

In The Breeze



THANKS

To all that came!

April-May 2025

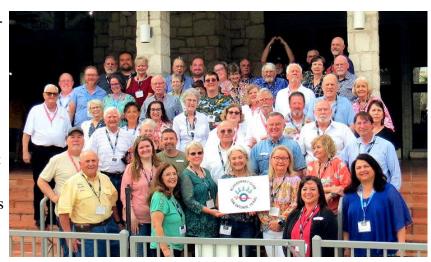
Official Newsletter of the Bluebonnet Miata Club

Still Free!

Our Birthday Party Was a Hit!

While the idea was born late, and considering the drafting of volunteers of who does what and who does this and that, I believe the event a huge success. Special thanks go to our president, Sophie Parazo!

I'm surprised she still has hair as we all tossed ideas and offered opinions of how it could all be done, all new to her! I believe we all were thrilled at our turnout and folks that came from other clubs!



Back at our home venue for our club

events, The Y. O. Hotel and Resort were gracious and excellent hosts. A big thanks goes to them as well. We mingled, dined, mingled some more and made ourselves at home there. They also provided us with all the amenities we asked for. And oh what a fantastic dinner! Jessica Quigly and her entire staff accommodated us with all our wishes for the weekend. I might add Jessica took over the reigns as our host as her predecessor resigned suddenly only a few weeks before the event! Great job, Jessica!

I personally want to say thanks to all the folks that took on jobs including those that were at the welcome table, provided information for arrivals and, of course, all the run leaders! Again, great jobs! All weekend I got compliments on the entire event.

We had runs to the famous Twisted Sisters, Willow City Loop and Wildseed Farm, a run called Roller

Coaster and a run to Doss as well. A small gimmick run rounded things off the runs list.

At the Saturday night dinner, did I mention it was amazing? We had lots of prizes and many happy winners of all sorts of fun things! We played games afterwords for more fun as well.

A special thanks goes to Rohm and Barbara Thompson as they spear-headed the entire idea and event. Rohm will deny it, but that's just Rohm being Rohm. Incidentally, Rohm was one of the founders of our club. Thanks again, Rohm and Barbara!

Sophie was a pro as the mistress of ceremonies at the dinner, you'd swear she had done all this before! Thanks, Sophie!



Sophie Parazo, president with Rohm and Barbara Thompson

2025 Club Officers

President

Sophie Parazo

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Immediate past President Craig Martin

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Treasurer

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Stephanie Turner

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Harry Maxwell

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Newsletter Editor*

George Lucas

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* Appointed positions

New Members

Dorian Arguelles & Donny Donohue

San Antonio

2000 Emerald Green Mica

Terri Conatore

Kerrville, TX 2016 Soul Red Metallic

Russ Fortson

Houston, TX 2021 Snowflake White Pearl Mica

Robert Rucker

Houston, TX 2019 Soul Red Metallic

Anthony & Miriam Mendez

San Antonio 1992 Classic Red

Total Members 202

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Hello Bluebonnet Miata Club!

I hope everyone is doing well! We just finished our 30th Anniversary event and I am so happy at how it all turned out! We had about 80 people attend, many from other clubs and non-members, so it was very nice to see so many new faces! We also received so many accolades on how well organized we were and about how nice the event was, so thanks to all of those who helped. It could not

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have been done without you. Hopefully this will help us prepare for our next big event in 2028! Also, I know it's a little early, but I wanted to remind everyone about club elections. As mentioned in the last meeting, all positions in the club are available. If anyone wants to run for a position, PLEASE DO!! The club can't continue to run without help from the membership. Don't worry if you haven't done this before, because we all have learned on the job and it's really not difficult. We will support each other to get everything done. The Elections Committee chair will be collecting names for any who want to run so that we can plan early enough for voting. I look forward to seeing

Til next time, drive safe and keep on zoomin!

who would like become part of our executive committee!

Sophie Parazo, President

From the Editor

Greetings from your newsletter editor, remember me? Okay, okay, I've been too busy to get an April newsletter. For that, I apologize and offer this two-month version.

I say busy as myself and lots of others coordinating the Anniversary party we just had took a lot of work on lots of folks parts. The good news is that it went very well! Runs went well and how about that weather! Three beautiful days of run-



ning around the Hill Country roads including 3 versions of the Three Twisted Sisters! We also had a Willow City Loop/Wild Seed Farm and good food on all runs! We kicked off the weekend by going to The Café on the Ridge in Harper Thursday evening. Wow, what a place, great food and even greater bakery fare! I plan on including that in a run soon! Folks also visited the Doss Restaurant and, of course, the Bent Rim in Leaky.

All in all, with great fellowship with folks from all over Texas including a dozen folks from Houston! The Y. O. lobby is just the perfect place to gather, meet new people and talk about you folks that didn't make it, hahaha!

Before the big dinner on Saturday evening, we took a group photo of most of the attendees, a tradition for sure.

Lots of prizes and a fabulous dinner on Saturday night was amazing. Afterwards we played games and had a blast!

Thanks do all of you for coming and special thanks to those that made it possible!

George Lucas, Editor

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2025 Polansky Picnic Pursuit, aka "Gone with the Wind"

I would like to point out the name of the BBMC Newsletter is "In the Breeze." That is an apt description for this year's Polansky Picnic Pursuit. I shall explain.

On a brisk, beautiful, sunshiny, and cool day on March 15, 20 Miatas and Ceasar in his Mazda station wagon bringing up the rear of the string of cars, set out on a run from the Old No. 9 train station (now an Exxon Station and Longhorn Burger place in Boerne).

We traveled roads that haven't been run on for a while, such as Waring-Welfare, Cravey, Marquard (where we stopped to "admire" the classic, but rusting cars that line up inside the fence parallelling the road), Sisterdale Road, and SH 473 before stopping at the Kendalia Store for a needed pit stop. It looked like a real hot spot with 20 Miatas and 10 motorcycles parking around the store.

After continuing back on SH 473 through Sisterdale, we turned onto Zoeller Lane weaving around Guadalupe River and before getting back on Waring-Welfare Road. That led to Hwy 289 and the entrance to Joshua Creek Park and Preserve (which is on the west side of IH-10).

This is where we found ourselves really "IN THE BREEZE" when we trouped to the top of Ring Mountain to take in the amazing 360-degree view of the landscape surrounding the mountain top. The wind was gusting like crazy causing a lot of bad hair, but the view was worth it all.

When we congregated down in the park for the "picnic" part of the run, the wind was still gusting up to 50 miles an hour, causing difficulty in hanging onto our food, drinks, and chairs. We scarfed down our victuals, shared a hoard of homemade cookies and pastries, and had a genuinely fun time, while hanging on to each other, and chasing blown away items. Sadly, the winds prohibited our plans for frisbee disc golfing, kite flying and drone soaring.

Because the Park is such a great venue, Helenan and I plan to lead next year's PPP back to the Joshua Creek Preserve, but with a different pursuit route. We hope that fun was had by all, despite Mother Nature's reminding us of her real influence on the world. It made me think of my growing up days in windy Corpus Christi.

Ed Polansky













This photo illustrated the altitude and amazing view atop the mountain. Below is a closer view of our folks.



Should I Worry about Replacing a Miata Windshield?



By EdOp Polansky

Over the years, I have had several dings from rocks to my ND Miata windshield. When that happened, I headed to a nearby chip repair station and fixed it before it grew into a crack in the window. For the most part that seemed to take care of the problem, and I had no serious results from the chips.

Well, my luck ran out last year on my ND when a small rock kicked up from the road into my windshield leaving a small ding. Before I could get the chip fixed, a crack started and spread quickly across the windshield. I had no choice but to replace the windshield.

I engaged, what I thought, was an experienced auto windshield company, who could do the job at my house. I was a little surprised when three individuals came out to do the job, which I thought would be relatively simple. But no, they spent several hours on the task. I learned that an ND windshield replacement is not simple. With all the GPS and other stuff that is now embedded in the windshield, it requires experience.

I quickly realized that the crew was learning on the job because they seemed to be using a You Tube episode for help. Well, ultimately, they completed the job and everything appeared in order. I examined the work, accepted the job, and paid the bill.

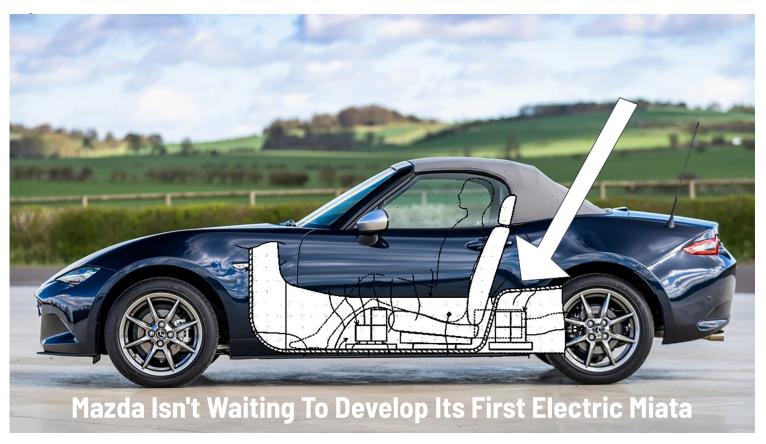
All was well, for a couple of months. Then I noticed the trim around the windshield was beginning to part from the window. I pressed the loose trim down and that seemed to solve the problem. But no, it became more of a problem as one piece of trim actually departed from the windshield as I was driving. As everyone knows about me, I'm not a DIY mechanic. I exceed my mechanical ability very quickly.

I took my car into the dealership and the service representative told me that the trim was a "one and done" part. Once any trim is removed to replace the windshield, you should replace all of the trim around the windshield. That was the only way (not cheap) to make sure the adhesive stayed in place and the trim held. I accepted their advice and had the trim replaced and paid for it.

I was satisfied for a few months, and then suddenly the box-cover over the GPS and camera on the windshield came detached and dangled down. I tried to re-snap it to the windshield which held for about a day until I hit some bumps in the road. Back to the dealership I went, and they explained that the box had not been correctly fitted (by the installers) to the windshield. The very nice service guy had the problem fixed in about 5 minutes. Free.

Here is my message for anyone who is contemplating replacing their windshield on an ND (I'm not sure if the other models have the same issues.) Choose a good installer, make sure that they have done Miatas before, and replace the trim when you replace the windshield.

You know, you learn something every day and some lessons can be both irritating and expensive.



The future of the Mazda MX-5 Miata roadster is very much still up in the air. Recent comments from company execs have confirmed the next-gen model will retain a gas engine and a manual transmission, but that doesn't mean the automaker hasn't been working on other versions of the car in the event of a needed contingency. Now, it appears that one of those contingency plans was for a fully-electric roadster, based on the latest published patents.

Electric Miata Will Blaze Its Own Trail

European patents reveal a potential Mazda roadster with a unique battery outline. Instead of just throwing a sled wedge of batteries under the floor of the passenger space in a large flat bank of cells (as is the common way nowadays for EVs), the electric Miata would package batteries down the traditional transmission tunnel space, along with two more battery units on either side of a rear-mounted electric motor, likely for weight balancing.

That would mean the MX-5 would stay a rear-drive roadster, but another version in the patent images shows a front-mounted motor configura well, which could help an electric Miata provide similar handling dynamics to the combustion car on offer today.

The Path Required For An Electric Miata To Happen

Another Mazda exec, CTO Ryuichi Umeshita, recently told <u>Car and Driver</u> that it would effectively take a full-on ban on combustion engines outright in major markets like the US for Mazda to ever consider only selling a fully-electric roadster. Otherwise, he said, the lightweight character of the car is its primary focus during development, and that doesn't jibe with today's current heavy battery technology.

Sales of the current Miata have been steady over this generation's lifetime, with a slight 16 percent drop year-over-year from 2023 to 2024, which totaled 7,489 units moved last year. So far, in 2025, Mazda has sold 1,765 MX-5s thus far, but that was <u>before tariffs were implemented</u>, so it could be a bad outlook going forward for the rest of the year. Despite that, Miata enthusiasts shouldn't worry too

We Have Nothing To Fear

A couple of weeks ago, Mazda design boss <u>Masashi Nakayama promised</u> that the fifth-generation Mazda Miata would get a bigger 2.5-liter four-cylinder engine, weigh less than the current car, and come in under one ton of weight, or 2,200 pounds, and it will still be offered with a manual transmission. That should keep everybody happy for a few more years, right? Well, in case it doesn't, Mazda has a backup plan for an all-electric version.

The current Miata is about 130 pounds over one ton in weight, with a 2.0-liter four-cylinder gas unit good for 181 hp and 151 lb-ft of torque, with a manual or automatic gearbox option, and power sent through the rear wheels exclusively. There's also the folding-hardtop RF version, still, which is even heavier.

Source: Car Throttle



The Faulkner's Gimmick Run



While its difficult to take pictures during the gimmick run, you can see below we had plenty of participants, many for their first gimmick run! We had lots of fun and great food at the 5D steakhouse in Yorktown! Thanks so much to Paul and Judy Faulkner!





This month's Lunar Zoomer had a great turnout of 22 folks for charbroiled burgers, fries, onion rings and tasty ice cream too! Thanks to all for coming out! Check out these happy faces!



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Did you know...

Mazda Miata Owners Barely Drive Their Cars: Study

The Mazda MX-5 Miata is one of the least-driven cars in America per year, according to a study conducted by iSeeCars.

By: Brian Silvestro

The <u>Mazda MX-5 Miata</u> is the everyman's sports car. It's reliable and practical, and designed to be used every day without huge compromise. Yet, according to the <u>latest study by *iSeeCars.com*</u>, Miata owners barely drive their cars.

The study analyzed odometer readings from over 1 million three-year-old used cars sold between November 2024 and April 2025, finding that, on average, owners drove 12,307 miles per year. The MX-5 Miata emerged as the least-driven car of the vehicles analyzed, averaging just 5,073 miles per year-less than half the average.

The GMC Hummer EV came in second place, averaging 5,205 miles per year. And in third place was the MX-5 Miata RF—the retractable fastback body style—at 5,375 miles per year.

Though the Miata can make for a perfectly acceptable daily driver, we're not surprised to see it at the top. Most people use it as a second or third car, meant only for nice weekend jaunts. That means less seat time throughout the year, when it's cold or rainy. Had iSeeCars analyzed rare or exotic car mileage, we bet this list would be nothing but Ferraris, Lamborghinis, and Koenigseggs.

There are also a healthy number of electric cars among the least-driven vehicles in America. That's due to their limited range, according to iSeeCars.

"It's telling that vehicles like the GMC Hummer EV, Mazda MX-30 EV, Ford F-150 Lightning, and Volkswagen ID.4 are among the least driven models," said *iSeeCars* Executive Analyst Karl Brauer. "These are all utility vehicles that should be seeing a lot of use, but their electric drivetrains appear to limit their annual miles."

The list of the most-driven cars in America is exactly what you'd expect: Mostly utilitarian workhorses designed to haul people or cargo.

Though most of these vehicles are vans and SUVs, cars like the Chevy Malibu and the Mustang convertible can be explained by huge rental usage. "All of these sedans see a certain amount of rental fleet use, which is likely pulling up their annual mileage numbers," says Brauer.

"They obviously aren't in the Bluebonnet Miata Club" - Craig Martin



What the Ladies are Doing



Sandy Phelps hosted a small group of ladies at the San Antonio Zoo. Word is they had a great time!!!







Photos, Photos, Photos



















Upcoming Runs and Events

May -June 2025

Be sure to check out our website for more details on these and other upcoming runs and events!

Thursday, May 15th, Ladies Bunco, hosted by Marilyn Hamilton. Big'z Burger Joint, 6:30 p.m.—8::30 p.m. 2303 West access Rd, Loop 1604 W, SATX 78258

Thursday, May 22nd, Harris Hill Club Event, hosted by Monica Harrison. Available with limited number of participants. Cost is \$150 and is for BBMC club members. This will take up most of the day, but you will be a better driver afterwards!

Saturday, May 24th, Where the heck is Kendalia? Run. Led by George Lucas and Marilyn McCullen. We'll meet at the Fischer Store out Blanco Road at 24184 Blanco Rd, 78258 at 9:30 a.m. with a departure at 10:00 a.m. This won't be a long run, but I've been told the Kendalia Store has fantastic burgers! Maybe it won't be so hot, right? Right!?:-)

Tuesday, May 27th, BBMC monthly meeting, Sophie Parazo presiding. Meet, eat and Greet at 6:30 p.m. Meeting starts promptly at 7:00 p.m. at Big'z Burger Joint 2303 N. Loop 1604, SATX 78258

Wednesday evening, June 11th, 7:00 p.m., Lunar Zoomer dinner hosted by George Lucas, at Hacienda de Los Barrios, 18747 Redland Road, San Antonio, 78259 We'll see the moon from our dinner spot!

Friday, June 13, Men'a Breakfast, hosted by George Lucas. Comfort Café. 2015 NE Loop 410, in the Los Patios complex. Meet at 9:00 a.m. Relax here and tell tales, haha. It gets 5 Stars! No cards accepted, cash only.

Friday, June 13, Ladies outing, hosted by Sophie Parazo. The ladies will be visiting the Witte Museum. Time and other details to follow on our website.

Thursday, Jun 19th, Ladies Bunco, hosted by Marilyn Hamilton, Big'z Burger Joint, 2303 N. Loop 1604, SATX 78258

Saturday, June 21st, Painted Churches Tour, led by George Lucas. Meet at 9:00 a.m., depart 9:30 a.m. We'll see 5 of Texas' Painted Churches. A real treat you'll be glad you visited these beautiful historic churches. And travel over the Piano Bridge! We'll have lunch at the Oak Ride Smokehouse, see one last church, then come back home. Y'all come!

Tuesday, June 24th BBMC monthly meeting, Sophie Parazo presiding. Meet, eat and the meeting starts at 7::00 sharp! Big'z Burger Joint, 2303 N Loop 1604, SATX 78258

Coming, Labor Day Weekend!

Head for the Mountains

West Texas mountains, Big Bend Trail sites, Stargazing party at the McDonald Observatory, Dinner in Terlingua at the famous Starlight Theater, Chisos Mountains and Dinosaurs too!

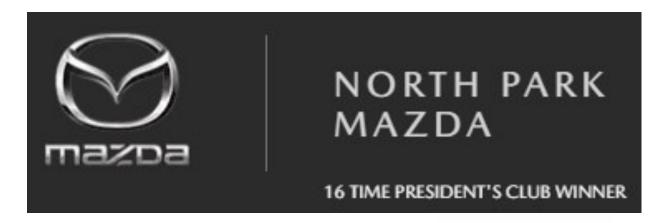
So, save the date, August 29th - September 1st

We already have reservations at the Hampton Inn in Alpine!

Ask about special collector's garment!

Last HFTM was almost 10 years ago! Don't miss this event!

Don't forget our Sponsors!







Remember When?

