

Midstate Miata Club of New York

“Miata Meanderings”

Official Newsletter for June 2016

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



President's Message



Isn't it great to see more sun lately? It would be wonderful if it was accompanied by some warmer weather, but so what?! Our cars are out now and ready for a lot more zoom zooming than they've had in the last 8 or 9 months.

This month I'd like to thank all our returning members for joining us and helping build our membership. (Remember, the member who brings in the most new members get a free membership next year) I see a great number of new names joining our ranks of the fast and fun folks in the Midstate Miata Club this year. Say that 3 times fast... Anyway, the regular membership drive is over now so if you haven't sent in your dues you should do so ASAP to avoid being dropped from the list, newsletter, etc. You wouldn't want to miss my riveting President's letter even once. Lol as the kids say/text for 'laugh out loud'.

As a result of a lot of new members and some returning members who haven't had a chance to join us in a caravan style ride, I'd like to remind everyone of the club's Caravan Rules. These rules should be read out loud at the beginning of every ride at the 'driver's meeting' before the cars pull out of their starting location. It is important to understand them for the safety of the participants as well as to enable a fun ride. For the benefit of our new members and those who haven't driven in a ride yet, we are posting the rules as an attachment along with this newsletter. Please make an effort to read them and maybe print them and keep them in your glove compartment. If you are an Event Coordinator for a club event or an unofficial event, please be ready to read these or pass them out at your event. Members expect us to take good care of them. They are also available in the Business tab on the club website.

In sadness I am going to begin a new 'section' of the newsletter to recognize members, or their family members, who have passed away. As some of our membership is beginning to mature we are experiencing losses of important members in our lives and I think we should recognize them as they occur. So we will begin to have a Memorial section if we have any news to share with you. So for this month's newsletter I'd like to send our sympathies for the following:

- Dick Hunsinger – long standing member and husband of Barb Hunsinger
- Jay Cartini for the loss of his father
- Karen Abbott for the loss of her father

□ Andy Wargo for the loss of his father

I'm sure I have missed a few others from earlier this year and humbly apologize for the omission. I will do a better job of keeping track in the coming months. Please pass along any other members who experience this sadness as well in the future. You can notify me and/or Mary Lou Reisdorf (Sunshine Coordinator).

Now on a more upbeat note, I hope to be seeing more of you 'old' and new members in the near future. June has a number of great events planned. Ron and I will be at the Marcellus Parade as a super starter for the month of June. See you there!

Zoom on!
Karen



Welcome New Members

Deane Bergstrom

<u>Member</u>	<u>Where From</u>	<u>Miata</u>	<u>Area Rep</u>
Steve & Rich Chesler	Canandaigua	2007 Copper Red Mica	Marcy Edmiston
Charles & Claire McLaughlin	Rochester	2001 Green	Marcy Edmiston
Bill & Essie Miller	Whitesboro	1991 Red	John Piston

Welcome Back

Jim Pace and Lorna Koberlein	Binghamton	2000 Silver	Joe Lamphere
Don Radke & Hanya Wozniak	Syracuse	2006 Red	Karen Abbott

June Events

Friday, June 3 - Annual Ithaca Parade, 9pm

Gail Wagner

This event has been cancelled.

Saturday, June 4 - Marcellus Parade

Chuck Paul



Oh Boy.....a Parade Yet again we will delight Marcellus area residents with the sight of 35 (give or take 5) Cascading (for lack of a better term) down the hill into the village where throngs of adults and sugar starved children await.

The date is Saturday, June 4th and the parade starts at 3 p.m... We will once again form at the Sunoco Mini-Mart at the corner of Lee-Mulroy Road (Route 174 and 175) and Pleasant Valley Road.

The parade lasts about 45 minutes and deposits us in beautiful Marcellus Park. After a short break we will depart on a short scenic ride to Skan-Ellus (alas, Sweeties is no longer in operation) where folks can enjoy good food and great ice cream. Then we will depart on a longer and even more scenic ride over rolling hills and with spectacular vistas. Any questions cpaul@twcny.rr.com or 315 673-4432. Day of event cell phone 315-378-6018.

Saturday, June 11 Geneva Car Show

Gerry Acquilano



This event is not going to be run as a Midstate Miata Club event as originally scheduled. Instead, the details below are for information purposes only.

If you plan to attend please contact Gerry Acquilano: The day is open, but pancake breakfast will be from 8-11 in the legion dining hall. No particular time to get there, you can determine that as a group, or come individually, your call., **but registrations must be mailed in by 10 June for only \$7, otherwise day of show is \$10.** This is an all-day event, however once in and on the grounds, you may leave as you wish. There will be a photographer to take photo of each car should anyone want them.

We are keeping all car clubs together on the grounds, and the afternoon food will be great as well. Music of course, and raffles all day. It will be a fun day in a beautiful spot, lots of fun cars to see. **For questions or a copy of the registration form contact Acquilano e-mail: gerrya@linkny.com or Jim Culver e-mail: jc911sc@yahoo.com or Dan Hurdle e-mail: dhurdle@rochester.rr.com. Phone Gerry Acquilano 315-521-1688.**

Sunday, June 19th, MG Euro Car Show/ Lorenzo Park

Bob Sabella



The MG CAR CLUB OF CENTRAL NEW YORK has once again cordially invited the MIDSTATE MIATA CLUB to be special guests at the 2016 European car show on **June 19th (Father's Day)** at Lorenzo State Park in Cazenovia, New York.

The show is from 9-3. Special on field parking arrangements have been made so the club's Miata's will be in the vicinity of the European car judging field, (the Miata's will not be judged) visible for all folks attending the car show to see our Miata's. There is no charge for attending event.

There is no registering needed, just show up at the show entrance and you'll be directed to the special guest parking, and enjoy the show. Miata information for the event, there is no specific caravan to the show; everyone is on their own unless they choose to set up their own caravan. The car show is an all-day event and when it breaks up around three there will be no club drive after the event.

May Event Report

Rotary Pancake Breakfast/Dandelion Run/or Burdick Tech Day

Deane Bergstrom



If the weather was “iffy” there was no problem getting Midstaters together to munch pancakes and zoom over hill and dale in search of curvy roads and dandelions.

Fortunately the sun broke out, tops went down, and there was no shortage of both as event leaders **Jim and Judy Williams** led us to the breakfast feast and then on a zoomy drive ending up at



Burdick Mazda for a tech day.

As an added bonus we were greeted by none other than **Jim Parsnow**, a past president of the club.

As usual, we had a great turnout – what is it about pancakes and zooming that is so appealing? Is it just a touch of spring fever? I swear I passed myself coming and going on the drive (you will understand if you were there) but I must confess Jim made good on his promise of great zooming!

Upcoming Event

Montrose Parade

Del Austin

We are looking forward to a nice Miata Club turn out for the Montrose PA 4th of July parade. Any club member that will be attending please let Del Austin (viridel2347@aol.com) (607-217-5794) know if you are planning to attend. For any member that might need an overnight motel we recommend the Colonial Brick Inn & Suites at Great Bend Pa. Exit 230 (first exit off I-81 south at Great Bend., PA) at the bottom of the ramp stop sign turn right. At the stop light, straight thru to the Colonial Brick parking lot.

We will stop by that motel between 9:15 and 9:30 to pick up any members that are there on our way to Montrose.

There are several way to get to Montrose. Taking RT 11 south from Great Bend, or taking the New Milford exit south on I-81. You go to New Milford, then south on RT 11 to PA 706 into Montrose. At the traffic light in Montrose turn left on 706 and RT 29. The McDonalds is on you left. We will meet in the McDonalds rear parking lot between 10:00 am the parade starts at 11:00 sharp.

This year we will stop after the parade in a holding area. Then place our cars on Main Street for display. This will give you time to get something to eat in town, perhaps the firemen's company's great chicken barbecue, and let the ladies see the many great vendors on the village green. We will be there for about one and one half hours.

Then if everyone likes, we will be off for ICE CREAM.

The Binghamton Miata group is looking forward to seeing our fellow Miata Club members in Montrose for a nice Miata showing. The roads in Montrose are all repaved!

Ice Cream Schedule



Syracuse Area:

Monthly: 2nd & 4th Thursdays @ 7:00pm

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

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:

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).

All ice cream meets will be held at

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

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

Teck Tips

“WENCH WITH A WRENCH”

Gail Wagner

So You Wanna Be a Race Car Driver?



Hi Miata Folks,

I know many of you were one of the 34 Miata’s that joined us at Watkins Glen International Race Track Opening Day on April 17th for three laps around the track, our first Club event of the year.

If you were in sight of the official track pace car with the flashing roof light that led groups around the track, you may have been wondering why they were driving from left to right all over the track at each corner.

The *Wench* is here to explain. ☺

The pace car was practicing what is called in race parlance, “Driving the (Racing) Line”. Yeah, okay you say, so what? Well, after I finish explaining what “the line” is, you may want to have fun with your car on the street practicing the principles or maybe even go back to The Glen and try driving it yourself in their “Drive the Glen” 3-laps/\$25 which runs all summer (<http://www.theglen.com/Guest-Info/Drive-The-Glen.aspx>). You will also find yourself enjoying auto racing much more as you watch it on TV or live at a race track because now you understand the art of cornering fast and efficiently. And then, if the driving bug really bites you as it did me and a number of our Club members, you may be interested in furthering your driving ability by taking a high performance driving class with a professionally-run organization like *Hooked On Driving*, *Chin Motorsports* or *Trackmasters*, etc.

Driving the (Racing) Line Definition:

Simply put, the racing line is the route that a race driver follows around the track in order to take corners in the fastest and most efficient way. Note that I said *fastest and most efficient*. To carry maximum speed, you need to minimize the tightness of the arch of the corner which maximizes tire grip and cornering force. Yeah, physics, I know. By using all of the available space on the track, a car can travel in a straighter line and go faster before reaching the limits of tire grip. I think of it as “straightening out the path around a corner”. Sounds easy, doesn’t

it? There's a lot, lot more to it; it ain't rocket science but it is definitely an art. To do it well takes lots and lots of practice ("seat time", as we call it) after you understand the basics.

The best line depends on a number of factors and can be broken down into the following:

- Memorizing the track layout
- The braking point before a corner
- The turn-in point at the corner
- Apex of the corner
- Awareness of the position and direction of the next corner
- Some other stuff for advanced drivers like track conditions, weather, slip angles (more physics stuff), wet/dry track, other folks on the track trying to pass you or you're trying to pass others

So just the really simple basics here, but believe me, there's so much more to this as you study, learn and actually drive:

1. Braking point: This separates the boy/girls from the men/women in my opinion. ☺ How brave (not stupid) are you? How good are your brakes? How good are your tires? How experienced a driver are you? How fast can you slow down, say, from 100 mph to 40mph, without losing control? The big rule of thumb is to brake BEFORE turning into a corner although an advanced technique of light brake pressure on entry called "threshold braking" or "trail braking" can help give you a better turn. For most of us though, let's just brake early and smoothly when you're a learning novice (and that includes me) and progressively shorten the braking point as you become more experienced and proficient (and brave, not stupid). ☺
2. Turn-in Point: This is the key to getting "the line" right so it's very important to turn into a corner at the correct point as you aim for the corner apex (see term below). If you get it right, you'll be set up for a good line with, ah, no surprises such as running out of track and onto the grass (factiously called "agricultural racing") or into (yikes) into the Big Blue Bush (the solid metal Armco wall at Watkins Glen). Definitely not recommended for Miata body sheet metal rearrangement and your personal safety, okay? ☺
3. Apex: This is a biggie in racing, the heart of the corner. The apex (also called "the clipping point") is the point at which you are closest to the inside corner. There are two types of apexes, the geometrical and the racing apex. You may remember the term "geometric apex" from an old math or physics course as the exact point in the middle of a curve. But the "racing apex" may not always be the exact middle of a corner (may be an "early" or "late" apex) and it depends on a number of factors mentioned above such as: the type of next corner ahead, the track condition, low or high-powered car, the individual car's cornering ability, wet or dry track, other cars on the track trying to pass or that you're trying to pass, etc. To make matters more "interesting", the apex may be further around the turn or up over a hill and not visible ahead so it's good advice to memorize the track map, watch videos on *YouTube* and consider your apexes carefully before actually driving them.

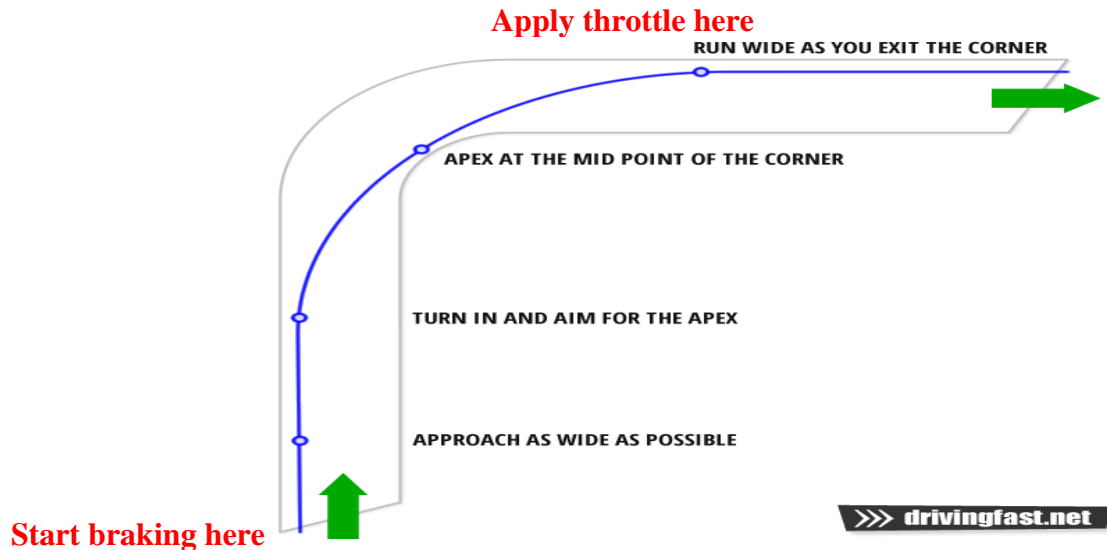
Generally, racers want to be aware of 1) carrying speed as late as possible into the corner, 2) decreasing the arc of the corner which lessens cornering force and therefore allows for more tire grip to maintain speed and stay on the track, and then 3) smoothly throttle (foot on the gas) as soon as possible without losing traction to efficiently and quickly navigate the corner and beyond. Since driving the apex correctly allows the car to take the straightest line and maintain the highest speed through corner by using the widest possible radius into a corner, the higher speed compensates for the extra distance traveled. Additionally, driving the classic racing line will prolong the life of tires, maximize fuel

economy, maintain momentum, and reduce the chances of understeer/oversteer* (*don't ask, just trust me. You just don't want to ever do either of these, if possible; look up the terms if you're interested).

So, in the diagram below, you can see why the Watkins Glen pace car weaved all over the track (or someone in front of you like me who was attempting to "drive the line" correctly). Then there's the The Racer's Mantras: "Outside/Inside/Outside... In Slow/Out Fast... Brake/Turn/Throttle... Smooth is Fast".

Let me summarize with this simple diagram and maybe it will "all become clear".

THE CLASSIC RACING LINE



For the corner entry, you will normally want to be as wide as possible. So, say there's a right-hand turn as above such as Turn One, the 90-degree turn at Watkins Glen. To enter this corner, you'll want to be on the far left side (outside). Brake smoothly before you turn the wheel. As you turn in, bring your car across smoothly to the apex to the right which is frequently marked with an orange cone on racetracks (the "inside"). You may possibly graze the painted FIA ribbed curbing of the corner. Smoothly apply throttle and then exit the corner by letting the steering wheel "unwind" (release) out of the bend which it almost does by itself and track across to the left side (the "outside") as you exit the corner.

It's kinda' fun practicing "driving the line" on old country backroads but stay in your own lane and obey the speed limits, of course.

I hope you found this interesting. Remember, this is just the basic bare-bones of cornering and there's lots of variables to consider depending on the conditions I have mentioned. There's plenty of info on the *Internet* for further reading.

Zoom-Zoom Safely!

Gail and "Scarlet" ('06 True Red)

DISCLAIMER

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



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Midstate Miata Club Schedule of Events For the 2016 Driving Season

Event	Leader
Friday, June 3 - Annual Ithaca Parade, 9pm (Cancelled)	Gail Wagner
Saturday, June 4 - Marcellus Parade	Chuck Paul
Saturday, June 11 - Geneva Car Show (Information Only)	Gerry 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
TBD, Tech Day & New Member Appreciation	Marcy Edmiston
Sunday, December 4 - Holiday Party	John & Elaine Piston