

April 2022 Volume 32, Issue 10



A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS & FRIENDS OF THE FIRST COAST MIATA CLUB

#### GOING WHERE NO MIATA HAS GONE BEFORE

When: Saturday, April 16th

Meet: Saturday 9:30 am, Home Depot 12111 Lem Turner Rd. 32218

Depart 9:45 am sharp (if you get there at 9:46 am we will be gone)

On april 16th we will trekking to Kingsland, ga to tour the neutral zone studios for an afternoon of star trekking. The drive is along roads meant for Miatas with curves and lots of scenery, very little traffic and a definite lack of traffic signals.

The neutral zone studio was used to film star trek episodes as well as other productions. We will be given a 90 minute tour that will incorporate visiting the starship enterprise's bridge and other sets. The tour also provides information about behind the scene stuff from the filming.

So all you Miataphile trekkies gas up and show up for a fun time where no Miata has gone before. Feel free to costume up and be a trekkie for a day!!!

Lunch will be at Steffans right around the corner from the studio. Steffans opened in 1948 and still provides good food and service people enjoyed in 1948.

The studio is free admission but donations are welcomed.

# First Coast Miata Club Board of Directors

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**Leopard Mercedes** 

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## WW2 Re-Enactment in Green Cove Springs - 03/26/22

A thank you to all the Miataphiles that attended the military reenactment in Green Cove Springs. Everyone enjoyed the event. The group that put on the event recognized our club and was very appreciative for our attendance.



























#### FCMC EVENTS CALENDAR

## • April 12 — 6:00 pm Monthly Club Meeting

Our monthly club meeting will be held at Crispy's at 1735 N Main St, Jacksonville FL 32206. There is on street parking on Main St. and also a large parking lot off 7th St. one block from the restaurant behind the Wells Fargo Bank. The meeting is in the upstairs loft so there will be stairs to climb.

\* Paula will be accepting renewal memberships at the April meeting to carry through the end of May, 2023 for anyone who wants to pay early.

## • April 16 — 9:30 am Where No Miata Has Gone Before

Just when you thought you've seen everything Star Trek. Well, you haven't. See the cover page for all the cool details!

#### • May - Annual Club Picnic/Officer Elections

It is that time of year when we need people to step up and help lead our wonderful club. Please consider volunteering in a leadership role. We need you!!!

#### **HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAYS TO:**

Jose Cordero, Gary Trbovich, Jeff Carling, John Chamblee, Gail Finneran, & James Ashley

#### AND WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS:

Reuben & Joan Dennis, Gordon Tubesing & Marquette Reavis and Trina Medarev

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We're on the Web! Check us out! Web Page: www.firstcoastmiataclub.org Group Page: facebook.com/groups/ firstcoastmiataclub

### Leopard walks in, shuts down a Mercedes-Benz plant

In recent months the auto industry has seen plant closures due to a host of reasons — parts shortages, recalls, natural disasters, and even a once-in-a-lifetime pandemic. Now it can add to that list the threat of an invading leopard. A Mercedes-Benz factory in Pune, India, was forced to halt production for a few hours when a wayward jungle cat wandered into the facility,

When the 3-year-old male leopard was spotted inside the manufacturing unit of the factory, it caused a panic among workers, according to a release by rescue organization Wildlife SOS discovered by The Drive. The site was shut down for about six hours as a Wildlife SOS rapid response team from the Manikdoh Leopard Rescue Centre and the State Forest Department safely removed the curious cat.

The team's veterinary officers carried out the rescue operation, tranquilizing the feline and loading it into a wildlife carrier. The rescue took about four hours, and the leopard was released back into the wild.

No one is quite sure how it got onto the factory grounds, but Wildlife SOS says that the forests in the surrounding region have one of the highest densities of leopards in the world. It's also suffering from rapid deforestation. That encroachment by humans has led to a decrease in the leopard's natural prey as well, so wildlife experts think it may have been looking for food.

We have a different theory. We believe that the cat was seeking to set the record straight with Mercedes. When the S 65 AMG debuted, Mercedes claimed it featured the world's first Road Surface Scan technology to detect pavement undulations and adjust suspension damping accordingly. The only problem with that claim: Nissan had the technology some 30 years earlier in several mid-80s models, including the Maxima and Japan's version of the Infiniti M30, which was called — you guessed it — the Leopard.