



In The Breeze



NORTH PARK
mazda



September-October 2021

Official Newsletter of the Bluebonnet Miata Club

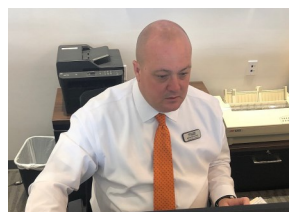
Still Free!

North Park Mazda Has Put On the Ritz!

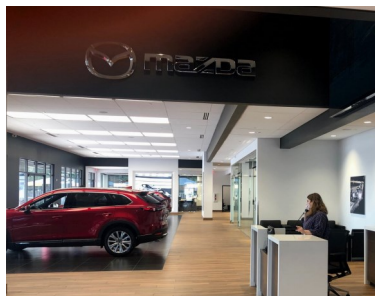
Our sponsor dealership has a new and improved look!



San Antonio's premier Mazda dealership greets you with a tropical look! Go visit the folks at North Park and check out their inventory of Miatas!



L to R, General Manager John Kahlig, General Sales Manager Jeff Akeroyd, New Car Sales Manager Brian Willeford and Service Manager Josh Millecam



The minute you walk in you are proud you own a Mazda! The friendly service department and an array of Mazda merchandise will impress!

2020 Club Officers

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New Members

Members: 201

Welcome Back!

Cory and Robin Blocker

San Antonio

2014 PRHT, Meteor Grey

Don't forget to drop by our sponsor for your new Miata!



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President's Message



Greetings fellow ZOOMERS.

Well, the dog days of summer are almost over. Fortunately, there have not been too many days where the core temperature has exceeded 100 degrees. With that, the cooler fall temperatures will soon be upon us.

As the Summer draws to a close, we have one more getaway planned. Mark Hungerman will be leading a group to Arizona Sept. 4 – 12. If you're interested in going and haven't yet let Mark know, please do so as soon as possible. Mark promises a great trip through familiar roads – and some new ones – through the 48th state and last of the contiguous states to be admitted to the Union. This promises to be a fun time.

We have several open dates in September for runs. If you're interested in leading a run, check the calendar and pick a date. Also keep an eye out on the calendar and in the Google groups for any last-minute additions.

As a reminder, our Christmas Party this year is set for Saturday, Dec. 4, at Melanie's Bar and Grill in La Vernia. There's a link to the restaurant on the website if you want to check out the menu. Again, keep checking our website for more information and updates.

We've had great weather! Let's get out on those roads and ZOOM ZOOM.

Let's have fun, and "Zoom Zoom" safely.

Craig Martin, President

From the Editor



Well, we dealt with almost 2 years of Covid, then it begins to flatten out, then suddenly we have Snovid! We get our pipes fixed, plants replanted and now...a resurgence of Covid and it's variances! I tell you, our resilience is truly being tested! And I've learned my lesson about debating the "vid" subject. Okay, enough ab out that.

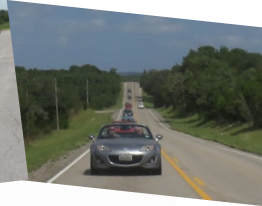
I'm writing this fresh from attending a Men's Breakfast Club meet up. The really nice thing, at least for me, is that real conversations occur when having a smaller gathering. And not once did we discuss the aches and pains we seasoned fellas have.

One of the topics was runs and why there aren't so many these days. Oh sure, we realize that Covid has had a lot to do with folks either wanting to just stay at home and/or not wanting to be around others in a crowded environment. From where I sit, it puzzles me that we don't have more people volunteering to lead a run. I love to lead runs, but where is the new blood? Surely you new folks have a favorite place or road to travel, right? A little intimidated planning a run? Hey, it's really easy. I'll be glad to help with just a few bits of information from whoever wants to take us to a new and exciting adventure and we'll plan it together!

ZOOM ZOOM

George Lucas, Editor

Dan and Betty Hicks Lazy Bones Run

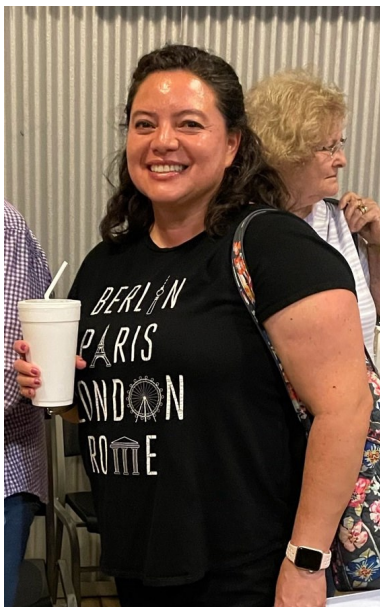


zoom-zoom

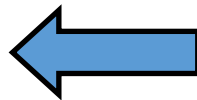


BBMC Ladies Group

August 19, 2021



NEWBIE!



Miatas at the Gap XXV was well represented by Mark Hungerman, Jimbo Treat, Paul Wilson and Stan Chambers. More than 1,000 Miatas showed up for this, the 2021 version of arguably the biggest Miata gathering of the year...any year.

As you can see from the photos (mostly provided by Paul Wilson), the event was big. In fact, it's said it was the biggest MATG ever.



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Sometimes, the Dragon Bites Back



...It bit us twice!



By Jimbo Treat

4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Wanda and I left for North Carolina, driving through the night and arriving around noon on Thursday, but not without a mishap. **Bite #1.** Not having reached the Dragon yet we encountered a sharp curve missing some asphalt. The CX-9 missed it, but the trailer wheel caught it hard. We stopped and removed the tire and limped on the the Dragon Resort. Leaving the trailer there, we drove on to Robbinsville to get another wheel and tire, which City Tire was able to do..

Bite #2 Thursday night, we took a drive on the Dragon. At some time, a clear haze built up on the windshield which I could see through, but oncoming headlights made the windshield go white. We were headed into a left hand curve, the oncoming SUV headlights hit us and all I could see was white! When I could see again, the curve was to the left, and the ditch was right in front of us. All I could do was lock up the brakes and hang on. We hit pretty hard but the airbags didn't deploy. A large stump root to the right went down the side of the car and dented the door pretty good, but no one was hurt.

We were stuck, but some guys saw us and came to push the car out as I backed it up, but the root caught the door and peeled it like a can opener!!



The car was still drivable, so we enjoyed the rest of the weekend with our Dragonmates, and saw a lot of of the over 1,000 Miatas that showed up for the event. Even my CX-9 had was fun on some of these roads. Can't wait for next year!



...and Jimbo's

Winner of the "Spirit of the Event Award"
Goes to this young man. Sleeping in his
Miata, but by God, he made it there!



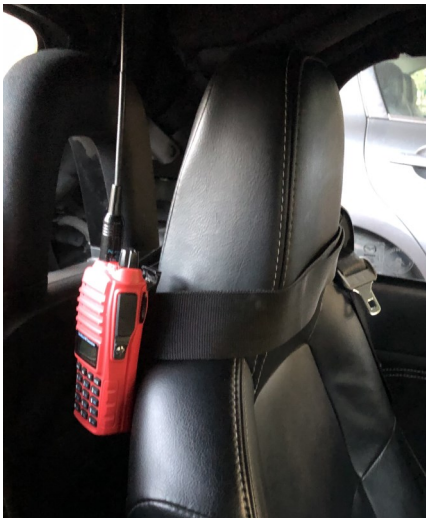
Please Support our Sponsors!



Tech Tip

We love our Baofeng radios, right? Well, most of us do. Where do you keep your radio when on a run? No space in the console? No console at all? In one of your cup holder...where it goes back and forth when you're going through those twisties? Stuck onto something in the cockpit with Velcro?

Well, having tried most of those ideas, I think I found a simple, yet very convenient place for the radio, no Velcro, no fumbling for the radio when you need to transmit, this, to me is the best place yet and there is no "installing" some permanent solution.



Simply use a strap or even a simple belt wrapped around your head rest. When using a headphone or ear piece, the cord under or over your shoulder works great! When you stop at that frequent pit stop, simply put your ear piece down around your shift lever and get out. No unwinding around yourself, easy peasy!

As you can see, it's a very simple and handy solution!

-George Lucas, Editor

Did you know...

that each month we meet on or near the night of the full moon for dinner? Why, we've been doing that for nigh on to 11 years! Great food, great company and we want you to join in!

While we've been to over 100 area restaurants, we know you probably have a favorite you might want to share. Does it have patio dining so we can see the full moon? That's about the only requirement.

So, let me know and I'll do the rest and we'll all go to YOUR favorite eatery!

Call or text me with your favorite restaurant!

George Lucas, 210-846-1944



Lunar Zoomer, Sunday Night, 8/22/2021 at EZ's

Photos by Charles Mims



Be sure to come out and join us next month!

What does the NAs, NBs, NCs, NDs designations signify?



If you are like me, when you came into the Bluebonnet Miata Club, you may have been mystified by all the talk was about the various Miata models, i.e., NA, NB, NC, and ND. So, I decided to do a little research.

The letters (N + A, B, C, or D) refer to two letters in the US Vehicle Identification Number (VIN). They are Mazdas so the VIN starts with JM1. The N for the model (Miata) and the letters A, B, C, and stand for each production revision. If you haven't done it, look at the VIN in your Miata to confirm your model.

For you techno's, here is some basic info on the four production models:

The NA (1989-1998)

Engine – 1.6L, inline 4-cylinder, 116 hp
Transmission – 5-speed manual
Weight – 2070 lbs
0 to 60 – 8.1 seconds, 126 mph top speed

The NB (1999-2005)

Engine – 1.8L, inline 4-cylinder, 140 hp
Transmission – 5-speed manual, optional 4-speed automatic
Weight – 2348 lbs
0 to 60 – 7.7 seconds, 130 mph top speed

The NC (2006-2015)

Engine – 16 valve 2.0L, inline 4-cylinder, 170 hp
Transmission – 6-speed manual, optional 6-speed automatic
Weight – 2542 lbs
0 to 60 – 8.1 seconds, 124 mph top speed

The ND (2016-20??)

Engine – 2.0L, SKYACTIVE 4-cylinder, 184 hp
Transmission – 6-speed manual, optional 6-speed automatic
Weight – 2341 lbs
0 to 60 – 5.7 seconds, 143 mph top speed

Now for a little Mazda history I picked up in my research. In 1976 Kenichi Yamamoto head of Research and development at Mazda asked Bob Hall, a journalist at Motor Trend, a specialist in the Japanese auto market, “what kind of car Mazda should build for America?” His response was a “simple, bugs-in-the-teeth, wind-in-the-hair, classically-British sports car that doesn't exist anymore.”

In 1982, Hall, now working for Mazda, submitted a concept idea to the home office for consideration of such a vehicle. A design competition was held between the Japanese and the California crews, and the California teams won and started designing a new, inexpensive British style roadster with Japanese reliability and philosophy. The credo was “oneness of horse and rider.” The first model, the MX-5 (designated NA), achieved that objective and has carried it through the later revisions.

One description I was drawn to on the Miata's success at “oneness of horse and rider” was: “This is a car that you don't so much drive as wear it. When you slide into the driver's seat and your butt is nine inches above the pavement, it feels like slipping into your favorite party clothes. Because you are sitting lower than anything else on the road, your perspective changes and no matter how many times you do it, there is always a sense of adventure.”

Viva, Miata!

“Op” Ed Polansky

Upcoming Runs and Events

Friday, August 27th, please join the Bluebonnet Miata Ladies at 11:00 AM at the Garden Tea Lounge in San Antonio for High Tea. We plan to dress up and wear our best High Tea Hats! Come join us for a fun time - I plan to take pictures, so if you want a fun digital portrait, this is the time :-)

The Garden Tea Lounge is located in the back of the Craftiques Mall

2375 NW Military Hwy, San Antonio, TX 78231

Phone #: (210)-308-TEAS

Our High Tea will begin at 11:00 am and usually lasts 2 hours. The mall opens at 10 am if you want to come early and browse the stalls.

Cost: \$32 per person meal, tax, and tip included (cash or check payable to Cheryl Knight)

Includes:

- 3 types of tea
- Garden salad
- 3 types of sandwiches
- Scones with butter and jams
- Sweets for dessert

RSVP Required!

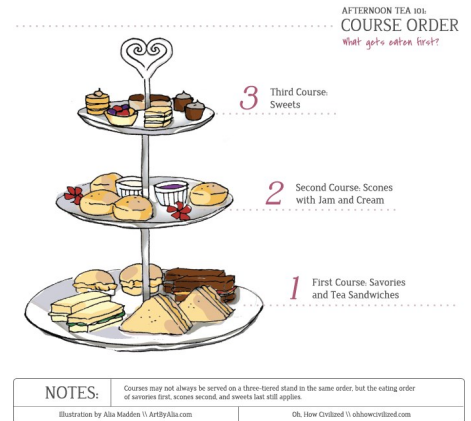
I'll need a final headcount by **Tuesday, August 24th**

If you are tentative, please RSVP and let me know -I won't add you until the last minute if you are indeed able to make it. It will be easier to add than to remove as they are asking me to pay a deposit based on the RSVP.

Thanks,

Cheryl

210-273-2949



Saturday, September 4th—12th —Mark Hungerman's Arizona Trip. Details available from Mark. Inquire about lodging, etc

Monday, September 6th, Sundaes on Monday, hosted by George Lucas. Let's meet at a new place, Lulu's Ice Cream shop, 6:30 p.m., , Tri-County II Shopping Center, 173 IH35 N, Ste 202, Schertz, TX 78154 Take that nice evening drive to Schertz for this one!

Friday, September 10th, Miata Ladies Event. Details of this event were not available at press time.

Thursday, September 16th, Ladies BUNCO . Details not available at press time. Contact Beverly Turner for details.

Friday, September 17th, Men's Breakfast Club, hosted by George Lucas. Meet at The Original Donut Shop. This 4 Star shop is probably the oldest donut place in San Antonio. They also have a Mexican restaurant connected to the shop. Meet time: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, September 19th, Lunar Zoomer Dinner, hosted by George Lucas. Can you say BBQ? We're going to try a new place (that's always fun), called BURNWOOD '68. Located at 18745 Redland Road, 78259, right next door to Hacienda Los Barrios. We're going to meet early at 5:30 p.m. because they close at 8:00 p.m. on Sundays. C'mon out!

Saturday, September 25th, Hamburger Run to Barbed Wire Burgers, led by Jimbo Treat. Always a favorite, great burgers and don't forget to get your Moon Pie! Details of time,, etc will be forthcoming. Keep an eye on our website at www.bluebonnetmiata.org for details.

Tuesday, September 28th, Monthly meeting. Craig Martin, president presiding. Bigz Burger Joint. Eat and greet at 6:30 p.m., meeting starts promptly 7:30 p.m.

Many upcoming weekends are available for runs or events of your choosing! Plan something, it's fun!

Lead a run, organize an event, we'll follow you anywhere!

Please contact George Lucas, your newsletter editor, with details of your run or event so that it will be entered into the Newsletter! Thanks!

Remember When?



"Smile, I think you're going to like this picture!"

Marilyn McCullen

And

Betty Jackson

September 2006

In The Breeze

Bluebonnet Miata Club

San Antonio, Texas

<http://www.bluebonnetmiata.org>

