



# Show Me Your Curves

VOLUME 2, NO. 2

## *"Let it Snow" Theme*

*MoM Survey Results*

*Plus...*

*Clearing Drain Plugs*

*Miata Cop Cars?*

*Member's Profile*



*SPOTLIGHT ON  
2000 SPECIAL EDITION*





## Lookin' Ahead

# Let it Snow



*The weather outside is frightful,  
And the fire is so delightful.  
Since we have no place to go,  
Let it snow  
Let it snow  
Let it snow*

This issue has a “*Let it Snow*” snow theme to it as we are batted down in our Muskoka winter. This doesn't mean we can't take the time to reflect on the upcoming spring and with new cruises to take, new friends to make and of course new types of ice cream to taste!

### What some owners do with their ride in the winter.....



**Some owners Ice Race**



**Some might go for a cruise**



**Some just park 'em**



Some get driven all year



Some get caught in a storm



Some get to play a little



Some get buried



Who says you can't enjoy your Miata in the Winter?  
I can honestly say I drove my Miata on Christmas Day,  
***with the top down!!***

Okay, so I only drove it around the block for about five  
minutes just so I could say I did it.



Appropriate Vanity Plate, no?

I can't wait to drive  
the real thing.



# Survey Results

As promised a couple of issues ago we have tabulated the results from our year end survey and would like to outline the results and the expected direction the club should take.

Firstly, we received a total of seven responses or less than 30% of members surveyed.

This to me is a very low number and could be interpreted to mean one of three things:

- ~ Members didn't have time to fit completing the survey into their busy schedules
- ~ They are quite happy with the way things are
- ~ They don't care one way or the other.

It is understood we are all busy with our day to day lives but to enjoy and appreciate the "fun times" it is beneficial to the club to properly understand your wants and needs in order to address them.

Secondly, if everybody is indeed content we obviously will continue in our current direction.

Thirdly, if they are not interested in making their feelings known it is impossible for us to address an issue.

That being said here are the compiled results:

## GENERAL

### **How do you like to use your Miata?**

- ~ Over 55% are used for everyday driving
- ~ 33% are used for gentle or weekend cruising

### **How many hours a month do you average with your Miata?**

Between Maintenance, Repairs, Upkeep, Modifications and just plain driving our Members average just over 10 hours per month on their Miata

### **What did you expect from the club when you first joined?**

All respondents that answered simply wanted to meet other Miata owners and tour the countryside.

### **Has the club met your expectations so far? If not, why?**

- ~ Nearly 86% of the respondents said yes

## EVENTS

### **What has been your opinion of events held to date?**

- ~ Over 71% rated our events as enjoyable
- ~ The remaining responses rated our events as very entertaining

### **What suggestions would you make in order to improve those events you did not enjoy?**

One respondent suggested making the trips a little shorter

# Survey Results—con't

## What types of events are you interested in participating?

Participants were asked to rate on a scale of 1 to 10 (highest) in which type of event they would like to participate. The ratings are listed with the average score tabulated for each.

~ Group touring	(7.1)
~ Picnics	(5.0)
~ Car rally	(4.9)
~ Brewery/Winery visit (e.g. Muskoka or Lake of Bays)	(4.6)
~ Weekly Sunday Breakfasts and Short Cruise	(4.6)
~ Overnight Cruises	(4.3)
~ Weekly Ice Cream Runs	(4.1)
~ Bowling night	(4.0)
~ Poker Run	(3.6)
~ Club social meetings	(3.4)
~ Tours of various attractions	(3.4)
~ Performance Driving	(3.3)
~ Euchre night	(3.1)
~ Movie night	(3.1)
~ Ladies Only Ride	(3.0)
~ Tech Night/Seminars	(2.9)
~ Pumpkin Run	(2.7)
~ Wheels & Meals	(2.6)
~ Scrabble Scramble	(2.4)
~ Concours / Popular vote car shows	(2.1)
~ Go Karting	(2.0)
~ Key Swap Cruise	(1.9)

## NEWSLETTER

Participants were asked to rate the articles/categories within the newsletter on a scale of 1 to 10 (highest). The ratings are listed with the average score tabulated for each.

~ Newsletter name "Show Me Your Curves"	(6.1)
~ Pictures of Members Cars	(5.6)
~ Group Pictures	(5.4)
~ Helpful Hints	(5.4)
~ Cruise Reviews	(5.3)
~ YouTube Video Links	(5.1)
~ Did you Know?	(5.0)
~ Miata Fun	(5.0)
~ Lookin' Ahead	(4.6)
~ Spotlight On	(4.4)
~ Happy Trails	(4.1)
~ Miata Brochure Review	(4.1)
~ Vanity Plates	(3.9)
~ Cartoon Corner	(3.7)
~ Member's Profile	(3.6)
~ Miscellaneous	(3.6)

# Survey Results—con't

## NEWSLETTER (Con't)

### **In your opinion there should be more:**

- ~ Over 71% of respondents stated to keep the balance the same
- ~ 14.3% indicated more technical content
- ~ 14.3% indicated more historical content

### **Of all the articles published to date the one I enjoyed the most was:**

- ~ History of the Miata (Only response)

### **The article I found most helpful was:**

- ~ Winterizing your car

### **I would like to see the following subjects covered in future newsletters:**

List of Miatas for sale

## MISCELLANEOUS

### **If your membership expired today would you renew? Why/Why not?**

- ~ All respondents except one indicated they would renew.

### **If you were asked to pay a membership fee of \$35 would this be an issue for you? If so, please explain.**

- ~ Over 71% of respondents stated this was not an issue
- ~ Two respondents were concerned what/how the funds would be used

### **Would you willingly participate in Monthly club meetings to discuss matters of concern?**

- ~ Over 71% of respondents stated this was not an issue
- ~ The balance concurred with conditions

### **Would you purchase clothing items, novelties with the club logo?**

(e.g. shirts, key chains etc.)

- ~ All respondents except one indicated they would

### **What changes would you like to see made?**

There weren't any suggestions made

### **Do you have any additional comments suggestions?**

There weren't any suggestions made

In summary, we will be trying to generate more events this year including an overnight stay (likely Ottawa). A nominal Membership fee will be charged (more about that in the next newsletter) and we are currently working on obtaining some club merchandise (again, details later).

Looking forward to the new driving season but in the meantime *Let it Snow!!*

# Did you Know ?

## There really are Miata Police Cars....

### The Florida Highway Patrol Miata.

The FHP Miata is a genuine you-betcha state highway patrol cruiser. It was donated to FHP by Peter Warrick, a member of many of the Florida Miata Club chapters , including the Central Florida chapter. The vehicle is equipped with radio, CB, siren, blue lights, strobe lights in the parking light lenses, neon underneath, etc., etc.



The car is used primarily in the Officer Friendly program. A uniformed officer visits schools to make the kids first contact with FHP a positive one. The kids are permitted to sit in the car and run the siren and lights.

Peter, who we believe is an ex-FHP officer, retains the right to commandeer the car on occasion for certain Miata events, such as Sun Sizzler and Miata Games at Atlanta.



Melbourne, Australia

Another Police Force in Melbourne, Australia uses a NB in a similar fashion.

## Helpful Hints - Clear those Drain Plugs

The Miata MX-5 is unusual in that any water that falls on the roof makes it's way down through the car through 2 channels in order to get to the ground. It is vitally important therefore to make sure that these channels are free from any blockages if you want to avoid getting wet or listening to the water slosh up and down the sills and worse case, causing them to rust.

It is a very simple task when you know how and hopefully the following guide will provide all you need to know. For clarity I've used photo's that were taken during a soft top replacement but removal is NOT necessary. After you've done it once the whole procedure should take no more than 5 minutes.

Firstly let me explain the route the water takes. Any water that runs off to the rear of the soft top runs down over the back and into a rain rail.



*The rain rail*

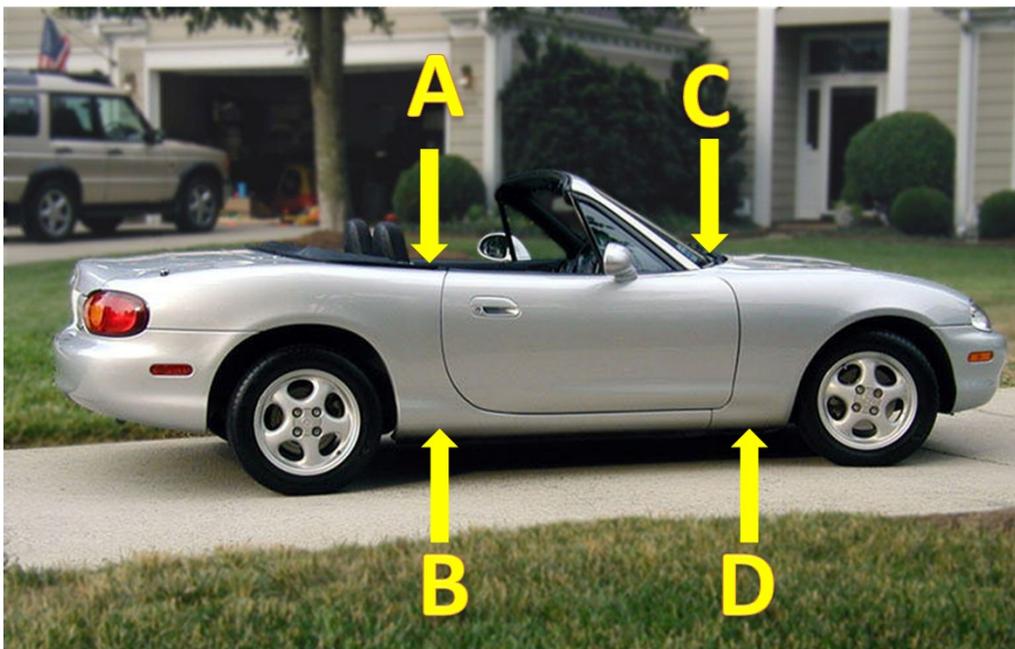
The rain rail  
attached to the top



This rain rail directs the water to 2 holes located in front of the upper seatbelt mounting (point A in photo below and close up right) and exits through a rubber pipe approximately 1/2" in diameter just forward of the rear wheel about 8 inches in. (Point B in photo below).

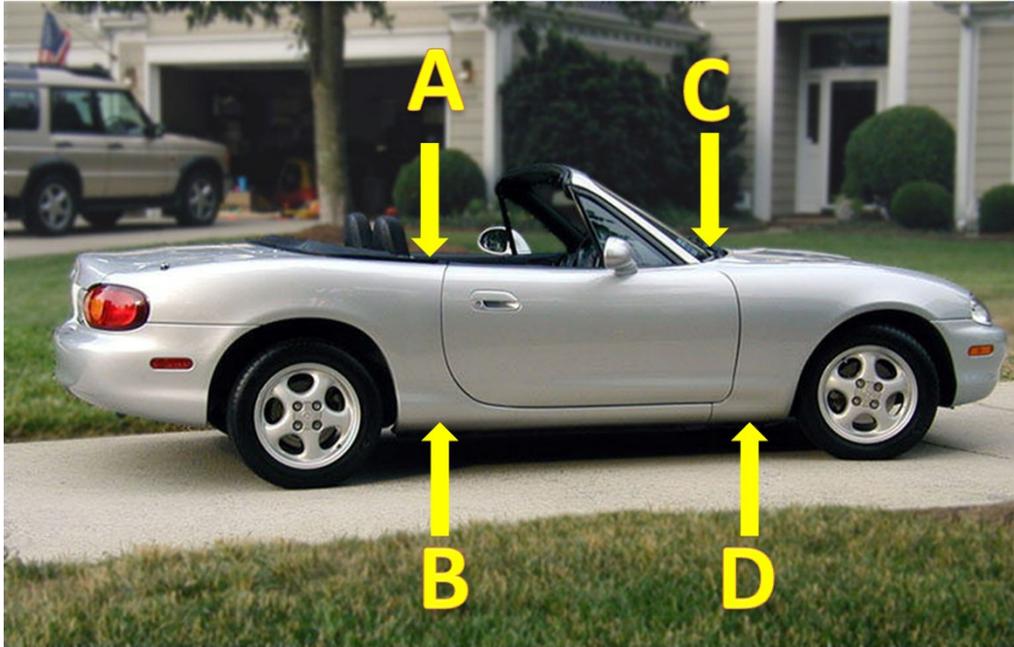


Any water that runs off the front of the top gathers in that little rubber bubble you see at the top side of the A pillar (Point C in photo below) and runs down the side of the door and exits through a slit in the sill at point D.



Con't....

## Helpful Hints Con't - Clear those Drain Plugs



### To clear the front drain hole:

Look along the bottom of the sill at point D (this will involve lying on the ground) and locate the point of the sill where the join widens for about 2". Poke this with a straightened paper clip until all the crap has been removed.

### To clear the rear drain hole from below:

Peel back the carpet in the corner beside the seat belt reveal the drain hole (it is easier to see if the top is up as the top folds over the drain holes). Use a straightened out coat hanger to poke down the hole until the hanger reaches the ground. There may be quite a lot of resistance initially as dirt can really clog up the hole but repeated prodding will break it up. Repeat the procedure on the other side. You will be amazed by the amount of dirt under the car after doing this.

Lie on the ground and locate the tube at point B. Use a straightened coat hanger prod upwards to release all the dirt. You may have to squeeze the tube slightly to insert the coat hanger, as there is a flap inside it to prevent mud from the road clogging the bottom of it. Repeat the procedure on the other side.

N



### A FINAL THOUGHT

It is a good idea to keep the soft top polished as this helps keep it watertight and allows for free run-off. I use Autoglym Vinyl and Rubber Care (available at Canadian Tire) on my car and it's also useful for cleaning the interior.



## Spotlight On

## 2000 Special Edition

The 2000 Miata Special Edition was a mid-year introduction as a limited-production model. Limited to only 3,000 lucky Miata enthusiasts in the USA (250 in Canada), this version was equipped with a host of features not available on any other 2000 Miata.



This vehicle was draped in a stunning rich Mahogany Mica paint capped by a contrasting parchment convertible top and boot. Highlights of the exterior included Special Edition badges mounted on each front fender and polished 15-inch five spoke alloy wheels.





The interior also contained some unique appointments such as parchment leather-trimmed seats, mahogany-coloured NARDI® wood-rimmed steering wheel, shift knob and handbrake lever.

white gauge faces with chrome accent rings on the gauges, chrome interior door handles,



Special-Edition carpets and stainless steel scuff plates.

The 2000 Mazda Miata Special-Edition also included a 200-watt BOSE® AM/FM/CD/cassette audio system.





Mechanically this Special-Edition was powered by a 140-horsepower, 1.8-liter DOHC four-cylinder engine attached to a six-speed manual transmission but also included the Torsen® limited-slip differential. Standard Miata mechanicals like its rigid chassis, innovative Power Plant Frame and four-wheel independent suspension, power-assisted rack-and-pinion steering and four-wheel disc brakes were also standard on the Special Edition.

Optional equipment available included fog lights, an aerodynamic appearance package (front air dam, side sills and rear mud guards), detachable hardtop and ABS brakes were also available as options.



There were also aftermarket accessories available, for example, this colour coordinated saddlebag and matching cockpit audio bag come especially designed for either the 10th Anniversary Edition (in blue) or the 2000 Special Edition.

These features add a very distinctive touch to an already beautifully equipped car.



The 2000 Mazda Miata Special-Edition, like previous limited-production Miata models sold out in under 90 days.



### Wendy Boulay & Doug Holtby



The Spotlight was on the 2000 Special Edition this issue so it is only appropriate to profile a member who owns one of these unique vehicles, Wendy Boulay. This Miata was originally sold out of Mazda of Muskoka to a local gentleman who made some unique modifications before trading it back in to the same dealership four years later for a new Corvette arranged by Nigel.

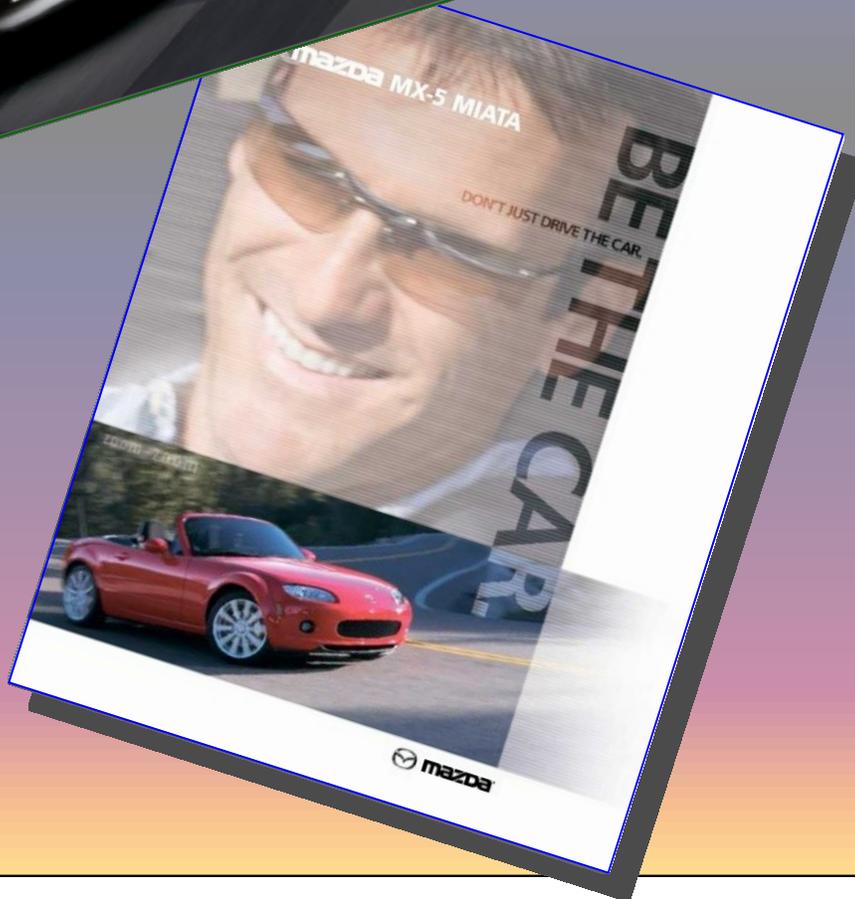
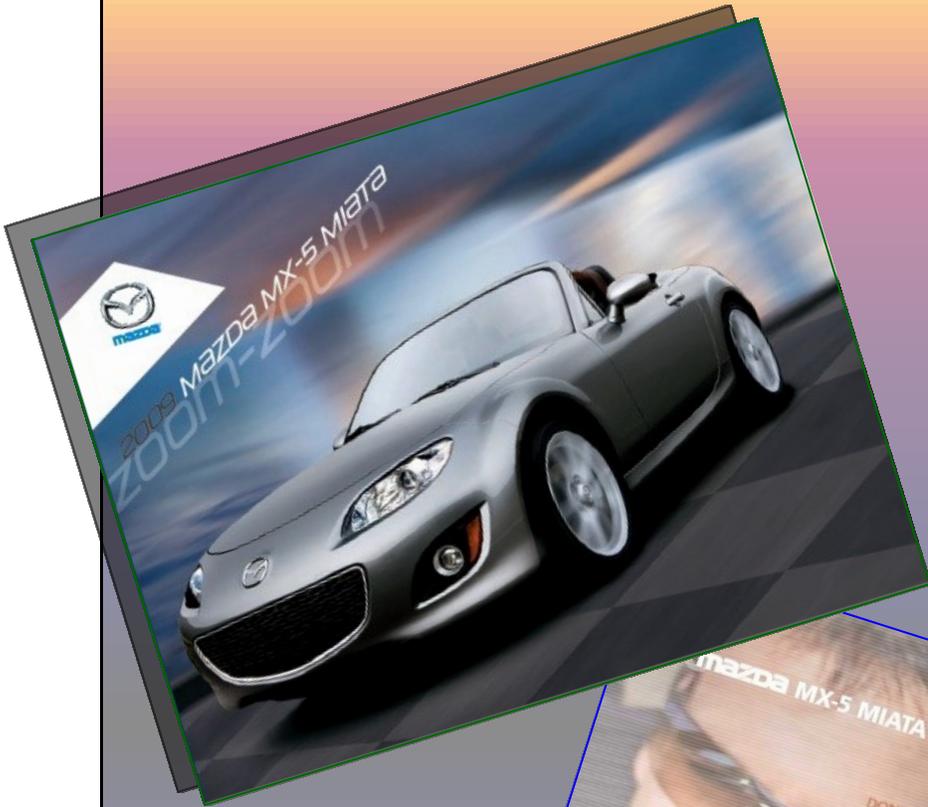
The second owners were another local couple who purchased the car and used it for only two summers before trading it in three years ago for a van. The vehicle was only on the lot briefly before being offered to Gord & Laurel Bauldry who could not cut the deal before going away on holidays in two days. Fortunately that story also had a happy ending.

Wendy, who was on a waiting list, went to view the car and immediately made up her mind so placed a deposit on it. She chose to wait for Doug's opinion on the car but he was out of town on business for several days. Meanwhile this Special Edition caught the eye of several parties who were more than interested. In order to save her selection Wendy offered to increase her deposit to hold the car but Nigel said that wasn't necessary and she picked the car up a few days later.

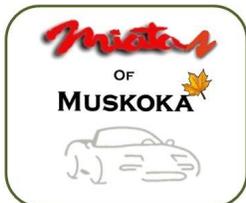
This 2000 SE, sports a number of aftermarket items that enhance the desirability of the car. The primary modification was the addition of a turbocharger boosting the horsepower substantially and provided addition grunt at low rpms. There are a number of aftermarket chrome accessories that have been added which highlight the Merlot paint scheme. The car has not been modified since Wendy's purchase.

Wendy has only put approximately 25,000 kilometres on the car since even though it is used as transportation to/from Sudbury where she works. Fortunately the commute is contained to the summer months only. Wendy gets out whenever she can and thoroughly enjoys her Miata.

2009 Brochure



2006 Brochure



"Join us because of the car, you'll stay because of your friends"