



In The Breeze



June 2023

Official Newsletter of the Bluebonnet Miata Club

Still Free!

Robm's Rush No More Trip

10 days on the road...no problem



Wow, what a group! Whilst us that didn't go were doing our best to keep busy here at home, this valiant group of folks were driving and driving and driving even more on there way to their most famous landmark, Mt. Rushmore. So many stops and interesting places to see for sure! Inside this issue Marilyn McCullen gives us a great follow up capsule of their trip. I'm sure there are lots more stories to be heard. Photos, too! Welcome home, mighty travelers!

-Ed

2023 Club Officers

President (New!)

Sophie Parazo

president@bluebonnetmiata.org

Vice President (New!)

Dave Ogden

vicepresident@bluebonnetmiata.org

Treasurer

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Secretary

Stephanie Turner

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Membership*

Harry Maxwell

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Newsletter Editor*

George Lucas

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** Appointed positions*

Welcome, New Members!

Total Current Members: 207

Donna Davis & Dean Brown

Corpus Christi, TX

2016 Soul Red Metallic

Jared Martin

Converse, TX

2005 Classic Red

Contributing Photographers

Barbara Thompson

Sophie Parazo

Caesar Parazo

Judy Faulkner

Stan Chambers

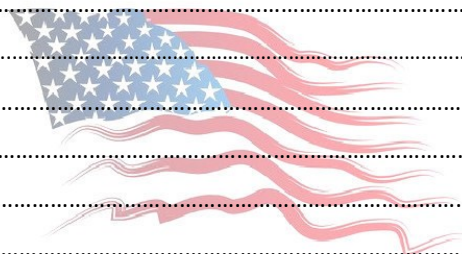
Marilyn McCullen

Lisa Martin

George Lucas

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ZOOM-ZOOM

President's Message

Hello Everyone,

We just recently got back from our drive to Corpus Christi and it was great! We learned a lot from Paul Faulkner who was a great tour guide on the USS Lexington. Although the weather has been a little wet lately, we were lucky the weather was perfect for our longer drive to the coast.

With the weather we've had lately though, I wanted to take this opportunity to remind everyone that SAFETY COMES FIRST. I was caught in some heavy rain on 1604 the other day. The visibility was not good and there was a lot of water on the freeway. Most cars were driving really slow and many had their blinkers on. A car was passing me and there was so much water on the road that he splashed me and I couldn't see anything for a few seconds, although it seemed much longer, and I was sure I was going to go off the road. It was pretty scary, especially since this was the first time I had driven Lexie in heavy rain.

So here are some tips I wanted to remind everyone when driving in the rain; slow down, stay a safe distance from the car in front of you, drive with your lights on, and keep your windshield wipers in good condition. BEWARE OF PUDDLES! Some puddles can be very deceiving. If you start to hydroplane, let your foot off the gas and steer in the direction you want to go. And if it's bad enough, pull over in a safe place and wait it out.

I hope the weather stays nice so we can get back on the roads for some fun runs, but please, drive safely and keep on zoomin'!



Sophie Parazo, president

From the Editor

It's tough when so many of our "regulars" take off on an almost 2 week adventure. I didn't know what to do with myself. Thankfully, the Polansky Picnic Pursuit helped get over the void and a fine picnic it was. A real-great turnout and perfect weather made the event fun in downtown Comfort the city park's large Gazebo pavilion. Lots of good food and home made deserts from members topped off an excellent picnic!

More runs and events are planned in the coming weeks and months, so why not take this opportunity to "show and tell" us where your special run desires lie and lead us there! A few newer members are doing just that and what a treat it is to go to places we haven't been to! Where there are many folks in the club that would be happy to share their knowledge of planning and executing a fun run, I would be glad to help as well.

Many thanks to Rohm and Barbara Thompson, Larry and Pamela Stivers, Dave Ogden and Paul and Judy Faulkner for their recent efforts on their runs! Keep 'em coming!

Until then, keep on *Zoomin'*!



George Lucas, editor

BADLANDS AND BUFFALOS



Mt. Rushmore Trip
By
Marilyn McCullen



17 people. 10 cars. A well-planned and well-executed itinerary. What does that lead to? A great adventure in the Black Hills of South Dakota, that's what!

Our adventure began on a cloudy, misty day on April 21st. But in fewer than 100 miles, the skies were sunny and blue.

Rohm and Barbara Thompson did a great job planning this trip. Only days before our departure, some of the twisty roads in South Dakota were closed due to ice and snow. Magically, the Thompsons made sure they were open and dry!

Betty Hicks researched places to eat along the way. As you all know, like the army that travels on its stomach, so do Miata people. She gave us plenty of choices and always managed a Plan B if needed.

Diane Holbrook was the queen of Google. Did you know what the huge piles of *something* covered with white tarps held down by old tires at feed lots are? I didn't. Within minutes, Diane had the answer.

Jeff Holbrook, Stan Chambers, and Dan Hicks did a wonderful job as sometimes-run leaders.

SOME of the touristy stops along the way included:

- ◆ The Conoco Tower Station in Shamrock, TX. Think of the movie Cars
- ◆ The astronaut Alan Bean statue in Wheeler, TX
- ◆ The statue of Buffalo Bill hunting a bison in Oakley, KS
- ◆ The Golden Spike Tower in North Platte, NE
- ◆ The oldest gas station in Ogallala, NE, now a visitor center
- ◆ Custer State Park, SD
- ◆ Needles Highway
- ◆ Iron Mountain Highway
- ◆ Mount Rushmore
- ◆ Badlands National Park
- ◆ Wall Drug in Wall, SD
- ◆ Crazy Horse Monument
- ◆ Hill City Café (twice). Ask for Ranae (at your own risk).
- ◆ Sturgis, SD
- ◆ Devil's Tower National Monument, WY
- ◆ Cadillac Jack Casino
- ◆ Mammoth Site
- ◆ Scott's Bluff
- ◆ Dodge City, KS. "Gunsmoke" statues

Stan Chambers helped everyone with washing and drying their cars. Thanks, Stan, for the help with my headlight.

Jeff and Diane Holbrook gave great suggestions of places to see and things to do. And Jeff kept everyone's tires properly inflated.

Larry and Pam Stivers were excellent sweeps.

I never would have gone to these places without the Bluebonnet Miata Club. What a GREAT group of people!

BADLANDS AND BUFFALOS

Photos



Long hair and 25 mile winds = a natural wind blown look!



PIC-COLLAG



BADLANDS AND BUFFALOS

More Photos



Miata's Ladies Group – It's a Wrap!



Lady Miatas made a lovely wildflower run, to and fro, to the Faulkner J4 Ranch outside Yorktown. From 11:00 am to 1:30 pm we were treated to a cooking school presentation/demonstration by President Sophie Parazo and her mom Emmi. We learned to prepare traditional Filipino foods, Pancit and Lumpia. What a treat! We had a very organized presentation (with recipe) step-by-step methods with special tips to ensure success. Instructions per Sophie were how to make Pancit and then by her careful directions we each wrapped Lumpia, Filipino Eggrolls and fried and ate them. We all learned to wrap well and shall forever be known as “The Miata Lady Wrappers.”

But wait! There was still time to head to Cuero via our private, twisty, Miata-road (FM 2718), and get a choice flavor of homemade ice cream at The Green Cow Creamery on Main Street. The weather could not have been better. Thanks to Lisa for organizing the run and thank you to Sophie and mom for the exciting cooking lesson. It was a fast event that lasted to 3:00 pm when everyone left for a safe trip back to SA.

We enjoyed your visit to the Faulkner J 4 Ranch.





Trip to USS Lexington, Corpus Christi, Texas



It was a delightful run with several parts as one Miata led forward from San Antonio and all met Paul Faulkner at station in Kenedy, Karnes County. From there our romp was to Corpus Christi to eat at Landry's on the bay. But...NO, they had no room for us so we went to the next bayfront eatery, Joe's Crab Shack and had great seafood faire. Then, on to the USS Lexington. There was over a dozen Miatas.

Aboard the carrier Paul was able to direct attention to various areas and he managed to tell a few sailor stories along the way. His ship was the USS Bon Homme Richard CVA-31. This is the sister ship to the Lexington

There was lots of walking and lots of steep stairs. We reflected upon the sailors who served on this vessel and were so young and in good physical condition.

Thanks to Paul Faulkner and Ed Polansky who initiated the conversation regarding a trip such as this.

Judy and Paul Faulkner



How Safe Are MX-5 Miatas?

By OpEd Polansky



You know why is Miss Piggy such a bad driver? Because she always hogs the road. You know you were a bad driver when your GPS nav said: "In 400 feet, do a straight right, stop, and let me out!" Statistically, more than 50% of accidents are single-car accidents and due to driver error, not vehicle failure.

The Mazda MX-5 Miata, per the experts, is not a dangerous car when driven correctly. It's reliable and offers great road handling, making it easier to control in emergency situations. It also has all of the safety features you would expect from a modern vehicle.

The first-generation Miata (NA) has most of the safety features you would expect from a vehicle: dual frontal airbags, seat belt tensioners and anti-lock braking systems (ABS) fitted to later models. The NB and NC generations took the Miata's safety to new heights, with ABS as standard and side airbags fitted to the NC. For the NB, dual frontal airbags come as standard. The NC saw the first side airbags fitted to the Mazda MX-5 Miata, which are designed to protect the head of a driver in side-impact collisions. All US production models of the Mazda Miata are fitted with driver airbags as standard.

Collisions depend on hundreds of different factors. Clearly, a convertible might not be as safe in a collision as an SUV or a truck. But there are lots of other things to consider - with your ability to avoid accidents being the main one.

Using defensive driving techniques is the best way to improve your safety. Keep an eye on the road, wear seat belts, don't drive tired, keep phones and other distractions away, don't speed or rush, and invest in good tires. Tire failure is one of the most common causes of a car crash due to mechanical failure. The handling of your MX-5 Miata really does depend on the quality of your tires. For this reason, it's important to invest some in a reputable tire brand and model. Also, the Miata is a small car. Sometimes other drivers may have a hard time spotting your car, especially if it's black or navy blue. Don't swerve or drive too closely to other drivers! You should maintain a reasonable distance at all times.

Modern motor vehicles are designed to protect drivers, passengers and pedestrians while remaining fun to drive and economical to run. The MX-5 Miata is no different. Introduced in 1989, Mazda has incorporated the latest safety features into all of its models, and has rated high in crash tests and safety reports.

As a result, drivers can feel safe when operating a Mazda MX-5 Miata. But your driving style plays a huge part in how safe you are on the road. Driving defensively can decrease your risk of getting into an accident. Enjoy and be confident in your Miata out on the road. But always exercise care and don't drink while driving, you might spill your drink!

Source utilized: Casual Car Guide



Marilyn and David Hamilton, 2017 Schoolhouse Run

Remember When?

Please Support our Sponsors!



Chris Madrid's

**HOLLYWOOD & BLANCO
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

And, of course,
Our meeting "Home"



Upcoming Runs & Events

A current Upcoming Runs and Events will be published soon hopefully with details of the events for the next few weeks.

zoom-zoom