

June 2020 Volume 32, Issue 6



### The President's Corner

Wow - another month has gone by and slowly and surely, life looks like it might be returning to some semblance of normal - at least a new normal. Your MVMC Executive Board members have had several Zoom teleconferences in the past month to discuss how we can start to resume some club activities. As many of you are aware, a lot of community summer activities in the Miami Valley have been cancelled or postponed to later in the year. For starters: all late March, all April and all May activities were cancelled due to the COVID-19 crisis. Many of the June activities have also been cancelled or moved to later dates. The June 6 tour of the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force is cancelled - the museum is still closed to the public. Other June activities are on hold. We're just not sure if some of the locations for drives will be open. Some are opening while others remain closed. To make up for cancelled activities, our Rally Master, Chuck Valley, is looking at some optional drives for June and July. We are also considering some mid-week drives.

We just sent out a survey to ask MVMC members their feelings about returning to drives and Meet & Greets. The initial response to resuming drives was close to 90% positive. The response to resuming Meet & Greets was much lower at only 40% positive. The scheduled Meet & Greet for June 16 is at Bennet's Publical Family Sports Grill in Miamisburg. I spoke with the management of Bennet's Publical, and they are open, and they have assured me they have taken steps to help maintain social distancing guidelines in their restaurant. Please do not feel pressured to attend this Meet & Greet event. If you have personal COVID-19 health concerns, please consider not coming to the event. We do not want any club members to be concerned about catching the virus at a MVMC activity. If you are planning on attending the June Meet & Greet at Bennet's Publical Restaurant, **please let Pat Valley know at either 937-608-5252 or [trish529@earthlink.net](mailto:trish529@earthlink.net).**

A quick synopsis of the rest of the MVMC scheduled events for June & July:

- Jun 13: Ohio President's Tour - on hold for now
- Jun 14: Cincinnati Concourse drive - cancelled
- Jun 26: OMO Track Day - on hold for now
- Jun 26-27: Dublin Car Show - moved to Aug 20-22
- Jun 27: Cobra Car Show - cancelled

- Jul 4: Beaver Creek and Fairborn 4th of July Parades - both cancelled
- Jul 4: BBQ at Kirkpatrick's house - cancelled
- Jul 11: Dual Club Ice Cream Run - on hold for now

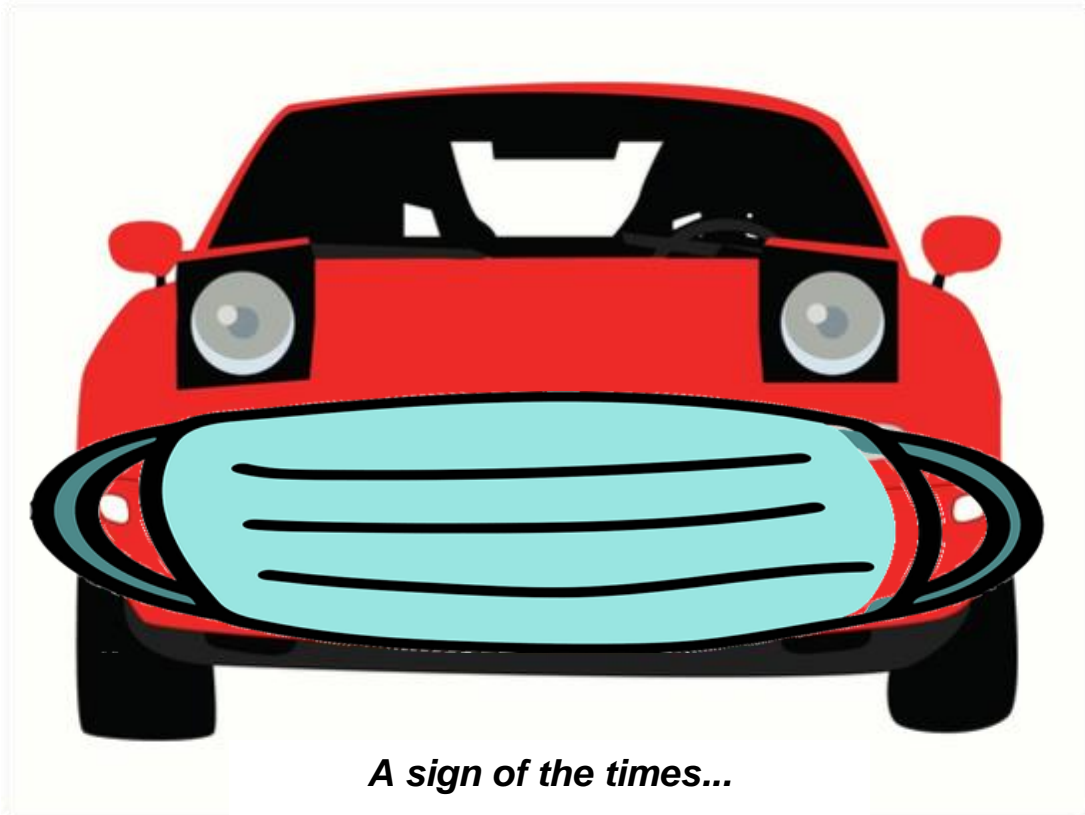
Chuck and Pat Valley have also been working with the Luxbury Inn & Suites in Maryville, Tennessee about the annual October Fall Foliage Drive to the Tail of the Dragon. It looks like that trip will be a go, more details to follow soon.

As conditions change across Ohio and more opens up, we will keep you posted on MVMC planned activities.

If you have any questions about anything in this message, please do not hesitate to contact me at: [Daniel.r.kirkpatrick@gmail.com](mailto:Daniel.r.kirkpatrick@gmail.com) or call me at: 937-673-4178.

Stay safe! Stay healthy! If any MVMC members need assistance, let us know. We are here for each other!!!





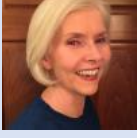


Dan Kirkpatrick  
Miami Valley Miata Club President  
937-673-4178



**Notice to Members:**

- At the beginning of February, an email notice was sent to all members who had renewed for 2020. The notice contained the new login and password for the Members Only page of the Miami Valley Miata Club's website. If you are a current member, and have not received the notice or have misplaced it, please contact Dave Berry, Webmaster, at 937-367-6879 or [dinglebe@hotmail.com](mailto:dinglebe@hotmail.com).

## Miami Valley Miata Club Officers for 2020

 <p><b>President</b> Dan Kirkpatrick</p>	 <p><b>Secretary-Treasurer</b> Patti Purdin</p>
 <p><b>Vice President</b> Jim Brokaw</p>	 <p><b>Technical Director</b> Tim Howard</p>
 <p><b>Membership Director</b> Pat Valley</p>	 <p><b>Newsletter Editor/Webmaster</b> Dave Berry</p>
 <p><b>Rally Master</b> Chuck Valley</p>	

### From the Membership Desk

by Pat Valley  
Membership Director

We are happy to welcome new members Robert and Ciela Tonge this month!

#### June Birthdays

06/01 Jeanne Gordon  
06/02 Cristy Haynes  
06/09 Frank Hughes  
06/11 Gary Thrasher  
06/17 Bill Bateman  
06/22 Karen Nagafuchi  
06/25 Tim Howard

#### New Members in 2020

Robert & Ciela Tonge  
Tim & Johanna West  
Michael Ryan

**WELCOME**

## MVMC 2020 Calendar of Events

**NOTE: This is displayed as a running three-month calendar of upcoming events for which at least two of the three factors of date, host(s) and venue are CONFIRMED.**



Date	Event	Host(s)	Venue
<del>Jun 6</del>	<del>USAF Museum Tour</del>	<del>Chuck &amp; Pat Valley</del>	<del>Wright-Patterson AFB</del>
Jun 13	Ohio Presidents Tour	Chuck & Pat Valley	TBA
Jun 16	Meet & Greet	MVMC Officers	Bennett's Pubical, Miamisburg
Jun 26	Ohio Miata Owners Track Day	OMO Members Only	Nelson Ledges Race Course
Jun 27	London-Cobra Show	Tim Howard, Ed Walker	London, OH
Jul 4	Fairborn 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade	Dan & Norma Kirkpatrick	Fairborn, OH
Jul 4	Beavercreek 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade	Chuck & Pat Valley	Beavercreek, OH
Jul 11	Dual Club Ice Cream Run	Chuck & Pat Valley	TBA
Jul 21	Meet & Greet	MVMC Officers	Giovanni's Fairborn
Aug 1	British Car Show	Tim Howard	Eastwood Metro Park
Aug 6-9	Miatas at the Gap	Open	Southeastern Tennessee
Aug 15	Hocking Hills Drive	Clyde & Bonnie Hebert	Southeastern Ohio
Aug 18	Meet & Greet	MVMC Officers	Nick's Restaurant Xenia
Aug 20-22	Arthritis Foundation Car Show	Tim Howard	Dublin, Ohio
Aug 22	Brown County Drive	Art & Nancy Thibeault	Brown County, Indiana

**Legend:**

- Event      Being held as scheduled
- Event      On Hold
- Event      Cancelled

"The newsletter is an official MVMC publication. By agreement with Jeff Schmitt Mazda we are to provide them with advertising space with their logo in every issue of the newsletter. As the Jeff Schmitt logo is a part of the newsletter, we don't want to appear to be in competition with our sponsor. Therefore, no advertising of used vehicles will appear in the newsletter.

We will advertise Miata related parts in the newsletter at no charge for MVMC members. The MVMC will help with preparing and releasing advertisements for used vehicles for MVMC members by e-mail distribution directly to members and on MVMC Facebook page(s)."

## Miami Valley Miata Club Magnets!

MVMC car magnets are available for \$5 each. We recommend a pair so both sides of your Miata/MX-5 can publicize our great club during Drive & Dines!

Contact Dave Berry for yours!



*Mazda*  
ON THE WEB Links of interest:

MVMC GROUP FACEBOOK PAGE:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/300608016771949/>

MVMC ORG FACEBOOK PUBLIC PAGE

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Miami-Valley-Miata-Club/229407270577928>

LINKS TO MIATA CLUBS IN THE MIDWEST

<http://www.miata.net/clubs/ohkywv.html>

BUCKEYE MIATA CLUB / COLUMBUS-

<http://www.buckeyemiataclub.com/>

GREATER CINCINNATI <http://www.cincimiata.com/news.asp>

INDY MIATA CLUB <http://www.indymiata.org/>

OHIO MIATA OWNERS FACEBOOK PRIVATE GROUP (request to join)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/478759678813248/>

**OUR CLUB SPONSOR**

**Jeff Schmitt Mazda**



## Support our Sponsoring Restaurants

Patronize the restaurants who had stepped up to support us this year for our Drivers Challenge. They are: **Don Patron's, El Meson, TJ Chumps, Tickets Pub & Eatery, Rip-Rap Roadhouse, Bennett's Publical, Giovanni's Italian Restaurant, Nick's Restaurant, and Los Mariachi's.**

Below is an update on the service status of these restaurants.

Restaurant	Location	Inside Dining	Carry Out	Delivery
Bennett's Publical	Miamisburg	Yes with restrictions	Yes	DoorDash, Grubhub
Don Patron's	Fairborn	Starting June 10	Yes	DoorDash, Grubhub, Uber Eats
El Meson	West Carrollton	Yes with restrictions	Yes	No
Giovanni's	Fairborn	Yes with restrictions	Yes	Grubhub
Los Mariachi's	Xenia	Yes with restrictions	Yes	No
Nick's	Xenia	Yes with restrictions	Yes	No
Rip-Rap Roadhouse	Dayton	Yes with restrictions	Yes	No
Tickets	Fairborn	No	Yes	No
TJ Chumps	Englewood	Yes with restrictions	Yes	DoorDash, Grubhub

Note that restaurants now offering inside dining have placed restrictions on the size of parties and the total number of patrons. Some may also require that reservations be made in advance of arrival.





## Test Drive

MVMC officers and guests took advantage of a fine May Saturday to join in an impromptu drive through Greene County. The group finished the route at the Sonic Drive-In in Xenia, where you see them here.

It was our goal to test our ability to conduct a small event in the current environment of public health emergency, and we are pleased to report that all went well. Rally Master, Chuck Valley, is now working on optional drives for June and July, as reported by President, Dan Kirkpatrick.



## Shop Talk (It's not just about the cars)

by Tim Howard



I have chosen a rather mundane topic as the subject of this month's Shop Talk: lubricant maintenance. I picked this topic because I learned something this month through experiential learning that I thought was worth passing along. I was helping Ed Walker change the lubricants in the transmission and rear differential of his latest acquisition, a blue 2008 Miata retractable hardtop that he picked up the day after the quarantine began. The purchase itself is worth mention because it shows the benefit of being an MVMC member. If you don't already know, Ed has been looking for the "right" blue retractable hardtop for several years (code for 5 or 6). It had to be blue, it had to be low mileage, one owner, and it had to be in like-new condition. Well, just before the shut-down, Christy Mott Haynes contacted Ed to tell him she knew of just such a car in Columbus that was for sale but had not yet been advertised. Since such cars don't come along very often, Ed and I left for Columbus the next morning. The rest is history. Thanks to Christy, we beat what we are told were legions of potential buyers that had contacted the owner before we arrived. It pays to have Miata club friends.

The above is important because due to the quarantine, Ed had plenty of time on his hands to work on his new acquisition. He immediately set about searching for, acquiring, and installing all those upgrades that he had been dreaming about. In addition, there was also some routine maintenance that could be performed. Among the maintenance items on the list was changing the transmission and differential fluid. Given the low mileage on the car (8,000 miles), both Ed and I considered this to be a low priority, and even discussed if it was necessary at all. The owner's manual for my 2016 specifies that transmission fluid should be changed every 60,000 miles, or 48 months, and differential fluid only if the differential has been submerged in water. Ultimately, we had the time so why not go ahead and change the fluids?

Imagine our surprise when we drained the components and discovered that the condition of the lubricants was highly deteriorated. The oil was extremely dirty, with a milky look, and the magnetic drain plugs for both the transmission and differential contained more metal shavings than either of us would expect to see on such a low mileage vehicle. The lesson learned is that, when it comes to maintenance, you should not just pay attention to the mileage parameters; you should also pay attention to the time related life expectancy of lubricants. This is particularly important on vehicles like Miatas, many of which are not daily drivers and, as such, experience fewer miles and more age-related deterioration. Remember that old adage, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure"? It appears that is particularly pertinent in this situation. We all might want to take a moment and give consideration to replacing all the important fluids in our Miatas, not just the engine oil.

Editor's Note: Here are several YouTube videos that demonstrate the basics of changing a Miata's transmission and differential fluids.

NA: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pfIPFfov9ns>

NB: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4aBXemGe7uw>

NC: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hg5ORddNc6s>

ND: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkOq7ShTOuo> (differential only)