

Midstate Miata Club of New York

“Miata Meanderings”

Official Newsletter for November/December 2016

Visit the Midstate Miata Club on the Internet at:

www.midstatemiata.net



President's Message



Well here we are at the end of the driving season for another year. So sad....but we sure had lots of opportunities to have fun zooming around the state and making new friends! And we certainly grew the club with a lot of new members. I hope you all welcomed them into our fold and kept them under your wings for their first year. I think the concept of special identification on their badges (red dot) was a SUPER idea. Let's adopt that permanently.

As Thanksgiving approaches, I can't thank the Board members, volunteers and Area Reps for all their hard work and diligence. And thanks to those who have stepped up to fill positions as we needed to. I'd also like to thank everyone who planned and executed our events as Event Coordinators. The ideas and logistics are greatly appreciated as are the rides themselves. Thank you, thank you, thank you from me and all our membership. Without you we can't have any fun....boo hoo (lol...just in time for Halloween)!



Now on to the next holiday...Christmas and our Holiday Party. I know John and Elaine Piston have worked hard to plan another great brunch for us (and the Governor opened the bars earlier too)! So time is running short to get your reservations back to them, so please fill out the form included in this newsletter and send it back today. For those who have not been yet, the location is lovely, the food is great and the fun will be had by all. To that end, please remember the white elephant gift to exchange as well as a gift for the children. (See the note attached)

Last, but not least, we will begin the 2017 election of officers in December. (Let's get the Presidential one over first) So please put your thinking caps on and consider if you would like to run or have a nomination for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. I will send instructions and a timeline that will align with our by-laws sometime in December. We will share the results of the voting at our Annual Planning meeting in late Feb. or early March. Stay tuned, but dust off the roster and get some ideas for our leadership team for the next 2 years.

**Zoom safely,
Karen**



Welcome New Members

Deane Bergstrom

<u>Member</u>	<u>Where From</u>	<u>Miata</u>	<u>Area Rep</u>
Bruce & Liz Freeland	Pittsford	2006 Silver	Marcy Edmiston
Alain Lepel	Rochester	2014 Gray	Marcy Edmiston
Steve & Irene Scott	Dryden	2003 Blue	Gail Wagner

November/December Events

Sunday, December 4 - Holiday Party

John & Elaine Piston

Holiday party time is upon us again!! We will be having a beautiful Holiday Brunch at the **Springside Inn's "The Point at Sand Beach"** facility located at 2924 Sand Beach Rd., Auburn, N.Y. (<http://springsideinn.com/banquets-and-meetings/the-point-at-sand-beach/>). The cost will be \$20.00 per person (taxes & gratuity included) and includes brunch and desserts. A copy of the flyer and reservation form for the party accompanies this newsletter as well as a list of toys suggested for donation. **All reservations must be submitted by November 11.**

October Event Reports

Honesdale, PA Harvest & Heritage Festival

Lon & Carol Trelease

Oct 8 Drive to Honesdale, PA



In spite of the threat of rain, 15 Miatas, their drivers, and passengers gathered in Windsor for the drive to Honesdale, PA, 3 from the Ithaca area and 12 from the Southern Tier. As it turned out, there was no rain and the temperature was pleasant so we were able to run with tops down both to and from. Lunch at Hotel Wayne was enjoyable as well as the walk down the main street browsing what the vendors on the side walk had for sale.

The railroad museum was open so we checked it out. In it is a full scale replica of the Stourbridge Lion steam locomotive, manufactured in 1829 and the first one to be operated in the US, right there in the Honesdale area. The drive leaving Honesdale via PA 670 was especially fun for a Miata, smooth pavement with lots of twisty curves. As a side note, we had an unusual transaction occur at the meeting place in Windsor. One of our members sold his new 2016 Grand Touring Miata to another member on the spot! The seller said the car was too small for him and the buyer got a great deal!!

Sunday, October 16 - Cornell Ornithology Lab & Trail Walk **Gail Wagner & Steve Wilson**

As the clouds cleared and the sun came out with top-down comfortable temperatures, eight Miatas met in Ithaca on Sunday morning for quick socializing, a driver's meeting and a short drive down Route 13N to the "Cornell Ornithology Lab Imogene Powers Johnson Center for Birds and Biodiversity" on Sapsucker Woods Road in Ithaca. We met another Miata member at the Lab bringing the total to 9 cars.



At the Lab, a beautiful building connected to hundreds of woodsy acres devoted entirely to birds and mammal science, we were treated to a scheduled visitor's tour to learn about the history and interesting work on-going at the Lab as we were guided behind the scenes for an inside look at this 100-year old institution.

After our tour, we were on our own to tour the building, watch an introductory film, check out the library, see world-class art and check out the interactive bird exhibits. Many of us ambled surrounding trails of various lengths and boardwalks to explore in the beautiful autumn sunshine Sapsucker Woods, the 230-acre sanctuary that encompasses forests, ponds, swamps, and abundant wildlife. Wild birds and waterfowl were also visible from within the Visitor Center in the bird-feeding garden and across the pond.

I think everyone agreed it was an interesting, fun day enjoying our Miatas and re-connecting with Miata friends.

"WENCH WITH A WRENCH"

Gail Wagner



WINTER STORAGE TIPS Hi, Miata Folks, This is a re-run of a previous column I wrote a few years ago. Since we have a quite a few new members, I thought it might be apropos to print this column again for the newbies and as a refresher to us "oldie" club members as we tuck our Miatas away for storage. Yes, sadly, it's almost time to prepare our Miata's for their long winter's nap. Below are some tried-and-true pointers I have found invaluable to keep our Miata's in good condition over the long, cold NY winter and ready for spring reawakening. Warning: Most of you know I am obsessive-compulsive about maintenance. 😊

☐ **Change the oil and filter** to remove acids and other waste products that can corrode your motor. I recommend using the OEM Mazda genuine filter with anti-drain back valve in it. Our Mazda dealer Club sponsors give us parts discounts. Use a good quality motor oil too. I now use Mobil One synthetic. It's your choice to use synthetic oil or real petroleum-based oil but do not mix both together. You can always DIY or buy your own oil and Mazda filter and take it to a trusted mechanic to change for you.

☐ **Wash, wax and thoroughly clean the interior of your car.** This includes washing underneath especially the wheel wells to remove dirt. Vacuum thoroughly to remove food crumbs that entice small creatures to picnic on leftover Doritos or the like in your vehicle. Critters can be unbelievably destructive not to mention their

indiscriminate excretory habits. Consider taking your removable carpets indoors to prevent becoming musty. Place a couple of scented dryer sheets inside to discourage critters. DO NOT use mothballs. It takes all summer to remove the nasty naphthalene fumes which are toxic stuff not healthy to breathe.

- Check all fluid levels** before storage especially the coolant/antifreeze level. Buy a little hydrometer at an auto parts store and check the freeze point or have it checked and coolant flushed/replaced if necessary before winter. This ain't California, ya' know. Old coolant can corrode the engine, cooling system and heater core.
- Fill the gas tank** completely to prevent condensation that may contaminate your gasoline and corrode the fuel system. Some suggest premium gas without ethanol (which contains water). **IMPORTANT:** add a gasoline stabilizer additive such as "Sta-bil" and run the engine to mix it in to prevent the gasoline from becoming "gummy" that may clog injectors from sitting over time.
- Check your tire pressure.** Some suggest a slight tire over-inflation may prevent flat spots on your tires if you are not putting the vehicle up on jack stands. More on jack stands later.
- Consider placing a sheet of heavy plastic polyethylene sheeting** under the entire vehicle to prevent vapor buildup plus it's easy to spot any fluid leaks (I hope not!).
- Remove the battery** to a warm, dry place (and charge once a month, if possible) or leave it in the vehicle and consider plugging in a trickle battery charger if you have access to an electrical outlet. It's a popular myth that the battery will discharge if stored on a concrete floor. It won't, but if you're a non-believer (like my husband) set it on a piece of wood.
- Wrap the wipers in plastic wrap** to prevent the rubber from sticking to the windshield or remove completely and store indoors. I told you I was O-C.
- Jack Stands:** If considering putting your vehicle up on jack stands to prevent flat spots on your tires, don't put the jack stands under the frame as it will stress the rubber bushings in the suspension if the suspension "droops". Try to keep the weight as it is now... that is, put the jack stands under the outer ball joints to approximate it sitting on the ground.
- Release the parking break.** If left on, the brake pads may stick to the rotors and we can't have that, can we?
- Exhaust & air intake:** Remove the air filter, wrap it in aluminum foil and replace and cover the end of the exhaust pipe with aluminum foil to prevent warm, fuzzy critters from nesting in both areas and causing havoc. Again, do not use toxic moth balls.
- IMPORTANT:** leave yourself a little note taped to the steering wheel to remind yourself to move the Aluminum foil from the intake air filter and exhaust pipe or the car won't start and you'll be wondering why J and note any maintenance issues you might want to address in the spring so you don't forget.
- Car Cover:** Consider a good, ventilated, breathable car cover if you don't have one to allow water vapor to leave the vehicle and keep dust and dirt off the finish.
- Lock the doors,** give 'er a little pat on the fender and say, "See you in April".

Gail

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 CNY 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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