



October 2018

Letter from the President



Hello Sahuaro Miata Club members. Your board trusts you enjoyed our great summer. Now that fall is here we can start to enjoy those sub triple digit days.

“The fun is the run”!

This is why so many of you join our club. In the heat of the summer we usually give our air conditioners a run for their money. However, once the days get shorter and the temperatures start to drop, we drop our tops. Our Soft Tops, Retractable Hard Tops and retractable fastback Targa panels start to come down and we can feel the glorious wind in our hair. (Apologies to those that are follicly challenged).

Besides our monthly socials and weekly lunches we look forward to our events in October. Devil’s Highway Oct. 5th (Our most popular run) Hosted by Hope Morris and Mark Kucera, Berge Mazda Car Show, Oct. 13th (A perennial favorite) Hosted by Mark Kucera, HPDE (High Performance Driving Experience) October 20th Hosted by Mark Kucera and on Oct 26th our trip to Bisbee staying at the Shady Dell Vintage Trailer Park, Hosted by Curtis Wood. So October has lots going on, I trust everyone will have a great time.

Please remember to contact me with any club issues at president@sahuaromiataclub.com. For ideas on runs and other events contact Mark Kucera our V.P. and events coordinator at vpevents@sahuaromiataclub.com. Don’t forget to send your Bio’s of yourself and your co-pilot along with pictures of yourself and your Miata to Paul Gaskill editor@sahuaromiataclub.com. Paul is always interested in fun things to include in our newsletter, so if you have anything cool to contribute, Paul is our editor and person to contact.

Warm Regards and I hope to see you soon!
Jeff Morris



LETTER FROM
THE EDITOR

It's October, and that means two things: Halloween and scenic in-state road trips. As we know, the state offers many venues including Ghost Towns. Most are near a major town like Gila Bend and Wickenburg. Might make a fun run.

Speaking of fun, my wife and I had the opportunity to visit the Revs Institute while in Florida. On the following page you will find an article about our experience at the Revs. If you're ever in SW Florida it's a must see.

Finally, It's been a year since the first edition of this newsletter was published. I want to thank Art, Iris and Terye for their help and support this past year.

Until next month, Paul

D.I.Y. Project

With the holidays just around the corner, some of you maybe thinking of a way to decorate your car . One way is to light up your Miata. Here is some information on how to do it.

There are many ways to decorate your Miata with lights and other decorations.

For lighting (basic lights) there are both incandescent and LED. For LED there are options to go with 110 v or battery-operated. Amazon.com has many choices of LED light strings (18 feet long that operate on 3 AA batteries) for about \$10 per string.

A 100 count string of incandescent mini-lights runs at 40 watts while a 70 count of LEDs runs at about 4.8 watts.

A typical blow-up decoration will use about 12 watts for both the fan and light.

Miata cigarette lighters (according to Mazda service technicians) are 15 amp service.

15 amps = 12 volts = 180 watts

So a 200 watt inverter should safely handle many lights (depending what you choose). You can run a 400 watt inverter as long as the load doesn't exceed 180 watts. Doing so may cause the fuse to blow. There any several places to look for a inverter including Amazon and Walmart.

A Day at the Revs Institute

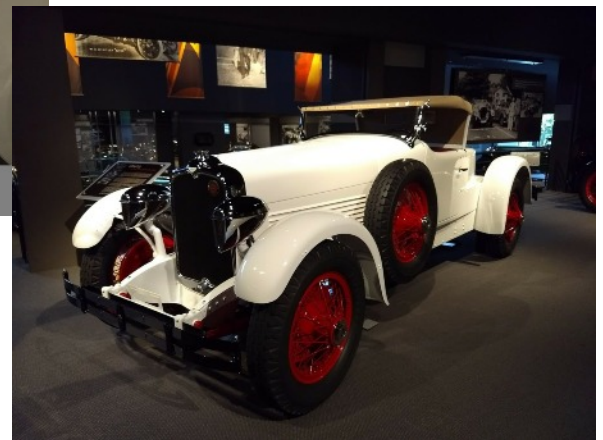
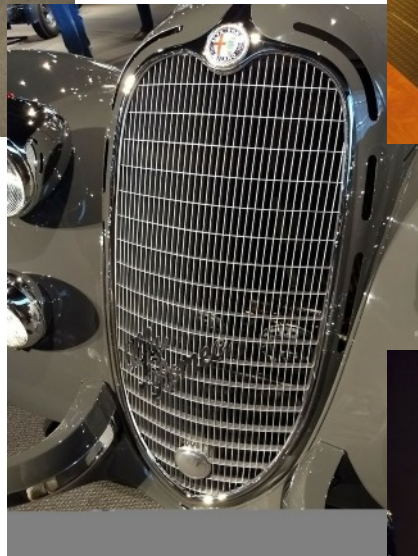
On September 18th, my wife and I left our condo on Marco Island and drove up the Tamiami Trail to Naples, Fl. to spend the morning at Revs Institute.

When we entered Revs, We watched a great video and then went with a Docent for a 2 hour guided tour. The Revs Institute is AMAZING and OVERWHELMING! The Docents were so knowledgeable, and the cars were all truly beautiful.

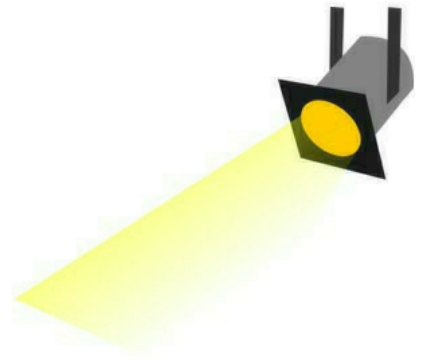
We noticed cars with red FL license plates that said “horseless carriage”. Most cars are licensed and taken out and driven. The red plates are cars built before World War II and the blue “antique” plates are after World War II.

For those of you that are not familiar with Revs here is a brief description of the institute.

The Revs Institute in Naples, Florida is a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Revs presents the Collier Collection of over one hundred significant automobiles built between 1896 and 1995. The automobiles on display at Revs are some of the rarest and most important cars ever built at anytime, anywhere. They are the ones that variously blazed technical pathways, redefined aesthetic standards, made history, and changed the world.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



How I got my car - **Richard Swanson**

I decided that due to my age, (82) and my physical condition, (cancer) I wanted to drive a fun car for the rest of my life rather a utility vehicle, (an SUV) since I was no longer going to be doing any cabinet work and didn't need to haul any wood or materials I didn't need an SUV.

I had long admired the Mazda Miata MX-5 two seat sports car and having owned sports cars years ago.....

What I wanted....

2010 MX-5 Sports car, Grand Touring model, Red, Retracting Hardtop, Auto Trans, Low Milage.

I surfed the internet a month looking for a Miata MX-5 within a 500 mile radius which took in Las Vegas, Phoenix, Tucson and the San Diego and Los Angeles areas and finding nothing that met all of the features I wanted. A 2010, Grand Touring, (top of the line model) retractable hardtop, red, Auto transmission and low mileage, I figured that I could easily afford a 2010 twenty year edition . It had a style I liked and the engine and suspension had been refined to a high performance level. I found nothing that I would not have had to compromise on one or more features.

My Saturn sold I'm ready to buy. As soon as I had the cash in hand I went on the internet to began my search again and the 'first' car I viewed met all of my requirements and then some, including low milage, '13,773'. "Coincidence"! It was the only car available at that time that at a reasonable price. 'Coincidence?' I learned later that this car had come from Staten Island New York, out of my search area and had been transferred to a dealer in San Diego, in my search area. "Coincidence"?' I never learned how or why it had been transferred clear across country where I could get a hold of it only that it had been. I contacted the dealer in San Diego and my dealer here and secured the purchased, This is the only time I have ever purchased a car without even seeing it. We made arrangements for a dealer transfer to make my purchase through my dealer here in Yuma. I found out later that this car had been placed on the dealers web site just minutes before I viewed it. "Coincidence"? Six other people called that same day wanting the car. I was the first to call. 'Coincidence?'

All of this just 'exactly' when I became financially able to make the purchase, "Coincidence"?

Was all of this just random "Coincidence" Or was it.....



Richard in his "new" 2010 Mazda Miata

Club Events

Miatas At Laguna Seca 2018

The annual “Miatas At Laguna Seca” event gets Miata owners all across the country excited about participating in this big event. The guys that like to go fast dream of driving the perfect line through the corners, blasting down the front straight and out-braking the other drivers going into turn 2. Others make the pilgrimage to Monterey, California to be a part of 800+ Miatas converging on one place for the all Miata car show, a free barbecue dinner, an organized Miata run on the coast highway, the opportunity to drive in the parade laps around the track, and the spectacle of 800+ Miatas in the pit area at the race track on Saturday and Sunday.

Four Sahuaro Miata Club members -Tom Taylor, Arthur Stromberg, Dale Strickland, and myself (Mark Kucera) - drove the 750 miles to Monterey together on September 13 & 14, staying the night in Barstow, CA. We met up Thursday morning at 9 AM to drive the first leg of the trip to Lake Havasu City for lunch before pushing on to “beautiful downtown Barstow” for dinner at the Idle Spur Steak House, and a not so quiet night at the Best Western next to the busy railroad track.

On Friday the group finished the drive to our hotels in Salinas CA. We stopped for a good lunch at Dolce Galleria restaurant in Paso Robles, CA. Unfortunately, Dale ate something that made him ill by the time we arrived in Salinas, causing him to miss out on the Friday night registration event, car show, free barbeque, and the trip to the Monterey Wharf for seafood. The rest of us went to the events and walked the Monterey Wharf taking in the sights of the marina, the seals, and the many shops and seafood restaurants. Tom, Arthur, and I ate our fill of great seafood on the pier overlooking the bay.

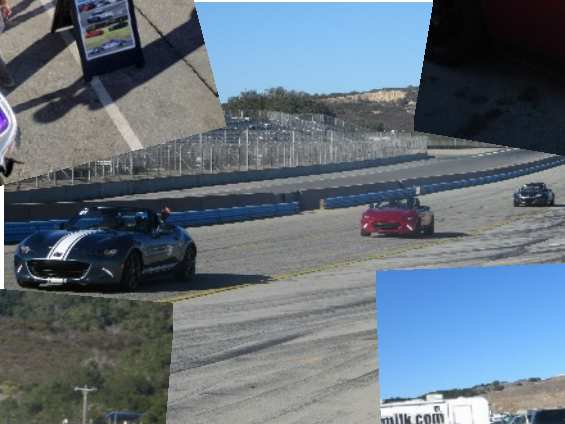
Mike Parr, the self-proclaimed “King Of Miatas” flew out to the event again this year to socialize, give out free water bottles at the track, and promote his business Miata Meca. We enjoyed seeing the always entertaining “King of Miatas” at the various events. We appreciated the cold water provided by Mike to the thirsty participants.

Tom, Arthur and I met for an early breakfast before arriving at the track at about 7:15 AM to start preparing for an exciting day of “driver education” classes and five 18 minute sessions driving the track. The classes go over the basics of safely driving the track with 40 other cars, and proper driving techniques to go fast. There was a short “download” class session after each track session to go over what the instructor observed the drivers doing on the track, and what the drivers experienced. Dale toured the track and the pits taking in the action and taking pictures to document our trip. The weather was fabulous. We had clear skies with temperatures in the 60’s and low 70’s.

We found the track time extremely fun and exciting. We experienced the thrill of high-speed driving, sliding through the curves, passing and being passed, cars spinning out in front of us, and a couple of off-track excursions. Fortunately, our cars finished the day no worse for wear, other than some tire and break pad wear. The drivers had enjoyed the experience, but were feeling a little tired from all the physical and mental strain of the day's events. But we all found the energy to return to the wharf for more seafood for dinner.

Sunday morning we returned to the track for demonstration rides with several vendors in their demonstration race prepared Miatas. Unfortunately, only Arthur was able to go for a short ride, but it was in the famous Corvette V8 powered 2016 ND Miata made by Flyin' Miata. Arthur was impressed with the neck-snapping power and the high G-force braking of the car. Dale went on a guided tour over to the beautiful coast and back through the hills. Around 11 AM we left the track for the long drive back to Barstow for the night, and then back to the valley.

As much fun as the activities are one of most enjoyable parts of the trip is the fun the four of us have on the 1675 mile round-trip together. We shared fun comments on our handheld radios throughout the drive, enjoy all our meals together each day, and even sharing hotel rooms. We enjoyed each others company and really got to know each other better. I found them all great fellows and good traveling companions. I look forward to doing it all again next year.



With elections coming up, the following is a list of duties for all available positions. Hopefully this will answer any questions regarding what is expected in each position.

Officer and Director Duties
Sahuaro Chapter, Miata Club of America

All board positions are expected to do the following in addition to the specific job responsibilities listed below:

1. Greet and spend time with new and existing members at events.
2. Assist in developing some event plans, and/or host some events.
3. Attend board meetings.
4. Attend as many club events as possible

President

1. Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board
 - a. Prepare the agenda and preside at Board Meetings, Membership, and Special Meetings
2. Responsible for assigning committee chairmen, as needed- non voting BOD positions
 - a. Communications
 - b. Newsletter
 - c. Webmaster
 - d. Photographer
3. Know each Officer's responsibilities and duties.
4. Maintain good communications with the Officers/Directors and Committee Chairmen to keep on top of everything.
5. Chair the Annual Meeting (Elections).
 - a. Responsible for election procedures from nominating committee to actual election tabulating and reporting results.
6. Chair the Christmas Party
 - a. Prepare the agenda
 - b. Select the awards for the Officers/Directors
7. Introduce new members and recognize out of town members at all events.
8. Supervise all Officers/Directors and Committees
 - a. Make certain they are in compliance with their responsibilities.
9. Adhere to Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation

Vice President And Events Coordinator

1. Promote event development, hosting, and participation to all members.
2. Develop some event plans, and host some events.
3. Report to the board on all event ideas, events in planning, and events scheduled at each board meeting.
4. Offer assistance to members with event planning, posting, and execution.
5. Keep a list of event ideas submitted by members and make the list available to members.
6. Review and approve all events prior to posting and announcement.
7. Submit events to the board for approval prior to posting.
8. Maintain the events listing in Meetup.
9. Post and announce events as far in advance as possible for publication in Meetup, website, newsletter, or other electronic media.
10. Know the other Officers and Directors duties and responsibilities
11. Take over in the absence of the President.
12. Appoint a board member to perform VP duties in your absence.

Officer and Director Duties
Sahuaro Chapter, Miata Club of America

Secretary

1. Record the minutes of all business at the board meeting and special called meetings.
 - a. Email a copy to each Officer/Director prior to the next scheduled board meeting for review.
2. Ascertain that all present Board members have received the minutes of the previous meeting, and ask for any corrections; ask for motion for approval.
3. Handle correspondence as directed by the Board.
4. Maintain all previous meeting minutes and make sure they are accessible all members upon request.

Treasurer

1. Account for all incoming funds and expenses – maintain Quickbook financial docs.
2. Prepare monthly financial report at month end for the board meeting, for approval
 - a. Provide a copy to each member of the board (electronic distribution or paper copy)
 - b. Semi annual/Annual reports periods ending 6-30 and 12-31
3. Responsible for year end reporting to the Arizona Corporate Commission
4. Comply with any requests from the Federal Government for Non Profit Filing
 - a. Complete 990N as required with Non Profit Status
5. Custodian of the Treasurers reports.
6. Communicate with Membership Director in order to determine new members for accounting purposes – maintain list of current members through Quickbooks.
7. Communicate with Marketing Director in order to reconcile sales and purchases of club merchandise.

Marketing

1. Make sure that all participants have a name tag or temporary tag.
2. Maintain an inventory of Miata club merchandise for purchase by club members.
 - a. Responsible for the safety and security of physical inventory.
 - b. Replenish merchandise as needed.
 - c. Introduce new items as warranted.
3. Establish sales pricing of all Miata club merchandise.
4. Take orders for Club Name Badges – coordinate payment with Treasurer.
5. Maintain monthly sales reports to report to the treasurer and Board.
6. Notify the Board of any issues regarding suppliers or price increases.
7. Make proposals to the board of any new merchandise as requested by members.
8. Handle give-away opportunities at events (Christmas party gift exchange) as needed.
9. Have a designated representative at events that are not attended by marketing.

Officer and Director Duties
Sahuaro Chapter, Miata Club of America

Membership

1. Contact for prospective members
 - a. Prospective member request – send out introductory letter informing them of the process
 - i. Application and payment
 - ii. Current events that prospective member could try out before completing application and payment
 - b. Maintain contact with prospective member until payment and application is received.
 - c. Maintain a list of prospective members and continue to communicate with them as appropriate.
2. Contact Webmaster with email of new member for access to meetup.
3. Prepare monthly new member report for board meeting.
4. Revises member applications, with Treasurer as needed.
5. Meet, greet, and socialize with the members at the events.
 - a. Make sure temporary name tags are available for those who do not have name badges. Guest badges for prospective members. Coordinate with Marketing.
 - b. Event leader would be designated if marketing or membership isn't there.

Officer and Director Duties
Sahuaro Chapter, Miata Club of America

Non-Voting committee members

Webmaster

1. Maintain website (www.sahuaromiataclub.com) and changes as necessary.
 - a. Coordinate payment method and contact information as changes occur.
 - b. Update pages as requested by board members.
 - c. Assist Marketing to get information on new items or sale items.
2. Maintain access to the Sahuaro-MX5-Miata-Club meetup site.
 - a. New requests – send info to Membership for followup.
 - b. Membership/Treasurer inform of new paid membership to update or send out meetup access request.
 - c. Assist members in how to access and use meetup.
3. Monitor Facebook groups as needed. Evaluate join requests to both Interest group and Buy/Sell group. Send prospective names to Membership for followup.

Newsletter Editor

1. Create newsletter at a frequency as directed by the board.
 - a. Obtain articles for publication
 - i. President's letter
 - ii. VP Events Letter
 - iii. Publication of events
 - iv. Other letter/memos/newsworthy articles
 - v. List new members
 - vi. Acknowledge special occasions or happenings.
2. Editor determines the deadline for articles.
3. Organize articles, format, and publish.
4. Send draft newsletter to proof readers prior to final submission.
5. Send final PDF version to Webmaster for distribution to membership.



- 10/2 - Board Meeting
- 10/5,6,7 - Devil's Highway Run
- 10/10 - NW Valley 2nd Wednesday lunch at Dillion's
- 10/12 - Prescott Valley Lunch (Changed due to conflict with Devil's Hwy Run)
- 10/14 - Az. Motorsports Park
- 10/17 - SE Valley Lunch at Chompie's Chandler Mall
- 10/24 - NE Valley Lunch at Rehab Burger Therapy
- 10/26 & 27 - Bisbee Shady Dell Trailer Park run
- 11/2 - Prescott Valley 1st Friday Lunch at Backburner Family Cafe
- 11/6 - Board Meeting
- 11/11 - Veteran's Day Parade
- 11/14 - NW Valley 2nd Wednesday Lunch at Dillions
- 11/18 - Sunday Social Lunch Buffet at Casino Arizona
- 11/21 - SE Valley 3rd Wednesday Lunch at Chase's Diner
- 12/4 - Last 2018 Board Meeting
- 12/8 - Holiday Party, (Details of the party need to be discussed and decisions made so it can be posted)
- 12/15 - Holiday Dinner And Lights Tour

Event & Run Ideas Proposed By A Member That Need A Host

- Riordan Mansion State Historic Park in Flagstaff
- Zoo Lights Event Around Christmas
- Christmas Light Viewing Events in various sections of the valley
- Hall of Flame Fire Museum in Phoenix
- Boyce Thompson Arboretum for Spring or Fall
- Tour Chase Field
- Tour University Of Phoenix Stadium
- Arizona Open Wheel Museum
- Gateway Auto Museum in Gateway Colorado
- Road House Theatre
- Pima Air And Space Museum, Titan Missile Museum, Bone Yard Tour In Tucson
- Arcosanti
- Biosphere 2
- Petersen Auto Museum In Los Angeles
- Penske Auto Museum Scottsdale
- Barleens Dinner Show in Apache Junction
- Tech Day Garage Events For Car Work
- Saturday or Sunday morning brunches.

2018 Board Members

President:

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Vice President / Event Coordinator

Mark Kucera

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Treasurer

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Congratulations go out to Cathleen Kucera who has accepted the position of Membership Coordinator.

Our Mission

The Mission of the Sahuaro Miata Club is to increase the fun of driving and owning a Mazda MX-5 Miata. This is achieved by combining fun runs and outings that allow us to take advantage of our roadsters phenomenal performance. Through meetings, meals and activities we meet like minded club members. We share our Miata experiences and develop friendships along the way that makes us all proud to be Miata owners and members of the Sahuaro Miata Club.

Serving the Greater Phoenix Miata Community

A BIG Thanks
to our Sponsors!



Vincent and Brenda Holman

Nellie Nelson

John Larkin

LAST LAUGH

