



In The Breeze



September 2009

Newsletter of the Bluebonnet MX-5 Miata Club

Still Free!

Special Edition Apparently Not For U. S.

To commemorate 20 years of the Mazda MX-5 Miata, known in Japan simply as the Mazda Roadster, its parent company has released a special edition version of its lightweight open-top sports car for the Japanese market. The Mazda Roadster 20th Anniversary goes on sale at all Japanese Mazda dealerships.

Celebrating its 20th birthday this year, the 2010 Mazda Roadster has attracted a wide range of customers since its launch in 1989, and is currently sold in approximately 60 countries. The Roadster was certified as the world's most produced two-seater, open-top sports cars by Guinness World Records when production reached 800,000 units. Total production of the Mazda Roadster now stands in excess of 860,000 units.

The Roadster 20th Anniversary is based on both the soft-top model with a 6-speed manual transmission, and the retractable hard-top with a 6-speed automatic transmission. Special equipment includes unique red and black RECARO bucket sport seats, exclusive '20th Anniversary' badges, and clear front fog lights.

Special equipment include RECARO bucket sport seats, '20th Anniversary' badges, clear front fog lights and bezels, 205/45 tyres and 17-inch aluminium wheels, front strut tower bar and heated seats.

All 20th Anniversary models come in Crystal White Pearl Mica, used for the first time on the Mazda Roadster.



This is the original photograph of the Special Edition. Note the right side drivers position. On the back page I flipped the photograph to give you an "American" look of this beautiful car. The above story was taken from an Arabic story written this past July. Pricing for the new MX-5 was in UAE dollars, so, I'm guessing the Arab world will be getting this car too.

-Ed

2009 Club Officers

President
Virginia Weaver

**Vice President
& Newsletter Editor**
George Lucas

Secretary
Lynn Knapik

Treasurer
Marilyn McCullen

Membership
Betty Jackson

Webmaster
Don Privett

Roving Reporter (Appointed)
Dave Hamilton

Welcome New Members!

Dave Craft

San Antonio

1993 Brilliant Black

Keith E. Fillmore

Floresville

2002 Emerald Green Mica

Cole and Tara Ingram

San Antonio

1997 Montego Blue

Edward Jordan

LaVernia

1994 Classic Red

Mickey and Melissa Parish

Harper

1992 Silverstone Metallic

EZ does it...

It's no secret my driving style is different than lots of our members. Heckie darn, we're all different, really. While I'm more of the "easy does it, smell the roses" kind of driver, there are also "hey, this car is made for zoomin', dude" drivers as well. If these styles and all between are safe, it's all good, right?

I was talking with some members about these differences and came up with a way to inform members, and especially new members that look forward to going on our runs, to let them know what level the run will be. So, in the future runs will be designated by "Zooms". One Zoom for the easy-going type, two Zooms for all-round speeds with some spirited parts included. And three Zooms will be, you guessed it, spirited runs. Now, just know everyone is invited on all runs but this might be helpful for those that have had either trouble keeping up in the past or just want to know what to expect.

What I ask of those of you leading runs is to please tell me at what level you plan to use so folks can make an educated decision regarding joining in on the run.

I've talked to other clubs and while they don't use this system, they do mention if the run will be a slow or fast run. How boring...I mean, we have Zooms!

This month's "Upcoming Events" won't have these designations, but next months will.

How many Zooms are you???

George Lucas

(A one Zoomer, for sure)



Welcome back!!!

Chip Slade and Dianne Hart, San Antonio,

'90 Classic Red

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"Quickly, Robin... to the BAT CAVE!"

(Episode 14)

Sixteen Miata crews braved the heat to attend our 14th Annual "Bat Cave Run" on Saturday, August 8th, 2009, including six Miatas that came down from Austin.

First of all, I want to say THANK YOU to Marilyn McCullen for letting me ride navigator with her while my Miatas are off the road. She did an excellent job of driving lead and setting a nice pace for the group!

The starting point at the McDonald's at Ralph Fair Road worked out well. We went up through Bergheim and Kendalia, then took a narrow county road the back way into Blanco for a rest break at the Shell station. From there, we went along the Blanco River on FM 1623 & up the Albert- Hye Road, then west on Ranch Road 1 past the LBJ Ranch and Historic Park. From Stonewall, west to Luckenbach Road and south to Luckenbach, Texas for our dinner break. Along the way, we saw a herd of Llamas, a herd of Bison and a herd of Wildebeest, along with a couple of other types of antelope.

We enjoyed the BBQ, fried fish & other delights in Luckenbach while the road crew for "Asleep at the Wheel" did their set-up and sound check in the dance hall. The only bad part of the day was when Larry Bader's daughter, Katherine, took a tumble off of the curb by the dance hall and sprained her ankle. Bummer of a way to celebrate your 18th birthday, but she'll be OK. She's been coming to the Bat Cave Run since her 13th birthday. The Luckenbach staff members got right to her, got her leg elevated and had a big bag of ice on her ankle within a couple of minutes. An X-ray that night at Wilford Hall showed that there was nothing broken & she'll just need to stay off of it for a while. Needless to say, she & her Dad split off from the group and headed back to San Antonio.

We continued south on FM 1376 to Sisterdale (a herd of Zebras along the way), west on 473 and up the Old San Antonio Road ("Old No. 9 Rd.") to the Old Tunnel Wildlife Management Area. After half an hour, the bats emerged at 7:48 and we watched a Red Tail Hawk trying to catch them. There was still plenty of light to see what was going on and there was a pleasant breeze coming up the valley.

The Austin crowd went up to 290 to drive home and the San Antonio crowd went south on Old No. 9 to Comfort & were on IH-10 before it got completely dark. The cooler air of the evening made for a nice roof-down drive home.

My thanks to all who attended, the staff at Luckenbach and especially Marilyn for the lift!
Until next year's 15th annual, I remain your batty friend,

George Briscoe





Dash & Splash



Another year, another HOT day, Ennie and I set up for the annual Splash and Dash Run. We prepared everything Friday night, only to wake up Saturday morning to find it had rained heavy during the night. But by the time the run was finished everything was mostly dry.

We were a bit worried about how many would attend the run. With the hot weather, and the e-mails we received were all about why people would not be able to come this year, we proceeded to the gathering point to await the participants. We got there about 10 minutes early and there was nobody!!

Slowly a few came and then more until we finally had 12 cars. The run was only about 50 minutes but was fun. I was going the speed limit but those in the back were going 80 to keep up. We turned off 481 near Rio Medina on CR 2615. Being a Medina County back road, it was bumpy since they never resurface the roads but only repair the pot holes with patches. But some of the road was nice with some good curves and a couple of water crossings (some dry and some wet), until we came to the three short sections where they did redo the road. Only problem was they redid the road with loose stones, so we went over these areas REALLY SLOWLY! Turning right on CR271 we got a great view of Medina Lake, still blue and beautiful but woefully low due to the drought. Finally past Mico we turned on the 1283, and got behind a rolling road block going 35-40 in a 65 mph speed zone. We took a short break at Park Road 37, and then ran down the Park road with clear sailing till close to the end.

Back home the grill was fired up for the cheeseburgers, hamburger, and turkey burgers. Ennie had cooked some sausage in a bed of sauerkraut, some HOT beans, potato salad, fruit salad brought by Kathy and Mary Ann, cherry strudel brought by Dwight Micklethwait, some nice desert cakes by Paul & Judy. Jose and Irma brought a bottle of Tequila, but between the beer and sangria, no other alcohols were needed. Of course Ennie's mom had a big plate of Turon (banana fritters.)

Soon after pigging out, the annual bash with the ball in pool began. JC and Betty showed up and then Jim Treat. After everybody ate, the volleyball began...boys against the girls. First game was won by the guys by one point. 2nd game was won by the guys by a blow-out as the shorter girls were treading water in the deep end, and the third was more competitive but the girls still tired from treading water, were beaten again. But everyone had fun. Thanks to those who didn't play but retrieved the balls that left the pool and Scott Long who did a bang up job refereeing (he was a pre-game injury after being body slammed by sweet Betty on a dispute whether, Scott should get in the pool or not - actually he slipped on the side of the pool, scraping his knee.)

Time to rest in the shade of the trees and umbrellas, telling fun stories, who watches the Bachelor/Bachelorette, Dancing with the Stars, Who likes Simon Cowell, and the latest and weirdest movies that everybody had been seeing recently. Marilyn qualified for the weirdest, by going to the Bijou and seeing movies nobody ever heard about.

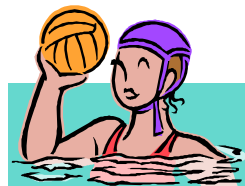
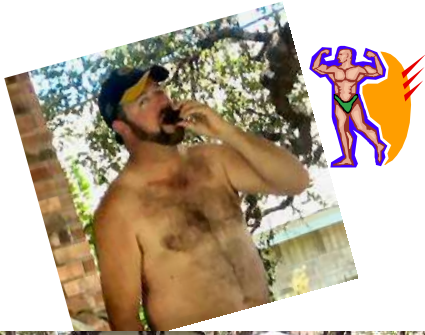
We also want to greet some new friends and hopefully future member. George Killingsworth is the neighbor of Dwight Micklethwait, and George bought his son, Kris, a 2004 Black/Cherry Miata.

Both George and Kris attended the run and info was given to Kris on filing for membership. Paul and John Schuldheisz are friends that drove their Mercedes roadster. They said they really enjoyed the run and Ennie and I will continue to exhort them to buy a Miata (fat chance!).

So after a great day, the run that will be in someone else's pool NEXT year, (well, maybe not! The hassle that's involved fades away when your friends are having a good time.)

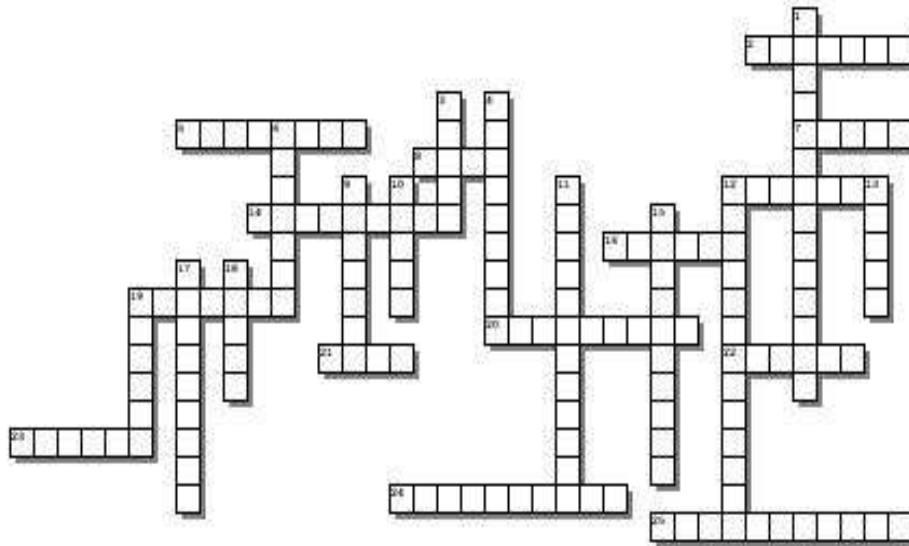
Tim & Ennie McCurdy

Dash & Splash Photos



Sizzling Summer

Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 2 - Being outside makes you this way
 5 - This, along with high temps, makes you miserable
 7 - Pacific or Atlantic
 8 - Try to keep this way
 12 - The ____ of summer
 14 - Use this and lots of it!
 16 - Drink lots of these
 19 - Put this in your radiator
 20 - Better not use this
 21 - What's that???
 22 - Feels like we live there
 23 - Haven't seen a wet one in a while
 24 - Don't get hit by one of these!
 25 - San Antonio's record temps have been here

Down

- 1 - You need one of these
 3 - Color of most yards now
 4 - You don't need these now
 6 - What we're having right now
 9 - Sweet or unsweet?
 10 - Let's go there!
 11 - Tim and Ennie shared theirs
 12 - What some of you did this past weekend
 13 - Top down makes you do this
 15 - It is, now
 17 - Can't wait for our first one!
 18 - This can be done by hand (Get yer mind outta the gutter, Dave)
 19 - You can grow these now



**Next Year these photos could be of YOU!!! Sign up now!!!
Get in touch with Marcia Carlow today!!!**



In The Breeze

Bluebonnet Miata Club

San Antonio, Texas

<http://www.bluebonnetmiata.org>



Check your mailing label for your renewal date. Please renew your membership promptly!

Upcoming Runs and Events

- Saturday, August 29th, led by Larry Bader. Miata Day with the Confederate Air Force in Burnet, Texas. Many from the Austin Club will be there and you can get your picture taken with vintage aircraft! Donation at the site will be \$10, which, I believe, includes lunch. Meet at 8:00 a.m., leave 8:10 a.m. from the Exxon in Helotes. Ask Larry for more details.
- Saturday, September 12th, led by Mike and Betty Jackson. Annual Catfish Run to Austin. Check the calendar for details.
- Wednesday, September 16th, led by Dave and Marilyn Hamilton. Burger Run. No details available at press time, please check the calendar.
- Tuesday, September 22nd, Monthly meeting. IHOP, 1604 @ 281 North. Greet and eat at 6:30, meet at 7:30.
- Saturday, September 26th, NASCAR Burger Run, led by Jim and Freda Treat. Check the forum on our website for more details.

Coming Next Month!!! Stephanie's Tech Tips!

Stephanie Turner, our own BEGI pro, will launch a regular column next month called Tech Tips and Answers. Send me your questions and she'll answer them in next month's column!