

The Reward

March 2016

Vol. 27, No. 3

Annual Coastal Cruise

By Ed Grant

Each year the San Joaquin Valley Miata Club hosts a ride to the Central Coast and our calendar was open for Jan & I to join in on this fun exploration of the Central valley and the Coastal mountain ranges. Since their departure was from Fresno early on Saturday morning, we drove up on Friday morning with three other cars from SOCALM. Bob & Juli, Doreen and we Grants. In order to make the drive a little bit more fun, Bob suggested we take a slight detour from the boring I-5 (Grapevine), diverting onto the less traveled and much more "Twisty" Castaic Lake road. The lakes were showing the several years of drought but still had a little bit of water near the bottom. We stopped for a good lunch at the "Rock House" in Lake Elizabeth village. Back on the road with full tummies, the roads led us up to Lake Hughes and eventually the Grapevine. Along most of these less traveled by-ways it was obvious that they had some recent rains and minor slides. We had to keep a sharp eye out for the errant rocks for sure. Cruised past Lake Hughes and continued onto the I-5 down the hill to Hwy. 99 and continued on until we reached our hotels in Fresno.

The 30+ cars and people all congregated at the Denny's for breakfast and a simple drivers meeting. The hosts, Jim & Juanita McKee, handed out the general route instructions, having more than adequate "pit stops" along the way. We were told by a SJVMC member that a friend of his was the Chief of Police in Coalinga and that his "Boys" would be looking out for us! Luckily not with their radar guns! After a quick potty-break the group was on its way again. There were a few enthusiasts that took off ahead of the main group, hoping to get some much more spirited driving in before the next scheduled stop. We entered Fort Hunter-Liggett Army Training Base off of the 101 Hwy. and proceeded slowly to our next targeted stop, the Mission San Antonio de Padua. What an amazing place for us all. Here, in the middle of an active military training facility is this beautiful Franciscan mission. It is being renovated and being brought back to its' previous beautiful condition. We were given a very nice tour by the local docent and she was very knowledgeable about the history of this quite active "retreat" center and still viable parish. There was a wonderful lunch provided for all by our hosts the McKee's. A high point for us was being introduced "Rosario" the mission cat, who walked with us through our tour, making lots of new friends along the way!

(Continued on page 6)

Looking Down The Road...

March

20 - Take "The Prez"
To Julian

April

9 - Pauma Valley Run
16 - Tax Tech Day
29-30 - SJVMC Poker Run

May

20-22 - May Miata Madness

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Club Information

2016 SOCALM OFFICERS

Executive Board

President
Rona Dexler..... president@socalm.org 818.426.0193

Vice President
Bob Davis..... vp@socalm.org 909.597.1664

Secretary
Diana Davis..... secretary@socalm.org 626.826.4803

Treasurer
Benny Goldstein.....treasurer@socalm.org 661.252.6941

Regional Representatives

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San Gabriel Valley
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South Bay
Mark Kozlecar..... southbay@socalm.org 310.640.3196

S. Orange County
Ed Grant..... southoc@socalm.org 949.315.9023

Santa Barbara
Christine Knight

Santa Clarita
Benny Goldstein..... valley@socalm.org 661.993.3390

Ventura
Mike Markowitz..... ventura@socalm.org 818.991.8720

Appointed Officers & Committee Members

Activities Coordinator
Lisa Martin..... activities@socalm.org

Membership Coordinator
Bari Russell..... membership@socalm.org

Club Librarian
Gary Nelson..... librarian@socalm.org

Vendor Coordinator
Ed Grant..... vendors@socalm.org

Webmaster
Lisa Martin..... webmaster@socalm.org

Newsletter
Scott O..... editor@socalm.org

Motorsports Coordinator
Vince Hearn..... motorsports@socalm.org

CLUB INFORMATION

SOCALM is a non-profit organization whose primary purpose is to gather for enthusiastic fun and to share information about the Mazda Miata MX-5.

Annual Dues: \$25.00 per year, due annually on June 1st. The membership of any new member(s) who join(s) during the 6 month period from June 1st through November 30th will expire as of the following June 1st. The membership of any new member(s) who join(s) during the 6 month period from December 1st through May 31st will expire as of June 1st of the subsequent year (12-18 months later).

Submissions to *The Reward* should be sent to the club address below. You can also send articles, pictures, and letters via e-mail to editor@socalm.org. Submissions may be edited for content or length. The standard deadline for submissions is the **15th** of the month, but please email the Editor to check on last minute submissions. *The Reward*, its contributors, and SOCALM assume no liability for the accuracy or legality of any information appearing herein.

Reprint permission: Use of articles or stories by other Miata clubs is hereby granted, provided proper credit to this publication and the author is given.

Southern California Miata Club
23052-H Alicia Parkway #247
Mission Viejo, CA 92692

SOCALM Library

Some of the members may not be aware that SOCALM has a library. There are several reference items available to members for their use. We have factory repair manuals for model years 1990, 91, and 92. An enthusiast manual for the early (1600cc) cars, along with suggested repair times manuals for 1995 cars.

If you are thinking of planning a run, but are a little reluctant because you've never done it before, there is an excellent manual available to walk you through the process. Back issues of Miata Magazine to Winter of 1992 are available. We have a full set of past issues of The Reward, thanks to Bill Strohm who donated his collection.

There are also some items that may be helpful, such as 2 portable CB radios for use on runs. A G-Tech meter for measuring acceleration, horsepower and cornering G's. A trunk-mounted luggage rack is available to use on long trips.

★ *These items are here for the use of any SOCALM member in good standing. Just contact the club librarian at librarian@socalm.org to make arrangements if you wish to borrow items you need. Remember to always promptly return any items that you have borrowed.* ★
★ Gary Nelson, Club Librarian, tel: 909.935.6969 ★
★ Email: librarian@socalm.org ★

Join This Group!



Stay in touch electronically with your Socalm friends through the club's Yahoo Group. Go to <http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/socalm/> and click the "Join This Group!" button. The group averages less than five emails a day so it won't be a burden on your inbox.



A place to find something to do with your Miata and Friends. Seek new adventures and places to Drive and Share.

Serving our Miata friends since 2/22/2002. 12 Years old!
Lets all look forward for another Great year of events for all our Miata friends! <http://miatafun.net/>

Tom Wood
Vendor Coordinator
& CafePress



vendors@socalm.org
TomWood@miatafun.net

SOCALM Merchandise
New SOCALM Café Press Merchandise is available!!

Support your club and decorate you, your house and your car!
CafePress

<http://cafepress.com/socalm>

Membership

Birthdays

03/01 Dylan Oconnell	03/22 Gordon Baldwin
03/01 Edward Grant	03/26 Susan Gammill
03/02 Bruce Bennett	03/26 Pat Ruecker
03/07 Susan Shields	03/29 Joe Martinez
03/08 Pat Koupal	03/29 Karen Ridenour
03/12 Larry Reiners	03/30 Daniel Sussman
03/15 Bob Grossmann	03/31 Bill Wilkman
03/17 Kelly McClellan	
03/18 Suzanne Elmassian	
03/19 Thomas Wood	
03/19 Syed Aamer	
03/21 Sally Kinsey	
03/21 Paul Pollock	
03/21 Suzie Adams Conn	

Membership Statistics

Memberships: 176

Single	85
Dual	91
People	267
Cars	188

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Ron & Margie Brunsell
Alan Crafts
Milton Noji
David & Sarah Stapleton
Joseph & Patricia Toth

Porter Ranch
Riverside
Arcadia
Lake Forest
Anaheim Hills

2014 Liquid Silver
1999 Classic Red
1996 Montego Blue
1996 White
2015 Liquid Silver

THANKS TO OUR RENEWALS!

Bob & Christine Ledesma

Fillmore

1992 Crystal White

MEMBERSHIP — ANNUAL DUES

SOCALM's Annual Dues are due June 1, 2016 unless you joined between December 1, 2015 through May 31, 2016, then your membership will expire June 1, 2017. A good way to make sure is check your Membership Card or go online to www.socalm.org and check your profile on the membership list.

You may use PayPal@socalm.org to join or renew, or just send a check via snail mail. Please fill out the application and proceed to payment info and hit submit. Either way please fill out an application, (as it gives more information for the database), to be sent via email to membership@socalm.org or snail mail to:

ONLY \$25 per year!!

renewed annually June 1st

SOCALM
23052-H Alicia Parkway #247
Mission Viejo, CA 92692



Presidents Blurb & Club Financials

Presidents Blurb

On Thursday Feb 11th, my mother and I were headed to a day of fun in Hollywood. Sapheda apparently had other plans for us. In heavy street traffic, her idle dropped and she died at every light.

We managed to limp to our destination, only to have a flatbed arrive to pick us up. One awesome canyon tow later (future run!), she was towed to (on the recommendation of SFV rep John Barreiro) Dodge Brothers in Granada Hills.

Tony Dodge is a dying breed of mechanic; reliable, friendly and very honest! The work was done in a timely manner and he even solved the logistical problem of picking up the car by having his mechanic Brian, come pick me up from work on a Saturday.

As some of you may know, we in the SFV, SC Valley and Ventura areas have been on the lookout for a decent mechanic. Well, we now have one. Mention the club for a great rate!

Dodge Brothers
17550 Chatsworth Street, Granada Hills 91344
(818)360-5581 TONY DODGE



Socalm **Financial Report** January 2016

Beginning Balance, as of Jan 1, 2016 4125.04

Revenue / Deposits:

Dues - Renewal	0.00
Dues - New	125.00
Name Badges	75.00
General Meeting - Raffle	865.00

Total Revenue:	1065.00

Expenses:

General Liability Insurance	(500.00)
Host Reimbursement	(132.10)
General Meeting - Raffle	(1242.32)

Total Expenses	(1874.42)

Ending Balance, as of January 31	=====	\$3315.62
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March Socials

Santa Clarita Social

Date: March 8, 2016
Time: 7:00pm
Place: Bonsai Garden
19358 Soledad Canyon
Canyon Country
Hosts: Benny & Carole Goldstein
661-993-3390 C
bennygol@earthlink.net

Description: Come join us at a great Japanese restaurant in Santa Clarita. Traditional Japanese food and Sushi. They will reserve table(s) for us, so if you know you're coming, please let us know.

Inland Empire

Date: March 23, 2016
Time: 6:30pm - 8:00pm
Place: Espiau's Restaurant Cantina
109 Yale Ave
Claremont
Hosts: Ross & Patti McIntosh
909-882-3464

Description: Espiau's Restaurant & Cantina in Claremont offers a great selection of Mexican & American food. It's located on the corner of W. 1st and Yale Ave. Street parking.

Hope to see you there!

North Orange County

Date: March 10, 2016
Time: 6:00pm
Place: Wood Ranch BBQ & Grill
8022 E Santa Ana Cyn Rd
Anaheim
Hosts: Bob & Jeri Negru
714-692-1498

Description: We are going to have Bar B Que this month. The place is located in the Festival Shopping Center in Anaheim Hills. Jeri and I go there from time to time and enjoy it, now the club can too.

San Fernando Valley

Date: March 18, 2016
Time: 6:30pm - 9:00pm
Place: Bear Pit Restaurant
10825 Sepulveda Blvd
Mission Hills
Hosts: John Barreiro
unusualdesltd@verizon.net

Description: IT'S BBQ AGAIN!!!
Bring your appetite!

Back to a familiar and well liked locale; The Bear Pit Restaurant.

Please RSVP so I can reserve the large room in the back.

Ventura Social

Date: March 4, 2016
Time: 6:30pm
Place: Junkyard Cafe
2585 Cochran
Simi Valley
Hosts: Mike & Joanne Markowitz
818-648-0933 C
n6xrf@sbcglobal.net

Description: RSVP is requested but not Required. RSVP's needed to get the correct number of seats in the restaurant.

South Orange County

Date: March 9, 2016
Time: 6:30pm
Place: Knollwoods
San Canyon Exit @ I-15
Irvine
Host: Ed Grant
949-315-9023

Description: Join us at Knollwoods this month.

South Bay Social

Date: March 21, 2016
Time: 6:30pm
Place: Killer Shrimp
4211 Admiralty Way
Marina Del Ray
Host: Mark Kozlevcar
kozlevcar@earthlink.net
310-227-1064

Description: Killer Shrimp is prepared using all natural ingredients that are simmered for 10 hours to create our luxurious spicy sauce. When your order is placed the shrimp are added to the sauce and cooked quickly. The shrimp and sauce comes served with French bread for dunking.

They also have meat, seafood, and pasta dishes. The desserts are outstanding.

Please be sure to meet us at the restaurant and not the Killer Cafe adjacent to the restaurant.

Please RSVP for this Social so that I have a good idea of how many folks will be coming to dinner.

SGV Social

Date: March 1, 2016
Time: 6:30pm
Place: Peppertree Cafe
1020 E. Route 66
Glendora
Hosts: Bob & Juli Davis
909-374-3998

Description: The format for the SGV socials for 2016 will be to (generally) go to the Peppertree Café every other month (as most participants really enjoy this restaurant). On the alternate months we will select from our old favorites.

Please feel free to join us, the February social was held at Home Taste Chinese in Glendora and we had people from Tehachapi, West Covina, Hacienda Heights, El Segundo, Chino Hills, Yorba Linda, AND Jacksonville, FL (Juli's sister). So, as you can see, people will go to great lengths to attend our socials. :-)

Key Note Article (concl'd) & SJVMC Poker Run

The next leg of our journey took us onto what is known as the Nacimiento-Fergusson Road. This lightly paved trail took us through, up and down some of the most lovely parts of the Los Padres National Forest, leading eventually down to Route 1, just South of Big Sur. From there on, we had one very nice rest stop and then down the remaining 30 miles to Cambria and our lovely lodgings, the Cambria Pines Inn. There were plenty of elephant seals along the way, as is usual this time of the year. Phew!

Now you are all asking yourself 'what was going on with the predicted weather' during this trip? To tell the truth, it really didn't matter! Yes, there was some rain. Yes, we didn't go "topless" that much (Bob Davis was the usual exception). But YES, we all had a fun time driving our Miata's! Due to time restrictions, Jan & I were not able to visit the Hearst Castle or the stop in Cayucos as was planned for the Sunday portion of this ride. Needless to say, we did hit some pretty hard rain and wind on our back to the "The Real O.C.-Irvine". Our new ND was tight as a drum, no drops of water anywhere! This was one of the best runs we have ever experienced! Much thanks to the McKee's and the SJVMC for putting on such a fun event!



San Joaquin Valley Miata Club Poker Run

APRIL 29 & 30, 2016

CRUISING THE FRESNO AREA AND SIERRA FOOTHILLS

Friday, April 29, 5:00 p.m.

HOSPITALITY ROOM

Pre-register and enjoy hors d'oeuvres & Clay Bar Raffle

Spring Hill Suites

6820 N Fresno St

SE Corner Herndon & Fresno St

Saturday, April 30 Car show 8:00 a.m.

Poker run begins 9:00

DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION 6:00 p.m.

Copper River

2140 E. Clubhouse Dr.

CHARITY RUN PROCEEDS BENEFIT

RESCUE THE CHILDREN

REGISTRATION FEE \$55.00

QUESTIONS? Contact Tom Jarvis (559)916-2445

kg6kyu@comcast.net

May Miata Madness

Apparently, many Miataphiles have enjoyed the 2014 Winter Retreat and the 2015 Spring Fling and, thus, I've been strongly encouraged to host the 2016 May Miata Madness.

This will be a 3 day weekend event (Friday, May 20th thru Sunday, May 22nd) and our base will again be the Embassy Suites in Lompoc. These are 2 room suites and the hotel offers complimentary beverage & snack reception as well as cooked-to-order breakfasts. The lobby area is quite nice and they have a beautiful outdoor atrium and pool area (could well be used in May!). We will have the complete use of the breakfast/meeting room areas for our late evening ukulele sessions, trivia contests, Mexican Train, and relaxing conversations.

I have blocked 50 rooms with a deadline of May 6th..... Please see the calendar for hotel link.

Hotel: Embassy Suites Hotel Lompoc-Central Coast

Group Name: Miata Club

Arrival Date: 20-May-2016

Departure Date: 22-May-2016

If you prefer to call the hotel directly (805-735-8311), please identify yourself as part of the 'Miata Club' to get the group rate (\$119.00/night). If you wish to stay at a less expensive place, there are several hotels within 5 minutes drive.

There are NUMEROUS things to do in the Lompoc area.....create your own winery tour, view the Lompoc valley flower fields, sightsee (shop) in Solvang, Los Olivos, Santa Maria, or Santa Barbara, tour the local mission, take your chances at Chumash Casino, or simply lounge around the pool and visit with friends, old and new.

For those who would like to caravan to Lompoc on Friday, I will depart from the Old Spaghetti Factory in Duarte (Buena Vista exit off of I-210) at 8:30am. There is a gas station and a Carl's Jr. nearby for restrooms, gas, etc. Of course I hope to find some twisties.

There are no specific plans for dinner, etc. for Friday evening, but there are several nice restaurants in the Lompoc-Buellton area. We will likely gather in the breakfast/meeting rooms later that evening for lively conversations, etc.

For those who would like to go on a drive on Saturday, I am preparing a counter-clockwise route around Buellton/Solvang, with a pit stop at the Fess Parker Winery, and returning to the Lompoc/Buellton area for a late lunch on your own and a relaxing afternoon by the pool. There will be a driver's meeting at 9:15am, in the front parking lot, and we'll depart at 9:30am.

I have, again, arranged for a group dinner on Saturday at AJ Spur's in Buellton (350 E. Hwy 246) at 5:30pm. I am assuming that everyone that's registered will attend, unless I receive an email (rmdavis2002@yahoo.com) telling me differently. They will seat us in groups of 4-10 as we arrive at the hostess station and our group will be concentrated in 2-3 dining areas. Afterwards, we'll gather again in the breakfast/meeting room area for games, music, conversation, etc.

There are no specific plans for Sunday. We can discuss on Saturday evening and I'm certain there will be a few interesting drives home available.

Please let other Miata clubs and/or your Miata friends throughout the state know that this is a **WIDE OPEN EVENT**.....everyone is welcome!

And, the **ONLY** thing that you **HAVE** to do is **ENJOY YOURSELF!**

Hosted By: Bob Davis @ rmdavis2002@yahoo.com

Events/Runs & Yosemite Retreat

Take "The Prez" to Julian

Are you ready for our annual run to Julian (actually, Santa Ysabel)? The run will start at Corky's (exit I-15 at Cajalco Road, turn right and another right into the shopping center. We'll drive the back roads to Lake Elsinore, head west of Murietta and Temecula, using De Luz Canyon, of course, and end up in Santa Ysabel for lunch at approximately 1:30-2:00.

Juli & I will be at Corky's at 8am for breakfast (it's a looooong time until lunch). Please feel free to join us there or just arrive for the run. Driver's meeting at 9:25, depart at 9:30.

Hosted By: Bob Davis

Date: 3/20/16 @ 9:15am

Where: Corky's Kitchen & Bakery, I-15 @ Cajalco Rd, Corona

Yosemite Retreat

September 15 - 18, 2016

Maybe you've driven through Yosemite but not spent time there or want to spend more time there. Here's your chance.

This is a retreat. You can join us for as much time as you'd like and do whatever you want. Explore Yosemite on your own, visit galleries and shops in Oakhurst and Coarsegold, and/or participate in organized runs.

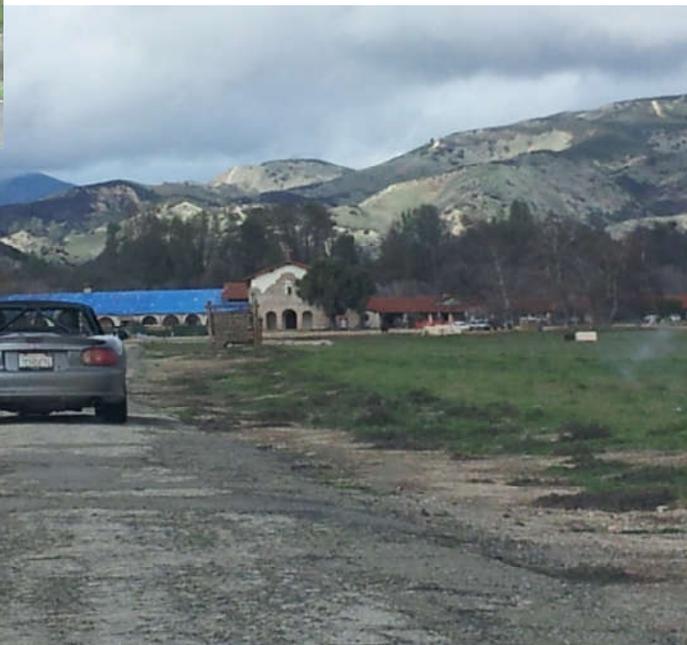
A Friday run will be organized and announced. On Saturday we will drive over Tioga Pass, have lunch at the Whoa Nellie Deli, spend time at the South Tufa at Mono Lake, and return to Oakhurst for dinner.

Our base hotel is the Best Western Yosemite Gateway Inn in Oakhurst. We have a block of rooms on hold under "Miata Club" at \$145/night plus taxes for a double queen, checking in on 9/15 and checking out on 9/18. Please make your reservation directly at (559) 683-2378 before August 15.

We will put together group dinners once we have a count for each evening. Please RSVP to us at lisa.asperger@gmail.com.

Don & Lisa Asperger

Keynote Event Photos



Notes from the Editor & Reward Etiquette

Welcome to 2016 Everyone... part deux

As I'm planning to revamp the Reward a bit and bring the development into this century, as the current methods are over 20 years old, and it's been as painful as I remember it was way back then, which is why I didn't use it then.

So, hopefully in April, you'll see a little rebirth of this newsletter, if I'm to continue doing it and not kill anyone. So I'd like to offer everyone the opportunity to speak up with their suggestions and comments for the revamp. Be they for something you'd like to see added, removed, or retained. Just please, keep in mind, like everything else, it's volunteer, so nothing too crazy.

I'd also like suggestions on what you'd like to see for an event cheat sheet, as you see on the last page of the Reward. That little strip there is a pain to do, but I know many of you appreciate it, so I'd like to keep it for everyone. So, thoughts or suggestions please.

Part deux..

So I'd like to reiterate to everyone, if you have anything you'd like to see, or not see, speak up. I've had someone restate the cheat sheet is bad for tablet reading. I know this, which is why I'm asking for your opinions. Something vertical is the solution, as unlike android, you can't lock an apple into portrait mode.

I'd also like to ask everyone, for any info or details, that are currently in the newsletter that are either no longer needed or invalid. I see no use in including info that's either not wanted, or not needed.

You can email: editor@socalm.org , please add "revamp" to the subject line so I know what it's for.

Zoom Zoom! Scott, aka Editor

Reward Submission Etiquette

And now, for something completely different...

Being an editor, or creator/maintainer of a publication can be an aggravating and time consuming thing. Especially when I've not seen any real deadlines or guides for submission or posting of the cumulative content designed to go into it.

With the revamping, I'd like to try making everyone's life a little easier and keep everyone from potentially getting upset about something not being included.

So lets start with a date. As brought up at the Annual Meeting, the 20th of the month will be the deadline date for submissions/postings. That can be keynotes, articles, and calendar events. Calendar events posted after the 20th won't be guaranteed to get included. Keynotes; Membership Details; Financials; Club Info, Must be submitted by the 20th, or this boat doesn't sail because of it. And nobody likes a docked ship.

Submitting information. This more or less applies to Keynotes, Articles, and misc Club Info. Please, you can use Notepad, Wordpad, Word, OpenOffice/LibreOffice for the text, just please do **not** add the photos inside the document. Images/Photos can be any format, just please send them as separate attachments, or use Zip/Rar to make them one file.

It would be great if you could add "Reward" to the beginning of the Subject line, but I won't hold anyone to it. It just makes my life a bit easier going thru the email, and that's a good thing.

Much appreciated! Scott, aka Editor | editor@socalm.org

March

1	T	SGV Social
2	W	
3	Th	
4	F	Ventura Social
5	Sa	
6	Su	
7	M	
8	T	Santa Clarita Social
9	W	South OC Social
10	Th	North OC Social
11	F	
12	Sa	
13	Su	
14	M	
15	T	
16	W	
17	Th	
18	F	SFV Social
19	Sa	
20	Su	Take 'The Prez' to Julian
21	M	South Bay Social
22	T	
23	W	Inland Empire Social
24	Th	
25	F	
26	Sa	
27	Su	
28	M	
29	T	
30	W	
31	Th	



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MIATA CLUB
 23052-H Alicia Parkway #247
 Mission Viejo, CA 92692
 Driving the twisties since 1990!



By Tom Wood