

Another Cruise Down The Open Road Memory Lane

by Sara J McBride

Let's take a look at how the front page of your newsletter has evolved from the first issue to how it looks today.

Originally, the front page held many items, such as news of the National Club (MCA, Miata Club of America, which no longer exists), when and where the next club gathering was to be and other information.

In 1993, Jim Nutt started a tradition that continues to this day. The president of the club writes a front page article and also provides a name for their column. Jim stepped up to the presidential plate twice, filling in for Brad Johnson who had to step down, so not only did he reach down into the creative well again, he also had a different column name.

Some of our presidents were more verbose than others, but they all wrote with vigor including interesting thoughts, humor and ideas each month. The column names provide an interesting insight of each president, from racing interests to the name of their car.

Here's the list of our Presidents and column names through the years:

- 1993 - Jim Nutt - From The Driver's Seat
- 1994 - Chip Helmser - ...and He's On it!
- 1995 - Mike Fetsch - Toolin' Down The Road
- 1996 - Don Weiler - Behind The Wheel
- 1997 - Brad Johnson - Key Notes
- 1997 - Jim Nutt - Passing Thoughts
- 1998 - Bob McCoy - Roadster Racket
- 1999 - Gary Collings - The Curvy Road Less Travelled
- 2000 - Jim Barrick - Surprise!
- 2001 - Steve Jacobson - Slower Traffic Keep Right!
- 2002 - Chuck Wills - Four Wheel Drift
- 2003 - Rick Morris - In The Marbles
- 2004 - Jay Hofacker - Around The Bend

So, Ben Hermann, what will your column name be?

A Letter to The Editor!

We (Susie and I) were wondering if there is anyone in the club that keeps up on track events, like things at Putnam Park or events where racing types (street stock or modified) might be happening. We went to Putnam last summer on a very hot afternoon and watched Porches run, but would be more interesting seeing cars like we own and drive out there dicing it up a little. Might be something that could be put in the newsletter or the website (or both) to let club members see just what Miatas are capable of, from an observation point of view. Whatdayathink?

Phil Callahan

Dear Phil,

Good idea! Here are some upcoming racing events you might enjoy.

Indy SCCA is sponsoring a Double Regional Race series out at IRP on May 8th and 9th. This is club racing, so you'll see Miatas and other kinds of cars. Cars will be on the track starting at 8:00am each day, qualifying in the morning and racing in the afternoon. The Indy SCCA web site at www.indyscca.org/RacePage.html has more info.

NASA (National Auto Sport Association) is having a Drivers Education school along with a double sprint race and a 100 Mile Enduro out at Putnam May 22nd and 23rd. There were several Miatas that participated in this series last fall, so it's likely they will return (along with Audi's, Diasio's, and others.) There's more information about this event on their web site at <http://www.racenas.com/>.

The autocrossers will be at the 16th Street Speedway for an event on May 2 and then will travel to Anderson to chase cones on May 23.

Phil, thanks for writing!

Miatas At "The Vic"

Everybody sing! "Take me out to the ballpark, take me out to the game!"

Have you made your reservation for IMC night on June 26th at Victory Field? Ben Hermann is organizing this "family friendly" event, so it's OK to leave the roadster at home and bring the minivan.

Ben will be taking RSVP's and collecting the money for the tickets. As of right now, he has 50 box seats reserved at \$11.00 each. We can add more if necessary, but need at least 25. The sooner you RSVP and pay, the better, so he can coordinate parking, tickets, and possibly dinner reservations. The deadline for your RSVP is June 8.

Register for this event on the event page at the club website or call Ben at (317) 727-1401. Come and enjoy a fun and relaxing night at one of the best ballparks in the country.

Star City Motor Madness

The Blue Ridge Miata Club, on behalf of the "Star City Motor Madness" Events Committee, would like to issue an invitation to all clubs and interested enthusiasts. Join us this July 4th weekend for the 3rd annual celebration of "Star City Motor Madness" (SCMM) in the Roanoke Valley of Virginia.

This celebration of automotive passion continues to grow as a destination event along Virginia's Blue Ridge Parkway and is scheduled this year for Friday, July 2 and Saturday, July 3.

Friday night's event is "Cruise Night" along Roanoke's Williamson Road, a classic American cruise route, with two SCMM venues near either end of "the strip". Saturday's activity is centered around a giant open air car show in picturesque downtown Roanoke in the historic Farmers' Market area. The event culminates with a parade up Williamson Road.

For more information, go to the event website: <http://www.starcitymotormadness.com>.