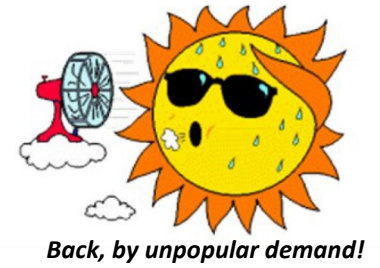




In The Breeze



August 2022

Official Newsletter of the Bluebonnet Miata Club

Still Free!

BBMC Well Represented at Miatas At The Gap 2022



Jimbo Treat and Wanda Begnoche, along with Stan and Betty Chambers, attended the recent Miatas at the Gap event in Deals Gap in Robbinsville, N.C. Both of these couples are two of the biggest fans of that event from our club.

Inside this issue of In The Breeze you'll find stories and photos from them.

Thanks guys for your adventure wrap ups!

-Ed



2022 Club Officers

President
Craig Martin
 president@bluebonnetmiata.org

Vice President
Jim "Jimbo" Treat
 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

*** Appointed positions**

Welcome, New Members!

Brian Ferguson
 San Antonio
 2007 Stormy Blue Mica

Jaclyn Studniski and Meagan Smith
 San Antonio
 2016 Crystal White Pearl Mica

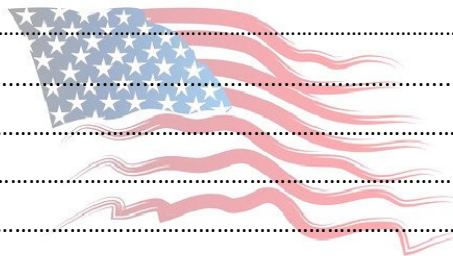
Jessica Millet
 San Antonio
 2013 Crystal White Pearl

Bill and Debbie Mercer
 Lake Jackson, TX
 2016 Soul Red Metallic

Total Club Members: 204

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President's Message



Happy August, everyone! What a long year it's been – at least for me – and a hot summer! Summer is just about over, and Fall is just around the corner. It's good to see our calendar filling up again. There are still several Saturdays and Sundays open. If you have an urge to lead a run, get it on the calendar. If you need help, contact one of the officers and we'll help you. Planning a run isn't as hard as you may think. Check our run guide on the club website.

It's that time of year when we appoint a nominating committee for Club officers. Paul Wilson will be leading this year's nominating committee. Larry Stivers and Beverly Turner are committee members. If you want to nominate someone for one of the club offices (president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer), let one of the committee members know, and they will take it from there.

A few reminders: The Houston club is hosting the Texas Miata Roundup Oct. 20-23 in College Station. Click this link or copy it and paste into a web browser to register: <https://txmiataroundup2022.houstonmiataclub.com/?fbclid=IwAR1MT26neHeOvX2azuHg6FFqPFgEqpEb8lwM2rJmhwTGxQwtkoVyHRtqLGE>

[fbclid=IwAR1MT26neHeOvX2azuHg6FFqPFgEqpEb8lwM2rJmhwTGxQwtkoVyHRtqLGE](https://txmiataroundup2022.houstonmiataclub.com/?fbclid=IwAR1MT26neHeOvX2azuHg6FFqPFgEqpEb8lwM2rJmhwTGxQwtkoVyHRtqLGE)

It's time to get signed up for the BBMC Christmas Party at the YO Ranch Hotel in Kerrville Dec. 3 from 5-9 pm. More information can be found in this newsletter and on the club calendar on the website. Keep checking for more information.

Lastly, it's important that we maintain our club membership with our annual dues. Our dues are what funds our club, so keep an eye out for emails from our Membership Director, Harry Maxwell, and either pay through the website or by mailing him a check.

Let's stay safe out there, and keep on ZOOMING!!

Craig Martin

From the Editor

As I sit here at my desk last night, I heard a very strange noise. Yep, RAIN! Not much so far, but I'm not complaining! More to come is reported, I certainly hope so!

With the heat and drought, I think we've all been in kind of a funk. That's and the fact I've gone through some dental surgery, I've been pretty laid back. Rest and relaxation has been the mantra for me the last couple of weeks.

But, after perusing the upcoming events and runs, I'm excited and rejuvenated for some driving fun! Details on our Bluebonnet Face Book page, I finally replaces a faulty suspension bar on my beloved Red Raider. It was discovered in year before last's Tech Day at Jebb's ToyBox! As per usual, I ignored it until a couple weeks ago, it snapped in two! Yikes. Had to have my Miata towed bat to my house until I could replace that bar! All's done now and I'm ready to roll again!

I have an insurance question for you folks. Many, if not all, insurance companies are offering lower rates for safe drivers. Well, it's pretty easy if you avoid tickets, your insurance company won't see a blemish on your record, right? Well, it seems most insurance companies want to track your driving with devices you put in your car. Okay, so, I have two cars and my insurance wants to put these little gadgets in each of my cars. (it's a small device that sends stats to your insurance company, i.e. speeding over limits, etc.) Well, heckie darn, we all know I'm a slow poke in my daily driver Xterra, but even I exceed the speed limit on some of our runs! I'm concerned that my insurance will raise my rates if that stat is reported! What say you all regarding this new tracking feature of some insurance companies. I'm anxious to hear what y'all have to say about it.

Until then, ZOOM ZOOM...well, unless you have a tracking device in your car, hehe.



George Lucas

2022 Miata Reunion

by Paul Wilson

Beth and Fred Stills, Pam and Larry Stivers, and I had the pleasure of attending the Miata Reunion held at Barber Motorsports Park outside of Birmingham, Alabama on July 30 and 31.



Hundreds of attendees arrived in Miatas of all generations and conditions to enjoy the Saturday festivities which included time on the track, ride-alongs, a skid pad competition, a car-control clinic, a car show, parade laps around the course, multiple vendors, and the fantastic Barber Motorsports Museum. The common enthusiasm for our cars fostered an easy camaraderie shared with owners who originated from throughout the U.S. and Canada.



Cars on track



'50s Morris Minor on a
Miata chassis



Exocet in which I did a
track ride-along

Continued on following page

(2022 Miata Reunion, continued)



In-car Parade Lap



Exterior Parade Lap

Miata engineer Norman Garrett and Miata designer Tom Matano graciously autographed hats, posters, and other paraphernalia on both Saturday and Sunday. They were also informative and entertaining speakers at the delicious Saturday evening banquet held in the remarkable Barber Museum.



Norman Garrett



Tom Matano

Though Birmingham was blessed with some intermittent heavy rainfall, most occurred at times that minimally affected the activities. A nearby Buc-ee's assured that all participants had plenty of fuel and snacks.

Sunday activities included additional track time and a Miata cruise organized by CAMS, the Central Alabama Miata Society. This taillight run included over 90 cars motoring along some great Miata roads without losing a single driver in the process! The impressive feat was accomplished with help from the Leeds, AL police department who blocked several intersections along the route so that all could pass through.

-Paul Wilson



Bluebonnet Christmas party update!
Saturday, December 3rd 2022

Happy Hour 5-6 p

Announcements (and such) 6-6:30 p

Dinner 6:30-8:00p

Gift Exchange and party until ?? (we have the room all night!).

Y. O. Conference and Resort Hotel

2033 Sidney Baker St

Kerrville, TX 78028. PHONE: 830-257-4440

Get your reservations into the YO to secure your room at a rate of \$119. Please try to call during the week Monday through Friday and ask for Stacey 830-257-4440 under the Bluebonnet Miata Christmas

The menu that was voted on at the last meeting was buffet #2.

3 entrée selections of 6

Two salad selections of 6

Two starch selections of 6

Two dessert selections of three

Cost per person \$38.98; cost per couple \$77.96 (includes tax and gratuity.)

Marilyn Hamilton has graciously agreed to take your payment and keep track of who is attending. Please send your checks or money orders to:

25138 Flying Arrow

San Antonio, TX 78258

Make checks payable to bluebonnet miata club reference the 2022 Christmas party

There will a gift exchange! Do one! Do both! OR do none-it's your choice. If you bring a gift you may take a gift. But don't worry, if you bring a regular gift and somebody brings a gag gift they can't steal your regular gift - they can only steal a gag gift. Again, if you bring a gift, you can take a gift. Suggested gift exchange for the regular gift exchange a \$25 limit; For the gag gift exchange a \$10 limit.

Make your reservations at the YO and start looking for that special gift and come out and see all the twists and turns at this year's Christmas party in Kerrville TX at the YO Conference Center.

Payment must be received by October 15th 2022. Those who will be attending will make the final selections on the menu, and the deadline for this will be October 21st. The menu will be turned in to the YO on November 2022. The deadline for a final count must be turned in to the Y. O. by November 12, 2022.

If you have any questions, contact Lisa Martin at 210-391-7875.

A Special Christmas Visit to the Camp Verde Store

Saturday, December 10th, 2022

For the past 12 years, we have made a special visit to the Camp Verde store to enjoy their Christmas Open House.

Since COVID, as one might imagine, things changed. As of this writing, the Store is unsure of how they'll be celebrating Christmas this year at the store. Last year we had a small group go there to shop as the Store is always full of fabulous Christmas ideas and gifts, including household kitchen items, decorative items and of course excellent tasty treats.

I am optimistic they'll be having a celebration of some kind and I will plan a drive up to the Store to show our appreciation for all the years they've given folks special Christmas discounts on their entire inventory.

We'll take a drive through some great traditional backroads and culminate the drive with a lunch in the Camp Verde Store restaurant.

More details will follow in the subsequent months, but for now, circle Saturday, December 10th on your calendar for a festive drive to the Camp Verde Store for Christmas!

Cheers!

George Lucas, Editor



Wreaths Across America is a program that started at Arlington National Cemetery in 1992 by Morrill and Karen Worcester, from Harrington, Maine. Their mission is to lay a wreath on EVERY fallen HERO's headstone for the holidays. This year the Bluebonnet Miata Club will be one of the proud sponsors of Wreaths Across America in San Antonio. Rohm and Barbara Thompson are spear heading our efforts and are currently collecting money for the \$15 wreaths. Any amount you may wish to donate will be welcome.

Cash donations will be accepted at any club meeting and at most club events. Check donations may be made but you will need to contact Rohm or Barbara for details. We will be collecting donations from now until our club meeting in October. The second part of our efforts will be placing the wreaths on the graves at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, TX, on December 17th at 8 AM.

Please help us support this worthwhile effort in the name of the Bluebonnet Miata Club. Mark your calendars now and donate no later than the October club meeting!!!

Rohm 210-846-3137

Barbara 210-846-2736

Please Support our Sponsors!



**HOLLYWOOD & BLANCO
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

And, of course,
Our meeting "Home"



September 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! Previous winners on next page.

What is the benefit of a Dash Cam?

By Op-Ed Polansky

Seems like there is a big move to installing dash cameras in cars, particularly as evidenced if you watch U-Tube showings of all those accident episodes recorded by dash cams. So, I thought I'd do a little investigation and see what the benefits are of a dash cam. Here are seven advantages of having a dash cam that I found from the "experts."

1. Capture First-hand Accident Evidence

Having a second set of eyes on the road through a dash cam recording can help prove fault in accidents and is a great way to make sure your insurance premiums don't increase. Another great reason to have a dash cam is to be able to catch hit-and-run drivers. With a dash cam, not only might you be able to see the incident unfold, but with a high-resolution camera, you should be able to see license plates to help police track down the responsible party.

2. Parents Can Monitor First-time Drivers

Watching your child drive away alone for the first time can be nerve-wracking, but with dash cam features like GPS tracking and G-sensors that can sense impacts and trigger alerts, you can help ensure the accountability and safety of first-time drivers. Parents can even provide another level of assurance by including a cabin view dash cam that will record what the driver and their passengers are doing inside the vehicle.

3. Dash Cam Footage for Insurance Claims

Insurance rates can change due to a number of factors, including age, commute distance, and driving record. Speeding tickets and accidents can cause your insurance rate to jump. In the event of an accident, having a dash cam that offers incident evidence allows you to prove that you weren't at fault. Instead of relying on he-said, she-said in the case of an accident, providing video footage is a way to show how an incident occurred.

4. Dash Cam Footage as Evidence to Police

Dash cams can capture vehicle accidents, but they can also provide proof for police in hit-and-run situations, or if you've captured footage of someone driving under the influence. Dash cams with a wide view can also capture pedestrians, cyclists, and others who may be behaving in a way that endangers drivers. If a crime occurs in front of or within their vehicle, having a dash cam can clear up accusations and, in some cases, even assist in court.

5. Document Scenic Drives or a Road Trip

By capturing those impressive views on a dash cam, you're free to soak in your surroundings and enjoy the moment instead of worrying about capturing photos. And, because you can download, edit, and share footage, you're able to create a wonderful keepsake of your journeys.

6. Recording Your Surroundings

Having front and rear-facing dash cams can capture nearly a 360-degree view of your surroundings. Not only can they record your drive, they're also able to record while your car is parked. Returning to your vehicle to see a large dent or scratch can be very upsetting and, without footage, there's no way to prove what happened or who was to blame. Dash cams can document such events, and also catch vandalism or car break-ins and, in some cases, might even deter deviants from committing a crime entirely.

7. Recording Inside Your Vehicle

Although it may seem like an invasion of privacy to some, dash cam footage of the interior of the vehicle and its passengers is completely legal. Uber and Lyft employees are allowed cabin-view recording for their own protection and safety. Similarly, some school buses and public transport also have interior dash cams to document passenger journeys and promote safety for both the driver and others in the vehicle.

So, Is a Dash Cam Worth It?

Well, what do you think? There seems to be good reasons for considering installing a dash cam. I'd welcome your thoughts and experiences about dash cams. Since I have three cars, I don't think I want to put cams in all my cars. Are there good dash cams that are portable? I do try to save bucks where I can!

See these below and many, many more at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).



August 2022 Meeting Pics

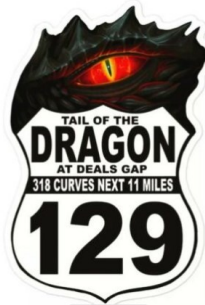


Jimbo and Wanda at MATG 2022

After staying with our friend Chris in Biloxi and visiting my family close to Tupelo, we made our way to Fontana Village in North Carolina. We had already gotten the message that a storm had knocked the power out on Tuesday night. Arriving on Thursday, still no power. A lot of people had already found other arrangements, filling the hotels around us, so we figured we would just rough it. The next day we tried everything we could think of and drove all over to find a generator that would fit in the Miata and wouldn't break the bank. Apparently, that little animal doesn't exist, so we ended up getting a couple of battery powered fans. They actually helped out more than you would think. After grilling out a few times with our Oklahoma buddies the Radoff's and their 92 year old mother Aileen, the power finally came back on around 8-9 pm Saturday. That air conditioned room felt so good when we came in!!

With Wanda relaxing/sleeping, I got to take advantage of some early morning runs on Moonshiners Hwy and The Dragon, in between the rain showers of course!! I also got to take our Canadian friend Eric Marois for a spin on the Dragon, which he had never done from a passenger seat. He had a blast! I also took the Radoff brothers Mike and Gerry for a fun run down what I call The Tail of The Tail of the Dragon, and then they got in their cars and followed me down the rest of The Dragon and back to the resort. They were both grinning from ear to ear !!

For being a VERY wet, hot, muggy week / weekend with no air or hot water, we still had a blast, driving these fun roads and hanging out with our Miata families that we've grown over the years. And the weather didn't deter the Miatas, as registration showed we had 6 more cars that last year's 1,012 Miatas, which is a new record!! We get a few more Bluebonnets to go next year, we could set the bar even higher!!

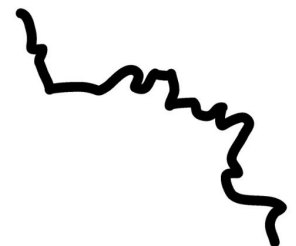
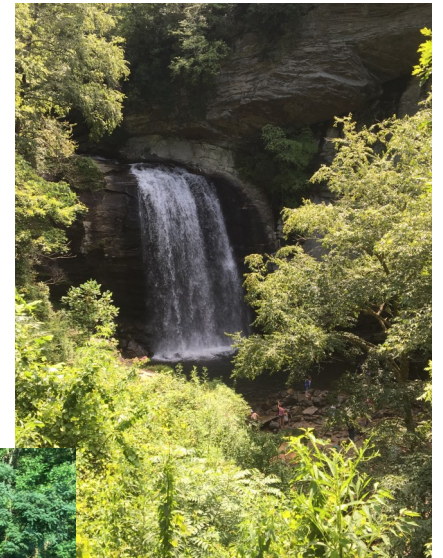


Stan and Betty Chambers at MATG 2022

Disappointing trip:

Buddy for the weekend, drives slow, didn't want to drive the Dragon. I got to drive it Saturday morning before we left. Power outage at Fontana for 3 days, Wednesday until Saturday night. Jimbo and Wanda suffered. Fontana canceled our cabin and tried to put us in an old, dirty double wide trailer on the back of the property. We declined and were heading home. Fortunately a friend offered us his cabin near Robbinsville for free but we gave him what we would have paid Fontana. We rolled our reservation over to 2023 but going to look for something else. Betty wanted to leave on Saturday morning, didn't want to go back to Fontana. We got home Sunday afternoon.

Editor's note: While you can tell Stan was very disappointed, he always enjoys going to the Gap. In fact, he's returning over the Labor Day weekend! If anyone is interested in going, let Stan know ASAP.



Okay, guys, it's that time again when we can meet and enjoy swapping stories about just about anything.

Always a favorite with great breakfast items at great prices! And, FREE coffee!

When? Friday, September 9th

Where: Where else? Whataburger, this time, 6950 N Loop 1604 E, San Antonio, TX 78247

Meet time is 9:00 a.m. and stay as long as you like!

See you there!



Sunday evening, September 11th, let's meet at one of San Antonio's newer Burger place, Hat Creek Burger Company! Located at 7617 N. Loop 1604 East in Live Oak, TX 78233.

Meet and Greet at 6:00 p.m., dine at 6:30 p.m.



Hat Creek Burger Company is all about fellowship and cheeseburgers. We strive to cultivate a family-friendly environment that is built around community, gathering, and fun. Always-fresh, never-frozen all-natural burgers, fries, shakes and cold beer are staples of Hat Creek, with salad and gluten-free options also available. Our restaurants are built with families in mind, and each location features a unique playscape for children of all ages. We mean it when we say "Our backyard is your backyard."



Texas Miata Roundup 2022

October 20th through 23rd in College Station

The Houston Miata Club is pleased to welcome everyone to the 2022 Texas Miata Roundup! I think we can all agree the last two years have been interesting to say the least. We had considered organizing this event sooner with various compromises but ultimately decided it would be best to wait and have a proper Roundup. We have organized an event to get people back together to enjoy the essentials: friends, fun roads, and Texas style food.

Due to COVID-19 the now-biennial Roundup was delayed for a year. The 2022 Texas Miata Roundup will be held October 20th through 23rd in College Station. Check-in will begin Thursday afternoon at 3:00 on the 20th, and conclude with the dinner party and live music on Saturday the 22nd at the Brazos Center. College Station has been chosen as this year's destination due to its proximity to Houston with a more rural feel. The roads in the area aren't bad either!

The reputation of the Texas Miata Round Up has spread throughout the USA and even into Canada as a result of the event's reputation. You will see license plates from most any state and all are welcome. You do not have to belong to one of the Texas Miata Clubs to participate; all you need is a Miata.

The Texas Miata Round Up began in the late 1990's with the intention of bringing Miata owners together for a long weekend filled with camaraderie and fun centered around Miatas. The strong friendships that have formed over the years were an added bonus. In past years it has been based in Galveston, Fredericksburg, Kerrville, Alpine, Denton, and Huntsville. We Texans are fortunate in that we can find scenery to please our mood. We have desert, forest, plains, lakes, and even the Gulf of Mexico. We may have to do some driving to see it all but driving a Miata makes it that much more fun.

Hope to see you in College Station this October!

**LOOK! >>> REGISTER by going to: <https://houstonmiataclub.com/>
More details regarding runs and events that weekend!**

Friday

Friday is an open day for attendees to choose their own activities as well as attend a few smaller fun runs. Take a peek inside of your goodie bag to find the local restaurant guide, DIY tours, and tourist attractions.

Details for organized fun runs will be available at check in.

Saturday

Fill up your tanks and get ready for fun runs! There will be a planned lunch stop during the fun runs. Douglas Mazda will be hosting a party behind their new dealership from 3-4:30pm (located adjacent to the Hyatt House).

The Banquet Dinner will be held at the Brazos Center with catering by 1775 BBQ (Top 25 New BBQ Joints Texas Monthly Magazine 2019). There will be a cash bar for those looking for a beer or margarita. After dinner we will hand out door prizes and discuss the weekend's events. Doors open at 6pm, dinner starts at 6:30, the event will shut down by 11pm.

Upcoming Runs and Events

Friday, September 9th, Ladies Group, hosted by Marlene McPeck. Get into the fall mood with creating beautiful pumpkins with zentangle designs! More details regarding where and what time TBA, check the website for update on this event!

REWIND - Friday, September 9th, 9:00 a.m., Men's breakfast, hosted by George Lucas at...you guessed it, Whataburger. 6950 N. Loop 1604 E., SATX 78247. Good food, affordable and best of all FREE coffee! Sorry I couldn't make it in August (surgery). C'mon out guys and visit with your fellow club members!

REWIND - Sunday evening, September 11th, Lunar Zoomer dinner, hosted by George Lucas. 6:00 p.m. meet time, 6:30 dinner time. By special request, we'll meet at the Hat Creek Hamburger Company. 7617 N. Loop 1604 E. , Live Oak, TX 78233.

Thursday, September 15th, The Miata Ladies Bunco Group meets at Big'z Burger Joint, 2303 N Loop 1604 W. Access Rd (same place where the BBMC monthly meetings are held). . 6:00 p.m.– 9:00 p.m. While the group currently has 12 regulars, subs are often needed.

Saturday, September 17th, Run Around Canyon Lake, led by Joe and Cheryl Knight. Culminating in New Bruanfels. More details later, check the webside.

Saturday, September 24th, Barbed Wire Burger Run, let by Jimbo Treat. The old NASCAR spot, be ready for some spirited roads and great burgers after. Sunsets out there are spectacular, bring your cameras!

Tuesday, September 27th, Club Meeting. Big'z Burger Joint, 2303 N. Loop 1604 W, 78258. 6:30 p.m., Eat and Greet, 7:30 p.m., Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

NOTE: *For more details, go to our website at bluebonnetmiata.org. Details in this "living" newsletter will be updated at information comes in. Keep watching the website and your email!*

Remember When?



Refreshments at the Faulkner's after the Wildflower Run, 2008



Don't forget to check out our FaceBook group page!

Just insert the below website on your browser:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/632533146799180>



We picked up trash Saturday morning, July 23rd. Where were YOU, hmmm???

