



Volume 14
Issue 1
January 2003

What's Inside

Page 2
Officer Listing.
Upcoming Events.

Page 3
Racers Year In
Review.

Page 4
Holiday Party.

Page 5
Holiday Party
Photos.

Page 6
A Different "M"
Sports Car.
Classifieds.

Page 7
Membership
Renewal Form.



In The Marbles... by Rick Morris, President

Six months ago I couldn't even spell "President" and now I am one.

What an amazing past couple of years it has been for me. I've gone from wondering why it took Sara three hours to go to the grocery store to being President of the Indy Miata Club almost overnight. I've gone from almost not being able to change a light bulb to being fairly comfortable installing brakes, roll bars and other things on my car without sustaining any major injuries. I've gone from wondering what I will be doing this weekend to thinking nothing of a 435 mile drive to Deal's Gap just to drive eleven more miles.

Along the way, I've been lucky enough to meet a lot of really nice people, see a lot of neat things and do things I never thought I'd do in my wildest dreams. I owe it all to all the people who have been so great. During the first club event I attended, I remember making a pit stop and seeing Chuck and Teresa Wills at the same gas station. We didn't know each other at the time, but I asked Chuck about the roll bar he had in his car and, without me even bringing up the subject, he offered to help me put one in mine. It was the first real example I had of how friendly Miata people are in general. That has been the best part of the whole journey. The overall attitude of Miata owners towards life in general and their cars in particular has been just great. I thank all of you who have been so great over the past couple of years. I'm looking forward to keeping up these friendships as time goes by.

I'm excited about being your club President this year, but I know for a fact I'm going to need, and get, a lot of help from all of you. I'm looking forward to working with Jay, Bob, Melissa and Jim as we try to keep the club moving down the right path. I'm also sure I'll be able to draw on Chuck's experience and I'm just as sure that I will need to at some time during the next year. I'm also sure I can count on the rest of the members of the club to help out when needed. I was really excited to see how many people signed up to host events at the Christmas party. This year's calendar has a lot of events on it and hopefully we will get the remaining slots filled up pretty soon. Those of you who signed up to host events, don't forget that the club officers are ready and willing to help in any way we can. If you need help setting up your event, just drop any or all of us a note and we'll be glad to give you a hand.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Barb Gentry and Pat Metheaux for all their years of service to the club. It takes that kind of long term commitment and effort to get a club off the ground and keep it going and I'm sure that the Indy Miata Club wouldn't be nearly as successful as it has been without their efforts. Thanks again from all of us.

As far as the upcoming year is concerned, I am looking forward to another year filled with interesting driving, good friendship and good times. We are currently working on a way to improve communications between the club and its members, so be sure to watch the Open Road for details on that front.

For those of you that don't know, I have also been cluttering up the newsletter with the Dr. Detail columns over the past year or so. I will continue to do that (there's nothing more dangerous than a frustrated author with a word processor) on a pretty regular basis. What we also need is articles, or even suggestions for articles, from our members. I am pretty sure that almost all of you have an interesting story about how you got your Miata, an interesting trip you made in it or something similar. We'd like to have your stories. Everybody in the club is interested in a good Miata story, so send yours in. We'd all like to hear it.

We will have a January "Meet & Eat" event at the Steak and Ale on the south side of Indianapolis. They did a good job for us last year, and everybody knows where it is now, so it seemed like a good choice. Looking forward to seeing you there.

In February, we will be going to the Auburn Cord Duesenberg museum in Auburn, Indiana. This is a