



# In The Breeze



June 2011

Official Newsletter of the Bluebonnet MX-5 Miata Club

Still Free!

## M & M Run Big "Hit"

*Okay, okay, cheap shot by your editor and I wasn't even there! The moment I heard about Marilyn McCullen's traumatic event, I just had to call her. First, knowing Marilyn as I do, I know she had to be very upset about what happened, and she was. Secondly, well, she's special and I just wanted to make sure she and Marilyn Hamilton (the other half of the M & M team) were okay.*

*We both laughed recalling how she was adamant about getting deer warning whistles added to her car. I told her she needed deer screamers, not whistles!*

*At any rate, both Marilyn's escaped that ordeal virtually unscathed and we're all happy to hear they're okay and yes, the deer is okay, too!*

*Here is Marilyn McCullen's own story about their run.*

*-Editor*

### 3M-1M=M&M (Venison) Run by Marilyn McCullen

Well, I THOUGHT the day would be perfect. The weather was beautiful-slightly overcast in the morning with clearing skies. As we waited at the Exxon at Ralph Fair Road, more and more Miatas began showing up. Marilyn Hamilton and I never expected so many people for the M&M run—20 cars! M&M cookies were passed out in keeping with the name of the run. Mike and Betty Jackson graciously agreed to be the midpoint leader and Dave Hamilton ran sweep. At about 9:30, the adventure began.

After going through the Bergheim intersection of 3351 and Hwy 46, we turned onto Edge Falls Road. The week before when Marilyn H. and I were practicing the run, I told her that Edge Falls Road was my new, favorite road, surpassing Rebecca Creek Rd. for twists and turns. Now? Not so much. About 19 miles into the run, there was suddenly a deer directly in front of me! Slamming on my brakes was not enough to avoid the inevitable and I slammed into the poor thing. I remember seeing the deer doing an amazing flip through the air. In that split second as I watched in horror, I remembered seeing the TV show Myth Busters when they showed the results of hitting a moose at various speeds. The results to the vehicles on that show were sickening...lots of damage to the front of the vehicle, the hood, the windshield, but worst of all to the roof. (Not to mention what it did to the animal dummy on the show.)

Luckily for Marilyn Hamilton and me, the deer missed the windshield and passenger compartment completely. I pulled off to the side of the road to see what the damages to the deer were. I felt sick to my stomach. Those of you who know me know that I avoid killing animals, including spiders and many insects. There was also a horrible burning smell coming from my car that I realized later was from the tires. I asked Paul Faulkner as the rancher among us to go back to check on the deer and dispatch it if necessary. Everyone was so sympathetic and supportive. I can't thank all of you enough. I never could have gotten through the ordeal without you. I also began to understand "gallows humor" as the jokes about venison for lunch were banded about. Shortly afterward, Paul came back to tell me that the deer had survived the ordeal. Mike Reynolds even showed me pictures of the animal standing on its own, after some nudging from the guys. That made ME feel a whole lot better, although I'm sure the poor deer didn't.

The "show must go on" and this includes Bluebonnet Miata runs, so we loaded up and continued. After a pit stop at the Kendalia General Store, we continued on Old Blanco Road, CR 103, and Crabapple Road back to Kendalia for the second pit stop. One of the bikers there told me that the area is having lots of problems with deer on and near the roads as they search for food and water in this awful drought. Then we headed down Sattler Road and Spring Branch Road to Hwy 46 and the Azadero 46 Bar & Grill for some yummy Mexican food. Thanks to Dave Bundick for recommending the restaurant to me. Thanks, Marilyn and Dave for the margarita. It was just what I needed. As usual, the company at lunch was wonderful. I must say that the Bluebonnet Miata Club has the best members in the world. I again want to thank Marilyn and Dave Hamilton for doing much of the pre-planning and organizing of the M&M run.

Addendum: my car sustained minor damage. A small dent on the hood and a few scratches are all the ugly reminders I have of the sad event. I am SO lucky. Things could have been so much worse.

Again, my sincere thanks to all of you who consoled me, joked with me, and sympathized with me during and after the run. Many of you called to check on me later. I can't tell you how much I appreciate it. Marilyn Hamilton, you were especially helpful. Thanks for everything.

## 2011 Club Officers

**President**  
**Betty Herrera**  
 president@bluebonnetmiata.org

**Vice President**  
**Judi Privett**  
 vicepresident@bluebonnetmiata.org

**Secretary**  
**Stephanie Turner**  
 secretary@bluebonnetmiata.org

**Treasurer**  
**Marilyn McCullen**  
 treasurer@bluebonnetmiata.org

**Membership**  
**Betty Jackson**  
 membership@bluebonnetmiata.org

**Webmaster**  
**Don Privett**  
 webmaster@bluebonnetmiata.org

**Newsletter Editor**  
**George Lucas**  
 newsletter@bluebonnetmiata.org

## Welcome New Members!

**Cliff and Paulette Thompson**

San Antonio  
 2008 Highland Green

**Derek Jones**  
 San Antonio  
 1991 Classic Red

**Christine Crowley (and friend)**

San Antonio  
 "Looking for the perfect Miata"

## EZ does it...



You'll see lots of teasing of poor Marilyn McCullen in this issue because of her, pardon the expression, "run in" with a deer several days ago. All in good fun, but truthfully, you won't hear me making fun of anyone experiencing any kind of calamity. You see, I also hit something last week. Oh, I can't claim an animal ran out in front of me, that would be so much easier to take, trust me. Well, it's like this...er...um...there was this fence. Yes, I said fence. I'd love to tell you it jumped out in front of me, but I seriously doubt you'd believe that. While pulling out of my back drive way, I looked to my left at something I thought I might hit and turned the wheel just a teensy bit too far to the right and suddenly, "CRUNCH!" My heart dropped to my stomach but I quickly thought, "c'mon, it's only a soft redwood fence post, what could that possibly hurt?" Just as I was getting out of the car, I heard this loud crash of a very large chunk of my car falling to the pavement. I almost couldn't believe what I saw!. That sound was the entire nose of EZ falling completely away from the front end! And if that wasn't enough, the right front fender had a dent big enough that Jeff said the entire fender had to be replaced.

Now some of you know of my paint sagas and when I took the car to Jeff at Jack's Paint Place to be repaired, Jeff smirked and said, "I knew you'd figure out some way to get the last part of your car painted". EZ has now been, piece by piece, fully repainted.

Yes, it was embarrassing...still is! Even my insurance agent asked, when I told him I'd prefer Jack's to do the repair work, "Wouldn't you prefer to take it to someone that doesn't know you that may not laugh at you?" Very funny. Stop laughing, people...I hear you now...stop it!

-Ed

## Inside this issue...

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| M & M Run .....                          | Front Page |
| Club Officers.....                       | 2          |
| New Members.....                         | 2          |
| EZ does it.....                          | 2          |
| Headlights On.....                       | 3          |
| Faulkner Updates.....                    | 4, 5       |
| M & M Run Story and Photos.....          | 6, 7       |
| Paul & Judy's Fun Run story, Photos..... | 8          |
| The Deer checks in.....                  | 9          |
| Sponsor's Page.....                      | 10         |
| Last month's Meeting minutes.....        | 11         |

*This month, the headlights are on...*

## Paul and Judy Faulkner

*...or, Meet the Faulkners*



*I admit I have many "favorites" in our club, that's no secret. And none more so than Paul and Judy Faulkner. This very interesting yet down to earth couple spends more than their fair share contributing to the overall fun of our club events. Paul and Judy organize no fewer than 4-5 runs each year, sometimes more! And fun runs they are! Usually what Paul likes to call "Gimmick" runs, they're always exciting and full of hijinks! I'm not exactly sure how they put them together but no matter, I doubt any of us could do a better job. They reside on a farm near Yorktown and Cuero, Texas.*

*-Ed*

**In *The Breeze*** recently asked Paul and Judy some simple questions and got some great answers. Here is the results:

**ITB: So, how long have you guys been married?**

**JP:** Almost 40 years

**ITB: What Miata(s) do you currently own and how did you become interested in the Bluebonnet Club?**

**PF:** We have a '91 White and an '04 Mazdaspeed, Titanium Gray. We became interested after we were referred to the club by an individual from whom we bought our first Miata and then attended the our first State Rally in 2000.

**JF:** We've had about 5 Miatas, our first being a 2000 and it was such a blast! And the club and it's people make it simply the best!

**ITB: Besides Bluebonnet Miata club, how do you both spend your free time?**

**PF:** Working on the farm, hunting and fishing.

**JF:** What free time, besides the club, there is no free time!

**ITB: Do you each have a memorable event or trip?**

**JF:** The State meets at the Y. O. in Kerrville!

**PF:** Our trip to Ottawa, Canada in '01 with the Franklin's and the Thompson's.

**ITB: Who are the most unforgettable characters in our club?:**

**JF:** Digital Dave, Handsome George and my fun loving husband, Paul. (*I did not solicit this answer! -Ed*)

**PF:** You and Jimbo Treat.

**ITB: Thanks, you two, it's a pleasure visiting with you both.**

***These Faulkner Updates are an attempt to bring forward all that we could contribute to the newsletter but have fallen behind.***

***Here is the Scoop!***

### ***3-27-11 SPRING FLING GIMMICK RUN***

Paul and I laid the run out several months in advance. Did we know the site to meet was changing hands and shut down for remodeling? This was just one of the several things that changed and it always makes for a bit of spontaneity in the mix. We just roll with it!

There were 14 cars that came! Wow! We took pics of each driver or team that left with their sheet for the run. It was good to see familiar faces and some new friends.

We gave them what they craved – a run sheet with blanks to fill. I'm thinking that everyone now on any run will still look for what is nailed to, on or behind something, or above a sign. Also they will think about what that big thing is in the pasture on the left.

Oh yes, the 'Come and Take It ' flag is from what battle?, Marilyn M? \_\_\_\_\_.

We incorporated our favorite roads from Gillespie County and areas. Some of the roads were Upper Albert Rd., Old Austin Rd., Gellerman Ln., Klein-Ahrens Rd., North Grape Creek Rd., and Knopp School Rd. We ended the run at Rathskellers in Fredericksburg. A map of the shops was provided for an afternoon of shopping.

Food was no less than GREAT.

Our winners of the run were: DAN & BETTY HICKS. Congratulations!

We appreciate all who came out and we were all winners to have such fun fellowship with friends.

### ***4-3-11 WINDFARM RUN***

Confession: Judy and Paul crashed the return run of the group led by the Privett's in an OTM. This was not an intended crash, however. It was Judy-and-Paul-had-to-get-out-of-the-house-jaunt. We were looking for a specific house that we spied on a run, at least twice. Judy thought it was around Camp Verde but as Paul pointed out, Judy was wrong again. We have not found the house as yet, but will continue looking. Why is it so important? J& P are looking at ideas and beginning thoughts on building another house.

This is part of the process.

It was fun to join the group and we continued with them to Singing Waters Winery in Comfort. What a neat find Judy and Don! Thanks for allowing us to come along. The winery has a delicious array of flavors.

### ***5-7-11 M & M RUN***

This was a beautiful day for a run. Everyone was very glad to be there and enjoy it all. We had the Marilyns' leading the run. Marilyn McCullen was driving and Marilyn Hamilton was riding shotgun navigator. It was a wonderful run and good roads, good weather, good friends, and the thrill of the ride. Enter: the unforeseen element.

We were the third car back. For the record, all I saw was smoke screen and an object like a limp, empty feed sack fly through the air up, over and to the right, landing on the side of the road. The smoke was from the tires and yes, we smelled rubber! The limp sack was a deer. All cars came to a halt and we must have had our hearts stuck in our throats.

*(Continued on following page)*

## ***Faulkner Updates, Con't***

The impact was quick and her car was barely blemished. Their nerves were shattered. It all happened so quickly!! After we all gathered our nerves, Paul went back to put the animal out of its misery, or so we thought. As all would marvel, the deer shook its head and sprinted off into the brush.

It did not deter our trip and we proceeded onward but somewhat more cautiously. The run was a circle and we made two stops by the Kenandalia Store. And yes, the spark plug is still hanging there on the sign in front of the door (Gimmick run of past times).

Good run plus unexpected excitement! Thanks to both M's.

### ***5-14-11 FAULKNER FUN RUN***

This was not a gimmick run; it was a real run and fun one. We had the opportunity to plan the run on Friday and execute it on Saturday. You may have thought you have done all the roads around the area but we managed to find some new ones. This was somewhat planned and somewhat by accident. Eight cars explored the run sheet with us and we were off on our journey. We left the parking lot of the YO Ranch in Kerrville and traveled out to Alfred Petsch Rd. and onward through Morris Ranch area (prior run several years ago), then Usener Rd., Old Harper Rd., Doss Spring Rd. We stopped to get pictures briefly of St Peter's Lutheran Church in Doss, Texas. We then stopped at the Doss Country Store. They have a short but good menu and are just about the only tourist spot around with clean restrooms for all. You have to wait until they refill the bin with souvenirs, because Marilyn H. bought most of them to send to her family in Mo. Named Doss. They now have personalized goods.

We continue on Langes Mill Rd and zeroed out at Jack Rabbit Rd. We did not lead the group down this road but Paul and I traveled on this fun lane on Friday. ( If you are ever out there and want a neat road, you will discover why they call it Jack Rabbit and know that it ends to a gravel road and you just have to come back the fun way you came.)

Then we went by and had nice pictures at the old Lange's Mill. Historical marker said it all and there is a no trespassing sign prominently posted. Oh how we wanted to see what was in that building. Also we found the oldest crop of poison ivy in the area and growing up the huge cypress trees. Great pics! And we continued onward to Doss-Cherry Springs Rd. WARNING, this trip had some deep dips and sharp curves among all the nice, numerous curves and hills, so be aware to not travel on the road at high speeds and careful not to lose control.

We crossed HWY 87 and continued on same road to Christ Lutheran Church at Cherry Springs Community. It was a quaint little church and also interesting historical sign said something about Rothke the circuit preacher of the area who married persons. The original house is behind some very high fence. Enter the surprise element: they were putting up huge white tents as if an event was to happen. Well someone mentioned that there was a wedding this weekend in Texas of Blake Shelton and Maranda Lambert.

The SA news mentioned it was in Boerne but we know where it was. News also said they served venison hunted by the bride. News failed to mention that the Bluebonnet Miata Club was there prior to the wedding and witnessed workers assembling large white tents.

We then went into Fredericksburg and ate at the Brewery; good as always.

And if Rona Barret were here, she would have said 'That's the Scoop!'

Best to all and Happy Trails,

**Judy and Paul Faulkner**

# M&M Run

By Craig Martin

A nice cool Spring morning greeted Bluebonnet Miata Club members as they met at the Exxon at Ralph Fair Road to begin our M&M Journey through the hill country.

Marilyn McCullen and Marilyn Hamilton (hence the M&M) gave us each home-made HEB M&M cookies to prepare us for our trip that would take us to Kendalia (twice) and ultimately to Azedero's off 46.

As the 22 cars lined up at the Exxon and turned right on Ralph Fair Road, we headed toward Bergheim as the still cool brisk breeze grazed our colorful line of NAs, NBs, NCs and NC2s. It was a scenic run along Edge Falls Road, where the scenic beauty of trees, longhorns, and goats was interrupted albeit briefly by nature prancing in front of the lead car.

A beautiful deer planted himself (or herself, not sure which) right onto Marilyn's bumper, over the hood and into the windshield before going airborne. Fortunately neither Marilyn was hurt.

"This was one of those moments when you didn't want a convertible," said Marilyn Hamilton. Fortunately, neither M&M were hurt. Since the Miatas are very well made, Marilyn McCullen's silver NB was slightly smudged on the bumper, and there were two dents on the hood.

Paul Begnoche was trailing behind Marilyn and moved Bambi off the road so no one else would mow her over. And again, fortunately Bambi was well-made too. After nudging by Paul Faulkner and Mike Reynolds, Bambi scampered off into the adjacent ranch.

Back onto 473 to our first pit stop was at the Kendalia General Store --- a rustic old building reminiscent of any general store from downtown USA.

We lined back up and headed back down 473 to Old Blanco Road and CR 103, to 1623, 1888 and Crabapple Road, where the roads were again lined with longhorns, goats and deer.

We continued back to the Kendalia General Store for our second pit stop so we could all take a look at Marilyn's car and make sure she relived that fateful moment when everyone asked what happened.

It was off again onto 473 to see more beauty of the beautiful roads that M&M planned for us. We drove along Sattler Road, Spring Branch, and a road that has become very familiar to us - 46.

Azedero's opened their doors to our motley crew as we spent several hours enjoying their Mexican food and the fellowship of our fellow Miata owners.

Marilyn & Marilyn did an outstanding job, and if you weren't there, you missed a good one.



# M&M Run Photos



# Paul & Judy's Fun Run Photos



# Dazed and Confused Doe Reports Twice for Bluebonnet Miata Club

## *A Day in the Hill Country*

The day started out like most any other day. The sun peaked over the hills and there was a nice breeze in the air. I scrounged around and was able to dig up something for breakfast before going about my day.

After breakfast I kicked back for a little bit enjoying the wind in my hair and the scenery. Off in the distance I heard a noise. I decided to go take a look at what was making the noise. Whatever was making the sound was getting closer but I still couldn't see it so I decided to hop over the fence to get a better look since it appeared to be coming down that long flat rock that runs through the place I call home.

Imagine my surprise when out of nowhere something Silver knocked me head over heels even before while I was still in the air after hopping over the fence. All I remember is seeing silver, sky, ground and sky and hearing a yell.

I landed off to the side of that long flat rock and everything went dark. Next thing I knew two of the things that got out of the twenty or so noise makers were standing next to me. They nudged me and eventually I stood up so they would stop prodding me. After I stood up for a few minutes they finally left me alone.

I just stood there for a few minutes wondering what had just happened to me and watched the colorful noisy things go their way along that long flat rock.

I still don't know what happened to me that morning in the hill country but I do know that next time I hear a Zoom-Zoom coming my way I'll stay on my side of the fence.

Signed

O Deer

---

*And, no sooner had I read the above traumatic story from our doe friend, she sends me yet another story! I think maybe her brains were a bit scrambled from the entire event...but, as my duty, I just had to publish her second story.*

*-Ed*

## **Oh, Deer!**

To The Driver Who Hit Me:

So I am minding my own business, enjoying a Saturday morning crossing the street to visit the goats when all of a sudden I am flying through the air. Son of a buck, lady, what were you thinking? There is nothing that hurts worse than deer boo-boos. I remember lying in the street when some bushy back country dude drags me to the side of the road. Ouch! Whatever happened to 'be kind to Bambi'? I check my legs to see if they are still attached. Nothing feels broken or at an angle that shouldn't be. Sure felt a little wobbly when I first stood up. Head is spinning, vision blurred. Feels like a Deer Beer hangover. And now I have to jump a fence. Ouch, Ouch, Owowowow. I am too young to be venison stew. Note to self: contact TXDOT to put up a Deer Crossing sign!

*Sincerely,*

*Your Deer Friend*

**NORTH PARK**



**mazda**

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**Bluebonnet Miata Club Meeting Minutes**  
April 26, 2011



**Open Meeting**

Introduction of new members: Cliff Thompson – Green 2008.  
Visitors: Christine Crowley, Derek Jones

**Reports**

Treasurer's Report: Marilyn McCullen reported that our current checking account balance was \$. The savings account balance is \$.  
Membership: Betty Jackson that we have 82 members.  
Webmaster: No new news  
Newsletter: Still Free. Available in paper or on the web.

**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. There is a minimum of 5 when ordering.

**New Business**

Membership directory has been mailed. Photos of members are new this year!  
The Meeting site for May is TBD.  
The Miata Club Cruise still has spots open. Only a few more guaranteed rate rooms are available.  
The deposit would be refundable until November.  
Check the website and yahoo groups often for impromptu runs.

**Past Runs and Activities**

March 26<sup>th</sup> - Gimmick Run with Paul and Judy Faulkner. Short and Sweet.  
April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Trash Pick Up. Led by Jeff Holbrook.  
April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Searching for Bluebonnets Run. Led by Tom and Sandee LeMasters.  
April 4<sup>th</sup> - Sundaes on Monday. Yogurt Zone. Led by Tom and Sandee LeMasters.  
April 6<sup>th</sup>- BBQ Run – Led by Dave Hamilton. 4<sup>th</sup> event in 5 days!!  
April 16<sup>th</sup> – Wind Farm Run. Led by Don and Judy Privett & John and Linda Morrow. It was “windy”.  
April 16<sup>th</sup> – Painted Churches Run. Led by George Lucas. New road closures!  
April 17<sup>th</sup> – Lunar Zoomers. Taco Garage on Broadway. Led by George Lucas.  
April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Twilight Run. Around Medina area. Led by Mike & Betty Jackson.  
April 23<sup>rd</sup> – Austin Catfish Run. Led by Mike & Betty Jackson. Impromptu run!  
April 26<sup>th</sup> – Monthly Meeting. Big'z Burgers.

**New Runs and Activities**

May 7<sup>th</sup> – 3M – 1M Run. Led by Marilyn Hamilton and Marilyn McCullen.  
May 14<sup>th</sup> – Gimmick Run. Led by Paul and Judy Faulkner.  
May 19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> – Miatas in the Ozarks.  
May 17<sup>th</sup> – Lunar Zoomers. TBA. Led by George Lucas.  
May 21<sup>st</sup>- Hill Country Run – Led by Stephanie Bell-Turner  
May 24<sup>th</sup> – Monthly Meeting. Details TBA.  
May 28<sup>th</sup> – Driving and Dancing. Led by George Lucas. To Texas Pride BBQ.

**New Miata Stuff**

Dan Hicks got a new exhaust pipe!  
Cory Blocker buffed his headlights.

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!***

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## *Upcoming Runs and Events*

- **Saturday, June 4th, Hill Country Run**, led by Stephanie Turner. Details are not yet available, please check our website and your email for further details.
- **Monday, June 6th, Sundaes on Monday**. Hosted by Dan Hicks, we'll meet at 7 p.m. at Brindles Awesome Ice Cream. It's located on Huebner Road just east of IH10 in the Huebner Oaks shopping center. It's right next door to Half Price Books.
- **Tuesday, June 7th, Carino's in New Braunfels Dinner Run**, hosted by Barbara and Rohm Thompson. This is in leu of Pat Franklin's Accessorizing Run. We'll be meeting at the Miata Valero at 6:00 p.m. for a 6:15 departure. C'mon out as Carino's will be donating a good portion of their proceeds to benefit the Habitat for Humanity charity.
- **Saturday, June 18th, Chicken Fried Steak Run**, led by Jimbo and Freda Treat. Exact details of this run will be revealed very soon! Watch the website and your emails!
- **Wednesday, June 22nd, Lunar Zoomer Dinner**. Dine under a nearly full moon at Fralo's Art of Pizza in Leon Springs. We'll be able to dine under the oaks and enjoy some really good pizza. C'mon out, it's fun!
- **Tuesday, June 28th, Monthly Club Meeting**. Please query the club president regarding location.