



In The Breeze



Have YOU ordered
YOUR 2025 yet?

June 2025

Official Newsletter of the Bluebonnet Miata Club

Still Free!

2025 MX-5 MIATA 35TH ANNIVERSARY



2025 Mazda MX-5 Miata 35th Anniversary: Key Features

The 2025 Mazda MX-5 Miata 35th Anniversary is the latest example of Mazda's commitment to its droptop sports car, and the community built around it. With an emphasis on upscale design and a pleasurable driving experience that few others can match, the MX-5 Miata 35th Anniversary offers idyllic top-down motoring.

The MX-5 Miata 35th Anniversary features Artisan Red Metallic paintwork, a beige soft top, uniquely finished 17-inch wheels, and serialized badging on the front fender. Inside, the tan Nappa leather is complemented with tan carpeting and floor mats along with special seats featuring the 35th Anniversary logo embossed in the head rests. The interior trim around the AC vents and upper door panel will be color matched to the exterior color so that customers can appreciate the rich, color-shift properties of Artisan Red even while inside the cabin.

- Artisan Red Metallic paintwork developed by Mazda's bespoke Takuminuri paint process.
- Tan Nappa leather with special tan interior trimming
- Matching tan Nappa leather wrapped key fob sleeve
- Limited to 300 units in the United States
- Special ownership experience gifted to U.S. customers.

BBMC Editor notes: My sources tell me that while folks are encouraged, no, make that strongly suggest to get your order in ASAP. As stated above, there will be a limited amount of the new offering, but Mazda is having issues. A problem with a vehicle control unit has held up Miata deliveries for weeks now, and buyers have been frustrated by a lack of information.

2023 Club Officers

President

Sophie Parazo

bbmcpresident@gmail.com

Immediate past President

Craig Martin

cmartin3@satx.rr.com

Vice President

Dave Ogden

bbmcvicepresident@gmail.com

Treasurer

Gwen Mitchell

bbmctreasurer@gmail.com

Secretary

Stephanie Turner

bbmcsecretary@gmail.com

Membership*

Harry Maxwell

bbmcmembership@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor*

George Lucas

bbmcnewsletter@gmail.com

** Appointed positions*

New Members—Total 204

Dorian Arguelles and Donny Donohue

San Antonio

2000 Emerald Green Mica

Terri Conatore

Kerrville, TX

2016 Soul Red Metallic

Russ Fortson

Houston, TX

2012 Snowflake White Pearl Mica

Steve & Glenda Proctor

Missouri, TX

2019 Machine Gray Metallic

Robert Rucker

Houston, TX

2019 Soul Red

Anthony & Miriam Mendez

San Antonio

1992 Classic Red

Brianna Johnson

San Antonio

2000 Twilight Blue Mica

Cody & Teena Dailey

San Antonio

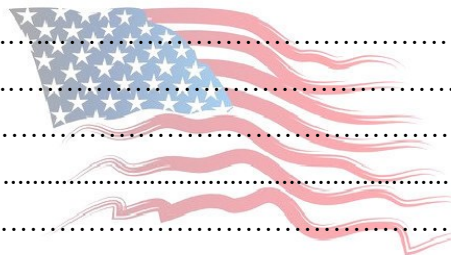
2025 Soul Red Metallic RF



WOW, 204 Members Now!

Inside this Issue:

Have you ordered your 2025 Anniversary Edition?.....	Cover
Officers and New Members.....	2
President's Message.....	3
From the Editor.....	3
Faulkner's Gimmick Run.....	4
Where the Heck is Kendalia?.....	5
The Ins and Outs of Miatas as I see it	6, 7
Who's on First??.....	8
4 Wheel drive or All Wheel drive?.....	9
Upcoming Runs and Events.....	10
Men's Breakfast and Lunar Zoomer coming up.....	11
Sponsors and Remember When?	12



President's Message

Hello everyone!

It's been really hot lately so I haven't seen many of you for a while.

Summer is here!!! Well, one of the most exciting things that's recently happened was the visit to the track. I drove the car around the track and learned a few things, thanks to Monica, Nugget and their friends! It's always fun and exciting to drive fast, but there really is a right way to do it. From having 2 hands on the steering wheel, to knowing when to break, when to speed up, and when to turn into the curve. Most of us have been driving for decades without any thought about it, but if you've never done it, I recommend looking up how to properly drive your car on a track and in any kind of condition, to get an idea how differently you might be driving. You might be surprised! I truly learned a lot and had a great day...and it only pumped me up to drive faster!

So learn something new about your driving and go have fun!



From the Editor

Greetings Toasties!

So, yeah, it's hot...what's new about that? Heckie darn, I quickly planned a short run anyway. My "Where the Heck is Kendalia?" was a wonderful surprise to me as 22 eager drivers showed up. These the brave ones! So, why weren't YOU there? Haha, too hot you say? My a/c works really well and c'mon y'all, it's all about seeing each other and having fun just knowing you have so many like minded friends in the club!

We have plans for the remainder of the year, Lunar Zoomer dinners, Men's Breakfast, Ladies Bunco and other events, why not jump in and organize a run to YOUR favorite eatery, point of interest or just driving out wonderful twisties we are so blessed to have so close to us!

I continue to refurbish my beloved Veelo including some of the light mods that the prior folks who owned it decided to take out. So, I added all but one again, but soon, it'll be the same old Veelo again!

Until next time...Cheers! Oh wait, have you signed up to Head for the Mountains on Labor Day weekend??? Do it now, you'll have a blast!



George Lucas, Editor



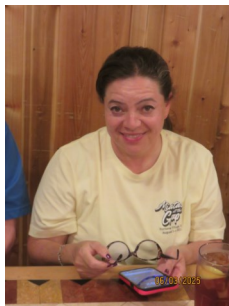
Paul and Judy Faulkner's
Gimmick Run

FOUND IT!



George led the group of ten cars from San Antonio to Yorktown 5D Restaurant. After a great meal, each car departed in increments with a clue-sheet and off to find the answers. The route ended at 4J Ranch for a drink and slice of strawberry torte. It was great to see so many persons come as it was so close after the 30th Anniversary celebration. We loved the sharing and celebration with friends. Thanks for coming.

-Judy Faulkner



Winners of the gimmick quiz ...??? Craig and Lisa Martin!!!



Fun!



Where the heck is Kendalia?

With so few runs on the calendar recently, I decided, what the heck, yeah, it's hot out there, but if we do a morning run it won't be so hot, right? Well, yes and no. (It got hot later) With the help of Mark Hungerman, we plotted out a small run, you know, a few cool back roads and some a few might come out in this summer heat we're having, so I said, let's go for it. Believe it or not, I'm a pessimist, and as I said, it'll probably be to warm to get many out. Well, slap me silly, TWENTY TWO Miatas showed up at the Fischer's Store and I was shocked...happy, but still shocked! I had made 12 run sheets and realized that won't be enough! The manager of the Fischer's store obliged me with 12 more copies! Now that's hospitality! We'll start many more runs there, for sure! I also had called the Kendalia Store with a number of 30 folks wanting their popular burgers!

With this many folks attending and lots of them pretty new to runs at all, I decided to have a relay and a sweep to Kendalia. I quickly thought I'd give a prize to a question I had regarding Kendalia and it being one of the many gimmick runs that the Faulkner's hosted. All they had to do was find a hidden item at the store and first to tell me won dessert after lunch. Well, with so many folks in two rooms, I decided to award a prize to each group of people.

We all had a great time and thanks to Mark Hungerman for laying out a simple but fun run and thanks to the Kendalia Store for being such gracious hosts!

Oh, a side note, why the header up there? Well, I had a t-shirt that said just that and was going to wear it that day! But, I couldn't find it, but that's another story, haha

-Editor



Believe it or not, Dave Swartz (front right) was the brain child of this run! Go figure, hahaha



The A, B, C and D's of Miatas, as I (still) See it.

While I certainly don't have the experience or the expertise about the ins and outs of Miata's, I do have some insight about owning them.

Let me start by saying I don't have a concrete obsession about any era of the MX-5, mostly because I've observed simply put is the best Miata is the one you own. It's inherently un-Miata like to slam others for not having what you drive.

Ever since the release of the ND model (2016-????), I've noticed some key facts. If you're a first-time owner of an MX-5 with an ND, my observations may help you understand the rest of this story.

I'm proud to say I started with an NA first generation Miata. And as many have said, it has changed my life dramatically, especially since I've never considered myself a car guy. Oh, I've loved and lost many, but I never had the attitude that my car is the best, you know, better than everything out there. And I'm sure enough not a gear head. I just did an oil change on my Miata last weekend and it's only the second time I've done that chore. (Actually, someone else took over and I watched.)

Okay, back to my story and my NA first Miata. It was a beautiful black, 95 model. A B package with remote mirrors and power windows. I quickly learned about my Miata from the many nice people in our club. Since the NA had been out for over 6 years, I had lots to learn about this cool roadster. But my story, being about what makes a Miata owner special, is about what it's like to own the first gen model. Flip up lights. Yep, those flip up lights. I learned about making them "wink" and even do other things, sometimes by accident. But the main thing is if you see another Miata, it's cool to wink your headlights and wave. Cool, man, cool.

Happy as can be with my NA, I got a call from a buddy of mine, telling me that he saw a red Miata for sale in a yard somewhere on the northwest side of San Antonio. Thinking I might help someone in need of a Miata, I asked Mike Jackson if he'd go with me to see it. We drove up and this red 2001 SE B model was sitting in the front yard. We couldn't get close to it because the yard was fenced in. Soon, someone came out and allowed us inside to get a closer look. Now, let me interject here that I was certainly no expert on any model of a Miata, including this one. But one thing that struck me was that it was red. I mean, really red. With sun damaged dull paint, I wondered if it was a car I could recommend to others. As I walked around it, I noticed it was full of features the NA didn't have. I wondered...could this be a car I would want? I rubbed the hood with my finger and noticed that the finish was still good. Hmmm... I thought about it and asked Mike, "So, what do you think about this Miata?" He replied, "If you don't buy it, I will!" Wow...Mike knew more than me about Miatas and his enthusiasm struck me hard! I asked the owner the price and told him I'd let club members know about it. Okay, even though I hadn't been looking for me, I bought it. I went home, put my NA on Craigslist. In less than an hour, I got a call from a fellow in Dallas, "I want that car". He hadn't even seen it in person! Long story short here, he came down the next day, met me at the bank, gave me the money and I bought the red NB! Wow, I never thought I'd get rid of Pokey, but I realized that I just moved up in the world!

Let me stop here because the whole point of this story is Miata tradition. I mean, those NA owners I was so close with gave me fits for letting go of my NA. Told that the NB didn't have flip up lights and it strayed away from the things that made the Miata special...that is to say, an NA!

Now, after owning my 2001 SE for a while, I realized that it had many creature comforts the NA simply didn't have. So now, I'm in with the NB owners of our club. Learning about it's features, this and that, you know, the things NM owners say the things that make the NB the best! Well, hold your horses buddy, the NA still was king at that time. I mean, no flip up headlights, no winking at other Miatas, this was a serious thing!

(Continued on next page)

(continued from previous page)

Well, after a while, others who had NB's embraced me and all was well. EZ Does It, as I named it, was now my new thing and I enjoyed it for several years.

At the 2005 Statewide in Dallas, North Park Mazda brought an NC to Kerrville for all to see. I shrugged it off, it wasn't sleek, it seemed too big, and I thought, "I have the best Miata made". Again...it's what you have at the time that makes YOUR Miata the best out there.

Three years later, at a Lunar Zoomer dinner, Don Privett asked me, "George are you ever going to get a new Miata?" I replied, "Why would I, I have the best-looking NB there is!" Knowing how much I love red, he answered, "Have you seen that special limited edition Velocity Red NC?" I replied "No, I haven't".

A seed was planted. About 2 weeks later, Don sent me an email with about eight 2006 LTD's for sale across the country. I chuckled to myself and thought, Don's a funny guy. I thought I would humor him and take a look at the list he sent me. Hmm...here is one in Denver, only 8 thousand miles. Oh, goodness...that red...that Velocity Red! Okay, I had some soul searching to do, I mean, I guess it's not that bulky looking and look at that gleaming chrome surround on the windshield. Okay, I'm hooked. What am I thinking??? After several phone conversations with the owners in Denver, I'm on a plane with cashiers check in hand. Okay, if you've read this far, you see I'm pretty weak when it comes to being sold on something.

VeeLo was amazing, folks in the club teased me mercilessly for accepting the NC and all it's things I made fun of before. I showed up at the next club meeting and folks made me proud. Well, all but one, but that's another story. So, now, I have the best Miata ever! Right?

I put a lot of miles on VeeLo and, if you know the first year of the NC1's, particularly the rag tops, didn't have all the features added the subsequent years. I mean, there were three generations of the NC's with the NC2 and NC3 having things like the power retractable hard top, etc.

After about 5 years of owning VeeLo, Paul Wilson calls me and tells me about an NC2 for sale in Austin. And, yep, it's Velocity Red! Hmm...power retractable hard top, heated seats, better stereo with satellite radio, yada, yada, yada. So, I go to Austin to look at it...and yes, I decided to buy it. It didn't take long for me to find a buyer for VeeLo, and admittedly I'm still saddened I sold it.

So, now I have a beautiful Velocity Red with a power retractable top and black wheels! I am not a fan of black wheels! But, I now have the best Miata ever! Right? As I said earlier, I'm pretty easy (best sales people are.) When I drove over to Marilyn's to show her my new ride, she said, "Wow, those black wheels are bad a**!" I replied, "Oh yeah, they are, aren't they?" I named it Red Raider, by the way.

UPDATED

It's no secret that while I owned that beautiful red and black NC2, I could never stop thinking about VeeLo. I often thought of my regrets letting it go. After several years I discovered a past member bought it from where I traded it in! Well now, I'm really thinking...*Could I get it back?* Most of you know, with some persistent communication with the current owner, at the time, he broke down and offered to sell it to me. I was ecstatic!!! I know, I know, I'm flighty, but all I know is I'm happy and this is what this entire column is about. Be happy with what you have. I know I am.

Finally, my point is to say, respect what folks have, those of you that haven't had an NA with those lovable flip up lights, or a sleek looking NB, or maybe your first isn't an NC, either, what others drive is what they love and they deserve adulation from us all. Even those with ND's. (wink, wink)

Who knows, if an ND 100 year edition becomes available....Nahhhhh.

Who's on First?

By OpEd Polansky



Editor's note: Since we are about to make a move by electing or re-electing our officers, I thought Ed Polansky's foray into who started all this Bluebonnet Miata thing! So, look at the list below and see how many you remember or know.

Since the Bluebonnet Miata Club in 2025 will reach its 30th year of existence, I asked George if he had a list of the past Presidents. I was certainly curious, but I also thought it would be nice to acknowledge our past leaders and express our appreciation for all the work that they have done on behalf of the club.

Well, not surprisingly, George had a list which I show below:

1995, '96	Greg Bassett
1997	Art Neisenfeld
1998	John Turner
1999, 2000	Rohm Thompson
2001, '02	Pat Franklin
2003, '04	Steve Stiles
2005, '06	Pat O'Docharty
2006, '07	Pat Franklin
2008, '09	Virginia Weaver Plumb
2010	Mike Jackson
2011, '12	Betty Herrera Fields
2013, '14	George Lucas
2015, '16	Mark Hungerman
2017	Gus Aguirre
2018	Dan Hicks
2019, '20	Cheryl Knight
2021, '22	Craig Martin
2023, '24	Sophie Parazo

I admit that I have only been in the club since 2012, so I didn't know all of the past Presidents, but I am certain that if each one had not done their job, we wouldn't be enjoying the vibrant club that we have today. Special recognition should go to Rohm Thompson who helped start the club, was President way back at the turn of the century, and still is a respected and active member of the Club.

Sophie is taking on a heroic 3rd successive term and will continue her excellent leadership in our anniversary year. Remember, Sophie, your 3rd year will be a special one.

zoom-zoom

All Wheel Drive vs. Four Wheel Drive: Which is best?

Helenan and I have all-wheel drives (AWD) on our Acura and Subaru SUVs, but to be honest, I've never had a four-wheel drive (4WD) vehicle. So, what do I know about the benefits of a 4WD? Not much! I guess I'm just not a real vehicle adventurer. To answer the question, I had to do resort to some research.



First a simple explanation of the two drives. In AWD, both the front and rear axles are driven generally all the time. On dry pavement, the AWD can help the vehicle handle better and ensure that full power gets to the road. And in slippery conditions, such as ice, snow, or mud, it provides traction for safer, more confident handling.

Like AWD systems, 4WD is designed to maximize traction front and rear. But 4WD systems tend to be more robust than AWD ones and can handle more rugged terrain. 4WD systems have two-speed options with high- and low-range modes that can be selected by the driver. The low-range setting multiplies torque to provide superior control and grunt in low-speed off-road environments. The high-range setting is useful for less challenging off-road scenarios as well as slippery on-road conditions, such as packed snow, ice, loose sand, or gravel.

Both AWD and 4WD drives have advantages and disadvantages. All-wheel-drive vehicles are typically lighter-duty and are most often used in passenger cars. The added grip in slippery conditions can make for a much safer and more controlled ride in wet or snowy conditions.

In general, AWD vehicles aren't designed for serious off-road trails or dealing with extreme conditions. Still, their advantage is that they work without driver interaction and are usually very dependable. A 4WD drive can do the same things that AWD does, but it's likely that the driver will have to interact with the system more directly. These systems also have more parts that can increase points of failure.

OK, which is best? The simple answer is that most people, most of the time, will get along fine with even the most basic AWD systems. If you regularly go off-road or find yourself in particularly extreme weather conditions, then a 4WD would likely be the better choice.

As a bit of advice to all you big time 4WD enthusiasts, I pass along the following when you are off-the-roading again: "When nothing goes right, go left!"

Source: www.edmunds.com



I Want
ALL WHEEL
Drive!

<---

Upcoming Runs and Events

May - June 2025

Thursday, June 12, 2025, Lunar Zoomer Dinner, hosted by George Lucas, let's go to Hacienda De Los Barrios. Located at 18747 Redland Road, SATX 78259, wonderful food and a perfect view of a rising near full moon! 7:00 p.m.

Friday, June 13, Men's breakfast, hosted by George Lucas, 9:00 a.m. at Las Palapas, 281 @ Loop 1604, great food and great place! C'mon out guys for good food and good fellowship!

Friday, June 13, Ladies Day Out, hosted by Sophie Parazo, a visit to the Witte Museum is the idea for the day. Lunch will follow at The Cottage Irish Pub across from the Museum. Entrance to the Witte is \$17 for adults, \$15 for seniors and members plus get in free!. Meet at the Museum at 10 a.m. You can park at the Brackenridge Parking garage (free, I believe) at 3501 Avenue B, SATX 78209.

Thursday, June 19, Ladies Bunco, hosted by Marilyn Hamilton, Big'z Burgert Joint, 2303 N Loop 1604, SATX 78258. Meet at 6:30 for dice flyin' and lots of fun!

Saturday, June 21, Painted Churches Tour, led by George Lucas. Meet at the QT. Meet at 9:00 a.m. for a 9:30 a.m. departure. We'll visit 4 of the historic and beautiful Painted Churches. There are more spread out all over Texas, but these 4 are within reasonable distances for us. One of the treats will be the famous "Piano" bridge and put your top down for a photo! We'll have lunch at the Oak Ridge Smokehouse after the run. You can return to SA via IH10 or make your own way! Y'all come!

Tuesday, June 24, BBMC monthly meeting, Sophie Parazo presiding. Meet, eat and the meeting will start promptly at 7:00 p.m.

Coming, Labor Day Weekend!

Head for the Mountains REWIND

West Texas Mountains, Big Bend National Park trail sites, Stargazing party at the McDonald Observatory, dinner in Terlingua at the famous Starlight Theater, Drive up skyline drive overlooking Fort Davis, Chisos Mountains and Dinosaurs, too!

**So, save the date, August 29th-September 1st (Labor Day Weekend)
We already have reservations at the Hampton Inn in Alpine! The center of all that happens!
Call directly and talk to Jennifer or Jaime for reservations! (432) 837-7344**

**The last HFTM was almost 10 years ago, don't miss this run event!
Ask about our special collector's garment!**

For more information email me, George Lucas at gwluca44@gmail.com

**Friday, June 13th,
Men's Breakfast,**

9:00 a.m.

hosted by George Lucas.



Let's Meet at

Las Palapas

281 @ Loop 1604

(south side of the Loop)



LUNAR ZOOMER DINNER Lets meet at the festive



Thursday, June 12th

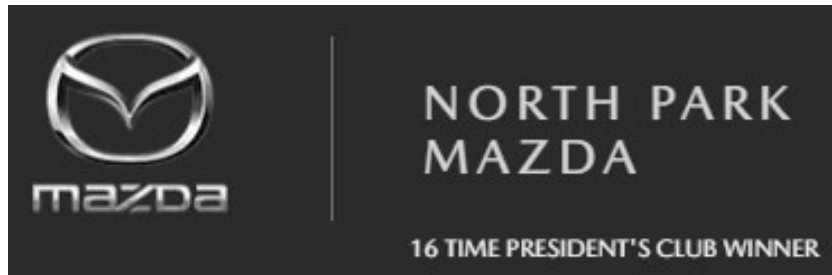
7:00 p.m.

18747 Redland Rd.

San Antonio, TX 78259

hosted by George Lucas

Don't forget our Sponsors!



Chris Madrids
**HOLLYWOOD & BLANCO
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**



Remember When?



2008