



pacemiataclub.org

February 2021

# INSIDE PACE

FOR PACE MIATA CLUB MEMBERS ONLY



February is the month for lovers... Miata lovers! And if the turnout at our first 2021 event is any indicator, PACE members love their Miatas!

We had an amazing turnout at the event...25 Miatas in all. We can tell that many of you are anxious to spin your wheels and get on the road again. See inside for what's coming next.

Happy Valentine's Day... Spread the love to someone to cherish!



The Polar Bear Run was an awesome way to begin the new year. Thank you to everyone who joined us to weather the Covid-19 storm.

Many of us even stayed behind for lunch at McCleary's Pub.

We also took the opportunity to hold an online "ZoomZoom" for the officers. Being able to chat to discuss Club plans for 2021 was almost, (almost), as refreshing at the Polar Bear event. So, know that all the officers are working hard behind the scenes to provide a stellar 2021. Try to control your

urge to overdose on chocolate covered cherries and get all the upcoming events on your calendar. We still have a ways to go, but as winter slowly ebbs toward spring, stay on top of PACE Miata Club news, or contact us if your questions or concerns go unanswered.

*Happy Valentine's Day* **SANDY AND JOE**

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## **HELLO, FROM MEMBERSHIP**

Despite the havoc COVID-19 is still causing, membership is still on the rise. In fact, we had two new members participate in our Polar Bear Run in January.

Nina and I are looking forward to seeing you all as soon as things calm down. We both appreciate and thank you for your prayers.

*Happy Valentine's Day and continue to Fly Miata,"*

**ROD SLENKER**

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## **What is the real story of Valentine's Day?**

The ancient Romans may also be responsible for the name of our modern **day** of love. Emperor Claudius II executed two men — both named **Valentine** — on Feb. 14 of different years in the 3rd century A.D. Their martyrdom was honored by the Catholic Church with the celebration of **St. Valentine's Day**.

# PACE Pins are Back!



**Now available for immediate delivery in two styles: the original “Red Miata” pin or the newer “Roadster Silhouette” version.**

Collect ‘em! Trade ‘em! Still priced at only \$3 each or 2 for \$5. Mix and match! Get your PACE Pins now and be ready for upcoming Miata events.

Contact me by dialing 717-203-2971, or [michaelcory@epix.net](mailto:michaelcory@epix.net) and maybe become future members and friends.

*Zoom-Zoom!* **MIKE CORY**

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## LOOKING BACK... NEVER LOOKED SO GOOD... AGAIN!



Courtesy Mike Cory, let's have another look at an issue that published twenty years ago in March, 2001.

Officially entitled “*the PACEsetter*,” under the leadership of Don Newcomer as club president, the newsletter

was produced for many years by long-time editor, Lynne Long.

For those of you who may have been part of the Club at that time, I hope seeing and reading these iconic issues bring back fond memories for you all. For others, the read should show you just a glimpse of the effort that has brought us all together the years since.

Enjoy, **RICK YANCHULEFF**, *editor*



# PACESETTER, a look back... to March of 1991

PA Central *Miata Club*

March 2001

## the PACEsetter

Eat, greet, and oh yeah, meet

*Premier PACE Board Meeting, Tuesday, March 13*

Cool! More chances to get together and eat! Seems PACE has grown lots in the last few years. And that's a good thing! But it means we need to get together a little more often to keep up with the business of the club. And that's a good thing too!

The officers have chosen a centrally located restaurant where we can relax, have dinner and talk Miata. What's not to like? We'll have a board meeting every other month and all members are free, no make that urged to attend.


We'll keep you up-to-date on the upcoming meetings as well as results. If you

have something you'd like to have addressed at a meeting, contact any of the officers or board as far ahead of time as feasible.

**When:** 7:00 PM on the 2nd Tuesday of every odd numbered month.

**Where:** Marino's Pasta House 3595 East Market Street, York, Pa. Check your January or March PACEsetter for direction. Contact Don Newcomer, [dnewc@desupernet.net](mailto:dnewc@desupernet.net), 717-627-4695, fax 717-627-6633, email preferred.

Hope to see you there!



*Feel the need for speed?  
Join us at VJR!!*

**Directors**

**President** Don Newcomer  
717-627-4695  
[dnewc@desupernet.net](mailto:dnewc@desupernet.net)

**Vice President** Randy Chapman  
717-867-2102  
[Rchapman2@yahoo.com](mailto:Rchapman2@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer** Sam Henry  
717-626-1095  
[SamHenry@juno.com](mailto:SamHenry@juno.com)

**Secretary** Mark Stuller  
717-838-3094  
[Stuller1@earthlink.net](mailto:Stuller1@earthlink.net)

**Committees**

**Founder** Dave Allen  
717-308-0257  
[Bbmiata@juno.com](mailto:Bbmiata@juno.com)

**Membership** Patty Eckels  
301-733-6319  
[Rkeytek@kiva.net](mailto:Rkeytek@kiva.net)

**Newsletter** Lynne Long  
717-569-0019  
[Lynne@miata.net](mailto:Lynne@miata.net)

**Web Page** Pete Henry  
717-741-9004  
[Phenry@worldnet.att.net](mailto:Phenry@worldnet.att.net)

**Historian** Marie Witte  
443-394-8003  
[Marie\\_witte@hilton.com](mailto:Marie_witte@hilton.com)

**PACE Homepage** [www.miata.pace.net](http://www.miata.pace.net)

**In This Issue**

- Meeting Minutes
- Da Prez rambles
- Upcoming Events

**Advertising rates.**

Business card size, \$25/  
quarter, \$80 /year. Lynne  
Long

**PACEsetter Classified**  
ads are free and stay in  
for three months. Lynne  
Long

**PACE membership.** Dues  
are \$25 per year plus a  
one time \$10 fee for  
name tags, etc. Contact  
Patty Eckels.

**Miata Magazine.** 6 issues  
per year \$19.95.  
MediaSource Publishing,  
1315 Buena Vista Dr.,  
Vista CA 92083, 760-  
631-1202. [Miatabb@aol.com](mailto:Miatabb@aol.com).  
Subscribe at [www.miatamagazine.com](http://www.miatamagazine.com).

**PACE logo stuff**  
**T-shirts,** \$10 & \$12.  
Contact Don Newcomer.  
**Embroidered logo** Hurst  
of Park Ave, Lancaster,  
717-397-8766. \$9 on  
their items or \$12 on  
yours.

**Wooden name tags.**  
\$5.00 per tag. Joe  
Portas, Quality Images,  
7851 South Logan Street,  
Littleton, CO 80122-  
2810. Specify PACE tag,  
include address, name(s)  
as they should appear.  
[www.users.uswest.net/  
~knobmeister](http://www.users.uswest.net/~knobmeister).

**Magnetic Decals.** Large  
oval door decals. Bob  
Bookwalter  
([miatafor2@aol.com](mailto:miatafor2@aol.com), 717-  
292-2610) or Barry  
Gotwelt. \$10.00 each.  
**Side window decals.** \$1  
each. Patty Eckels, Lynne  
& Jerry Long, Barry  
Gotwelt.  
See front page for  
contact info.

## Ramblings from the Prez

### WINTER DRIVING

It has been published many times here and in the *Miata Magazine* that the Miata possesses Jeep-like characteristics when properly prepared for winter driving. The key words here are PROPERLY PREPARED. Normally I don't drive my Miata in the snow and ice so it has never been prepared for winter driving. Occasionally I take Mist out to stretch but only when the roads are clear and dry.

Recently Adele's truck had an unscheduled trip to the garage leaving her without transportation to work, so being the nice guy that I am I let her use my Subaru and I would take the Miata. As luck would have it the next morning we awoke to a fresh blanket of snow. Not a problem I thought, I'll just hop in my little Jeep and be on my way. The key word here is NOT. I couldn't even get out of the driveway. I guess preparing for winter driving should include removing my R1's and putting on a tire with a little more tread.

*Editor's Note: Properly prepared are indeed the key words. Scooter just loves playing in the snow and has gotten me to work on time, every time regardless of weather for 8 years. Not to mention to - and from - Ski Roundtop in an all day snow storm. Just get a good set of 4 snow tires (I currently have Bridgestone Blizzaks) and the only thing you have to worry about is the other guy.*

### MAKING TURNS ALL YEAR

So how do I satisfy that need to make turns with the wind in my hair if I don't drive Mist in the winter? Simple, I head to the nearest ski hill, snap into my bindings and I'm off making linked turns till my legs turn to jelly. The two sports

really are very similar. Both reward smooth fluid motions and subtle weight transfer. This year I've been dabbling in amateur ski racing which is a lot like



autocrossing. The times are short, usually ranging from 22 to 26 seconds, the turns come up fast so you need to be looking ahead and improvement comes in tenths or even hundredths of a second so you need to pay attention to details.

### MORE ON DRIVING

Mark March 31 and April 1 on your calendar for this year's spring MADS (Mid Atlantic Driving Seminar) at VIR raceway in Danville Virginia. Those of you who plan to participate should have already sent in your applications. If you haven't, you had better get them in the mail soon. For those of you with cabin fever this would be a great opportunity for an early season weekend getaway. You could take a leisurely and scenic drive down via the Skyline Drive and/or Blue Ridge Parkway, stop by the track and check out all the Mazda nuts, spend the night and do another scenic drive home on Sunday. Most of us who are driving at the MADS event will be departing on Friday and returning Monday. If you're interested in doing such a trip feel free to contact me for directions. Email preferred [dnewc@desupernet.net](mailto:dnewc@desupernet.net).

## Carlisle Import/Kit Replicar Nationals

*Here's info from the people at Carlisle. PACE has attended as a club in the past, but didn't last year for lack of a leader. We need a volunteer to coordinate the event if we do it in the future. Contact the PACE Events Chairman, Randy Chapman, if you can help out with this.*

The Carlisle Import Kit/Replicar Nationals will take place May 18-20, 2001. It will be held at the Carlisle fairgrounds. The event will include a traditional style Carlisle swap meet, car corral and showfield. There will be special vehicles on display, special guests plus many activities designed to entertain the entire family.

Our indoor display will feature approximately 20 vehicles ranging from the early years to current day examples. Vehicles selected will be high quality

restorations or low mileage maintained originals. Any vehicles selected to appear in the Carlisle Import Kit/Replicar Nationals Invitational will receive a recognition plaque, free admission, on-grounds parking, photo in our event magazine and the vehicle will be indoors displayed to the general public for three full days. If you would like to have your vehicle considered for the indoor invitational display, please complete the form above and mail with photos to the address noted at the bottom of the form. We will review the applications and notify you by telephone and/or mail if your vehicle has been selected to participate.

*A registration form for the indoor display was in the February PACEsetter. If you missed it, check out the February issue on the PACE website or contact Lynne Lang, 569-0019.*

## Upcoming Events in the works

**Performance Buyers Club.** Our VP and Events Chairman Randy Chapman reports that Bob & Jo Bookwalter are going to take us once again on a buying spree to Performance Buyers Club in Chantilly VA outside of Washington. This is about a two hour ride. Those of you who have been to PBC on previous trips know that you need to keep your credit cards on a tight leash. There are just too many great things to buy. But you just might be one of the lucky ones. Pete always is

generous with the door prizes!

**Pennsylvania Grand Canyon.** Nick Garuccio, president of our neighboring West Penn Miata Club informs me that they are planning on doing a run to the PA Grand Canyon near Wellsboro this fall and is wondering if we'd be interested in joining them. Interested? Are there bears in those woods? We'll keep you posted.

## New Members

Charlie & Carol Kingsley  
2001 Emerald Mica, LS  
1666 Nottingham Dr.  
Hummelstown, PA 17036  
717-566-4479  
cp.kingsley@worldnet.att.net

### K.E. Rodgers Auto Sales, Inc.

Used Mazda Parts, Cars, & Service  
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## Minutes of the January Meeting

### PACE MIATA CLUB

January 26, 2001

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order by President, Don Newcomer, at 8:30 P.M.
2. Secretary Rachel Springer read the minutes of the 11-18-00 meeting at Kreider's Restaurant. They were accepted as read.
3. Treasurer's Report. Barry Gotwalt read the report for the period of November 1, 2000 to December 31, 2000. Expenditures totaled \$603.82. Deposits were \$316.00. The beginning balance for 11-1-00 was \$3243.02 and the ending balance on 12-31-00 was \$2955.20. Barry will transfer the books to Sam Henry, incoming Treasurer, when all current expenditures have been cleared.
4. Committee Reports
  - a. Events - Bob Eckels, who was considering taking that position, as amended by the by-laws, had to decline the nomination because of additional responsibilities of his business. Don Newcomer made a motion to continue with the past practice of having the Vice President assume those responsibilities. Randy Chapman, Vice President, agreed.
  - b. Tech Day is still in planning. No additional report was given.
  - c. Membership - Patty Eckels gave us statistics on membership and the colors of owner's cars. There are currently 122 members owning 127 cars: 114 in PA, 5 in MD, and 3 in WV. 102 members have email addresses. Mailings of our Newsletters via email may be considered at a future time. This would certainly save on printing and postage. Red cars are the most predominant with a total of 33. The year 1999, has the largest representation, with a total of 25. Enclosure, lists all current statistics.
  - d. Newsletter - Lynne Long will continue to publish our newsletter.
  - e. Web Site Wizard - Pete Henry shared that the Web page is being viewed by many members as well as interested people from other countries. Our site [Miata.pace.net](http://Miata.pace.net) is provided by Mailbank.com. They charge a nominal fee for hosting main pages and pictures. Pete renewed [Miata.pace.net](http://Miata.pace.net) for \$59.80 for two years. Patty and Pete are keeping the membership pages up to date. Personal pictures have not been updated since 1999. Pete is willing to update personal pages as you can coordinate with him. Send digital pictures of new members to Pete for posting. This would help us all recognize members for events.
5. New Business
  - a. The formal election of officers followed.
    1. Mark Stuller was elected Secretary.
    2. Sam Henry was nominated and approved as Treasurer.
    3. These two positions are for a term of one year.
    4. Recommended by Don Newcomer and seconded by Bob Eckels was the proposal that the Vice President be the Events Chairman rather than approving the proposal from the November 18th meeting creating a new Events Chairman position. The job description for the Office of Vice President will formally include the Coordinating of Events. Jerry Long put this proposal to a motion and it was seconded by John Vlah. This will be an amendment to the By Laws section 4.1.1. Motion passed.
    5. Pete Henry was voted as Web Site Wizard.
    6. Lynne Long will continue as Newsletter Editor.
      - a. As proposed at the November meeting, the expanded Board will include a Member at Large. Dave Allen was nominated by Kathy Smith and Seconded by Sam Henry. Dave Allen will be our new Member at Large.
      - b. The current Board of Directors will consist of the following members: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Membership Chairman, Web Site Wizard, and Member at Large.
      - c. By Laws will be formally dated when revised and each new publishing, include date.
      - d. Don recommended that any further change to the By Laws must be published in the newsletter one month prior to and the month of the meeting at which it will be brought to a vote. This motion was seconded by Barry Gotwalt. Motion passed. Harlo Smith graciously volunteered to revise and type the PACE By Laws as amended.
      - e. The first official By- Monthly meeting will be held at Marino's Pasta House at 3595 East Market Street in York, PA, at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, March 13, 2001. Please DO NOT ask Don Newcomer for directions!
  1. Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

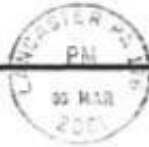
Respectfully Submitted,  
Mark Stuller  
Secretary

## PACE News (And other oddball stuff!)

- ✓ **Another Century Club member.** Here's a message Patty got from PACE member Ned Flynn who drives a 1994 Black & Tan. I just drove my Miata up to New Haven CT yesterday (Friday) for some fun at a college function and then to attend a license plate collector's swap meet nearby in Orange CT. On the way back, on the Garden State Parkway near Saddle Brook, NJ, I crossed the 100,000 mile point. PS I have decided to name my car Marlah. That's a number 1 in the middle, to indicate my first Miata.
- ✓ **Miata Magazine/Miata Club.** As you all will have instantly noticed, there's been a change in the sidebar information on page 2. (Yeah, yeah, I know, you didn't even realize there was a sidebar!) It was decided to remove the information on joining Miata Club of America. At the present time, it appears that MCA is no longer a viable entity. Some time back Vince Tidwell resigned as president and from what you read on the internet, MCA is no longer answering their phone or answering email. (If anyone has any better information, please let us know.) MCA members have not been receiving *Miata Magazine* - for which they paid - for at least three issues. As far as I know at the present time the only way to receive *Miata Magazine* is to subscribe directly. The cost is \$19.95 and includes 6 issues. Read the sidebar for subscription addresses. (See, I knew I could get you to read the sidebar!) *Miata Magazine* is also available on some newsstands, but I haven't heard that anyone in our area has seen one.
- ✓ **Miata Club.** There has also been information on the *Miata Magazine* web site that indicates that Mazda is planning on starting its own international Miata Club complete with its own publication. Nothing official on this as yet, but it looks like some interesting possibilities down the road.
- ✓ **Miata Magazine.** PACE just received a nice big box full of *Miata Magazines* compliments of Barbara Beach, the publisher of *Miata Magazine*!!!! They're Issue 97-V. This is the Special Issue on the New Miata. The whole magazine is devoted to a first glimpse - make that first in-detail examination - of the 1999 Miata. All the articles feature the M2 with info on everything from the new styling to track time in a 1999 white & tan at Laguna Seca. This is a must-have issue for all you M2 owners. Or all you there's-an-M2-in-my-future people. Or...well just about any Miata fan. We'll bring them to club events and pass them around. There's plenty to go around (she sent 100!) so don't miss out on yours.
- ✓ **Forwarded by Patty Eckels.** Article in *Automobile Magazine*, February issue: "BEST SPORTS CAR UNDER \$40,000--MAZDA MIATA" The reason the Mazda Miata is almost a perennial *Automobile Magazine* ALL-STAR is simple: there is no other sports car that offers the same combination of engaging personality, practicality, affordability & sheer driving pleasure".
- ✓ **Greetings from Minneapolis!** Here's a message I just received from Tim & Sherry Burns, former PACERS who have moved to the frosty north. Hey, remember us? Tim and Sherry Burns, remember? We had the red 91 with ground effects? Boy do we miss you guys! We are living in this big beautiful city, really, with loooooong parkways winding along the rivers and around the lakes and lots of neat night life etc and yes, we see Miatas go by from time to time but alas! Every attempt to make contact with the Miata club here has resulted in a big ZERO! They have yet to return a phone call! Rejoice and be glad that your club is ACTIVE and RESPONSIVE and that you guys are organized enough to get together and HAVE FUN! We are thinking of doing something creative here to get some cars together! I actually walked up to a guy and gal at a stop light in a Miata with the top down last fall and said, "Hey! Here's my number! Call if you'd like to tool around some time! We have a Miata too!" They gave me that look and said "Yeah, sure" and of course I never heard from them! Well, someone in our family backed the baby into the trailer which someone ELSE in our family left out and too close to the driveway and oops! Scraped bumper and broken tail light. This was last fall. We get to drive our car only 6 months 'cause the weather is so nasty! It was 8 below this AM! Anyway, does any one out there have a driver's side tail light for a 91 Miata? You can E mail (burnzfam@earthlink.net) or call me on my business phone toll free at 1-800-944-5988. Again, we miss the privilege of an active club and hope we've helped you to appreciate what you have there!



**PACE**  
5 Paddock Drive  
Lititz, PA 17543



**For Sale**

Parts to fit '90 - '97 Miata  
*Hard Top*, Orig equipment, red, excellent condition, Mazda list \$1300, Asking \$700  
*Hard Top Cart*, 4 swivel casters, 2 years old, Like new, Paid \$94.95, Asking \$50  
*Soft top cover-up*, covers soft top w/ hard top on, Black, 1 yr old, like new, Paid \$39.95, \$20  
*Window Protector*, For plastic window with top down, Black, 1 yr old - like new, Paid \$29.95, \$20  
*Trunk lift kit*, Pneumatic strut system, Never used, still in box, Paid 45, \$30.

*\$750 takes all*  
*2 Blizzak snow tires*, 4k miles, \$40  
Sue Gantz, 717-872-6030

Ram air system now on the 1993 red car. This includes the header from the engine back to the catalytic converter, the air box controller cable, air box, and the fittings that are required to connect the system up to the car. The actual cost of the equipment is around \$800 to \$900. Asking \$400 for the complete system. Installation - additional \$100.  
Contact Dave Allen, bbmiato@juno.com, 717-308-0257.



**Dealer Discounts**

- ✓ Faulkner Mazda, 3233 Paxton Street, Harrisburg, Pa 17111, 717-564-4545
  - ✓ Freysinger Mazda, 6115 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg PA 17055, 717-697-8899.
  - ✓ Jack Giambalvo Mazda, 1390 Eden Road, York PA 17402, 717-846-1821.
  - ✓ Lancaster Toyota Mazda, 5270 Manheim Pike, East Petersburg PA 17520. 717-569-7373.
- Show your PACE Membership Card to receive a 10% discount on Service Dept parts and labor.

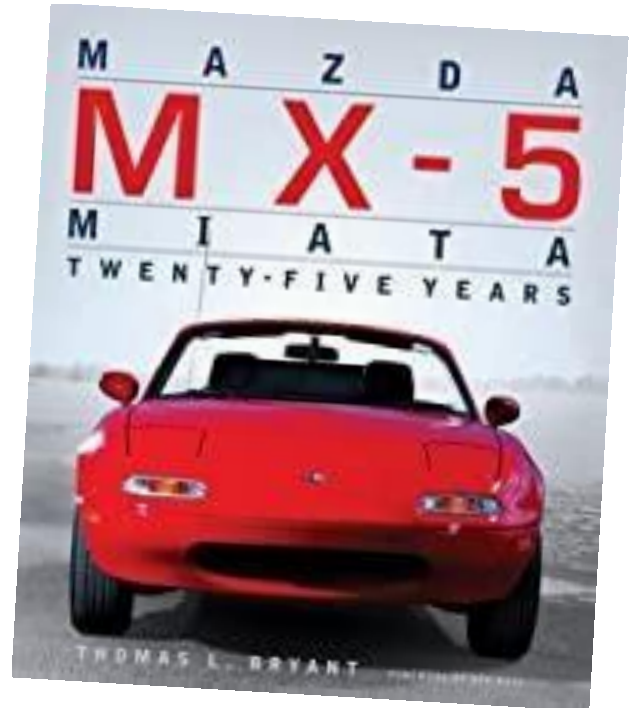
# For your reading pleasure...

by Rick Yanchuleff

This is the balance of the seventh chapter (and the final chapter, chapter 8) from the series in the coffee table book: *Mazda MX-5 Miata: Twenty-Five Years*.

Written in by Thomas L. Bryant, in 2014, it's a great book that will help you understand why you enjoy your Miata so much.

Should you care to read the book from the beginning via PACESETTER, (INSIDEPACE) you can reprint the past issues by clicking on our website. The book is also available on Amazon.com,



Chapter 7 continued...

## MX-5 Racing in the United States



While the United States has the largest group of racing Miatas in the world, there are also a great many in various countries in Europe. Starting with the United Kingdom, an exciting series of races makes MX-5s a popular item.

One such series was the MaX5 Racing Championship. It was Alyn Robson and Jonathan Halliwell in the summer of 2003, with 2004 as the first full racing season. The plan was to base the series on the original MX-5 Championship that ran in 1990-1991, as well as following the Spec Miata MX-5 Championship in the United States and Canada. According to the founders of the MaX5, their championship series would be based on the plan that close racing is exciting racing and the drivers would be having a grand time of it. Hence the slogan, "Racing to the max!" This series was successful for several years because the entry fees for the racers were cheap and the Mazda MX-5 was a very popular car with the public.

Most of the racing was done on relatively small tracks around the UK, such as



Lydden Hill and Mullory Park, plus an occasional race at Brands Hatch or Silverstone, home of the British Grand Prix. This series also required that drivers who wanted to race in MaX5 Racing Championship join the club for an annual membership fee, and they also had to show an Advanced Racing Driver School license. MaX5 continued through 2008, but in 2009 virtually all of the drivers abandoned it and joined the Mazda racing championship.



Today, the British Racing & Sports Car Club (BRSCC) is the most active racing organization in the UK. And it has a great category for MX-5s, under the heading “racing Mazda MX-5. The affordable was to go racing.”



“The BRSCC Mazda MX-5 Championship really is the affordable way to go motor racing and is the perfect starting point for those coming into the sport for the first time. There are a plentiful supply of Mark1s ready to race but even if you want to build your own car, donor cars are readily available and cheap to buy and convert.”

One of the great attributes of the BRSCC is that it makes use of some of the UK’s finest racing circuits, including Silverstone, Brands Hatch, Rockingham, and Snetterton. Recently, the BRSCC Championship for Mazda MX-5s featured 60 drivers and regular grids in the mid-30s. Clearly, a healthy racing club.



And a few years ago, the UK company, Jota Sport, put together a Miata MX-5 to compete against more powerful cars in the Britcar MSA British Endurance Championship. With the weight reduced to 850 kilograms and a Mazda engine modified to put out 275 brake horsepower, the Jota Sport MX-5 could hustle from 0 to 60 miles per hour in three seconds and achieve a top speed of 160 miles per hour. Quite remarkable and, as the Jota people say, "The Mazda MX-5 still remains true to its roots: great handling, huge fun to drive and the ability to challenge bigger, more powerful competition, but an affordable cost."



After putting together the Jota MX-5 racing car, the company then turned its attention to the Jota MX-5 GT, which is a Mazda with 203 brake horsepower and is essentially a production version of a MX-5 GT concept car shown at the Goodwood Festival of Speed in England.

Throughout Germany, France, Italy, and Spain, where drivers take their sports-car racing seriously, Mazda MX-5s are bound to be involved in one class or another. Because the MX-5 is reasonably priced, can be outfitted with racing necessities by some dealers, and is readily available throughout the continent, there is a lot of interest in these remarkable roadsters.

## Australia's MX-5 Cup



Few countries are as gung-ho about sports car racing as Australia, and the MX-5 is a dominant part of this enthusiasm. The Mazda MX-5 Club of New South



Wales (NSW) has recently inaugurated the MX-5 Cup, which consists of five races to be held at the Wakefield Park Raceway over the year. In the words of the NSW Club, “The MX-5 Cup has been created to provide an annual competition featuring low-cost, competitive, good-spirited racing. It is intended to foster the development of MX-5 racing and encourage new entrants to the sport.

Newcomers will be provided support and assistance, and competitors will be expected to adopt a gentlemanly approach to them under race conditions.”

To show the level of racing enthusiasm, the MX-5 Club of NSW put out a list of the races and practice days, stretching from early to late November. Thirty-four events are on the list, which goes to show the sports car racing in Australia is very high on the enthusiasts’ list of activities.

Not to be outdone are MX-5 enthusiasts in New Zealand. Scads of MX-5s are seen around the two islands that make up the nation, and quite a few of them raced at various circuits around the country.

## Chapter 8... the Final Chapter

### 03.24.14 Twenty-Five Years Later



The 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mazda MX-5 Miata has passed, and the celebration now is the next generation version of this remarkable sports car. The New York Auto Show in April 2014 promised a subtle preview of the next Miata MX-5, with the car scheduled to be presented to the public that autumn.

The program manager of the new MX-5 Roadster, Nibuhiro Yamamoto, did mention that rumors that circulated in Europe about the merge of Mazda with Alfa Romeo to build sports cars on the same line was incorrect. And there were many bloggers and journalists who speculated that the MX-5 Miata would use an Alfa Romeo engine. Yamamoto replied, “It is not true. SKYACTIV technology will be adopted for the next Miata model. It will be developed entirely by Mazda.”

(And then, to solidify the arrangement, Sergio Marchionne, head of Fiat Chrysler, announced at the Geneva Auto Show in early March that the car that would be done by Mazda in Japan would be a Fiat, not an Alfa Romeo as had been rumored.)

Returning to Yamamoto, and his discussion of the fourth-generation Mazda MX-5 Miata: “Needless to say, we will strengthen its Jinba-ittai (oneness between car and driver) feeling.” Yamamoto also said that the fun is not only about



driving but also for many other aspects; therefore, we should call it “lots of fun.”

“We have been consistently pursuing those two things as unchanging themes without wavering, and evolved the fun unique to the MX-5 to make it a lightweight sports car which everyone can enjoy from the bottom of his heart, while meeting the social requirements which are much more stringent than 25 years ago.” Mr. Yamamoto went on to say, “Make a change in order to preserve. That is the challenge and the mission for engineers. We will proceed together with our fans as we have always done, and the continuing our challenge to pass this model on to the next 25 years and beyond.”

## **The MX-5 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition**

Yamamoto also has a very clear picture as to how this exciting sports roadster should be sold. The MX-5 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition Miata will be limited to 1,000 cars worldwide.

“We owe it to many people around the world who truly enjoy daily life with this model, for the MX-5 being able to celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> birthday. Our customers who drive the car, and Mazda as the developer of the model, have together shared the passion for lightweight sports cars over the years and nurtured the dream for it.

“The MX-5 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition model we are introducing now was specially developed with Mazda’s infinite gratitude for the fans who are the protagonists



of the love story between car and driver over a quarter of a century.”

Yamamoto also discussed carefully selecting the pistons, connecting rods, and flywheel to achieve the right balance. “We paid the utmost focus in terms of the weight balance of the moving parts. Needless to say, a very small tolerance is set for the parts in the base model. In order to minimize the weight gap

between the cylinders, those parts used for the piston and connecting rod of the anniversary model were manually selected one by one, thus the weight tolerance is controlled within plus or minus 3 grams, and 1 gram for piston and connecting rod respectively. The weight tolerance for the flywheel is very stringent for the base model already, but again we handpicked more advantageous ones in terms of weight. Our elaborate attention to details realized the outstanding balance and excellent engine feel.”

I was also revealed that the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary cars would be painted in Soul Red Premium Metallic color. The A-pillar and the header are painted manually in Brilliant Black first, and after they are masked, the body color is painted prior to



returning to the assembly line. “Our passion and the troublesome processes are there, all because this is a very special car to commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.”



Not to be forgotten, the instrumental panel of the Anniversary Miata will be painted in dark red gradation on the base piano black color. The cockpit of the car also has fresh changes, including white leather seats that look great with the Soul Red body paint.

It's quite interesting to notice the dimensions for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition MX-5 and compare them with a Miata in the US market in 2005.

The overall length of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary car is 158.0 inches, and the wheelbase measures 91.7 inches. The 2005 model is 155.7 inches long and the wheel is 89.2 inches. Overall width and height for the Anniversary Edition is 167.7 inches and 49.4 inches, compared with 66.0 inches and 48.8 inches in the 2005 Miata. The manual gearbox model tips the scales at 2,593 pounds, while the automatic transmission version weighs 2,619.

With the double-overhead-cam, 2.0-liter, four-cylinder engine with aluminum alloy block and cylinder head, the horsepower for the manual transmission Miata is 167 brake horsepower at 7,000 rpm, while the automatic model has 158 brake horsepower at 6,700 rpm; and both engines put out 140 pounds-feet of torque. Also, the disc brakes on both models are 11.4-inch ventilated front and 11.0-inch solid on the rear discs.

## **Change to Preserve**

As the time grew near to the New York International Auto Show, the new MX-5



management team came forward with an essay titled “Make a Change in Order to Preserve.”

“At the New York International Auto Show this year, Mazda displays a bare chassis for the world premiere. Although still in the process of development, the chassis, which has a front midship engine and rear-wheel-drive layout, shows the direction of the next Mazda MX-5. The light weight, 50:50 weight distribution between front and rear, low yaw inertia moment, are all going to be protected as the key principles for Mazda’s lightweight sports car. However, that does not necessarily mean the model will not change.

“Over the last 25 years, the times have changed drastically. The awareness for environment and safety has kept growing since the introduction of the first generation and all the way through the model changes to the second and third generations as well. We had to increase the vehicle size and weight in some degree in order to satisfy those requirements.

“But things are much different today compared to the past, and highly sophisticated environmental and safety performance is required now. In a time like this, it needs ‘innovation’ that goes beyond mere evolution, in order to deliver the fun of owning a true-to-basic lightweight sports car; in other words the oneness between car and driver that can be felt by any drivers, as well as carrying on the excitement of driving on any types of road. That is the meaning of the key word that suggests the direction for the next model, ‘make a change in order to preserve.’

“One of the keys to embody it is, needless to say, SKYACTIV technology that has innovated the innovated the basics of automotive technologies. What is at display this time is a totally new SKYACTIV chassis specifically developed for a lightweight sports car. The next model will use this chassis as a foundation, and thoroughly pursuing the 50:50 weight distribution between front and rear, it will continue with light weight and low yaw inertia moment.



“At the same time, based on our belief that the original intention of the MX-5 is to deliver the exhilarating feeling of oneness between car and driver, we are meticulously examining the optimal position of a driver with the new chassis, as we see it as an element of ‘making a change in order to preserve.’





“Thus we go beyond simply inheriting what earlier generations had, and will realize a dramatic improvement of Jimba-ittai (oneness between car and driver), which is the soul of Mazda.

“Please imagine the next MX-5 based on a bare chassis, which is in the process of development now. And please anticipate the driving feel of a new lightweight sports car which is in the middle of development, along with lots of fun that the owner of this care will be enjoying in life.”

The new Mazda MX-5 Miata will be unveiled before the end of the year 2014, and the odds are it will raise a grand rally among sports car enthusiasts who will want to have one. It’s clear that much thought and study has gone into the Miata, and despite the arrangement signed with Alfa Romeo, it has been clearly stated that the production line for the Miata will not be used for Alfa Romeo’s new sports car. As Mr. Yamamoto told me via email prior to the New York auto show, the Mazda MX-5 will have its own assembly line and the Alfa Romeo will be assembled on a different line.

Mazda is a company with much pride in its products, and the long-term popularity of the MX-5 Miata continues to excite sports car enthusiasts around the globe. With well over 900,000 Miatas have been created and sold over the past 25 years, it is easy to understand the excitement that emanates from Hiroshima, Japan, the home of the Mazda factory. Throughout the Miata’s quarter-century history, most sports cars have faded away or sold in relatively small numbers. And while the car market has had its ups and downs, the MX-5 Miata has managed to stay on the list of those who want a reasonably priced roadster that is fun to drive and lives up to its reputation as a remarkable car to buy—new or used.

## What’s to come???

And then there is the Miata’s racing history around the world. In the United States, MX-5 Miata are the most raced cars on the track, participating in a wide variety of associations and on a large number of



racetracks round the United States. And in England, Germany, France, Italy,





Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and many more nations around the globe, there is always a host of Mazda MX-5s putting on a great show for sports car racing enthusiasts. Plus, on highways and byways, freeways and narrow country roads, Mazda MX-5

Miatas are a common sight—and the drivers always seem to be smiling.

**THE END**

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**COMING UP...** by  
Carol Piersol

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Saturday, July 24**

**Christmas in July,  
Hilltop Pavillion,  
Sam Lewis State  
Park**



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**ANY DAY YOU CAN MAKE IT!**

**IMPROMPTU DRIVES**

Would you like some friends to join you for an Impromptu Drive? Send an email, preferably one-day in advance, to Carol Piersol who will notify all Club members. Please make sure to include the meeting place and time.

[pacerevents@gmail.com](mailto:pacerevents@gmail.com)

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**NON-PACE EVENTS**

**RESCHEDULED August 12-15, 2021**

**Canada's Capital Miata Meet**

[www.umn-c2m2-2020.com](http://www.umn-c2m2-2020.com)

**NEW August 12-15, 2021**

**Miata Reunion**

[miatareunion.com/](http://miatareunion.com/)

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## Elections note from Carol Piersol



The PACE annual business and election of officers, which usually takes place at our kickoff luncheon in April (cancelled due to Covid), will be conducted at the upcoming picnic in July.

Below, you will see the officer positions up for election this

year. Officer positions are held for a two year period (Please read the PACE by-laws on the [pacemiataclub.org](http://pacemiataclub.org) webpage).

### The Officer positions open for election in 2021:

**Secretary**—currently Mike Cory (he is willing to stay on as Secretary)

**Treasurer**—currently Sue Stauffer (she is willing to stay on as Treasurer)

**Events Coordinator**—currently Carol Piersol (I am willing to say on as Events Coordinator)

**Webpage Coordinator**—currently Bill Latsha (he will not be staying on)

Any member in good standing can submit their name for these positions to be voted on by those in attendance at the meeting. So please, submit your name to Joe and Sandy Golesh at [j\\_sgolesh@hotmail.com](mailto:j_sgolesh@hotmail.com) by July 10th if you are interested.

As you can see, we are in great need of a new Webpage Coordinator! So please, step up and get involved. Helping out with our Club's inner-workings is fun, plus the perks are amazing—friendships & officer's meetings (with food!) Our webpage is important to the Club to keep us informed, plus outside Miata-ers can view of site to see what the Club has to offer. We thank you in advance for your willingness to step into the role. Some experience with web design would be helpful, but not necessary.

## DON'T FORGET... about our Leader Incentive

*Wikipedia* defines **INCENTIVE** as something that motivates an individual to perform an activity. As a reminder, and for those who may be new to the *Club*, any member can plan and lead an event. And, any day of the week can be an “event” day (even if it's last minute.)

**Now for the INCENTIVE: Plan and lead your first event and receive a \$25.00 Visa Gift Card!**



## PACE INFORMATION

Website: [pacemiataclub.org](http://pacemiataclub.org)

Facebook: [facebook.com/PACEMiataClub](https://facebook.com/PACEMiataClub)

Membership: \$30/year Rod Slenker, 717-755-9805 [rslenker43@outlook.com](mailto:rslenker43@outlook.com)  
B&T Sportswear, 240 Locust St., Columbia, PA, 717-684-5191

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## PACE STORE

Official provider: PACE Miata Club Embroidered Clothing: Hersh Wellman  
[hwaprods@aol.com](mailto:hwaprods@aol.com)

PACE Logo Clothing: Elizabethtown Sporting Goods, 59 College Avenue,  
Elizabethtown, PA, 717-367-6633  
B&T Sportswear, 240 Locust St., Columbia, PA, 717-684-5191

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PACE Lapel Pins: \$3ea/2-\$5 and Magnetic Decals, 717-203-2971  
[michaelcory@epix.net](mailto:michaelcory@epix.net)

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## MAZDA DEALER DISCOUNTS

Champion Mazda, 765 Carlisle Street, Hanover, PA 17331, 717-637-6655  
Faulkner Mazda, 5945 Grayson Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111, 717-901-3200  
Freyssinger Mazda, 6115 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055,  
717-697-8899  
Heritage Mazda, 1800 Belair Road, Fallston, MD 21047 (888) 862-1819  
Jack Giambalvo Mazda, 2425 Industrial Highway, York, PA 17402,  
717-755-2944  
Piazza Mazda of Reading, 3728 Pottsville Pike, Reading, PA, 19605,  
610-921-1500  
Xero Limit ECU Performance Tuning, 484-272-5169 [sales@xero-limit.com](mailto:sales@xero-limit.com)

PACE Lapel Pins: \$3ea/2-\$5 and Magnetic Decals, 717-203-2971  
[michaelcory@epix.net](mailto:michaelcory@epix.net)

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## PACE OFFICERS

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[mmyanch5515@gmail.com](mailto:mmyanch5515@gmail.com)

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## ABOUT PACE

**Our Mission:** To unite Central Pennsylvania Mazda Miata enthusiasts in a spirit of friendship and to enhance their enjoyment and knowledge of the Miata.

**Our History:** Back in 1992, Miatas were becoming numerous in the central PA area but there was no Miata club since the short-lived *Keystone Club* had disbanded.

Our founder, Dave Allen, decided to remedy that sad situation by traveling to the *Miatas at Indy* event in the summer of 1992 to obtain a charter for a new club from *Miata Club of America*. Also at that Indy event were Bob and Jo Bookwalter, along with Julie Swope and three Miatas (**one red, one white, one blue,**) that formed the nucleus of the new club. That summer, more Miata-crazed individuals joined the club and after a few local drives—in October of that year—*PACE* took its first run to the Skyline Drive in Shenandoah National Park, VA. *PACE* membership has continued to grow through the years from this small group to almost one hundred Miatas—and their occupants.

Since then, *PACE* has explored most of the great and many twisty country roads in our area and has run trips to various other parts of the country from Ocean City, MD, west to Utah, and from Charleston, SC, north to Nova Scotia. Our events have ranged from scenic drives, picnics and dinners to autocross and performance driving



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