



Midstate Miata Club of New York

“Miata Meanderings”

Official Newsletter for April 2013

Visit the Midstate Miata Club on the Internet at:
www.midstatemiata.net

President's Message



Yahoo! Spring is springing!!! As I write my first newsletter as President of your club, the temperature is 60 degrees here, the clocks have changed, the geese are flying overhead and I hear birds singing in the morning. What else can we ask except 20 more degrees, sunshine and our tops down? Many of you have already started dusting off your cars and are getting ready for our next season. Those who haven't soon will be and then we can all begin attending some of the great events that have been planned for the 2013 Midstate Miata Club season.

Beginning my term as President of the Midstate Miata Club is very exciting for me! Ron and I have been members for 9 years. During that time we've made some of our best friends, participated in *many* fun events, helped grow the Rochester area group (with lots of help) and enjoyed watching the evolution of the organization. I'm looking forward to working with many of you to make some changes that I think will continue to motivate members to get more engaged in the organization and help us continue to grow the best Miata club in New York. I'm also very interested in hearing ideas you might have, as well as anything that you think doesn't work well. Please feel free to contact me via email or phone at any time or share with your Area Rep if that's more comfortable. I'll be planning an Area Rep meeting in the next month so we can all discuss the ideas.

I'd also like to remind members to watch our website for event updates and new news. I hope we can make improvements that will make it 'the place to go' for information for current and new members. Again, please feel free to contact me at any time. This is your club and we need to hear from you. Have a Happy Easter!

Planning Meeting: In late February about 40 people (about 25 cars) gathered in Syracuse for our annual planning meeting where we covered a lot of ground in a short period of time. Below are some of the notes from the meeting. The resulting Calendar of Events is at the end of the monthly newsletter. Treasurers report- as of 12/31/2012 we had \$4730.01 in the treasury. In 2013 we expect a large expenditure for legal fees to incorporate and declare as a 501 c3 non-profit organization.

New policies: The Events Calendar in the newsletter will now include some "teaser" information to help members see a brief description/preview of the event so as to be able to plan and put events on the calendar earlier in the season. Hopefully this will increase participation and get more of us together more often. The 'teasers' will be in the newsletter but the full event description will continue to be published in the newsletter the month prior to the event. That should provide the where, when and how many \$\$ information as well as the Event Coordinators in case members have questions.

Email distribution will begin using the bcc: feature in order to help avoid passing along viruses and preserving privacy should any information be forwarded. The change you will notice is there are no other names on the incoming email except yours even though it will be sent to members via the Area Reps distribution lists.

More notes: We have begun looking into ‘shoring up’ our liability position and are investigating how to form a Limited Liability Corp (LLC) and 501c3 non-profit organization. Jay Cartini is heading up the process and will share more with us as this unfolds over the next 6 to 8 months.

Elections: The only change to our club officers was the Presidency. Lee Maddy is now our Past President and will continue to provide guidance and support during my term. Thanks to Lee for all his hard work and dedication to the club!!! The new Area Rep for Rochester will be Steve Stewart assisted by Chuck ‘Ice Cream Man’ Rischenole. Thanks for volunteering guys!

20th Anniversary in 2014: We will be celebrating our club’s 20th anniversary in 2014 and will be gathering past Presidents and Area Reps to form a committee to plan a special weekend celebration. Stay tuned....I hope to see many of you soon!!!

Karen McKissock

Past President's Message

I'd like to start by saying that it was an honor to serve you as your club President for the past two years, and thank all the members for your support, and your feedback. Also a special thanks to all the past presidents because, managing the club is a marathon, not a sprint to the finish, without them the club would not have developed into the great club that it currently is. I am especially appreciative to the other board members, without you, the club would not run as smoothly as it does.

Bob and Ronnie have always been there for support and guidance. Past president Tom Cavanaugh for his wisdom and direction, Deane Bergstrom and the Area Reps for getting the message out to everyone, and a special thank you to Jay Cartini, who would generously take care of all the work that I did not want to deal with, and who keeps everything and everyone working together, for the greater good of the club.

When the club first started, everyone took a turn being the President, and that is how many of the smaller clubs still work. Later on, commonly no one wanted to volunteer, so the president was required to serve multiple terms by necessity. Thus, I was glad to hear that this year; someone else voiced an interest in serving, and could bring some new ideas and a new perspective to the club.

So with that, I'd like to again say thank you to all of you. It was a pleasure to serve you, and that I hope I managed to lead by setting a good example. I thank Karen McKissock for stepping up to the plate, and accepting a new challenge. I will try to continue to assist the club and the presidency as needed, and I welcome her in her new role as President.

Sincerely, Lee Maddy

Miatatude, April, 2013

Jay Cartini

OK for those of you that have been in the club for a while you may remember I use to write an article (2003-2005) about various observations, sightings, beefs, comments, or mistakes (predominantly made by others) with my own certain style and wit. Well after multiple requests I have decided to resurrect the article and do my best to entertain and inform you along the way.

Well we have entered into our 19th year as one of the most active car clubs in NY. That can be credited to all that participated in the annual planning meeting this year. We have 18 events on the calendar, add the ice cream events for the 3 “regions” along with any “non official” events and our total event count quickly climbs upwards of 40. To put that in perspective, most clubs in the area only do 1 or 2 events a year. So yeah, 40 is a pretty big deal.

This all happens because of the tremendous effort of all the people who help run the club. I have been a member for 18 years, and have been one of those volunteers for the past 17. Over those 17 years of volunteering I have had the opportunity to work for what will by my 5th administration. Over the years as new people have volunteered (willfully or not) there have been changes. I can be pleased to say that most of them have been, and are for the better. As we move forward I can see new ideas already being discussed, and although change is sometimes met with skepticism and resistance, it is necessary, and in the long run, required.

So although this might not be the most entertaining article in the series it might be the most thoughtful. Don't worry, I'm sure at the first event, which I happen to be the event chair, there will be plenty of circumstances that I will feel obligated to comment on. So be careful, you never know where I might be, what I might see, or what I might hear. And that's how easy it is to become my, what's the word I'm looking for..... focus? Inspiration? Target? Of the next installment of **Miatatude**.

Welcome New Members

Deane Bergstrom



<u>Member</u>	<u>Where From</u>	<u>Miata</u>	<u>Area Rep</u>
John & Dolores Becker	Rochester	2002 LS Green	Steve Stewart
David & Teri Marshall	Chemung	2000 Red	Joe Lamphere

Ice Cream Schedule



Syracuse Area Ice Cream

Miriam White & Karen Abbott

All ice creams are on the 2nd or 4th Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm, except for May 9th which will be at 6:30 PM:

May 9 – *Jo-Li-Me Cafe*, at Hafner's Garden Center, 7265 Buckley Rd, North Syracuse
 May 23 – *Gannons Isle*, 1525 Valley Drive, Syracuse (inside seating)
 June 13 – *Antonio's Ice Cream*, 1401 Buckley Rd, Liverpool (near 7th North) (parking in rear)
 June 27 – *Pete's Polar Parlor*, 3345 Milton Ave, Solvay
 July 11 – *Big Dip*, 216 N. Main Street, North Syracuse
 July 25 – *Vicki's Tasty Treat*, 680 Old Liverpool Rd, Liverpool
 August 8 – *Sno Top*, 315 Fayette St, Manlius
 August 22 – *Plank Road Ice Cream*, 449 S. Main St, North Syracuse
 September 12 – *Skaneateles Drive In*, 1659 US Route 20 East, Skaneateles (inside seating)
 September 26 – *Gannons Isle*, 1525 Valley Drive, Syracuse (inside seating)
 October 10 – *Kimberly's Ice Cream*, 8240 Cazenovia Rd, Manlius (inside seating)

Rochester Area Ice Cream

Steve Stewart

May 14, Hanks on Rte. 250 north of Rye. 104 in Webster. (Food on site)

May 28, Lugia's on corner Manitou Rd. and Lyell Rd. in Spencerport. (Food - Bill Grays, Buffalo Rd.)

Binghamton Area Ice Cream

Joe Lamphere

We will have ice cream the first Monday of each month throughout the driving season (except for Labor Day) beginning April 1, 2013 and Pop' Sugar Shack on Conklin Road in Binghamton an 6:30 PM Other ice cream nights will be set up as members see fit.

April Events

Sunday, April 7, Destiny Go Karts

Jay Cartini



We will meet on April 7, 11AM, at the Pole Position Raceway, new section of Destiny USA

So here's the deal, this is an electric go-kart track, inside the mall. That's right, inside the mall. The karts are electric and state of the art, and, quite frankly, pretty darn fast! You have to wear a closed face helmet, or an open face helmet with goggles. If you don't have your own don't worry, they have them there for you to borrow. There are between 8-10 karts on the track at any one time. The winner is based on your best lap time, not what position you finish.

The cost. You have to get a "license" to race. For a 1 week license its \$5.00. For an annual license its \$55.00. The cost for a 14 lap race is \$23.00.

Pole Position Raceway Syracuse, NY

If you plan to do this more than a few times the annual license is the way to go. You get your 1st race free (\$23.00), a race the month of your birthday free (\$23.00), a \$5.00 arcade coupon, and a tee shirt (priceless). The other benefit is all your races on the day you sign up after your free one is \$15.00. You can decide how you want to proceed.

So you can race as much as you want. There is plenty of spectator area to watch, and restaurants galore in both the new part of the mall and in the food court in the older section

The track opens at 11am, so you should plan to arrive around 10:45am so we can be ready to go. I would suggest parking in the lot across from street on Hiawatha Blvd and taking the foot bridge over into the mall, then just follow the signs.

So I ask you.....anyone ready to race????

Sunday, April 21, Watkins Glen Opening Day

Tom & Bev Cavanaugh



Sunday April 21nd - Back by popular demand; join us for the fourth year in a row, at "Opening Weekend at the Glen ". This is your opportunity to drive the track, no special equipment (roll bars, helmets, harness, etc.) required, just a little CASH. Laps on the track are \$25 for 3 laps. (If you take two turns for \$50 you will receive a voucher for the Thunder Road Tour to be redeemed later in the year) **PLEASE BRING CASH** (credit cards and checks not accepted).

Schedule:

9:00 AM Syracuse members meet at the Fairmount-Tully's Restaurant parking lot

10:30 AM Rochester members meet at the Geneva McDonald's (307 Hamilton St.) and wait for Syracuse Group to arrive)

Noon Southern Tier members should meet outside the main gate entrance (on right far corner away from entrance booths) and wait for the arrival caravan of Northern cars

Note: There are no meals scheduled for this event. You are responsible for your own lunch, either bring your own, or some food may be available at food stands around the track. Oh boy, track dogs, Yum! After our time at the track, we will take two laps of the old course. This is the race track that was used prior to building the track in use today.



After that you are on your own, feel free to travel home or partake of the many other local attractions (wineries, museums, etc.). Bev and I will be going into town to the Crooked Rooster Brewpub and you are welcome to join us if you like. <http://www.roosterfishbrewing.com/>. This will be a rain or shine event, and will not be canceled unless the track is closed. Check the club website for last minute updates, and the track website <http://www.theglen.com> for more information.

Area Reps- please contact event coordinator by Friday April 19th with a head count.

Saturday, April 27, Matthews Miata & Tioga Downs Casino

Joe Lamphere



We will meet at Matthews Mazda, 3013 Vestal Road, Vestal, NY 13850 at 10:30 AM. We will start with coffee and doughnuts, after our coffee break we will get

MATTHEWS MAZDA

a tour of their facilities. I am hoping to have a representative from Mazda there along with people from the sales and service departments to answer any questions you might have. You will be able to inspect new cars and take test drives if you desire.

After we leave Matthews we will take a scenic drive through the southern tier country side, ending up at Tioga Downs Casino. We will be given \$10 free play coupons and eat at their buffet. The buffet will be \$10 per person. After eating and gambling we can leave at our convenience.



2013 Miata Club Dues

Ronnie Sabella

Dues for 2013 will remain the same – \$30 per car. Payment is due by April 15. If you have already paid, thank you. Please send your dues to: Ronnie Sabella, 401 Swansea Ave., Syracuse, NY 13206. Make your check payable to “Midstate Miata Club of New York” An updated club roster will be distributed to the members as soon as the dues cycle closes. Those members who have not paid their dues by May 15th will be dropped from the club.

Monthly Newsletter

Deane Bergstrom

Beginning next month (May Newsletter) all inputs to the newsletter will be due 2 weeks prior to the first of the month. This will assure a fixed publishing date approximately one week prior to the beginning of each month during the driving season. Any special announcements will be handled by e-mail from myself or the other club officers.

Ordering Club Apparel

Tom Cavanaugh

Our club has a agreement with LANDS'END to provide clothing with our club logo. Cost to you is \$8.50 for the logo plus the cost of the item chosen.

Once you click on our E-store web link you may order what you want at your convenience. You have the option to establish an account with LANDS'END so that you may receive emails alerting you to sales during the year. For example, they occasionally offer free logos and shipping.

When ordering you will normally use the logo MidState Miata for most items of clothing. However, **when ordering hats** you will use both MidState Hat Front (state emblem) and MidState Hat Rear (this has text MidState Miata Club of NY). You will only be charged for one logo. Please note: The club logos provided are the only authorized club logos. **Modifications to the design are not allowed.** You may however, modify the thread color of your logo so that your club logo contrasts with your item of clothing. For example, white, silver, or red thread could be used on a black shirt instead of the standard black thread.

As always, if you have any questions about ordering club apparel, please feel free to call or email me.

etc.

2015 Alfa/MX5

Deane Bergstrom

The new Alfa Romeo roadster will be developed for the global market, and will be based on the architecture of the next generation Mazda MX-5, though the two cars will be brand specific, they will be powered by proprietary engines and carry distinct styling. The move will allow Alfa to update its classic Spider roadster with the latest technical systems, and progress from the Fiat initiative to revamp the Alfa Romeo line by 2016. It is also being suggested that this might be the car to begin the Alfa Romeo's re-emergence in the North American Market, though some are suggesting a sporty coupe would precede the Spider by a year.



Alfa Romeo 8C Spider

Mazda's aims, meanwhile, are to enhance development and production efficiency and hopefully revitalize enthusiasm for open-top two-seater sports cars around the world, which will benefit its own roadster (already, the best-selling roadster of all time). The MX-5 Miata should top one million produced by the time the new Alfa roadster hits the market. Mazda and Fiat have made it official, signing the Final Agreement that will see Mazda produce an open-top two-seater sports car for Fiat's Alfa Romeo brand at its Hiroshima, Japan, plant starting in 2015.

2013 MX5

Deane Bergstrom

For the past couple of years, we've been sharing everything we've uncovered about the next-generation Mazda MX-5 Miata. **We've told you that in 2013, Mazda plans to return to the car's original 1989 roots by making it lighter, more fuel-efficient, and cleaner.** We've also shown you a couple of artist's impressions of the new model.



Now, we have definitive information about the MX-5's new styling direction from a rock-solid source. A senior editor at Japan's *Holiday Auto* magazine tells us that if you know where to look, you can find just about anything on the Internet these days. Even official manufacturer drawings of future models! That's exactly what we have here. Based on a technical drawing supplied by Mazda to the Tokyo Patent Office recently, our artist has composed a sketch you see here of what to expect in the aesthetics department from the new roadster. And it's surprisingly simple. The new MX-5's grille will take on a more basic oval shape along the lines of the first-generation car, a departure from the current model's large "smiley face" grille. The headlights have been given a distinct up-slanting teardrop shape. From what we see in this exclusive sketch, the proportions are almost identical to the 1989 car (which was launched in the U.S. as a 1990 model year car). The first-generation NA model, which measured in at roughly 156 by 66 by 49 inches and boasted a 116-hp, 1.6-liter engine, was upgraded in 1998 (it appeared in the U.S. as a 1999 model year car) with a bigger 140-hp, 1.8-liter powerplant. Pressure for more power from overseas markets (especially the U.S.) forced Mazda to fit a 160-hp, 2.0-liter 4-cylinder unit in 2005, something chief engineer Takao Kijima

reportedly did not want to do. Kijima's long-term goal to take the MX-5 back to basics rubbed off on his successor, next-generation MX-5 chief engineer Nobuhiro Yamamoto, who says his aim was to create a sub-2200-pound roadster. When planning for the new model started five years ago, around the same time as Mazda's revolutionary Skyactiv technology, the company's mission was to reduce fuel consumption by 30 percent and curb weight by at least 8 percent. The product planners told Yamamoto that he had to lighten and downsize the car, but maintain current interior space levels. After exhaustive restyling, an insider tells us Yamamoto achieved a curb weight of around 2100 pounds, thanks to the car's new lightweight construction made possible in large part through the use of Mazda's new weight-efficient Skyactiv chassis, powertrain, and body. And with a lighter car, "you can downsize the powertrain," says a source close to Mazda.

The new MX-5 will be fitted with a 1.5-liter Skyactiv-G engine generating around 125 hp with mileage north of 50 mpg in Japanese measurements, mated to a six-speed manual transmission. Meanwhile, the U.S.-spec model will continue to employ a 2.0-liter engine producing upwards of 145 hp. Slated for a March 2013 debut at the Geneva Motor Show, the new production model is expected to land in showrooms in the fall of 2013.

Schedule of Events

Deane Bergstrom

You will see there has been a change to the schedule of events for the upcoming driving season. Instead of event titles only there will be enough information to give everyone an idea of what the event is all about.

Schedule of Events for the 2013 Driving Season

Sunday, April 7

Pole Position Raceway Go Kart Racing

Indoors at Destiny Mall in Syracuse which is the former Carousel Mall. Prices begin around \$23 per person. A great chance to get in some fun time with Miata friends before the season begins. Check it out at <http://polepositionraceway.com/syracuse-ny/reservation> **Event Leader: Jay Cartini**

Sunday, April 21

Watkins Glen Opening Day

Take full advantage of your weekend at The Glen!

- Gates open at 9:00 AM, laps begin at 10:00 AM, and gates close at 4:30 PM.
- Drive the historic road course to celebrate the opening of a new season.
- Purchase professional photos of your car on-site or on the web courtesy of Track Time Photos.
- Take photos in Gatorade Victory Lane where the stars of The Glen celebrate.
- Purchase your discounted 2013 WGI Race Tickets and Track Merchandise!

Prices around \$25 for track time.

Event Leader: Tom Cavanaugh

Saturday, April 27

Tour at Matthews Miata in Vestal & Tioga Downs

Casino

Ride, gaming and lunch. Check it out at <http://www.tiogadowns.com/>

Event Leader: Joe Lamphere

Saturday, May 11

Pancake Breakfast & Dandelion Run

The Rotary Club in Dewitt puts on their annual pancake breakfast. Join us for a favorite annual spring event! We will all park together for a show and shine and after we much pancakes Jim will take us for one of his patented dandelion runs.

Event Leader: Jim Williams

Sunday, May 19

Waterfalls 3

This is the third in a series of biennial driving events with stops at several roadside or short-walk waterfalls. This edition will mostly traverse Madison County, east of I-81 in the Cazenovia/Hamilton area. The plan is to also stop at a Cider Mill for cider (hard and soft) and possibly a brewery and/or winery to wet our whistles and otherwise refresh ourselves. We will stop for lunch at an as yet undetermined location. This is rain or shine event. **Event Leader: Ray Mosher**

June TBD

Drive-In Movie Night

Timing still to be determined but a fun night under the stars watching movies 'topless' should be fun. More details to follow in the newsletter.

Event Leader: TBD

Ad Hoc Event, Friday, June 28

Lake-to-Lake Ramble

Part of the Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival (but 3 months early), is a scenic tour in the hills and valleys of Finger Lakes Wine Country for sports and classic cars of any vintage. The tour includes a trip around the original 6.6 mile road course and parade laps around the current WGI Grand Prix course. Choose from two available routes, Scenic or Spirited to better fit your driving style and desired experience. The \$125 fee per car also includes two general admission tickets for the 6-hour sports car races that weekend. Advance registration is required. Details at: <http://www.grandprixfestival.com/ramble.html> **Event Leader: Ray Mosher**

Saturday, June 1

Marcellus Parade

A great annual event included in the Marcellus Old Home Days celebration. Last year we had over 31 cars tossing candy at excited kids (and parents) followed by a bite at the fairgrounds. The day concludes with a ride and stop for homemade pie and ice cream.

Event Leader: Chuck Paul

Wednesday, June 26

Log Cabin Cruise Night

Over 500 cars park and peruse with BBQ, dinner and ice cream available. Details to follow

July 4, Thursday

Montrose PA Parade

Parade through Historic Downtown Montrose to celebrate American Independence Day Every year, Montrose's big Fourth of July celebration draws people both from Pennsylvania and the Southern Tier and lots of other places as well: That's because it's earned a reputation for small town authenticity. It is a display of traditions often lost in the commercialization of the holiday. But go to Montrose, and it's like stepping back in time and even out- of-state residents appreciate that: The Montrose Fourth of July celebration is one of the best attended in the area.

Event Leader: Joe Lamphere

Sunday, July 21

Norwich Classic Car Museum & Lunch

Located between Cortland and Oneonta. Over 170 vehicles on display. Many rare and one-of-a-kind cars. Check it out at <http://www.classiccarmuseum.org/>

Event Leaders: Bob Sabella & Lee Maddy

Ad Hoc Event, Jul 27-29

Miatas at the Gap

This is the largest annual gathering of Miatas (400 Miatas!) in the country held at Deals Gap/Fontana NC (near Smokey Mountains National Park). There will be vendors, free food, beer swaps, drives to area

attractions (both natural and man-made), and of course... great roads, great people and great cars! Vendors will be set up at Fontana with their wares for sale, show and shine will be just about everywhere there is to park and a few places in between. Event Leader: Ray Mosher

There will be drives to different locations, including Wayah Road, the Cherohala Skyway, Waterfall Tours, Fat Buddies BBQ in Franklin, and of course, The Tail of the Dragon! TAIL OF THE DRAGON AT DEALS GAP, with 318 curves in 11 miles, is America's number one motorcycle and sports car road.

The nearby CHEROHALA SKYWAY is quickly becoming number two with its remote 60 miles of scenic mountain highway. The area also has other incredible roads like the MOONSHINER 28, DEVILS TRIANGLE, THE DIAMONDBACK, SIX GAP NORTH GEORGIA, THE SNAKE and GREAT FOREST SERVICE DUAL SPORT RIDING. *There is no registration, but accommodations need to be reserved – soon. Lodgings fill up quickly and if they're already full, ask about a waiting list. Event details are at <http://www.gapmiatas.com/links.html>. Dragon details at tailofthedragon.com. The Moshers are planning to attend.*

Sunday, August 11

Belhurst Castle Ride & Brunch

Scenic ride to Geneva for a gourmet brunch in an old castle. Great new winery onsite for gifts and your wine cellars. Priced around \$25 per person plus tax/gratuity. Check out www.belhurst.com

Event Leader: Steve Stewart

Sunday, August 25

Polo Match

Where else can you watch horses run and not lose your bet? A scenic drive, great barbecue, and hotly contested polo all on Sunday, August 25th. Join us for a day of polo with the Skaneateles Polo Club. Informal picnic on the grass, fresh air, beautiful scenery and a fun annual event.

Event Leader: Chuck Paul

Sunday, September 15

Run For the Colors

This is an annual event that is put on by OASIS Adaptive Sports organization to help disabled veterans participate in outdoor sports as part of rehab. It's about an 80 mile ride near Honeoye with a BBQ at the end.

Event Leader: Chuck Rischenole

Sunday, September 29

Road Rally

Event Leaders: Coleen Welch (with help from Tom Cavanaugh)

Saturday, October 5

Massachusetts Club Finger Lakes Meet at Watkins Glen

Event Leaders: Lee Maddy & Miriam White

TBD

Holiday Party

Midstate Miata Club Officers for 2013

President: Karen McKissock

Vice President and Activities Chairperson: Jay Cartini

Communications Manager and Newsletter Editor: Deane Bergstrom

Treasurer: Ronnie Sabella

Membership & History: Bob Sabella