



Miata Meanderings

November/December, 2011

Official Newsletter of the Midstate Miata Club of New York

Visit the Midstate Miata Club on the Internet at:

www.midstatemiata.net

President's Message



When I was chatting the other night with several other board members at the last “Ice Cream” aka Italian Bakery Night last week, the general consensus was “Wow the season was over” and “what lousy weather we had this year”. The weather definitely did not cooperate this year, to summarize the year in one word “WET”. I sure hope everyone took advantage of the nice days that we did have, and got out on their own.

I had hoped to make all the events this year, like a good President should, however that wasn't possible. You can't be in two places at one time. I missed Camp Sagamore and the Road Rally, because Miriam and I were off on other Miata adventures. One was Buggies and Bridges in PA. We went with several other club members and had a great time. But to no surprise, it rained and rained and rained. We also drove down to Hilton Head SC with a few nice couples that we had first met earlier this year at the Watkins Glen trip (another wet one), and later caught up with again at Buggies and Bridges. Needless to say, my yellow car usually gets a lot of admiring looks, but it also got a lot of looks of surprise when people learned that I had packed not only two bags, but also a set of golf clubs in the trunk.

When talking to leaders from other Miata clubs, I try to compare and find out what works, and doesn't work for them. One thing that the PACE club likes to do during the off season is to still get together, once in a while. So I'll take a poll. If any of the Syracuse members want to meet for dinner or coffee over the winter, send me an email at mrmiataman@yahoo.com and let me know. If there is enough interest, I'll have our wonderful webmaster post it on the website.

But, the seasons not over yet! There is still time to P-A-R-T-Y.! So I hope to see you for one last Hurrah, at the Holiday Party. Instead of rain at this event, I'm hoping for snow. Check the newsletter for information.

Lee Maddy

Editor's Notes

Deane Bergstrom

This will be your last newsletter for 2011 and next year will be my 10th year as your newsletter editor. Over the years I have enjoyed putting the monthly edition together, gathering pictures for each event, and (not so much) bugging people for event reports to keep the club informed as to what is happening. I plan to continue for the foreseeable future and if you have any suggestions for improvements or coverage please let me know. Even if I don't always use them I do appreciate your inputs and you may be assured they will receive the proper consideration.

Welcome New Members

Deane Bergstrom



<u>Member</u>	<u>Where From</u>	<u>Miata</u>	<u>Area Rep</u>
Gail Wagner & Steve Wilson	Ithaca	06 Red	Joe Lamphere
George T. & Teresa M. Clonan	Liverpool	11 Red	Karen Abbott
Joe Lormand	Manlius	05 Silver	Denise Wargo
George Jersey	Barneveld	94 Red	Karen Abbott

November/December Events

Midstate Miata Club Holiday Party

Lee Maddy



After the announcement of the date for the Rochester Party, many people have been asking me “Are we still going to have a club holiday party in the Syracuse area, like usual?” and “when will it be?” Well wait no longer, and mark your calendar.



For those in Rochester, it makes sense to have an option close to home. But for those of you whom one party is not enough, I hope you will still join us all in the Syracuse area (Cazenovia NY) for the Club Holiday Party.

Details:

When: Saturday, December 17th.

Where: The Brewster Inn (Cazenovia NY)

6 Ledyard Avenue

Cazenovia, NY 13035

(315) 655-9232

Come join us for dinner in a Victorian Mansion on beautiful Cazenovia Lake which was once the summer home of John D Rockefeller's partner, Benjamin **Brewster**. If you want to stay the night, 3 rooms have been reserved, but you must call and make your reservation by November 5th. Rooms start at \$110.



Cash bar and Hors d'oeuvres at 6 PM

Dinner at 7 PM

Dinner costs \$50 per person (*tax & tip included*) and will consist of choice of Salad (House or Caesar), choice of Entrée (Pork Tenderloin, Salmon, Shrimp Scampi,

Chicken Francaise, or Filet Mignon (vegetarian option also available) and Dessert (All choices will be made at dinner, selections not needed in advance).

Those of you who have been there before know that, this is a Fine Dining Experience offered at a great price.

Unfortunately, space is limited to 50 persons, act quickly and reserve your place by sending in your check.

Mail your checks (made out to Lee Maddy) for \$50 per person to:

**Lee Maddy
40 Parkington Circle
East Syracuse, NY 13057**

Rochester Area Christmas Party

Karen McKissock

On Saturday, Dec. 3rd the Rochester area will be hosting their Christmas Party at Shadow Lake Golf Club in Penfield. Cocktails and light munchies will begin at 6:30PM followed by the main entree options below:

Strip steak - \$47 per person

Crispy chicken stuffed w/basil, mozzarella cheese (not spicy) - \$39 per person

Crab stuffed sole w/sherry lobster sauce - \$40 per person

Vegetable Napoleon w/balsamic sauce and basil oil - \$31 per person

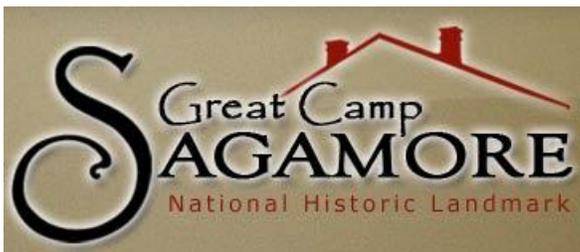
If there is anyone else that would like to join us, please contact Karen McKissock by November 18th. The more the merrier! Karen will be sending directions to everyone who signs up before Thanksgiving.

For anyone not joining us, we wish all our Midstate Miata family Happy Holidays!

Event Reports

Sagamore

Kevin Smith



19 hearty souls braved showers punctuated by patches of blue skies to see the fall colors and tour the "Great Camp Sagamore" on Saturday, September 24th.

Our day begin at 8:00 am at McDonald's at the Fayetteville Town Center where 7 cars gathered for the first leg of the trip. At McDonald's in New Hartford, we met 3 more cars to round out our caravan.

Leaving New Hartford, we headed north for the Adirondacks, stopping for lunch at the Ol' Barn Restaurant in Inlet, then on to Camp Sagamore for a 1:30pm tour. The rain stopped, and we had a pleasant time touring the

grounds and learning about the development of the Adirondack Park and how the rich & famous spent their vacation time.

Following the tour, we headed back to Old Forge for an early dinner at the Old Mill Restaurant, and then headed for home, tops down, guided by the nighttime stars.

Apple Orchard Crawl

Miriam White

Rain, Rain, Went Away! It's been a frustrating Miata season with unpredictable weather. The weatherman has not been kind. However, with top up we arrived at McDonald's but the rain stopped and stayed away for the rest of the day. Top down! After grabbing a quick bite, five cars were off to the orchards to perform quality control on the fall season's apples and fritters were the dish of choice. First stop, Deer Run where the fritters were hot, fresh and covered in lots of sugar. Then... off to O'Neill's, after more fritters and more apples, pancake mixes and jams in our trunks, we zoomed off to McClusky's higher up the hill where the view of the valley was ablaze in its fall foliage colors. And to Beak and Skiff where the chili was hot, the apple samples plenty and more goodies were crammed into our trunks. Then down the hill to the Beak and Skiff apple winery. The winery building was an old farm house and included many gift ideas besides their wine. Then across the road to the new apple vodka building. The vodka was excellent, but didn't taste like apples! The gleaming distillery equipment could be seen through floor to ceiling glass. A patio off the tall barn like building led out to a spectacular panoramic view of the valley. A great place for a tailgating picnic in the future?? So after all the goodies the cars wanted to zoom along country roads. After zooming up 13 turns, ice cream awaited us at Gannon's in the valley. What looked like a wet gloomy day turned out to be a dry, fun adventure.



Road Rally

Norm & Karen Abbott



Sunday October 9th turned out to be a **gorgeous** day for the annual "Bill Hodge Memorial Road Rally." We met at the Fayetteville Town Center McDonald's and after a brief drivers/navigators meeting; the cars began departing 3 minutes apart. The foliage was beautiful against the clear blue sky on an 80-degree autumn day. We could not have asked for better weather. We did not even have all 15 cars out on the road when our emergency number began to ring with a few getting mixed up in the very beginning as they crossed past each other taking turn after turn with no road names mentioned. Our understanding is some very helpful club members even helped each other out a little as they continued to compete. Our route included several picturesque roads and of course Gulf Road, since we were in the area. The cars continued to criss-cross past each other as they wove through the countryside looking for answers to the many questions. Attention to detail was important, as road names were only mentioned occasionally to make sure you were still on track. As the title of this years road rally implies, "Winding Roads, Waterfalls and Wizards," cars made it through many curves and winding roads, past the beautiful Chittenango Falls cascading in all her glory, and eventually ending at Delphia's Restaurant in the hometown of the author of the Wizard of Oz, L Frank Baum. The group did a great job, and no one was lost. The results were very close, and our winner is **Tom and Bev Cavanaugh** again. I am beginning to think

something funny is going on as we won two years in a row, and now the Cavanaugh's have done the same. I can assure you we did not plan this, but it sure does look fishy. Congratulations Tom and Bev and enjoy your trophy until next year when we all rally again to take the trophy away from you.

Sun Shines on A&W Drive-In

Dawna Fetter

On September 18th eight Miatas were joined by a vintage Camaro and a Skye on a perfect, blue sky, fall day for an excursion to the Cortland A&W Drive In. Top down all the way there and back. Can't beat it !!!



Joint Midstate Miata/ CNY MG Club Event

Tom Cavanaugh



On a beautiful fall Saturday the Midstate Miata Club was invited to join the CNY MG Club for their "Run B4 Sleep Rally". We met at Chittenango Falls State Park. A total of 25 cars started the run with 9 of the cars being Miatas. With a word of caution at the drivers meeting about the possibility of some of the British cars having over heating brakes(!) on a steep hill along the route , we were off. Stops along the way included a little out the way country boutique, BBQ and cider at O'Neill's Orchard, a little hike at Labrador Hollow Unique Area, a stop at Cross Creek Nursery for a free 8 inch Mum, and finally, a stop for ice cream at Kimberly's in Manlius to end the day. All throughout the day we enjoyed the magnificent colors of fall while cruising the back roads and hills south of Syracuse.

Hosts Ray and Linda from CNY MG did an outstanding job organizing this run. I don't think they expected this many cars, but they handled every detail which included, name tags for everyone including guests, coupon filled goody bags, free mums, and a 25 car caravan which was conducted with military precision, with great aplomb. Major kudos to them.

This is the second joint venture between our club and the CNY MG Club. I think we mesh very well together as the CNY MG guys and gals are a fun bunch just like us. Personally, as a vintage car buff, I really enjoy the sounds and eye candy of these historic cars as we motor along together. I hope you can join us on our next joint run as I think you would enjoy the camaraderie we share as sports car owners.

Mass Miata Club to host 2012 Fall Event

Bob Sabella

The Mass Miata Club will host the Fall for New England regional event October 11th - 14th 2012. They announced the event at the recent PACE Buggies & Bridges event held in Lancaster PA. The Mass Club web site with details for cost, lodging, planned events, etc. may be found at:

www.massmiata.net/FallForNewEngland/

Etc.

A Sad Day for Carl Kohl

Karen McKissock

I just talked to Carl to follow up on an email he sent me about a bad car accident he was in with his 2007 Miata on Sunday. The bad news is the car is totaled...the good news is Carl is doing as well as can be expected. He has a broken wrist, some broken fingers, 2 broken ribs and broken vertebrae so he's a hurting puppy. He got out of the hospital on Thurs. but is looking at a couple months in a back brace and cast on his arm. He sounds in good spirits (but is still on pain killers) and is looking forward to getting another Miata in the spring.

Carl shared that he's written to the Miata forum to say how well the car held up when he hit a pick up going 55 mph. The truck made an unexpected left turn right in front of him on a local road down near Naples. He's a very lucky guy and we're happy it wasn't much worse! We're also really glad he's coming back to the fold in the spring. He and Deb are a nice couple and add to the fun dynamics of our club. So if anyone has a chance to drop him a note please feel free.

Get well soon from all of us to Carl!

Wheels for Sale

Lou Nefflen

I have the following set of wheels for sale. They are 16 inch. Original Equipment, alloy wheel, like new with a little curb rash on one wheel. Selling as set for \$400 or best offer. Contact Lou Nefflen (315-451-3321 leave message.)

Midstate Miata Club Officers for 2011

President: Lee Maddy

Vice President and Activities Chairperson: Jay Cartini

Communications Manager and Newsletter Editor: Deane Bergstrom

Treasurer: Ronnie Sabella

Membership & History: Bob Sabella