



# *In The Breeze*



July 2022

Official Newsletter of the Bluebonnet Miata Club

Still Free!

## *Does the Miata MX-5 Have a Future?*



Modern sports cars have been getting faster, a lot faster. Speed is an easy metric to measure, and modern engineering is delivering more powerful engines than ever before, creating an arms race that makes the days of classic muscle cars look like a friendly competition. Affordable pony cars like the Ford Mustang GT and Chevy Camaro SS now run the quarter-mile in the low 12 seconds stock, while higher-end models like the Porsche 911 Turbo and BMW M5 are putting down numbers in the 10-second range. In a market like this, is there still a place for lightweight roadsters like the **2022 Mazda MX-5 Miata** with its leisurely 15.1 second quarter mile?

This is becoming a particularly acute question as electric vehicles threaten to take over the performance car market. The raw power available from electric motors can turn even a full-size four-door sedan like the Tesla Model S into a performance powerhouse so fast that repeated launches can physically nauseate the driver. Higher-end sports car brands have already committed to developing electric replacements for their own iconic roadsters, with cars like the Porsche 982 Boxster and Lotus Elise being phased out for new models promising more power and electric acceleration, but the need for large battery packs means the new models are anything but lightweight.

### **THE MIATA SPIRIT**

The Mazda Miata has always been a bit of an outlier when it comes to sports cars. Designed in the late 1980s, the MX-5 Miata was never intended to be Mazda's premier performance car. Sold alongside the legendary RX-7 and the less well-known MX-3, MX-6, and Cosmo, the original Miata was designed for the sole purpose of being a lightweight roadster that would offer the same driving experience as the popular British roadsters of the 1950s in a more affordable and reliable package.

While the 1989 RX-7 pumped over 200 hp from its cutting-edge turbocharged rotary engine, the 1989 MX-5 contented itself with barely 100 hp from a relatively pedestrian 1.6L four-cylinder borrowed from the Mazda sedan lineup. It was a car designed purely for the joy of driving, not setting records. And it was this focus on providing a specific experience rather than being the best around that allowed the Miata to thrive even as Mazda's more impressive sports car models were discontinued.

*(Story continues on page 3)*

## 2022 Club Officers

President \*\*

*Craig Martin*

president@bluebonnetmiata.org

Immediate past President \*\*

*Cheryl Knight*

past president@bluebonnetmiata.org

Vice President \*\*

*Jim "Jimbo" Treat*

vicepresident@bluebonnetmiata.org

Secretary \*\*

*Stephanie Turner*

secretary@bluebonnetmiata.org

Treasurer \*\*

*Joe Knight*

treasurer@bluebonnetmiata.org

Membership\*

*Harry Maxwell*

membership@bluebonnetmiata.org

Newsletter Editor\*

*George Lucas*

\*\* Board of Directors

\* Appointed positions

## Welcome, New Members!

*Michael & Erin Clark*

San Antonio

2019 Jet Black Mica

*Daniel Gambino*

Boerne

2015 Meteor Gray

*Kelly Lozano*

San Antonio

1993 Classic Red

**Total Club Members: 194**

**Photo credits in this issue:**

**George Lucas, Ed Smith, Lisa Martin, Mike  
Hagerud, and Marilyn Hamilton**

**Thanks!**

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# President's Message

Hello fellow Zoomers.

As I'm writing to you this month, I am recovering from COVID, just like so many of you are and have. This has given me much time to think about things.

The term "it takes a village..." applies to many factors of life: raising our children, teaching our loved ones whether while growing up or later in life, and helping our friends as we face the world. One thing's for certain: All of you to make this club the success that it is!

I want to take this time to thank each of the board members, our appointed officers Harry Maxwell as membership director and George Lucas as newsletter editor. But I also want to thank each of you run leaders who take the time to organize runs and events.

And thank you to each of you in the club. You all are talented, energetic (even at my age!), enthusiastic and resilient in your love for these four-cylinder fun cars! Each one of you makes our club what it is!

Let's stay safe out there and keep ZOOMING!!

*Craig Martin, President*




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## From the Editor

Before I get into the other important items, I'd like to express my profound apologies to Cheryl and Joe Knight and Dan and Betty Hicks for failing to put their photos in last month's issue of *In The Breeze*. I am truly embarrassed for a couple of reasons. First, these members are very important and involved members who literally drive many of the good things that happen in our club. Secondly, I know how difficult it is to not only plan a run, but successfully pulling it off as well. I hope you guys accept my apologies! My only weak defense is that the newsletter's lessened importance to our main sponsor seems to have had an effect on my ability to recognize deadlines, etc. But, again, I do apologize to you guys for your efforts on those two fun events!

It seems that the virus that turned the world upside down has again had repercussions regarding so many folks and that fact that they're our good friends makes it even more important. I'll just say I hope those of you with this ornery virus have speedy recoveries! I also apologize for not attending the meeting and announcing the upcoming events.

June has been a pretty quiet month regarding events and runs. Fewer stories and photos are a by product of this and this is probably the only saving grace for me as I am adding the above mentioned run photos in this month's issue.

Keep smiling and pray for rain, we need it!

*George Lucas, Editor*



## ***Does the Miata MX-5 Have a Future?*** *(continued from front page)*

A sharp economic downturn in Japan combined with the spiraling costs of building a competitive sports car saw manufacturer after manufacturer drop out of the running, resulting in the modern sports car scene where a handful of exclusive brands dominate the segment with rarified vehicles offering unmatched performance at incredible prices. The affordable performance cars that survived were the ones that provided something special beyond the raw numbers. The Subaru WRX offered a rally-inspired heritage. The Ford Mustang cashed in on nostalgia for the days of muscle cars. And the Mazda Miata gave drivers the simplicity of a traditional roadster.

### **Don't Mess With the Formula**

After 33 years and four generations of evolution, the 2022 Mazda MX-5 Miata, to give the car its full official name, is remarkably similar to the original 1989 model. Not only is it still a two-seat, rear-wheel drive roadster powered by an upgraded version of the same four-cylinder that powers Mazda's sedans, but even the dimensions are rather close to the original. Measuring 154 inches in length, the 2022 Miata is actually two inches shorter than the 1989 Miata in a world where cars just seem to keep getting bigger.

Mazda did follow the trend of making cars heavier and more powerful, but the growth was remarkably constrained. Tipping the scales at under 2400 lbs, the modern MX-5 is roughly 10% heavier than the original, and the engine output of 181 hp is quite modest when family sedans and SUVs routinely approach or even exceed 300 hp. Staying so close to the basic formula after so long is what has helped make Mazda's tribute to the old school roadsters an integral part of the Mazda brand long after its trademark turbocharged rotary sports cars became a thing of the past.

While many iconic models built their reputation on specific mechanical elements, such as the rotary engine of the RX-7, the rear-mounted boxer engine of the 911, or the small-block V8 of the Corvette, the Miata shows that a reputation can be built on something more intangible. However, this isn't to say there aren't mechanical elements that make the modern Miata what it is today. The combination of a responsive naturally-aspirated engine, manual transmission, and rear-wheel drive is a large part of what gives the Miata its playful nature, along with its lightweight and convertible body style.

### **Where Can Mazda Go?**

There have been a lot of conflicting rumors about the future of the Miata, and that could be because Mazda's best course of action remains unclear. Mazda clearly believes in the future of the gasoline engine and has recently revealed a brand-new inline-6 that will power its new generation of SUVs. Further, Mazda's only electric vehicle, the MX-30, is a rather uncompetitive model with a range of just 100 miles. This means it is unlikely that Mazda plans to follow in the footsteps of Porsche or Lotus and turn the Miata into a high-speed electric vehicle. However, regulations mean that simply keeping the Miata as-is isn't a long-term strategy.

Mazda has indicated that it is perfectly willing to keep the current generation of Miata around for a decade or longer, meaning that the 2022 model is barely halfway through the fourth-generation run. Still, a new design will be needed by the late 2020s, and Mazda desires to electrify all of its models before 2030. Rumor is that the fifth-generation MX-5 Miata will arrive sometime around 2026 and will be powered by a 2.0L SkyActiv-X high-compression gasoline engine supplemented by a 48V mild-hybrid system. This would allow Mazda to keep the car lightweight and continue offering it with a manual transmission. But is this really the best course of action?

### **Yes, The Miata Has a Future**

While the traditional roadster may appear to be on the brink of extinction, the Mazda MX-5 Miata may actually have a long future ahead of it. The secret is keeping the ultimate goal in sight and not being sidetracked by chasing raw performance numbers or shackling the car to an obsolescent technology. Drivers aren't buying the 2022 Miata because it's the fastest sports car around, and they aren't even necessarily buying it because it has a naturally aspirated four-cylinder and a manual transmission—they're buying it because it is a unique driving experience that is a throwback to the lightweight roadsters of the past. As long as Mazda can keep its eyes on that fact, the Miata will continue to thrive.



# *A Special Christmas Visit to the Camp Verde Store*

**Saturday, December 10th, 2022**

For the past 12 years, we have made a special visit to the Camp Verde store to enjoy their Christmas Open House.

Since COVID, as one might imagine, things changed. As of this writing, the Store is unsure of how they'll be celebrating Christmas this year at the store. Last year we had a small group go there to shop as the Store is always full of fabulous Christmas ideas and gifts, including household kitchen items, decorative items and of course excellent tasty treats.

I am optimistic they'll be having a celebration of some kind and I will plan a drive up to the Store to show our appreciation for all the years they've given folks special Christmas discounts on their entire inventory.

We'll take a drive through some great traditional backroads and culminate the drive with a lunch in the Camp Verde Store restaurant.

More details will follow in the subsequent months, but for now, circle Saturday, December 10th on your calendar for a festive drive to the Camp Verde Store for Christmas!

Cheers!

George Lucas, Editor

## **Don't forget, the 2022 Christmas Party**

The Bluebonnet Miata Club is having our Christmas Party this year in Kerrville, Texas at the famed YO Ranch Hotel and Conference Center. Ask some of the old timers in the club about past year parties.

But be sure to come to find out for yourself!

The YO Ranch Hotel and Conference Center has blocked 20 rooms at a rate of \$119 + tax and they are accepting reservations.

Please tell them you are booking under a group rate – Bluebonnet Miata Christmas.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2022**

**YO RANCH HOTEL AND CONFERENCE**

**2033 SIDNEY BAKER STREET**

**KERRVILLE, TX 78028**

**830.257.4440 Reservations**

**Save the date and make your reservation!**

**We will have a dinner and gift exchange to include a gag gift exchange!**

The hotel currently does not have the Christmas menu set so we are not able to provide you with the options at this time. The per person cost for the dinner will be approximately \$45. Due to rising costs it could be a bit higher. Once the menu options and costs are available, they will be shared with the club.

So start your Christmas Party savings fund and mark your calendar for Saturday, December 3, 2022 for the Bluebonnet Miata Christmas party-an event you don't want to miss! Be watching for updated information.

**Organizers – Lisa Martin and Wanda Begnoche**

# Tech Day 2022

For the shade tree mechanics and accomplished mechanics among us, Jeff Holbrook again graciously hosted our Tech Day in his family's private garage/storage facility. As one of the first category mechanics, I installed new louder horns in Rohm Thompson's ND and he's out there tootin' them as we speak. There were other similar projects being performed as well as folks utilizing the services of the paintless dent repair expert, Randel Lindsey and Aaron "Nunnzy" Nunns, the amazing professional pin striper. You can call either of these guys for their services. Their numbers are below:

Paintless Dent Repair	Randel Lindsey	210-637-1139
Pinstriping	Aaron Nunns	210-383-8515

## Tech Day Photos



# *The Knight's Run*

Many thanks to Joe and Cheryl Knight for a really exciting run to Dripping Springs to an amazingly good restaurant. The Route 12 Filling Station was a quirky, laid back place with some of the best food ever! I'm sorry I didn't include these photos in last month's newsletter!



We had over 20 Miatas this day!



*Thanks, Joe and Cheryl!*

# BBMC Ladies Group



The Bluebonnet Ladies Group is going to the Holocaust Museum on July 8th. The tour is free. This tour was previously scheduled for June but cancelled to allow for more attendees.

Let's meet at 9:45 in front of the building. Please bring a mask in case this is still a requirement.

## **Tour Schedule:**

10:00a-11:00a Docent Led Tour

11:00a-12:00p Second Generation Survivor Testimony.

## **Location:**

The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community Center  
12500 N.W. Military Hwy, San Antonio, TX 78231

(Museum is located on the second floor inside the Campus building).

\*\*Please feel free to bring any family members who may be interested in this activity. It is not limited to only our BB Ladies Group. We would love to have more people join us. The center is accustomed to hosting large school groups.

-Wanda Begnoche

The Miata Ladies Bunco Group meets on the third Thursday of each month at BigZ Burger Joint, 2303 N Loop 1604 W Acc Rd (same place where the BBMC monthly meetings are held).

Next meeting will be held on July 21<sup>st</sup>. While the group currently has 12 regulars, subs are often needed.



*Please Support our Sponsors!*



*Chris Madrids*

**HOLLYWOOD & BLANCO  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

*And, of course,*

*Our meeting "Home"*



**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](mailto:newsletter@bluebonnetmiata.org). Winner will be announced at the next meeting! C'mon, have some fun with it!

**Friday, July 8th, Join in for breakfast with your club pals at**

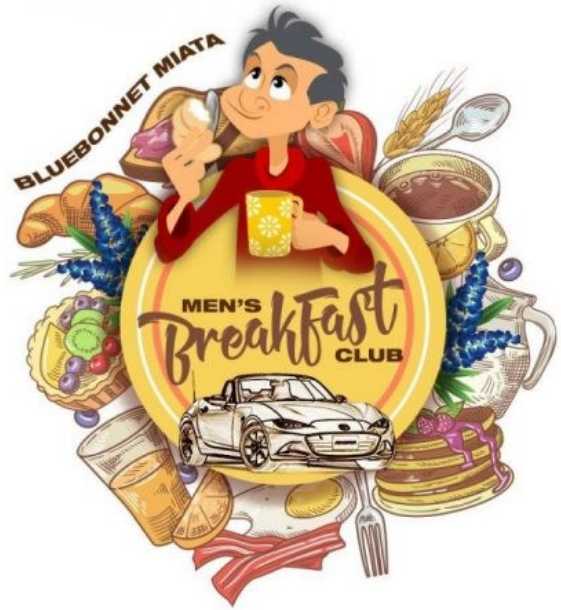
**Snooze, a breakfast eatery in the Quarry, 255 E. Basse Road, 78209**

About SNOOZE:

*"The Alamo city is full of food culture, and Snooze Eatery is proud to be a part of that by serving brunch and breakfast in San Antonio. Located in the center of the Alamo Quarry Market, our restaurant is ready for you every day of the week with our sustainably-sourced menu. Dig in to our Snooze Breakfast burrito, Pineapple Upside Down pancakes, or Habañero Pork Belly Benedicts with friends, family, or when flying solo. Some of our Quarry Market favorites include our breakfast cocktail menu like the Palimosa or Horse and sidecar Bloody . Stop by our San Antonio breakfast restaurant and have a bite on our patio, or dine indoors under our cool AC. No matter what you choose, we'll be here to welcome you with a fun and friendly atmosphere any day of the week"*

So, you guys wanted something different, here it is! I've been wanting to try this place myself, so join me and let's see what SNOOZE is all about!

**Let's meet at 9:00 a.m., Friday, July 8th, for breakfast!**



*Sunday, July 10th, 6:30 p.m.*

*Lunar Zoomer Dinner at*



Sunday evening, July 10th, c'mon down to the Pearl for a real treat at one of San Antonio's great addition to our already array of great restaurants.

The waxing "Buck" moon will rise to greet us while we dine outdoors (if it's cool enough).

Down on Grayson is located at 303 E. Grayson, SA, 78215.

**Let's meet at 6:30 p.m. , Sunday, July 10th, and have a fun evening under the stars!**

# Can Your Car Color Ruin Its Resale Value?

By Op-Ed Polansky

Over a three-year period, brown cars depreciate by an average of 17.8%, making brown the worst-performing color when it comes to helping a vehicle hold its value, according to a new survey (iSeeCars) that zeroes in on how colors affect resale value. In fact, brown cars depreciate about four times faster than cars of the color that best holds its value, yellow, with those vehicles only depreciating at 4.5% over three years, on average.

In compiling its rankings, iSeeCars compared prices of more than 650,000 used cars that were 3 years old and recently sold. It found that bold colors are most likely to hold their value, while common colors tend to depreciate at an average rate. As it turns out, around 25 percent of all cars, trucks, and SUVs are white, followed closely by those with black, gray, and silver paint jobs.

That reminds me of an old Dad's joke, "What do you get if all the vehicles in the U.S. are painted white?" Answer, "A white car-nation." Hah!

Okay, back to my topic.

**Cars depreciate overall by an average of 15% over three years. However, cars of nine different colors depreciate more slowly than that. They are:**

- Yellow: 4.5%
- Orange: 10.7%
- Purple: 13.9%
- Red: 14%
- Green: 14%
- Blue: 14.3%
- Gray: 14.3%
- Beige: 14.4%
- Silver: 14.8%



**On the other hand, four colors performed worse than average. They are:**

- White: 15.5%
- Black: 16.1%
- Gold: 16.7%
- Brown: 17.8%



When you think of popular car colors, yellow, orange and purple do not immediately jump to mind. So, it might seem strange to learn that cars of these colors depreciate less quickly than others. However, as a general rule, more obscure colors hold their value better than other colors. Take yellow for example. Karl Brauer, iSeeCars executive analyst, says: "Yellow is among the least popular car colors with the lowest vehicle share and is commonly a color for sports cars and other low-volume vehicles that hold their value relatively well. Because yellow vehicles are so novel in the secondhand marketplace, people are willing to pay a premium for them."

Rarity alone does not ensure that a color will help a car hold its value, though. Gold and brown also have low market share, but they are the worst-performing colors on the list. Brauer notes that if a color "doesn't resonate with enough used car shoppers," it simply will not help a car hold its value.

So, the next time you buy a car, remember the color you pick does make a financial difference!

# Upcoming Runs and Events

**Monday, July 4th, Leaky Round Up, led by Mark Hungerman.** We'll be meeting at Haby's Bakery in Castroville at 10:30 a.m. with about a 2 hour run including a pit stop at the Vanderpool Store. Lunch will be at the Bent Rim in Leaky. Y'all come!

**Friday, July 8th, Men's Breakfast Club, hosted by George Lucas.** This month we'll meet at SNOOZE, a breakfast eatery, 255 E. Basse Rd., 78209. A NEW place (Not a Whataburger) :-)

**Friday, July 8th, Ladies Group, hosted by Wanda Begnoche.** A visit to the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio, 12500 NW Military Hwy. Time to meet is 9:45 a.m. A guided tour is hopefully arranged. Lunch will follow at China Inn at 2241 NW 2241 NW Military Drive. More details in this newsletter.

**Sunday, July 10th, Lunar Zoomer Dinner, hosted by George Lucas.** On a waxing "Buck" full moon, we'll dine at 6:30 p.m. at Down on Grayson, 303 E. Grayson, SA TX 78215. Another new place for the LZ dinner!

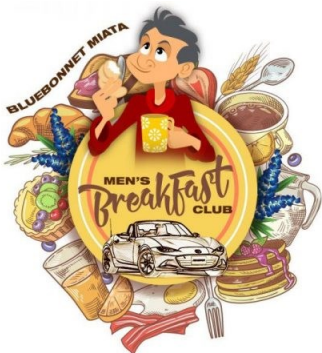
**Sunday, July 17th, 6:00 p.m. Sundaes on Sunday, hosted by George Lucas.** We'll meet at a club favorite, Culver's of San Antonio, 5836 De Zavala Rd, 78249.

**Thursday, July 21st, The Miata Ladies Bunco Group meets at Big'z Burger Joint, 2303 N Loop 1604 W. Access Rd (same place where the BBMC monthly meetings are held).** While the group currently has 12 regulars, subs are often needed.

**Tuesday, July 26th, Club Meeting. Big'z Burger Joint, 2303 N. Loop 1604 W, 78258.** 6:30 p.m., Eat and Greet, 7:30 p.m., Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

**NOTE: For more details, go to our website at [bluebonnetmiata.org](http://bluebonnetmiata.org). Details in this "living" newsletter will be updated as information comes in. Keep watching the website and your email!**

**LOOK LOOK LOOK! Sundaes on Sundays is back!**



BBMC Ladies Group



BBMC Ladies Bunco Group

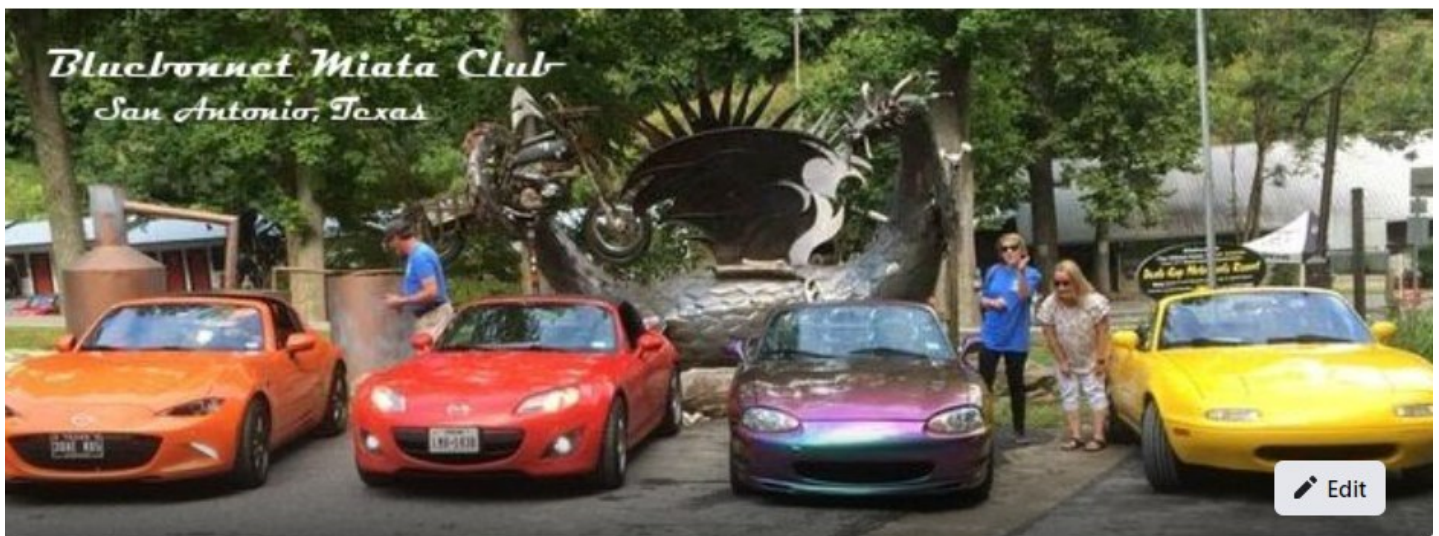
# Remember When?



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

Just insert the below website on your browser:

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



Edit

## Bluebonnet Miata Group

Public group · 488 members

Joined ▼

+ Invite