

Road Trip!

Miatas and More IV

by Sara J McBride

It had been a trying few months for both Rick and I, so we decided we needed a road trip. After hearing about the "Miatas and More" event that the KAZOOM (Kalamazoo Area Zealous Owners Of Miatas) club puts on in May, we sent in our registration form, booked a hotel room, and on the evening of May 21st, we were northbound to Michigan.

Indy was hot and muggy when we left, but as we cruised up I-69, we could feel the temperature drop as we got north of Ft. Wayne. We stopped for fuel and a quick bit to eat just south of the state line, and after surveying the sky, decided that the storm clouds we saw necessitated the top being raised. Five miles out of Kalamazoo, we ran into heavy, driving rains, with lightning flashing across the sky and thunder reverberating all around us. We made it to the hotel, checked in and looked at the weather channel. It looked like we were in for a wet weekend, but what they heck, we were out of the house.

Saturday morning arrived, and was that sunshine we saw? After a quick hotel breakfast, we headed to the Gilmore Car Museum where the event was being held. We drove onto the grounds, were directed where to park and then handed a packet with information about the Museum, a dash plaque, tickets for the day long drawing of prizes and other items.

I set up a chair next to the car and started chatting with people, while Rick raised the hood of his car as it was entered in the show competition and he wanted all to see his polished valve cover and intake. We then walked the grounds and looked at many of the classic cars in the museum's inventory. Over 100 Miatas eventually showed up for the event, so there were lots of cars to look at! As we roamed around, we met Indy club members Craig and Susan Langhor who also attended the event.

There was a detailer there and he worked on several cars during the day. A graphic artist was pin striping cars and although Susan didn't get the flames she wanted on their 2000 Mahogany, the pinstripes looked good. Other scheduled events included an autocross and a "Drop Top" contest.

Due to the previous night's rain, the area where the autocross was held was quite damp and the autocrossers were informed that severe penalties would



Craig Langhor starts his autocross run at M & M IV.

be imposed for anyone who went off the paved surface. Only one competitor was disqualified, all the other contestants kept their cars under control. It was a good event for first timers and Craig did well.

The "Drop Top" competition was an event where contestants sat in their car with seat belts on and then attempted to exit the car, drop the top, and get back in and belt in the shortest amount of time.

Late in the afternoon, we went on a 30 plus mile tour of the countryside led by a Michigan State Trooper, and then ended up at a lake side restaurant for dinner. More drawings for goodies were held and Rick and I ended up with a Racing Beat Polo Shirt and a \$25 gift certificate from R Speed, and Craig won a pullover.

I would recommend attending this event next year. It's a nice weekend "get away", we met some great people, and it was full of that "Miata Magic" and friendliness. The Kazoom club works hard on this event and it shows.

Oh yes, the rain stayed away all day! It was obviously that there was "magic" at work!

Chuck's Day-Before-His-Birthday Rally Registration Form

Pre-register for \$7.00! Sign up on the event page to pre-register and bring this form with you to the rally or you can mail it with your check (made out to Indy Miata Club) to : Chuck Wills, 8609 Woodbluff Ct., Indianapolis, IN 46234.

CDBHB Rally Saturday, August 17

Mail to: Chuck Wills, 8609 Woodbluff Ct., Indianapolis, IN 46234

Or register electronically and bring this form with you.

Driver's Name _____ Navigator's Name _____

I understand that this is not a speed contest and I agree to participate at my own risk. I agree to hold the Indy Miata Club, its officers, and event organizers harmless from any claim arising from my participation in this event.

Driver _____ Date _____

Navigator _____ Date _____

A signed and dated entry is required for participation in this event.