



In The Breeze



May 2023

Official Newsletter of the Bluebonnet Miata Club

Still Free!

Gathering in Historic Jefferson



Wow, I'll say that I was totally surprised at the historic experience of going to Jefferson. To begin with, I stayed at the oldest hotel in Texas! Pictured above, it's been continuously open one year longer than the Menger Hotel here in San Antonio, the second oldest. You get the feeling your stepping back in time at this hotel as the rooms (There aren't that many) are appointed totally in antiques, except for the bathrooms, they're modernized.

Most of the downtown streets are brick and every block has old establishments including the restaurants. To me, the Miata portion of the weekend was secondary to enjoying Jefferson itself I plan to go back, for sure.

More about the weekend including photos are on inside pages. It was a fun filled weekend, thanks to Craig Woolheater, the organizer of the March Miata Madness! -Ed

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!

Total Current Members: 205

Brian Hixon

San Antonio

2023 Green & Pink (Custom Colors)

Karen Hixon

San Antonio

2023 Jet Black Mica

Jesse and Melva Schruck

Boerne, Tx

2001 Sunlight Silver

Katie and John Sanco

Spring Branch

2022 Soul Red Crystal Metallic

Welcome Back!

Lee & Susan Riddell

New Braunfels, Tx

2000 Mahogany Mica

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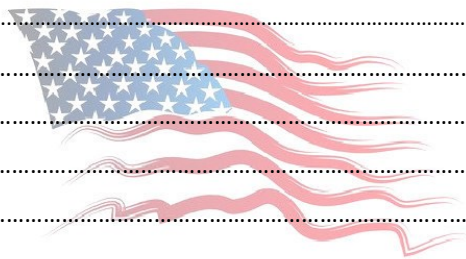


Photo credits this issue: Judy Faulkner, Lisa Martin, and George Lucas

President's Message



Hello Everyone!

Hello Bluebonnet Members!

I'm writing you from cold 36 degree McCook, NE, where we are staying for the night on our way to South Dakota to visit Mt Rushmore and drive some great roads.

Rohm and Barb Thompson have put together a great trip so far and with the help of Jeff and Diane Holbrook and Betty Hicks, things have been great! This is Caesar's and my first trip out of state with our MX-5s, and it has been great! This kind of trip takes a lot of preparation and planning and it's something that everyone should have a chance to experience. Of course, because of all the work it takes, with the help of experienced drivers in the group, we all can learn to get comfortable with our Miata's and learn how to plan for a group trip like this. We can learn many things from each other and really enjoy our time together, just like we are on this trip.

I have only been in the group for about 2 years now and have been able to get to know a lot of our regular members, but I encourage everyone to come out and enjoy any one of our many events throughout the year, whether it's to learn about your Miata, to get help with your with issues you may be dealing with or just for good driving and good company!

I look forward to meeting you and welcoming more new members.

ZOOM ZOOM!

Sophie Parazo

From the Editor

Last month, I mentioned how I love Spring. But, I don't think Spring loves me. We keep having lingering cold weather! What's up with that. I am not going to complain more as we've had some good weather for the runs and events that that I enjoyed top down weather.

At the end of March, I drove up to historic Jefferson, Texas for the 3rd March Miata Madness. What an amazing and charming city! I stayed in the oldest hotel in Texas, the Excelsior. Calm down, it IS the oldest as the Menger here in San Antonio opened one year after the Excelsior. More on that event and other runs later in this issue.

I was thrilled that folks stepped up and let runs and mighty good ones, too! Also, we had a well attended Lunar Zoomer dinner, an enjoyable Men's breakfast and the ladies also had successful Bunco and they also went to the Japanese Tea Garden near Brackenridge Park. Thanks for great attendance for these and other runs!

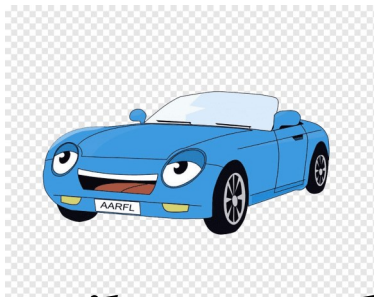
The Polansky Picnic Pursuit was also fun filled at the city Park in Comfort City Park. More on this and other events are in this issue of In The Breeze.

It looks like May will also be a busy month, so get your Miata ready for some fun runs!

Until then, keep on *Zoomin'*!



George Lucas



Who has the most mileage on their Miata(s) in Club?

By EdOp Polansky

In my article in the February newsletter, I discussed the fact that the Miata shows amazing longevity and, with regular maintenance, can be expected to go well beyond 200,000 miles during its useful life. It made me ask, who in the club has experienced significant enjoyment of mileage in their Miata over the years?

I asked for submissions in a contest, but didn't get much response (either because my articles are boring, or no one gets excited about entering a contest). In any case, I conducted a contest at the last Regular Meeting of the BBMC about who had a Miata with the most mileage. A variation on the contest was that there would also be an award for the person who had the lowest mileage on their Miata.

You know, interest for the contest improved when it was announced that the winners would receive a financial benefit! I received 17 entries. Thanks!

The results were as follows:

Highest mileage

1. Winner: Stan Chambers, 240,000 miles, 1996 Miata
2. Mark Hungerman, 173,100, 2012 Miata
3. George Lucas, 144, 800 miles, 2012 Miata

1. Winner: Robert Castillo, 2072 miles, 2023 Miata
 2. Thomas DeBoer, 2650 miles, 2022 Miata
 3. Yana Fabia, 2823 miles, 2022 Miata
- Each first-place winner received a gift certificate from Big'z.

After the contest, I found out some interesting tidbits about BBMC Miata owners.

- * Stan Chambers owns 6 Miatas (1992 through 2004 models) with a combined total mileage of 701,427 on all the cars.
- * Mark Hungerman owns 4 Miatas (1996-2015 models) with a combined total mileage of 542,001 on all his cars.
- * Paul Faulkner just recently purchased his 16th Miata, but he has sold a bunch, too.

There are some really serious Miata enthusiasts in this club! I feel like a slacker with only one Miata.



zoom-zoom

100 to 6 Klicks Run

Led by Larry and Pamela Stivers

We dropped our tops and got underway at 10:00 on a perfect sunny day. Fifteen cars headed through the curves on Cross Mountain Trail and, ready for a bit more twisty entertainment, challenged the Cielo Vista Drive curves in BOTH directions. Boerne Stage and Toutant Beauregard Roads took us to Upper Balcones Road and thence to US 46, which whisked us to SR 16 and our planned pit stop. Refreshed, we went NW to Pipe Creek and CR1283. This led us south to Heisler and Backhaus Roads, and finally back to SR 16 which took us to lunch at the 6 Klicks Cafe in Helotes. We were unexpectedly joined on our run by a nice, young couple in their ND. They were passing our meeting place and happened to see our Miatas. Not only were they great company but they significantly lowered the average age of the group.

zoom-zoom



*Dictionary.com:
Klicks: A slang term
for the kilometer in the
US, UK, and Canadian
militaries is klick.*

Now, you know.



2023 Polansky Picnic Pursuit



While we had some folks trekking up to Mount Rushmore, 15 Miatas came out on an absolute perfect weather day for this year's annual picnic, the Polansky Picnic Pursuit. With a short run up to Comfort, Ed and Helen Polansky had this run jam-packed with some sure enough twisties! Some of the roads we hadn't ever run in reverse, but we did just that and it made for some exciting surprises! Everyone drove like pros and we arrived at the city park in Comfort for some food, fun and some games as well.

On the way up we stopped at the Classic Car Collection on Marquardt Road. Lots of "Oh, wow, what's that?" and "Oh, I remember, my (enter name here) used to have one of those". Needless to say there was a lot of chatter about what each car was. If you've never been up there, you must put that on your own run or just get up there and check it out. It'll really take you back.



Bluebonnet Ladies Group



The Bluebonnet Miata ladies group visited the San Antonio Japanese Tea Garden on April 14th. The Tea Garden has an interesting history. The land which was first a limestone quarry was donated by George Brackenridge in 1899. A lot of the limestone and cement from that site was used to build many San Antonio buildings, including the Menger Hotel. Work to turn the quarry into an oriental style garden was started in 1918 using prison labor to do the construction. The entrance to the garden is a Japanese Torii gate made of concrete that resembles wood. The "Faux Bois" style (French for false wood) is attributed to a Mexican-born artist and architect (Dionicio Rodriguez) whose work can be found in several states. Throughout the gardens are several benches, walkways and railings which imitate the look of faux wood.



Initially the Japanese garden was maintained by a local Japanese-American artist and his family. His family was evicted in 1941 because of anti-Japanese sentiment and the garden was renamed the Chinese Tea Garden. In 1984 the garden was renamed "Japanese Tea Garden."

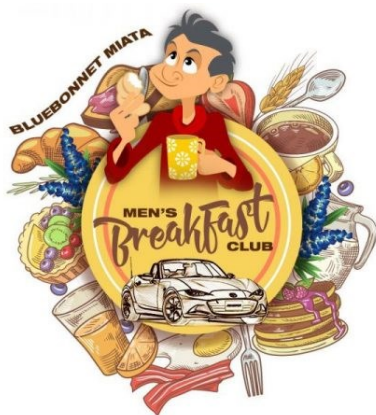
Walking around the beautiful grounds we saw gorgeous water falls, ponds filled with koi fish, the occasional ducks and colorful array of flowers and bushes. The gardens are free to visit and are listed in the U.S. National Register of Historic Places.

After working up an appetite, we only had to wander down a short distance to the adjoining parking lot to enjoy delicious barbecue at Augie's Barbwired BBQ!



This month's (May's) on Thursday the 4th, the Lunar Zoomer's Dinner will be at Guajillo's, it's the Mex without the Tex. Having eaten there many times, I can safely say it's one of San Antonio, best kept secrets!

Located at Loop 410 at Blanco, northwest corner, I believe you will enjoy another first for Lunar Zoomers! Meet at 6:30 p.m.



Okay guys, let's step up our game a bit and let's meet at Kneader's Bakery & Café, located at 21639 Hardy Oak Blvd, 78258. Friday, May 12th, Usual time, 9:00 a.m. Again, no reservations, first come, yada yada yada. I'll try to get there early to stake out our table(s).





Upcoming Runs and Events

Thursday, May 4th, Lunar Zoomer Dinner, hosted by George Lucas. Dinner will be at Guajillo's, it's the Mex without the Tex. Having eaten there many time, I can safely say it's one of San Antonio, best kept secrets! Located at Loop 410 at Blanco, northwest corner, I believe you will enjoy another first for Lunar Zoomers! Meet at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 6th, BBMC Trash Pick Up, organized by Dave Ogden. Meet at Big'z Valero, 2.5 miles north of Rolling Oaks Mall on Nacogdoches. This is our quarterly event to help Keep Texas Clean! Breakfast after at Grumpy's.

Friday, May 12th, 9:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast, hosted by George Lucas. Okay guys, let's step up our game a bit and let's meet at Kneader's Bakery & Café, located at 21639 Hardy Oak Blvd, 78258. Known for their fine pastries and French Toast.. Again, no reservations, first come, yada yada yada. I'll try to get there early to stake out our table (s).

Friday, May 12th, Ladies Day, organized by Sophie Parazo and hosted by Judy Faulkner. After a drive down to the Faulkner's farm and ranch, Sophie and her mom are going to demonstrate how to make the Filipino specialty, Lumpia! This delicacy is often served as a side dish or appetizer with a sweet chili dipping sauce. Don't miss this special day!

Saturday, May 13th, a run yet to be determined, led by Dave Ogden. Check the club website at bluebonnetmiata.org for the particulars.



Thursday, May 18th, Ladies Bunco, hosted by Marilyn Hamilton. Meet at Big'z Burger Joint, 2303 N Loop 1604 W access Rd, 78258

Friday, May 19th, USS Lexington Run, Organized and hosted by our own Navy veteran Paul Faulkner. We will gather at the Exxon located at Tex Best Travel Center at US 81 South and 1604. Meet at 8:30 a.m. for a 9:00 a.m. departure. Mark Hungerman will lead us down on this run. We'll have lunch on the T-Head in Corpus Christi.

Saturday, May 20th, Jimbo's Chicked Fried Steak Run, led by Jimbo Treat. Meet at the Whataburger at 9:30 a.m. for a 10:00 a.m. departure to Bandera for lunch at the OST (Old Spanish Trail) restaurant for great chicked friend steak and other comfort food!

Sunday, May 21st. It's back! Sundays on Mo...er...Sundays! Hosted by George Lucas. Let's go to Brindles Awesome Ice Creams in The Strand at Huebner Oaks, 1125 Huebner Rd. 78230. What time you ask? 5:00 p.m.!

Tuesday, May 23rd, Miata Club Meeting. Big'Z Burger Joint, 2303 N. Loop 1604, 78258. Dinner and Meet n Greet at 6:30 p.m., meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

Looking Ahead...

Saturday, June 10th, Painted Churches Tour! Led by George Lucas and Marilyn McCullen. A revival of this popular run! A driving tour of the famous Painted Churches of Texas. Details soon!

Saturday, June 17th, Back to Basics Run, led by Dan and Betty Hicks. Details soon!

ZOOM-ZOOM

Rohm and Barbara Thompson's Mt. Rushmore Adventure



Well, okay, they're not back yet....photos to come soon!!!

Please Support our Sponsors!



**HOLLYWOOD & BLANCO
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

And, of course,
Our meeting "Home"



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>