



In The Breeze



Special Moab Issue!

June 2010

Newsletter of the Bluebonnet MX-5 Miata Club

Still Free!

Miatas in Moab Huge Hit



The "Miatas in Moab IV" was held recently in Moab, Utah. Representing the Bluebonnet Miata Club were, left to right, front row: Jon Frank, Wanda Begnoche, Linda Morrow and Lisa Martin. Back row: Paul Begnoche, Paul Ballew, Yong Ballew and Craig Martin. This was the first Moab for them all and really had a great time. Stories from the Begnoches and the Martin's are featured inside!



Well we have come to the end of another month. It is also time to step up and volunteer for the Statewide. There are several committees to choose from and they are all free. So give Pat Franklin a call or send her an email; I promise it won't hurt a bit. There are a few members that I would like to take this time to say thank you for what they do for the club and for what they mean to me. First, I would like to thank Pat Franklin for her friendship and guidance as it makes this job a whole lot easier. Next are Don and Judy Privett not only for their friendship but showing me how much more enjoyable the club can be just by helping it grow. When we bought our first Miata we bought a car for us. Just the two of us, it was our brother-in-law who suggested that we find a Miata Club and it was after that we found the Bluebonnet Miata Club that our car became a member of the family and has a personality all its own so thank you for accepting us into your family and to all new members welcome to our family.

-Mike Jackson, President

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writes the entire cost of this
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appreciate their support!**

EZ does it..



Ohhh, when I got the stories from our own Craig and Lisa Martin and Paul and Wanda Begnoche on the Miatas in Moab event, it really made me regret not having gone. But, given my limited resources, I thought better of making two far flung Miata events in the same year. Besides, my plan is to extend the August Romp Through The Rockies event to an extended road trip all but cinched it for me to stay home this go around for Moab. I'll make Miatas in Moab V, though...it's on my list of to-dos. A HUGE thanks to the Martin's and Begnoches for providing me great stories as well as breathtaking photographs!

Since I've "retired", I've been busier than ever with my part time ventures. So much so, that I've missed some of our own runs! That just won't do! For instance, I missed Stephanie's recent Hill Country run. Thanks to some of the participants filling me in, I heard it was fantastic and I won't miss her next run, I promise!

The hot weather is here along with humidity making for uncomfortable convertible weather. Make sure you wear lots of sun screen when doing your top down cruising.

See you on the road!

-Editor



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Our Moab Experience

By Craig and Lisa Martin

Ever since we first heard last year of Miatas at Moab IV May 14-16, Lisa and I made plans to attend. We had never been to southeastern Utah, let alone gone on such a road trip in her beautiful red Miata. We were not disappointed. This was one of the best vacations we had ever had! We drove the best roadster made to one of the most beautiful locations in the U.S. and spent some time getting to know club members. If you've never been to Miatas at Moab, I would recommend it.

We were among some 300 Miatas representing 46 official Miata clubs and 13 unaffiliated groups from 32 States and Provinces in the U.S. and Canada.

We headed toward Utah May 12 so we could have a leisurely two-day drive, making it all the way to Albuquerque on the first day, then in to Moab on Day 2. We checked in for the event at the Canyonlands Hotel early Friday morning and ran into Tejas club members Paul and Wanda Begnoche and Jon Frank and Linda Morrow, all of whom are members of our Bluebonnet Club as well. We had already met up with Tejas club members Paul and Yong Bellew the evening before; meeting up with club members who we had been on runs with before helped make Miatas at Moab IV a more enjoyable experience.

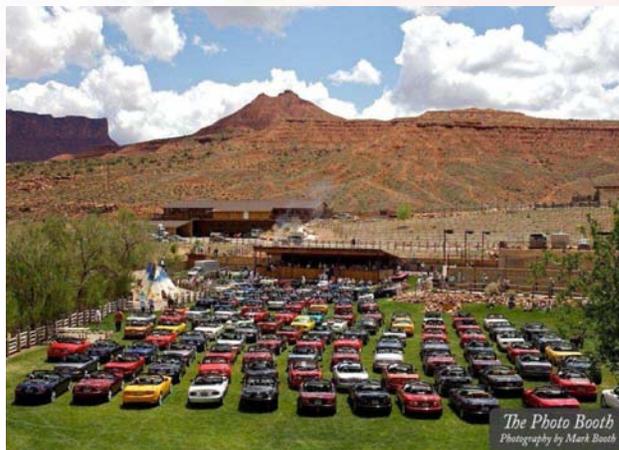
Lisa and I signed up for a run to Arches National Park for the first thing Friday morning. Nearly 40 cars made the early run up Arches. Arches is one of the most beautiful National parks we've been to. The park itself encompasses 119 square miles and is known to preserve over 2,000 natural sandstone arches, including the world famous Delicate Arch. There were many spectacular views along the way, and seeing all those Miatas traveling up the mountain was a site to see as well. In addition to a number of arches to see, there are several rock formations that are worth seeing as well. Since there were about 40 cars making this run and limited parking available at the various viewpoints, we decided to run back up the mountain in the afternoon and do some hiking to see some of the arches close up.

Friday evening there was a dinner at the Bar M BBQ. It was a Western BBQ Beef & Chicken Feast with all the trimmings. There was an Old West Gunfight, Games, Western Village, Gift Shop, Chuck Wagon Supper and Old West Entertainment Show featuring old country music after the dinner. It was a truly enjoyable evening.

Saturday morning we got up bright and early to get started on the Castle Valley Road run. We were told that the drive along the Colorado River is one of the best Miata drives in the world. They weren't kidding! When we reached Castle Valley, we were surrounded by massive red rock cliffs towering thousands of feet in the air. One of the most prominent sand stone features in the valley are the rocks called "The Priest and the Nuns." When you see the formation in the picture, you will realize that this formation is very appropriately named.

At noon Saturday was the Miatas at Moab photo shoot at the Red Cliffs Lodge. It was awesome to see 199 Miatas of various colors and years all in one place for one photo!

Saturday afternoon we drove to Dead Horse Point State Park. This park, located off Highway 313, is adjacent to Canyonlands National Park. The drive up Highway 313 had some fun twists and turns. The park itself featured a dramatic overlook of the Colorado River. The park got its name because of its use as a natural corral by cowboys in the 19th century. The plateau is high and has a narrow neck of land (only 30 yards wide) connecting the mesa to the main plateau. Legend has it that one herd of horses and died of thirst, thus



*The Photo Booth
Photography by Mark Booth*

There were so many them in. But Miatas at May 2012, and we plan to

And for those of you who

Most popular color in attendance: Classic Red Most popular color for PRHT: Copper Red (13 in attendance) Our beloved True Red was in 4th place with 8 in attendance. Nearly 300 cars in attendance. 199 cars for the photo shoot.

other rides that we couldn't fit Moab V will be the second week of attend!

are statistic junkies:

attendance: Classic Red Most popular color for PRHT: Copper

Moab Side Trips

By Craig Martin

While Lisa and I were driving to Moab, Utah, for Miatas at Moab IV, we decided to take two side trips: One to Four Corners on the way to Moab, and one to the Buddy Holly Center in Lubbock on our way home.

Both side trips were spur of the moment trips.

So, we decided to take the extra 45 minutes out-of-the-way jaunt to Four Corners. After all, we were going to be SO close, and there are no other locations in the U.S. where you can stand in four states simultaneously. What a treat it would be to stand in Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico and Utah at the same time, right?

Well, we arrived and to our surprise the monument was closed! How could that be? We're just talking dirt! But it was fenced off and closed because the monument and visitor's center/gift shop were being renovated.



On our way back from Moab, we stopped at the Buddy Holly Center. Buddy Holly is one of my favorite artists, and he had such an impact on the direction of rock and roll. So, Lisa and I piloted her Miata into town and found the Center no problem. But, you guessed it, it was closed for renovation. But we DID get to have our pictures taken on the outside of the building!



Hopefully when we go to Miatas at Moab V in 2011, both places will be open!



Woke up early on a Wednesday morning and drove from Manor to Georgetown, Texas to meet with Jon Frank and Linda Morrow. First day's driving took us through Abilene, Lubbock, Clovis (NM) and stopped at Santa Rosa, NM. About 584 driving miles driven and we were exhausted. We had a hotel on the Historic Route 66. Next day launched around 8am heading West. Onward West through Albuquerque then to Gallup turning north to Cortez, CO and driving into Moab, UT. We got nervous when we saw lots of snow on the mountains.



After an additional 481 miles, we arrived just after 5pm into downtown Moab then drove another 14 miles to the Red Cliffs Lodge (<http://www.redcliffslodge.com>), a very peaceful area with cows in the corral, horses and Canadian Geese in the pasture. The lodge is situated on the Colorado River at the base of high canyon walls. And they have their own winery (which is very important for those that know us)

The event was hosted by the Utah Miata Club (www.utahmiataclub.com). They did an excellent job at putting this together. We found ourselves never bored in fact very tired at the end of each day because there just was so much to take in. I also think the higher altitude had something to do with it. Their website boasts over 300 Miatas descending upon Moab, Utah. I know there were 175 at the photo shoot on Saturday. Weather was great. Nearly clear skies each day with temps ranging from the 50s to the low 70s. One night of rain which smelled very clean and crisp.

Day One

Woke up and drove to the host hotel, arriving around 8:00am. Registration was a breeze as the sponsors had it streamlined. Craig and Lisa as well as Paul & Yong Bellew (from the Tejas Club) found us there and we all went on the Newspaper Rock tour.

Newspaper Rock is a petroglyph panel etched in sandstone that records perhaps 2,000 years of human activity in the area. Etched into the desert varnish are symbols' representing the Fremont, Anasazi, Navajo and Anglo cultures. The exact nature of these symbols meaning is still not clearly understood. But they are typical of many sites throughout the U.S. in their use of universal symbols, be it graffiti or a true "newspaper," recording events of the times and earlier.



We drove to Wilson's Arch along the main highway where we all climbed to the top. Very tiring but worth the hike. I found myself a bit tired and decided to get comfy with my sweetie.



(continued on next page)

(Paul and Wanda's Miatas in Moab story, con't from previous page)

We then stopped at the famous "Hole in the Rock" which was amazing in itself. We discovered this unique 5,000 square foot home and gift shop. Inside are fourteen fabulous rooms arranged around huge pillars. A fireplace with a 65 foot chimney drilled through solid sandstone, a deep french fryer, and a bathtub built to the rock are among the attractions. Outside the living quarters is a rock and cactus garden and nearby are picnic tables and benches carved from stone. Check this out at www.holeintherock.com.



Several of us broke off from the main group and headed to lunch. We found the Moab Brewery, a local micro-brewery. I sampled some of the local creations and found them to be quite good. After lunch, several of us did our own thing and ran up to Arches National Park, (<http://www.nps.gov/arch/index.htm>). This is a full day's run in itself. But we squeezed in as much as we could. The scenery is spectacular. However, we succumbed to exhaustion and went back to the lodge. But wait... never too tired for a wine tasting. Wanda and I went to Castle Creek Winery, (<http://www.castlecreekwinery.com>) (on the lodge property so we didn't have to stumble.. I mean walk back to our room. Tasting was free (that's a first for me). The wine was excellent and price very reasonable. We bought as many bottles as we thought could fit in the trunk (not many unfortunately). We joined Jon and Linda on their patio, overlooking a babbling brook, lots of horse and the geese, for an excellent Port Jon had brought from Pedernales Creek Vineyard near Fredericksburg. Soon it was time to go to sleep.

Day Two

This was another adventure filled day. We hooked up with Craig and Lisa and enjoyed some more events. First stop was a return trip to Arches National Park. We joined a run led group to different parts of the park. It was a short trip as we had to return to the main lodge to get our cars in place for the photo shoot. As mentioned before, 175 cars made onto the grassy area.

The afternoon run led us to Dead Horse National Park. The views here were beyond spectacular. Simply amazing! I think of it as a mini Grand Canyon. The sun was so bright even the pets had to wear shades.



The evening event was the big dinner. The weather was great but very cold! We had several speakers including a person from Mazda North America. Can't remember his name but he spoke about the history of Mazda, the Miata and the upcoming 2011 Mazda 2. Prizes were given away and soon we needed to sleep.

Day Three

Jon and Linda went on a drive around the mountain with 34 other cars. Eight hours of driving with a stop for lunch in Gateway, CO. He said the car museum there was great. Wanda and I started our journey home. Taking a bit of a different route, heading along the southern end of Colorado, through Durango and Pagosa Springs, then down through Santa Fe, NM and stopping back in Santa Rosa. Off the next day back to home, running into thunderstorms and high winds just north of Austin. Luckily no hail.



A total of 2,508 miles on our car later Wanda and I found ourselves home. By far the best place we've been to. If you've not been, this is one place you really need to go. We will be returning for Moab V in May 2012. I'm gathering pictures from those that went and will ask Don to post on our website.

Bluebonnet Miata Club Meeting Minutes April 27, 2010

Open Meeting

Introduction of new members - William and Martha Blauton, Chris Flores '91 Red, Ron McInnis '95 Merlot, Kathy Jones '91 Red, Jerry and Kay Todd '08 Copper Red.

Reports

Treasurer's Report: Marilyn McCullen reported that our current checking account balance was \$. The savings account balance is \$.

Membership: Betty Jackson reported that we have 102 members.

Webmaster: Don reports no new developments.

Newsletter: George mentioned that the Wine run was not listed in the newsletter.

Old Business

Club Pins are free to new members. \$2 for current/old members. See Betty Jackson for more information.

Club Stickers are 2 for \$5.00. See Betty Jackson for more information.

The Bluebonnet Miata Club Business cards are available for members to pass out.

Name Badges are available from Betty Jackson upon request. They are \$6.50 and due when ordering one. She needs a few more name badge orders to complete the minimum requirement.

New Business

2010 Texas Miata Round Up.

Participants were encouraged to reserve rooms at the Y.O. Ranch for \$89 a night + tax.

Don Privett has designed the Round Up website and logo. Participants will be able to register online.

Pat Franklin is seeking bids for the t-shirts.

Pat Franklin has set up committees and committee chairpersons.

Registration Committee Chair Persons: Barbara Thompson and Dave Hamilton

Funcana Committee Chair Person: Pat O'Dochery

Photography Committee Chair Person: George Lucas

Run Committee Chair Person: Rohm Thompson

Raffle and Acquisitions Committee Chair Person: Stephanie Turner Volunteered

Hospitality Committee Chair Person: Volunteer Needed

PR Committee Chair Person: Volunteer Needed

Moving of the Meeting location was discussed. Gene Carlow would like the meeting to move back to IHOP at Hwy 1604 and Hwy 281.

Pat Franklin gave the club history on the Meeting location choice. She said that historically, the President of the club has the option to move the meeting as needed. George Lucas pointed out that the club was previously forced into the IHOP location due to the limited availability of new locations. George Briscoe discussed where previous meetings were located. He also pointed out that no meeting place would be central to all club members. Stephanie Turner discussed that the meeting location is not as important as the sense of community and club spirit. Gene made a formal motion to move the meeting location back to IHOP at Hwy 1604 and Hwy 281.

The motion was seconded by George Lucas. A vote was held via a show of hands.

37 people were present at the meeting.

8 members voted to move the meeting location to IHOP

16 members voted to keep the current location at County Line restaurant.

0 members voted to move the meeting to a 3rd location designated as "elsewhere"

13 members abstained from voting

Pat Franklin made a motion to look for a new meeting place.

The motion was seconded by Shirley Barney. A vote was held via a show of hands.

37 people were present at the meeting.

27 members voted to keep looking for a new meeting location.

0 members voted to not look for a new meeting location.

10 members abstained from voting

It was discussed and decided that a majority of the members would like the meeting location to be in the Hwy 281 to I-35 area, along Hwy 1604. Using meeting rooms, where no food was served, was also discussed. Betty Jackson mentioned that the meeting time would have to moved later in the evening in order to compensate for traffic concerns. Club members were informed by the President of how hard it was to find a meeting location that could accommodate us as well as provide a central location.

Changing of the Bluebonnet Miata Club name was discussed.

George Lucas gave the history as to why the name change question was asked. He stated that he does not want to change the name of the club, but merely was asking about why there are two different logos for the club.

Pat Franklin clarified which logo was the "official" Bluebonnet Miata Club Logo.

It was unanimously discussed that the name should not be changed.

Past Runs and Activities –

Tim McCurdy told us about his breakfast run to Blanco.

George Lucas told us about the Lunar Zoomers dinner at the Greek Restaurant.

Several club members recounted the Gimmick run lead by Paul Faulkner. Pat Franklin and Marilyn McCullen won the Gimmick run by a coin toss

(amid false rumors of cheating)

New Runs and Activities –

Lunar Zoomers. Pig Stand at Broadway and 281.

Hamburger Run – May 11th – more info TBA.

MOAB – May 14th-16th

Hill Country Run – May 15th

Monthly Meeting – May 25th

New Miata Stuff

No new toys were reported.

The Meeting was adjourned. People went to the parking lot for more Miata talk.

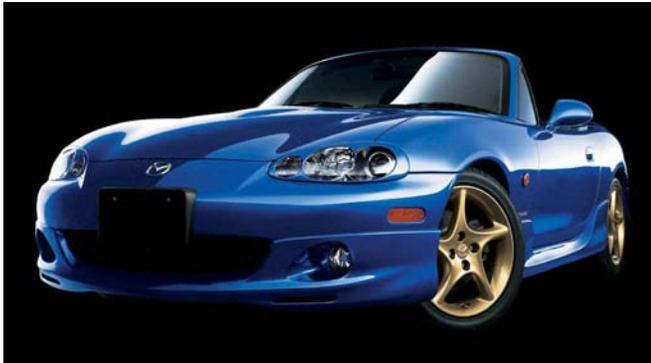
In The Breeze

Bluebonnet Miata Club

San Antonio, Texas

<http://www.bluebonnetmiata.org>

To join club or renew dues, open the above web site and click on the membership tab



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

Upcoming Runs and Events

- **Wednesday Night, May 26th, Lunar Zoomers Dinner**, 8:00 p.m., Order Up Burgers and Tacos, 20821 US Hwy 281 North. Dine out on the patio and watch the nearly full moon!
- **Saturday, May 29th, Unknown Run**, led by Paul and Judy Faulkner. Meet at the Miata Valero at 9:30 a.m., scoot out at 10 a.m. This will be the same run that took place in January when the weather was like zero degrees and only 3 cars showed up. So, this will be a NEW run to most and any run Paul Faulkner runs is FUN!!!
- **Saturday, June 5th, Chicken Fried Steak Run**, led by Jim and Freda Treat. Check the website calendar for not yet divulged details.
- **Tuesday, June 15th, Hamburger Run**, led by J.C. and Betty Herrera. Details of this run are not yet available, please check the website's calendar for updates.
- **Saturday, June 19th, Lake Travis Run**, led by Mike and Betty Jackson. Meeting place and details of this run are TBA.
- **Tuesday, June 25th, Monthly Club meeting**, Country Line Restaurant, IH10W. Eat at 6:30, meet at 7:30 p.m.