

Show me Your Curves

*The Official
Newsletter of*



*Volume 12 No. 4
Oct. 2021*



Editor's Message

By Doug Jackson



Thanksgiving is fast-approaching. There is a lot to be thankful for as we look back at the past few months. In the early spring, many of us were anxiously awaiting news of the vaccination roll-out and eagerly awaiting our appointments for our first shots. As we enter the month of October, most, if not all, of our club members are fully immunized and are beginning to feel more at ease. We are thankful that our club remained active throughout the entire 'cruising season', with events scheduled on an almost weekly basis. We are thankful for the leadership of the club executive and the many volunteers who acted as cruise directors, event organizers and leads and sweeps. We are grateful for the large number of members who supported the club through attendance at events.

I am personally thankful to the large number of readers who send me positive

responses via email and in-person comments about the newsletter and the photos. It's nice to know that my efforts are appreciated. I am particularly grateful to Cal Lander for his willingness to share his expertise in his professional printing programme. My ordinary Word documents come to life when presented with colourful headers, footers, side bars and other artful additions. Thanks, again, Cal! I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the last two cruise events; the final ICR and the Fall Colours trip. Hopefully, you have all marked your calendars for the wrap-up dinner taking place in November. Happy Thanksgiving, everyone!

Doug





Sponsors:

We are very thankful as a group to be able to have such good friends that are willing to give our organization a helping hand. We strongly urge the membership to give your business to these good folks. They have been a great ongoing support to us throughout the years.



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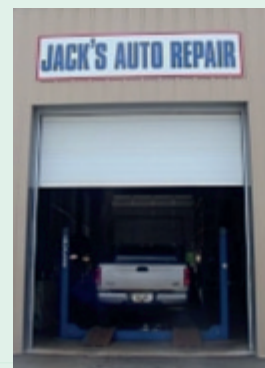
<https://www.moffattsmazda.com/>

And don't forget . . . Jack's Auto

Aaron Oliveira, General Manager of Jack's Auto in Huntsville welcomes any Miatas of Muskoka member to his shop offering a 15% discount off all labour as well as offering a "bring your own parts" service. That's right you can source your own Miata parts from specialty vendors and if desired have them installed at Jack's. Jack's Auto Repair was rated one of the three best repair shops in Huntsville.

Please show your support to our most northern Sponsor.

**Jack's Auto Repair
17 Bickley Country Dr,
Huntsville, ON P1H 1Y4**





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Show Me Your Curves

*is a quarterly
publication by a Miata enthusiasts
group known as the Miatas of Muskoka... We
are a small group that like to explore the twisty
back roads and scenic lakes in Canada's premier
vacation playground Muskoka.*

Visit our Website at

URL:<http://www.miatasofmuskoka.com/>

Or Check us out on Facebook:
[miatasofmuskoka](#)

Our cover

This is a recreation of an incident that I witnessed first hand on one of our ICRs in the town of Gravenhurst. Luckily nobody was hurt and the only casualty was a broken side mirror. A few nerves were also tested. Such are the dangers of cruising in Muskoka. Maybe we had better stick to the back roads. They may be safer.



E V E N T S

Mark Your October Calendars!

Our 12th Annual Fall Colours Tour

All Covid protocols must be adhered to.

Masks required to enter the facility.

Tuesday October 5, 2021

Rain or Shine

Michael Topping - Tour Director

Who is invited: All members and their guests.

Starting Location and other details:

The starting point/time is LCBO Washago @ 9:30 a.m.

Washrooms available here.

All Covid protocols must be adhered to.

We will need assistance with additional leads and sweeps.

An itinerary and route will be provided to all participants.

Please let us know your willingness to help when you respond via email.

Please respond to: mastopping@bell.net by October 1st.

A few reminders:

- To ensure everyone's safety, CB radios are required for participation in all MoM cruise events; please remember to bring and use your CB. [NOTE: if you don't already own a CB, we have 2 portable CB units available for use on this cruise on a one-time only loan basis, pending purchase of your own unit.]
- This cruise will take place rain or shine!
- All MoM participants should bring and wear their MoM name tags.





E V E N T S

Year-End Dinner Party Reminder

from organizer, Lynda Gigg

November 2nd Year End Gathering

This year MoM has booked the Urban Dish, Barrie, for our year end gathering. The Urban Dish has a good reputation for quality food and service. A special menu for you to select from will be sent out soon. All COVID-19 protocols will be followed. Please make sure you bring your proof of vaccination or note of exemption with you. Looking forward to seeing you one last time this year on:
Tuesday, November 2nd, 2021

Urban Dish
367 YONGE St., Barrie

IMPORTANT UPDATE ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th

The Urban Dish had an unfortunate incident earlier this week. There was an electrical fire onsite and, as of today's date, the owners are uncertain about the date they will be able to reopen. I will remain in contact with them regarding our reservation, but I will also be researching other venues in the event we have to go to another restaurant. The date as posted above will remain regardless of where we go, so you can mark it on your calendars! I will be in touch with all of you to confirm details as we get closer to the date.

Lynda Gigg



Regular Ice Cream Runs

by Doug Jackson

What is the motivation and objective of participating in an ice cream run, with a Miata, in the middle of summer? The answer is obvious ... to enjoy the thrill of top-down driving, to travel on unfamiliar roads, to socialize with fellow car enthusiasts and to reward yourself with an ice cream cone. Much lower on the list of reasons for participation is the urge to take photos, particularly of folks devouring huge cones. This summary article recalls the places we've been, but does not have many photos, either because people were preoccupied with the driving experience or they simply ignored their cameras and cell phones. We had two ICR's each month; one starting in Bracebridge and the other beginning in Orillia. The August ICR from Orillia was deemed a



"Special ICR" because it featured a late-afternoon corn roast and a write-up of that event is elsewhere in the newsletter. All of the others required members to congregate at 6:30 or so, discuss destination options, then play 'follow-the-leader' through interesting roads until we reached a place where, magically, Kawartha Dairies ice cream was sold. All of us in the club

appreciate the willingness of the 'spontaneous leaders' to take us on scenic roads as we journeyed to numerous retail outlets for KDIC.

Trips Included:

July 6, from Bracebridge to Gravenhurst

July 21, from Orillia to Washago

August 8, from Orillia to Jackson's Corn Roast

August 17, from Bracebridge to Gravenhurst

September 1, from Orillia to Coldwater

September 16, from Bracebridge to Gravenhurst

The photos that follow are NOT IN ANY

PARTICULAR ORDER! They are an

accumulation of some that I took and some that were sent to me via email.

BOTTOM LINE: Members of MoM enjoy ice cream.



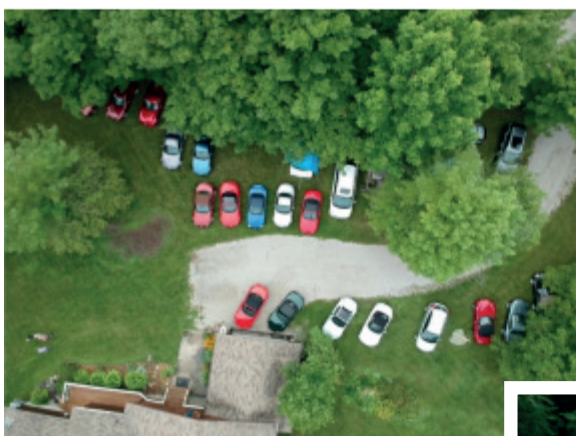
Enjoyed

Special ICR – Corn Roast at Jackson's

by Sheila and Doug Jackson



All of our Miata Club cruises to this point during the past two years have been held outdoors on weekdays in order to avoid indoor settings and the associated COVID-19 risks. We tried something different by holding a special ice cream run on a Sunday, but still staying outside and physically distanced from one another. We were amazed that so many members wanted to join us for a



corn roast (or more accurately, a corn boil) on Sunday August 8th. Seventeen Miatas (plus one cleverly disguised as an SUV) parked in our driveway and on the



lawns, while their owners gathered their lawn chairs and set them up in conversation groups. The threatening rain clouds left us, and we enjoyed pleasant weather and pleasant conversations during the afternoon. Our grandson brought his drone and flew it

overhead, capturing some of the photos shown here. Volunteers

kept the fire going and helped to shuck six dozen cobs of corn! At 5:30, while the temperature was still warm, the corn and salads and buns were served.

Afterwards, folks enjoyed Kawartha Dairies ice cream and Doug's birthday cake. More socializing took place around the fire, but only a few people roasted marshmallows, explaining that they were too full from eating their dinner! As dusk developed, people began to make their way home, remarking that it was nice to have a simple social event to chat with their car-club friends. The Jackson's were pleased to pick up the tradition that Maureen Newton began a dozen years ago! Should we do it again next year?





Mini Golf Picnic Cruise

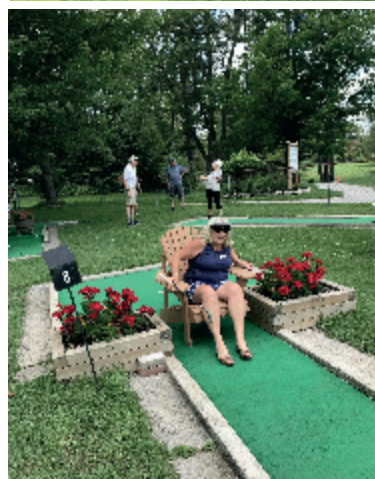
Wednesday, July 14th, 2021

Cruise directors:
Cal and Gail Lander

This was another of those COVID related cruises that had to be changed at the last minute due to constantly changing regulations. I had planned to stay for lunch in



Enjoyed



Washago at their park at the north end of Lake Couchiching which is where the Trent Severn Waterway leaves the lake on its way to Georgian Bay. but that fell apart when I found that they would be charging \$50 for parking and that was unacceptable. As a result, we decided to have a picnic lunch starting in Couchiching Beach Park in the beautiful City of Orillia where we were able to form a circle on the grass beneath the shade trees and enjoy a good time together. It was great because we had washrooms available, and the parking was free.



Seven cars showed up at the park and after our lunch we had a leisurely journey just along the lakefront and then a short hop north on the highway to the Evergreen Mini Golf

where we have enjoyed playing golf previously. We had one member and a guest join us there as their car was not available to drive. Once there we had a great round of mini golf and I believe the champion for the day was Bob Macauley. Following our tournament, a short backroads cruise took us through the village of Hamlet, across the Trent Severn Waterway along Canning Road and we ended up in the village of Washago where we parked our trusty little vehicles and enjoyed our after-event ice cream at "Scoopz" on the Main St. Following that and our social time we all made our own way home to all points of the compass..



Michael Topping sent in this photo with the caption:

"I think I found my perfect road."





Algonquin Park, Bancroft and Minden Day Cruise

Wednesday, July 28, 2021
by Larry and Barb Dickson,
with photos from Doug Jackson

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When you look at the title of this article, then look at the Ontario road map and then remember where our members live, you will realize that we packed a large number of kilometers into this single-day trip. There were enough sights to see and places to visit that we could easily have made this into a two- or three-day trip. BUT ... you don't need to be reminded that we are operating under COVID-19 governmental and common-sense rules. It seems odd that we had to plan a trip based on the availability of toilets, but such is our new reality! We drove the route before sending out the final guidelines, so we knew that we had to maintain a brisk pace in order to make our scheduled "biology breaks" before some of our members had an 'accident' (and I don't mean a collision!). We gathered at the Ultramar near Port Sydney, took advantage of their washrooms and then began our one and a half hour 'spirited sprint' through Algonquin





Park. Our group of eight cars got behind a rather large truck for part of the journey, but, in hindsight, it was a good thing, for we were able to see the splendor of our largest provincial park. We were relieved, in more ways than one, when we reached the East Gate, with its washrooms. There

are lots of things to do in the park, but we knew that our restaurant in Bancroft was a popular destination, so we continued our journey on highway 127/62, reaching **The Granite** in Bancroft just before the place totally filled up. If we had been ten minutes later, we would not have had seating for our group of fifteen. We enjoyed a delicious meal together, the first time that our club has been on a restaurant patio since the pandemic began. While picnic lunches are great, it was nice to be served on a patio! Even though there was a dessert menu, we declined, knowing that the next stop was at the Kawartha Dairies main outlet at Minden. We travelled on highway 118 through Carnarvon



to Minden. The ice cream store has always been a popular destination and, on a warm sunny day in July, it was even more crowded than usual. Fortunately, we were able to find some picnic tables and enjoyed cones and conversation until it was time to say goodbye, since there were some folks who needed to travel in somewhat different directions to get back home. Even though it was a long day, we enjoyed planning and leading this cruise.

Larry and Barb Dickson





Lake Simcoe Shoreline Cruise

August 24, 2021

Cal and Gail Lander, Cruise Directors

On the morning of August 24, eleven of our intrepid little cars met at Tudhope Park in Orillia where we parked our rides and enjoyed a walk around the park. Our group followed the park's walking trail to view the statues that have been erected to commemorate native son Gordon Lightfoot's musical contributions to the Canadian music industry and the country. It's a fitting location because the Mariposa Folk Festival was held here (before COVID) annually and will be returning. The walk was well received.



We then proceeded east on highway 12 and turned onto Cty Rd. 46 which became Cty Rd. 6 leading us to a stop at the Kirkfield Lift Locks on the Trent Severn Canal. We were able to see the operation of the lock as it was in use.

Moving on we turned onto Hwy 48 and followed that to the village of Bolsover where we turned north again and crossed the swing bridge over the Canal and then followed Canal Road which runs parallel to the waterway and took us by the Talbot Dam which helps to regulate the water levels in the waterway.

This eventually led us to the community of Gamebridge and then onto Hwy 12





heading back towards Brechin where we did an “around the block manoeuvre” to allow us to approach our lunch stop with out having to turn left against traffic.



Our lunch stop was at Wild Wing in Brechin. It was a late lunch due to the fact that after investigating the location we discovered that they were much less busy in the afternoon and our 22 guests could be more readily accommodated. The food was well prepared, and no complaints were heard from our group. We were also able to sit inside and enjoy the luxury of air conditioning as it was an extremely hot day.

After lunch we headed east again on Hwy 12 and turned right at Durham regional road 23 continuing down to a right turn onto Shoreline Rd. which parallels the Lake Simcoe shoreline. That road becomes Ramara Road 47 and turning left onto Concession Road A we were led down to Shoreline Drive again on the Lake Simcoe shoreline turning right at that point . From here on was the original purpose of the whole run. It parallels the lake all along and we



were able to see the cottages and full homes that now cover the whole shoreline really but still have glimpses of the lake between them. There are still old cottages available there and well used I'm sure, but some have been either rebuilt or replaced by permanent homes some with very different architecture.

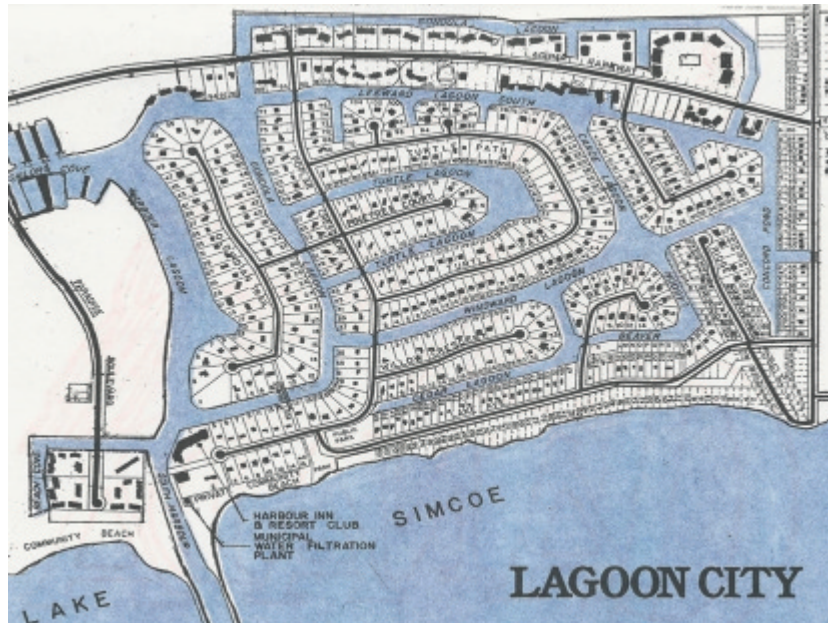
When we reached Simcoe Rd. we turned right and then left onto Lake Ave. which led us into the housing development area of lagoon City which is made up of exactly that, “ lagoons”, sort of like a small idea of Venice. Almost all homes in this area have waterfront access and can bring their boats right up to their homes. Winding our way through we came back to Simcoe Rd where we turned left leading us back to the trans Canada highway #12 turning left again and headed straight back to Orillia



Late afternoon traffic caused us to be separated due to the traffic and traffic lights. However, we were able to join up again and proceed to our ice cream stop via Front St. and Lacie St. We arrived there, at The Cone, for ice cream, parking in the lot of Couchiching Heights School which of course



was empty at the time gave us lots of room. As you can see in the picture we were able to sit on the school steps in the shade and enjoy our confections and conversation. From here, we all headed in our own directions on our way to our respective homes.





Grey County and Walters Falls Scenic Cruise

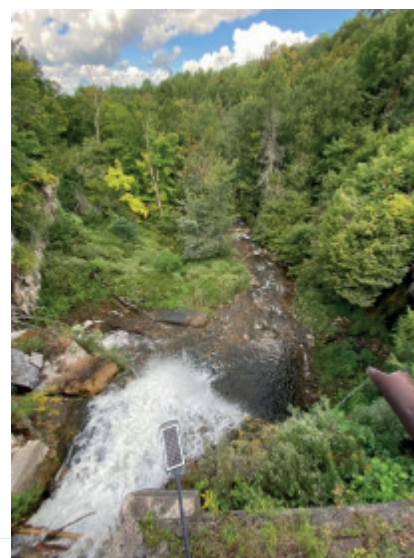
Wednesday, September 8, 2021

by Rick and Shaun Fox

Enjoyed



Thunderstorms and power outages in many areas on Tuesday evening and overnight, thankfully, did not prevent our cruise from taking place. We started our day at our meeting place in Horseshoe Valley Resort shortly after 9:00 am. and, after a brief drivers' meeting, our two groups of shiny Miatas departed the resort at approximately 9:30 on dry roads. We travelled through Midhurst, Snow Valley and Minesing and, after a brief stint on Hwy 26, zoomed the backroads through Cashtown Corners, Creemore and Glen Huron. Then, a short run along County Road 124 to Singhampton. From there, we travelled along Grey Roads 4 and 2 before taking more backroads to Eugenia, Beaver Valley and a brief stop at the Epping Lookout to stretch our legs and





enjoy the view of the countryside. A short drive from there took us into Walters Falls and The Falls Inn & Spa for a wonderful lunch overlooking the falls. A big “Thank You” to the staff at The Inn for their excellent service and food! No doubt, we will be back! Following our look at the falls and the obligatory Kodak moments, we once again headed out on the road. This time we headed south and east, taking a different route through Beaver Valley



and then the winding roads (Can you say “Zoom Zoom?”) through the Pretty River Valley Provincial Park. After bypassing Wasaga Beach, we drove to Station Park in Stayner for our next stop. A short walk across the very busy street to Stayner Beaver Rock for ice cream, which was then enjoyed back in the park under the large shade trees. At the park, we said our “goodbyes” and we all left from there to find our own way home. A big shout out to Terry and Lindsey Day for their help in setting up this cruise and leading our second group of cars on the tour. Also, thanks to our volunteer sweeps, Mike & Cathy Fedorowich and Bob & Carol Macaulay, who helped make this a very successful day!

Rick and Shaun Fox





McMichael Art Gallery Cruise

Thursday, September 23, 2021

by Lynda Gigg and Wendy Bazuk



Enjoyed



On a very dull, wet Thursday September 23rd, 9 cars departed Georgian Downs on the 5th Sideroad. Our 1-hour drive took us past green pastures and beautiful homes. Just a few kilometers south, the skies began to clear so that Michael Topping could be the first to put

his top down. The only surprise was the flooding of the road through the Holland Marsh. A quick detour onto Hwy 400, cutting off at Hwy 9 kept us on dry roads to Weston Road. Eventually a turn onto Teston Road took us right into



Kleinberg.

Upon our arrival at McMichael Art Gallery we were divided into two groups, with Julie and Sheena being our guides. Both guides had spent the Covid period doing virtual tours and were pleased to conduct a tour with our group. Julie and Sheena's knowledge regarding the gallery and the many artists was amazing. The Group of Seven is always intriguing and a source of pride for Canadians. The new installation upstairs was titled 'Uninvited'. The artists featured were Canadian females who painted with the Group of Seven or during that era, but never gained notoriety. Following a lunch break, MoM members were encouraged to roam the beautiful McMichael grounds. We gathered again and followed County Road 27, going 'Straight through the lights', eventually stopping in Thornton for our traditional ice cream. However, the Kawartha spot was closed so we went across the road





to enjoy their ice cream and a final chat. A thank you to our voluntold sweeps for keeping their group together. A note of appreciation to our McMichael Guides and Angela Poletta, manager. Our visit was extremely informative. Wendy and Lynda thank the participants for being so cheerful!





How Observant Are You?

Who Wears this Hoodie?

This may be a tough question for many of you ... but ... if you attended one of our recent Club Events, you may know what member is wearing this splendid attire!

Sooooo – which one of our club members wore this hoodie during a recent event? Send me your answer.

Several of you knew the answer to parts of a previous Miata Club Member identification quiz. Who is the owner/driver of the car that sports this license plate? What do these letters represent? What is the model/year of the MX5 that proudly carries this plate? Phil was the first to respond with an accurate answer to all three questions (understandable, for obvious reasons!) Here is his full answer:



The Miata belongs to Phil Holdsworth
I am Welsh, emigrating to Canada in 1967
CYMRU is Welsh for Wales
The 08 represents the model year
The Miata is a 2008 GT hardtop I love it
!!!!

My prize is just being a member of your
amazing club

Phil

KNOW WHAT IT ISN'T, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS!

Many of us saw this on the street
during our Fenelon Falls cruise.
I know it is NOT a Miata. What
is it?





Caption Needed

Good friends of ours who live in Bobcageon visited us during the summer and drove their very attractive yellow car to our place. Naturally, as Miata owners, we wanted to bookend our cars with theirs for a photo.

Here is the challenge:

1. What is the make and model of the yellow car?
2. Write an appropriate caption for the photo of the three cars.

Send me your responses before the year-end dinner party!



Caption: _____



N e w s

KYDSRGON Goes to Gaspé

Photos from Judy and Ed Gigg

I got these photos from Ed and Judy from their trip to Quebec. They drove their red 2006 Miata, with their very distinctive license plate advertising the obvious fact that there were no additional passengers travelling with them, on a road trip through Quebec. During their trip, they encountered another Miata, but this one was tricked out to enable a camping holiday!



The caption for the bottom photo was, "Our view from the hotel room at Perce, Quebec". Hopefully, Ed and Judy will be able to share some more photos and suggestions with the rest of us about their trip to the east coast at some time in the future.

Doug Jackson

Update on Sept. 27th, from Ed and Judy:

Judy and I headed through Algonquin Park and had a large male moose run out in front of us near Lake of Two Rivers.

We made a beeline for the east and stayed in St. Jerome QC surrounded by excellent restaurants.

Rimouski saw us to staying on the waterfront. We weren't sure initially about this motel but were surprised with its backside patio on the St Lawrence.

Two days in Perce including a special visit at John Wiseman's gallery (a world renowned artist from Barrie) proved to be fun and allowed us to view Perce's monolithic rock.

The route around the Gaspé was a spectacularly scenic route for our Miata. Every small village had great picnic facilities and clean washrooms.



We stayed 4 days in PEI in North Rustico in one of 15 cabins located on a working farm with a superb view of the ocean. It is noteworthy that there are no deer or moose on the island.

We are now in Baddeck, Cape Breton Island after a very smooth ferry crossing. Tomorrow we will drive the Cabot Trail and take in as many sights as possible. We will probably be on the road for another week, but the 'plan' is to have no plan. One day of rain out of 9 so far and another great view from our cabin overlooking Lake Bras D'or.



How fast was the ostrich running when it hit the tree?



Just For Fun!