jail and charged with burglary.

As of the report, the Chevy truck had yet to be recovered.
