

# Midstate Miata Club of New York

## “Miata Meanderings”

Official Newsletter for April 2016

Visit the Midstate Miata Club on the Internet at:

[www.midstatemiata.net](http://www.midstatemiata.net)



### ***President's Message***



Get ready, get set, and go!!!! Here we go... into another fantastic driving season. I sure hope you're all as excited as Ron and I are to take our snow tires off and get out on the zoom, zoom roads. Our baby was better in the snow storm last month than most of the 'big' cars that were in the ditches or being towed away to the garage. Right through over a foot of snow. You should try it sometime....

So where to start? Well I think the outcome of the planning meeting is the most interesting news to share so I'll start there. Here are some

of the topics we covered before the formal planning exercise:

**New Member contest** – we voted to continue the new member contest for another year. To win a free year's membership you need to recruit the most new members. You can fill your name into the “How did you find out about the club?” line on the club brochure/application form. To get the brochures you can either print them from the website or ask your Area Rep for some to keep in your cars.

**Facebook page** – Gail Wagner will be working with Tim Wells to set up a club Facebook page for members to be able to use to share adventures, pictures, questions, etc. We will do a pilot program to work out bugs and develop a ‘how to use it’ guide before rolling out to the full membership. This will not replace the website and will be used voluntarily.

**Volunteers** – As Denise Wargo has resigned as one of the Syracuse Area Reps, John Piston has stepped up to be responsible for her members. We will do everything possible to help John transition into that role and we wish him the best of luck. Many thanks to John for volunteering for this role and to Denis for her many years of help. **Sunshine Club Rep** – Mary Lou Reisdorf has volunteered to take over as the Sunshine Club Rep. All members should direct any information to her when we hear about an illness, death in the family, retirement, catastrophic event, etc. Lou will send the appropriate response to the individual(s) per club guidelines.

**New member name tags** – New members will receive our newly designed name tags which will have a red dot on the outside of the holder to identify them as a new member to us oldies but goodies. We hope that when you see a new member you will make an extra effort to welcome them to the club and any events they attend. Let's be sure they feel part of the ‘crew’ and nurture them throughout the season. We will also attrition the new style nametags to the rest of the members over the season.

**Website** – Lee Maddy is planning to work on some new features for our website to make it more interactive so we may be able to RSVP to events, do member polls online and possibly pay online via a secure method. Again, we will pilot its use before a full club roll out but we are excited to bring this update to our members.

Club archives – We agreed to stop maintaining hard copy information for the club archives since we now have pictures, newsletters and event reports on our website. We thank Bob Sabella for keeping this historical/hysterical information for us for the past 20 years.

New Events for local areas- we have been working on each geographic area to plan 3-5 ‘local’ events to help some of our members who can’t, or don’t want to, travel so far to participate. Our goal is to help as many members participate in as many events as they can and planning more events close to home should help accomplish that goal. Watch the website under Local Events for more details in the next couple weeks. Watch that area on the web for Ice Cream schedules as well.

General club event planning – Attached to this newsletter Deane is posting a ‘one liner’ listing of the calendar to use as a condensed ‘refrigerator calendar’. There will also be a ‘teaser’ list with brief explanations of the events so members can try to decide which events to post to their calendars as early as possible so you don’t miss any of the fun. Our hopes are that you will use the listing as a reference tool until the full description/details hit the newsletter.

We had a really productive planning discussion and have a super schedule for this season! Some of the old stand bys are still there but a wonderful addition of lots of new things to do. Please make time to review the schedule and mark your calendars with your favorites so you don’t forget. Let’s make it a record year for participation.

Jay and I want to thank all of you who submitted events for using the new Event Planning Template. And remember, we will be accepting ideas for ‘pop up’ events throughout the season. Just send a request to Jay and me for approval.

Finally, please feel free to contact me at any time with questions, ideas, or concerns about the club. The best things that happen in our club happen because of all of you. Thank you for all your help and support.

***Happy zooming,  
Karen***

**Midstate Miata Club Friends**

Norm and I would like to thank the Miata Club for the beautiful plant sent in memory of my Dad. Your kind expression of sympathy and friendship will always remain in our memories. Thank you for your thoughtfulness.

Karen Abbott



***Welcome New Members***

***Deane Bergstrom***

<u>Member</u>	<u>Where From</u>	<u>Miata</u>	<u>Area Rep</u>
Bill & Nancy Barth	Auburn	1994 Red	Denise Wargo
Greg & Ginger Johnson	Aurora	2006 GT Gray	Gail Wagner

John & Susan Amon

Spencerport

2016 Soul Red

Marcy Edmiston

Christie & Shawn Ingram

Walworth

2000 Silver

Marcy Edmiston

## **April Events Watkins Glen Track Day**

**Watkins Glen International Race Track Opening Day**

**Gail Wagner & Steve Wilson**



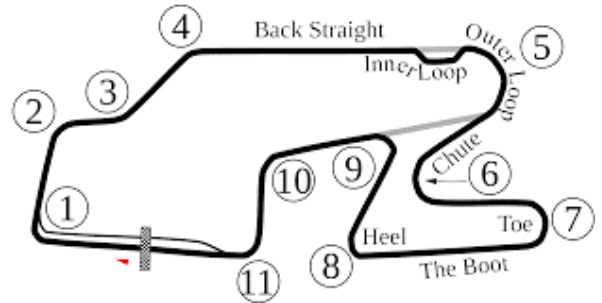
Do you have a secret desire to be a race car driver? Would you like to experience what it's like to drive around Watkins Glen race track? Here's your chance! **We will meet at Watkins Glen International race track on Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at Gate #2 (2790 County Road 16, Watkins Glen, NY) at promptly 11:00 a.m.** for car staging, individual signing of liability waiver and your payment of \$25.00 (CASH ONLY) for 3 laps.

Our group track time is reserved for promptly 12:00 p.m. and will take approximately 20 minutes behind a WGI pace car.

We have

been allotted this specific time for our group so we will need to be at Gate#2 and staged at 11:00a.m. **Important:** We will not be able to wait for latecomers because another large group will be behind us staging for their reserved 12:30 p.m. run time.

In the past there has been a professional photographer on site for purchase of a track photo of you and your car (see me above in 2012).



After our run, you are welcome to get back in line for another \$25/3 laps and/or have lunch on your own in Watkins Glen and leave at your convenience.

**\*\*\* Please sign up with your area rep no later than Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>.** This is a

sunny-day event only. In case of rain, check our club website ([www.midstatemiata.net](http://www.midstatemiata.net)) for cancellation notice of this event.\*\*\*

### **Matthews Mazda Binghamton Mets**

Joe Lamphere



## **Matthews Mazda**

3013 Old Vestal Rd – Behind Lowe's

"5-Year Cost to Own Award" – Kelley's Blue Book KBB.com

This events is in two parts. You have the choice of participating in one or both parts. Matthews Mazda will start at 10:00 AM



Saturday April 23rd. This is where you will come up close and personal with the 2016 Miata. You will have time for some refreshments and socializing while getting acquainted with the fourth generation of the Miata. This part of the event is rain or shine.

The second part of the event will be at 1:00 PM. We will drive from Vestal to NYSEG Stadium in Binghamton where we will take in a Binghamton Mets baseball game. If you are hungry, there will be several food concessions, serving a variety of foods inside the Stadium. There will be a \$4.00 parking fee along with a \$6.00 ticket price per person. I will need a headcount by April 16th so I can get our tickets. This event is also a great day for socializing with your fellow members. This event however is dependent on the weather. *(Those members who wish to caravan to this event should contact their area rep – Ed.)*

## ***Ice Cream Schedule***



### ***Syracuse Area:***

**Monthly: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays @ 7:00pm**

**May 12- at 6:30 today- Heid's Sweet Treats, 305 Oswego St, Liverpool (inside seating)**

May 26 - Gannon's Isle, 1525 Valley Drive, Syracuse (inside seating)

June 9 - Pete's Polar Parlor, 3345 Milton Ave, Solvay

June 23 - Kenny's Corner Ice Cream, 7575 Buckley Rd, No Syracuse, NY

July 14 - Sweet Frog, Fayetteville Towne Center, Fayetteville

July 28 - Big Dip, 216 No Main Street, No Syracuse

August 11- Sno Top, 315 Fayette St, Manlius

August 25 - Vicki's Tasty Treat, 680 Old Liverpool Rd, Liverpool

September 8 - Plank Road Ice Cream, 449 So Main St, No Syracuse

September 22 - Carvel Ice Cream, 4322 E Genesee St, Dewitt (inside seating-park in Tops Grocery lot)

October 13 - at 6:30 today Hafner's Garden Center, 7265 Buckley Rd, No Syracuse (inside seating)

### ***Rochester Area:***

Ice Cream nights will be the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month starting at 6 pm

April 26 Colby's route 15 & 251 in Rush

May 10 Dairy Queen 919 Hard Rd Webster & BRUSTERS 1041 Ridge Rd Webster

May 24 Cheap Charlies 8 Elm St (route 444) Bloomfield & Sharks 50 St Bloomfield

June 14 Log Cabin Restaurant, route 31F Macedon & Pulcini's Farm Market, 2471 route 21 Palmyra

June 28 Pultneyville Deli 4120 Lake Rd Pultneyville

July 12 Bill Gray's 2987 Buffalo Rd Gates

July 26 McGregor's 759 Main St Canandaigua & Creamery, 10 Parrish St Canandaigua

August 9 Carey Lake 959 route 441 Walworth & LONG ACRE FARM 1339 Eddy Rd Macedon

August 23 Colby's route 15 & 251 Rush

September 13 Bill Gray's 1225 Jefferson Rd & READS 3130 E Henrietta Rd (route 15A)

### ***Binghamton Area:***

We will continue meeting for ice cream on the first Monday of the month at Pop's Sugarshack on Conklin Ave, Binghamton, 6:30 PM, beginning April 4, 2016, as we have in past years. (Questions: Joe Lamphere)

In addition we will have ice cream at the following:

April 20- Tastie Cream, 2021 Vestal Parkway W, Vestal, NY - Inside

May 18 - Jones Humdingers, 1441 Front Street, Binghamton, NY

June 22- Big Dipper/Food, 6935 Route 434, Apalachin, NY

July 20 - Ice Cream Works, North Ave, Owego, NY between Talcott & George St

August 24 - C & G Ice Cream, Rte. 17C, across from Crestview Heights, Endicott, NY

September 21 - Treasure Ice Cream & Cafe, 3017 Watson Blvd, Endwell, NY - Inside

### ***Ithaca Area:***

Ithaca, proudly "centrally isolated"! We are meeting 2016 monthly Ice Cream Night beginning in May 2016 on the **first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm.** Please park behind the I.D. Booth Plumbing/Heating Supply Company parking lot on Cascadilla St. as we have in the past. (Questions: Gail Wagner, Ithaca-area rep, [gwtr3red@gmail.com](mailto:gwtr3red@gmail.com)).

**All ice cream meets will be held at**

Purity Ice Cream - 700 Cascadilla St. /Meadow St. (Route 13), Ithaca, NY.

May 4, June 1, July 6, August 3, September 7, October 5

## ***Tech Tips***

**"WENCH WITH A WRENCH"**

**Gail Wagner**



### **Your "True Colors" and Other Cool Stuff**

Happy Spring 2016 Driving Season,  
Miata Folks!

I hope you're getting as anxious as I am to get our Miata's out of winter storage and back on the road for the 2016

driving season. I know our Club and Area Reps have lots of great events planned – something for everyone to experience the absolute joy of driving on the open road on a sunny day, top down, along with some friendly folks in our Club.

Consider checking out my previous old column for tips and suggestions for washing and detailing your car once you bring it out of winter storage in the TECH section of the club website homepage: [www.midstatemiata.net](http://www.midstatemiata.net)

*...I see your true colors shining through.  
I see your true colors and that's why I love you.  
So don't be afraid to let them show.  
Your true colors, true colors are beautiful, like a rainbow...*  
- Song lyrics by Steinberg/Kelly, 1986

Recently, I was perusing our new 2016 Miata Club roster and I noticed many of our members list their Miata exterior colors generically, i.e., “red” or “blue” or “silver”, etc. Would you like to know what the “true colors” are for your Miata – i.e., the official Mazda factory paint color name for whatever beautiful “true color” you are driving? Wondering how to find out what it is if you don’t know?

Well, guess what, Kids!

There’s a pretty easy way to find out if you’re driving a Brilliant Black, a Jet Black, a Black Mica, or a Black Cherry, especially if you don’t have the original MSRP/specs window sticker when purchased new that lists the official exterior paint color.

You may have noticed there is a small sticker on the lower part of your driver’s side door jamb (unless your car was repainted and it was removed, of course). Take a look. The sticker example below is for a 2003 Miata and it shows this vehicle’s body color code at the bottom as: Body Color Code: **25E** (Strato Blue Mica) and some other cool stuff like gross vehicle weight, build date, and VIN.

#### MAZDA DOOR STICKER EXAMPLE:

Now that you know your body paint code, you can hop on your computer and copy and paste the following URL into your search engine (such as Google, FireFox or Chrome):

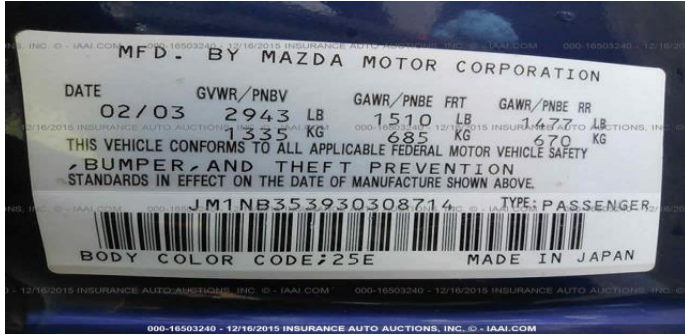
<http://gtcarlot.com/colors/Mazda/All/MX-5+Miata/>

then click on any of several of the entries listed there and find your “true color”. If you can’t find it, let me know and I’ll help you. My ’06 “Scarlet” happens to be **A4A “True Red”**, a pretty popular color.

So, if you want to correct your “true color” listing in the Club roster with the official Mazda paint color, you can email Bob Sabella (Membership Chair) or Deane Bergstrom (Newsletter Guru and Keeper of the Membership Roster) and they will be happy to correct the change for you. At least, I think they will. ☺ But don’t tell them I sent you just in case, okay? ☺ ☺

#### Okay, Now Let’s Talk About VIN’s

Do you remember *Captain Midnight* sponsored by *Ovaltine* back in early 1950 TV days and his Secret Decoder Ring? (Yeah, I know, I'm dating myself here too.... Let's not think about that right now.) ☺ Well, your Miata's VIN (Vehicle Identification Number), also known as your registration number, contains letters and numbers that are a not-so-secret specific code for your particular car and you don't need a secret decoder ring to decipher what they mean. This number is found on the door sticker as mentioned above and on a plate riveted on your vehicle and on the firewall (unless the engine bay has been repainted, of course) and also found on your DMV vehicle registration.



So let's look at the fictitious VIN below and I'll use my secret magic Mazda *VIN Decoder* to "decode" the basics:

**JM1NB3538Y0153757**

**J** = (Country of Origin: Japan)

**M** = (Manufacturer: Mazda Corporation)

**1** = Vehicle Type (1=Passenger Car)

**NB** = Model Generation (NA='90-97, NB='99-05,

NC='06-15, NC='16)

**35**= Body Style (Convertible Body for models 90-05; 25=code for convertible body 06-XX)

**3**= Engine Size (3=1.8L, 1=1.6L, 4=1.8L Turbo, F=2.0L)

**8**= a check digit 0-Z has no meaning but is used to detect invalid VINs based on a mathematical formula that was developed by the Department of Transportation.

**Y**=Model Year (Y=2000; each year has a letter assigned)

**0**=Manufacturing Plant in Hiroshima (may also be 1=Hofu, Japan, but Mazda insists all Miatas/MX5's are made in Hiroshima)

**Last 6 digits** are the car production number. Each model year starts with 100000 so this was the 53,757<sup>th</sup> car built in 2000. The letters from B-Y correspond to the model years 1981-2000. There is no I, O, Q, U or Z. From 2001-'09, the numbers one through nine were used in place of numbers. The alphabet started over from A in 2010 and will continue until 2030.

Other than a few possible additions (sometimes restraint system, suspension type, etc.) your VIN will likely look similar to above. You can also email Mazda Corporation directly with your VIN and they will give you all the information about it.

So now you can put your Secret Decoder Ring back in the drawer with your plastic Navy frogmen or little submarines that bounced up and down in a glass of water after being loaded with baking soda because you have all the answers to the VIN codes. ☺

I'm looking forward to getting on the road soon with "Scarlet" and seeing everyone at a Club event!

Please contact me if you have any questions or suggestions: gwtr3red@gmail.com

Zoom-Zoom!

Gail

*DJSLAJMER*

*Please note these tips are not reviewed or approved by the Mazda Motor Corporation or any other corporation or entity other than the originator. The Midstate Miata Club of NY does not accept any liability for damage or injury as a result of utilizing these tips and pointers. Please use common sense and always remember safety first!*

**We now have three sponsors for the Midstate Miata Club. They provide service and discounts to club members so pay them a visit**



**Marketplace**



## Midstate Miata Club Officers for 2016

President: Karen McKissock  
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Secretary: Miriam White  
 Phone: 315-637-0472  
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### Area Representatives

Name/Area	Phone Number	E-Mail
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Denise Wargo/Syracuse	315-253-6757	wargoweed@aol.com
Marcy Edmiston/Rochester	585-352-5995	medmiston@mazdaofwestridge.com
Joe Lamphere/Binghamton	607-754-3159	Jlamphere@stny.rr.com
Gail Wagner/Ithaca	607-257-7445	gwtr3red@gmail.com



**Midstate Miata Club**  
**Schedule of Events**  
**For the 2016 Driving Season**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Leader</b>
Sunday, April 17 - Watkins Glen - Track Day	Gail Wagner
Saturday, Aril 23 - Mathews Mazda/Binghamton Mets	The Lampheres
Sunday, May 1 Tech Day & New Member Appreciation	Karen McKissock
Saturday, May 7 - Rotary Pancake Breakfast/Dandelion Run/or Burdick Tech Day	Jim Williams
Friday, May 13-15- Mazda Miata ND Cup Racing at Watkins Glen (Information)	Gail Wagner
Saturday, May 28 - Middlesex Dinner	Chuck Rischenole
Friday, June 3 - Annual Ithaca Parade, 9pm	Gail Wagner
Saturday, June 4 - Marcellus Parade	Chuck Paul
Saturday, June 11 Geneva Car Show	Jerry Acquilano
Sunday, June 19 - Lorenzo Car Show	Bob Sabella
Monday, July 4 - Montrose PA Parade	Del Austin
Sunday, July 24 - Glenora Winery	Gail Wagner
Wednesday, July 26 - Log Cabin Car Show	Karen McKissock
Sunday, July 31 – MMC Club Picnic	Karen Abbott & MaryAnn Knight
Sunday, August 7 - Corning Museum of Glass	Gail Wagner
Sunday, August 14 - Oswego County Airport & Breakfast	Steve Bollenbacher
Sunday, August 21 - Polo & Bob's BBQ	Chuck Paul
Sunday, August 28 - Northeast Classic Car Museum	John Flederer
Sunday, September 11 - Oz Ride (Mathilda Gage House, Oz Museum & lunch)	The Abbotts
Sunday, September 17 - Palmyra Parade	Chuck Rischenole
Sunday, September 25 - Bill Hodge Road Rally	Gary Schoonmaker
Saturday, October 8 - Honesdale, PA Harvest & Heritage Festival	Lou & Carol Trelease
Sunday, October 16 - Cornell Ornithology Lab & Trail Walk	Gail Wagner & Local Reps Drive
Sunday, December 4 - Holiday Party	John & Elaine Piston