



In The Breeze



Spring 2023???

March 2023

Official Newsletter of the Bluebonnet Miata Club

Still Free!

Mazda Says EV Era Is No Time For The MX-5 Miata To Die

Forbes



You would be forgiven for thinking electrification will surely drive a nail into the coffin of specialist, lightweight sports cars like the Mazda Miata.

But that, Mazda says, is not the case. Quite the opposite in fact, as the company has confirmed this week that the Miata “will never die.”

This shot of good news for fans of two-seater convertibles the world over came from Martijn ten Brink, chief executive of Mazda in Europe.

Answering questions from Autocar about Mazda’s plans for the next generation of Miata, known in some markets as the MX-5, ten Brink said: “How do you stay true to the concept of what the car stands for taking it into the next generation of technologies? That’s not been decided. But I think for Mazda it would be fair to say that the MX-5 will never die.”

With rules in some countries demanding car manufacturers sell only hybrid vehicles with a meaningful electric range from 2030, and shift exclusively to fully-electric cars by 2035, the fate of small sports cars like the Miata had been uncertain.

Quite how a heavy battery will affect a car that in its current guise weighs just 2,332 lbs (1,058 kg) remains to be seen, but Mazda seems confident that electrification won’t bring down the curtain on its 34-year-old, two-seat roadster.

Ten Brink added: “I think [the Miata] will continue to exist forever and it will have to go with the times. That’s a super challenge, and people are passionate about this car in Mazda. Of course, as you can imagine, people have opinions on which direction it should go. So I’m very curious where it will end up, but it will definitely remain part of the line-up.”

The current, fourth generation of Miata, called the ND, arrived in 2015. Before that, the NC lived for 10 years, the NB lasted seven years and the original NA was in production for eight years.

Now also in its eighth year, the ND could soon be set for retirement. However, upgraded engines arrived in 2019 and created the so-called ND2, potentially extending the lifetime of the car. Given these timelines, it wouldn’t be surprising to see a hybrid Miata with a small battery for the NE generation, followed by an all-electric NF Miata around the middle of the next decade.

[Alistair Charlton](#), senior contributor, I write about the automotive industry and where it’s headed next.

2023 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!

Jamie Rodriguez

San Antonio

2006 Sunlight Silver

Mark & Jessica Parent

Helotes, Tx

2006 Winning Blue

Richard Ybarra

(Returning member)

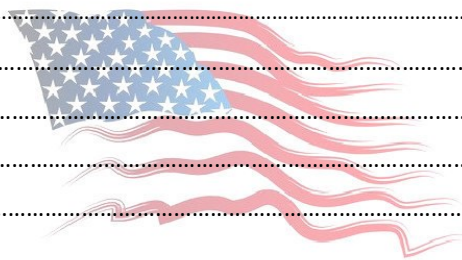
Seguin, TX

2002 Blazing Yellow

Total Current Members 195

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President's Message



Hello Everyone!

I am happy to say that we have the first month of 2023 in the books and already enjoying the weather of February. I know I haven't met all of you yet but would love to encourage attendance at our monthly meetings so that I can get to know all of you! I look forward to participation from all members, in any way, shape or form. Our club has been going strong since 1995 because of members like you who come together and share in our enjoyment of our Miata's and I can't wait to see what we can do as a club this year!

We had our annual planning meeting last month and have an exciting year full of runs and trips planned for the year so far. Please check out the calendar on our Blubonnetmiata.org website and keep checking for any updates that may happen throughout the year. We have monthly get-togethers such as the Men's Breakfast, the Ladies Group that meets at different venues throughout town, and we also have a Lunar Zoomers get-together every month. Please come out and join us!

I encourage any member with any suggestions or recommendations to please connect with me or any board member as we would love to hear from you!

The board has already been busy meeting to review possible updates to the by-laws, which we will have for the membership soon. More to come...

Thank you again for all of your support and we can't do it without you.

ZOOM ZOOM!

Sophie Parazo, president

From the Editor



It seems every time I write something, it's about my ailments or sicknesses...well now, dangit, it's all, er...ahhhchoo!...sorry, allergies! It's not fun when you want to spend time outside and the pollen count has me sneezing and sniffing all the time.

Okay, enough of that. We certainly got the year off right with the Thompson's run with some downright thrilling roads! Thanks Rohm and Barbara!

Now it's time for you members to step up and lead a run to...well, wherever you want, we'll follow! I just know many of you have special locations and places you're fond of and we hope you'll share them with us by leading a run! It's fun and we have lots of good folks that'll give you tips, etc. We have some stellar members that can even help or map out your run with exciting backroads! So, y'all don't have any excuses, don't be hesitant, we want to follow you anywhere, so to speak.

Until then, keep on Zoomin'!

George Lucas, editor

February's Lunar Zoomer Dinner at Outback Restaurant



How many miles can a Mazda MX-5 Miata actually last?



By OpEd Polansky

Now, I believe, as most of us probably do, that Miatas are affordable, but are they also reliable? It made me think about how long can I expect to keep my Miata, assuming I keep its maintenance up to par.

So how many miles can you really expect a Miata <<https://www.motorbiscuit.com/the-2021-mazda-mx-5-miatas-small-price-climb-comes-with-more-options/>> to last? No matter its beautiful looks, and super handling characteristics, if it can't actually go the distance, then is it really affordable?

Fortunately, according to this study from iSee Cars <<https://www.iseecars.com/longest-lasting-cars-study>>, you can count on the Miata to be well-prepared for the road ahead. According to iSee Cars, which analyzed more than 15.8 million cars sold in 2019 to find out which models have the highest percentage of cars that reached 200,000 miles, the Miata does last for a very long time. In fact, according to iSee Cars, 2.1% of Miata <<https://www.motorbiscuit.com/the-miata-is-the-only-mazda-car-to-increase-its-sales-in-2020/>> models sold in 2019 made it to 200,000-miles. Thus, according to iSee Cars data, the Miata can last for at least 200,000-miles and by inference probably a whole lot longer.

For my own personal interest and that of the Bluebonnet Miata club, I would like to propose a contest to identify those in the club who have Miatas with a lot of miles. Please send your current odometer mileage readings (along with age of the vehicle) to me at edward@polanskyinc.com <<mailto:edward@polanskyinc.com>>. I will compile the results, report them at a future Monthly meeting, and publish the list in the newsletter. There will be prizes for first, second, and third place. The Miata must be in operating condition and there can be only one winner from a member's household.

The prizes will remain a surprise. Come on and join the contest!

The Thompson's Run to Freiheits

Sunday, February 5, 2023

Story submitted by Fred *I wish I could write like him* Still



The crisp Chamber of Commerce weather in the central hill country was punctuated Sunday afternoon by the pleasing rhythms of Mazda/Matsuda 1.6, 1.8 and 2.0 liter power plants purring as 25 Miatas passed through areas recovering from a week of freezing rain, ice and gloomy weather. More than one pedestrian waved and smiled at the multicolored caravan. I think we are up to 33 years of smiles and counting.

Founding club members Rohm and Barbara Thompson planned and executed a safe and flawless run to kick off year 2023. They were assisted by sweeps Stan and Betty Chambers and Jeff. Radio communication was spot on as there were scattered road hazards like downed oak limbs, cattle guards and drainage bumps. Getting 25 cars through the entire run in one group with hill country traffic was no small feat.

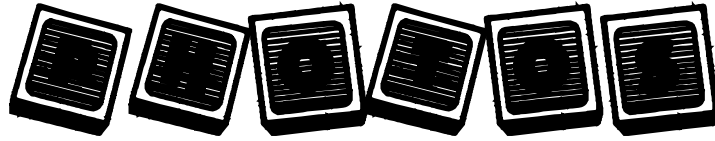
There were 3 NAs, 1 NB, 9 NCs and 12 NDs for total of 25 cars I think. If this count is wrong my apologies. We also had a nice 90s vintage green Jeep Cherokee join us. The run even managed to pick up a 2016 Soul Red at the Exxon in Blanco who completed the rest of the run with us. He seemed to enjoy the run as he had just bought the ND a few days ago.

The hill country never disappoints with great vistas, tight curves, goats, limestone river beds and the beauty of Texas. Even though the author was challenged to stay ahead of the sweep the Blanco Kendelia Road, River Run and RR12 roads were all particularly noted as roads to drive again and again.

At run's ends the burgers and onion rings at Freiheit Country Store in New Braunfels were great!

See you all on the next run.....Photos on next page...

The Thompson's Run to Freiheits





Registration is now open for March Miata Madness 2023.

March 31–April 2, 2023

One car, one driver: \$80

One car, one driver, one passenger: \$95

Mail registration with check payable to Craig Woolheater to:

March Miata Madness

PO Box 51

Jefferson, TX 75657

Registration includes Friday dinner, Saturday dinner, and all runs and activities, event sticker. Registration fee also covers trophies awarded for the following classes:

Best NA Miata

Best NB Miata

Best NC Miata

Best ND Miata

Best in Show

Best Shitbox

Best Stock Miata

Best Modified Miata

Miata I'd Most Like to Own

facebook.com/events

DATE 📅

Friday, March 31 – Sunday, April 02

LOCATION

Downtown Jefferson
Jefferson, Texas

CATEGORIES

Cars

Bluebonnet Ladies Group



On Friday, March 10th, the ladies will be going to Warbler Woods Bird Sanctuary. Located in Cibolo at 19349 Old Wiederstein Rd., this is an outdoor event with walking trails. If you have binoculars please be sure to bring them. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.



Meet at 9:30 a.m. and depart from VP Racing Fuels, 2451 FM 1103, Cibolo, TX 78108. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks! Lisa Martin, event coordinator.



This month's (February) Lunar Zoomer's Dinner will be at Pollo Asados los Nortenos, on Tuesday evening, March 7th. Some of you missed our last visit to this amazingly wonderful Smoked Chicken place. Maybe because it was too far south, perhaps? Well, this one is the same family, but they have a new location on Walzem Rd!



Located just behind the Las Palapas, 4822 Walzem 78218. You will NOT be sorry, this is a San Antonio gem! Meet there at 6:30 p.m.



Rated as one of San Antonio's best breakfast tacos places, let's meet at 9:00 a.m. at Los Balito's Taco Shop. Located at 226 W. Bitters, it's easy for any of us to get there.

This place has lots of seating so we can enjoy our good food and fellowship!

When, you say? Friday morning, March 10th Stay until they run us off!



Los Balito's TACO SHOP

Please Support our Sponsors!



And, of course,
Our meeting "Home"



**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

Tuesday, March 7th, Lunar Zoomer Dinner hosted by George Lucas. Meet at 6:30 p.m. at Pollo Asados del Norteno. 4822 Walzem Road. Amazing Smoked Chicken and all the trimmings! If you missed the past LZ at another Pollo Asados, don't miss this one, everyone loved it!

Friday, March 10th, Men's breakfast , hosted by George Lucas, Los Balitos, 226 W. Bitters, one of San Antonio's best rated place for breakfast! Meet at 9:00 a.m. C'mon out and we'll swap some more stories!

Friday, March 10th, BBMC Ladies Trip to Warbler Woods Bird Sanctuary. Hosted by Lisa Martin, this sounds like a place I'd like to go, oh well. Meet at VP Racing Fuels, 2451 FM 1103, Cibolo, TX 78108. A real hiking adventure, don't forget your binoculars!

Saturday, March 18th, Coop-A-Loop run, led by Mark Hungerman. Meet at the Miata Valero at 10:30 a.m. and depart at 11:00 a.m. for an exciting run to Cooper's BBQ in New Braunfels

Saturday, March 25th, Knight's Run led by Joe and Cheryl Knight. No information at press time.

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. Come out and meet our new president, Sophie Barazas

Friday through Sunday, March 31-April 2nd, March Miata Madness, hosted by Craig Woolheater. Lots of Miatas and lots of beautiful Northeast Texas roads! C'mon up, sounds fun! Check to see who's going from BBMC and travel together!

Looking Ahead...

Saturday, April 15th, Tax Relief Wildflower Run, led by George Lucas, Details soon!

Thursday, April 20, Ladies Bunco, hosted by Marilyn Hamilton, right here at Big'z Burger Joint 6:30 p.m.—???

Friday, April 21st—30th, Thompson Run to Mount Rushmore, Details soon!

Saturday, April 29th, Polansky Picnic Pursuit, hosted by Ed and Helenan Polansky. More details soon!

Saturday, May 6th, Trash Pickup. Meet at Big's Valero at 8:00 a.m. Depart at 8:15 to pick up site along FM 1863. More details soon! Well organized by Dave Ogden. Breakfast after at Grumpy's.

zoom-zoom

Remember When?



2011 BBMC Kerrville Faux Statewide



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!



2008 NASCAR Run