



# In The Breeze



November-December 2021

Official Newsletter of the Bluebonnet Miata Club

Still Free!

## 2024 Mazda MX-5 NE set to get hybrid power!

### 'Softer' ND update due ahead of next-generation roadster with new electrified engine: reports

According to *Autocar*, the NE MX-5 will unsurprisingly be powered by Mazda's emerging SkyActiv-X petrol engine, which features innovative spark-controlled compression ignition and is complemented by a fuel-saving mild-hybrid system.

As such, the NE MX-5 won't follow in the tyre tracks of most other next-generation Mazda models, which will be available with more expensive, heavier plug-in hybrid (PHEV) and battery-electric (BEV) powertrains.

Of course, weight is an important factor for the MX-5 series, which leans heavily on its lightness to deliver higher performance than its relatively modest outputs suggest.

It's not yet known if the NE MX-5 will get the Mazda3 small car and CX-30 small SUV's 2.0-litre four-cylinder version of SkyActiv-X, or the next-generation Mazda2 light car and CX-3 light SUV's rumoured 1.5-litre unit.

These engine options seem like a logical fit for the NE MX-5, as the preceding ND currently offers similarly sized units, with outputs ranging from 97kW/152Nm to 135kW/205Nm.

If the Mazda3 and CX-30 are any guide, a 2.0-litre variant of the NE MX-5 should punch out at least 132kW/224Nm, but expect it to increase power and – possibly – torque as it instead prioritises performance over efficiency.

Also expected for the NE MX-5 are standard rear-wheel-drive and an optional manual transmission, alongside an automatic unit, as Mazda has already proven SkyActiv-X can be fitted with a purist-friendly three-pedal setup.

As for when the NE will be revealed, based on previous MX-5 lifecycles, the aforementioned UK publication speculates it could go on sale in 2024, so there's still plenty of life left in the ND.

Speaking of the ND, it's about to get another model-year update, with *Best Car Web* claiming the MY22 MX-5 will be officially unveiled imminently.

This time around, the ND MX-5's upgrades focus on suspension, with a Mazda spokesperson telling the Japanese publication it "has evolved in a generally softer direction".

Time will tell what else the ND MX-5's MY22 update has in store, but *CarsGuide* understands it will reach Australian showrooms in the first quarter of next year, so we won't have to wait long to find out. Stay tuned.



## 2020 Club Officers

### President

***Craig Martin***

president@bluebonnetmiata.org

### Vice President

***Jim "Jimbo" Treat***

vicepresident@bluebonnetmiata.org

### Secretary

***Stephanie Turner***

secretary@bluebonnetmiata.org

### Treasurer

***Joe Knight***

treasurer@bluebonnetmiata.org

### Membership\*

***Harry Maxwell***

membership@bluebonnetmiata.org

### Newsletter Editor\*

***George Lucas***

newsletter@bluebonnetmiata.org

## New Members

### Members: 199

#### ***Carl Bemis & Kim Chapdelaine***

San Antonio

2021 Soul Red Metallic

#### ***Robert & Jane Hechler***

Austin

2019 Snowflake White Pearl Mica

#### ***Toni Aucoin***

San Antonio

2022 Polymetal Gray Metallic

### Photo credits in this issue:

**Charles Mims, Cheryl Knight, Ed Halley,  
and George Lucas**

## Inside this Issue:

MX-5 Going Electric?.....	Front Cover
Officers and New Members.....	2
President's Message & Editors Column.....	3
Men's Breakfast Club.....	4
BBMC Ladies Group .....	5
What makes the NC a convertible top choice?.....	6
In the Kitchen with Betty <b>NEW!</b> .....	7
MATS (Miatas At The Sisters) .....	8
Check out our Sponsors!.....	9
Don't Mess With Texas!.....	10
Upcoming Runs and Events.....	11
Remember When? .....	Back Page

# President's Message

Greetings everyone.

My how time flies. We've had a great month to be able to drive around in our favorite roadsters!

Our new website will be up and running in the next few days. Depending on when you read this, it may be up already. Take a few minutes to navigate through our new design and layout and become familiar with where everything is. Our goal is to make the website easier to navigate and find information. We appreciated everyone's patience as we transitioned between old and new.

We will be electing new officers at our November meeting. Our club bylaws state that the club officers will be elected by a majority vote of those members present at the meeting. Each member receives one (1) vote. If you want to vote for the officers, you'll need to be at the meeting.

I'd also like to encourage club members to get onto the Google Groups mailing list. While we always endeavor to get things listed on the website quickly, the Goggle Groups keeps members informed about events, run cancellations and updates a lot quicker than we can get the website updated. To sign up, email the club secretary at [secretary@bluebonnetmiata.org](mailto:secretary@bluebonnetmiata.org). ***This is the best way to be notified of any last-minute changes!***

Finally, don't forget about the BBMC Christmas Club Christmas Party Saturday, Dec. 4, from 5 to 9 pm at Melanie's Bar and Grill in La Vernia. There will be a cash bar outside starting at 5 pm, and we will move into the dining room at 6. We will be sending out a list for sign-ups so we know how many people will be attending the party, so keep an eye out for that email. There is a hotel near Melanie's in La Vernia, but it is booked up. There are other hotels within about a 15-minute drive, so if you plan on staying someplace nearby, I recommend making your reservations soon.

Thanks everyone. Let's get out on those roads and ZOOM ZOOM safely and see you soon!

**Craig Martin, President**



# From the Editor

This will be the last issue for 2021. What a roller coaster year it's been. Heck, the last 2 1/2 years have been like that! Masks on, masks off, folks arguing the use of masks at all. Let's hope 2022 will be a year of coming together like the family we've always been! Can I get a heck yeah on that?

Wow, what a party thrown by the folks at North Park Mazda a few weeks ago. I can't remember any of the NP soirée's that extravagant! We had a great club turnout with 21 Miatas lined up in front of the dealership! Thanks North Park, for such generous treatment, we appreciate it!

I'd like to remind you all of the big **MATS** (Miatas At The Sisters) gathering in Kerrville the weekend of November 11, 12, 13 and 14. There will be several Twisted Sisters Runs of all driving skill levels, a Lost Maples Run, a Roller Coaster Run and a Early Bird Breakfast Run on Sunday and more! If you haven't secured your room at the host hotel, the Y. O. Resort and Conference Center, do it now! We have a special rate of \$93 per night! Make sure you call the hotel directly to make your reservations! We have folks from all over the southwest US coming, so c'mon out for the best driving experience anywhere!

As mentioned above, our Christmas Party is coming up on December 4th, so make sure you get in on that!

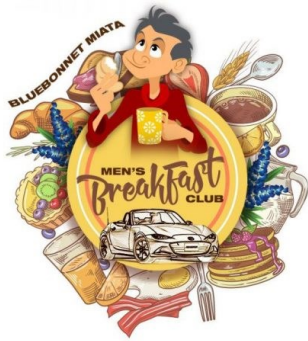
Additionally, we'll also be going up to Camp Verde General Store for their Christmas season of great gifts at reduced prices. While there won't be a usual Christmas Party there, I can assure you they'll have lots of treats and things to taste, too! I'll want a head count as we'll be having a late lunch there as well. See the details on our Runs and Events page in this issue!

Have a great holiday season and practice safe Zooming!

**George Lucas, Editor**







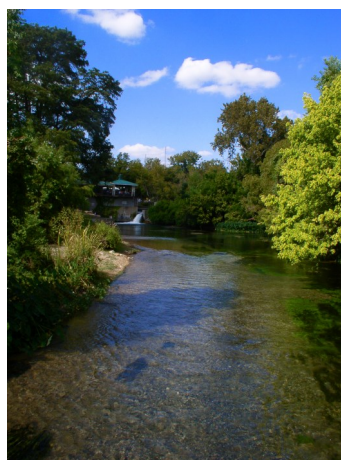
Wow, we had 12 gentlemen at this month's Men's Breakfast at Tommy's on San Pedro. Wonderful fellowship and we had a great time! Haven't joined us yet? Well, that's too bad! C'mon out to our next breakfast outing at Las Palapas on IH35 at Walzem. November 19th, 9:00 a.m. Be there! Watch for the new website calendar for further details, coming soon!





# BBMC Ladies Group

## Day Trip to San Marcos





## WHAT MAKES THE MIATA ND A CONVERTIBLE TOP CHOICE ?

BY "OP" ED POLANSKY

When you buy a convertible, you want a responsive car where you can feel the rush of fresh air when you take the top down. Here are some reasons why the Miata ND is a top choice.

- WEIGHT BALANCE

Vehicles tend to weigh more in the front or the back based on design. I understand that sports cars work best with a 50-50 balance that helps you stay in control when you take a high-speed turn. To that end, Mazda engineers designed the Miata to be slightly back-heavy, but when you sit in the driver's seat, the weight evens out.

- WEIGHT REDUCTION

Sports car designs either focus on eliminating weight or adding power. The Mazda ND is designed to be lightweight, so although its engine only has only four cylinders, this sports car makes the most of its horsepower. It comes with an engine manufactured with aluminum alloy instead of heavy steel. It manages to deliver plenty of horsepower (certainly for me as an old guy).

- EASY CONVERTIBLE TOP

The Miata's roof is easy for anyone to manage. Even though this system is relatively low-tech (they say), Mazda's engineers chose this simple design because an automatic system would add extra weight. However, if you want an automatic roof, there is always the easy-to-use RF electronic hardtop.

- HIGH-TECH INTERIOR

The Miata ND might be on a diet, but it still has a powerful audio system. Some models come with a nine-speaker Bose audio system and speed-sensing audio, not to mention a 7-inch touch screen, turn-by-turn navigation, and internet radio apps. Maybe it's interior is a little cramped, I feel like I'm wearing a comfortable glove when I'm driving.

The Mazda Miata is one of the most popular convertibles on the market, and while its popularity is partly due to its price tag, it's also because when you're driving down the highway with the wind in your hair, life just doesn't get any better than that! Let the *zoom zoom* begin!



# In the Kitchen with Betty...

By Betty Jackson

*Editors Note: Betty Jackson has gifted me so many sweet treats I thought it a good idea to share some of her treats. Thanks, Betty!*

## 'Tis the Season...

Hello, friends. It's the time of year that we are beginning to think of the heart-warming foods of winter and the holidays. I enjoy baking for gift giving or simply adding a favorite recipe to my Christmas cards. If you choose the card method, be sure to date the recipe to complete the memory for them. George and a few other members are fans of my baked goods or other recipes I have collected through the years. Because of this, George asked me to share some of my favorites with you. You will hopefully find if I give you a link, the recipe is tried and true. If I put a copy here, it's because it is no longer on their website. The tips or hints are things you might not know and never meant to insult. Having survived as long as many of us have, some things are second nature. For others that may be starting their creative journey, they could be lifesavers. Please be patient.

To make the cookies uniform, without rolling them, I use scoops. A #50 is for cookies or mini muffins and an unnumbered one (approx. ¼c.) for muffins or larger cookies. My favorite measuring spoons have 6 in the set and are elongated to fit inside spice containers. This is exceptional for speeding up the process. Shiny baking pans are a must!! If you prefer to have the darker baker's secret pans, be sure to lower your oven temperature 25°F because they retain the heat better. With this, be sure to remove the baked goods quickly to reduce over browning and drying effects. I cannot say about the copper bakeware or the thinner bakeware. I can only guess and practice with a single cooky for timing and temperature. You don't want to ruin a whole sheet. Oven temperatures are variables that can ruin your efforts also.



### FROSTED SOFT SUGAR COOKIES

- 1 1/2 cups Domino® Granulated Sugar
- 1 1/3 cups butter or margarine
- 2 eggs
- 2 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 3/4 teaspoon salt

#### Buttercream Frosting for Cookies

- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, softened
- 1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar
- 1 (1-lb.) pkg. Domino® Confectioners Sugar (approx. 3 3/4 cups)
- 2 teaspoons vanilla or almond extract
- 1 teaspoon water
- 1 to 2 drops food coloring

Preheat oven to 350°F.

In a large bowl, combine sugar and butter or margarine and beat with an electric mixer until creamy, about 5 minutes. Add eggs one at a time, blending well after each addition. Add vanilla, scraping down the sides of the bowl. In a separate bowl, mix together flour, baking powder and salt. Add flour mixture to butter mixture one cup at a time, and blend until all the flour mixture is incorporated. Roll into 1-inch balls, and place on an ungreased cookie sheet lined with parchment paper. Bake for 10-15 minutes until the bottoms turn light brown. Let stand for 5 minutes before removing to cool on a wire rack. Frost with Buttercream Frosting for Cookies.

Makes 24 to 30 cookies.

**Buttercream Frosting for Cookies:** In a large bowl with an electric mixer, beat butter until smooth. Add cream of tartar. Add confectioners sugar one cup at a time, blending until fully incorporated. Add extract and water, mixing until combined. Whip frosting at a high speed for 5 minutes, until light and fluffy. Add food coloring.

For an extra special touch, you can garnish your frosted cookies with colored sugar. To create, simply take 1/2 cup of Domino® Granulated Sugar and mix with a few drops of food coloring of your choice.

For more delicious recipes, visit: [www.dominosugar.com](http://www.dominosugar.com)



For more seasonal recipes, look for *In the Kitchen with Betty* on our upcoming new website!



Connect with us on Facebook  
[facebook.com/dominosugar](https://facebook.com/dominosugar)



Follow us on Twitter  
[twitter.com/dominosugar](https://twitter.com/dominosugar)



## **ARE YOU GOING TO BE THERE???**

We're planning some great runs for those of you coming to this years Miatas At The Sisters event. Below is a tentative schedule including runs for the weekend. We'll be at the Y.O. to greet you! Unless otherwise noted, ALL runs will depart the Y.O. at 9:00 a.m.

### **THURSDAY**

Check in and sign up for runs. (There will be limited cars per run.) Self guided runs only today.

### **FRIDAY**

Paul Faulkner Run  
Jimbo Surprise Run  
Twisted Sisters Run - Stan Chambers

### **SATURDAY**

Sweet Dreams Run - Stan Chambers  
Twisted Sisters Run (Spirited) - Jimbo Treat  
Twisted Sisters Run (Casual) - George Lucas  
Luckenbach Run - Stan Chambers

### **Sunday**

Early Bird breakfast Run - Mark Hungerman

Mark Hungerman will be taking drone shots all weekend

These schedules are TENTATIVE. Actual Runs and Run sheets will be available at check in desk in lobby.

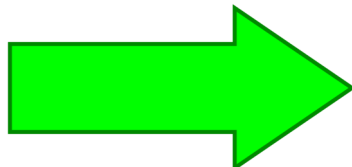


*Please Support our Sponsors!*



*And, of course,*

*Our meeting "Home"*





Wow, thanks to the efforts of Dave Ogden, look at our turnout! One of the biggest ever, we finished the job in record time and were eating breakfast at Grumpy's before you know it!

Thanks to you all for coming out. We'll do this again after the first of the year, so, let's keep this up and keep our adopted highway clean!





## Upcoming Runs and Events

**Saturday, October 30th, Olde Retired Folks Run, led by Paul and Judy Faulkner.** Meet at Sunset Vil-laged Convenience Store, 903 Milam St., FM965 at 10:30 a.m. Depart 11:00 a.m. for parts unknown, Lunch in Harper, TX.

**Friday, November 5, the Miata Ladies will meet to tour the River Art Gallery and have lunch on the Riverwalk. Hosted by our own award winning artist, Marilyn Hamilton.** Be sure to come down and see hers and other artists work. You'll be glad you did!

**Friday, November 12 –14, MATS (Miata at the Sisters).** This event was started last year and it's purpose was to give ALL Miata lovers a chance to have an exciting State Wide event when a Texas Club either can't host one or one isn't scheduled for the year. AND, this event is free! This is NOT a substitute for a Texas Miata Club's organized Statewide event. Having said that, this is your chance to gather and run some of Texas' best twisties over a weekend in Kerrville. Host hotel is the Y.O. hotel in Kerrville. Call them direct at (830) 257-4440. We have booked rooms there at only \$99! Mention either Bluebonnet Miata Club or George Lucas! More details to follow SOON!

**Thursday evening November 18th, BBMC Ladies Bunco, hosted by Beverly, the Brit, Turner.** Meet at Big's at 5:00 p.m. at BIGZ Burgers for some wild and crazy Bunco games. C'mon out ladies, it'll be a blast and you might take home some \$\$\$!

**Tuesday, November 23rd. Club meeting at BIGZ Burgers, Greet at 6:30 p.m., Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.** From Craig Martin, president: "Our club bylaws state that the club officers will be elected by a majority vote of those members present at the meeting. Each member receives one (1) vote. If you want to vote for the officers, you'll need to be at the meeting." In other words, BE THERE! :-)

**Saturday evening, December 4th, BBMC Christmas Party, hosted by Craig Martin, president and club officers.** Location is Milani's Bar & Grill, 11985 US 87 West, La Vernia, TX 78121. 5:00 p.m.—??? Gift exchange with a \$25 limit. Join in the fun, after this past year, we all need it! See you there!

**Friday, December 17th, Men's Breakfast Club, 9:00 a.m. at Las Palapas and IH35 and Walzem Rd., organized by George Lucas.** This will be our last Men's Breakfast Club for 2021, so come on out and let's start the Christmas Holiday in fashion!

**Saturday, December 18, Camp Verde Christmas Run, hosted by George Lucas..** No official Christmas Party at the Store this year, but there will be Christmas goings on and special reduced prices on everything in the store! We'll have a late lunch at the Camp Verde Store restaurant where the food is amazing! Join in for more Christmas joy! We'll depart at 10:30 a.m. from 1604 and Babcock at either the McDonalds or Bill Millers. Lunch will be around 1:00 p.m.



# Remember When?



Summer Picnic at Shady Oaks, 2006

## *In The Breeze*

Bluebonnet Miata Club

San Antonio, Texas

<http://www.bluebonnetmiata.org>



Place Mailing Label HERE