



The Wright Roadster

The Newsletter of the
Miami Valley Miata Club

"Top Down,
Enjoying Life!"

ZOOM ZOOM

April 2013 Volume 25, Issue 4



The President's Corner



Spring is officially here! It came in like a Lion with snow and ice but hopefully that all done with for this Spring!

I had thought that this column might be a good place to editorialize about Miatas, racing and the car world in

general. I thought that, but then thought better of it. Many of you couldn't care less about ugly wings on cars and stock car (not!) racing much less my opinion of those things. Did you know that the sexy wing on an '82 Lamborghini Contach (say coon-tash) was the most expensive non-speed device of it's time? The wing cost \$5000 and the car went 20 MPH slower with it! So don't buy one and go faster, imagine that! See, I told you, you don't care. If you have an opinion to share, I'd be glad to hear it. I probably won't agree but that's just the

way I am. We may even get the Wright Roadster Editor to publish a collection of opinions. I know I have a few to contribute. I shared the Lamborghini tidbit in April of 06

April doesn't have much scheduled in terms of club events. Just the Meet 'n Greet at Don Pablo's in Beavercreek. If you want to do something impromptu, use your member email list provided by the Membership Director or the list on the web site to contact others and maybe get something going. I'm not sure but as I write this I believe Ed Kramer has plans to go to Road Atlanta to watch some on-track action. Check with Ed about specifics.

With the top down driving season upon us, I want to caution everyone to be careful, both for yourself and the children who may be out playing in the streets we love to roam. That applies all year of course but bears repeating as the weather gets nicer.

My snow tires come off this week end and the sandbag goes in the garage. Hang in there, better weather is coming!

Mike Wheeler
Black '06

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Miami Valley Miata Club 2013 Officers

President Mike Wheeler 	Vice President Steve Trego 	Secretary/Treasurer Russ Loughlin 	Tech Advisor 	Membership Dorothy and Fred Tuzzi 	
News Letter Bill Bateman 	Rally Master Paul Haller 	Web Master Steve Hayden 	Past President Debbie Thompson 		



Robert Hayburn	4/6	Harold Varvel	4/19
George Wetmore	4/6	Rick Bobbert	4/27
Rosemary Clark	4/8	Jo Tarka	4/30
Sharry Hayden	4/11	Dave Temple	4/30
Steve Meyer	4/11		

April Meet-n-Greet

Date Tuesday April 16

Time 6:30 (some come early)

Location Don Pablo's 2745 Fairfield Commons Beaver creek
937 320-1777

OUR CLUB SPONSOR

Jeff Schmitt Mazda






MEET OUR MEMBERSHIP CO-CHAIR, FRED TUZZI



My love of small sporty cars began very early in life when I first started racing in the soap box derby. I participated in about 4 derbies with my really aero dynamically designed car number 77 (see photo), won overall in one event and place respectfully in the others. My car was collaboration between my father and the family doctor who raced open wheel midjets and sports cars on the weekends.

My first REAL sport car I bought in 1960 was a '57 Triumph TR-3 that I used for general transportation and SCCA sponsored rallies and auto crosses. Man, was that door cut low to the ground. I took it with me into the Air Force at Lowery AFB, Colorado and had a ball driving in the mountains. After a move to SAC hdqts at Offutt AFB, in Omaha, I found a '59 Austin Healy 100-6 and traded up. I really enjoyed the car, once driving back to home in California, camping along the way. It made for exciting times when you are crossing a desert with a faulty gas gauge and your friend is pointing out dried out cow carcass next to the road, saying "well I guess they ran out of gas too". It was a beautiful car. Probably it was one of the things that attracted Dorothy to the suave Italian boy from the west coast. Our beautiful first daughter arrived and since Dorothy was driving a mark2 Sprite and we needed a little more seating space, so we traded for a new black MG 1100, with red upholstery. Essentially it was a Mini that had carpet instead of rubber mat floors. The family grew, a myriad of cars came and went and finally I found the best sports car, my 2007 MX-5 GT. I bought it in '09 and have had a great time with this great little car. It truly is a flashback to the days of two seats, the top down, wind in your hair – well that part is not quite the same - and driving a responsive, road hugging and good looking car. Now all I need is the number 77 on the side.

Welcome New Members



Fred and Jayna Hoppel of Miamisburg. After much convincing from fellow club members Mike and Mary Beth Smith and Byron and Skeeter Pettit, they were convinced they needed a Miata. So they're ready to go in a 2008 Copper Red Mica.

Darden and Debbie Whitaker of Kettering who have joined after noticing cars with our club stickers. Also through club member Chuck Valley. The Whitakers drive a 1990 Red.

Thanks to our club members who continue to be our best recruiting tools!

MEMBERSHIP

Need to contact a member of the club and you don't have the phone number? Interested in seeing who lives near you? There is a downloadable directory of all our members with full information such as addresses, phone #s, cars. It's on the website in the Members Only section with a link just above the alpha listings. This is posted quarterly with the latest updates.

Gears, Games, and Grub 2013

As with most of our events, we began with a drive through Greene County! The weather cooperated (no rain, let alone the four letter “s” word)! We passed a covered bridge, a pioneer cemetery, and saw sap buckets hanging from trees!

Everyone gathered after for some Grub. Socializing and eating (not to mention preparing the food) are things our club members do well...and as often as we can!!

Then the Games began! We filled 5 tables and still had 5 “floaters.” Attending were Paul Haller, Russ & Dianne Loughlin, Jon and JoAnn Vincent, Steve and Rhonda Miller, Denny and Paula Goodrich, Steve Trego, Dena Long, Flash and Judy Mardis, Tim Blazer and Mike, Cindy Devoe, Walt and Kathy Helman, Mike Wheeler, Gary and Jo Tarka, and our co-hosts, Lee Korb and Pattric Gould (A **special** thanks)!

Conversations ranged from handmade jewelry, photography (Dena), Pinterest, birds (outside our window), Ancestry, worm casings (ask Lee), recipes, gas leaks (ask Flash), Sweet Annie (ask Kathy), as well as future drives, including our upcoming **Overnight to Lake Erie May 18-19!**

First prize went to Gary Tarka. Pattric Gould had the honors of last. And Denny Goodrich distinguished himself by making two “loners!”

Thank you ALL for making the 6th Annual Gears, Games, and Grub a success!!

Pat and Bonnie Sturgeon

Visit our web site
www.miamivalleymiatclub.com

Meet n Greet start at 6:30 (many of us get there early)
For dates, times and details of events go to our web site at
www.miamivalleymiatclub.com

May 18-19, 2013

**Please join us for a drive/overnight stay to
Lake Erie**

We will begin at Young's Jersey Dairy Restaurant
(US Rte. 68 N. between Yellow Springs and Springfield)

With breakfast for the early birds

And a drivers' meeting at 9:00, leaving at 9:15AM.

The drive should take about 4 hours including several pit stops

We have reserved 15 rooms at

The Lighthouse Resort

614 E. Main St.

Marblehead, OH 43440

www.thelighouserestort.com

To make your reservations, call 1-877-426-8439 or 1-419-798-9600

Be sure to let them know you are from the Miami Valley Miata Club to get their special rate of \$79.00 plus tax for a standard room. They have a 72 hour cancellation policy.

The resort is a stone's throw from Marblehead Lighthouse!

The owner, Joe Faggionato, actually used to live in Middletown

And owned Lesordsville Lake/Ameriana for several years.

He is very willing to work with our club and will rope off parking for us.

Please let us know if you are coming. Contact us at

Home: 372-3615

Bonnie's cell: 532-3994

Pat's cell: 532-8550

Or email at oma.sturgeon@gmail.com

Thanks!

The **Wright Roadster** is the official newsletter of the Miami Valley Miata Club. Subscriptions are available as part of membership in the club. Archived issues, membership applications and additional club information may be found on the club website, www.miamivalleymiatclub.com, or contact the membership officer. For more information, contact the editor.

Advertising- There is no charge for members to advertise Miata related items and services.

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USAF Museum Restoration Tour

March 15th - what a great day it was at the USAF Museum's Restoration Division. We started the drive after breakfast at the Frisch's on Colonel Glenn Highway, and, with 23 cars, I thought we'd be split up at the first traffic light, but the light held and we arrived at the WPAFB Gate with one long line. The guards passed us through without any difficulties and we followed Dale Burnside's aerial photo-map to the Restoration hangars. Dale really outdid himself with all the requirements put forth by Base Security and for having enough 'hosts' so that each tour group had no more than 8 or 9 MVMC members. Dale and the other hosts



started each group at different locations within the work areas and we then thoroughly enjoyed seeing the many magnificent restorative operations being accomplished by mostly volunteers. The expertise of these people is nothing less than outstanding. The Restoration tour lasted a little over 2 1/2 hours and we were then allowed to drive our cars over to the Presidential Gallery to view and walk through the four planes that have served a number of Presidents - very interesting to see the planes and technology that were used by FDR, Truman, Eisenhower, etc. What a great event Dale set up for us – thanks, Dale, for a wonderful day.





Serving Greater Dayton Ohio Area Miata Enthusiasts since 1993

Night at the Dragons!

sponsored by [Jeff Schmitt Mazda](#)

When:	Thursday, June 20, 2013	
Gates Open:	6:00 PM	
Game Starts:	7:00 PM	
Location:	Fifth Third Field - Dayton Dragons 220 N. Patterson Blvd. Dayton, OH 45402	 Click for Map
Hosted by:	Steve & Sharry Hayden 937 233-7180 Home 937 985-1545 Cell	
Tickets:	The ticket cost is \$11 per person. Please use this order form (PDF) . Your tickets will be held in will call and can be picked up the night of the game.	
Dragons Contact:	Chad Adams 937 228-2287 ex: 160	Fifth Third Field Attn: Chad Adams PO Box 2107 Dayton, OH 45401
Deadline:	Must order your tickets by Friday May 3rd. We have reserved 50 seats. There may not be any more available once these are gone. If you are interested, order early.	
Parking:	Street parking is free but a long walk. Parking lots close to Fifth Third field range from \$3.00 to \$5.00.	



MIATAs AT THE GAP (MATG) XVII - 2013

Best Miata Event of the Year!

MATG XVII - ROAD TRIP - July 25-28, 2013



Be part of the annual gathering of Miatas, held in the **Great Smoky Mountains** of Tennessee! See numerous models and colors of Miatas, chat with their owners, visit vendors, and enjoy local spirited drives such as the **Devil's Triangle, Tail of the Dragon, and Moonshiner 28!** These World Famous roads, as well as the pristine scenery and picturesque country environment, will transcend you back thru history to a simpler time. Optional events include Garrett's Muscle Car Museum, Cherokee's Harrah Casino, various drives to Smoky Mountain locations & views like Newfound Gap & Clingman's Dome, and others.

CAUTION – Limited Participation: Although it seems like a long way off, **accommodations are limited & are filling up.** For the first night at Oliver Springs, TN (July 25) we have **only 4 rooms remaining**, the next two nights at Townsend, TN we have **5** (July 26-27), of which 2 are smoking. We have negotiated the rates down to **\$85 and \$65**, respectively, plus tax. If you are interested in this event, please:

- 1) Make reservations ASAP:** (Be sure to say you're with MVMC for special rate)
 - July 25: The Windmill Inn Bed & Breakfast (each room has private bath & full breakfast; game tables, 24' screen TV, gazebo, fire pit), 864-730-6413
 - July 26-27: Headrick's River Breeze (Wi-Fi, 'fridge/MW, pool), 865-448-2389
- 2) Let us know you are interested** so we can keep a head count. Feel free to call or email. **Steve & Rhonda Miller, 426-2229, steve.rhonda@sbcglobal.net**



www.windmillinnbedandbreakfast.com/

www.headricksriverbreeze.com/

MEET & GREET LOCATIONS?

Please put on your thinking caps and give the Board your suggestions for our monthly Meet & Greets. While we don't mind repeating locations it's always fun and more interesting to have someplace new and different. Of course we like to spread it out around the entire Miami Valley also. We need places that offer the following because of our size group:

- A separate room, so that we can conduct whatever business we have in a quiet environment
- Seating for 30-50
- Separate checks
- Ability to order off the menu in most cases, or a full selection buffet with plenty of variety (not preordered or catered)
- No room fee. If an 18% gratuity is automatically added to each bill, that's all right b/c we'll just know that most of the tip is covered in the check
- Ample wait and kitchen staff to handle the group.
- Handicap accessible if on the 2nd floor
- Sufficient parking (obviously)

For suggestions: Dorothy Tuzzi, dorf2z@sbcglobal.net or 937-436-9425