Mazdas of Muskoka Newsletter— April 2015

Why C.J. Wilson Was Legally Required To Build This Rotary Mazda Miata

Not only is this Renesis rotary-powered NA Mazda Miata the only one in the world, but was part of an actual legally binding contract and hurdle for C.J. Wilson to purchase another Mazda dealership. Interested in knowing the story?



Read it here on how it came to fruition.

http://jalopnik.com/why-c-j-wilson-was-legally-required-to-build-this-rota-1689247680

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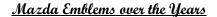
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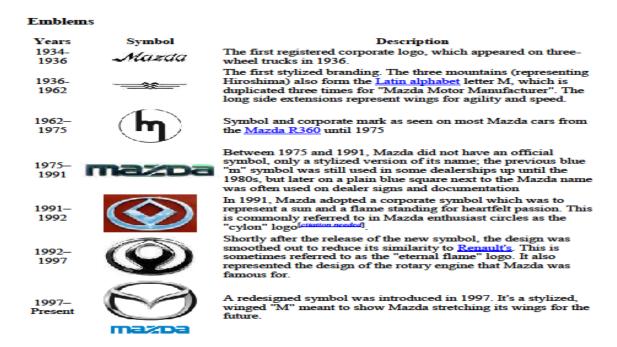
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MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

You will all recall that Council sent out a survey to the membership in the late fall of last year, to try and get a good read on members' degree of satisfaction with the way the club is being run; of particular interest was/ is everyone's satisfaction with the type, variety and scheduling of cruises and other events. Council is happy to report that the survey return rate was over 80%! (only 6 members did not respond)...your constructive feedback was much appreciated.

A number of key broader issues arose from the findings of the survey that are of note, including the following:

- (a) the timing of cruises, especially overnight/multi-day ones;
- (b) the need for more timely ongoing communications to the members, including keeping the web-site current as an effective vehicle for both administration and promotion of the club's activities;
- (c) the need for greater variety in ice cream run starting locations and related activities; and,
- (d) some interesting new suggestions, including local press coverage for our activities, holding a charity run, and finding a way to tap into Miata-owning Muskoka tourists who might be interested in joining one of our summer cruises or ice cream runs.

At Council's winter meeting, there was a discussion of the survey results, and Council resolved to address all of the key findings as we move forward. Several of those key items will be discussed at the upcoming Spring meeting. A full copy of the survey results is now published within this newsletter.



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MEMBERSHIP SURVEY RESULTS

#1 Is the *Miatas of Muskoka* meeting your expectations?

Yes: 18 Most of the time: 1 No: 2 No response/unable to comment: 3

#2 If not, why not?

Not enough cruises_____
Too many cruises: 1

Type of cruises (e.g. overnight vs. day trips)____

Scheduling of cruises: 2

Would like more/other social non-cruise events: 1

Please feel free to add any other specific comments/ concerns you may have:

- no concerns, enjoying club activities & people (2 respondents)
- too many cruises too close together; should spread out overnight cruises (3 respond.)
- Sunday PM better than Sunday AM (1 respondent)
- 2014 was unusual year, too many other commitments & issues...family, household chores, etc...hope to do better in 2015 (3 respondents)
- didn't do as many cruises in 2014 as had hoped (weather, illness, other issues)... hope to do better in 2015
- had many cruises in August...but enjoyed them all
- difficult to know what is coming up with no calendar of events provided via newsletter or web-site
- business demands and short cottage stays that couldn't be pre-planned have kept me from participating in events

#3 With particular regard to our 2014 event schedule

(a) how many events did you attend?: ranged from 0 to 9; avg. of 4

(b) which 3 events did you like the best?:

Gananoque/1000 Is. Cruise (weekend) 6

Peerless II/Lake Rosseau Cruise 6

Grey Cty. Waterfalls Tour (overnight) 5

Scavenger Hunt 4

Midland/Ste. Marie 4

Spring Fling @ Christie's Mill) 3

Algonquin Picnic 2

Barrie/Cora's brunch 2

Ice cream runs 2

Ladies' Cruise 2

Season-end dinner @ Patterson-Kaye 2

Fall Colours 1

Rouyn (weekend) 1

All events attended 4

(cont'd)

- (c) what did you like about them?:
- well-organized, excellent planning (3 respondents)
- good company, camaraderie with others (6 respondents)
- fun & informal (3 respondents)
- day trips: locations, appropriate distances, route potentials (2 respondents)
- impressed by variety of excursions & trip durations (something for everyone)
- historical/educational elements
- as a single person, day trips work best for me
- they were destination cruises
- opportunity to drive Miata with a purpose
- interesting routes, beautiful scenery (3 respondents)
- sufficient time to mix with others
- (d) which (if any) events were of little or no interest to you?:
- Parry Sound boat cruise
- Peerless/Lake Rosseau boat cruise
- Ladies' Cruise
- Mosport (4 respondents)
- Rouyn
- Midland/Ste. Marie
- overnight cruises on weekends
- overnight cruises in general (5 respondents) and longer day trips
- (e) why not? (this is very important, so please elaborate):
- have done Muskoka/Parry Sound boat cruises before (2 respondents)
- Ladies' Cruise becoming too similar every year; suggest alternate years (2 respond.)
- no interest in racing/technical aspects, thus no interest in Mosport
- have been to Quebec and Ste. Marie
- Mosport too far for day cruise
- I am single, thus no interest in overnight trips
- don't enjoy long trips in Miata
- wife doesn't come; don't enjoy being alone
- family health issues precluded participation in 2015 (2 respondents)
- just want to enjoy driving car in nice surroundings
- seasonal work precludes overnight trips on weekends
- not retired, and need more recovery time than overnight trips allow; also belong to another club with events on similar days, so try to divide my time between them
- lost my soulmate last year, feel awkward and uncomfortable participating in extended trips, especially social activities (hard to overcome this hurdle at my age)



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(cont'd)

#4 How many events a season would you ideally attend?

3 or less: 3 4 to 7: 16 7 to 10: 3 10+: 3

#5 Do you like the "overnight" cruises?

Yes: 14 No: 6

#6 Did we have too many/too few cruises each month in 2014?

Yes: 6 No: 12

If yes, too many?: 6 (in August) or too few? 1 (in other months)

- not sure; don't want to attend all events, but don't have to
- Miata is "summer car", thus sensible to compact events into months with best weather
- lots of other summer recreational activities competing for summer days
- prefer 1 cruise event per month
- lots of cruise choices

#7 Do you enjoy the Wednesday night ice cream cruises?

Yes: 16 No: 4

- live too far away from Bracebridge (3 respondents)
- haven't attended yet; would like to try them (2 respondents)
- shouldn't have to accommodate non-Miata owners as regular guests
- suggest more "special" ice cream destinations for interest and to better serve most/all members; (e.g. Webers, mini-golf, other runs starting in Orillia, Bala and N. Muskoka); don't meet in Bracebridge so often!
- live in Washago thus don't go to Bracebridge for ice cream

#8 Would they better serve your needs if they were on another night?

Yes: 4 No: 16

If yes, what night?: Monday; Tuesday (2); Thursday

- suggest every 2 weeks instead of weekly
- advance notice of weekly ice cream destination could help generate more interest
- Wednesday night is as good as any...we go when we can
- any night is fine because I'm retired; lots of fun in cool evening of hot summer day

(cont'd)

#9 Please describe your ideal cruise, in the following respects:

length?: full day; 4-6 hrs. (2).; 4 hrs. round-trip; 2-3 hrs. (4); day-trip (3); day&overnight(2); depends on other commitments; within day's drive

- mix of event lengths and # of days is desirable to meet varied needs (2 respond.)

location?: our area/Muskoka (3); interesting/twisty roads (3); daytrip – local, overnight – Ontario; U.S., Quebec (2); rural; anywhere of interest (3) day of week?: any (7); any except Weds; any ex-

cept Weds/Thurs; Sunday in June & Sept.; Tues, Thurs or weekends; Sunday; any weekday; Saturday or Sunday

restaurant style/type?: good food, licensed, nice atmosphere; family/pub/casual (4); reasonable price/under \$20 pp/no \$25 pre-booked lunches (3); food quality more important than quantity; depends on type of cruise; flexible; bistro; picnic/fast-food/self-serve/BBQ

distance?: like to drive so distance not a problem; less than 100 miles; day - 3 hrs., overnight - no suggestion; day - local, overnight - up to 6 hrs. each way; 200 kms, 1-way unless overnight; 1000 kms; max. possible for comfortable cruise (incl. stops and 2 overnights); prefer to stay local; 300-400 kms (2)

included non-Miata social activity? (e.g. boat cruise, wine tour) Yes: 15 No: 2

#10 If your membership expired today, would vou renew?

Yes: 21 Most likely: 1 No: 3 (1 may reconsider)

If not, please explain why not:

- object to CB requirement for all cruises
- too little time due to other commitments/travel
- finding that my time is too split with other club activities



Miscellaneous Comments from Membership Survey:

- no problems/concerns, Council does fantastic job; busy in 2014, so could only attend 5 events – hope 2015 is better, may be able to organize a cruise; we know in April when we'll be available, and vote accordingly at Spring Meeting

- suggest RSVP responses (to event notices) only be required if "yes", to make it easier for organizers; enjoy association with MoM, look forward to 2015; thanks for your work on our behalf
 don't get discouraged, was lousy summer; group is excellent & well-organized; MoM is vibrant organization, good that you see problems and are trying to address them; suggest some press coverage of one of our events (Toronto paper?, Cottage Life?); suggest contact other sports car clubs for other ideas; suggest annual charity run (with prizes); how can MoM tap into Miata-owning tourists visiting Muskoka resorts? (to have them come on a cruise as
- don't want to deal with CB clatter on tours, thus mandatory use of CBs precluded us from participating in 2014; but based on rationale now provided to me for CB use, will reconsider over the winter
- joined in 2014, and hoped to get to more cruises this season, but had health issues in 2014 so only attended half # of events would have liked; also, our home location makes it just as far to go to Bracebridge as to Trillium events in west GTA trip to Bracebridge requires Hwy. 11, which is not a nice drive; never received 2014 Events Schedule; would be nice to get newsletter more regularly about what is happening and to promote upcoming events; what happened to previous monthly newsletter?; lack of interest in tours may be due to lack of communication from club to members; Facebook page is dead, last post was May 2014 suggest it be used to stir up interest re tours and publish event photos;
- another Facebook suggestion make any member who has "liked" *MoM* page an administrator, so they can then post directly to timeline & have their posts visible to all; *MoM* web-site also appears to be dead last item on Events calendar was April meeting notice; if *MoM* finances permit, consider hiring outside person to maintain web-site (supervised by 1 *MoM* Councillor) to keep it current
- neither too many nor too few cruises; good variety should have appealed to cross-section of club; Ladies' Cruise too predictable/repetitious, perhaps hold every 2 years; want firm policy re no repeat non-Miata owners as guests
- joined in early 2014 and enjoy club, but only for day-trips because prefer using own recreational vehicle for overnight trips; would have attended more events if 2014 summer calendar not so full; were away at end of season thus missed a few events; overall, was good experience
- thoroughly enjoy group and camaraderie; recognize that it is tough to fit all desired cruises/ activities into busy summer
- enjoy social aspect; can choose as many or as few activities as we like or can fit into our schedule
- have received feedback that club has too many rules now
- too many family obligations and visitors make it difficult to go on *MoM* club trips; personal Miata trips to U.S. satisfy our urge to tour
- enjoy participating when we can, mostly during week (for Wednesday ice cream runs) when we aren't working; like the idea of weekend cruises or rides, but we are generally too busy and thus unable to attend
- joined mid-2014, just attended 1 event and enjoyed it; busy with many other things so will not attend a lot but like option of different cruises
- hope to be able to devote more time to my most pleasurable summertime experience...top-down Miata cruisin'



Moss Motorfest 2015 - June 6, 2015

What is Motorfest?

The Moss Motorfest is a car show, open house and one heck of a party! From 8:00am till 3:00pm there will be cars, friends, tours of the Moss operations, music, food vendors, prizes ... and more fun than you can shake a stick shift at. There are activities for all ages, so bring family, bring friends, bring your love for petrol-fueled good times.

Even before we opened our doors to our new Virginia Warehouse we knew one day the huge lawn out front would be packed full of cars and the people who love them. We've planted shade trees in anticipation. We can't wait to show you around!

To participate in Motorfest, you must register online prior to May 31, 2015. General parking will be available for unregistered guests.

Win a \$250 Moss Shopping Spree!

Register online for Motorfest before May 1, 2015 and your name will be placed in a drawing for a \$250 Moss Shopping Spree the day of Motorfest! Please register early as this helps us prepare and provide a great time for you!

*Friday Evening Cocktail

The evening prior to Motorfest, Moss is hosting an hor d'hoeurves and cocktail party at the amazing Keystone Tractor Works Museum. The \$20 cost includes the entry fee and food. Beer, wine, sodas and other beverages will be available for purchase. The Keystone Tractor Works Museum features more than 200 restored antique farm tractors and vintage road trucks. This will be a terrific jumpstart to Motorfest on Saturday!

http://www.mossmotors.com/sitegraphics/Motorfest/info.html? utm_source=bm23&utm_medium=email&utm_term=Image+-+Motorfest+2015+-+Register&utm_content=Last+Days+to+Save+on+NB+1999-2005+Parts+at+Moss% 21&utm_campaign=Miata354_NewYearNB_LastDays



THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO RAISING YOUR MIATA

Timothy M Metzinger

METZINGER AIR SERVICE, LLC

This step-by-step guide will show you how to get your Miata up in the air on jackstands so that you can work on it safely. With pictures and nonnense advice, it shows:

The right and wrong places for jacks and jack stands.

How to raise the car from the front and the rear.

The damage that can result from improper technique.

This guide applies to all Miatas—NA, NB, and NC models. NA model shown.

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Your Guide To Every Special Edition Mazda Miata Ever Sold In America



The Miata has been in America for 25 years, and nearly every single one of them had at least one special edition. At the beginning, most of the special edition-ness was relegated to colors and interior materials. But as time has passed they've become more elaborate in how they differentiate themselves from the base Miata. Here is every single special edition Miata that was sold in the United States.

While it's known as the bare bones sports car, the <u>Mazda Miata</u> has come in a staggering array of special editions that ranged from hardcore to posh.. Follow the link to reveal.

http://jalopnik.com/your-guide-to-every-special-edition-mazda-miata-ever-so-1675339097





www.miatasofmuskoka.com/ https://www.facebook.com/pages/Miatas-of-Muskoka/177889645646804

We are a small group of Miata enthusiasts that like to explore the twisty back roads and scenic lakes in Canada's premier vacation playground Muskoka!

NOTICE OF EDITORIAL CHANGE:

It has been my pleasure to be your editor for the quarterly newsletters for the past year but it has been a bit difficult for me to provide you with all the information you have come to expect in these newsletters. In expressing my concern with council, I asked if another member that attends cruises regularly might be better suited for this responsibility.

Thus I would like to be the first to welcome Doug Jackson as your new editor. Doug has agreed to pick it up "going forward".

His email address is dwjackson88@hotmail.com

Note to future Cruise Directors: Please remember to take lots of pictures and notes about your cruises and forward them to Doug as soon as possible. It is very important for the editor to receive this type of information to include in future newsletters.

Note to members: Please remember to forward any articles or material that you find interesting concerning Miatas, our members or related material so Doug can share through the newsletters.

2015 cruising season is about to begin, starting with the Annual Spring Meeting. Please bring your ideas and suggestions with you to make this the best year yet of Miatas of Muskoka.

Passing the torch...happy cruising everyone. Heather



Next on the Calendar

Spring is officially here (at least on the calendar...we can only hope it eventually warms up), so your *Miataville* Council has arranged for our

Annual Spring Meeting

which will be taking place at *Bracebridge Memorial Arena* on **Sunday April 19th, at 1:30 PM.**

<u>PLEASE</u> provide me with your RSVP by email, to indicate whether or not you will be attending, no later than Thursday April 16, 2015

TO: Bob Macaulay cmacaulay_8@sympatico.ca