

## Getting Ready For Winter

by Mike Selvy

Our Miata winter driving and storage season is upon us and I needed a quick confirmation from the Gold Eagle Company, manufacturer of STA-BIL Fuel Stabilizer, that I was using the correct product to protect the fuel for "Blue", my '94 Laguna Blue Miata. My call was connected to a answering machine and I recorded my question. I assumed, wrongly, that my call would never be returned.

Within minutes, I was pleasantly chatting with a guy and getting my confirmation that the STA-BIL Fuel Stabilizer in my possession was indeed the correct product for automotive use. Only one STA-BIL Fuel Stabilizer product is produced and it is good for all applications. Many of you, as I did, have probably seen the STA-BIL Fuel Stabilizer product touted for small engine use and have perhaps have over looked its use in the automotive arena. I have used the STA-BIL Fuel Stabilizer product for the past two years without any noticeable problems and have been pleased with the results. However, I wanted to make certain that there was not an automotive specific product being sold unbeknownst to me. My chat confirmed that the familiar red STA-BIL Fuel Stabilizer was indeed the correct product to use for my Miata. I also discovered that I was the second Miata owner who had called that morning inquiring about the same product. Apparently, it's a small world when you own a Miata!

Our car talk continued and my contact regretfully informed me that he too, at one time, owned a convertible. Not revealing the car's nameplate, he stated that his love affair with top down driving came to a halt to save his marriage because his wife did not like the wind in her hair.

Being a Miata owner, I conveyed my sympathy and got back to discussing our Indiana winters. I informed him of how the majority of us do not drive our cars daily in the winter, albeit a few do, and how the rest of the club members are getting their Miatas ready for winter hibernation. But, if you're like me, I do keep "Blue" ready to roll when the roads are dry and keep her inside when it's nasty outside. In fact, there's nothing like a winter drive to The Strawberry Festival at Plant City, Florida or visiting the Florida Keys if we get a break in the winter weather locally. Make a run for The Strawberry Festival in late February or early March and you'll not regret it! Likewise, you'll never forget the orange blossom smell as you travel, top down, South on US 27 from Clermont to I-4!

Meanwhile, please use the enclosed coupon for your rebate in purchasing STA-BIL Fuel Stabilizer. Add to this a web site full of product information highlighting frequently asked questions, other products, and car tips at [www.goldeagle.com](http://www.goldeagle.com). In any case, remember that STA-BIL Fuel Stabilizer will stabilize fresh fuel up to 15 months when used as directed. Promptly treat fresh fuel. STA-BIL will not stabilize stale fuel. STA-BIL's shelf life is 2 years and 1 ounce will treat 2.5 gallons of fuel. STA-BIL keeps good fuel molecules from breaking down into bad gum and varnish.

After all, I wonder if my phone contact's mystery car could have been a Miata. Why else was he so gracious to supply rebate coupons to our club? Send them a thank you via email or call and make sure you begin your conversation with the fact that you are a Miata owner and...

It is a small world when you own a Miata!

*Editor's Note:* A big thanks to Mike for passing on the coupons included with this issue of the Open Road..

## Miata Magazine Now Available By Subscription

Looking for a holiday gift for your favorite Miataophile? How about a subscription to Miata Magazine?

This is a magazine that premiered in the fall of 1998 and has faithfully covered the Miata world. Contents cover new models, technical tips, tours and more.

Those that have been receiving the magazine for a while probably consider two back issues to be their favorites. The Fall 92 issue covered the first "Miatas at Indy" national event and the Fall 94 issue profiled our club. Also, Miatas at Putnam Park during Miatas at Indy II were featured on the cover of the 1995 Tech issue.

The magazine was once part of the Miata Owner's Club package benefit, but is now available by direct subscription for \$19.95. If you would like to subscribe to Miata Magazine, call 1-877-227-6249 for more information.



May we soon all be driving top down along a tree covered road! Happy Holidays to all!