

In The Breeze



Our new president!

January-February 2023

Official Newsletter of the Bluebonnet Miata Club

Still Free!

2023? Are You Ready to Rumble?

Lots of fun things planned for the new year



No matter how you drive, where you like to go, what you like to do, where you like to dine, and which MX-5 is what you own, our club is sure to have something for you this year! Traditional runs and events and new runs dot the calendar for 2023. Keep checking the calendar at www.bluebonnetmiata.org and c'mon out and join the fun!

There will be the regular gatherings throughout the year, like a monthly Lunar Zoomer dinner and one of San Antonio's popular eateries, Ladies group events including a monthly Bunco game night. There is also a monthly men's breakfast club, ice cream socials and so much more!

Check out these upcoming events and runs. In addition to the monthly regulars listed above, February has a run led by Rohm and Barbara Thompson. March includes runs by Mark Hungerman, Joe and Cheryl Knight. April brings us the Polansky Picnic Pursuit, Larry and Pam Stivers run and Rohm and Barbara will be leading a real adventure to Mount Rushmore!

May will be have Jimbo's annual Chicken Fried Steak run and in June an old run returns as yours truly will revive the Painted Churches Tour. July will start with a bang with a run led by Mark Hungerman on the 4th of July.

Summer has open weekends with the rest of July and August open. Want to lead a run? Join in, it's easy and we're here to help you with the details!

I will be hosted the Jackson Catfish Parlor Run in September and Joe and Cheryl Knight will leading a run in October. Also in October, Mark Hungerman will be taking us to New Mexico for the Balloon Fiesta and a solar eclipse! You won't want to miss that!

December has the annual Camp Verde Christmas Run and we'll wrap up the year with the annual Bluebonnet Miata Club Christmas party.

Details of these and other events throughout the year will be posted on our website, www.bluebonnetmiata.org. We hope you will volunteer to take us where YOU like to go this year! **Zoom Zoom!**

-George Lucas, Editor

2022 Club Officers

President (New!)

Sophie Parazo

president@bluebonnetmiata.org

Vice President (New!)

Dave Ogden

vicepresident@bluebonnetmiata.org

Treasurer

Joe Knight

treasurer@bluebonnetmiata.org

Secretary

Stephanie Turner

secretary@bluebonnetmiata.org

Membership*

Harry Maxwell

membership@bluebonnetmiata.org

Newsletter Editor*

George Lucas

newsletter@bluebonnetmiata.org

** Appointed positions*

Welcome, New Members!

Monica Harrison & Nugget McNett

Spring Branch, Texas 78070

2006 Nordic Green

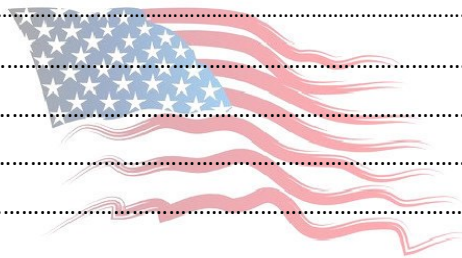
Total Current Members 196



Future MX-5 ???

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President's Message



Hello Everyone,

For those of you who I have not met yet, my name is Sophie Parazo. My husband Ceasar and I joined the club in June of 2021 and have had such a great time, from our early morning runs around the hill country to our group get-togethers around San Antonio.

We have lived in San Antonio for the past 12 years and have not seen and enjoyed so much of San Antonio until meeting this club and have loved every minute of it! I am honored to be your new President and hope that together, we will be able to enjoy our club even more. I look forward to working with the other club officers and each one of you to ensure you have a club that is fun and exciting and one that you want to be part of.

If you have any suggestions or just want to be more involved, please contact me or any of the club officers. We're always looking for new ideas and ways to keep this club fun! I look forward to meeting all of you and encourage everyone to take part and enjoy the many things we have planned for this upcoming year.

Sophie Parazo, president

From the Editor



I know you all will welcome Sophie Parazo as our new president. She and her husband Ceasar have shown much enthusiasm each time we all get together. Please let them know we are behind them all the way! While they have only been in the club just over a year, Sophie has jumped into almost all of our club activities and her vivacious personality has made her one wants to be around! Welcome, Sophie!

I'd also like to say that we will miss our immediate past president, Craig Martin as he has provided us with exuberance and great fun at our meetings. He and his wife Lisa, I'm happy to say, will be still around to continue to have fun and provided continued leadership. Thanks, Craig, you did good, son!

Also, let's congratulate Dave Odgen who is taking on the vice president duties this year. Dave has already proven his leadership qualities as he now is in charge of our quarterly trash pick ups! Way to go, Dave!

Zoom Zoom, y'all!

George Lucas, editor

Mazda Pledges To Keep MX-5 On RWD Platform With Gasoline Engine

The next generation is unlikely to come out before 2024



While virtually all automakers are downsizing on the road to embracing EVs, Mazda is doing the exact opposite. It recently announced a new rear-wheel-drive platform ushering in a pair of inline-six gasoline and diesel engines. In addition, it's among the last car manufacturers to still sell cars with naturally aspirated powertrains. Not only that, but it still sees a future for the oil-burner in some parts of the world.

In the roadster world, the MX-5 is alive and well despite constant pressures from regulators to cut fleet emissions. *Autocar* spoke with Mazda's head of product development and engineering in Europe, and he reassured fans the Miata will remain a Miata: "It's our brand icon and it is always treated very specially. At the moment, it looks like we will have this car forever, with this size and concept and combustion engine."

He admitted there will come a day when "we will have to electrify it, but we want to keep this pure concept." Joachim Kunz pointed out the MX-5 will not switch to an existing platform used by the other cars and SUVs since that would mean the loss of RWD. He went on to say most of the development work is done at home in Japan as the sporty roadster "is the baby of the headquarters."

While an exact date as to when the ND generation will be replaced was not provided, Kunz suggested it won't happen in the near future: "Having one generation for 10 years is not a problem for us." That's because the MX-5 has a special place in the company's lineup, separate from its mainstream vehicles. His statement indicates the NE model is highly unlikely to come out before 2024 considering the current car was launched in 2014.

When it does eventually arrive, the new MX-5 will largely retain the formula that made it the world's best-selling two-seater sports car. However, a company spokesperson told us back in June 2021 that "Mazda is seeking to electrify the MX-5 Miata in an effort to have all models feature a form of electrification by 2030." A plug-in hybrid seems unlikely since it will add a lot of weight and create issues with packaging, so our money is on a full hybrid setup or a more probable 48V mild-hybrid system.

Whatever the case may be, the NE-gen model might end up heavier than the current car, which weighs a remarkable 2,182 pounds (990 kilograms) in the JDM-only 990S special edition.

Article compliments of Adrian Padeanu of



What do *you* know about Miata catalytic converters?

By *OpEd Polansky*



I recently had to replace my catalytic converters (the ND has two) on my 2017 ND. Fortunately, it was covered under the car's new car warranty, so I'm not out anything. But it made me wonder about the cats for a Miata and so I conducted a little research. Here are some answers to my questions.

What is most likely to cause catalytic converter failure?

Unburned fuel entering the exhaust system can over-heat the converter far beyond its normal operating limit, and cause a melt-down. It is my guess, that this is the reason that I needed a new converter only after approximately 45,000 because it was shortly after I had a new replacement engine was installed (under warranty!). Getting only 45K miles is way below expectations per my investigations.

How much are Miata catalytic converters costs?

The average cost for a Mazda MX-5 Miata catalytic converter replacement is between \$875 and \$931. So I saved that much with coverage under the new car warranty (whew!).

What happens if you don't replace catalytic converter?

If a catalytic converter develops any issues, it may have an effect on the vehicle's engine since it's installed within the car's exhaust system. If it gets blocked or clogged, it will restrict the exhaust flow, which will cause a reduction in the car's acceleration, power, and fuel economy.

What are the signs that you may need to have a catalytic converter replacement?

1. Decreased Engine Performance

If a catalytic converter develops any issues, it may have an effect on the vehicle's engine since it's installed within the car's exhaust system. The same thing can happen if the catalytic converter gets cracked because a cracked converter will leak.

1. The Check Engine Light Appears

The "check engine" light will come on for a number of issues, and one of them is a failing catalytic converter. If the car detects that the catalytic converter isn't working correctly or catalyzing the exhaust gases the right way, the "check engine" light will appear. Why does this happen? Because the oxygen and air-fuel ratio sensors monitor the efficiency of the catalytic converter by monitoring the gas levels in the exhaust. This is how I recognized the problem in my ND and asked dealer to determine what was causing the "check engine" light to come on.

1. You Hear a Rattling Noise

Again, a rattling noise could be the result of a few vehicle problems-but it could definitely be your catalytic converter. If it gets old or damaged internally due to rich fuel mixtures, internal parts may collapse or come apart, which is where the rattle comes from.

Why is the proper catalytic converter important?

Not only are catalytic converters important for the environment; they can affect the overall car's performance. For you industrious souls, it is possible to do a DIY replacement, but be aware of state emission and disposal requirements, and be sure inlet and outlet tube diameters are the same on the converter and the exhaust system...otherwise, you may have to do it again!

Lisa Martin's

Wildflour Cafe Canyon Lake Breakfast Run

January 11, 2023 was forecast to be in the high 70's, a day too beautiful to pass up, and the first run of the year was put on the calendar at our annual planning meeting, Wednesday, January 8th. 12 of us met at the Wildflour Artisan Bakery and Grill in Canyon Lake for a leisurely breakfast and run. 9 cars traversed the steep, winding, narrow roads of the hillside neighborhoods along FM-2673 to see stunning views of Canyon Lake. We headed over to the Observation point at Cranes Mill Park in Startzville to enjoy an expansive view of the lake. It was a warm, windy, sunny day at Canyon Lake. Thanks to everyone who came out for the run. Retirees, let's plan more runs during the week!



Want to see more photos of this and other runs? Go to bluebonnetmiata.org and click on Gallery to see more photos.

January Lunar Zoomer Dinner at *Little Italy*



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Want to see more photos of this and other runs? Go to bluebonnetmiata.org and click on Gallery to see more photos.

2022

Christmas Party

Craig and Lisa Martin hosted our Christmas party and, in my opinion, was nothing short of amazing! We had great food, games and enjoyed great fellowship. It was 2022's final show of this club's wonderful membership.

On behalf of the entire club, I believe we all say a huge THANK YOU, Craig and Lisa!



Want to see more photos of this and other runs? Go to bluebonnetmiata.org and click on Gallery to see more photos.

Bluebonnet Ladies Group



The ladies enjoyed breakfast at Magnolia Pancake House. It seems they ate so much they couldn't reach their phones for a photo. (Too much embellishment?)

Next up, for February, they have a fun event! They're going to the 2023 Stock Show and Rodeo on the second Friday in February! Watch the website for more details! I can hardly wait for the stories and photos! (*wink, wink*)



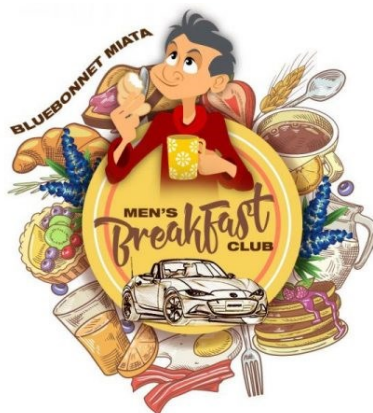
This months (February) Lunar Zoomer's Dinner



will be at The Barn Door, one of San Antonio's oldest steakhouses! They also have all the traditional favorites, too. Chicken friend steak and all the trimmings!

Don't miss it, **Friday,**
February 3rd, 6:30 p.m.

8400 N. New Braunfels Ave, 78209



Men, Friday, February 10th, we'll have Men's Breakfast Club will be at the Whataburger on Fredericksburg Road just south of Crossroads Mall. (Wonderlands of the Americas)

Located at 4502 Fredericksburg Rd, 78201

Meet at 9:00 a.m. for free coffee and great

Food!

See you all there!



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**HOLLYWOOD & BLANCO
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**



Caption This!

Each Month, send a caption of the monthly "Caption This" photo and win a prize to be named later. Send your Caption to newsletter@bluebonnetmiata.org. Winner will be announced at the next meeting! C'mon, have some fun with it! Send me, George Lucas, editor, your captions and I'll post them! Thanks!

Upcoming Runs and Events

Friday, February 3rd, Lunar Zoomer dinner, hosted by George Lucas. Meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Barn Door restaurant, 8400 N. New Braunfels, San Antonio, 78209 . You won't want to miss this dinner so RSVP to George to make sure you get a spot at the table!

Sunday, February 5th, Thompson Run, led by Rohm and Barbara Thompson. Meet at the Valero station at the intersection of TX46 and FM 3351 at 1:00 p.m. for a 1:30 p.m. departure. We'll wander on some familiar and some unfamiliar roads through Kendalia, Blanco, Wimberley and San Marcos on our way to Freiheit Country Store for some of the best burgers, etc, in New Braunfels.

Friday, February 10th, Men's breakfast , hosted by George Lucas, Whataburger on Fredericksburg Rd, just south of Crossroads Mall (Wonderland of the Americas) . Meet at 9:00 a.m. for free coffee and great breakfast values! C'mon out and we'll swap some stories!

Tuesday, February 28th, BBMC monthly meeting at Big'z Burger Joint, 2303 N. Loop 1604, San Antonio, TX 78258. Dinner and meet and greet at 6:30 p.m., meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. This will be our new presiden't first meeting to chair, be there!

PUNNY CAR JOKES

1. What do you get when dinosaurs crash their cars? Tyrannosaurus wrecks.
2. I stopped to pick up a hitchhiker. Turns out he was just telling me he approved of my driving.
3. My sweetheart is always taking health food crazes too far. Now, it's even affecting my driving. She took the carb-orator off my car!
4. Husband: "Honey, the neighbor is washing the car with his son again!" Wife: "Poor kid! Go over there and tell him to use a sponge instead."
5. What do you say to a frog who needs a ride? "Hop in."
6. I just got nine out of 10 on my driver's test. The last guy was able to get out of the way.
7. Two old people sit on the porch, chatting. The first guy says, "I hear up in the Seattle it rains [cats and dogs!](#)" "Oh!" the second guy answers. "That doesn't sound so bad. I hear in New York City it's hailing taxis!"
8. If a car's chasing you, you'll definitely get tired. But if you chase cars, you'll get exhausted.
9. Two Cadillac drivers got in a fender-bender, got out of their cars, and then started yelling at each other. Within a few seconds, they were in a fistfight. I guess you could say things Escaladed quickly.
10. What do Michigan autoworkers do on Cinco de Mayo? They have a Fort Fiesta.

Remember When?



2010 BBMC Shady Oaks Summer Fun



Don't forget to check out our FaceBook group page!

Just insert the below website on your browser:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/632533146799180>



Remember When? Again!



2006 Oasis Run