


Miami Valley
Miata Club

THE WRIGHT ROADSTER

ZOOM-ZOOM

July 2024 Volume 36, Issue 7

The President's Corner

by Chuck Valley



This year's MVMC Poker Run on Saturday, June 15th was a great success with 21 Miatas participating. Our starting point was Russ Nature Reserve on Kemp Road in Beavercreek. After a few group photos and a drivers' meeting explaining a few details of the Poker Run, the eager participants were handed their first playing card. They were then released into the wilderness within their tiny road beasts at 10:30am in search of additional playing cards in the hope they could end up with a winning poker hand toward a nice prize.

The Poker Run course traversed through eastern Greene County and southwestern Clark County with five quick stops at 'Dealer Stations' along the route that ended at the large shelter at Rotary Park in Beavercreek for a club-provided lunch of KFC chicken strips, and a variety of chips and beverages. Oh, and cookies too!

Upon arriving at the final Dealer Station at Rotary Park, each participant received a final card to total seven cards. Participants were instructed to ditch two cards they didn't want, to end up with a poker hand of five cards. Congratulations goes out to the "Top 5" poker hand recipients: Chris and Donna Volmer (\$100), Al and Nancy Szkarupa (\$50), Russ and Dianne Loughlin (\$40), Clyde and Bonnie Hebert (\$30), and Mike Wheeler (\$20). This year we awarded a "Worst Hand" prize of (\$10) that went to Darden and Debbie Whitaker.

This event is yet another way the club gives back to its members keeping the fun factor alive and encouraging socializing among fellow Miata enthusiasts.

Remember, if you are planning to drive a dignitary in the Fairborn 4th of July Parade and/or drive in the Beavercreek parade, it's not too late to contact Dan Kirkpatrick at 937-673-4178. By the way, if anyone needs a MVMC club logo magnet for their car, contact our Treasurer Pat Valley at 937-608-5251. These are attractive quality magnets for only \$5 each. I highly recommend that those MVMC members driving the parade routes in Fairborn and/or Beavercreek buy a pair.



Next Meet & Greet will be held July 16th at Taylor's Tavern, 5539 Dayton Road, Springfield 45502. Hopefully, the weather will be decent and we can enjoy their covered patio area.

Check for upcoming drives and events in our miamivalleymiataclub.org website. The Fall Foliage Drive is this October 24-27th. A few rooms are still available at the River Breeze Inn in Townsend TN. Contact Dan Kirkpatrick 937-673-4178 if you are planning to join us on this enjoyable, memorable trip to the Smokies.

Chuck Valley, President
Miami Valley Miata Club



Mazda
ON THE WEB Links of interest:

MVMC GROUP FACEBOOK PAGE:

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

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/>

"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 Officers for 2024

 President Chuck Valley	 Secretary-Treasurer Pat Valley
 Vice President Vacant	 Technical Director Tim Howard
 Membership Director Gina Seay	 Newsletter Editor Dave Berry
 Rally Master L. Calvin (Clyde) Hebert	 Webmaster Christy Haynes

MVMC 2024 Calendar of Events

NOTE: This is displayed as a running 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
Jul 4	Fairborn July 4 th Parade	Dan Kirkpatrick	Fairborn, OH
Jul 4	Beavercreek July 4 th Parade	Dan Kirkpatrick	Beavercreek, OH
Jul 16	Meet & Greet	MVMC Officers	Taylor's Tavern, Springfield, OH
Aug 3	British Car Show	Tim Howard	Eastwood MetroPark, Dayton, OH
Aug 10	Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum Drive	Chuck Valley	Auburn, IN
Aug 20	Meet & Greet	MVMC Officers	* See Below
Aug 31	Champaign County Air Museum Drive & Dine	TBA	Urbana, OH
Sep 17	MVMC Annual Picnic	MVMC Officers	Lofino Park Shelter, Beavercreek, OH
Sep 21	LaComedia "Saturday Night Fever"	TBA	Springboro, OH

* Soliciting suggestions for a new venue with private room or covered patio

From the Membership Desk

By Gina Seay
Membership Director

We added no new members in June.

We wish the following members happy birthday in July:

July Birthdays

Jeff Fath, Jack Wilson, Jeffrey Bowman, Karen Weglage, Julie Green, Tom Gordon, Dianne Loughlin, Fred Remmers

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

New Members for 2024

Mike & Stephanie Little
Sean & Amy White
Julie Green
Peter & Christal Kronbergs

WELCOME

Miami Valley Miata Club Member Profiles

Meet Dan and Norma Kirkpatrick

Dan and Norma have two Miata's, a 1993 Black NA and a 2017 Soul Red ND. Dan says why he bought his Miata is a long story so maybe he will tell us someday. Their adventures include driving the Tail of the Dragon. Other likes are playing golf and family activities. Dan is also the mayor of Fairborn, and a past President of the Miami Valley Miata Club!!



Meet Gail & Mike Allen

The Allens have a 2020 White 100th Anniversary Edition Mazda. They bought this Miata because the salesperson called them to come see it. Their adventures include the Tail of the Dragon and driving to Kentucky for the Bourbon Trail. Othe hobbies include cars for Mike, and Gail takes trips to the Beach! Mike served as the club's Rally Master in 2023.



OUR CLUB SPONSOR

Jeff Schmitt Mazda



Treasurer's Report for June 2024

By Pat Valley, Secretary-Treasurer

Income and expenses for the month of June:

Income: \$ 69.00
Expenses: \$476.48
Bank Bal: \$2556.37

Income is from Sinclair donations

Expenses are for the Poker Run

From the Rally Master

Not much is going on right now. It's a good time to enjoy the weather and an outdoor bar-b-que. We have a few drives that are being worked on right now. One will be to Mrs. Wick's Pies in Indiana (excellent pies at an unbelievably low price). Another is to the washboard factory south of Columbus, and yes these are used in some Cajun music, Zydeco, jazz and old-time music! More information is to be released on these drives.

For those that may be thinking about organizing a drive, the website: MiamiValleyMiataClub.org has excellent directions on how to plan a drive. Go to the **Documents** tab, then "How to Plan a Drive-n-Dine" – even using an Atlas (old school) and Google maps to plan your drive. I have an Atlas available if you would like to borrow. I look forward to driving with the Miata Club and seeing all those happy faces as they drive these wonderful cars. See ya soon.



Thank you,

Clyde Hebert, Rally Master
937-657-6294
Lhebert2019@gmail.com



Poker Run

Photos courtesy of Pat Valley



Picnic time!



The prize winners!



Miami Valley Miata Club



Serving Greater Dayton Ohio Area Miata Enthusiasts since 1993

MVMC 4th of July parades Fairborn and Beavercreek

Fairborn parade:

Fairborn is in need of 3 more cars to drive dignitaries for the morning parade.

Assemble at 9 am at Jeff Schmidt Chevrolet, 1001 N. Broad Street (in the back of the car lot). Donuts and coffee provided.

Remember: you will probably be driving a dignitary in your Miata.

Then after the parade...

BBQ AT THE KIRKPATRICKS!

Assemble at 1 pm Dan & Norma's house, 1520 Meadowlands Dr., Fairborn.

Hot dogs, brats and burgers provided along with Norma's famous potato salad, watermelon and sodas/water.

Beavercreek parade:

Beavercreek is in need of 3 more cars to drive dignitaries for the evening parade.

Assemble at 5 pm at the PNC Bank Parking lot, 3160 Dayton-Xenia Road (across from the McDonalds). Remember: you will probably be driving a dignitary in your Miata.

Dan needs a response by **Friday, June 30**

call/text 937-673-4178

Daniel.r.kirkpatrick@gmail.com

If you have Miata Club magnets for your car, please put them on.
If you do NOT have magnets, we have them for sale - \$5 each.

FALL FOLIAGE DRIVE
October 24-27, 2024



Fall Foliage drive
to the Smoky Mountains
October 24 - 27, 2024

Depart: Thursday, October 24, 2024
Bob Evans Springboro
40 Sharts Rd.
Springboro, OH 45066

Meet: 7:30 am for breakfast
Driver's meeting: 8:45 am
Depart: 9:00 am

Staying at Townsend River Breeze Motel; 8242 TN-73; Townsend, TN
37882
865-448-2389

Cost: \$415 - \$454 for three nights (depends on room configuration)
Seven reserved rooms remain as of May 14th

For additional information, contact Dan Kirkpatrick:
daniel.r.kirkpatrick@gmail.com
937-673-4178

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

By Tim Howard



During June, Ed Walker forwarded me a YouTube video accompanied by the comment “useful information”. The comment captured my interest, so I took the time to watch it. The video was hosted by a young man who had recently bought a new car from a dealer, but one that he apparently did not drive on a regular basis. His problem was that about every three weeks, the battery would go dead. After this happened several times with no problems in between, he bought a new battery only to have it happen again. This caused him to begin looking for a parasitic battery drain. Sure enough, he discovered that even while the car was sitting unused in his garage there was a small drain on the

battery which over time would be enough to drain the charge from the battery. Fortunately, he owned an OBDII code reader that he decided to plug into the car's port to see if it would trigger a code that would identify the problem. He did not get such a code, but he did notice that the OBDII port was not properly affixed to the car, making it difficult to plug in the reader. The owner decided to fix that problem immediately. He began by removing the port so he could identify the source of the problem. He determined that the port was not the same size as the mounting hole in the dashboard. Subsequently, he determined that that the OEM port had been pushed up into the dash and another device had been plugged into the OEM port. A replacement port was then temporarily affixed into the mounting hole in the dash.

A little research allowed the owner to identify the aftermarket unit as a LoJack. As it turns out, the LoJack was in fact the source of the parasitic electrical drain. LoJacks were originally marketed to both private owners as well as car dealers. Although there are numerous uses for the LoJack, they were used primarily for auto theft recovery and car dealer inventory control. The single most important use for both dealers and private owners is vehicle recovery after an auto theft. This device contains a GPS unit that continuously emits a signal that can be traced in most populated areas of the United States and in many foreign countries. The police in those populated areas are in possession of receivers and can track all the cars that are equipped with LoJack GPS units. LoJack advertises a recovery rate of 98% within three days of theft. As a result, car dealers invest in the GPS units and install them temporarily on the cars that they have in inventory to protect their investment. Apparently, the plan is to remove the unit before it leaves the dealer's inventory. Someone apparently forgot to remove the LoJack unit from our owner's car before he took possession. Since the LoJack operates via the car's battery there is a constant parasitic drain on the battery. This is not a problem for dealers as the inventory control system contains a low battery warning system that identifies when the battery of each car needs to be charged as well as its location on the dealer's lot. It only becomes a problem for the new owner if he does not have the inventory control system at home. A second problem attributed to LoJack units is that they are not compatible with many high-performance tuning units such as the popular ECUTEK software. Apparently, the incompatibility prevents the remapping of your engine's performance.



So, if you have a dealer-purchased car that regularly has a dead battery, you might want to check to see if the dealer forgot to remove the LoJack unit.

July Meet & Greet

Join your fellow members for the July 16th Meet & Greet!

Where: Taylor's Tavern, 5539 Dayton Springfield Road, Springfield, OH 45502

Time: Gather to socialize and order early beginning 5:30 pm Business Meeting will begin at approximately 6:30 pm

Taylor's Tavern menu:

<https://www.taylorstavernoh.com/menu>



Miami Valley Miata Club Ball Caps are available!!!!

Two (2) ball caps remain available from Chuck Valley. Cost is \$11.00 each. One size fits all.



Contact Chuck at 937-608-5251 or c.valley@earthlink.net