



Special points  
of interest:

- April TSD Rallye ...  
April 24
- Mountain Thyme  
Week End ...  
May 14—15
- Waterfalls Tour ...  
June 19

Inside  
this issue:

Mountain Thyme Week End	2
First Generations	3
Notes from El Presidente	3
Board	4

# Naturally Topless

Volume 21, Issue 4

April, 2021

## "SEAT OF THE PANTS" ROAD RALLYE SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1:00pm LAKE WILLISTEN PARK, MAUMELLE, AR

*IT'S 2021 AND WE  
HAVE A NEW MEMBER  
LEADING A TSD ROAD  
RALLYE !*

A TSD Rallye is very different from our usual concept of motor sports. Each competing team, consisting of a driver and a navigator, is given a set of written instructions which are used to follow a pre-determined course. Each team drives the course independently, usually at one minute intervals, following the written instructions,

or route instructions, exactly. as well as



maintain a given average speed, which will always be legal. You will earn a score based on how close you come to arriving perfectly "on time".

The "Seat of the Pants" Road Rallye will be held on Saturday, April 24, 2021.

The start and finish points of the Rallye will be at Lake Willistein Park in Maumelle. Please be at the starting point at 1:00pm, and the driver/navigator meeting will be at 1:15pm.

The Rallye should last between 2 and 2.5 hours.

Bring a pencil and paper and see the note below ....

**There are two apps at the Google Playstore, although teams may want to use other apps. The application for calculating TSD is SPEED, DISTANCE, TIME CALCULATOR by Danny Connell. For leg timing, use the TIMER PLUS FREE with STOPWATCH by Digitalchemy LLC.**

## **DUES ARE DUE FOR 2021 !!**

At the March, 2021 Board meeting, there was discussion of where the Club is currently, and what we should try to do in 2021.

After discussion, it was

decided that dues would be charged for the 2021 year.

Although dues were not charged last year, if members intend to receive the newsletter

and any other club benefits which may be given to members, dues of \$ 24 are due at this time.

## MOUNTAIN THYME WEEK END MAY 14 - 15

*Mountain Thyme*  
*Bed & Breakfast Inn*



What better place to enjoy a safe (sanitized) get away during these unsettling times?

The Mountain Thyme Bed & Breakfast Inn is just on the north side of Hot Springs. and offers a variety of things to do. Check out their website at [www.mountainthyme.com](http://www.mountainthyme.com).

The Arkansas Miata Club will host a Weekend Retreat with a check-in late afternoon on Friday, May 14. A variety of games and social times will begin Friday (bring a couple of bucks to buy some poker chips). Friday dinner will be pizza ordered by the Club. Bring your own libations and snacks for the evening.

A Saturday morning drive through Garland, Perry and Yell Counties is being planned, with a lunch at Home Plate Cafe in Hot Springs Village. There will be a trip to downtown Hot Springs after lunch,

with trips to the Gangster Museum, some general sight-seeing, and dinner at the Steinhaus Keller German Restaurant. After dinner we will make a return trip to the Mountain Thyme Inn to finish the game challenges and social time.

Plans for Sunday are being discussed.

We have the opportunity to book the entire Inn for this weekend. There are 8 rooms, and four are still available at the time of this writing. Call as soon as you can to reserve a room. With a full booking we will get a 20% room rate discount. Rooms are held until May 1, with cancellation through May 7. If rooms are unavailable when you call, ask to be added to a reserve list in the event of a cancellation. Plans can be made for additional rooms at the Los Lagos condos in Hot Springs Village.

You are also welcome to join us for a Saturday day trip in and around Hot Springs if you prefer not to be away over-night. Saturday morning meeting times and details to follow -

- Drive Saturday morning at 10:00am from Mountain Thyme Inn
- Lunch at Home Plate Cafe (5110 N. Hwy 7, Hot Springs Village, AR) at 1:00pm
- Dinner at Steinhaus Keller German Restaurant (801 Central Ave, Hot Springs, AR) at 7:00pm.

Anyone wishing to travel in a pack, JR and Debbie will be at the Shell Station on Hwy 10 and Chenal at 1:00 on Friday, March 14 for the beginning of the Arkansas Miata Club weekend retreat.

## ***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.

## ***NOTES FROM THE DESK OF EL PRESIDENTE***

Hello to all fellow Miataphiles!

I bring you greetings and salutations! After 2020 left us out in the cold, it looks as if 2021 will be a much better year. Last year was our 30th anniversary year, but many of our planned events had to be cancelled. We're calling 2021 the 30th plus 1 anniversary, and so far we've had two really good events, the annual Polar Bear Run in February and the Arkansas Dragon Run in March. We had fun times on both, and attendance is edging up. The Dragon Run even featured Miatas from all four generations!

Our April event is the TSD Rally, sponsored by new member Bill Van Cleve, on the 24th at 1:00 pm. I'm certain it will be a fun and challenging event, and I'm looking forward to running it myself. In May, we have the weekend at the B & B in Jessieville, details elsewhere, sponsored by myself and Debbie. June brings us to the Waterfall Run, sponsored by Earl and Geri Wilde, which should be a unique event!

I look forward to seeing you all on our jaunts out and about in Arkansas. Stay tuned for more information about our events....

J. R. Mills, President, Arkansas Miata Club.



## Arkansas Miata Club

1 Juego Way  
Hot Springs Village, AR 71909

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](mailto:membership@arkansasmia.com).

**New Members:** You may register to join our club at [www.arkansasmia.com](http://www.arkansasmia.com). Print and complete the membership form, or use the online form with PayPal. You may eMail also to [membership@arkansasmia.com](mailto: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



<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Tour / Tech Director</b>
<b>President</b>	SHERRY HEISER <a href="mailto:sherrychildress@sbcglobal.net">sherrychildress@sbcglobal.net</a>	JR MILLS <a href="mailto:miata2003@sbcglobal.net">miata2003@sbcglobal.net</a>
JR MILLS <a href="mailto:miata2003@sbcglobal.net">miata2003@sbcglobal.net</a>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>Newsletter Editor</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	GERI WILDE <a href="mailto:geriwilde@att.net">geriwilde@att.net</a>	EARL WILDE <a href="mailto:earl@earlwilde.com">earl@earlwilde.com</a>
JOHN WHITE <a href="mailto:john_h_white@comcast.net">john_h_white@comcast.net</a>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Webmaster</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	activities@arkansasmia.com	EARL WILDE <a href="mailto:earl@earlwilde.com">earl@earlwilde.com</a>
GERI WILDE <a href="mailto:geriwilde@att.net">geriwilde@att.net</a>		

