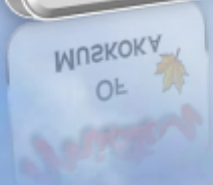


NEWSLETTER OF



Show Me Your Curves

VOLUME 2, NO. 9

Movin' in Muskoka

Plus...

Miatas at the Gap

Burk's Fall Cruise

To CB or not to CB

And more....



*SPOTLIGHT ON
2009*

20TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION





Is it just me or do you find cutaway photos neat too? Sorry, that's **not** Ed & Heather Ewing's PRHT in the top photo.



On the Cover

A hot Miata MazdaSpeed next to a Hawaiian Island surf.

Does it get any better than this?

Just the car for some ...
Movin' in Muskoka

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We want to here from you about this newsletter. Please use the Feedback Link to submit any comments, concerns or questions.

Thank you



[Feedback Link](#)

**You
Gotta
Read This!**

**NEW ND MIATA
SPOTTED IN JAPAN**



See Page 10



In the Rear View Mirror

Wednesday Night Ice Cream Cruises

August 3

A group of just four cars made the trip to Huntsville this week. On a sunny but cool evening we trekked off to Kawartha Dairy in Huntsville. The long line up at the dairy gave us a chance to chat about all things Miata. Although the evening was cool it was quite clear for the topless ride home.



At the post...



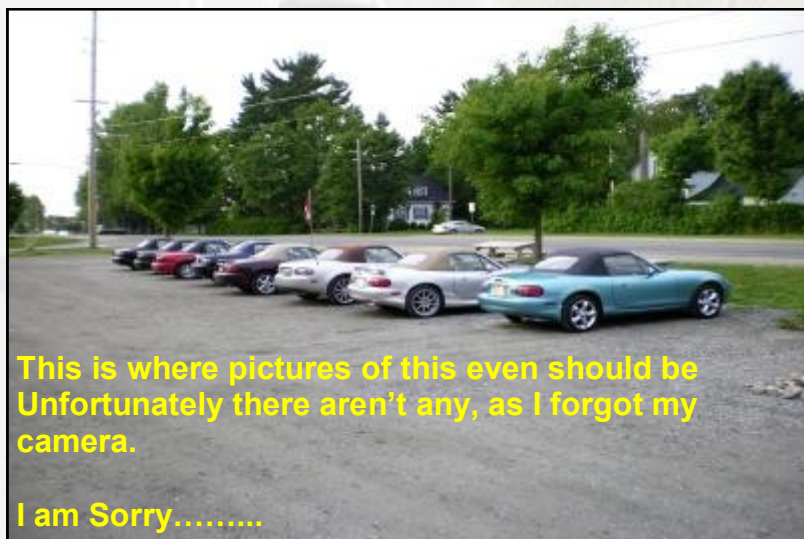
They're off !!



Nice View eh?

Aug 10

This week's destination of choice chosen by the six cars attending was Port Carling. It threatened to rain but did not until our arrival in Port Carling and then it sprinkled only enough to ensure everyone put their tops up while in the shop. It stopped as quickly as it started and tops were dropping everywhere prior to our return home.



This is where pictures of this even should be
Unfortunately there aren't any, as I forgot my
camera.

I am Sorry.....



In the Rear View Mirror

Wednesday Night Ice Cream Cruises

Aug 17

This week's destination we returned to our very first ice cream run, Tastebuds in Gravenhurst but of course too a different route yet again. The weather called for rain and it began to sprinkle just before departure so we all put up the tops and bravely ventured on. It was a gentle rain for the most part and had cleared up by the time we reached our destination. On the return home everyone again had the chance to go topless.



Tops down, ready to go



Ahhh...ice cream



A little rain enroute

Aug 24

Paul Bennett suggested we use one of our ice cream runs for a general meeting basically just to have discussions around cruises and solicit ideas for future activities. The group gathered at YIG's as usual and we made the trek to Paul's Photography studio in Utterson as our mini cruise and discussed a number of issues. A recap of the meeting is outlined on the following page.



The pre-meeting meeting



Paul Bennett's Photo Studio





In the Rear View Mirror

Meeting Recap - August 24

Issues discussed on this evening:

- Membership List Publication
 - Should we make this list available to all members?
 - An email poll will be conducted and we'll move with the majority.
- Huntsville Car Show Participants
 - We'd like to have a mini "club display" at the Huntsville Car show on Sept. 10th
 - Members wishing to participate & represent club are requested to contact Michael A.S.A.P. re: registration procedures.
- Name Tags
 - It was requested that name tags be made available to all members to assist in new members assimilating more readily. The club would like to pay for these rather than ask individuals and costing issues were discussed. Paul & Chris Bennett will be working on a more cost efficient solution.
- CB Radios
 - Discussed under the Helpful Hints section in this newsletter.
 - It was determined more investigation is required.
- Club Merchandise
 - Members were asked what type of additional merchandise they would consider purchasing e.g. key chains, license plate frames. There was no interest in any other type of merchandise at this time.
- Trip ideas for future cruises
 - ◊ Midland
 - ◊ Barry's Bay
 - ◊ Wasaga Beach/Collingwood
 - ◊ Overnight cruise must have firm dates well in advance.
- Annual General Meeting
 - It was suggested an Annual General Meeting be held every year for communications purposes. It was agreed that a November AGM with a dinner would be ideal. The group could review the past year and offer suggestions for the next year. We will set this up in early November.



In the Rear View Mirror

Wednesday Night Ice Cream Cruises

Aug 31

This week's destination we returned to Huntsville but by a very different route thanks to Suzanne & Don Dawe who led us past the Lake of Bays enroute to a Tim Horton's stop. Although it threatened to rain from the beginning there only a few sprinkles during the run there and home and we were all able to arrive topless. There were eight cars as Lynne Bryan showed off her new acquisition a lovely blue '99 model. For those of you keeping score that's two Miatas in the last two months for the Bryans!



Tops down, fingers crossed.



Arriving at Tim Horton's just before dark.



**Only 250 2000 Special Editions
in Canada
and we've got two of them**

Did you Know



The movie *Bullet* is considered to contain one of the best car chase scenes of all time and the Mustang driven in the movie by Steve McQueen gets airborne at one point, definitely cool.

However, Miatas are definitely cool too and when they get airborne in a car chase it's, as the kids say today awesome. This trailer on YouTube for a movie called *Death Parade* contains such a scene as evidenced here.





In the Rear View Mirror

Burk's Falls Run - August 14

Our Burk's Falls cruise turned into a quite enjoyable afternoon despite cloudy skies and the forecast for rain right in the heart of our cruise timeline. Nigel Ford lead us through a twisty route that snaked near Parry Sound prior to heading east again to Magnetawan, where we stopped for brunch at the Swiss Country Restaurant on Old Mill Bay of Ahmic Lake.



Pre Cruise Assembly



A ribbon of Miatas...

We had a cruise high of ten cars for this run through the back roads of north western Muskoka and I'm not going out on a limb when I say it was enjoyed by all. The route taken there and back (lead by Russ Sieber) were terrific, the weather held up for topless driving, the restaurant was comfortable as we had our own little dining room and the food was excellent. Really what more could you ask for on a cruise?

Our unofficial Videographer, Dick Symth, had his camera rolling and of course put together a nice little video to enjoy. You can view his work at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xl_5vWGmFvY



Arrival at the restaurant



Enjoying our Brunch



In the Rear View Mirror

Burk's Falls Run - Pictorial





Lookin' Down the Road

Here's a look at a few of the events we are looking at *Down the Road*.

Ice Cream Runs for September

The days are getting shorter so for the final few Ice Cream runs in September we will be **starting earlier at 6:30 p.m.** and will try to keep the runs a little shorter. The weather will likely dictate if it becomes an Ice Run or a Coffee Run, either way it allows us to get together.

Huntsville Car Show - Sept 10

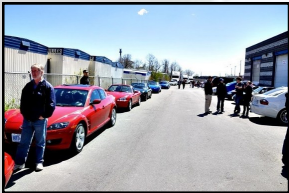
Every year the Huntsville Business Improvement Association holds it's *Shades of Autumn Antique, Classic and Custom Car Show*. It is an all day event that closes down the main street and fills it with antique and classic cars. This year we would like to have a few members participate and help promote MoM in the Huntsville area.

Tech Seminar - Sept 11

Scott Lockhart a former Mazda mechanic who has worked on several members' cars, will outline everything you should know before putting your baby away for the winter at this seminar. We will gather at the usual parking lot at YIG's (Your Independent Grocer) in the early afternoon and cruise north to Raymond Hall (on Hwy 141) for the meeting.

Haliburton » » » Midland - Sept 18

Initially we planned a lovely journey through Algonquin Park to Maynooth, Peterson Road to Harcourt, Wilberforce and then home. On reflection however we realized this is a long cruise (about six hours driving) at this stage of the season and we couldn't guarantee the weather so decided to reschedule for a warmer month next year. In its place we have decided to cruise to Midland via Bala. An Activity announcement will be emailed when the details have been confirmed.



Dave's Garage Open House - Sunday September 18

If you are unable to attend our Algonquin cruise and happen to be in the GTA the same weekend perhaps you should check out Dave's Garage. One of the premier Miata Garages in the country hosts an Open House four times a season, definitely worth the trip to Oakville.

Fall Colours Cruise - Oct 2

As this is our final run of the season we will try to relive the great cruise we had last year at this time to enjoy the fall colours with a surprise thrown in. Details will be communicated to all within the next couple of weeks.

Membership Update

We would like to welcome the following new members:

Lynne & Ted Bryan

Bracebridge

Green
Blue

1991 } that's right
1999 } two Miatas

Cal & Gail Lander

Orillia

Red

1990



Treasurer's Report

The Miatas of Muskoka has a full disclosure policy and this Treasurer's Report covers the period from May 1, 2011 to August 21, 2011.

Cash on Hand May31, 2011 \$ 000.00

Receipts:

Membership dues (5 X \$35) \$ 000.00

Merchandise Sales \$ 000.00

Golf Shirts & Ball Caps

Total Receipts: \$ 000.00

Disbursements:

Merchandise Procurement \$ 000.00

Miscellaneous Expenses \$ 00.00

Inc: mileage, printer ink, etc.

Total Disbursements: \$ 000.00

Cash on Hand Aug 21, 2011 \$ 000.00

New Miata Spotted in Japan

Here is a picture of the new Miata MX5 after being pulled over by a police car recently in Japan while doing road test evaluations

It has a lot of neat features:

- Much less weight as promised
- flared fenders
- dual exhaust
- Satellite navigation system

Okay, it's a kid's ride at the local zoo but it's kinda neat..



Helpful Hints - Enroute Communications

Communications that actually work between all Miatas on club drives of course helps to keep the group together and adds to their safety. However, just as important as that, and perhaps more so, is it adds to the drive's fun and also to valuable club member camaraderie. That can be especially so for new club members. An ineffective communications system that's expected to do that but doesn't can easily detract from it. Joining conversations, or effectively being able to actually hear them, while driving along provides an involved group experience rather than an isolated tag-along one as you just follow the car in front of you.

According to numerous sources I've spoken to for quite a variety of reasons, CB radios can do it best, and other types not adequately well. We were interested in trying the FRS radios and felt with their claims of a two-mile range they would prove to be a cost effective means of meeting our objective. Apparently this two-mile range is an ideal theoretical one that's nowhere near achieved in the practical world according to many who have voiced their opinion on Miata.net. The perceived advantage of having a built in antenna restricts their actual Miata to Miata intelligible communications range on line-of-site clear flat terrain is an inadequate one, around a quarter mile and can be less. That's because they too lack adequate antenna ground plane and the car's metal body shields its radiation. FRS radio's range is better when on foot and they can often serve quite well to coordinate Miata groups while out of their car, including while inside nearby small buildings doing things.

The similar but higher cost GRMS radios are more powerful and can communicate further. However, their casual use would be restricted for casual Miata drives by the need to have the required federal FCC license before operating them. Additionally, just like the claimed range for the FRS radios, the claimed GRMS five-mile range is nowhere near achievable from Miata to Miata.

Just as with FRS and GMRS radios, the potential for the much greater CB radio range is also severely limited when attempting to use them with a handheld unit's built-in antenna from inside of a car. Unlike FRS and the similar GMRS radios, a complete antenna system can be connected to CB radios because nearly all of them have provisions for an external antenna that can be placed on the car's exterior metal body (or alternately a properly working CB/AM/FM antenna splitter can use the car's OEM antenna) to provide a complete and full antenna system.

Additionally, most all CB radios, even the low cost ones, have much more powerful audio power that can drive their internal, or external, speaker to volume levels that can be heard by two in the car. CB radios don't need to be expensive at all to be quite effective. Most all of the lower cost CB's have the same 4-watt output power as more expensive ones, and can actually serve better than expensive ones because they typically don't have so many knobs and settings that could be set wrong to prevent communicating as desired.

So what should be do as a club? Ideally, every member could purchase their own CB radio and antenna for club events. This option however, will be met with many objections as members don't which the indulge in the extra expense of purchasing and installing a CB radio, which could range from \$65 - \$300+.

Alternatively we could test the handheld radios some members have with lead, middle & sweep cars in an upcoming cruise to see if they meet our needs. Needless to say this has been done by other clubs but we must prove it to ourselves. So in summary you could say we are still looking into it.

Miatas around the World

A look at what's happening in the world of Miata

Miatas at the Gap

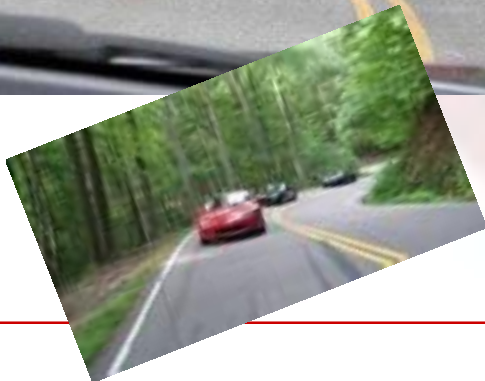
A road runs right through Deals Gap, North Carolina and it's not just any road, it's U.S. 129. It has made Deals Gap (population 6) world famous. Why, you ask? The road that runs through Deals Gap has 318 turns in just 11 miles and part of the road runs through heavily forested hills along the southwestern border of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This exceedingly twisty piece of asphalt is also affectionately known as 'The Tail of the Dragon' or, just "The Dragon." Those who have driven it all the way are considered to have "slain the dragon".



Every year there is a Miata event on this route called 'Miatas at the Gap.' What is it? It's like Woodstock for Miatas! It's a big deal. It's a really big deal. There probably isn't a bigger deal, for Miata people, than Miatas at the Gap. It happens every year in late July, this year for the fifteenth time!

The crowds are getting larger every year, and this year it is estimated over 500 Miatas made the pilgrimage. There is much to do and see as there are organized runs every day, a parade on the Saturday, group photos, BBQs and of course all of the Vendors attend as well. Like we mentioned earlier it's like Woodstock for Miatas.

Just 317 more turns to go !!



Group Photo at MATG XV



Spotlight On

2009 20th Anniversary Edition

The year 2009 marked the 20th anniversary of the Miata introduction and to celebrate, Mazda prepared a Special Edition Roadster (as it's called in Japan) for its home market. Like many other recent special-edition models, the 20th Anniversary MX-5 was little more than an appearance package, and a mild one at that. In addition to the requisite 20th Anniversary badging, Mazda added clear fog lamps with bright bezels, 17-inch aluminium wheels, and unique Recaro seats, finished in red leather with black Alcantara inserts.



The following year in February at the Geneva auto show, Mazda marked the Miata's second 20th anniversary - it made its European debut in 1990 - by introducing a 20th Anniversary Limited Edition MX-5 Miata. Only 2,000 anniversary cars were produced and were only available in Europe. This car was based on the 1.8-litre version of the standard MX-5, rather than the higher-powered 2.0-litre, and came with the cloth roof rather than the folding hardtop. This Euro-only version featured stainless-steel door sills with each car's individual number, plus an exterior chrome package that included a new grille surround, door handles, and headlight bezels. Other touches included silver fog-light frames, unique 17-inch wheels, and special 20th-anniversary badges. Colour choices were limited to True Red, Crystal White Pearl, and a new colour, Aurora Blue.

Surprisingly this Anniversary Edition was not made available for sale in North America



20th Anniversary Edition Japanese Version



**The European Version
as it appeared at the introduction
in Geneva**



2009 20th Anniversary Edition



17-inch ten spoke alloy wheels



Production Number
On Sill Plates

