



Special points
of interest:

- February Board Meeting / The Rusty Putter, Sherwood, AR. ... February 16
- Polar Bear Drive & Membership Meeting ... February 18
- Spring Forward Drive ... March 11
- Daylight Savings time ... March 12
- Brewery Tour / Ballgame ... April 8

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Naturally Topless

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February, 2017

ANNUAL POLAR BEAR DRIVE / MEMBERSHIP MEETING SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18th 9:00am

IT'S 2017 AND JR IS BACK AT THE FRONT OF THE PACK !

For those of you that joined us last year, you might remember that JR needed some emergency surgery the week before our drive. But he's back healthy and ready ...

The annual Polar Bear Run will be held on Saturday, February 18, 2017.

We will be meeting at the Shell Service Station at Chenal Parkway and Hwy 10 in West Little Rock at

9:00am, with everyone (and their vehicles) gassed and ready for departure at 9:30am.



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Please bring your scarves, wool caps, heavy jackets and mufflers for a jolly romp through the Pulaski,

Perry, and Saline County countryside, TOP DOWN !

We will end up at one of Benton's fine dining establishments, La Hacienda, for brunch and a membership meeting. For those that would prefer to just attend the meeting, meet us at La Haciend at 11:30am (17401 Interstate 30 So, Benton, AR 72015 (501) 776-9959).

NO DUES FOR 2017 !!

At the January, 2017 Board meeting, there was an in-depth discussion of where the Club is currently, and what we tried to do in 2016.

After talking about the affect on our members, it was decided that anyone with a current membership (paid their

membership dues in 2016) would be exempt from paying dues in 2017.

We appreciate our members, and realize that although our intentions were the best our members did not receive value for their 2016 dues.

Those that did not pay dues in 2016 will be expected to pay in 2017, if they intend to receive the newsletter and any other club benefits which may be given to members.



MEMBERSHIP MEETING / FEBRUARY 18th, 2017

At the January Board meeting held on January 10th, the Board discussed the membership situation and evaluating the continued lack of membership involvement and volunteerism for Board positions or activities.

It was decided that for the current year a list of nominations for positions would be recommended, but that it needed to be understood that more members need to be involved going for-

ward, as the past Board members have served their terms, and others need to step up.

The following nominees were decided on at the Board meeting, and will be presented to the General Membership meeting, with possible additional nominations at that time. A vote will then occur to formalize the Board for the 2017 year.

The nominees to be presented by the Board are:

- President.....JR Mills
 - Vice-President....Lewis Leslie
 - Treasurer.....Geri Wilde
 - Membership.....Geri Wilde
- The following appointments were made:
- Newsletter.....Earl Wilde
 - Tour Director.....JR Mills

“...each generation has its allure—and Mazda is one of the few manufacturers that seem to actually listen and make substantive improvements over time ...”

THE FIRST GENERATIONS

It's easy to see why the Miata has earned such a loyal (almost cult) following. Take an incredibly reliable package, make it completely user and tuner friendly, and you can't lose.

As for advice to a prospective buyer—each generation has its allure—and Mazda is one of the few manufacturers that seem to actually listen and make substantive improvements over time.

The early 1.6 liters (1990-1993) were the originals, and someone with a good eye can still

find a real bargain, although recommendation is going with a late 1991 production date or later due to the early crankshaft tip issues.

The 1994—1997 models offer power and chassis updates while still keeping the look of the NA. Generally there are lots of well-made aftermarket goodies available for this first generation of cars.

Things get a bit more complicated when looking at the

NB, or second-generation, cars. The 1999 and 2000 models had some nagging EGR and coil pack issues; so if you're looking at the 1999 to 2005 cars, recommendations may be to go with a 2001 or later model.

It looks like Mazda has continued the trend with even more improvements on the two latest generation of MX-5, starting with the 2006 model.

Good luck, and happy motoring !!

Taken in part from Rick Weldon—PR Motorsports

SPRING FORWARD DRIVE / MARCH 11th

Saturday, March 11th will be the last day on Central Standard Time, before we “spring forward” to Daylight Savings Time for the summer.

To commemorate the day, we will be driving the roads of Pulaski, Perry, Faulkner and other counties to enjoy the sunshine and get ready for one more hour of it starting the next day!

We will be meeting at the Shell Station at Chenal Parkway and Hwy 10 in West Little Rock at 10:30am, and will leave at 11:00am.

A culinary delight like you've never experienced !! We'll plan to be at Toad Suck Buck's in beautiful downtown (??) Toad Suck, Arkansas around 3:30pm. We'll have dinner and everyone can decide what

they'd like to do for the rest of the evening.

There might be music on the patio in the evening, and we'll only be 15 minutes from Conway and their nightspots.

Can't drive with us ?? Meet us there 18 Roaring River Loop (off of Hwy 60), Conway, Arkansas.



TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME / DIAMONDBEAR BREWERY TOUR 2nd QUARTER MEMBERSHIP MEETING / APRIL 8th, 2017



In April, we will be meeting on Saturday afternoon, April 8th at the Diamond Bear Brewery for a tour, munchies, and a membership meeting.

At the conclusion of the meeting, we will be heading down the street to Dickey Stephens Stadium, where we'll watch a game between the Arkansas Travelers, and the Corpus Christi Hooks.

Dinner will be at the ball

park, where hot dogs and beer will be abundant !!

For those unable to make the brewery tour and membership meeting, the baseball game starts at 6:10pm.

See you there !!

Hope to see the Arkansas Miata Club in the lights on the stadium scoreboard during the evening

Route 66 / SW Missouri Miatas Additional details in March newsletter !

Hello from the Southwest Missouri Miata Club located in Springfield, Missouri.

Our club is planning an exciting trip for the 90th anniversary of Historic Route 66. We are calling this the 90th Anniversary Ride of Route 66; and we would love for your club to join us!

The trip will be in June of this year, beginning June 6 and arriving in California on June 14.

Plans are to meet for breakfast at Cracker Barrel on N. Glenstone in Springfield, MO, on Tuesday June 6, 2017, 7:30 a.m. We will begin our trip at 8:30 a.m. The trip will end in Santa Monica, California on June 14, 2017. We will be making many stops along the route to sight-see, have meals, get fuel and rest up. Our days will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end each evening some time between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. We will have a meeting each evening to discuss the plans and

route for the next day. A short daily devotional will be held for anyone who is interested in attending prior to driving that day.

Hotels and eating arrangements will be made as we go along, to allow for spontaneity. Many of us carry the little walkie talkies that I am sure many of you have; so communication shouldn't be a problem between vehicles.

Plans for the return trip are really up to each individual. Some are planning to cruise the coast and up into Washington state; then roam around for a bit before heading back home. Others may wish to follow the same route back as they used going out. As many as want to hang out and travel together, the better!

MAY 2017 DRIVE FOR BREAKFAST

Plans are being made for an early morning drive on May 20th, which will end in Aplin, AR for breakfast at the Nimrod Volunteer Fire Department.

Plan on poker during the drive, and then a late morning run home after a full breakfast at the firehouse !





Arkansas Miata Club

1 Juego Way
Hot Springs Village, AR 71909
Phone: 555-555-5555
Fax: 555-555-5555
Email:
newsletter@arkansasmiaclub.com

"Driving Top Down in the Natural State"

Facebook: For up-to-the-minute events information, member input and other stuff, visit our Facebook page at Arkansas Miata Club Group. You may also consult the newsletter, which is published monthly and uploaded to the Facebook page, as well as the web page.

Change of Address & Member Info: Be sure to keep your contact information and particularly your email address up-to-date; you don't want to miss anything! Submit your email address, snail mail address, new car info and any other contact information changes to the Membership Officer at membership@arkansasmia.com.

New Members: You may register to join our club at www.arkansasmia.com. Print and complete the membership form, or use the online form with PayPal. You may eMail also to membership@arkansasmia.com. You also can download the printable form, fill it out and mail it together with your check to the club address or bring your completed form and dues at the next club event. Be especially careful in printing your email address to ensure we record it correctly so that you will receive the newsletter and club announcements. Dues are \$ 24.00 per year



Board Members

President

EARL WILDE
earl@earlwilde.com

Vice President

LEWIS LESLIE
leslie4815@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer

GERI WILDE
geriwilde@att.net

Secretary

SHERRY HEISER
sherrychildress@sbcglobal.net

Membership

GERI WILDE
geriwilde@att.net

Activities

activities@arkansasmia.com

Tour / Tech Director

J. R. MILLS
miata2003@sbcglobal.net

Newsletter Editor

EARL WILDE earl@earlwilde.com

Invite to the AUGUST 2015 Board Meeting

The next Arkansas Miata Club Board Meeting is at 6:30pm on Thursday, February 16th at The Rusty Putter, 7400 Highway 107, Sherwood, AR.

If you would like to be a part of the planning, please join us You may also eMail ideas or suggestions to president@arkansasmia.com.



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Earl Wilde, Owner
131 Ponce De Leon Dr., Suite B
Hot Springs Village, AR 71909
(501) 804-3939
earl@msalesbywilde.com
www.mSalesByWilde.com