



In The Breeze



March 2025

Official Newsletter of the Bluebonnet Miata Club

Still Free!

COME CELEBRATE OUR 30TH ANNIVERSARY WITH US! APRIL 25-27, 2025 KERRVILLE, TX



The Bluebonnet Club is known for hosting amazing events and this celebration will be no different! It's our birthday after all. Come meet some of our founding members and fall in love with the roads they first discovered 30 years ago. Some of those roads include the thrilling Twisted Sisters and roads through the Hill Country of Texas.

Registration includes:

- All runs including Twisted Sisters
 - Event T-Shirt
 - Mazda Goodies
- Meet-n-Greet Thursday night
 - Saturday night dinner

Registration Fee \$90

We will be based out of the fan favorite YO Hotel. The YO features an onsite restaurant, bar, pool, and banquet facility.

YO Hotel

2033 Sidney Baker St, Kerrville, TX 78028 - (830) 257-4440

Call and mention Bluebonnet Miata Club for discounted room rates.

Other hotels in the area include:

Hampton Inn Kerrville

2038 Sidney Baker St, Kerrville, TX 78028 - (830) 257-0600

La Quinta Inn & Suites

1940 Sidney Baker St, Kerrville, TX 78028 - (830) 353-8118

Online registration on our website opening soon!

2025 Club Officers

President

Sophie Parazo

bbmcpresident@gmail.com

Immediate past President

Craig Martin

cmartin3@satx.rr.com

Vice President

Dave Ogden

bbmcpvpresident@gmail.com

Treasurer

Gwen Mitchell

bbmcp@gmail.com

Secretary

Stephanie Turner

secretary@blubonnetmiata.org

Membership*

Harry Maxwell

membership@bluebonnetmiata.org

Newsletter Editor*

George Lucas

bbmcnewsletter@gmail.com

** Appointed positions*

New Members

Steven & Hilda Damiani

San Antonio

2024 Snowflake White Pearl

Luis Abcede

Richmond, TX

2015 Liquid Silver Metallic

David & Marie Turner

Houston

1999 Sapphire Blue

Total Membership

188

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zoom-zoom

President's Message

Hello BBMC!

I hope everyone has been doing well despite the cold and wet weather we have had lately.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone about our upcoming 30th anniversary event! 25 - 27 April will be our 30th anniversary party at the YO in Kerrville. There will be several runs during the weekend around the hill country to include the thrilling Twisted Sisters!

Registration will include an event t-shirt and lots of goodies, access to any of the runs, a meet-n-greet, and a banquet dinner with lots of raffle prizes.

Our committee has been working hard to plan a great event and we hope you can attend. We will open registration to club members first then to everyone else so if you would like to attend, please go to bluebonnetmiata.org for more info.

Registration will open soon!



Sophie Parazo, President

From the Editor

Like many of you, I'm trying my best to assist the committee of our upcoming 30th Anniversary celebration Event to be held in April. If you want to help, please let Sophie know as there are lots of tasks that will need volunteers to make this the most celebrated event in the club's history.



This cold weather seems to be subsiding some and this will hopefully spur folks to come out for our runs and events in the upcoming weeks and months. Try organizing a run to a favorite place you like to frequent. It's fun, rewarding and there are lots of us that will be glad to help you plan a great run!

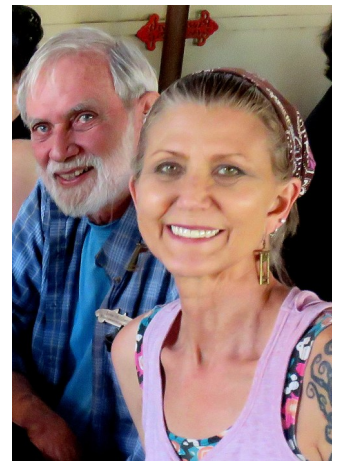
If I may, I'd like to ask you all to take note of John McGinty's story in this months newsletter. But, I'd also like you all to take a minute for this information regarding his daughter Colleen pictured with John here.

If you all are inclined to do so, thoughts and prayers and needed for Colleen.

Without going into details (of which I have few), she's having a rough time with her battle with cancer. Please keep her in mind during this tough time.



George Lucas, Editor



Little Free Library Tour

John McGinty

You've likely spotted book boxes in neighborhoods around town. They are the progeny of a movement started in Minnesota several decades ago. They are ***Little Free Libraries*** and they have come a long way. Today they are found in all fifty states, 120 different countries, and all seven continents. Later this year, their total number should reach 200,000.

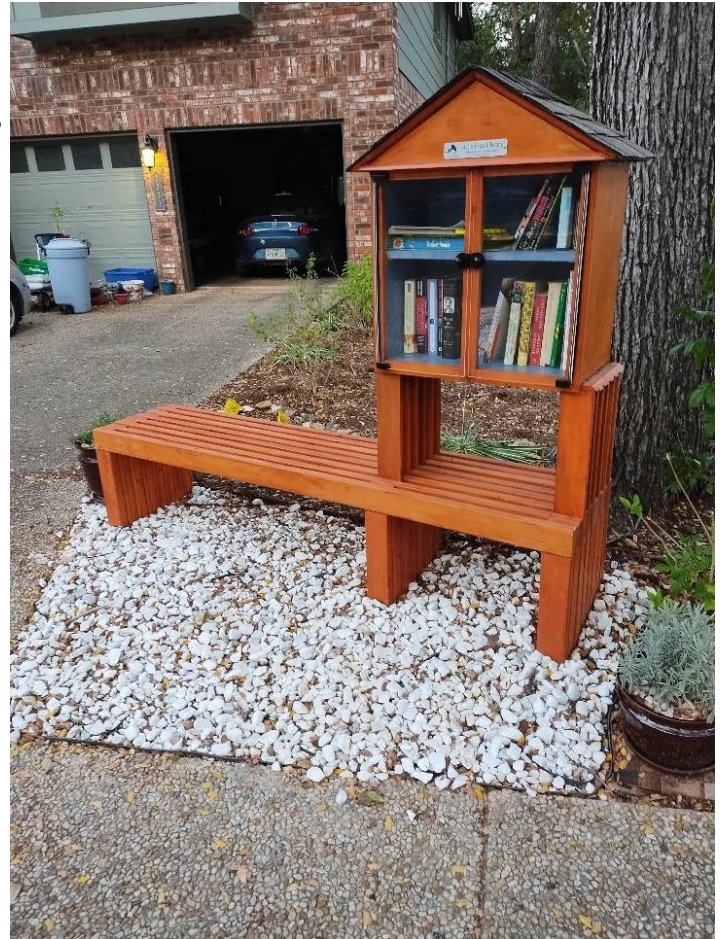
And they are a perfect excuse to get behind the wheel of your Miata when there are no scheduled club runs, and you have no pressing errands. First download the Little Free Library app (Android or Apple) for your cell phone. The first screen will show you the addresses of libraries near your current location. The search function will bring up maps by city, state, or zip code.

All types of books are available: novels, children's, cookbooks, biographies, travel, humor, and texts. Some libraries also include CD's, DVD's, audiobooks, and even jigsaw puzzles. All are free. If you find something interesting, take it. It's yours.

If you have books, you no longer need or want, you may add them to any library to be shared with others. Such donations are appreciated but not required.

Last year, my daughter and I designed and built a little free library for our neighborhood which is pictured at right. Our library has proven to be very popular, and we have met dozens of people not previously known. It's really been a gratifying experience.

If your tour of libraries inspires you to join the movement and start your very own library, check out www.littlefreelibrary.org. You can create a library of your own design, download free blueprints, or order a kit with pre-cut parts or even a full complete library. When set up, register your library (\$50 fee), receive a charter, and your library will appear on the app's world map.



Will we see an electrified Miata in the next generation?

By OpEd Polansky



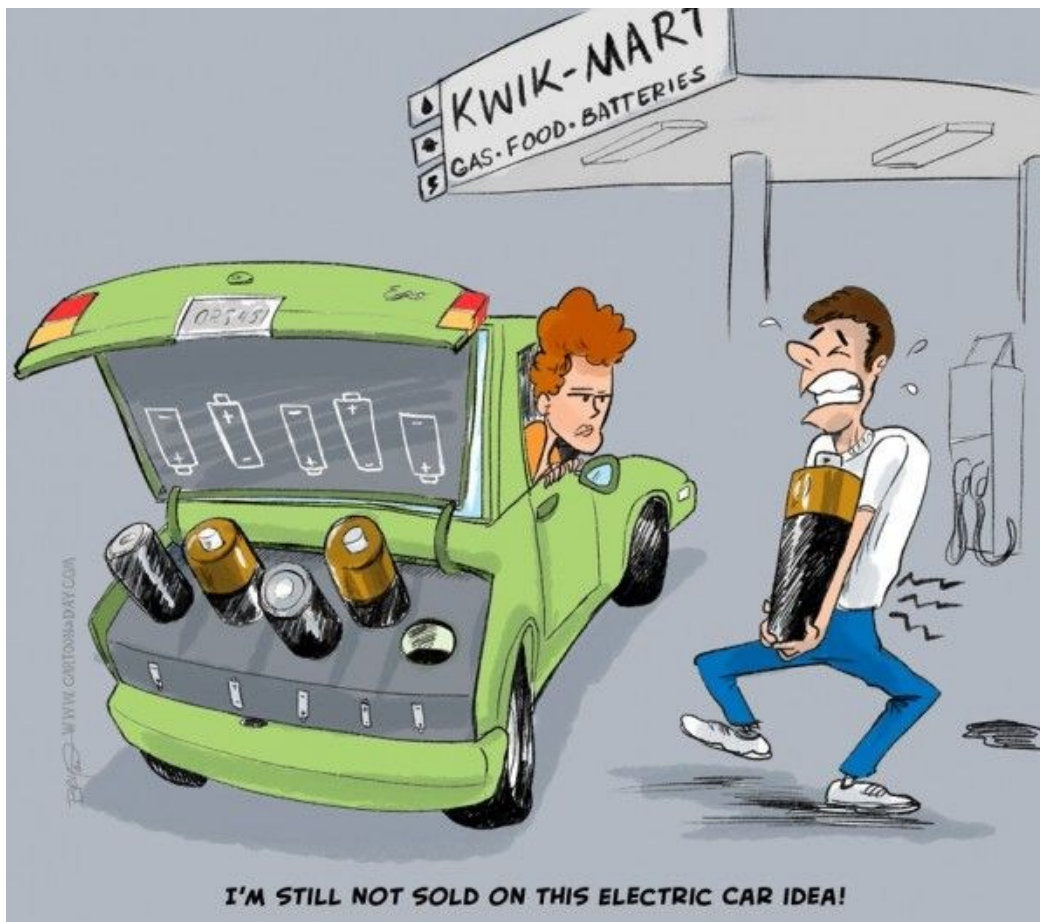
As a follow up to my last column, I searched a bit more about when the next-gen Miata is expected to be released. It looks like the 2026 model will be it, and it will be electrified in some fashion.

Per an article in MotorTrend, Mazda has confirmed the next generation 2026 MX-5 Miata will be electrified. But the automaker stopped short of saying what form the electrification will take, that is, fully EV, hybrid, or plug-in hybrid. Mazda's entire automobile lineup is slated to go at least partially electric by 2030, which means if the next-gen Miata is to survive past then this may be necessary step in the car's evolution.

Mazda said it will continue to work to develop electric powertrains, and batteries with other companies. Although these efforts could impact the next-gen Miata, a hybrid version of the roadster is the most likely. The Miata's small footprint could make it difficult to package a battery with sufficient range, as the heavy battery pack would hurt performance, and pure EV hardware would likely mean a large hike in price. Mazda could also work with another automaker to develop the platform, splitting its costs to keep the car affordable.

The Miata has a long reputation as a fun, affordable roadster with fantastic driving dynamics, and an electrified model would keep it viable well into the future. With Mazda taking its time to develop EVs, the Japanese automaker appears likely to introduce a hybrid or plug-in hybrid Miata before developing an all-electric vehicle.

Well, I guess this situation could cause a "re volt" among Miata drivers!



Why I'll always be mad about the Mazda

By [Matt Vella](#) , FINANTIAL TIMES, January 2025

columnist champions the enduring might of the MX-5 roadster

Christmas in California. The coming-home ritual begins with the thin metal garage door rolling upwards onto rickety ceiling rails. On the other side, you find a burrow crowded with memories and junk: stacks of outmoded cookbooks, ancient backpacking equipment, a couple of neglected longboards and, in the middle of it all, a dusty tarpaulin covering a machine. You remove it, revealing a first-generation black 1994 Mazda MX-5, better known in this part of the world as a Miata. It is old. But it starts without fuss or fanfare, always ready to be enjoyed, always waiting to be loved. The road from your house winds along the Morro Bay Estuary before merging with Highway 1 north-bound. This is not the famously twisty stretch of 1, around the sheer cliffs of Big Sur. The central coast is flatter and wider here, with chaparral-scented plains stretching between golden dells. Anybody who passes by you as you bomb down these straights in this MX-5 (tan soft-top down, hidden headlamps popped up) knows you're not going anywhere; you're just out for a drive.

You are pushed along by 116 horses made by a 1.6-litre four-cylinder, which is feeble by contemporary standards. But that is beside the point, because the car is tiny. And you feel small in it too, all of you dipping and diving over bumps, playfully leaning into corners. Every action you take has an immediate reaction. It's just you and a manual transmission, which actuates like a rifle bolt because the shifter goes directly into the transmission right beneath you. There is no intercession of fancy software, sophisticated sensors or traction control. In a MX-5, the driver sits at the center point of a perfect balance.

Since its introduction for the 1989 model year, the formula for Mazda's two-seat roadster has more or less remained the same: as light and simple as possible. It was the Japanese take on the classic British roadster and an example of taking something brilliant and making it sublime, like John Coltrane covering "My Favorite Things". That explains how Japan's scrappiest automaker created the bestselling two-seater sports car in history, the MX-5 having crossed the one-million-sold mark before its 30th anniversary a few years ago. The genesis of this success could be said to have originated in 1961, on the shoulder of another Southern California roadway. Bob Hall was an eight-year-old who'd already fallen in love with his father's British automobiles, including an MG and a Triumph. On this particular day, he was in the back seat on the way to an outdoor car show at Vista Del Mar in west LA, when the family's Austin-Healey sputtered to a halt on Olympic Boulevard. Little Bobby never got to the motor show.

The episode came back to him in 1979, when a Mazda executive named Kenichi Yamamoto asked him what the upstart company should work on next. By then, Hall had owned a Datsun 510, a car that "wasn't very fun to drive, but bloody hell was it reliable", he tells me. "And I'd started thinking, wouldn't it be great if you had a car that was as much fun to drive as a British sports car but was as reliable as a Japanese vehicle?" Hall got approval to work the idea up in 1982. It took seven years and a team that included legendary manager Toshihiko Hirai, but the end result was the MX-5.



The Mazda MX-5's world debut at the Toronto International Auto Show in February 1989 © David Cooper/Toronto Star via Getty Images

(Continued on next page)

Despite the sales success, the MX-5 only recently earned the cultural cachet it was always due. For years, it was derided as a secretary's car, a cruiser for hairdressers and a mid-life-crisis mobile – as if secretaries and hairdressers don't love hauling ass. Though, to be fair, our MX-5 came to us in that third category, not too long before the divorce. For most of its lifespan, the MX-5 was one of those if-you-know-you-know vehicles – until a few years ago, when younger enthusiasts began realising how much bang for their buck a used MX-5 offered compared to something cooler. Over the past decade, as its cult took off further on TikTok, the MX-5 became a key example of a “young timer” car, aka vehicles that have pull with car people but are still too young for classic-car status.

This year, I checked out a pal's current-gen MX-5. The new car is a vehicle with all the technology and safety equipment you'd expect in 2025. It has shed the baby fat, with sharper lines and headlamps tucked into aggressive slits. It has 66 more horsepower than the original and revs out at 7,500rpm, which is where you'll feel the extra horsepower. But the magic is the same, because Mazda applied “gram strategy” to keep the car as light as possible, using aluminum and magnesium instead of steel where it could. As a result, it's only about 75kg heavier than one from 30 years ago.



I ask Hall about the future of the MX-5, specifically what he thinks about the prospect of electrification. He clarifies that he hasn't worked for the company in years, but then adds: “What you do with the Miata is what you do the first time around: less is more. I don't see why you can't do the same thing with an EV.” (Mazda's entire line-up is slated to go at least partially electric by 2030, but the company hasn't announced any specific plans about the MX-5.) Before you turn around you pull into San Simeon State Park, home to the most beautiful beach in California. You catch a glimpse of William Randolph Hearst's Castle, with its stately pleasure dome, looking down from a bald spot in the coastal mountains. Now there was a guy who didn't get the whole simplicity and lightness thing, you think, climbing back into the driver's seat. But you don't sweat it, or anything else, as you rip down Highway 1 towards home

What the Ladies are Doing



Wanda and Lisa tried their hand at Painting With A Twist, then lunch at The Bread Box. !!!



Upcoming Runs and Events

February — March 2025

Tuesday, February 25, Club Meeting, 7:00 meeting, earlier for eating and greetings! Bigz Burger joint, 2303 N Loop 1604 W. , San Antonio, TX

Friday, March 14th, Men's Breakfast, hosted by George Lucas. 9:00 a.m., Let's go to First Watch, Located in: The Plaza at Concord, 700 E Sonterra Blvd Ste. 314, San Antonio, TX 78258

Friday, March 14th, Ladies Drive to Brenham, Texas, led by Lisa Martin for a tour of the Blue Bell Ice Cream, and afterwards Lunch at a place to be determined soon. Check back on the club website for more details.

Saturday, March 15th, Polansky Picnic Pursuit, hosted by Ed and Helenan Polansky. The Polansky Picnic Pursuit is scheduled for Saturday, March 15. We will congregate at the Old No. 9 Exxon Station and Longhorn Café in Boerne at the corner of Hwy 46 and Esser Road/Herff Road at 9:30 am. Departure will be at 10am. For the "pursuit" part, there will be a 50-mile tour of some familiar and unfamiliar roads through the Hill Country. There will be a viewing stop at the old car parade on Marquardt and a pit stop at the country store in Kendalia. The "picnic" part will be at the Joshua Creek Park & Preserve (Kendall County park) off IH-10. We have shelters reserved for the club in the Park to cover us in case of rain or you need shade from the sun. Bring your folding chairs, picnic basket, drinks, and kites, drones, disc golf stuff, etc. The Park is a great place for a picnic with its hiking trails, a model airplane airport, disc golf course, fine restrooms, fishing pier, dog park, and an opportunity to visit the Event Center (if no event is scheduled) high up on Ring Mountain that provides panoramic views of the Park and surroundings.

Sunday, March 16th, Lunar Zoomer dinner, hosted by George Lucas. We'll enjoy one of San Antonio's better Mexican places, Paloma Blanca at 5800 Broadway, Ste 300. In the heart of Alamo Heights, this is a beautiful place to eat. Dining or, if weather permits on the spacious patio. Meet there at 5:30 p.m. for a 6:00 reservation. See you all there!

Thursday, March 20th, Ladies Bunco, hosted by Marilyn Hamilton. Meet at 6:30 p.m. at Big'z Burger Joint, 2303 N. Loop 1604 West access road. SATX 78258

Tuesday, March 25th, Club Meeting, Sophie, president presiding. Meet and Greet at 6:30 p.m., meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. Meet at Big'z Burger Joint, 2303 N. Loop 1604 West access road. SATX 78258

Saturday, March 29th, Texas Transportation Museum Run, led by Mark Hungerman. Start time location details not known at press time.

And, it April...

Saturday, April 5th, Chicken Fried Steak Run, led by Jimbo Treat. Start time and details not known at press time.

Friday, April 11th, Men's Breakfast, hosted by George Lucas. Let's meet at Taco Palenque, Evans at 281 North. Address is 20518 US 281, SATX 78258. What can be better than breakfast tacos!

Be sure to check out our website for more details on these and other upcoming runs and events!

**AND IN APRIL, don't forget, 30th Anniversary event in Kerrville at the Y.O,
Ranch Hotel, April 25-27th!!!!
WATCH THE CLUB WEBSITE!!!**

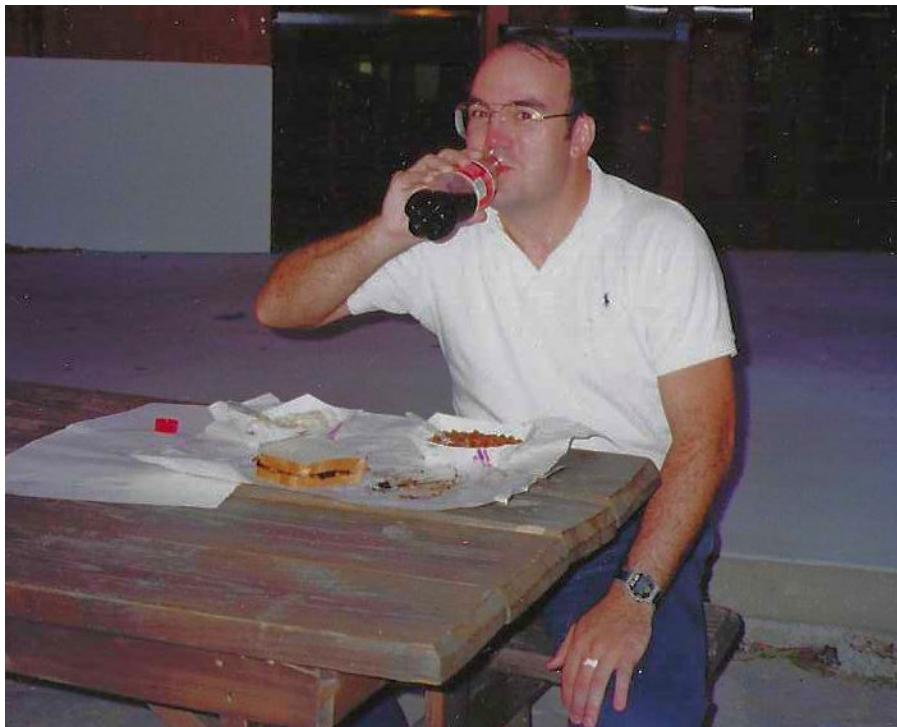
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Remember When... and Who?



What year was this??? Anyone? Anyone?