

Food, Wine and Car Talk, Holiday Party Had It All

A happy and festive crowd showed up for the annual Indy Miata Club Holiday Party at the Fast Times Karting Center. With the Colts driving to victory on the TV's, really fast karts on the two level indoor road course, food, gifts and lots of Miata friends, who wouldn't have had a good time? Lots of mingling, chatter and car talk took place as old acquaintances were renewed and new members were greeted.

The gift exchange was fun as usual with members being allowed to open a gift or "steal" someone else's present. The person who got "ripped off" could then open a new gift or go "steal" another member's present. There was lots of cheering, moaning and laughter as gift changed hands several times. Some of the more popular items were the wine and cheese baskets, an air compressor, goblets, a dancing Santa and our own Eric Drumwright's racing photo. This year's photo was of Juan Montoya on the US Gran Prix course in his Formula 1 car.

Barb Gentry and Pat Metheaux were awarded gift certificates for their many years of service as Membership Director and Treasurer. Chuck Wills was presented a memento for his time in office as well as other gifts. Door prizes, donated by Bob Wiley and Shane Benson, consisted of Miata hats and matchbox Miatas and were won by members in a random draw.

Elections were held with nominations from the floor followed by a secret ballot. Our 2003 officers are: President Rick Morris, elevated from Vice President. Jay Hofacker was elected as the new Vice President, Melissa Forbes will be our new Membership Director with the Treasurer position filled by Bob Wiley. Jim Nutt will continue his web master duties and Sara McBride will still oversee the publication of the Open Road.

Congratulations to our new officers and many thanks to 2002's President, Chuck Wills, and his pit crew of Rick Morris, Barb Gentry and Pat Metheaux for a year of great and varied events.

After the meeting concluded at 6:00 PM, some of our members decided to try out the high speed racing karts. There were public address announcements which seemed to indicate that "Someone is slowing on the backstretch!"

Don Hill unwraps a gift as Becky looks on during the gift exchange. It's car stuff!



Chuck Wills shows of his 2002 President's award.



New President Rick Morris explains the election procedures before passing out ballots.

The Chases chat with Jim Jones and his guest.

