

## MIATAS OF MUSKOKA NEWSLETTER - 4TH QUARTER 2014

### MAZDA MX-5 MIATA The Guinness Book Of Records For Best Selling Two-Seat Roadster on Earth



Volume 1, Issue 4

The Miata's initial generation offered over 400 1000 models from 1989 to 1997. The second generation of Mazda MX5's have been available since 1998. In this particular generation, the power of the engine is increased to become highly effective in comparison to the first generation.

The next Mazda MX5 featured in 2005 and produced as the 2006 model provides a 2 liter engine which provides a bit more energy in comparison to the second generation.

But for many of us, driving the Mazda MX-5 Miata roadster simply is like letting loose of heavy burdens.

The car, itself, weighs less than 2,600 pounds and is energetic and eager to dash down the roads in a lighthearted and sprightly manner. Heavy thoughts and responsibilities go out the windows as the Miata, with close to 50-50 front-to-rear weight balance, takes curves as if it's on rails. Put down the Miata's soft- or hard-top roof and the drive can be a tonic — full of sun, warmth and energy.

The smartly styled, 13-foot-long two-seater is so efficient in design still there's not a lot of room to carry extra baggage. When I purchased my 2009, I was told that my trunk would hold two sets of golf clubs. A statement I would challenge now having travelled in it.

No wonder the rear-wheel drive MX-5 Miata, now in its 25th year, is in the Guinness World Records as the best-selling two-seat roadster on Earth.

The Miata isn't just a record holder or therapy for driving enthusiasts. It is practical, too.

If you're in the market for an affordable sports car that provides plenty of top-down, open-road thrills, we all agree and highly recommended putting a new or used Mazda Miata on your list.

The Miata is available in three trims: Sport, Club and Grand Touring. The lightly equipped Sport is aimed at enthusiasts on a budget,

while the Club trim's added performance upgrades (strut tower brace, high-performance tires) and styling tweaks kick the Miata character up another notch. The Grand Touring is downright luxurious with its automatic climate control, leather upholstery and heated seats.

For more than two decades, the Mazda MX-5 Miata has been one of the purest forms of automotive fun, and the latest edition is no different. While you could probably stick with a lightly equipped version for duty as a weekend toy, the many luxury features and roomier cabin of the latest generation make the Miata a more plausible choice for daily driving duties.

## Contact Council of Miataville

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## Season Finale Dinner – November 22, 2014

Bob Macaulay

A total of 32 *MoMers* gathered at Patterson-Kaye Resort just outside Bracebridge, on Saturday November 22, 2014, for a very enjoyable “season finale” dinner. Patterson-Kaye is a great venue for this sort of group gathering, as it offers both a very pleasant dining room setting, as well as very good food.

Our group gathered at 5 PM

for pre-dinner cocktails, and were served dinner shortly after 6 PM. We enjoyed an excellent meal of salad, selection of entrees and a tasty dessert. Doug Jackson was kind enough to bring along a little slide show (on laptop) which featured a good selection of pictures from some of our events from this past season; those pics played throughout the evening on a rotating loop, available for anyone to view when they wished.



All-in-all, it was a nice social evening of good food, drink and conversation...a very fitting way to wrap up another great cruising season.





Michael Topping Cruise Director

This year's Fall Colours Cruise marked our fifth time for this weekend and is the only cruise completed every year throughout the life of Miatas of Muskoka. In the beginning we merely circled the three major lakes of the area as a small group. More recently we've invited other Miata groups to join us to enhance the experience. First it was the Trillium Group, then the Niagara-on-the-Lake group so this year we invited the Ottawa group to join us. The plan was to have a welcoming dinner, early breakfast, lovely fall cruise with perhaps a small finale dinner before saying good night.

Planning the route saw us leave from Huntsville and circle down to Gravenhurst by the most colourist (is that a word?) route possible arriving at the Taboo resort for a pub lunch. After lunch we'd head up and out eastward rounding our way back up to Huntsville. The restaurants were contacted, reservations for a large group were made and things seemed to be in place. The operative word here is "seemed".

There are many challenges to organizing a cruise and being flexible is the most important skill required in putting one together if you intend to overcome them. Firstly, after several e-mails with the Ottawa group it became apparent the date & times were not going to work out for all concerned so we have left it for next year. No big deal; our anticipated group would now be 30 people instead of the original 60. A quick call to the restaurants to adjust our numbers and we're still on track.



A couple of weeks before the cruise I'm eager to get a total on numbers so rush the announcement out to the group attaching the email containing the menu at Taboo without really digesting it. Oops!! There was a major gap in my communications with Taboo as they were under the impression we intended to have a banquet style luncheon versus a stop for lunch in the Fireside Lounge.

In my preoccupation about the parking and seating issues; the menu was not digested properly (pun intended). Needless to say I received a "little" push back from the group....WOW!! It's funny how the communication can be so quick and clear sometimes but not others (more on that later). So that flexibility I was talking about was used to address the group concerns and communicated to Taboo and all was resolved to everyone's satisfaction, we're ready, again.

On the Friday before our Sunday cruise there was a fire at the Taboo Resort which directly affected us as I was informed they would be unable to handle our luncheon, we'd have to make alternative arrangements. I immediately thought of Boston Pizza on the Wharf as the group had lunched there before but decided to survey the group for alternatives. Carol Macaulay came up with the excellent suggestion of the Muskoka Bay Golf Club.

The day before cruise now became very busy



as I tried to fix the rear window in my Miata with little success, visited the Muskoka Bay Golf Club to finalize details of lunch/parking and finally took a dry run of the only unknown portion of my planned run.

I had taken my wife's PT Cruiser in lieu of the Miata for this dry run which included lots of excellent twisties, the colours were out in full (although mostly on ground) and I'm saying to myself the group is going to enjoy this route. Oops again!! The road went from paved to good dirt; to rough; to logging road at the 12 km mark. A group of ATV riders passed me by with weird looks, I was in trouble.



The wife's PT cruiser is not a JEEP and they were the only types of Vehicles I came across. I was over 30 km in before I finally made my way back to civilization (well that's what it felt like after passing three logging camps!) Needless to say the route got changed, see, that flexibility thing again!!

◀ So Sunday morning, the day of the cruise, the weather calls for rain, slipping back to showers followed by a little rain. Things started out slowly as there were only four couples initially at the restaurant for breakfast as it was spitting although at one point it was really pouring down outside.

Eventually our group of twenty congregated and the weather cleared up enough for two groups of 5 to get started.

Cont...



[www.miatasofmuskoka.com/](http://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!**

The group was really pleased with the great route which still displayed lots of colour and after passing through the town of Rosseau it cleared up somewhat and Judy Gigg edged the first group to be first in putting their tops down. Putting off the side of the road for a minute to do just that the enthusiasm level of the group rose a little.

About 30 minutes later we had a well required pit stop just outside of Bala. Of course it began to rain again and everyone quickly put up their tops except Dave & Diane Phillips as BOTH were in the wash-room when it started to rain. Their car, being a PRHT, sat exposed as nobody could help put up their top without the key. We affectionately referred to them as "soggy cheeks" for the rest of the trip.

Arriving at the Muskoka Bay Golf Club we were met by Mike and his shuttle cart which he used to transport everyone in groups to the restaurant. Finally, out of rain, the group was joined by two other couples and we had an enjoyable lunch getting caught up with each other. After lunch the group dispensed in every direction and our cruising season officially came to a close.



## Next on the Calendar

**Sunday January 18, 1:30 p.m.**

**Miataville Council Meeting**

**at Laurel & Gord Bauldry's house in Bracebridge**

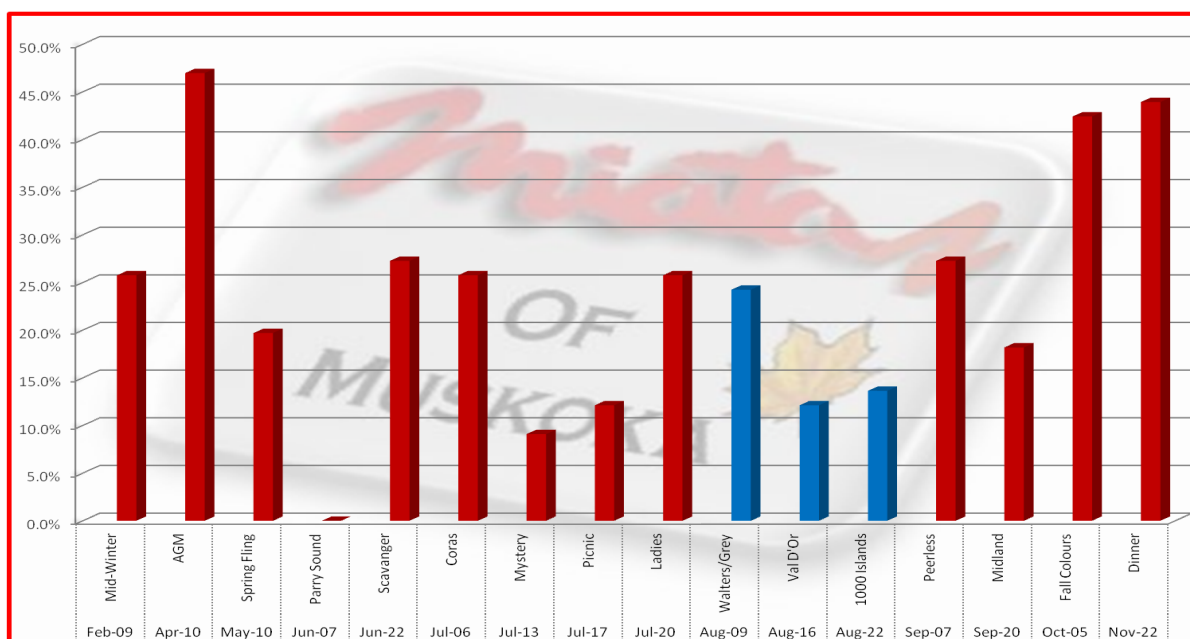


# Current Members Email List

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